

Vice Commodores report to the AGM

Introduction

Ladies & Gentlemen, Apologies first and foremost that im not able to deliver this in person, pulled again by the pressures of work means you won't have to listen again to me share my last lookback eye to eye. I will reminisce initially – Likening the current landing scenario at Chew with my dad getting stuck in the mud at Pegasus sailing club all those years ago.

Every year of my tenure has brought different challenges from Covid, Blue & Green Algae and now worrying water levels into Winter. I certainly wish well to James and team picking up the challenge.

Selfishly im taking this opportunity to really acknowledge and thank those people on the Sailing Committee for all your support and effort over the years. I might of twisted your arms initially but you are really keeping Chew at the forefront, offering such an expanse of sailing of all types and many.

Youth & Juniors – “Many” is the key word – when it comes to the great success of Chew Crew – so fantastic to see this developing and now with regular Youth starts every week into the autumn too. Well done to the team, the instructors and the parents. Coaching on the water and in the boats. When it comes to boats for the youth we are fortunate too to have a wide and varied club fleet, Optibats, Teras, Toppers & Favas all of which are now being actively used by the youth.

Boat Upkeep - I say it every year, Keeping our fleet afloat is a key role in the club. I know we really appreciate all the hard work undertaken by our Dinghy bosuns. Thanks You.

Learning To Sail If you dint have the opportunity to lean to sail when growing up, you can at Chew with some of the programs run by Dave Orme who is our Principal Training officer / Instructor. He has been doing this role as long as I can remember, Thank you Dave.

Power Boats To go sailing we need to have our Ribs & Safety teams on the water, trained and equipped should any of us get in to trouble. It very reassuring to know this is no doubt best in class at Chew. Jeff and his team of instructors training us and keeping us up to date. & John R as Power Boat Bosun ensuring we have a working strategy to keep those engines going!

Groups - Another fantastic success at Chew is undoubtably the very well run Groups. **(Schools, Unis, Police, & CLADS)**. Big hand to the Unis who despite changing out their own structure every few years, continue to provide a team of highly motivated and capable people. Integration of the unis into the club is now much more evident, as we saw with the joint Firefly and Mirror Inlands. – Despite Storm Amie – we saw 48 Firefly's with many boats from Universities at our club and further a away. Big shout out Jeff and

the Police group who offer great sailing with regular Thursday evening's and some fantastic BBQ's throughout the summer. Mention to CLADS, where demand continues grow under the direction of Steve Nash. Help always appreciated. Last but not least – the Schools who continue to benefit from the lake - Clifton, Millfield, Sidcot & Priory – still no sign of Chew Valley School though...

Cruising - Thanks to Simon our Cruising rep who continues to provide support to those not so focussed in racing and shares often his exploits around the coast of the UK in his GP14.

Racing – Another jam packed year, sometimes either too much or too little wind but never missing eager and intrepid sailors. Congrats to you if you are starting your journey or if you are like me trying to keep it going!

Many honours @ both home and away with Chew sailors prominent all across the country and further a field. Derrian and Andy in the Fireball, Bill and Josh in the FF, Rob in his Skiff and Andy & Dave in the 100's to name a few. The list is very long Well done to you all. At home Chew remains a favoured destination for sailing. Many requests for Open Meets and also Inland championships. Managing the Calendar and our resources is no mean task, ensuring club sailing can take place, Unis get their team racing and the boats sailed at chew can support their classes – not to mention training and Chew Crerw. Big thanks to James for the last 4 years who his now handing this role onto Andy Scott.

The 2025 honours board is full of great performances and has not been dominated by one class. I would mention that Nick improved on last years runners up with himself and crew Emily Wright winning in the RS200 from Tom & Adam in the Scorpion. Julian pipped Malcom in the Lasers and Chris came home in 1st in his Solo from Ruth in the Laser 4.7.

Ladies Trophy was won by Jo Cudmore in the Europe, Chris Sunderland took home the Barts Bash trophy, Ollie Wilcox retained the Resolution Trophy, Pete Sherwin the John Jarrett Trophy and Rob Higgins bagged the Commodores Cup. Paul & Peter won the Age Trophies.

Race offices, Duty crew and Officer of the day – Undertaking duty's keeps us all sailing, big thanks to all those who support our club sailing, racing and also Open Meetings. From setting courses in shifty conditions to Driving a Rib in the Icy winter, your support and help is well appreciated.

Wishing James well as he takes the reins from a Sailing perspective, thank you for your efforts, help and commitments these last 4 years – Trust it rains heavily soon!