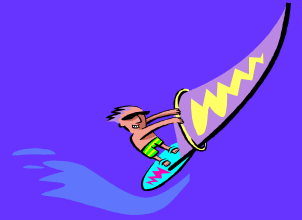




# THE SKEG

August 2009 Number 13



## These Sat Nav's are really not to be trusted!



### All Aboard!

After a few teething troubles earlier in the year, it appears (fingers crossed) that the boat seems to be running well at the moment. Some of you may have seen the launching aid which has been built to help get the boat to the water's edge at low tide. Two people should just about manage it, assuming you don't run into a really soft mud patch. In addition, the hull has been repainted, which I'm sure increases its overall top speed by at least 1 knot! There is also a log sheet for recording usage. Please fill it in if you use the boat. We have also run several windsurfing sessions recently where the boat has been on the water, with volunteers driving. Several members have already commented on how much extra confidence this brings. Please let Robin or Martin know if you have any comments on this, if you think we should do this more often or if you are willing to volunteer to drive occasionally. Please, please, please, if you know the boat has been on the water, offer to help the driver bring it back up the beach afterwards (especially if you've just been rescued!!), as this is not the easiest of jobs. Many hands make light work and it only takes a few minutes if a couple of extra people help.

Snapped by Sally



### Hot Gossip

Hopefully the club will be having yet another new member ... her name is Mollie Clackett, apparently Mollie never has headaches!

### Kit for Sale

- Tushingham Heckler 8.0m sail. Good condition - ideal for those light summer winds. £50.00 Tel Ed Cory on 07811 593058
- Mistral Flow 276 (abt 105litre) blue/lightweight version;
- Fly 252 73litre wave board
- Fanatic Cross 90 litre
- All models had excellent reviews
- All in good or excellent condition: £125.00 each
- Contact Simon [acskenwright@fsmail.net](mailto:acskenwright@fsmail.net);

### Holiday Alert!! El Tur

"El Tur" 2010 Date: Thursday March 4th 2010 (flexible) Price; around £600 (includes flights/half-board/board hire/transfers) A deposit will be required on booking, and balance paid at the end of December. Contact Brian Hassall ASAP if you are interested. [bhassall@talktalk.net](mailto:bhassall@talktalk.net) or 01304 369316. BH

### Beginners Welcome

A few weeks ago, the garage was completely cleared of all the old junk to make clear space for the boat, plus an array of new beginners boards/sails (well, newish...when compared to some of the old kit some members still insist on sailing!). The beginner's boards have been acquired to help promote windsurfing to those potential new members who would like to try the sport before making any major investments. Some informal training has also been provided and we have now welcomed several new members to the club as a result. Hopefully this can continue and help grow membership further. If you would like to volunteer to provide some informal coaching, please let Martin know.

### Windsurfing Third Party Insurance

When you join the RYA you will automatically receive third party liability insurance up to £2,000,000 covering your windsurfing activities absolutely free.

<http://www.rya.org.uk/joinrenew/benefits/insurance/Pages/windt hirdpartyins.aspx>



## Meet the Old Grumpy Cockney Windsurfer

"Wot I don't understand is:

-Why they use the word Free with boards. Freerace, Freeride, Freemove. Have you seen the price of a new board these days? Over a thousand quid! Free is the last word I'd use!

-Why them Boards mag people make Southend out to be a windsurfing Mecca. I mean it ain't even by the sea! It's on the bleedin' Thames! Southend-on-Estuary is what it really is! And they wet their wetsuits over a narrow strip of flat water, which (give them their dues) they have named after our respected speedster - Ray Worrow. But we have a speed strip which goes for bleedin' miles at low tide - beyond Reculver! No comparison!

-Why unfit people do those coaching sessions with those "gurus"! It's no wonder they call them "clinics" - with all those modern jumps and turns you're likely to end up needing hospital treatment at the end of the day!

-Why people rate that Jason Polokow! Haven't they sussed him out yet? Haven't you noticed that he always goes off to some remote island in the middle of nowhere BY HIMSELF, and returns with pictures of JUST HIM at the bottom of an enormous, gigantic, mountainous wave. It's obvious, ain't it? He pockets the dosh and superimposes himself on the picture. Anyone could do it!

-Why people call a skeg a fin! A skeg is big and goes in the centre of the board. A fin is small and goes on the edge of a board. Surfers and kitesurfers use fins. Windsurfers use skegs. We windsurfers oughta stand up for ourselves instead of copying surfer & kiter jargon!"

Signed: Moany Git



### Interview with a Windsurfer

In each issue we'll interview a member of the club - purely about windsurfing, of course! In this edition we interview Ed Cory - the man with the flash white extended VW Transporter full of boards he's bought on Ebay!

- When did you start windsurfing? -What made you take it up?

I bought my first board, a Tiga Swift 320, in about 1985 - it's probably still lying in pristine condition in someone's garden. This was the age when boards were indestructible but needed two people to carry them to the water. I started windsurfing to impress my then girlfriend who was a catamaran sailor - I thought I would be able jump on a board and go faster than a Hobie Cat. Sadly I ended up spending hours up-hauling on a tiny lake and I never really got going. She left me for a bloke who delivered yachts to the Caribbean. Continues next

column.....

Articles for the Newsletter to:

[clairemartin@f2s.com](mailto:clairemartin@f2s.com)

Thanks for all contributions from our members.

## GOOD NEWS

The club is flourishing owing to Martin's forethought regarding learning boards and his (and Andy's) conscientious coaching with a few new members and a few more potential members. The winds have been more numerous this summer and the rescue boast is now on the water when needed. Richard has built a lifting trolley for the boat which is very helpful for launching. Also three of us have made the boat house clean, tidy and usable. Thanks to Sue and Andy for manning the club house (cutting the lawn, getting in provisions, etc ,etc).

Happy Sailing, *Robin*

A Date for all the diaries is:

December 5<sup>th</sup> which is the

**MINNIS BAY END OF YEAR DINNER/DANCE.**



- Can you remember some of your early boards?

One stands out in my mind from the early 90's - a Mistral Electron 263 88L. This was my first small board and enabled me to get on the water in stronger winds. I really loved that board - come to think of it the last I heard Richard had bought it from Mark at Whitstable so it might still be on the water.

- Apart from Minnis, where is your favourite windsurfing spot?

Pegwell Bay - no just kidding! Vassiliki Bay and then having a beer on Stelio's patio.

-Name ONE thing you don't like about Minnis!

South westerlies and getting stuck in the no go zone.

-What is your favourite sail make?

Tushingam.

-Who is your windsurfing hero?

Robby Naish of course.

-Tell us your best windsurfing moment.

All of the wind directions at Minnis bring something different - that's what makes the sport so interesting and challenging. Some of my best moments have been in strong North East/Easterly winds in the bay. In these (rare) winds the waves start to move in sets and riding them with an 85L wave board and 5m sail is absolute bliss.

-Tell us your worst windsurfing moment.

There is no chance that I can get anywhere near Ron's exciting tales of dramatic helicopter rescues and derring-do - I just wish I could say "being attacked by a Great White Shark off Reculver" - but unfortunately it turned out to be a Tesco's carrier bag floating in the water. It's a pity I can't use some of my vast library of extremely scary kitesurfing experiences - oh well.

- Tell us at least one windsurfing ambition you have

I would like to still be windsurfing when my three year old son gets in the straps and harness.

Thanks Ed - hope to see you teaching little Harry down the bay soon!