

## Editorial matters

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## LSC Contacts

Commodore Mike Gall 274112  
Secretary Brian Ridge 275432  
Sailing Sec. Gavin Lowery 276995  
Social Sec. Judith Carter 274104

## Free Wet Suit

**Wet Suit** long-john style & bolero jacket,  
medium size, 1980s in good condition.  
Free, contact Alan Hoare 264878

## LSC Regatta

Sat	4 Jul	1600 1900	Fun Race to Turf BBQ at Harbour
Sun	5 Jul	1400 1430 1530 1630 1700 1800 1830 1930	Quick Cricket on Cliff Field—1600 Treasure Trail Tea — 1630 Tony Clark Tug of War Crabbing Sail Past Jousting in the Brook Pimms & Nibbles
Sun	12 Jul	1130	Sea Sunday Service at Harbour

## Social Events July and August

Two big LSC events coming up in July are the **Regatta & Squires Trophy** which we are hosting. Our Regatta is over **4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>** & is a sailing & social event with activities for all ages.

On **Saturday 4th July**, (not Sunday as indicated on the Sailing Programme) there will be an evening BBQ at 1900. Please put your name down on the list at the Club or phone or email me for tickets. Adults £6, children £3. I NEED A FEW HELPERS—please call me if you could take tickets or serve or make salads.

On **Sunday 5th July** there will be a bring a plate of food TEA for adults and children PLEASE COME AND BRING A PLATE - sandwiches, scones or a cake. Jelly and Ice Cream will be available for the children.

At 1930 after the Sail Past there will be Pimms & Nibbles to end the day.

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July** Brunch at 1130 after Sailing. Look for a list nearer the date

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July** is the **Squires Trophy** which will be followed by a Buffet at 1130. This is a major event with LSC providing hospitality for up to 150 people. Jenny Charles & helpers are producing a buffet which will be at 1130. Anyone willing to cook a cake or a savoury for this event please call Jenny 264359.

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August** there will be a French Breakfast, put your name on list or contact Isabelle Candy 274839 bicandy@bbmax.co.uk Judith 274104 Judith\_Carter@hotmail.com

The Church is holding a **Sea Sunday Service** again at the Harbour at 1130 on 12<sup>th</sup> July. Sarahleen Strickland is the contact for this. Tea & biscuits will be available in the Club-house after the service.

## Canoe Rally—continued from page 1

Ribs, acting as safety boats, zipped around. One rib bristled with canoes sticking out at peculiar angles with wide-eyed 'rescuees' aboard – there were more each time it passed.

Whilst it was comforting to see safety boats, they forgot how much more they were disturbing the water. I passed canoeists hanging on to a cruiser at Starcross, having had enough. Stopping was an attractive prospect at that stage now facing the full blow, but at least Exmouth was – in a misty way – in sight and that was an incentive to keep going, in spite of increasing numbness in my left hand.

The passage from Turf to Exmouth took around an hour and a half and there was a lot of beach to carry canoes across when I finally arrived - but I was amongst the first. The plate of *moules frites* by the organisers was a very welcoming gesture for entrants.

It was a great day – so next year, if they dare to run it again, pull that old canoe from behind the shed and hope that it is a less good sailing day!

Jenny Moon



# Lymptone Sailing Club

## July 2009 Newsletter

### Canoe Paddle - Exeter to Exmouth - June 13<sup>th</sup>

It was a great day for *sailing*.... I think I was the only person from LSC to be involved in this canoe rally on 13<sup>th</sup> June. It was a contorted start for me – a drive with canoe\* to Countess Weir, dump it, drive home again & get a lift back to canoe (thanks Judith!). Then paddle up to the Basin in Exeter for the start. From the peace of summer sunshine on early morning water, suddenly people everywhere, flailing paddles & canoes, I slid back into the water, a bit seal-like! We were sent off early & told to wait at Turf. They had planned the event for 20 boats – there were 90 with around 150 people involved!

I paddled down the canal with others from Exmouth Sailing Club, portaged at Double Locks then stopped as instructed at Turf. The breeze had got up – a southerly doing its best to push us back to Exeter & by Turf, it was distinctly fresh. Seeing John Welton's boat hurtling by Turf with two sitting well out made that evident. We looked towards Exmouth with a little trepidation which increased as we waited for the other 85 canoes. Two hours later at a briefing we were invited to get ourselves blown back to Exeter unless we were confident that we could manage the estuary passage. For the passage, we were instructed to follow a safety boat but in the event, once in the water the only option was to go towards Exmouth or be batted to Topsham. The tide was technically with us, but in a canoe tide is much less influential than wind. With gritted teeth I paddled into the grey slapping waves now under a similarly grey sky. It was getting shallow at Starcross and there is nothing worse than feeling the paddle hit bottom and wondering if one is going to end up aground, so I steered for deeper water again.

*Continued on the back page*

\*Kayaks have decks, canoes are the open version with a single bladed paddle but all of them are canoes (the generic term). Canoe & Kayak are Red Indian & Eskimo words. I am not sure where the bright coloured floating platforms fit in!

### Free Safety Equipment Advisory Check

#### The RNLI is giving something back to the Boating community

No matter what type of boat you own or how experienced you are, a free Safety Equipment Advisory Check (SEA Check) by one of your lifeboat station's friendly advisors will help to ensure nothing is overlooked & make your boating safer & more enjoyable.

SEA Check is a completely free, friendly & confidential service that provides face to face, onboard advice about safety equipment for any boat & type of boating. The service has provided practical & impartial advice to thousands of boat owners & crew since 1999.

The initiative has been available around the Exe for many years although quiet for the past four or five. Recently Peter Williams, our local Lifeboat Sea Safety Officer, has been raising awareness of the initiative & developing & training a new team of individuals linked to the sailing clubs around the Exe. LSC now boasts two Club members on that team, your Vice-Commodore, Chas McLennan-Wiggin, a new boy to the SEA Safety team & Alan Harwood, one of our Club's valued sailing instructors, who has a number of years past experience delivering the service & has recently returned to the fold.

If you are interested in finding out more about this free service, do get in touch with one of the team and we'll happily let you know what it's all about:

Alan: 01395 260413

Chas: 01395 2763638 - charlesmclennanw@live.co.uk

Peter: 07970 045568 – williamsosm@onetel.net

## Sailing Secretary's Report

The first two free sailing events were provided with fantastic sunsets and some light winds. Unfortunately there was no safety cover available but we managed to have a couple of good sails due to the favourable conditions and experience of those present. These sessions are a great opportunity to come out for a fun sail or polish up your skills particularly for those who have just completed the two recent training courses. We need to get safety cover available to allow these sessions to proceed so if you are available to drive the safety boat for any of the following dates (July 21<sup>st</sup>, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>) please can you contact Samuel Woolley and volunteer. It's also a good opportunity to get in some practice in the use of the safety boats. If the conditions are right, you might even have a grandstand view of more spectacular sunsets.

We are having a great start to the summer with some good racing conditions. There's plenty of room for a few more on the start line so why not dust off some of those boats in the dinghy park and join in the racing. Finally, thanks to Ian Scholefield who recently donated a replacement centre board for the Club GP14.

Gavin

## Editor's Entry

Congratulations to Jenny Moon not only for being the sole LSC kayaker on the Exe Paddle but also for sticking to the task during the distinctly worsening conditions (see page 1).

Curlew & I together with the Ashtons aboard Alba II & the Hebdiges with White Lady departed Lymptstone on an overcast but encouragingly warm Thursday afternoon in early June, bound for Kingswear on the River Dart. The sea state was calm but with the wind SW, motor-sailing was the mode for the cruisers. By the time we berthed 4 hours later, the sun was shining and the clouds receding to the skyline. We were now to experience 7 days of shade-seeking cloudless skies though it took a few days for the nights to shrug off their chill. We spent one night at Totnes on the upstream Baltic Warf pontoon, adjacent to the Reception office. We approached at half tide, knowing that it dries out, but a word of warning, there is a disused slipway just upstream of the pontoon which protrudes well into the natural approach. Mind you, the climb up & down the pontoon ladder is more nerve-wracking particularly at low-tide. We were told that this will be replaced.

Since then Curlew has reverted to her erstwhile role as (back-up) Club safety boat during the Junior Sail Training—a lot more comfortable (drier) in a chop than the Jeanneau!



Don't approach the upstream pontoon from the Totnes end at half water!

## Training News

**Power Boating** The call notice for the Power Boat courses has been posted in the Club. Please sign up if you are interested.

### Sailing:

#### **Adult beginners National Sailing Scheme, Levels 1 and 2 (Course A)**

The weather has now allowed this course to be completed. The following students gained levels 1 and 2: Bruce and Charlotte Ellis, Alan Dixon, Alan Hoare, Belinda Mahoney, Karl Nielson, Stephen Watts and Sophie Thompson. Well done!

#### **Junior beginners Youth Sailing Scheme, Stage 1 and 2 (Course B)**

This course was completed successfully despite sometime blustery conditions. The following trainees gained Stage 1 and Stage 2: Milly Adams, Max Batson, Maya Dawson, Lucia

Ellis, Jack Mahoney, Sam Mahoney, Hatti Musgrove, Milena Watts and Harry Wright. The efforts of the youngsters should be applauded: well done! Grateful thanks to all those who helped in both these courses, particularly those who loaned dinghies.

#### **Junior Youth Sailing Scheme, Stage 2 and 3 (possibly 4, Course C)**

Places are still available on this course, which is scheduled for 11/12<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> July. The idea is to take the Juniors previously trained to Stage 1 & 2 on to more advanced work. Please sign up asap if you would like your youngsters to enrol. Notice in Club.

#### **Dinghy Sailing Refresher (Confidence Builder, Course D)**

Sufficient support has been expressed for the evening Refresher course to go ahead on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July, Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July, Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July. Details will appear shortly on the Notice Board. The course will mesh the free sailing scheduled for the Tuesday evening and the race scheduled for Wednesday evening.

**brianridge@lymptstone.eclipse.co.uk Tel: (01395) 275432**

## Mike's Message

I understand that some of the more observant readers of the Newsletter noticed the absence of Mike's Message in the last edition for which you all have my apologies. I was up in Scotland looking out for the needs of my ailing Mum who was in the Borders General Hospital. The good news is that she has been discharged, but she has lost confidence in being independent so I am helping her to re-adapt to life at home again. Needless to add, she is mortified by the thought that she is affecting our lives in the southwest and we are extremely grateful for your forbearance. All being well I'll be back for the premier regatta on the river scheduled for the first weekend in July.

There is a passing chance that I'll be back for the Exe Regatta over two days at the end of June that offers the usual heady mix of inter-club sailing and hospitality, this time at Exe SC. The organisers have decided to hold the majority of the races outside the confines of the river (subject to weather conditions) but Exe SC have indicated that they will be able to accommodate any dinghies that venture down for racing in the bay. Slow handicap boats will stay in the river so should not feel intimidated. The success of this annual event is dependent on participation so I encourage as many members to take part as possible.

Turning to our Regatta, plans are progressing for sailing events that seek to draw all the boat classes together on Saturday evening before the Regatta barbecue in the evening. Sunday should see family cricket, jousting and a tug-of-war taking place around a clubroom tea before taking to the water for the traditional sail-past, rounded off by a slightly less traditional subsidised Pimms Party. Please keep your eyes on the noticeboard, volunteer where you can and let's have a great weekend on the water and ashore. The overarching aim is to have fun regardless of age or experience. My only problem is deciding which of my flotilla to use for the sail past! More details on page 4.

On reviewing our Sailing Programme, I realise that the Squires Trophy is looming at the end of July. This really marks the last event before 'the summer recess' and is our chance to reinforce the image of Lymptstone SC as 'the friendly Club' as we host this inter-club cruisers' race and social gathering.

In the meantime, I am hugely grateful to the Committee and members who have ensured that all aspects of LSC life have remained on track in my absence. The improved galley has been put to excellent use providing themed eating and the bar has been busy, suggesting that our social formula is still popular. Thank you to all those who have supported the events ashore and afloat but particularly to those who have arranged and delivered them. The Club coffers are doing well so we have persuaded the Treasurer to replace the outdoor chairs and to provide a subsidy for the Pimms Party. I'm looking forward to getting back to Lymptstone. See you there. If you have any suggestions on how you would like the Club to develop, please talk to us directly or use [talk2thecommodore@googlemail.com](mailto:talk2thecommodore@googlemail.com). Mike