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Produced towards end of month
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Freebie

Want a low-cost sailing dinghy?
Look no further than the Club
Noticeboard on which they will
find details of a well-equipped
dinghy, free to a good home!

Diary Dates

Fri	29 Oct	1930 for 2000	Illustrated Talk 'Junk on The Pond' by John Lupton
Fri	19 Nov		Prize Giving, Spuddle & finger buffet
S/S	20/21 Nov		Open Mirror Meeting/Coaching SYC
Sat	29 Jan		Annual Dinner Dance, Woodbury
Sat	5 Feb		Annual General Meeting
Sat	9 Apr	early	Craning Afloat
Winter Walks Programme see Club Noticeboard from a week before			
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

This 'n That

- There will be a Raffle Winners' draw at the Annual Dinner Dance. But to have a chance of winning, you must first buy raffle tickets! They are available from the Bar in the Club at 50p per ticket. Write your name & phone number on the ticket as you may win a prize even if you are not present. Prizes will be randomly pre-allocated to specific ticket numbers so that an absent ticket-holder may still win the 'best' prize, any profit to Club funds contact Frances Hurrell 264039
- There are 4 perches to a wicket, what am I talking about? Answer next month.
- Our retiring Commodore (by nature and by the middle of February) was very pleased to have been persuaded by the Treasurer to attend the RYA AGM. Not only did he enjoy an interesting chat with the Princess Royal, but he also met many of the other Commodores of clubs in the southwest. A good opening topic of conversation when he goes cruising in the future - more next month
- Youngsters and Stan may be pleased to know that our insurers have retracted their exclusion of the 'dangerous' sport of feather boat racing from our policy. I'm not sure what they assumed this activity to be, but once enlightened, hopefully they saw the funny side! Thanks to our Secretary for sorting it all out.
- In 2003 Exmouth lifeboat station launched 92 times & rescued 62
- Will all current **prize-holders** return their trophies to any Committee member before 19 Nov. please.

For Sale

- Europe H488, singlehanded racing dinghy. Profnl built Finessa 1987 Alloy mast & boom 1dacron sail, Rudder & CBd Lightweight plastic launching trolley. Hull =45kg £300ono TimLaws 07866 556618
- Mirror 25608 'Skippy' incl. launching trolley. No spinnaker or road trailer. £220 Don Govan 01395 266697



Lympstone Sailing Club Newsletter

November 2004

Captains' Reports for 2004

Cruisers To win silverware one has to compete on a regular basis, and this season has been disappointing with a low turnout. Consequently most of the 'pots' will be displayed on one sideboard until this time next year. Conditions, particularly from mid-season onwards, have been poor and we have cancelled a number of races. We are now looking at next season's programme and any polite suggestions would be welcomed. We are considering more out-of-river events, and a suggestion that our estuary races should be longer. Next season we will allow two discards in any series, to allow for the odd poor performance or absence. Would there be an interest in a new series during 'working hours' to encourage more of our 'retired' skippers to participate? Comments please. *see p3 Ed.*
Don Govan

Dayboats There were five welcome additions to the fleet for 2004 and two boats departed. Most DBs enjoyed independent sailing but, on occasion, some chanced their luck around the buoys with the dinghies. The planned Club events were often thwarted by un-enticing weather and limited interest apparently. On the positive side the Drascombe Rally was fortunately blessed by summer weather and was enjoyed by members and visitors especially. Our thanks are due to Alan Child for this initiative. In summary, dayboaters mainly enjoyed their boats and their sailing in their own ways. Suggestions for making DB sailing more 'inclusive' under the LSC burgee in 2005 (e.g. independent (handicap) class races/events) are welcomed. *see p3 Ed.*
John Bennett

Dinghies In contrast to 2003, we have generally seen strong breezes so we lost a couple of events as a consequence. Nevertheless we had some good events and close racing with capsizes a-plenty on occasions. A handful of 'crashes' occurred but I will not report the detail! (*Darling's Trophy? Ed*) However for the first race, the new racing buoys had floating lines attached - soon we were chasing buoys as well as other boats as the leaders dragged them behind. Alterations were made! We have seen a growing number of new members and boats appearing, so the outlook is encouraging. We now have the opportunity to build on this progress next year and in addition the aim to do junior events in a more organised manner.
Jeremy Chew

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Many thanks to our 3 Captains for their hard work before, during and post-season. Further thanks to Don for wrestling with software & protests & incomplete data but nevertheless providing Results. We'll have a Training Report next month. *Ed*

Committee Matters

New members Mr. Ian Critcher & Miss Jaquie Corke (Skipper 14). Woodbury Salterton, Mr. John Corke (Skipper 14). Woodbury Salterton, Mr. Nick Millington and Nancy Owen, son Adam + baby (no boat) Moorings, Rev. Joe Lister (Enterprise) Longmeadow Road.

Training Powerboat 1 & 2 + Safety Boat courses are expected to start in November. Refresher courses and familiarisation outings are recommended for all who may be asked to do Safety Boat duty next year but who have not yet helmed the new Safety Boat. Contact Tony Clarke

Prize-Giving, Spuddle & Buffet Friday 19th November will see the annual distribution of prizes for the past year's sailing. supported by a finger buffet. The Spuddle will also be the forum for discussing the type of events you prefer for next year. **Will all current prize-holders return their trophies to any Committee member before 19th.**

Lympstone Dolphins

The Lympstone Dolphins Skittles Team has had a good start to the season. The opening match against the defending Champions - Cockwood - was narrowly won away after a good early lead. Matches 2 & 3 were also won, narrowly & handsomely respectively.

Editor's Perch

So ends my second season of boating at Lympstone. As many others have commented on their seasons, we don't seem to have had a fulsome year on the water. Nevertheless, what boating I have done has been very enjoyable. Whether it has been an infrequent sail in my Wanderer - yes, even the ducking I received from my son at the helm - to evening social excursions on the Pilot, once no farther than the north side of the Cliff to imbibe some wine & cheese with friends as the sun set, or being snapped at by the Commodore (fair do's it was a race!) whilst mucking-up a tack when crewing for him on Joka, it has been a thoroughly enjoyable time afloat. Thank you one and all both in the Club and the Lympstone Fisheries & Harbour Association for enabling it, and for being there to share and enhance it. Lost opportunities aside, it has been a very successful year for the Club and during the next few months there will be valuable opportunities to say our 'thank yous' to the small number of prime movers who conceived, planned, worried over, worked on and carried-out the 2004 Sailing Programme for the benefit of us all.

Following last month's mention of the RYA's campaign to channel boaters' criticisms of the BBC's presentation of weather forecasts, Andrew Lorenc's talk to the Lympstone Society on numerical forecasting unexpectedly threw some light on the debate. He matched my contention - that by not explaining the path of weather systems in terms of the snaking flow of the jet stream, as is done in USA, the BBC exhibits a patronising attitude towards the public - with an even better one: as we know, the chances of being rained on, on a showery day, is a bit of a lottery, as is the timing of the transit of a belt of rain at your location, but the BBC deems that we are not capable of coping with the concept of chance or probability. Were that to be so, bookmakers would soon be out of business. It is not because punters don't understand odds that bookmakers are rich, but because of human nature's predominant optimistic tendency and short-term get rich quick views.

Letter to The Captains

Cruisers: As Don says, proceedings this year have been dominated by too few boats regularly taking part. So in order for more boats whose helms & crews have limited availability to sail, why not have more race series, each with fewer races, say 5, and having a 2-race (40%) discard possibility. In this way, many more boats will at least qualify for a pot. Rather than offer more races to non-workers who have no excuse for not being available at any time, offer more races at weekends and in the evening for workers.

Dayboats Do you really want to traipse around after dinghies on their piddling little 3-buoy racecourses? How about more 'family' sails to a destination, do some activity, then sail back? How about more 'Babbacombes' or picnics on some nearer beach and even an overnight stopover somewhere? To achieve this, several Saturday/Sundays should be reserved in the calendar so that with luck, the weather will allow one or two.

Dinghies With the number of new members with dinghies ever on the rise and an enthusiastic group of helms & crews, this section just wants more races. I gather the Club used to run over 70 races per season! Keep up the good work.

Whatever you think of these ideas, come to the **Annual Prizegiving and Spuddle on the 19th November** and register your preferences, or contact your respective Captain directly before 19th. (see p1 for names)

Craning Ashore 2004

Weather ideal once again, punts still in the area on craning day and more than one instance of selfish behaviour in the brook! Par for the course one might say. However the best laid plans for a swift craning morning were thwarted by an operator unfamiliar with the crane, a hydraulic glitch and the lack of more than one pair of strops (again). Nevertheless the craning was done with good humour, safely and with no damage. The 'Basher Boys' (see below) on the end of the hooks worked marvelously. When I inadvertently entangled my Pilot in mooring lines on the south side of the brook, before I could deploy my boathook, the two lads in the water had swum over and were doing the disentanglement. Brilliant! One plus point for the crane driver, at one point a stern line from a just-hoisted boat was uncontrolled and a violent rotation started, threatening an impact. The crane operator immediately accelerated the lift thus avoiding obstructions and probable damage.

From the Commodore

Many thanks for Harbour, Team (Neil & Graham) tea & bacon butties, (Mary Jean & Rosemary) plus the ferry crews, Chris Batson Jenny Moon & Nick Smith. And of course the very well received Craning Ashore Supper, cooked served and cleared thanks to Julie & Mandy and yourselves the members who supported it. No problems with the craning other than the one yacht skylarking about trying to joust Joka with levelled mast!

From the Harbour Board:

The dynamic team were organised by John Bashford-Taylor (alias Basher) who is rebuilding the fishing boat in the corner of the harbour. They did a great job and grateful thanks indeed go Basher and his boys who run on coffee and bacon butties. We would have been lost without them. Basher also provided the lighting.