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Walkers' Notes

Walkers' Diary In spite of apologies from several, one of the largest impromptu gatherings took place recently to organise & restate the tone of the LSC winter walks programme including the popular New Year's Eve party. In no time at all, the outline programme was completed with volunteer route planners and proposed locations for walks. Matters discussed were:

- these walks are essentially 4-6 mile social strolls with a pub lunch. The primary aim is for club members to meet socially. Due to pub limitations unless otherwise informed, organisers would negotiate with pubs for 20 lunches on a first come, first served booking basis. Beyond this number, walkers would need to fend for themselves for lunch arrangements.
- Neither the Club nor route planners would be deemed responsible for walkers' safety or welfare on the day.
- Whilst a small group may form to organise the entertainment & fare for the NYE Party, all could be expected to assist or provide on the night. All Club members would be particularly welcome to see in the New Year from 10.30pm.

This 'n That

• On the water this morning (4th). Clearly too soon to write off the boating season just yet! B-e-a-u-t-i-f-u-l!

Diary Dates

Sat 14 Oct	Punts/dinghies removed from harbour
Fri 21 Oct 0700	Craning Ashore drinks & butties (page2)
1930	Craned Ashore Supper please sign-up for this on Noticeboard
Fri 18 Nov 1930	Sailing Spuddle & Prize-Giving

Walkers' Diary

Sun 23 Oct	Beer - Broom
Sun 20 Nov	Sidbury - Bennett
Sun 11 Dec	Local - Crisp
Sat 31 Dec 1930	New Year's Eve Party - Clubroom
Sun 15 Jan	Knowle - Hurrell
Sun 19 Feb	Newton Abbott - Giles
Sun 19 Mar	Mary Tavy - Exelby

E-Mail

I sent a message to all members with e-mail addresses recently resulting in a significant list of people whose e-mail addresses are inoperative. May I invite those who have changed their addresses recently to e-mail me so that I can update the Club's database. Those that do not, I shall delete from the lists. Club e-mails do generally fall into several categories:

- sailing event alerts & information,
- occasional social event alerts,
- News
- Newsletter posted to website.

If you do not wish to receive any or all categories of e-mail do let me know, and I'll try to oblige. *Editor*

Bar Duty

7 Oct	Paul Dennison	277881
14 Oct	Richard Giles	263930
21 Oct	Richard Crisp	273211
28 Oct	J Spree	222382
4 Nov	Bill Broom	264025



Lympstone Sailing Club Newsletter

October 2005

Sailing Matters

Exe Junior Series 24th September 2005 Lympstone SC hosted the 3rd and final event in the 2005 Exe Junior Series on the 24th September. Over 30 boats took part consisting of Lasers in one fleet and Cadets, Toppers and Picos plus others in another mixed handicap fleet. A single Mirror took part from LSC. Well done Vicky Gall and Faith Strickland! The event took place in variable and light wind conditions and this set quite a task for the Lympstone race officers with the race committee boat having to be moved after a delayed start. 3 closely contested races followed. The crews ranged from excellent racing skills to those with limited sailing ability. The rear third of the fleet were accompanied by a rib and were coached on the water. The whole event took place in an excellent spirit with the Exe clubs working well together. The final race saw the wind dodging around again and half the fleet fell into a large hole in the wind before the leeward mark caught out quite a few with the tide sweeping past it. After the event all adjourned to LSC for a barbecue and prize giving with a good 40-50 attending. There was a lot of planning for this event but many from LSC supported the day itself, including Rosemary Maltby, Chris & Jamie Cooke, Chaz McLennan-Wiggin, Jan Grieg-Gran, Mike & Alison Gall, Alan Childs, Brian Ridge and Barry & Elaine Gardner. In addition a club member was very generous in sponsoring this event's prizes. Tony Blackmore of Sailsport, Jerry W. of Dixons Chandlery Exmouth and Peter Manfield of Waterfront Sports, Exmouth kindly sponsored the excellent series prizes. David Rose provided much needed expertise in delivering the series results in good time. Finally a well done to all the youngsters who took part and made this event such a success.

Final dinghy/dayboat event – Sunday the 25th September Fine weather and a reasonable breeze accompanied the final sailing event of the season with 11 dinghies and a dayboat taking part. No less than 3 past Commodores were included in the race officers crew.

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With the wind almost due west a course was set with a short reach followed by the beat where tactics really came into play and the best sailors made their gains. Jason Ingham with Jan Grieg-Gran as crew showed the way home in both races closely followed by Ian Smith in the Streaker. Behind there was very close racing with positions frequently changing between closely matched boats and crews, with a few glancing impacts to boot! It was just as well, in typical Lympstone spirit, no one protested as it would have been quite a job to sort it out. There was a great spirit at the Club afterwards. A fine finish to the season's sailing programme.

Jeremy Sailing Sec

Interim Training Report

Despite a disappointing response to the training update issued in May, we've actually done quite a lot, though not as much as we'd hoped.

Life-support training last winter followed by HSE First Aid at Work & RYA First Aid on the Water courses thanks to Pete Redbourne mean we have a number of well qualified First Aiders. Thanks to Chief Instructor Alan Harwood, ably assisted by Tony Clark, there were a number of excellent safety boat familiarisation & refresher days at the beginning of the season. The sail training has been disappointing and some weekends were cancelled, but we do have a number of junior members who have successfully gained the full RYA level 1 & 2 certificates. Bravo!

One of the difficulties for the Committee running formal RYA sail training courses is the level of support that is required. For example, to run a 2-day RYA level 1 sailing course for 6 students we need 7 qualified volunteers on each day, and favourable weather! Alan has called in a number of favours, and we have occasionally borrowed boats from the Royal Marines, but frankly we struggle to get the required manning from our current list of trained volunteers.

We have had a de-brief meeting and agreed:

Our focus for 2006 is to encourage greater participation in on-the-water sailing events

We need to train at least another 10 members to RYA Powerboat level 2 over the next six months (so we have more members to share the 2006 safety boat rota)

We will only plan 3 formal training weekends next year

We'll schedule about the same number of club dinghy sailing events, for adults and juniors, next season. **How does this sound?**

In the meantime we will give whatever training & other support to increase the number of qualified Assistant Sailing Instructors (ASIs) and Safety Boat operatives.

In my view the RYA are quite right to have a properly structured sail training programme which requires lots of qualified instructors etc, but here at Lymptstone the first priority should be to get as many adults and juniors out on the water with appropriate safety cover. ie let us first concentrate on sailing boats, not certificates! We therefore need more members to cox the safety boat for club events.

What can you do? – to help achieve this we need members TO VOLUNTEER NOW to do the Powerboat level 1 & 2 course here at Lymptstone over the next 6 months (only £50 if you do them both, which is a great deal less than commercial rates elsewhere!) It really is a useful and internationally recognised qualification. The first level 1 course, as an introduction to Power Boat handling, is planned for October or November. If you are interested, and in order to determine convenient dates, could you please sign up on the notice in the Club entrance as soon as possible (or email me) Further details can be obtained from our Chief Instructor Alan Harwood (tel 01395 278 792)

If you agree, or perhaps disagree with our plans PLEASE TALK TO US. Alan Harwood, myself or indeed any committee member will be pleased to hear your views. I believe those of us who have been privileged and spent hours in sailboats on the Exe, or elsewhere, and experienced all those memorable moments have a responsibility to give others the opportunity to learn and enjoy our sport. Just a few hours of your time.

What can you do as your bit? Chris Cooke, Commodore and Training Principal [*Apart from an essential service for the Club, level 2 qualifies one for an International Certificate of Competence necessary for powerboat hire abroad. Ed*]

Craning Ashore

Starting 7am on Friday 21st October. Tea, coffee and bacon butties for sale as usual courtesy of Mary and her team.

Commodore's Signal

Not long until the deadline for dinghies and dayboats to be removed from the harbour (14 Oct) and cruisers are craned ashore (21st) after what has turned out, weather wise, to be a pretty good summer. I trust you have spent many enjoyable hours afloat – though it never seems to be as many as we planned last spring.

The Fulford Challenge, to get as many Exe cruisers down to Brixham Yacht Club for a boisterous end of season party, suffered from absolutely no wind and damp conditions – so the handicap details on the entry form should have asked about engine power and propeller type – not PY number! And sorry, I couldn't attend the President's and Commodores Cup a couple of weeks ago – I had an important wedding to attend, which I didn't know about when we prepared the programme last winter!

Our penultimate sailing event was to host the third and final regatta of the River Exe Junior Challenge. Details are elsewhere in this newsletter, but I must in particular express sincere thanks to Jeremy Chew who spent a great deal of time planning the regatta, recording on the committee boat, and sorting out the results with David Rose straight after – so of course it all went without a hitch, except for the 120 degree wind shift just after we had set up the course. We had to move the committee boat & kedge all the marks, but as a result the thirty or so boats competing had an excellent course for their three races.

It was pleasing that a number of members helped out and once again LSC can be proud of running an enjoyable regatta with a prize-giving party at the Club attended by lots of sailors and their parents from Exe, Starcross and Topsham – just a shame that our only representatives on the water were Vicky Gall and Faith Strickland. Interestingly the under-13 trophy was the Christening Cup, first presented to ESC juniors in 1953 and the long list of winners engraved on the cup included Lymptstonian Janet Jackson (I won't mention the year) and one C G Cooke (1970!!). I must also thank one member of LSC who kindly donated £100 for prizes, as well as Jerry of Peter Dixons Chandlery, Exmouth), Tony Blackmore (Sailsport) and Pete Manfield (Exmouth Waterfront Sports) for providing all sorts of sailing kit for the lucky overall winners. Not bad as entry was completely free!

Finally, and continuing the theme of helping each other, I am circulating a questionnaire with this newsletter which I would ask ALL members to complete and return by 30 November. The problem is that we plan next year's events over the next few months, so need to know what you can help with NOW, rather than wait 'till the annual subscription reminders are issued in March. Please get your completed form back to a committee member as soon as possible. There will be a copy on the LSC website which you can either print, complete and send to me, by hand or, complete electronically and e-mail to me. I look forward to your support, and I will be chasing EVERYONE for a reply! Await my call at your peril!!

See you at the Sailing Spuddle & Prize Giving on Friday 18 November, if not before.

Editor's Perch

With our curious timetable of AGM, membership renewal & programme creation we now see the Committee starting to plan for next year (see page2). I think a few members are privately disappointed with various aspects of this year's developments some of which may lie at the Committee's door but some of which equally lie at the door of members. When you read the level of commitment required to put on a training day for instance, one wonders whether those to whom it is targeted show the same level of commitment from the moment they initially agree to attend, and to the day itself.