

MYA Midland District Councillor report to the 2011 District AGM.

At the beginning of the 2011 season all Midland clubs had been affected by the sudden cold spell with most lakes frozen beyond use; this has caused several cancellations of the IOM winter series.

We tried to reschedule some of them, and the most up to date information was being posted on the District web site. This also got relayed to each district secretary and down to the club sailor by Email.

Some of the Midland clubs helped out on the stand at the London Boat Show, which I have to say is continuing to build on the success of past efforts

Earlier in the year the District committee had been approached by Shustoke sailing club with the view to establishing a radio sailing section within their structure.

We had been invited to visit their committee on 10th March 2011 to discuss the way forward, this was a successful night and we also did an on the water come and have a go demonstration later in the summer. As yet though the club have not applied for MYA membership but my hope is that they will soon.

After some extended negotiation by the Leicestershire RYC I am pleased to confirm that the club are once again in a position to host RM and IOM races at their home water at Tuckers Pit, Charnwood.

Late last year it appeared that the local council were going to close the toilet facilities in the park in an effort to reduce costs, and the club decided that they would not put any dates forward for inclusion in the MYA Yearbook after March 2011, which was when the facilities were planned to close.

Mike Weeks contacted both the friends of the park and the fishing group to co-ordinate their opposition to the closure of the facilities. They attended several meetings with the council, the outcome of which is the decision has been made to keep the toilet block open.

Leicestershire RYC will now publish any events they wish to run during the rest of the season on the Midlands district web site.

Well done on a great job Mike.

During my visit to Lincoln RYC for the final round of the IOM MDWS Andy Stevenson had informed me that after the club AGM a couple of weeks before they had decided not to host any open meetings during 2011. This is down to a lack of volunteers at the club wishing to help with the event organisation, leaving Andy to co-ordinate the lot.

The District RAT's offered to help run any district event that Lincoln would like to run but Andy felt that it still left the pre-entry load on him, and he could not give it any more time in addition to his IOM role.

The club will continue to arrange their own club sailing during the season and hope to encourage more members to join with the hope of increasing the pool of those willing to help.

This change of situation lead to Leicester RYC taking over the date for the IOM Midland district champion skipper event scheduled for Lincoln at the end of the season.

MYA Midland District Centenary Celebration.

Bournville MY&PBC has offered to host the event at their clubhouse, and Chris Harris contacted me by Email asking what the District wanted and could we help. My initial suggestion was to use both the boat house and lake to display/demonstrate as much model yachting history as we could assemble from within the district.

We could put on a special race for both radio and vane boats etc. I on behalf of the district offered our help with manning and publicity.

Unfortunately the District Centenary celebration, which was scheduled to be held at Bournville MY&PBC on 26th June had to be postponed as the Bournville committee informed me that their water has become weed infested over the last couple of weeks due no doubt to the warm weather. We now had a provisional date of 1st October which will fit in with their Viennese night.

I took the opportunity to use the Council Icontact system to mail all the Midland skippers, and this was also relayed to the web site.

In the end this event turned out to be well worth the effort with a wide range of boats being retrieved from loft's etc and being displayed or sailed in this historic setting, a full report by the MYA publicity team will appear in the next Acquaint.

This years MDSC IOM Open at Watermead was well attended with a few of the GB skippers selected for the forth coming IOM World's at West Kirby having a final run out with their boats before the trip north.

Peter Stollery showing us all the way with a dominant performance, an omen to come for the rest of the world as it turned out.

There has been plenty of coverage of the IOM worlds else where but I would just like to thank the Midland skippers who volunteered to help out with the race management duties, as Peter said in his message of thanks it is those of you who give of their time so that others may compete that makes these events what they are, without your help it would be much poorer. Thanks on behalf of the District.

One final word on the IOM worlds and that is I would like to thank Mike and Janet Harris for creating the display boards which featured the MYA Midland District history as part of the centenary display at the opening ceremony dinner.

The weed during the summer also forced a change of venue for the Bournville PRAAC race and this was then held at Bartley Green sailing club, an excellent facility and we were made very welcome by the club. They provided a rib and driver for the day which made course setting a whole lot easier, and I was invited into the race control office to undertake event scoring.

This allowed the dinghy club race committee to get a better understanding of how we run multi-heat events.

Thanks to Chris Harris and the Bournville committee I believe we have the opportunity to be invited back for a future event.

The MDCS IOM round 6 had been moved from Lincoln MYC to Leicester MYC, the date for which was 16th October, and after a good day of light airs racing; we now have the final positions for the MDCS 2011 series finalised. Trophies will be presented at the District AGM.

The RM Midland district ranking event has been moved from Lincoln MYC to Manor Park SC and the date has remained as printed in the yearbook, 23rd October 2011.

Thanks to the Manor Park SC for accommodating the venue change.

The Midland RAT's will be on hand to manage the event, on what is possibly the last big event in the district this year that we are running on behalf of the MYA. So thanks to all of you who have contributed to make the racing enjoyable for the travelling skipper. They now know how well we run things here.

Finally on behalf of the MYA may I offer my thanks for all the District teams efforts throughout the year, your participation is very much appreciated.

Here's looking forward to a successful 2012.

Gordon Sears

MYA Midland District Councillor.