

Editorial matters
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Bar Roster	
Friday Clubnights	
16.2 J Scholefield	267043
23.2 J Eaton-Terry	277501
2.3 R Giles	263930
9.3 T Day	268653

Skittles

With three matches to play this season we look like finishing in the middle of the league having won 8 & lost 7, some of them being very close games. Our Thursday evening practice nights continue to be well supported & are good fun. We plan to mark the season's end with a meal at the Club on 15 March. *Diana*

This 'n That

- The Lifeboat box on the bar was opened recently and contained £15-05.
- The RNLI Lifeboat Station & JAG in Exmouth are taking old mobile phones for recycling. Wilson's Paints are collecting both these & printer cartridges for the RNLI: proceeds to the new Exmouth Lifeboat Station

Diary Dates

Every Friday: 1930 Clubnight: 1200 Mariners' Munch till 13:4
Sun 18 Feb 1000 Choice of walks - see below
Fri 2 Mar 1930 Talk - Birds & the Cycle track
Sun 11 Mar 1000 Walk
Fri 20 Apr 0730 Craning Aloft - yes Friday!

Lympstone Sailing Club Newsletter
Shipwrecked - alias the Dinner Dance

Our Annual Dinner Dance on Saturday 27th January was a huge success, as so many of you who were there will endorse. Dancing was again to Ray Beavis and Honest John and this year 108 sat down to dinner - a bit of a squash - 'friendly'. We had excellent help from a group of Club Juniors who waited at table, from James Hardy and Rachel who worked behind the bar and from Chas selling wine - very many thanks. The secret of success, however, is in the work beforehand - Ron Gordon setting up the bar, Lynn Batson and friends on tickets and table displays, non-member Prim Finney made artistic table arrangements with leaves and shells. Sue Ingham and gang decorated the hall having had fun getting everyone cutting out starfish, frigate birds and the like at the Club the night before! Another team worked on the function room and of course what made the best impact of all, an amazing shipwreck painting by Debbie Mitchell at the back of the stage - oh to have that skill! Gill Newport did ticket/ table admin as usual, Jane Cooke and Nicki Moss-Gibbons the raffle and Brian Ridge as ever menu and name cards, lighting and with Daphne's help palm trees - they were in the hall with Debbie into the small hours the night before preparing and hanging Jason's nets from the beams! So thank you to them all and to all those others who turned up over the weekend to help before or clear up next day. Just wait for next year's production! *Commodore*

Norman De La Rue 1917 - 2007

Norman was born on Guernsey but soon moved to Exeter, attending Hele School (now St Peter's). He joined the Royal Navy at the outbreak of WW2, serving on the carrier *Funous* and cruiser *Newfoundland*, experiencing amongst many other things being torpedoed. He married Dorothy in 1941, Richard was born in 1943.

Inside this Issue:	
Sailing Matters	2
Editor's Perch	2
Commodore's Signal	3
Diary Dates	4
Bar Roster	4
Sailing Programme	4
This 'n That	4
Talk 9 th February	4
Mariners' Munch	4
Skittles	4
Winter Walks	4

A professional artist, writer and keen skier, he will be remembered by many of LSC for his passion for all things 'sailing'. Joining in 1960, he was granted honorary membership in 2000. His boats included *Seadrit*, a 4½ ton *Hiliard*, *Emigré* a 5 ton *Magyar* and *Nala*, a *Macwester* 26. More recently, *Loanda* and a *Loch Broome* Post Boat, both of which remain owned by members. There are many in our Club and indeed the village, who owe much to Norman for his skills both in sailing and painting. I for one will dip the ensign in his memory as I clear the East Exe cardinal buoy on my first passage of 2007. RIP. *Martin*



Sailing Matters

Boat Park
 Last year's rearrangements seem to have gone down well and it's likely (subject to the Harbour Board's concurrence and the payment of any outstanding dues) that we will start out more or less with the existing layout / allocation. I am hoping that this year berth allocations will be notified to users at the same time as the issue of boat stickers by the Harbour Board at which point there will be some movement of lesser used boats to the lower ranks & vice versa however rest assured that we will, as always, attempt to take special needs into account. I shall continue my efforts to keep the park tidy & control the weed growth as well as the usual tasks of refitting covers blown off by the gales, emptying boats full of water etc (*For which we are all very grateful Ed*) but would appreciate it greatly if these elements of my work were minimised by users own efforts. Lastly could I ask that if you are a 'multiple boat owner' you carefully consider whether you need all the spaces you previously utilised as we may well need additional room for the boats of new, active members occasioned by recent (& future) housing development in the village.

Races / discards
 Several people have voiced concerns about discards & how a teams chance to win a series can be ruined by missing just one event. To try & rebalance this aspect it is likely that the three dinghy series in 2007 will each have 10 events scheduled with 4 discards and will encompass both weekend & weekday races. This obviously puts pressure on our race official & safety crew allocations (sorry Jerry) and may also reduce the number of boats in individual races however we are trying to meet the needs of members. Regular racers who find themselves with one of these duties should remember that they will automatically be given third place points in the event to compensate however they need to ensure that the Race Officer marks up the results sheet with an appropriate comment.

Racing - The rules simplified & basic racing tips
 Does anyone want a short (20 minute?) discussion on the basic racing rules or on easy ways to enhance their racing performance? I'm quite happy to arrange either or both of these at the Club for sometime in March or April. Let me know if you're interested but of course no responses = no talk!

Club Boats
 The GP14 has seen some use over recent months but the poor Otter appears to be unloved. As I and several others have put considerable effort into getting both boats 'up to scratch' I'd love to see them being used more. Anyone interested - just give me a call (222136). Incidentally the Otter is in need of a spinnaker, needs to be 7.4m² - a Lark spinnaker would be ideal - any offers? *Ian*

Editor's Perch

Good luck to Rosemary our new Commodore and her new Committee. Whilst I advertised the vacant Editor position in order to encourage a new perspective, no-one has been found so you'll have to put up with me again. To encourage all to contribute, the default copy deadline shall be midnight on the Saturday following the monthly Committee Meeting which up to now has been the 3rd Monday in the month. However, I prefer to gradually compile the Newsletter rather than a frantic rush at the deadline, so please send copy as soon as you have it. If you have an urgent but last-minute contribution, please let me have an outline in advance so that space is reserved. Thanks *Richard*

Commodore's Signal

I am delighted to be starting on this new path as Commodore following on from Chris who leaves things very much up and running so a huge thank you is due to him for his two years of hard work and achievements. Apart from Chris who continues with training responsibilities and stays on in the new role of Communications, all other Committee members remain in place and are much appreciated. In addition Jan Grieg-Gran comes on board as Rear Commodore, Charles McLennan-Wiggan represents House, Ron Gordon, bar and Gavin Lowry joins us as an Ordinary Member with particular responsibility for new members. I should like to welcome all of them and thank them for stepping forward. There was a full Club and friendly atmosphere at the AGM on Saturday and after the formalities a little fun was had when my husband Ed was welcomed in style as the Commodore's 'Lady' - interesting photo!

So the Dinner Dance and AGM are done (no increase in membership fee!) - a busy patch. Now it is time to look ahead to this coming season - subs to be paid, boats to be aired and prepared, plans to be made. Hopefully some pre-season safety boat refresher time. The next couple of months will fly by. Already we have a kind donation from ex-member Rodney Dingle of life jackets and waterproof kit to keep in the Bosun's Locker for emergencies - many thanks. If anyone else has serviceable but redundant kit all such offers are very welcome - and does anyone have spare warps since we are still chasing our missing ones? *Rosemary*



The proverbial paddle (of up the creek notoriety) passing to the new Commodore, whilst Ed gets the message of who wears the trousers!

Last Commodore's Final Signal

It was good to see so many members filling the Club for the AGM when I formally stood down and handed the 'paddle' to our first Lady Commodore, Rosemary Malby. The last two years have been extremely busy and enjoyable, and I have been proud and privileged to serve as your Commodore. I couldn't have managed this without tremendous help from my Committee and so many Club members, and I am so pleased that the sailing and shore side activities have been enjoyed by so many of you. Thank you all for your support and the fun we've had on the way! Rosemary works very hard for the Club and thoroughly deserves her promotion, and I am sure members will give her similar support. I wish you all fair winds and good sailing for the future. Over and out. *Chris*
 PS Thank you for the tankard present - I am able to report that the contents of a bottle of Bass fit, with ease!