

Editorial matters

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This 'n That

- **Answer (from p. 3):** A series of short tacks by which progress is made up a narrow channel aided by a favourable tide against the wind. The helm is put down until the craft almost luffs. While the tide pushes the craft back to windward, the head-sails are backed & the boat gathers way again on the same tack. Also to remain in one place by backing & filling sails on the same tack.
- RNLI SEA Check - you can still have your boat inspected now its ashore - contact Chas on 01395 276368
- If anyone would like an original .jpg image file from the selection on the website, e-mail the editor stating which and he will e-mail them to you.
- There are about two dozen identifiable regular tasks required to keep our Club running smoothly. Two key jobholders on this list are standing down after sterling service (see top of page 3). Whether or not you are prepared to step into the vacant posts, do consider offering to join the Committee to help share the load. You need not consider it an open-ended commitment.

Walking Group

We have now enjoyed two walks under favourable weather conditions. The first on the 15th November, ably organised by Adrian & Frances Hurrell, was centred on the Dartington Estate & the River Dart. Only minor paddling was involved despite the river being in spate. The walk returned via the restored water mill & the attractive gardens. There was also opportunity to appreciate the fine architecture of the estate buildings. Lunch was taken at the Dartmeet Inn. Our December walk in the Otterton-Venn Ottery area, organised by your scribe & Margaret, seemed to be enjoyed by all. It showed-off the delights of the East Devon countryside well, under crisp & generally sunny conditions. The Cannon Inn in Otterton served the party well for lunch. The next walk is on Sunday 17 January courtesy of Sam Watts. *John B*

Social Diary Dates

Fri	8 Jan	1200	Mariners' Munch starts see page 3
Sun	17 Jan		Walk: Colaton Raleigh led by Sam Watts
Sat	30 Jan		Dinner & Dance at The Saddlers
Fri	5 Feb	1930	LSC AGM
Sat	6 Feb	1930	LFHA AGM
Fri	26 Feb	1930	Illustrated talk- Roger Howell
Fri	19 Mar	1930	Flares Demonstration - RNLI
Wed	14 Apr	0600	Craning Afloat
Sat	9 Oct	0645	Craning Ashore

Details of Diary Dates

- **Dinner & Dance:** 1900 Sat 30 January at The Saddlers Arms - dress to impress - Tickets £22.50 - cheques & menu choice to Dolphins Strawberry Hill. Details & menu choice form was distributed in December, but these details are on the website
- Would a member not involved with the organisation of the **Dinner & Dance** please agree to write a report of the event & so inform the Editor for the February Newsletter (nb instant reporting - up to 200 words!)
- 26 February - bring your notebooks if you have ambitions to sail these waters for we know what to expect from Roger Howell's painstakingly researched & prepared **'Falmouth to Scilly & around the Islands'** illustrated talk.
- 19 March - anything to do with flares and emergency signals - RNLI expertise at home.
- Make a diary note of the two AGMs on successive nights at the beginning of February. The only times you have a right to quiz your Committee and Board respectively



Lympstone Sailing Club

January 2010 Newsletter

Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting will be held in the Clubhouse on Friday 5th February 2010 from 7.30pm for 8.00 pm. **Agenda**

1. Commodore to declare the meeting open.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Minutes of the last AGM (copies posted in the Club, but summarised in February 2009 Newsletter).
4. Matters arising from the minutes.
5. Commodore's report for 2009.
6. Honorary Secretary's report.
7. To receive & approve the accounts for 09.
8. To review the Annual Subscription.
9. To consider the modification of the rules recommended by the Committee and vote on these changes.
10. To re-appoint the Auditor for 2010.
11. To re-appoint the Trustees of the Club.
12. To re-appoint the President and Vice-president.
13. To elect the Flag Officers of the Club.
14. To elect, after a ballot if necessary, nominees for the General Committee.

Following the meeting – Any other business.

The bar will be open from 7.30 but will close at 8.00 pm for the duration of the AGM.

Notice is hereby given that the proposal of the Committee to change the Club Rules will be aired & voted under Agendum 9 at the AGM, Club rule 7.2 (c) [intent], 7.7 [timing], & 7.10 [voting].

This piece explains the background. The proposal takes into account the need to amend the rules, which has been an ongoing project for a long time. The matter has been given extra impetus because of the realisation that by changing the Financial Year the Club will be better able to serve its Members.

Currently the financial year runs from 1st January to 31st December. In practice membership renewals are sent out in March & returns are complete around June (well into the sailing season). This means that data required for compiling rotas is not available until the following season when it is out of date.

These problems can be largely solved if the Club Financial Year & the Membership year are changed to run from 1st October to 30th September.

The consequences of this move would be that:

- The AGM could be held as soon as possible after the production of the audited accounts, probably in mid-October.
- In the first year of operation, 2010, the annual subscription could be charged at ¾ the annual subscription to reflect the 9 month period [Note; the joining fee would remain unchanged]. However, the membership might opt to pay the full amount to produce a core fund for improvements on & off the water.
- Removal of the honeymoon membership period.

The advantages of the proposal:

Administration relating to annual subscriptions will be completed before the sailing season begins, allowing the Committee to focus on key issues.

The membership data will be up to date when programme planning is undertaken thus allowing member's preferences to be better reflected in rotas for the sailing season.

An early AGM allows decisions taken then to be implemented prior to the start of the sailing season.

continued at the top of page 3 >>>>>

Useless Unless Worn

Amongst other things our lifejackets are one item aboard we all hope never to have to use in anger. They are scorned by some & relied on automatically by others. Either way the truth is made clear by the RNLI's current catchphrase 'Useless unless worn'. Few of us ever plan to fall overboard & it is easy to become annoyed about this thing that hangs around our necks, getting in our way & restricting our movement. At least two events during the last year supported the value of wearing a working lifejacket when, amongst our own fleet whilst still securely attached to their moorings, on one occasion a child & the other a fit but senior sailor took unexpected duckings. By having others around to help & effective lifejackets those two were thankful for safe recoveries.

Have you performed any end of season checks? You should at least unpack it, inflate it (using a pump preferably to avoid condensation in the tube) & leave it inflated for 24 hours to check for leaks. At the same time you should be checking:

- The cylinder is tight & not corroded
- There is no fabric abrasion
- The condition of inflation tube
- The condition of webbing
- Is the auto-trigger in date?
- Do you have crotch straps?

So, whether you wear it at all times or have it close to hand for when you feel the need to use it, our lifejackets, like so many other things aboard, should be included in our winter maintenance program & start the new season in checked effective working condition. Chas

Editor's Entry

The reluctance of those issuing the message under the *Useless Unless Worn* banner to be more insistent reminds me of the days of the introduction of compulsory seat-belt wearing for front seat occupants in cars. All sorts of flimsy reasons for objecting were promulgated whilst today, but for a small minority, seatbelt wearing is simply automatic. So it should be for boating activity in my view. Like seatbelt wearing, until you are used to wearing them, one can feel awkward & strange, but once that initial period is over, one never gives it a second thought. Club rules state that you shall wear lifejackets on Club events, but always wear them all when on the water, please. That goes for cruiser users too. My New Year resolution! Happy New Year to all our readers. By my reckoning, there were over 50 people who bravely



took up the Commodore's challenge to swim the brook on Christmas morning, & many more came to watch in glorious sunshine! Those who waded rather than swam were rewarded with a coating of smelly mud to the feet - ho hum! Many thanks to Alison & Mike for making it happen & Graeme on behalf of LFHB for assisting. Thanks also to all those who, in safetyboat or canoes, acted in a safety role. See our website for more pictures of this and in colour - Commodore does an Eskimo roll!



Up a brook without a paddle? No chance - Mike the canoe!

....AGM - continuation from page 1

Funds will be available earlier in the year to support the season's activities.

The Police regard our licensing activities as outdated, but while our rules exist they have to be followed! In particular the rule 2.10 (d) 'that guests [& bona fide visitors] to the Club may not purchase intoxicating liquor' is antiquated & has been abandoned by most Clubs. It is the Committee's recommendation that this rule be abandoned.

Copies of the new draft rules will be posted in the Club; individual copies can be obtained from the Secretary.

Nomination Lists will appear shortly.

Existing Committee Members who wish to be considered for re-election at the AGM are required to present the signatures of a proposer (not a Member of the existing Committee) & a seconder (not a Member of the existing Committee). The Membership are requested to make further nominations as they see fit for the various Committee positions, either to contest positions, or fill in the gaps [currently there are gaps in the Committee for, Treasurer, & Bar Manager]. According to our rules (a combination of rule 4.2 & 7.7) this should be done 14 days before the AGM. The nominations can be sent directly to the Secretary with a proposer & seconder.

Brian Ridge (on behalf of the General Committee of Lympstone Sailing Club)

Test Your Nautical Knowledge

Question: what is the meaning of 'back and fill'? Answer on page 4.

Craning Dates & LFHA Matters - 2010

Craning Afloat: Wednesday 14th April 2010, HW 3.7m at 0728 BST, safety brief at 0600.

Craning Ashore: Saturday the 9th October 2010, HW4.2m at 0820 BST, safety brief at 0645.

The LFHA AGM will be on Saturday the 6th February at 8pm (2000 hrs). Any full member of the Association who wishes to stand for election to the Harbour Board must make a written application to the Secretary by 23 January 2010.

Mariners Munch

Mariners' Munch kicks off on the 8th January 2010 then every Friday, 12-2pm until Easter. Your first hosts will be that indomitable couple Diana & Rosemary (supported by their husbands). We look forward to seeing all our friends & hopefully some new ones. Many a problem is solved & many a plan is made on a Friday lunch time. This event is for members only. There are a few gaps in the March schedule, if you feel you would like to run a session or help please ring Liz Gordon 263954 [A. is away].



The long way back!