

Chairman's Report 2018

The good:

The year has had many highs that started in March with the annual RYA Dinghy Show at Alexandra Palace being caught in the teeth of the dreadful weather. Thanks goes to Kevin Gosling for driving through snow and ice from deepest Devon to deliver the wonderful Ambush for the show.

Thanks goes to all the committee who all took a turn and helped to set up a great looking stand. Steve has some imaginative ideas for bringing the class to life in a cost-effective manner.

The new committee members have gelled well and by using our own WhatsApp community we have been able to make decisions in a collaborative way.

Malcolm has got to terms with our finances.

Colin has really got under the issue of how we report our membership.

And finally I think you will agree the Nationals does represent great fun and a wonderful way to re-acquaint with all our great friends.

The not so great:

We have had to deal with a challenge with sadly Beer SC indicating only 2 months ago that they wouldn't be able to support our nationals for 2019. I am pleased to announce that Llanduduno SC have stepped in and have come up with a great line up.

- BBQs
- Half-price beer night's!!!!
- Live band for the fancy dress

Just to call out a few.

My personal desire for affordability I shall cover later.

Membership revenue is a challenge and I think at next year's AGM we as a committee with need to consider an alternative revenue structure.

No apparent new boat to be built however the fact that we still have within our fleet Chris Turner, Nigel Potter and Kevin Gosling I'm confident that we can overcome this challenge.

The Commercial challenge faced by our sport can be summarised thus:

- Rising cost
- Falling numbers
- Value for money meaning that cultural challenges of the race to the lowest price model will start it dictate response and we need to be on the front foot

The opportunity:

Build good for quality relationships with clubs and other classes that are collaborative in nature:

- Larks
- Enterprises
- Etc.

Build open meeting events that are shared at fewer events and better attended.

Just remember the fun we had at the end-of-seasons event at Northampton in 2017!

And now to the 'thank yous' and' goodbyes':

Two great women without whom we couldn't have achieved all that we have.

- Linda Wolfenden what can I say!

You dress me up

You get me drunk

You have been instrumental in creating a Nationals event to be proud of.

On behalf of us all what can I say but a big thank you.

Now then words cannot describe this next thank you and good-bye from committee stuff:

- 50 years
- The DNA of the Scorpion runs with her blood

- We love her; I love her more at the tender age of 18 I got my first of many bollockings at Elton SC
- Inspiration
- An incredible female role model who just makes it look so easy to be one of the greatest leaders in our sport.
- And I could go on and on!

Thank you, Carol

Finally

The class needs all our help:

- We will deliver cost-effective Nationals
- We will build an economic model that will de-risk National championships

We need you all to:

- Encourage new blood to come to the Nationals; the Willars and John Tailby are just wonderful examples of what's possible.
- Bring one new scorpion to next year's Nationals that hasn't been here this week and of course you!

And finally, finally:

Just want to say thanks to your committee who work tirelessly in enabling the class to have a future to be proud off.

Finally, finally, finally:

John Mursell

and Dave Elston.

Cheers

Chris

Chris P Yates
Chairman
National Scorpion Association