

## SECTION 1: Introduction

This Green Book (2024) like all those that have preceded it, represents a tremendous effort by a small number of individuals on our General Purposes Committee (GPC).

The strength of the NSBA lies with its membership, and if you own a boat on the Norfolk Broads you should be a member of this Association. Our purpose is to represent the interests of boat owners generally, and to do that effectively we need to be representative of the whole body of boat owners. We have a small but very active General Purposes Committee. The portfolio of interest is large, ranging from boat safety through Network Rail, environmental groups and conservation groups as well as the various harbour and river authorities. The GPC needs wider help and input in order to cover all these various areas of engagement, and if you think you can help please contact our Administrator, whose details are given on page 9.

During the last winter we introduced a monthly digital newsletter, *BroadsSide*, with up-to-date news on events, activities, campaigns etc. affecting the Norfolk Broads in general. We have also embarked on two particular campaigns, (i) to seek the protection of the membership through incorporation as a limited company, and (ii) to investigate the affairs of the Broads Authority on its funding of the navigation through Tolls.

Our Affiliated Clubs are a vital part of our membership mix. Affiliation is very different from individual membership in that it enables clubs to cooperate more readily in providing boating and sailing opportunities for their members as part of a cohesive program of regattas and events across the whole of the Norfolk Broads, as this Green Book details. It also enables the NSBA to make representation on behalf of all affiliates on matters that affect our organisations and their functioning.

As we celebrate our 130th anniversary, we remain conscious of the need for internal engagement whilst also seeking broadening of the membership base through a membership drive. We deliberately maintain as low an annual subscription as is practicable in order to encourage membership. Can we ask all members to talk about the NSBA when socialising with other boaters and remind them of the benefits of membership for just a minimalist subscription?

Fair winds, gentle mooring and happy boating for the coming season.

Yours aye,



Ben Falat  
Chairman, Norfolk & Suffolk Boating Association

