

Locks News



June 2007



Commodores Report

Dear Members,

We are now well into the Centenary Year Season and have had some extremely varied sailing conditions. Some very exciting Force 6's arrived early in the season to entertain us all, with the exception of the insurance companies for those of us sailing RS classes!! We must be really brave, or maybe mad? I note that this year, so far, we have seen little of the Enteromorpha seaweed that usually plagues our racing in and out of the lake. With recent press about the sewage releases into the harbour, I have had meetings with the Harbour Master and Environment Agency, and it seems that in general, our water quality in the harbour is the best it's ever been. Perhaps the generally high water quality may have something to do with the lack of weed? Either way, from a racing perspective, it's great to be able to concentrate on the boats around you, rather than dodging the weed!!

I am delighted to say we have sold over 250 tickets for the Summer Ball. I know the evening will be spectacular, thanks to the time and effort Christina Holden and the Ball Committee have put into planning this event. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

I have been involved in researching material for the 100 year Locks History at the ball. It has been a great experience looking through many photographs and slides, reaching back to the clubs founding in 1907. There are many wonderful images of the club and its members and something is conveyed in the pictures without exception. **Fun**..... Locks members over the years having fun. In, on and around our beautiful harbour. Long may it continue.

This season has seen some spectacular turn outs on the water already, with 37 boats at the first Interclub series, and 23 of those from Locks. As expected, we have dominated the series so far, with 1st in both fast and medium fleets. The real difference this year though, has been in the number of people using the club after races. After almost every race this season, the bar has been open and there has been a lively buoyant buzz in the club. The place feels alive and thriving which is wonderful to see after some years of relative low social activity. As a result, we are taking more income from the bar which will enable us to continue to improve club facilities.

If you're new to the club and even if you're not, please come and join in the fun. We're not just about racing. It's about enjoying the sailing, the club, the harbour and beyond, with friends who are all passionate about boating and the sea.

Good sailing for the remaining season.

Christian Reynolds

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Sailing Secretaries Report

Hi everyone,

Welcome to the Summer Section of what's going on

Safety Boat

Both ribs and Dot Patrol have been serviced and the safety boat policy which is published on the website is currently being reviewed with a couple of minor amendments being added to it.

The safety equipment on board Saturn & Juno has been checked and upgraded, thanks to Steve Cheshire for doing that. Therefore the two flare boxes are full to the brim and to avoid unnecessary opening of them and consequent potential ingress of water the keys and kill cords to both ribs are now kept in the radio locker in the Entrance Hall.

Anyone driving the main rib, Saturn will see that there is a throw line now clipped to the back on the seat for potential rescues on a mud flat.

There are also two vertical pipes to enable flagpoles to be used fixed to the console. There should be a Q, B and S flag in the boat on small flag poles so that the rib is easily able to shorten the course on instruction from the OOD for those light wind days when we may well test the three hour time limit applicable in the Sailing Instructions to Locks SC races.

Racing

Our Summer period should be starting weather wise but if I get it right I believe we have gone from Winter straight to Summer then back to Spring onto Autumn and as I write this, back to Summer again.

We had a glorious start in March with 31 boats coming to the start line for the Easter Egg Series.

This was followed by a total of 38 for the first of the Interclub Series races. Marvellous to see.

We have eight training sessions in the calendar. A couple have been lost to inclement weather but for all those who come along they have all gained from the experience without having to lose races on those days.

Juniors

This season has again started with a bang and we have had twenty plus juniors on two occasions and the third was a disappointing 12. However maybe the weather gusting over 20 knots had something to do with it. All those who went out in that breeze have gained a huge amount of experience and all the adults, standing safely on the shore, were mightily impressed. The site of toppers with 10- 14 year olds screaming on a reach with about four wraps of the sail around their masts and big smiles on their faces is just great!

We are unfortunately creating problems for ourselves with being so popular. Historically we did not possess club boats so people who wanted to sail had to buy one and get on the water. The advent of two club Toppers and the Club Feva meant that people can get a taste and then decide if they wish to go and buy. However at the Club we have been a bit sluggish to chase those people from tasting the experience to buying a boat of their own. Fortunately this is progressing along now with people buying their own boats but we may soon have to consider a waiting list for those who go on the water purely from a safety angle with the numbers involved.

However a successful thriving junior section is the lifeblood of a club which has a natural turnover of sailing members and a continual influx of good quality keen and pleasant young people, as we have at Locks to the adult is a reflex ion of a healthy club. The downside is for the senior fleets is to see these young bloods come along, win, disappear to go to further education or the like, then to be replaced by yet another new generation of hot young talent.

Grateful thanks must go to all the parents who turn up to help rig, launch, and coach on the water as well as recover cook and at times mollycoddle the fleet. Again without them the Locks Juniors Fleet would not progress from strength to strength as it does.

I look forward to the rest of the summer continuing in the same vein.

Happy Sailing.

Jack Miller

Hon Sailing Secretary

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Fund Raising for the New Lease

The Last Push!

Thanks to a great effort from many of our members, and the benefit of the annual levy, we have now reached £43000 towards our new lease and the target of £50000 is very close.

At our Centennial Ball we will be having a raffle for some excellent prizes which include a laptop computer, clothing, bottles of wine, vouchers for Chris Hornsey, a lift and scrub from Southsea Marine (worth £100) and a barbed wire toilet seat (for someone special in your life!)

Please come along ready to purchase a few tickets. It is all for a good cause.

Martin Tice

Vice Commodore

Bosun's Notes

With a record breaking number of dinghies in the compound it really is very important that we all ensure that our boats and trailers are parked as neatly as possible – so if all of you could tidy things away on completion of sailing it leaves more space for others and also gives me room to keep a check on your kit during the week.

There is still a problem with loose and unmarked trailers. The Club Bye Laws require all trailers to be kept under the boat of the owner in the space allocated to the owner. Also all property, including trailers, must be marked with the owner's name and the boat name/number. This also applies to "windsurfers"/canoes etc so if any of this applies to you please sort it out. You have until the end of June and if any unidentified kit is still around then I will apply Bye Law 18 – you have been warned!

At the QGM in January it was agreed that Compound fees should only need to be collected once a year and at a subsequent Committee meeting in March the new wording, to be confirmed at the next AGM, was agreed as "Compound fees for dinghies will be paid annually on 1st January each year. Cruisers will pay their compound fees prior to laying up." Thus the plan is that this Autumn there will be the normal half yearly payment but from the New Year we will go to annual collection. This change will make life easier for most dinghy owners and those few who wish to remove their boats during the winter will simply need to claim their refund. If anyone wishes to discuss this before the AGM then please give me a call.

That's all for now as I need to get on with the gardening. Enjoy your Summer of idyllic sailing and see you on the water.

Brian Davies

Club Bosun

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Maintenance

In the near future a couple of signs are going up on the bridge companion way. These will read

'No under 16 allowed on bridge'

'No more than 6 people on Bridge'

The committee has decided to introduce these limits as the bridge is for the control of racing and not a viewing platform.

If you want to go on the bridge during an event please request permission from the officer of the day.

Martyn Winfield

'Use it or lose it!'

About a year ago your Committee were discussing how we could reverse the decline in bar sales and a decision was taken to purchase the pool table which currently sits in the clubroom. The initial reaction from club members was very positive and the regular use of the table quickly recovered the purchase cost and brought more people into the club.

More recently there has been a debate about the ongoing merits of having the table. The use of the table has declined although there are some members that still make use of it regularly. These are often juniors who are at the club while their parents are sailing or using the bar facilities. The counter argument is that it takes up space in the clubroom and is not particularly attractive to look at.

Your committee have reconsidered the merits of having the table and it is fair to say that there is a divergence of opinion. The Committee agree that the table is a club facility for the benefit of all members and therefore the members should decide whether it should be retained in the club. During the summer the use of the table will be monitored and at the AGM in October there will be a vote to decide the issue.

If you wish to express any particular views on this issue please speak to any of your committee members.

Martin Tice

Vice Commodore

Social Events

This year the Locks Sailing Club is 100 years old! We will be celebrating in style with the Centennial Midsummer ball in **Boathouse No.7 in Portsmouth Historic Dockyard** on Saturday 23rd June 2007. The second event is **The Locks Sailing Club Centennial Midsummer Ball**.

The location for the ball is close to H.M.S. Victory. The evening will begin at 7pm with a sparkling reception followed by an opening greeting from your Commodore, Christian Reynolds. A fine centennial dinner will be served and then a brief history of the Locks sailing club will be presented. A Giant birthday cake will be lit and traditionally we will sing "Happy Birthday" to Locks. With the Cake cutting ceremony over we will then be entertained by our celebrity guests, "Admiral Lord Nelson, Emma Hamilton and Captain Hardy" and historian Peter Warwick. We will then dance the night away with live music from The Blue Bazookas and a disco. The cost of this wonderful occasion is only £50 per ticket.

There has been a high demand for tickets and are very few left but tickets can still be bought from me either by email, phone or from my home address.

The closing date for tickets is the 9th June

Email: christinaholden@btinternet.com

Phone: H:02392 734619 Mob: 07889 595095

Address: 149 Warren Avenue, Milton, Portsmouth, Hampshire, PO4 8PP.

The third event is a **Centennial Day**.

This will be held at the **Locks S.C. on Saturday 18th August 2007**.

The day will include a cruiser race and dinghy racing in the afternoon which will see the Ron Lucas Memorial Trophy being presented at the prize giving, followed by a sumptuous buffet. At around 5.30pm the Rose and Thistle Scottish Pipe and Drum Band will march into the compound and play to us for approximately an hour. As the day drifts into evening we will be entertained in the club house by our very own Dan "The Guitar Man" Jarman and his band "The Hit Squad".

You will all be informed about the exact schedule for the day nearer the date.

Christina Holden

LOCKS SAILING CLUB SOCIAL CALENDAR 2007

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>TIME</u>
JUNE 2007		
Saturday 16 th	Quiz Night	8pm
Saturday 23rd	Midsummer Ball	Boathouse No. 7
Saturday 30 th	Quiz Night	8pm
JULY 2007		
Monday 2nd	Q.G.M.	8pm
Saturday 14 th	LSC Junior Regatta	TBA
Sunday 15 th	LSC Adult Regatta	TBA
Tuesday 17th	Commodores Eve	7pm
Saturday 28 th	Quiz Night	8pm
AUGUST 2007		
Saturday 11 th	Quiz night	8pm
Saturday 18th	100th Birthday Party	TBA
SEPTEMBER 2007		
Saturday 8 th	Quiz night	8pm
Saturday 22 nd	Quiz night	8pm
OCTOBER 2007		
Monday 1st	A.G.M.	8pm
Saturday 6th	Junior Prize Giving	7.30pm
Saturday 13 th	Quiz Night	8pm
Saturday 27 th	Quiz Night	8pm
NOVEMBER 2007		
Saturday 3rd	Prize Giving D & D	Quarterdeck Bar
Saturday 10 th	Quiz night	8pm
Saturday 17 th	E.C.A. Quiz Night	7.30pm
Saturday 24 th	Quiz Night	8pm
DECEMBER 2007		
Saturday 8th	Christmas Quiz Night	8pm
Sunday 9th	Christmas prize draw	1pm

Dates may be subject to change

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Check out the web site for further details www.lockssc.co.uk