



Medina Mariners Association

Chairmans thoughts – November 2024

Welcome, Thanks and a Quick Introduction

As most of you will know earlier this year Peter resigned as Chairman, he has a very busy life outside MMA volunteering as a race officer for many of the sailing clubs and felt the time had come to pass the baton on. Both I and the Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his dedicated hard work and wish him well for the future.



As most of you are aware I wrote a brief introduction before the recent EGM, so I thought I would write something a little different and hope that other committee members will do the same in the next few newsletters....

Name: Adam James

Day Job: Technical Consultant for British Marine

Favourite paint colour: Battleship Grey

Favourite Family pet: I'm not allowed to choose between our Golden retriever "Biggles" and our Black Labrador "Inky"

How long have you lived on the Island: I moved here in the late 80s to run a youth sailing project

Greatest Sailing achievement: Winning Cowes Week and Round the Island Race on a boat that I built

Worst Sailing Moment: Dismasting a brand-new racing yacht on day 2 of Cowes Week and then having to be towed back in past all the spectators

If you had a superpower, what would you say it is: Reaching the top shelf in supermarkets

Do you own a boat: Yes, we own a Mustang 30 sailing yacht, a Laser Pico and very early mirror dinghy

How do you relax other than sailing: I love cooking and baking, but really it would have to be a walk with my wife and our dogs on the beach then a quiet pint afterwards

If you could have dinner with two "heroes", who would you choose: Douglas Adams and probably Albert Einstein, I just would like to be part of that conversation about science and science fiction....

A Look Back as We Sail Forward

As the evenings grow longer and cooler, we find ourselves at that reflective time in our sailing and motorboating year. It is the season to plan, to maintain our boats, and to dream about what we will have achieved by this time next year.

On a personal note, thinking back to the start of year I find myself wondering "How did I get here?". Little did I think that when I responded to a request for help with the dinghy park that I would end

up writing this! We are however very keen to include as many members as possible with managing the activities of the MMA and if anyone has an interest in joining any of our working groups moving forward, or just sitting in on one of our Committee Meetings, please contact secretary@medinamariners.org as many hands make light work and there is a lot of work to do!



A Year of Resilience and Community

This season has certainly been eventful. Not long after the AGM, we faced an unexpected challenge with a high tide and storm surge. The flooding at the dinghy park left the site looking as if it had been struck by a minor tsunami. Boats were tossed across the area, and debris covered the grounds.

However, thanks to the quick response from our resilient members, the dinghy park was restored in no time—looking tidier

and even better than before. Just that first weekend, we filled an entire high-sided skip with debris and rubbish. A huge thank you to all who pitched in!



The “Oar House” Project

Looking ahead, it is time to address the “Oar House.” Those familiar with this space will agree it could use some tidying. To better use the space and raise funds for our charity, we are planning a winter clean-up. We will schedule a weekend for members to come by, identify any personal items stored, and we can then clear out anything unclaimed or abandoned. This will help us make the Oar House more functional for members who want to store their gear. Lots of help will be requested as this is going to be quite a task to complete.

Changes at the Harbour Office

Some of you may have noticed that Waypoint Yacht Brokers have vacated the harbour office. The building was also badly affected by the high tides, and we are planning some winter refurbishments to improve the space. Once complete, we would like to make it available to other local community groups and the MMA Committee will use it as a gathering space for our meetings and a focal point for our charity and organisation of events.

Becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Whilst there is nothing to report as far as renewing our lease with Greene King is concerned, the Committee's focus has been transitioning to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). This change will help us better serve the association and our mission. We are also working to update our constitution and other key documents in this process. We will update you further as we progress with this onerous task.

Plans on the Horizon

Looking further ahead, we are exploring ways to enhance our sailing season. How about organising a group event further afield? Some of our dinghy sailors are especially enthusiastic about trying something new. Keep an eye out for updates as we develop these plans.



New Monthly Social Gatherings

At the last minute, we managed to arrange to hold a laying up lunch at The Folly in October and it was great to meet some of our members. The food and service were excellent, and we are incredibly lucky to have such a great venue to meet in for events like these.

Following suggestions from members, and in the spirit of building a stronger community, we thought a monthly social gathering would be a good idea. Starting this month, some of the members will be meeting at 6 to 6.30pm at The Folly on the last Friday of every month. It will be an informal event and just an opportunity to gather, chat, and enjoy good company. Look for our club burgee at the table, and please stop by to say hello.

2025 Subscription Renewals

Just to let you know that to make it simpler for our accounting processes, we will be sending out renewal notices in January 2025 rather than December. We are also asking as many of you as possible to pay by BACS as this is far easier to administer than cheques or cash.

Wishing You All a Safe Winter

As we wrap up a great season, I hope each of you enjoyed a fantastic summer on the water. I look forward to meeting more of you in the coming months and wish everyone a safe and cosy winter season.

Adam James

Chairman

Medina Mariners Association

