

Newsletter of the Friends of the Hunter Fleet

HUNTER'S YARD

Issue 4 Spring 1998

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

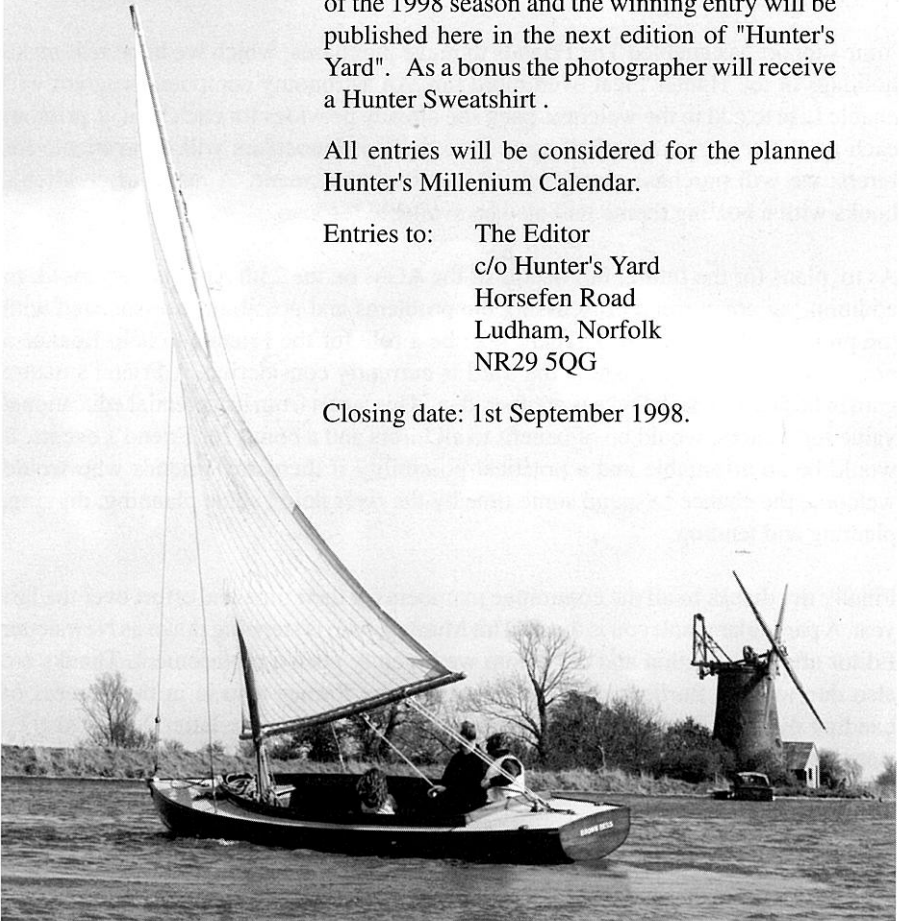
Billowing sails, Tranquil Waters or Domestic Bliss

Send us a copy of your best Hunter photograph of the 1998 season and the winning entry will be published here in the next edition of "Hunter's Yard". As a bonus the photographer will receive a Hunter Sweatshirt .

All entries will be considered for the planned Hunter's Millenium Calendar.

Entries to: The Editor
 c/o Hunter's Yard
 Horsefen Road
 Ludham, Norfolk
 NR29 5QG

Closing date: 1st September 1998.



Chairman Writes.....

As I write this, the warm February weather looks set to be a record breaker; it is quite a contrast to the less balmy weather at the Inaugural Meeting last April and makes one wonder what we have in store for this year. We can be sure, if last year's was anything to go by, that it will be fun, with the barbecue, sailing and news and views to exchange with friends.

The archive film show at How Hill was a great success - our thanks again to John Watson from The East Anglian Film Archive. Thanks again also to Sue and David Holmes, their staff, and the Friends who gave their time to help with the arrangements. The membership total, which got off to such a flying start last year, has fallen back somewhat this year - but annual renewals are still drifting in.

Your support has enabled The Friends to make purchases, which we hope will make holidays in the Hunter Fleet even more fun. An astronomy computer program will enable Lisa to add to the welcome pack she already provides for each boat, a printout each week for stargazers of all ages. Five pairs of binoculars will be available for hire; we will purchase more if there is sufficient demand. A range of children's books with a boating theme will also be available for loan.

As to plans for the future, full details of the AGM on the 25th April are enclosed. In addition, we are currently discussing the problems and possibilities associated with the proposed Autumn Event. There may be a role for the Friends to help finance a new 'millennium boat', which the Yard is currently considering. A Friend's nature garden beside Womack Dyke is another idea. This, apart from its potential educational value for visitors, would be of benefit to all hirers and a bonus for Friends's events. It would be an affordable and a practical possibility if there any Friends who would welcome the chance to spend some time by the river doing some planning, digging, planting and tending.

Finally my thanks to all the committee members for their time and effort over the last year. A particular thank you is due to Tim Munsey, who is stepping down as Newsletter Editor after this edition and for whom we urgently need a replacement. Thanks are also due to Jane Bartlett and Jennifer Mack, the former who is in the process of handing over the Membership Secretary part of her role to the latter. I shall also be stepping down at the AGM. We do have an urgent need for more committee volunteers, including, for example, a Social/Events Secretary.

Richard Sargent

Membership News

As we go to press, membership renewals stand at 270, although we hope this total will increase as members respond to our reminder that 1998 subscriptions fell due on January 1st.

Committee member Jennifer Mack will be taking on the task of Membership Secretary from April 98 onwards.. We hope to have produced a new membership application form by then which will reflect this change. For your information Jennifer's contact details are:

The Old Rectory, Antingham, North Walsham, Norfolk, NR28 0NW.

Another reminder: If you originally made a standing order with your bank to pay your subscription to the Friends of the Hunter Fleet and have subsequently opted to covenant your subscription to the Norfolk Heritage Fleet Trust, please cancel your original standing order.

The Autumn Frolic

We hope to arrange a 'get-together' for the Fleet, including Woodruff, and Friends, in October this year. Details are still being worked out and will follow in a mailshot to all Members. It is likely to take the form of a mildly competitive event, involving as many of the Hunter boats as possible - with as many Members as possible helming or crewing. It may be based at the Yard, with sailing nearby. We hope there will be something for everyone so put the date in your diary now: Saturday 10th October at Hunter's Yard.

The "Hunter Experience"

A new service for the coming sailing season. The yard can provide an original Hunter yacht or half-decker, complete with skipper to take you out for 2 hours. Ideal for those wishing to try sailing, or for dinghy sailors to experience the move up to sailing something larger or for yacht hirers or owners to try life in an engineless boat. You can just sit back and watch or try life at the helm with each boat carrying up to 4 adults (or combination of adults and children) all for just £20.00 for 2 hours. Ring any time (including Sundays) to see if we have boats available. Telephone: 01692 678263 Mobile: 0467 350251

Hunter's Web Site

Hunter's Yard now has a web site. This is full of information on charges, hiring, and even the history. It features a complete booking service and in the near future we hope to add a section to provide weekly updates on availability of yachts for weeks or weekends throughout the season. Find it at: www.huntersyard.co.uk