

**Editorial matters**

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copy deadline: 2100 Sunday following the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in the month

Also available (in colour) on our website: www.lympstonesailingclub.org.uk

**LSC Contacts**

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 Secretary Brian Ridge 275432  
 M'ship Sec. Christine Ashton 276513  
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**Diary Dates****Clubnight: Every Friday from 1930**

Fri	9 Nov	1930	Prizegiving & Spuddle - Cups, cups cups
Sun	18 Nov	1030	Walk from Swan's Nest pub, Exminster (below)
Fri	30 Nov	1930	EGM & Clubnight (see p1)
Fri	14 Dec	1930	Christmas Party
Sat	26 Jan		Dinner Dance
Mon	7 Apr		Craning Afloat

**LSC Walkers**

At an informal meeting to arrange the winter programme of walks on 9th Oct, the following plans were made: to try to hold walks on the 3rd Sunday in every month from November to March inclusively as well as the usual New Year's Eve Party in the Clubroom on 31st Dec. The first walk on 18th November will start at 10:30 from the Swan's Nest pub car park, Exminster, just east of the mini roundabout on the A379. A gentle 4-miler.

**Skittles**

The Dolphins have played four matches so far and won them all! Having beaten last season's champions, the runners-up and two other Clubs we now look forward to the next four matches before Christmas. As usual, we knock-up on Thursdays when there is no match.

**This 'n That**

- First suggestion for a Darling Rock marker is a west cardinal buoy on top of a dolphin fixed into the top of the Rock. Perhaps some more far-fetched ideas might be forthcoming if I state that the perpetrator of this idea suggested that "it might be a competition in which a ground rule is that we do not have to put the suggestion into practice! Such would allow for some creativity".
- Here's another: mount the Darling Rock Trophy atop a pole on the said rock with photocell-derived illumination at night! (No, this didn't come from the current holder who has failed to take possession of it all year but who will no doubt gleefully hand it over come Prizegiving! Ed)



An unnecessary distraction? Some members cannot resist watching England's last success of the Rugby World Cup during our Craning Ashore Supper. Oh OK! We did beat the French!

November 2007

**Lympstone Sailing Club Newsletter**

**Notice is hereby given that an Extraordinary General Meeting will be held in the Clubhouse on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2007 at 7.30pm**

**Agenda: to elect a President and Vice-President**

The General Committee recommend our current Vice-President, R. T. Blackmore, Esq., for President and Past Commodore, W. G. Broom, Esq., for Vice-President. Both Bob Blackmore and Bill Broom have expressed delight at being asked to stand.

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

**HMS Beagle Sails Again  
- Darwin Revisited**

A working replica of HMS Beagle will be built at Milford Haven. She will be launched in time to be the centrepiece of the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations of Charles Darwin's birth in February 2009. The replica will make a world circumnavigation in her ancestors wake, recreating the 1831-1836 voyage. This will also celebrate the seamanship skills of Robert FitzRoy, the Beagle's original Commander (who was the first to use the Beaufort Scale of wind force). The replica will take 14 months to build: it will be built with larch planking on oak frames, she will be fitted with engines and equipped with modern navigation, communication and safety equipment. She will cost £3.3 million.

The Committee felt that Lympstone Sailing Club members would want to sponsor such an important project. They have agreed to add to any donations individual members might wish to make. Brian Ridge has agreed to act as the contact point and donations or cheques made out to THE HMS BEAGLE TRUST WALES should be sent to him (Telephone 275432: Address 9 Underhill Crescent, Lympstone, EX8 5JF). The donation of a Darwin (£10) might seem appropriate but anything you wish to donate will be most welcome. A box for donations will be available in the Club with a contributor sheet for you to sign. [The HMS Beagle Trust Wales, The Stableyard, Lawrenny, Pembs., SA68 0PW].



HMS Beagle off the Galapagos by John Chancellor

## Early Sailing Memories

My first dinghy sail was in a pram-bowed Cadet, on a leach-infested ex-gravel pit lake at Frampton-on-Severn; enough of that. But my first 10-day cruising sail on a chartered 5-tonner from Salcombe to Brittany was a much more memorable affair. A glorious summer's day welcomed the 6-lad crew plus the Head of the Music Dept as Skipper and the Headmaster as First Mate. No sooner had we provisioned and stowed gear than I was prostrate on the afterdeck, feeling definitely queasy as the insidious 1cm swell sent conflicting messages to my eyes and ears! Oh well, we make a good 24-hour crossing, arriving as planned and dead-reckoned off Cherbourg - apart from a severe buffeting from being thrown off the bow-wave of an unforeseen large vessel in the night!

For the next nine days the delight of coast hopping, with the added interest of a new port each night; names such as Carteret, Camaret, Morlaix, Quiberon, & Tréguier still linger in the mind. Douarnenet in particular was at the time the largest crustacean fishing port in the world and I recall acres of what looked like concrete pig pens, but which were filled with sea water and crawling with crab & lobster. We dined very well ashore there!

Our return Channel crossing was to have been on a Monday, which turned out to be a French holiday, so instead of rebrimming our diesel tanks, we chose to set sail anyway. During the passage we first weathered a force 8 so'westerly gale closely followed by a force 9 strong gale. The effects of this broke off the top of the wooden mast which at this time was only carrying a storm jib amongst other things. The size of the waves and blown foam was impressive. We were blown way up channel sometimes travelling at 8 knots solely under spars, and by now we were running low on fuel. Flares were fired, and we ended up being towed for many hours back to Salcombe by lifeboat arriving a day late. In spite of parents around to welcome us, I recall no fuss at all - thank goodness.

## Editor's Perch

Ideal conditions greeted those involved with craning ashore on 13th. Another terrific effort from all those involved both in the ever-improving planning and the execution. I hear that craning afloat is planned for 7th April 2008, which gives us 2 following morning tides of 4m.

A first for LSC, with the strange sight of a collapsed trimaran aloft? Richard's new vessel has attracted much interest from the moment it entered Lympstone waters, whether at mooring or under way. Even now with *Scoosh* ashore for the winter, the interest continues unabated. A welcome addition to the Lympstone fleet indeed.

All members are again requested to think up a few words on any boating story for inclusion on these pages. It is unhealthy to have too much from the Editor either in this section or disguised elsewhere. The story above for instance is only 350 words and once started you may find it difficult to limit your prose, but that's the Editor's job! Have you anything chandlery to sell through these pages? How about an auction in the Club?



## Commodore's Signal

The last dinghy race of the season on 7<sup>th</sup> October was an interesting event, scoring points for rounding buoys by whichever route you picked. For me it proved too much of a challenge. My excuse was that Lizzy was dragging round half the seabed on her bottom, but in truth I made the wrong choices and lost most of my score in penalty points for a late return! Never mind – I can only do better next year! The park was then cleared quickly and with much less hassle than previous years which helped the Harbour Board in preparing for craning out. And what a lovely calm morning for craning – a job which as ever was well planned and well carried out so thank you to all concerned – Neil, Alan, Graeme, Don and the rest of the team, also Jean Bland and the butty team and the water taxi team. In the evening the craning ashore supper was a big success despite the clash with the France v. England rugby which in the end added something extra to the atmosphere, especially with some of our French members present! We kept in touch by means of a TV supplied by Chas and the food was fabulous, thank you, as ever, to our noble team of chefs and particularly to Jenny Charles who took over responsibility for the evening and did a magnificent job. We were pleased to be joined too by Bob and Pam Blackmore as well as Margaret Middleton – so nice to have their continued support.

Next event to remember is the Spuddle and Prize Giving on 9<sup>th</sup> November – maybe your chance to collect a cup, enjoy reminiscing, air your ideas for next season's programme and relax over a drink in good company. Bring a plate of food to add to the spread and cast your critical eye over our suggested new personalised clothing. If you have a cup from last year – or have unearthed one from a previous year – please bring them down to the Club as soon as possible or drop them into me or any Committee member.

Friday December 14<sup>th</sup> is set aside for our Christmas Party night – seasonal activity with mulled wine, music, mince pies, munchies and more.

Dinner Dance date is 26<sup>th</sup> January – another night not to be missed – jot it in your diary now, and a late signal from SYC inviting LSC members to join them at their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner Dance on 1<sup>st</sup> December – see poster or website.

## Stop Press

It is with sadness that we briefly in this edition, record the deaths of Norman Smith and Tim Tapscott and send our heartfelt condolences to Clare and Pat respectively.

## Dick Middleton

We are planning to kit the balcony out with wooden furniture and would like to purchase a really nice bench in honour of our late President. I know many of you would wish to give a donation in Dick's memory. Cheques or cash can be passed on to Don Govan or left in an envelope behind the bar.

*Commodore*

## Mariners' Munch

We hope to hold these lunchtime meets again between mid-January & early April - but we would welcome some help, in fact, it depends on more help. We have arranged a planning meeting Fri 30th November at 11am at 7 Harefield Cottages. If you would like to help but the date does not suit please telephone Joyce 277077 or Adrienne 275262.

It involves making soup/cake or sandwiches & serving twice a month for Friday lunchtimes. We have found working in pairs is more fun/less work, so you will not be alone. Details & rota to be arranged at the meeting. Gentlemen are welcome to volunteer.