



## Sully Sailing Club – Autumn Newsletter 2009

So the end of Summer Time approaches again. The summer was not a vintage one weather wise (I am sure that I don't need to remind you all), but we have had some interesting boating.

The Flat Holm cruise was a gentle sail up on the tide, but the wind died completely when we started back, so the two safety boats had their work cut out collecting us from various places around the Bristol Channel and towing us home.

A new destination this year was Porthkerry Beach. It was a cold day and proved to be quite a tough sail down with some big waves off Barry Dock. A visit to the Gallery on the website will show a group of somewhat bedraggled sailors trying to get warm around the BBQ!

The Pursuit Race was a bit of a blast with some fast reaching and a close finish. September finally provided some decent weather and excellent sailing into the start of the Transom series.

The current standings in the Transom series – after 8 races are: -

- 1<sup>st</sup> Roger and Bob in the Osprey
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Kevin Wilson in the Vortex
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Martin Rudkin in the Laser

but there is plenty more racing to come!

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### VHF Radios

Quite a number of members now have their own hand held VHF radios - there are a couple of points concerning their use: -

- 1) There is no requirement to have a certificate of competence to use these radios on channels **M1(37)**, **M2 (37a)** and **80** or **16** in **emergency only**, but you do need to register your individual radio on the **Ofcom** website. There is no charge for this.
- 2) The Committee has decided that the use of radios, for anything other than an emergency, by boats participating in races will be deemed a breach of the racing rules and may give rise to penalties.

## **Club Website**

The club web address is [www.sully-sailing.org.uk](http://www.sully-sailing.org.uk)

For those of you who have not yet viewed it, it contains information about the club (including the constitution) as well as the racing programme and results. There is also a gallery of photos taken around the club and of sailing action. If you have any items that you would like posted on the website, please send them to Eddie Hooper at [ehooper@btinternet.com](mailto:ehooper@btinternet.com).

## **Wednesday evening sessions**

Now that the Wednesday evening sailing has finished, there is a group who make a small amount of beer last a very long time - driving and all that (lightweights really) - in the Cons Club on South Road in Sully. We usually start at about 8:00pm. All are welcome to join. You can of course drink a lot of beer if you prefer, but we won't guaranty to take you home!

## **Dates for your diaries**

There is a programme of events through the winter months: -

- 1) November 18<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 in the Clubhouse – Viv has agreed to do another quiz to tax even the saltiest of brains.
- 2) December 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 8:00 in the Cons Club – Christmas drink and get together.
- 3) January 20<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 in the clubhouse – Racing Rules chaired by Steve
- 4) February 18<sup>th</sup> - Bowling at the Sully Bowls Centre. Come along and try your hand at a very different (and difficult) sport.
- 5) March 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 7:30 in the Clubhouse – AGM followed by short briefing on use of VHF radios

**Finally – March 7<sup>th</sup> is the Boat Jumble.** Please put this in your diary as it is our main fundraising event and keeps your subscriptions at their current low level.

## **Masts and halyards**

If you are not planning to use your boat over the winter please take the mast down – this reduces the risk of wind damage and annoyance to the neighbours. If you are leaving your mast up, then tie the halyards away from the mast so that they do not chatter.

*Keep sailing*

*Roger Dykes*