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This 'n That

- A lucky lunch-stop by a canal lock in northern France coincided with the passage of a working barge - but no piddling UK narrow boat! 16ft 8" wide & 360 tons. The lock-keeper was sitting in his modern cabin overlooking the lock, took a phone call from the approaching skipper, so emptied the lock ready for the arrival, and the sluices and gates were operated by machinery.
- A new *Day Skipper Practical Course Notes* from the RYA will be out in the autumn.
- The housing market may be slowing, but dinghies are being bought & sold within and without the Club with rapidity. The Sailing Secretary has now joined the Boson in the delights of Wanderer sailing and the Comet is sold.
- Reply: Jenny Moon thinks we are all jealous of her bargain! (see Sept)
- Pre-publication photocopies of 2005 tide tables are available for planners - just legible! Ed.

Diary Dates

Fri	every	1930	Clubnights
Fri	8 Oct	2359	Punts & dinghies to be removed from harbour
Sat	16 Oct	0630	Craning Ashore + hot drinks & butties
Fri	29 Oct	1930	TALK - tba
Fri	19 Nov		Prize Giving & finger buffet
	29 Jan		Annual Dinner Dance
	5 Feb		Annual General Meeting
Winter Walks Programme			
Sun	24 Oct		Walk 1: Dartmoor 8miles - Telfer Walk 2: Upton Pine - Commodore/Treasurer
Sun	14 Nov		Dartington - Balding/Ridge
Sun	5 Dec		Branscombe - Broom
Sun	16 Jan		Grand Western Canal - Bland
Sun	20 Feb		? - ?
Sun	13 Mar		? - Sutton/Hurrell
Sun	17 Apr		? - Brooms

Peter Dixon Chandlery

LSC membership does not entitle you to a discount. The prerogative to offer a discount lies with the vendor on each transaction. If you are new to the Club &/or a new customer, displaying a current Club Membership card might be a good way of introducing yourself.

Winter Walks Programme

The Winter Walks programme kicks off this month on the 24th with a **choice** with an **8-miler** led by Robin Telfer and a shorter one for those who have yet to find their land-legs after the sailing season. See Diary Dates above. Details of each walk will be posted on the external Noticeboard at the Club a week before. Start applying the methylated spirits now! Short Walk: Starting at the 'Agricultural Inn' at Bramford Speke at 1030 hrs. mainly on the level, of approx. 3.5 to **4 miles**. Lunch will be at the Agricultural Inn at 1300 hrs. The menu will be available nearer the date & your final choice will be made before the start of the walk. Details in the Club notice board soon.



Lympstone Sailing Club Newsletter

October 2004

Closing-Down Sail for Dayboats & Dinghies

The final Club-organised sailing event of the season for dayboats & dinghies took place on the blustery overcast evening of Saturday 25th September. With a hint of rain in the breeze I was heartened to arrive at the Club to find the slipway busy with fluttering sails and a crowd of skippers and crew in colourful buoyancy aids and sailing gear about to get afloat. Sadly, the conditions were too strong for the children to sail themselves though some were accommodated in dayboats.

The Safety Boat deployed 3 buoys for a triangular course for those who need such things, although the idea was to try to keep the fleet within a reasonable area for the Safety Boat to cover (helms take note) - no race was planned.

From my perspective aboard Curlew, the combination of wind and waves for the dinghies was challenging and I daresay more than one skipper and/or crew had a few nervous moments. Whilst some in larger craft had time to do some bailing, a single-hander admitted to not having a moment to spare for such activities! To the credit of one and all however, there were no capsizes or breakages.

I'm sure that for most, it was a challenging sail, but one that will be remembered for awhile with the satisfaction of having mastered the conditions without mishap and for some it will have extended their limits of conditions sailed. Well done!

The Fulford Challenge - 18th Sept

A south-westerly force 5/6 gave rough conditions even before the start between No.2 and East Exe Fairway causing gear failure, sea sickness and retirements. The course: a beat to a mark off Teignmouth, a fetch to the Orestone and a beat across Tor Bay. Boats tacking inshore for calmer conditions generally fared best, and picked up a frontal wind-shift first to boot.

Whilst several smaller cruisers declined to do battle with the conditions, LSC was represented by Vice-Commodore Chris Cooke in Dragonfly and Chris Wakefield, skipper of Will Willett who was delighted to discover that he had won Third Prize in Class 2, whilst Dragonfly, finished a creditable 14th out of only 26 finishers in Class 1.

Friday Talk - 29th October

Whilst final arrangements are still in preparation, the first big night of the Winter Social Programme on Friday nights will be on 29th October at which we hope to have a guest speaker. Thence we intend to provide a 4-week rolling programme of various activities and amusements

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Sailing/Training Update

After some unexpected delays our sail training programme has finally got underway. Our Senior Instructor, Alan Harwood supported by a fellow senior instructor Paul and 3 of the clubs own assistant instructors took a group of younger members on a weekend's course. As luck would have it the weather turned against us and no sailing was possible. However the theory was completed and also some very useful practical work on land with a bosun dinghy. It now remains for the sailing side to be completed this autumn* and we will be looking for a single decent day to get practical sailing skills tested so that we can award certificates. This may be done at Exmouth where we will have more options with the tide. Alan put in a lot of hard work towards this event and we are grateful for the time and commitment he puts in by way of preparation. During the late autumn we are also looking to be running some powerboat courses with an aim to develop our Safety boat team. Limited places, and first come first served, so get your names to Tony Clarke ASAP.

Training Team

* due to personal holidays, this will not be before November probably - Ed

Committee Matters

- No sooner than the sailing season closes, planning starts for next year. If you are harbouring quiet ambitions to see or do things Club-wise in '05, do talk to the Commodore about it.
- Meanwhile Don Govan, our Treasurer, Cruiser skipper and Race Results Compiler has completed the Results for the season. They are posted in the Clubhouse and are also on the Club website.
- As I see it, there will be vacancies on the Committee, come the AGM, so now is the time to think about considering serving. How about offering to be co-opted now so that by the AGM you will know better whether you wish to make the commitment and the Committee can best use your talents.

Editor's Perch

- This edition completes my first calendar year as Newsletter Editor. I have enjoyed doing it and I thank all those who have contributed & expressed their thoughts on my efforts. In order to keep the content lively, I do ask readers (yes you!) to send me anything that I can use. You know the format, so I only require a few sentences else I start editing or cutting anyway. May I remind those who receive paper copies, that if they look at the website, there they will find the pictures at least, in colour. However the image detail and quality is not high so that the pages download in a tolerably short time for those not on broadband. On request, I'd be happy to email individual original quality images but I am not offering to make prints.
- On behalf of the Club and from myself personally, an expansive 'thank you' to Jan Grieg-Gran for his time, care and equipment in printing the Newsletter for us and for his tutelage of me concerning all-things world-wide-web.

Craning Out

Craning out will be on Saturday 16 October, starting at 6.30am. There will be further details on the Club and Harbour notice boards seven days before. On the day, Mary and her team will be serving coffee and tea in the Clubhouse as well as selling bacon butties. Let's hope for another good day.

Craning Out Supper

On the evening of 16th October, there will be a lasagne supper that needs signing up for - see Noticeboard.

Winter Friday nights

Whilst the Clubhouse will be open as usual throughout the winter, there will be occasional special advertised events organised on these nights as well as more regular activities such as frog racing and quiz-nights! These activities will usually kick-off at 8pm and last for less than an hour, so you will still have plenty of time to socialise and patronise the bar, (see page 1).

Better BBC Weather?

The RYA is mounting a campaign to improve the weather forecasting the BBC offers to boaters. They are asking for your views of current forecasts and the strength of views. Please respond to cruising@rya.org.uk for emails or the Cruising Dept of RYA, marking your letter BBC on top left of envelope. I personally think the service needs much improvement in terms of local detail and timing whilst much of the TV and radio presentation is pretty useless. After the excellent talk by Andrew Lorcenc of the Met Office for the Lymptstone Society, two specific examples of the BBC's dumbing-down attitude towards viewers were identified.

Lymptstone History

What do you recall, or have photos or documents of boating and boating characters in Lymptstone from First World War times until the 1970's? In response to an initiative from Angela Coles of the Lymptstone Society, the Commodore invites members and their contacts to trawl their memories and records for details of boats and their owners who kept vessels in Lymptstone prior to the 1970's. Requests of official archivists in Exeter have proved fruitless so far. To start with, details of boat name, owner, date (any information), type of boat, Sail no./registration no. would be good. Rather than send a form to everyone, they will be given to those known to have been here in those times, and they will be available in the Club, and may be requested from the Editor and will be posted on the website. Form or no, if you have old photographs of people and boats in Lymptstone, please let them be scanned for the record so that future generations at least have access to what information we still have in scattered memories and documents.

The Lymptstone Society already has some interesting photographs of boats and people, but there must be many more about, and putting names to faces will become harder unless these things are properly recorded.

In a similar vein, do you have any pictures (with some idea of date created) or postcards depicting **Darling's Rock**? The changing profile within living memory has been dramatic and if I can borrow/copy a sufficient number we shall mount an exhibition in the Club.

Editor