

2021 Christmas Report from Vice Commodore Sailing

What a difference a year makes, cruising and competitive sailing were effectively restored in 2021 as the pandemic restrictions were progressively relaxed. Whilst it's not yet completely "plain sailing" things have improved dramatically.

We were still under the grips of Covid at Easter so the Bowden Laser Open and the Easter Chase were cancelled. However, under the guidance of the RYA we developed a risk assessment for sailing at Rock under Covid restrictions, so racing was able to recommence as the regulations receded.

The Club held an Open Meeting in early May for the Weta Class, this was a little experimental, being the first event conducted under Covid, however all went well and this meeting may grow in the future.

This was followed by the Shrimper Spring Fling. The intention was to encourage early launching of shrimpers, and to discuss tuning and rigging guides. The weather was pretty foul, but we managed tutorials in the bar and a day on the water. We plan to make this an annual event.

The Nationals were held at the end of May, with 20 boats taking part in a four-day event.

Peter Keeling Shrimper Week was held in mid-June with 24 Boats taking part, we had some challenging weather conditions however all races were sailed and the social events (BBQ, Wine Tasting and Supper) were transferred to the quay to be become Covid compliant. Many thanks to our sponsor Quay 4.

Luckily the government lifted most Covid restrictions in time for Junior Camel Week.

JCW had 52 entrants in 34 boats. One day was too windy and in contrast another was flat calm, but the race officer managed the conditions magnificently and the week was completed in brilliant sunshine on the last day. A big thank you to our sponsors Ann's Cottage and John Bray Cornish Holidays.

Camel Week was a busy event bringing lots of colour on to the estuary, 82 boats entered comprising 7 Cats, 2 Trimarans, 47 dinghies and 26 Shrimpers. We would like to express our thanks to our sponsor Sharps Brewery.

The club racing continued during the sailing season with the Westerly Cup and Angus Scott over the August Bank Holiday weekend.

The B14 National Championship took place in early September with 18 boats competing in 11 races over four days.


The sailing season was concluded with Shrimper Fest which included some cruising, racing under alternative rules and a team-based relay race.

The Club's Fusions, continued to be sailed enthusiastically during the year, details for their use are described in the website.

Our support boat rejuvenation plan commenced this year with the purchase of a new Humber RIB, 5.8M long with a deep vee hull and a 90hp Suzuki outboard engine. This boat has performed well and has enhanced our capabilities in the mouth of the estuary. The plan is to follow with similar purchases as funding permits.

The list of 2021 winners for Cups and Trophy is attached for information.

A detailed sailing programme has been prepared for 2022 and the key dates are summarized below:



April 15 - 18	Easter Chase & Bowden Laser Open
April 30 - May 2	Lark & Merlin Rocket Open
May 20 - 23	Shrimper Spring Fling
June 3 – 5	Weta Open
June 23 – 29	Peter Keeling Shrimper Week
Aug 4 – 11	Camel Week for Juniors and Shrimpers
Aug 19 - 25	Camel Week for Cats & Dinghies
Aug 27 – 29	Westerly Cup & Angus Scott
Sept 5 – 8	Autumn Shrimper Fest
Oct 22 – Dec 18	Frostbite Series

This is a comprehensive programme for Cats, Dinghies and Shrimpers with over 100 events planned. The main change in 2022 will be an experiment to hold JCW and Shrimper Camel Week concurrently. The idea is to take into account the changing sand banks, to make the best use of the estuary and to avoid pushing the Shrimpers further out to sea than necessary.

Wishing all sailors a great Christmas and some excellent sailing in 2022.

Peter Pollard – Vice Commodore Sailing