

MYA AGM.

Firstly, let me on behalf of the district thank Vic Bellerson, his wife and helpers for again doing an excellent job in hosting the MYA 2004 AGM in Birmingham.

My observations bear out the fact that the trade show appears to be a success with more new faces in the audience attending. The numbers also appear to be up at the formal meeting afterwards, despite the fact some attendees went home at lunchtime.

This format does increase the numbers and positively gives the MYA a vehicle for the members to witness the activities of the Council.

Boat & Caravan Show, NEC.

I received a copy Email from Robert Hobbs regarding this show requesting that I try to co-ordinate some help with boats and manning for the pool display.

One of the big problems with this show is that it lasts all week and the usual District helpers at exhibitions also work all week. I thus sent an Email to the Trustee's, District Secretary, Bill Green, and the Market Bosworth secretary to solicit help from the retired club members.

Mike Harris called and indicated that he would ask the Bournville members at the weekends club race.

As yet I have not received an official offer to help, but the mail has started a E conversation and we will see what develops. Unfortunately, I am not in a position to take time off myself during the week to man the pool. Maybe we can compromise and try to get a presence at the weekend.

I have to say I visited this show a couple of years ago with the intention of finding out what potential the show may have for us. Having spoken to other dinghy and sailing club exhibitors they said that all the action takes place at the weekend, so maybe this could be our best option for the future.

District Racing.

November saw the first race of this season's winter club series for IOM's. Leicester RYC was the first venue and attracted a good entry. Racing continued to 15:00 at a steady pace with Tony Edwards coming out on top.

Market Bosworth being the second round attracted a excellent entry just before Christmas. The wind was from the East and a good top suit blow. The unusual direction allowed for a very long beat to be laid out parallel with the hard standing directly in front of the café.

We achieved 12 * 15minute races, and everybody went home satisfied with a good days sailing.

Burton on Trent hosted the first round of 2005, and we were treated a very devious wind, I think at times it came from every direction even down. Again, the racing was close and competitive albeit in a friendly nature, the host club provided observers all day and this set the tone for rule observance. Unfortunately, we did have one incident just after the start of a race towards the end of the day, two boats collided (port, starboard) the starboard boat riding up on to the deck of the port boat. In the process it punctured a patch and the boat sunk quickly before we could get the rescue boat out. The water was estimated at 5mtrs deep and despite trying to snag it we would not find it. Good news however the host club knew a diver and the boat was quickly recovered in the week. It should be back in action for the next round.

Gordon Sears.
MDC