

Locks News



December 2007



Commodores Report

Dear Members,

Following Christina Holden's retirement as Social Secretary, to date no one has come forward to take on the role. Lucy Jones has kindly agreed to 'keep the ship afloat' in the interim while we are waiting for Christina's replacement, however I must stress that we do need a replacement for Christina. So I appeal to you to come forward if you believe you can help the Committee organise our social events. Please, please, your club needs you and it is only by the virtue of willing volunteers we can enjoy the fun socials we have planned.

The Dinner Dance and Prizegiving this year was an informal affair, following the Centenary Summer Ball. The evening went extremely well with over 80 people there and it was great to see Greg and Sue Sharpe's 'Cruiser' table there also. Those that were there will have noted the youth table was somewhat more effervescent than usual – something to do with a bottle of Pernod won in the Raffle I hear. I think some may never drink Pernod again!!!!!!

The club is running well and continues to post healthy turnover and profit margins from the bar. One thing the Committee have noticed is a huge amount of dirt and red wine stains on the carpet in the clubroom which only 5 months ago was new. I would like to ask all members to be responsible in the clubroom and if you accidentally create some stains, please clear it up – there are always some cleaning materials in the kitchen. We have some great social events lined up in the New Year including:

- Rules Evening with interactive DVD Quiz
- Talk by Geoff Holt, the first disabled sailor to sail around the British Isles solo
- Talk by Luke & Emma Evans about their amazing round the World sail

On the water, things are also going well. The Committee is currently in the process of finalising a choice for a new safety boat. We will keep Saturn the current orange RIB and sell the small grey RIB Juno. Having 2 fully functioning safety boats will give us the ability to run Junior and Senior racing simultaneously and also look towards hosting some bigger sailing events. We are currently investigating running a FED week style race weekend in 2009. The idea would be for Locks, Langstone and Tudor to each host a day over a Bank Holiday weekend with 3 races. There would be socials each night at the hosting club and we would make the event open, looking for an entry of about 100 boats – watch this space!!!

The club will be open Christmas and New Years Eve, thanks to some volunteer bar staff, so come along. If you would be able to help run the bar on either evening, please contact Lucy Jones who is co-ordinating the bar staff.

With Christmas now just around the corner, I wish you and your families a happy Christmas and a healthy successful New Year.

Christian Reynolds

Commodore
02392 753078
07795 955702

Email: christianreynolds@hotmail.co.uk

News Letter Distribution

Kevin Jones one of our Past Commodores has very generously supported the Locks SC newsletter by printing it at no charge to the club for a number of years. Unfortunately he has now sold his business and can no longer help us. We know from previous experience that to print and post this to all the members make it too expensive to continue in that format. Therefore future newsletters will only be available on the website and a linked e-mail. If individual members wish to continue to have a hard copy then a small number will be produced but could you please put a request in writing to the Secretary. The Club is very grateful to Kevin for his past support.

Sailing Secretaries Report

The summer racing finished with our Binniss Island Race and prior to commencing the Autumn Series we had an end of season Dinghy Meeting.

Many suggestions were forthcoming both on the evening and by e-mail for those unable to make it.

Some suggestions we cannot do, night-time racing would be fun but we have very little clear space to run it so that is an unlikely starter.

Some suggestions on courses can be done. Two races on a day would be at the discretion of the OOD for the day but if we again end up with some Committee boat starts we can look at it.

The same point arises about the discretion of the OOD in having staggered starts. Sometimes, with the amount of boats on the water, we can end up with carnage both at the start and at Windy Corner but if you start one class straight after the first then you have one set of boats charging out of the Lake into the second fleet beating to the first mark. However if we have a start to the North then separate starts are possible again it would be down to the OOD on the day.

We are intending to have a rules evening on the 26th of January and around that time we will probably run a short session on the Officer of the Day role and might look at some of these issues.

The forty plus members present also wanted the Regatta to be held on a Saturday to enable us to have a social event afterwards. That date has now been arranged and will be on the 21st of June.

It was suggested that we try starting some low water races three hours after low water to ensure that there is more water for when the boats are both launched and recovered and I will look to see if we can try this on a couple of occasions this season.

Could all members please remember about security of the club when sailing.

I have had a member mention to me about turning up at the club to find the whole place unlocked and people on the water with no one left in the compound. Please remember that the last one on the water should ensure that the club and compound are secure when they leave.

We have formed a small sub committee to look at the rib situation, as Saturn is due to be replaced as part of our normal replacement schedule.

It is looking likely that we may keep the big rib but use it as the Junior Coach boat, sell Juno the small rib instead and then get a new replacement for Saturn. This will probably be the same size hull and engine and it then gives the club the facilities to have two full size ribs if necessary.

On the point of the safety boat we have recently had an incident of a capsized dinghy in a lot of breeze which ended being towed in and during this incident the smaller rib was also launched and used. We will therefore be looking at our policy on how we use these boats to ensure that as a club we are doing our best to ensure full and complete safety coverage where possible for members on the water.

Simon & Colin Matthews of Sail Style kindly donated a new Line buoy to the Club complete with their Logo in the Autumn. Unfortunately this was carried away by the weather shortly after being laid. A new buoy will be laid for the spring series.

I have now had the annual meeting with the Sailing Secretaries of Tudor and Langstone to agree dates for interharbour events.

The Main ones are:

Locks Regatta 21st June.
Locks Junior Regatta 31st of August

Fed Week 17th – 23rd August

The HISC Junior week is normal the week before Fed Week.

Tudor Regatta 19th – 20th July
Tudor Junior Regatta 14th September

Langstone Adult & Junior Regatta 5th July
Langstone Prentice Plate 6th July

We have also increased the Interclub races to five up from four in 2007, as well as the Wild Goose Chase. We will again extend an invite to the Victory Fleet to join us.

Please make a note of these in your diaries.

We also have looked seriously at the suggestion of a three-day interclub event over a bank holiday weekend. The tides are not suitable in 2008 but in 2009 the May Bank Holiday has three tides, which would be suitable for such an event. This would involve social events each evening at the three clubs. More details of this follow in due course.

Jack Miller

Hon Sailing Secretary
0870 235 3333 W
02392 348706 H
07980 856267 M
Email sailingsec@lockssc.co.uk

Let's Go Cruising

As we know too well the weather this season was somewhat unusual, but with the aid of e-mail some memorable flotilla excursions were achieved, a special one being the August bank holiday weekend which marked the passing of Mike Preater. Four boats set off for Newport on Saturday, a free mackerel lunch was caught on route by Gizmo's crew, after which the Skippers needed a rest whilst crews took some retail therapy. An evening meal in The Bargeman finished off a great day. In the morning it was a pleasure to see Mike's wife Ann before moving on to Ryde, where a rare sunny day allowed 11 of us to have a beach BBQ, followed by a nightcap in the Simeon Arms to raise a toast to Mike. Other weekends included trips to Ryde, Bembridge (to mark Dave Power's wedding anniversary celebrated in the Baywatch restaurant), Wooton Creek (for the Last Night of the Proms at the Victoria Sailing Club and a meal at the Lifeboat) and East Cowes (which included a fishing competition won by Dave Mills). It is suggested that we circulate any plans for trips next season each week, so if you have any ideas for weekends or even a week's cruise let us know. Some members may be glad of extra crew so even those of you who don't currently have a boat could join in, we just need to talk to each other.

There is now much better communication between us which helped considerably in this year's cruiser recovery. I would especially like to thank those members without boats coming into the compound who turned up to help, this really is appreciated. I would also like to thank those members who assisted in the repositioning of the boats recently.

A start has been made on tender maintenance and the Committee agreed the purchase of a good second hand one. The plan is to repair the better ones and gradually replace those beyond repair. We need everyone to chip in and help achieve this, the same few cannot be expected to do all the work. We will circulate various dates for working parties so please be prepared to do your bit.

In conclusion I would like to thank all those who have been involved this year and hopefully now we can begin to pull together, to the benefit of us all. We have a great club, so let's build on the progress we have made this year to make next season even better.

Regards,

Greg Sharpe

Cruiser Liaison Officer

Geoff Holt's Personal Everest

On 5th September 2007 Geoff Holt returned home to become the first disabled sailor to sail single handed around Great Britain. For someone paralysed from the chest down it was an epic journey, taking 109 days and covering 1445 miles and 51 destinations.

I am delighted to announce that Geoff has agreed to come and speak to us about his journey. As he is already a well established motivational speaker on the 'corporate' circuit this is a great privilege for Locks. We have agreed that proceeds from the ticket sales will be donated to Sailability.

The event is scheduled for **Thursday 7th February 2008** probably starting at 7.30pm. As it will be in the club numbers will be restricted to 50 so please contact me to reserve your ticket. Cost will be £5 each. In the meantime if you want to find out more about Geoff and his Personal Everest visit his website www.personalEverest.com

Martin Tice

Vice Commodore

Portsmouth & Langstone Sailing Association

The purpose of this article is to introduce the work of the Portsmouth & Langstone Association (PLSA) to a wider audience among Locks members.

The history of PLSA is available on the PLSA Website – WWW.plsa.org.uk .

The Association is an umbrella organisation to protect the interests of the twenty-four member Clubs.

The structure of the PLSA reflects the differences in character and management of the two harbours and comprises Eastern and Western Divisions which function independently under an elected co-ordinating Council for information exchange on matters of common interest.

The value of PLSA to Locks SC rests on the voice it provides into the management structure of Langstone Harbour.

The statutory legislation governing Langstone Harbour provides for a Harbour Board and also a Langstone Harbour Board Advisory Committee.

The latter comprises a wide range of stakeholders with an interest in the Harbour. Membership includes the RYA, Solent Protection Society, PLSA, Hants & IoW Wildlife Trust, Langstone Harbour Fishermen's Association, RSPB, Environment Agency, British Water Ski Federation, Friends of Langstone Harbour, English Nature, English Heritage, Marine Aggregates, Southern Fisheries, Portsmouth Outdoor Centre and Southsea Marina.

Under the legislation, PLSA Eastern Division hold four seats on the Advisory Committee, currently occupied by Tudor, Locks, Langstone and ECA, reflecting the fact that our Clubs represent one of the few readily identifiable sources of significant revenue to the Board.

The Advisory Committee, as it's name suggests, has no executive role but influence stems from the status and expertise of its membership and the fact that the Harbour Board has a statutory obligation to put all harbour business before the committee for comment.

The Advisory Committee meets five times a year ahead of Harbour Board meetings. PLSA Eastern Division receives Board Minutes and Agendas and meets prior to attending Advisory Meetings and is thus in a position to be aware of harbour matters and make appropriate input on behalf of harbour boating Clubs.

Advisory Committee Meetings are attended by the Harbour Manager and, on an ad hoc basis, by Portsmouth and Havant councillors who make up the Harbour Board.

The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Advisory Committee also hold seats on Langstone Harbour Board.

Tony Pearce

Bosun's Notes

After the lovely early Autumn weather we now seem to be settled into a regular dose of Winter rain, wind and cloud which is matched by the depression of those of us with no sailing on our schedule until the Spring. That said, I'm delighted with the way in which the Cruisers have fitted seamlessly into the compound allowing the dinghy racing nutters to continue with their lunatic activities with little, or no, inconvenience. Many thanks to all the Cruiser boys (and girls) for their willing cooperation in this matter!

We currently have an unprecedented 80+ dinghies, together with 6 Cruisers, in the Compound and, while this large number leads to some inconvenience for the Autumn Series racers, most people seem to be coping well with the inevitable shifting around of their dinghies – so thanks to all of you for your help and understanding with this.

You may recall that at the recent AGM it was confirmed that, as from the beginning of 2008 the dinghy compound fees will be collected on an **annual** basis (ie. **not** bi-annual). Thus you will be getting my bill for the whole of 2008 in late December/early January which will be calculated at the rate of £1pa./sq. ft. Your prompt payment of these fees will, of course, be much appreciated. An increase in fees will also be noticed by the Cruiser members as the tender pool fee goes to £17 and the trailer storage goes to £16.

Again, I really do appreciate all the help that you all give me throughout the year and I'm looking forward to another year of great sailing and warm sunny weather.

All the best for 2008!

Bryan Davies

Club Bosun

Tel; 023 9278 8346

E Mail; sandbdavies04@ntlworld.com

Under New Management

The Wine Committee have been running the bar for two months, apart from a few hiccups all appears to be running smoothly. We are getting to grips with the ordering, cleaning and general running of the bar.

If you feel that you would like to help behind the scenes and lessen the load please contact any of the Wine Committee.

Colin Matthews
John Reynolds
Mandy Phelan
Paul Phelan

Social Events

The Social side of the club has a lot to live up to this coming year after some fantastic events over the summer. I have volunteered to help the committee organise the social events at the club in the absence of a social secretary. If there is anyone reading this that would like to input to the social events at the club your help would be most appreciated. Building on the success of the recent wine tasting which was a first for the club if anyone has any new ideas for event they would be most welcome.

Well this is what we have going on over the next couple of months:

- **Christmas Eve**; there is no more time for shopping so come down to the Locks and have a Christmas drink with all your friends before the madness of Christmas day is upon us.
- **New Years Eve**; American supper at the Locks bring a dish and celebrate the end of our Centenary year.

In the New Year

- Geoff Holt the first paraplegic sailor to sail around the British coast this summer in 109 days is coming to talk to us at the Locks on the 7th February.
- Sue Sharp is organising a 60's bonanza so get your party frocks on and come down to the club for a boogie on the 8th March (details TBC).

Lucy Jones

LOCKS SAILING CLUB SOCIAL CALENDAR 2007/8

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>TIME</u>
December 2007		
Saturday 8 th	Christmas Quiz Night	20:00
Sunday 9 th	Christmas Prize Draw	13:00
Monday 24 th	Christmas Eve	20:00
Wednesday 26 th	Boxing Day Race (Prizes afterwards)	12:30
Monday 31 st	New Years Eve! (American Supper)	20:00
January 2008		
Saturday 5 th	Quiz Night	20:00
Monday 7 th	QGM	20:00
Saturday 19 th	Quiz Night	20:00
Saturday 26 th	Racing Rules Quiz Night	20:00
February 2008		
Saturday 2 nd	England v Wales	16:30
Saturday 2 nd	Quiz Night	20:00
Wednesday 7 th	Talk by Geoff Holt	19:00 (TBC)
Sunday 10 th	England v Italy	14:30
Saturday 16 th	Quiz Night	20:00
Saturday 23 rd	England v France	20:00
March 2008		
Saturday 1 st	Quiz Night	20:00
Saturday 8 th	England v Scotland	15:15
Saturday 8 th	60's Night (Organised by Sue Sharp)	TBC
Saturday 15 th	England v Ireland	15:00
Saturday 15 th	Quiz Night	20:00