



Medway Yacht Club Wayfarer Class



Class Captain: Stewart Coltart

Vice-Captain: Peter Dilley

Captain's Report for 2018

This is only my second but final Captain's report for the Wayfarer Class before handing over the reins to the new incumbent at the AGM. It has been a privilege to lead the Class over the last 2 years and enjoy some excellent racing and not to mention great camaraderie too. There is a lack of rancour in the lass and we all want to get on and enjoy our boats, the company and the sailing that the MYC and the river offer us.

In my 2 years, I have been generously supported by Peter Dilley as Vice-Captain, Mike Pimm who manages the money along with other Class members for whom much thanks. Brian McKenzie agreed to become the Class scorer following a long stint from Tim Townsend. I can honestly say that I am glad it was not me as I have never understood the handicap system used and probably never will but it seems to function well, produce winners and importantly, most of us seem to think that the results are reasonable and correct. Richard Stone, now Vice Commodore, and Catherine Gore have been fonts of advice and wisdom throughout my tenure for which much thanks.

At national level, Tim Townsend became the UKWA Sailing Secretary and has worked hard at providing good championships around the country. This role is hard work and requires considerable travelling too. I am sure that you will join me in thanking Tim for his efforts both for us and the National Class for his enthusiasm and intelligence that he has brought to the post.

At last year's AGM, the Class realised that we were in legal no man's land in not having a suitable Class Constitution. We had managed for years without any rules but we had to change not least for becoming compliant with modern banking regulations. The new constitution was adopted without too much trouble and it has allowed us to tidy up voting and some other matters, necessary for the safe and democratic running of the class. The Prize Dinner at the MYC followed the AGM and once again, this was shared with the Squib Class, a format which seems to work well. We had an excellent dinner and Mark Penny organised another of his wonderful quizzes for our entertainment (?!). Many of us were challenged by the questions not helped by excess of wine, and a few of the tables unwisely chose to play their jokers on subject about which they thought they were knowledgeable but were in fact ignorant; this scored poorly. The prizes were large won by Richard and Catherine after another very successful season for them.

In the spring, Mike Primm organised another good bowling evening in Maidstone followed by a fortifying curry in a local Indian restaurant. The Captain showed flashes of brilliance in the opening rounds but was followed by mostly mediocre ball handling and consequent low scores.

The season commenced in mostly good conditions and in early May, Michael McNamara ventured south from Norfolk to explain how to make your Wayfarer go higher, faster, longer. For my money, he is one of the most lucid sailing instructors that I have come across with a deep understanding of boat rigging and sail set up and above all, the ability to explain complicated concepts simply. As ever this was a good event despite some rather challenging weather for the weekend.

2018 has been a good year without too many cancelled races for bad weather until late in the season. We have had plenty of good racing in often lovely conditions and the usual suspects have done well with Richard Stone and Catherine Gore leading the way consistently along with Brian and Liz McKenzie, Chris Parrish and Tony Alexander and Jon Moon, who are usually at the front when the wind pipes up. It has been excellent to welcome new

members to the Class with Nigel Pye, Andrew Howard along with Mark and Jane Lee sailing regularly at the MYC. Latterly, Ian Foxwell bought the old Club Wayfarer Padmelon. This boat is not very fast but even so, Ian has the ability to wring the most out of it and we had better watch out if he ever buys a Mk4 Hartley. Two members, Alberto Quaglia and James Buckley graduated up from older Wayfarers to Hartleys and immediately found them easier to sail and quicker, so I suspect no regrets there except possibly for the bank balance. The Creeks race inaugurated by Roger Gibbs last year has proved a big hit with the Class, sailing around Hoo and Copper house Marshes. The weather was rather windier than last year and was made memorable by the Commodore getting tied up on a large barge which doubled as a turning mark for the race. Quite how this happened has been a mystery for most of us watching and even to him and Gail but after some loss of time, they got going again in good order.

This year, a number of Class Members have travelled to other Clubs to participate in the Wayfarer National Travellers Series sponsored by Craft Insure. Excellent weekends can be enjoyed by attending these events although on occasions, the travelling, rigging and packing up the boat can be laborious after a long day on the water late on a Sunday afternoon. The 60th Anniversary National regatta was held at Castle Cove SC in early June with sailing held in Portland Harbour. This venue was splendid and the Club were particularly hospitable to all the competitors along with the excellent turnout of 8 MYC boats which made the journey down to Weymouth. The weather played a few aces to us mainly in the form of dense sea fog rolling in from the Channel (I thought that the compass on a Wayfarer was to pick up wind shifts not to find our way home to the coast). When the fog cleared, great sailing was obtained with Richard Stone and Catherine Gore 4th overall with Ian Foxwell crewed by Trevor Cox and excellent 8th, winning the silver fleet prize and the best new comer award deservedly.

Four boats (Jones, McKenzie, Coltart, Townsend) made the journey to Denmark for the European Championships with Len Jones also participating in the Danish Nationals which he won against some tough local opposition and Baltic weed. The European Championships were held in the small picturesque town of Assens and proved to be a lovely venue although the local Club support was a touch Marie Celeste; i.e. invisible at times! The weather was light at first before strengthening to F5-6 for the last 2 days. The McKenzies did very well to cope with these very tough conditions finishing a fine 6th overall with Michael McNamara winning the event to become the European Champion again. It was particularly impressive to watch him and Simon Townsend handle their Wayfarer in such fresh conditions; I was lost in admiration.

In September, the MYC hosted the Southern Area Championships and my thanks to the many helpers who made the event such a success. The weather was particularly kind with winds of 10-15 mph and the on water team managed by Jamie Blair were very professional in their course setting. Richard and Catherine were 6th overall followed by the McKenzies, and Chris Parrish and Rob Crockett 8th. Mark Penny entertained the competitors at the Regatta dinner with one of his now famous quizzes and helped sow confusion to the visitors by setting a number of Kentish questions, usually unanswerable by those from afar.

We were delighted to see that Roger Gibbs got over his ruptured appendix and surgery so that he was able to race again in the latter part of the season and that Len Jones has made a good recovery from his hip surgery.

Lastly, the season finished on a windy note in frankly cold conditions but we were fortified back at base with after race drinks and canapes. The following weekend, Bough Beech held the Travellers Series finale in much kinder conditions. There was a good contingent of Medway Wayfarers and Richard and Catherine finished 6th, with Tim and Jacqueline 7th. Simon Winn crewed by Sarah Mason did well in some squally conditions to finish all the races in good order.

My thanks again to all who have helped me over the last 2 years and in particular not forgetting my very loyal crew and counsel Catriona. Happy sailing for 2019.

WAYFARER 2018 RESULTS

SATURDAY SERIES

THE WAYFARER TROPHY

1ST	MUFFIN	RICHARD STONE	CATHERINE GORE
2ND	HERCULES' HOUND	BRIAN MCKENZIE	LIZ MCKENZIE
3RD	NO PROBLEM	SIMON WINN	SARAH MASON

SUNDAY SERIES

THE PADDLES AND BOATER TROPHY (PLUS THE SECOND AND THIRD TROPHIES AS DONATED BY CHRIS)

1ST	MUFFIN	10974	RICHARD STONE	CATHERINE GORE
2ND	UBIQUE	11080	CHRIS PARISH	ROBERT CROCKETT
3RD	HERCULES' HOUND	10686	BRIAN MCKENZIE	LIZ MCKENZIE

SATURDAY HANDICAP SERIES

THE HOT PURSUIT TROPHY

1ST	MUFFIN	RICHARD STONE	CATHERINE GORE
2ND	HOUND	BRIAN MCKENZIE	LIZ MCKENZIE
3RD	NO PROBLEM!	SIMON WINN	SARAH MASON

SUNDAY HANDICAP SERIES

THE BILL HODSHON TROPHY

1ST	UBIQUE	11080	CHRIS PARISH	ROBERT CROCKETT
2ND	MUFFIN	10974	RICHARD STONE	CATHERINE GORE
3RD	WILD THING	10875	MIKE PIMM	PETE DILLEY

THE RIKKI TROPHY

SATURDAY SERIES, BEST RESULT WITH NO MORE THAN THREE WINS RECORDED

NO PROBLEM 8595 SIMON WINN & SARAH MASON

THE JIM WILKS MEMORIAL TROPHY

BEST SATURDAY AND SUNDAY RESULTS NOT WINNING ANY OF THE ABOVE TROPHIES

1ST	HOUND	BRIAN MCKENZIE	LIZ MCKENZIE
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IAN BROWNING BOWL

FAMILY TROPHY

QUICKSILVER	STEWART COLTART	CATRIONA COLTART
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GIBBS TROPHY (CREEKS, LEMON AND UPRIVER RACES ON HANDICAP)

8TH	DEVILS ADVOCATE	10666	ROGER GIBBS	4.0	1.0	5
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SPRING SERIES

1ST	MUFFIN	RICHARD STONE	CATHERINE GORE
2ND	HERCULES' HOUND	BRIAN MCKENZIE	LIZ MCKENZIE
3RD	UBIQUE	CHRIS PARISH	ROBERT CROCKETT

SUMMER SERIES

1ST	MUFFIN	10974	RICHARD STONE	CATHERINE GORE
4TH	MOONSHINE	10618	TONY ALEXANDER	JON MOON

52ND	UBIQUE	11080	CHRIS PARISH	ROBERT CROCKETT
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AUTUMN SERIES

1ST	MUFFIN	RICHARD STONE	CATHERINE GORE	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	4.0
2ND	HERCULES' HOUND	BRIAN MCKENZIE	LIZ MCKENZIE	1.0	10	2.0	1.0	5.0
3RD	UBIQUE	CHRIS PARISH	ROBERT CROCKETT	1.0	2.0	2.0	19.0	24.0

THE ANNO DOMINI TROPHY THREE CLOSELY RUN BETWEEN STEWART, SIMON AND LEN GOING TO COUNTBACK

QUICKSILVER	10947	STEWART COLTART
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TRAVELLERS' PRIZE

INTERMEZZO	TIM AND JAQUELINE TOWNEND

RUBBER SHARK

AMAZON - NNIGEL PYE AND ANDY HOWARD