



SUMMER NEWSLETTER

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

August 2005

www.thegreenbook.org.uk

Inside this issue:

Long Fishing Poles	2
Moorings Threatened	2
Award for Rosemary	2
BA Planning Strategy	3
Drive for Members	3
Standing Orders	3
From the Chairman	4

Key concerns for Broads navigators

- *Dredging is needed throughout the Broads*
- *Moorings continue to be lost or fall into disrepair*
- *Methods being used by the Flood Alleviation Project are depriving navigators of many informal moorings*
- *Banks and staithes need maintenance*
- *Broads Authority needs to find money to maintain and improve the navigation from sources other than river tolls*

Broads issues become hot topics

Recent weeks have seen an increase in media attention focused on Broads issues.

The EDP has highlighted the security problems at Norwich Yacht Station. This built on an NSBA campaign article posted on our website, reporting incidents of vandalism that had occurred and recommending that craft do not use the Yacht Station until adequate security measures are put in place.

The story has also been featured by local radio and TV stations. NSBA representatives have taken the opportunity to put the

boaters' point of view.

The EDP has also reported problems of maintenance on the Broads. A feature article on the need for more dredging included a comment from Waveney MP, Bob Blizzard, that water depths on Oulton Broad had reduced from 6ft to 4ft over the past 20 years. A meeting was being arranged with Broads Authority Chief Executive, Dr John Packman to address concerns raised by local businesses and Broads users.

The fight by Norfolk Schools Sailing Association to continue to use their base

at Filby Broad attracted support from the press and the wave of public support following publicity in April must have been instrumental in persuading Norfolk County Council to change their policy and reach an agreement with the Association, allowing them to continue to use part of the site at Filby. NSSA Commodore Brian Wilkins said he was heartened by the amount of support he had received for his stand. "We always believed that the work done by NSSA was appreciated, but it has taken this episode to demonstrate the true extent of the support that there was out there for us."

NSBA Campaigns on www.thegreenbook.org.uk

A new section has been added to the NSBA web site. The Campaigns section explains NSBA's position and policy on current issues affecting the Broads Navigation.

Key issues currently highlighted include: increases in River Tolls; poor security at Norwich Yacht Station; potential loss of moorings from the Broads Flood Alle-

viation Project and the need to retain a separate Broads Authority Navigation Committee with a separate set of accounts to identify how the river tolls are spent.

NSBA Chairman, Mike Evans said, "This is a key component in our drive to strengthen communication with our members."

AGM Date Change

The NSBA AGM will be held at 7.30 p.m. December 5th 2005 at the Assembly House.

This is not the date shown in the Green Book.

AGM Date Change

The NSBA AGM will be held at 7.30 p.m. December 5th 2005 at the Assembly House.

This is not the date shown in the Green Book.

Friction on the Southern Rivers over long fishing poles

NSBA is receiving increasing reports of the navigation being obstructed by anglers using long fishing poles, particularly on sections of the Yare. Poles measuring up to sixteen metres are in use and it is expected that poles up to twenty metres will be seen before long.

The long fishing poles are assembled in sections and pushed out progressively from the bank. Retrieval is by the same method. The pole is pulled back onto the bank and dismantled sec-

tion by section. They cannot be lifted vertically. Doing so would break them. The process of retrieval is, by its nature, lengthy. So it is difficult for anglers to clear the poles away to allow craft to navigate. There have been reports of arguments between anglers and navigators and on occasions missiles are said to have been thrown.

The NSBA has been represented at meetings called to resolve the issue, but so far there is little progress to report.

Recent discussion at the NSBA General Purposes Committee resulted in a decision to press, through the Navigation Committee, for the Broads Authority to place a limit on the size of fishing poles allowed to be used on the Broads.

The NSBA believes that poles of this size constitute an obstruction to the navigable channel and calls upon the Broads Authority to take action to prevent their use.

"BESL must understand the importance of boating on the Broads and accept their responsibility to preserve all moorings."

NSBA Regattas

The **Broadland Dinghy Regatta** was held at HSC on July 16/17th. In a close contest 4 points separated the first four boats. The places were:

1. Richard Whitefoot;
2. Jane Williams;
3. Richard Dugdale;
4. Sally Dugdale.

NSBA Youth Regatta will be held at HSBC on 3rd September.

The Ramuz Trophy will be sailed for in Norfolk 14ft One-Design Dinghies at NBYC on 17th September.

Moorings lost due to Flood Alleviation Project

One of the attractions of the Broads has been the ability to tie up to the bank on a quiet stretch of river. Now there is a risk that the number of opportunities to do this will be significantly reduced. A major 20 year £110m+ project to alleviate flooding is basing its approach on removing hard piled edges to the rivers and replacing them with slop-

ing, reed fringed banks backed up with a flood bank some 15 m back from the river's edge. It is impossible to moor safely on this type of bank.

NSBA has lobbied the Broads Authority that there should be no loss of moorings as a result of the Flood Alleviation Project. We regret that the How

Hill and South of Ludham Bridge moorings will not be available for this summer season. NSBA maintains that the Broads Authority must ensure that the Flood Alleviation contractors, BESL, understand the importance of boating on the Broads and accept their responsibility to preserve ALL moorings. We can't afford to lose any.

NSBA stalwart wins RYA Community Award

Rosemary Klein has edited the Green Book for the last 25 years. This dedication has been recognised by the presentation of a Royal Yachting Association Community Award for Lifetime Achievement.

NSBA Chairman, Mike Evans, paid tribute to Rosemary's many years of hard and painstaking work editing and developing the Green Book, the essential handbook for Broads boating enthusiasts. The presen-

tation is expected to be made in London on 13th October.

Rosemary has decided that, after 25 years, it is a good time to stand aside and pass the task to someone else. NSBA have created the new post of Executive Secretary and have appointed Philip Ollier to the role.

Phil has a keen interest in Broadland affairs. He was Secretary of Horning Sailing Club for eight years and

he and his wife, Liz, sail a White Boat and cruise the Broads extensively in their motor cruiser, Malachite. Phil's contact details can be found on the back page. Coinciding with Phil's appointment, Daphne Musgrave is standing down as Honorary Secretary. NSBA Chairman, Mike Evans, thanked Daphne for the hard work she had put in behind the scenes administering the Association.

Broads Authority Planning consultations

The government has recently introduced major changes in the way in which planning policy is developed. This means that the Broads Authority is required to review the existing Broads Local Plan and prepare new planning policies in accordance with a new system, known as the Local Development Framework (LDF). The LDF will control planning decisions for the next 15 years.

In order to develop the LDF, the Broads Authority is consulting widely by means of a questionnaire on

what stakeholders and local communities consider to be the main issues.

NSBA submitted a response to the questionnaire. Our comments included:

The "long term vision" fails to mention the recreation or navigation status of the Broads;

The Flood Alleviation Project is failing to safeguard the interest of navigation and provision of moorings;

Preservation of the landscape should be accompanied by development to

improve facilities for navigation and recreation;

Protection and enhancement of the historic and cultural landscape must include restoring former navigable waterways lost to navigation;

Conservation projects need to be run flexibly and consultatively, balanced with the needs of recreation and navigation;

There is a need to ascertain the ownership of all staithees and to reclaim some that may have been taken into private hands.

AGM Date Change

The NSBA AGM will be held at 7.30 p.m. December 5th 2005 at the Assembly House.

This is not the date shown in the Green Book.

NSBA membership drive

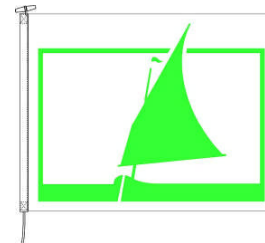
If you read Norfolk Afloat, you will have seen a glossy leaflet designed to attract new members to the NSBA.

Seven thousand copies of the leaflet were inserted in the July edition of Norfolk Afloat and a further three thousand copies have been distributed to Broadland boatyards, marinas and boating-oriented businesses with a request that they

make them available to their customers.

So far the response has been encouraging. The membership drive coincides with the launch of the new NSBA flag. Designed by NSBA Committee member Anthony Knights, the new flag uses the logo that has featured on the cover of the Green Book for the last two years. It looks set to be

very popular and will be on a flag mast near you shortly. Flags are available to members from Phil Ollier at a cost of £6.50.



"Seven thousand copies of the leaflet were inserted in the July edition of Norfolk Afloat"

Pay your subscription by standing order

At £5 a year, the NSBA's membership fee is very good value. It would help us to keep our costs down and to streamline our administration if more members paid their subscriptions by standing order.

So, if you are an annual member and wait for the Hon. Treasurer's reminder before sending off your cheque, why not consider

setting up a standing order?

You can do this online if you use internet banking, or you can download a form from the NSBA website. Or contact Phil Ollier and he will post a form.

The Association's bank account details are: Norfolk & Suffolk Boating Association, Community Account No 60666610 at Barclays

Bank plc, Wroxham Branch, Station Road, Hoveton NR12 8UP. Sort code 20-99-21. Subs are due 1st Feb each year.

Also, if you have an email address, please send an email to Phil Ollier so that he can note it on the database. It is much easier and cheaper for the NSBA to communicate with members by email.

Norfolk & Suffolk Boating Association

Executive Secretary: Philip Ollier
Breeze Barn South
Reepham Road, Bawdeswell

Phone: 01362 688727
Fax: 01362 688041
Email: philip.ollier@breezebarn.com



Guarding the future of Broads boating

We're on the web
www.thegreenbook.org.uk

From the Chairman

Two years ago the Norfolk and Suffolk Boating Association changed its name to reflect the need to clarify its role and membership.

We represent sailors, motor boaters, canoeists—indeed anyone going afloat to cruise, race or potter. We need even greater support from the broadest representation of boaters if we are to support fairly the cause of navigation for navigators of all types.

We are strengthening communications with our members. The NSBA web site (www.thegreenbook.org.uk) is now in place. As well as being an easily accessible source of information, it contains a “campaigns” section which explains NSBA’s position and policy on issues vital to mem-

bers.

The “forums” section provides a mechanism for people to tell us what they think and where their concerns lie.

The NSBA is pleased that the government has insisted that the Broads Authority maintain a separate Navigation Committee and separate navigation accounts. This is an issue on which NSBA made strong representations.

We are also pleased that the government have provided additional funding for the Broads Authority. We now want to see that a sizeable proportion of that money is devoted to the maintenance and improvement of the navigation. We also urge the Authority to seek out further sources of additional fund-

- **The NSBA has a voice on the Broads Authority but needs more information and support from representative boat-owners.**
- **The NSBA supports the Broadland joint interests of recreation and conservation with navigation but urges balance and fairness by all.**
- **The NSBA is lobbying for improvements on issues including: dredging; moorings; river work and funding for navigation priorities.**
- **The NSBA stands firm on protecting the navigation from any closure threats to any part of the Broads.**
- **The NSBA represents 38 sailing and boating clubs plus more than 1000 individual members.**

ing for navigation purposes. Dr Packman, Broads Authority Chief Executive, was recently quoted in the press as saying that the Authority was addressing 30 years of neglect.

We all need wildlife, landscape and environment to be preserved and enhanced. There is no contradiction here. For this reason NSBA fully supports the Authority in fulfilling all three of its goals: conservation, recreation and navigation. But we stress that balance is important and will fight to ensure it is maintained.