



Midlands District AGM 2021 Chairman's Report

After last year things are starting to look up again

Clubs began sailing again in early summer and have been on the up ever since still with a little caution thrown in.

Lockdown saw major work carried out on the pool at Bournville from the end of October 2020 up to April 2021. Representatives from the club working in conjunction with Birmingham City Council and their contractors saw the pool being drained, a new drain valve being fitted, 3000 tons of silt and mud removed from the bottom, several significant leaks repaired and the complete renewal of the copings around the pool being cast in place. The club also obtained Lottery funding for the purchase 4 benches which have now been installed (more resting places for the weary legs of sailors and the local community).

Gordon and Mike Ewart and I spent a very enjoyable day at Whitefriars Sailing club in May chatting to members telling them a bit about the district and what the district has to offer and support on offer to them and other clubs. Thanks to Paul Barton for setting this up.

All over the District has seen racing is returning with events being held at several clubs to date. All classes from RG65's right up to A class have had events in the Midlands District. Thanks go to all clubs hosting these events.

The Midlands District R6M series was well represented with races being held at Two Islands and Bournville. Congratulations to Shaun Holbeche on winning the series.

Manor Park hosted the Marblehead Nationals this year with Chris Harris coming out on top with his new Grunge. Congratulations Chris. Chris also enjoyed a 3rd place finish in the IOM Nationals at Fleetwood held over the August Bank holiday weekend.

This year has also seen the creation of a Midlands District YouTube channel which we can use to promote the clubs in the district. I think we are the first district to do this. Thanks Gordon and others for providing material for the promotional videos. I would strongly encourage all clubs in the district to come on board with this as it is a great way to promote our sport and facilities clubs have to offer.

At the time of writing there are still events planned for this year and I know Colin and Gordon have been working up the calendar of events for next year.

Hope to see you during the coming year and stay safe.

I am willing to stand as Chairman again for 2022.

Stephen Hodgkinson

Chairman