

Soundings

August Issue

Meet GBYC Oldie

North Channel, Benjamin Island sunrise



Slip 10
Bill Newton
By Lorraine Hunter

One of GBYC's most popular and charming members, and the self-appointed **Committee Chairman** for *inviting and welcoming new people*, is Bill Newton, along with Nipper, his dog and constant companion.

His easy manner is a testament to his philosophy of boating: it's not a hobby but a way of life where everyone does the same thing--relax. And it is the only sport with that mode.

Bill's father came to Ontario from Newtown, a small town northeast of London in the UK. He grew up in the London, Ontario area, quite ambitious about making his own way. As a teen, he lied about his age to join the Air Cadets. For summer camp, Bill went to Radar Communications School. The years 1955 through 1958 were spent with the Cadets, eventually winding up in the Toronto Squadron. His love of the air eventually turned to a love of the water.

Bill got hold of his first of three boats, a Hughes 24' in Toronto and brought it down to Grand Bend. This boat gave him his most challenging time on the water. Under sail, he ran into 40' swells and a Coast Guards helicopter was dispatched for rescue. Bill chose to stay with his vessel and pledged that if he made it, he would never return to Lake Erie. He sums it up by saying, "At 27 I thought I knew a lot. I knew zip. I had little respect for the winds."

The second boat was an Abbott to be followed in 1987 with a, Ticon 30'. He purchased it half completed and did the rest of the work himself, resulting in a one of a kind custom boat.

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Click for London
Power & Sail
Squadron Courses

Members who need to obtain a PCOC card should call the training officer at the London Sail & Power Squadron.

Arrangements can be made for a GBYC Power and Sail Squadron member to proctor your test.

**Next Issue: Contributions
Deadline August 25, 2011**

At about that time his former wife gave him a puppy as a gift with the stipulation that the dog be named "Lady". At the time, the First Lady was a news topic in the U.S. elections. Bill thought it would be much better to be known as the "Last Lady", and so his boat was aptly named, since it was the one and only boat ever made from its mould. You are likely to find Bill and Nipper on the club deck or on his Last Lady most days of the sailing season. Of course Nipper also likes to cruise in his master's BMW convertible.



Bill's story became more entwined with the GBYC's and he stands as the club's resident historian after forty-three years of membership. In 1968 Bill Newton joined as a full member, and in 1969 he joined the Board. As he tells it, the GBYC had a rented space. Sometime around 1988 or 1989, the club lost the property and the building. The property on River Road became available and in 1991, when the club purchased the property, making Bill responsible for the new design, and getting all the necessary approvals for the building and grounds and for meeting Coast Guard requirements. The club accommodated about 38 boats in 1991, and provides moorage for 52 today.

Now that Bill learned to respect the winds, he sailed the North Channel over thirty times and served as Commodore multiple times during his GBYC tenure; what bits of sailing know-how does he have to pass on?

Safety first. The two biggest items are to make certain that there are always enough PFD's and that the safety flares are up-to-date. And if you decide to test the flares, it would be wise to put out a message on your radio beforehand.

Always go out with a sense of humor. If you are racing, save the yelling at the crew for when you return.

Parents need to encourage young people to learn to sail. A child does not naturally follow a parent into the sport. As Commodore, this, along with the joy of racing, is his legacy.

Regarding the club, Bill Newton, our **Keeper of the Light**, would like the members to know that what makes him a part of GBYC is not the boats. It's the people that make the difference. Bill says, "I have had so much help from members that I can't tell you the great gratitude I feel." And he would like you to know it.

Greet GBYC Newbie

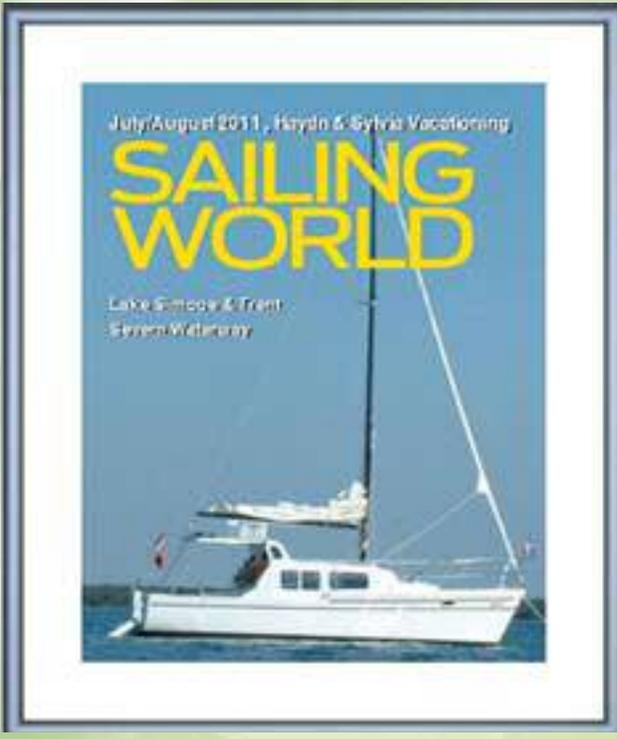


Bennett Lake

Congratulations to Jeff Lake and Trish McIntyre for the birth of their first child, a son, born on July 8th. 10.3 lbs, 55 cm long.

Everyone is doing great according to Trish. Bennett's already sailed on *Lizzy Tish*, their Catalina 27.

Fun Pics



Link to *Sailing World Magazine*
supplied by George Dutka

**Put your boat or a picture of yourself on
Sailing World's cover**

Selective Demotivational Posters



MISTAKES

**It Could Be That the Purpose of Your Life
Is, Only to Serve as a Warning to Others.**



MISFORTUNE

**While Good Fortune Often Eludes You,
This Kind Never Misses.**



FEAR

**Until You Have the Courage to Lose
Sight of the Shore,
You Will Never Know the Terror of Being
Forever Lost at Sea.**



Launching Ramp Antics



Result of hitting the Snooze Button

Click to see more
Demotivational posters
or view these ones
with shorter captions.

GBYC Pics

Friday, July 1--Canada Day Fireworks Raft

Picture supplied by Derek Hardman



Left to right:

Rick Zupancic, **Grand Cru**
Randy Brown, **Sailitude**
Ray Rogolino, **Jigsaw**
Dave Maguire, **Serenity**
Mike Fetzer, **The Boat**
Brian Thompson, **Looking Glass**
Dan Balch, **Git 'R Done**
Derek Hardman, **Impetuous**

While going through some old photos, I came across a few that might be of interest to some members that show aspects of the harbour in the late 40s and 50s. Some photos depict the area where club slips are now located, long before any seawalls were built.

The shoreline of the river was mostly sand beach and the water depths even shallower than they are now. The plus side was a complete lack of any wave action in the river. Even if some waves came in at the river mouth, they quickly dissipated on the beach-type shore. When the river was dredged and retaining walls put in place, the wave action in the harbour became much more lively. The creation of the front basin amplified this effect even more making staying on board boats at the Club quite uncomfortable in rough weather.

I have also thrown in a picture of former Commodore and member, John Warren's C&C 30 Straight Arrow, complete with members of the pipe band to which he belonged. A parade by the band was a usual part of the season's beginning on the day of the sail-past. The picture to the right was taken on a cold grey day in, I believe, 1982, when I was taking the salutes.



Cheers,
Bob Campbell



GBYC More Pics
Submitted by George Dutka

**2011 BOOM
Sailing School**



**June 2011, California Kelp and Seaweed Report by
George Dutka:**

It appears it only grows in a few places in the world and the US west coast is one of them.

Kelp is an algae and a seaweed, not a plant...it can grow up to 2 feet per day...or an inch every hour. Chocolate milk, breath strips, blueberry waffles, and beer all contain alginate, a compound extracted from kelp and used as a thickener.

2011 Port Huron Mac photographs



Click to see the finishing results for all the classes

Bulletin Board

Clothing Order:

If you would like to order clothing, please insure your order is placed on or before Sunday, August 21^s Required information for each item:

Item/Colour/Gender/Size/Boat name (or blank or salutation (captain, etc) or name)

The best thing to do is call Simply Sew 519-284-0856 or email "Chris" at Simply Sew with your order. You can order year round but Cat will only be doing this one pickup on behalf of the club She promised to find the picture boards and put them out in the club by the fireplace.

Simply Sew takes credit cards. It would be best for shoppers to deal directly with Chris so that is the only place for money to change hands plus she will get the order details directly from the shopper. Please direct questions to Cat McMahon



Triangular or a limited number of rectangular burgees continue to be for sale for \$25



Upcoming Events

Civic Holiday BBQ--Saturday, July 30th. Unfortunately, with so many members being away combined with the lateness of the corn harvest, the Corn Roast event is postponed to being held in mid-August. Dave Maguire, will release details to the membership closer to the date of the event--currently rescheduled to Saturday, August 13.

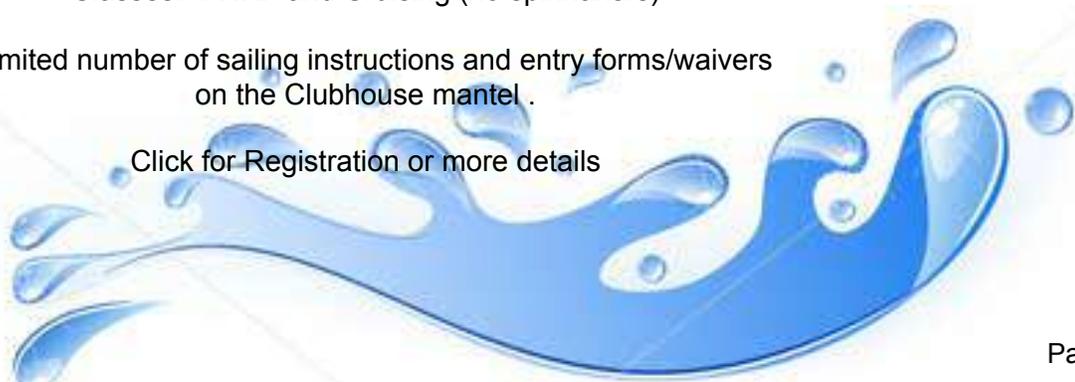
Labour Day Lobster Feast--Saturday, September 3rd with the return of the popular, Live Celtic Band--details to be released in the September issue.

Bill Given Memorial Race, LHYA Event, Saturday, August 13th,
organized by the Bayfield Yacht Club
Start: 11:00 AM First warning signal
Distance: 22 Nautical miles
Course: Bayfield to Goderich and return to Bayfield
Classes: PHRF and Cruising (no spinnakers)



A limited number of sailing instructions and entry forms/waivers on the Clubhouse mantel .

[Click for Registration or more details](#)



greetings
**Wishing you
and yours,**



**a fun Civic
Holiday Weekend**