

# LOCKS NEWS



**September 2007**



## Commodores Report

Dear Members,

I can't believe how quickly the season is going by; here we are in September already!!

The long awaited Centenary Ball has been and gone. I'm delighted to say the evening was a great success, which pays tribute to the hard work put in by all the Committee who made the evening possible. I enjoyed being part of the auction for the large Carte Blanche 'teddy', but knew I wasn't going to win when Ed Leask joined the bidding..... The 'Mini for the weekend' also proved sparkling fun when Simon Matthews inadvertently put in a bid while stretching, and eagle eyed MC, Chris Phillips, responded with, "a bid from Mr Matthews". Colin Matthews (Simon's Dad) completely startled then joined the bid wondering how he had got himself involved and eventually went on to win the Mini for the weekend. Subsequently, Colin went out and bought himself a new Mini Cooper. Simon's stretch proved to be pretty expensive: Lesson learned – don't stretch at an auction!!!!

On the 18<sup>th</sup> August we had the Centenary Race Day and the Ron Lucas Memorial Trophy was presented for the first time. Those of you there know that the sailing conditions were fresh to say the least... 2 broken masts and 2 broken booms lay testament to that, but despite the breakages, everyone came off the water with big smiles which lay the foundations for a truly awesome evening. The pipe band played and despite the rain enthusiasm was not dampened. Later in the evening Dan Jarman and his band entertained us all, playing an amazing repertoire to keep all ages dancing the night away. At one point in the evening I stood at the bar with Chris Phillips and every single person in the club was dancing. Thanks to a kind bequest from Ron Lucas we were able to provide food for everyone and a fitting celebration for the Centenary, not to mention a fine new trophy.

You will have noticed the new plasma TV in the club. Much like the pool table, this has provided controversy and caused mixed reaction amongst members. Since a proposal raised at the beginning of the year to sell the pool table, I have monitored its usage. I'm delighted to say that since April 1<sup>st</sup>, there have been 400 games of pool played on the table, which is £200, representing a healthy £40 per month pure profit; the equivalent to £160 of bar sales. Again, it has been great to see so many people showing interest in the new TV which has been displaying some fabulous photos from the seasons racing and has enabled us to run a training day and review video footage from the water.

Whilst we cannot please all of the people all of the time, it is clear when you visit other top sailing clubs like Hayling Island, that facilities to keep the members entertained are the key to people in the club and higher revenues, which in turn, allow investment and ensure a clubs longevity. I believe this

has been proved this season by an increase in bar takings of 300% year to date and look forward to continuing to watch the club thrive as we go forward.

For next year, the Committee and I will be working hard to improve the weather, as this seems to be the only thing which has marred an otherwise tremendous year.

I look forward to enjoying the remaining season with you all and hope that at some point in September a consolation summer arrives.

*Christian Reynolds*

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## **Nominations for Flag Officers**

In accordance with Rule 14 please can any nominations be put in writing for the office of Commodore, Vice-Commodore, Rear-Commodore, Hon. Secretary, Hon Membership Secretary, Hon Treasurer, Hon. Sailing Secretary and for membership to the committee and be in the hands of the Hon. Secretary by 12<sup>th</sup> September 2007.

Many thanks.

*Mandy Phelan*

Hon. Secretary  
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## **Sailing Secretaries Report**

This years summer season has been somewhat different from last years.

Great Spring weather has been followed by autumn with summer slipping by in one brief moment a complete contrast to last year.

However despite this the locks fleet has still been very active on the water.

Our regatta had a turn out of 33 boats peppered with some visitors from Tudor SC, which was good to see, and we do appreciate them joining us.

That was followed on the Sunday by our junior regatta, which had a great wave of visitors from Tudor Sailing Club who then proceeded to take most of the prizes.

We have changed the three training days we ran in previous seasons which were held instead of racing, to the format of a couple of hours instead before the racing on HW race days. This means that on those designated days you can come down a couple of hours earlier than the race start time and get some valuable time on the water. Followed by the opportunity to put those skills straight into practise.

I think that will be one of the items that we should continue into next year.

Fed Week was interesting: 3 broken masts, one dislocated shoulder, etc, etc. However one really bright point is that Matt Holden won the laser fleet of 21 boats and Christian Reynolds was second in the fast handicap fleet. We had a total of 20 boats, which was an excellent turnout despite the conditions.

On the training front, those of you who have been to the club will see the new TV screen that has been installed. We will hopefully be buying a video camera next so that we can use this to record the training activities and then post sailing carry out a debrief using a playback of the things we were doing right .... and occasionally wrong.

This screen will also enable us to give presentations during the winter months. One that has been mentioned is about the rules, particularly on the start line and when rounding buoys. Despite the lengthening of our start line we seem to have had a lot of shouting, barging and general mayhem during the starts and also around the first mark, which tends to be Windy Corner when we start southwards into the lake area. And it is not far away from the start line so we end up with a lot of converging boats.

If anyone has a DVD version of the 2005 – 2008 rules could they give me a buzz please.

The Binness Island Race is on the 14<sup>th</sup> of October and marks the end of the Summer Dinghy racing.

I suggest that we can have an end of season Dinghy meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October – maybe incorporating the rules evening, and discuss what has happened this season and what is anything we would like to see adapted for next year.

We can also plan the Autumn Series at the same time. So please come along with positive comments.

I should also at this point give acknowledgement and thanks to an unsung contributor to our racing who has just confirmed that he will continue in his post for next year. Colin Matthews has been our club handicapper ever since I have been a member and kindly devotes part of every summer Sunday to working out our results, adding in and amending and RYA yardstick changes and occasional advising the prudent course of action for amending any personal handicaps where required. That part has not been so great since we readopted a fast & slow fleet but nevertheless thank you very much Colin for all your work and for continuing to carry on the role.

On the Junior Front we have had another excellent season and as I write we have one Junior Evening to go followed by the Tudor Junior Regatta on the 8<sup>th</sup> of September where we need to try and win back the prizes that their fleet won at ours.

Please remember we have our Junior Prize Giving on Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> of October.

### **Happy Sailing.**

*Jack Miller*

Hon Sailing Secretary

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### **Bosun's Notes**

Well, what a wild, wet and windy summer it's been and it seems that the problems of winter storage are here all too soon. However, before that, I've got a few comments about life in the compound for the remainder of our summer programme.

#### **Compound Etiquette**

With so many boats in the compound (around 85) space really is at a premium and during the busy periods it's very difficult for boats to move through the compound if other boats are taking up space rigging or de-rigging in the middle of the compound. If you can't rig in an allotted space then could you all move out of the compound and onto the foreshore to complete your preparations as it will make life so much easier for everyone else. The same etiquette applies in reverse for de-rigging and also please give other boats a thought when you are hosing your boat down.

Having got that off my chest can you now all give some thought to the winter storage/use of your dinghies.

## **Compound – Winter Storage**

If you are not planning on racing in the Autumn Series and there is any possibility of storing your boat out of the compound during the winter it will make the storage of the Cruisers and the life of our winter racers a whole lot easier. If you do decide that you must keep your dinghies in the compound but will not be racing can you please ensure that your trolley/trailer is in good nick with pumped up tyres and wheels that go round so that I can move your boats around the compound if necessary.

You will see in the Sailing Sec's notes that the Cruisers will be coming out over the w/e 13/14 October with the reserve w/e 27/28 October. Any dinghies moving out for the winter should therefore be out by the 13/14<sup>th</sup> unless they intend racing that w/e. Winter storage fees must be paid by the end of October.

That's all for now so enjoy the rest of the Summer and have a good Winter, either on or off the water.

*Brian Davies*

Club Bosun

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## **Bar Report**

The bar is running well and the second rate summer has produced some first rate "après sail" gatherings.

The new till provides endless hours of "fun" but we are all slowly getting the hang of it.

Most volunteer places on the bar rota are filled but we still have problems with Sunday afternoons.

As we approach the AGM, I won't be standing for committee this year after almost ten years of service. I have thoroughly enjoyed being Wine Chairman and I'm sure that people will come forward to fill the position.

Cheers

*Bryan*

## **Social Secretaries Final Report**

I think you will all agree the Locks Centennial Celebrations were a resounding success. The Midsummer Ball held on 23<sup>rd</sup> June was attended by two hundred and eighty people who supped Champagne, dined on delicious fare and enjoyed a trip down memory lane with wonderful photographs provided by John Druce.

The Centennial Day held at the Locks on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August was another successful, fun filled event despite the appalling weather. The brave sailors hoisted their sails and raced for the Ron Lucas Memorial trophy. This was followed by a wonderful performance by the Rose and Thistle Scottish Pipe Band who played on despite driving rain and a howling gale. A ploughman's supper was served and we danced the night away to Dan the Guitars man's own band "The Hit Squad".

These two Centennial events were my last social functions, apart from two forthcoming quiz nights in September as I will not be standing for committee in October. I have been social secretary for the Locks S.C. for fourteen years and also Commodore for two years and have enjoyed every minute.

I would like to thank the members for supporting the numerous social occasions I have organised over the years and hope to join you all in future events organised by your new social secretary.

Eat, Drink and be Merry!!

*Christina Holden.*

Social Sec. L.S.C.

**LOCKS SAILING CLUB**  
**SOCIAL CALENDAR 2007**

<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>EVENT</u></b>	<b><u>TIME</u></b>
<b>SEPTEMBER 2007</b>		
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Quiz night	8pm
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Quiz night	8pm
<b>OCTOBER 2007</b>		
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>A.G.M.</b>	<b>8pm</b>
<b>Saturday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Junior Prize Giving</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Quiz Night	8pm
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Quiz Night	8pm
<b>NOVEMBER 2007</b>		
<b>Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Prize Giving D &amp; D</b>	<b>Quarterdeck Bar</b>
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Quiz night	8pm
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup>	E.C.A. Quiz Night	7.30pm
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Quiz Night	8pm
<b>DECEMBER 2007</b>		
<b>Saturday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Christmas Quiz Night</b>	<b>8pm</b>
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Christmas prize draw</b>	<b>1pm</b>

Dates may be subject to change

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