

Editorial matters

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Back-numbers & more on our website:
www.lympstonesailingclub.org.uk

LSC Contacts

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Social Sec. Judith Carter 274104

**Duty Roster
to Mid-May**

Each month I will print the names of those who have a role to play in running events at the time of going to print for the next 6 weeks. Refer to your Sailing Programme & Club Noticeboards for further detail.

Bill Broom	Tony Day
Chris Batson	Alan Dixon
Richard Bland	Eric Gowland
Rosemary Maltby	Ed Maltby
Ian Smith	Helen Dimond
John Bennett	Toby Ingham
John Lupton	Debbie Mitchell
Colin Dawson	Mike Moffatt
Norman Cann	Anne Cann
Mike Gall	Alison Gall
Martin Hebdige	Adrienne Hebdige
Liz Wells	Gavin Lowrey

This 'n That

- **Volunteers** are needed to take charge of providing the 'Pasta Supper' 1930 on 19th, Brunch on 26th April 1030-1230 and Fish & Chip supper on 3rd May 18.30. Please contact Judith Carter: Judith_Carter@Hotmail.com
- Another appeal for any budding **website creators** to give advice to the Editor. Our website is in need of a revamp by someone who knows what they are doing with Dreamweaver preferably. Please contact the Editor, thanks.

Diary Dates

Sun	30 Mar	1000	Powerboat Refresher
Fri	4 Apr	1200	Mariners' Munch - last of winter
Mon	7 Apr		Craning Afloat + bacon butties
Sat	12 Apr	1000	Powerboat Refresher
Sun	13 Apr	1000	Working Party to clean-up Boatpark
Mon	14 Apr		Dinghy park open
Sat	19 Apr	1830	Tune-up Race + Pasta Supper
Sun	20 Apr	1900	Dinghy &/or Cruiser races
Mon	21 Apr	1930	Cruiser races
Sat	26 Apr	1000	Dinghy race + Brunch
Sat	3 May	1700	Races + Fish & Chip supper

Skittles

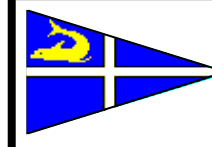
The season has now ended and the Dolphins won 10 matches and lost 6 which, we hope, puts us amongst the top 3 or 4 teams. We celebrated last night (20th) with an excellent meal provided by the team members at the Club and enjoyed by 23 people. Martin Hebdige retained the Men's trophy for top scorer with an overall average of 52.9 and I won the Ladies Cup with an average of 45.5. Neil and Adrienne were the respective runners-up. My thanks to all who made it such good fun during the season.
Diana de la Rue

For Sale

Wanderer MD 14' sailing dinghy No 1480, 2000, navy blue topsides, cream deck & cockpit combi-trailer, boom-up & road covers, wood & steel centreboards, detachable outboard bracket, designed to be rigged, launched & retrieved single-handed, certificate of conformity. £3850 Contact Editor

National Coastwatch

Alongside the lifeboat, there is a yellow box on the bar of the Club which is for contributions to the National Coastwatch Institution which is short of funds. It is a lesser well known charity, although most sailors probably know of it, but it is entirely voluntarily staffed and bills have to be paid. Members watch the local coastline, liaise with the Coastguards and locally log boats in & out of Exmouth. Whilst Coastguards recently struck the NCI kept watch for 48 hours in 4-hour shifts. To find out more chat to Eric Gowland.



Lympstone Sailing Club

April 2008

Newsletter

Early Sailing Memories

I built my first dinghy, Enterprise No 1087 in 1955. I remember that A-level exams interfered with the fitting out – I had to leave early to cycle to Jack Holt's at Putney before closing time. Sailing on the Thames & at Frensham pond near Guildford was fun, but I was an avid reader of Eric Hiscock's books so soon realised that cruising was my real interest.

A school friend's father owned a 30-foot cutter which was kept at Birdham Pool near Chichester. As I recall the Pool was an unfinished pre-war construction – a sort of early precursor of the modern marina. The boats were moored between posts stern-on to the bank with access to Chichester harbour via a lock. In those days fitting out occupied much of the early summer so several weekends were spent scraping & varnishing. Next to us was a large decrepit motor yacht with two teenage girls in the family so it wasn't all scraping & varnishing. One weekend the motor boat family decided on a trip to the Isle of Wight but before they reached the lock both propellers had fallen off – the boat had been afloat for years & corrosion had taken its toll. We had a couple of shakedown cruises to the Solent which was my first experience of sailing at sea. Chichester Bar on an ebb tide will never be forgotten. Being a creature of habit & no doubt excited at the prospect of my first trip to sea I had retired to the heads in the fore cabin. The toilet was situated directly under the fore hatch. Engrossed in the gloaming amongst the sail bags I was unaware of the approaching rough water. Suddenly I was projected upwards off the seat. The crew were in the cockpit nervously watching the approaching rough water when suddenly the fore hatch opened, a head appeared & equally quickly disappeared & the hatch slammed shut. A sort of marine jack-in-the-box. Nothing landed back where it had started. The crew were still rolling around in the cockpit when I emerged in a dazed state several minutes later.

Crossing the bar a few weeks later another incident sticks in my mind. In those days life-jackets were ex-wartime & kapok filled. We had one between the four of us & it was kept on deck jammed between the mast & the front of the cabin. As we pitched through the rough water (all four in the cockpit this time) the lifejacket became dislodged, slid across the deck & over the side. It sank like a stone & we all laughed.

Dayboats

Welcome to the new season! Will dayboat sailors please note that in the Club programme, dates have been inserted for a number of, at present, deliberately vague 'dayboat activities', inside & hopefully also outside the estuary, depending upon weather conditions etc at the time. Because decisions as to 'what & where' may have to be mutually agreed at short notice, according to conditions, will those who are interested in participating in 'flotilla-type' or similar events please let me have their 'phone number &/or email address to help facilitate this. I would also welcome ideas & particularly offers from dayboat sailors with young families to organise 'family-friendly' activities. Encourage your friends & their families to join you. Do not forget that Tony Clark's Drascombe may be available for use this season by Club members. In addition, dayboats are also welcome to join the dinghy &/or the cruiser races 'round the cans' if they wish. They can, of course, also compete for their very own trophy, the Commodore's Cup, on 3rd August! Whatever your interests, enjoy your sailing!

John Bennett - Dayboat Captain

Sailing Secretary Matters

2008 OOD & Safety duties

This year's events programme again shows names against the duties for specific dates, can you please check for any that affect you and pop them into your diary. We asked earlier in the year if there were any particular dates that volunteers could not do, so for those of you that replied hopefully there will be no clashes. We shall be issuing to all those on the rota a list of contact numbers to assist you in finding a replacement if there is a date you cannot do. Please remember to notify John Balding (01392 873961) if you swap with someone, *[but don't ask or expect him to find your replacement! - Ed]*

Duty Training.

We will be running a training evening (or two) for anyone who wants to know a bit more about the OOD (Race Officer) role. This year we will be running more of the popular Pursuit races and also some short courses events so if you would like to know a bit more before you find yourself on the end of the harbour wall please contact me. (Ian 01395 222136)

Boat set up / Tuning

There are a three dates in the programme for dinghy sailors to help you set up and tune your boats. These will commence an extra hour or so before the high tide so that we can do some on shore work followed by on the water sessions. Spinnaker sessions will be included if you would like them.

Exe Regatta

This year LSC head up the Exe Regatta, we naturally want to make this the best to date so we need to get all possible boats on the water for this event – June 28th / 29th are the dates for your diary
Ian Smith - Sailing Secretary & Dinghy Captain

Editor's Perch

On page 1 you see the last 'Early Sailing Memories' story that I have (so far) which conveniently coincides with the end of the winter season. Many thanks to each of the six contributors over the winter months; I have received several comments saying how interesting they are and speculating on who the author might be (mum's the word). So that leaves 200 or so of you who each surely has an anecdote or two to recall of their early sailing days, I await a further trickle of contributions from you at any time to await next winter.

Well the boating season is upon us and everyone has received the sailing programme which this year includes the names of members who have the responsibility of key roles in the running of each event. Inevitably, the printed list will need updating as swaps are agreed (between the postholders - don't leave it to others to sort out your arrangements please). On page 4, I print the latest list of names that I have when going to press in the hope that we eliminate the need to chivvy people and to have to try to seek last-minute replacements when people fail to turn up. It would be really good if those involved would themselves e-mail or phone John Balding to confirm their availability or their named swap in the week before the event - j.w.balding@exeter.ac.uk or 01392 873961. If John is not contactable, inform the Officer of the Day or lastly the Sailing Secretary.

What little I have so far on Curlew to prepare for the season has gone much better than expected. Once I had recalled that last season I installed an extra ignition switch and turned it on, the engine fired on the first button-push and ran sweetly immediately. Oh joy! I suppose that by now at an age of 34, it should be nicely run-in! After failing last year to make passages further that the Dart as intended due to poor weather, I'm determined to be ready for any settled period of weather, whenever it comes. Good boating!

Honda RYA Youth RIB Championship 2008

The Committee have decided to run a local heat for the Junior/Youth Honda Rib Championship. There will be two age groups 8-12 & 12-16 (age on 22nd Sept 2008). Entrants do not need Power Boat qualifications. The outboard killcord will be attached to the competent adult at all times. Entry forms can from the Training co-ordinator. The closing date for entries is Sunday 20th April.

When? Sun 27th April, start time 0900 at the Club. HW 11.06 BST, height of tide 2.7 m.

The Competition is a time trial (duration 2~3 minutes) around a set of marks & the fastest time wins. The course will take the form of a series of port & starboard—hand buoys set between 2 & 4 boat lengths apart, so that skill & control & not necessarily speed, are the most important factors. Each competitor should have two runs, one as a practice run & one as a 'hot lap'. Both runs will be timed & the fastest time put forward.

Penalties There will be time penalties for touching or missing a buoy, failing to complete the stop exercise, & flooding in reverse. In addition the instructor will administer discretionary penalties (crashing through gears, missing MOB or any other misdemeanours).

Personnel The event will be run by Chris Batson (instructor PB) whose decision will be final. Chris will advise that a standard suitable for the Regional Finals has been reached & the top two youngsters will be put forward. Volunteers will be required for beach master, timekeeper/judge, instructors, first aid, & Safety Boat. Please volunteer to BR.

Regional Finals The top two youngsters will represent the Club at the Regional Final, which this year is being held at Royal Torbay YC on 24th May. The event will take place in the morning off Haldon Pier & coincides with the Honda Power Boat event there in the afternoon.

Further details, including the plan of a sample course can be obtained from BR.

Brian Ridge: telephone 275432: e-mail brianridge@lymptstone.eclipse.co.uk

Commodore's Signal

April at last, craning afloat on Monday 7th, so officially the end of the low season and time to be out on the water. You all have a copy of the programme – longer again – so let's hope the weather is kind this year to help make the most of a good long season. Please try to get down and help clean up the boat park on Sunday 13th before it opens to dinghies, then the following Saturday tune up your boats for the first race before enjoying the pasta supper, our first social event of the season. Remember whenever there is a sailing event it is quite in order to get the keys and open up the bar when you come ashore – there does not have to be anything listed in the programme and the impromptu evenings are often the best. Friday bar nights will continue with hopefully more members coming down as the days lengthen – but skittles will be drawing to a close as will the Mariners' Munches. What a popular lunch location this has been and yet again a big thank you to the numerous volunteers who produced such a variety of excellent home made food. Another reminder that this year sees us hosting the 8th Exe River Regatta at the end of June – 28th and 29th. Please highlight it in your programme and make a special effort to take part on the water – dinghy, day boat and cruiser racing, junior activities and lots more. Saturday evening offers food, fun and fireworks accompanied by fine music – The Joyce Gang - and flowing liquid refreshment! So be here! Now you are readying your boats for the water, a security reminder – we have an engraving tool in the Bosun's locker, available for you to engrave your valuables so they are less likely to 'walk' – suitable for outboards, electronic equipment and such.