



PotterNews



The Jack in the Basket Trophy was awarded to Ben Paton, World and European Laser Radial Champion 2007

FROM THE COMMODORE



Well, what a year this has been: heat waves in April and August, downpours and gales in between and now we have day after short, dark day with icy easterly winds. Never mind: the Sun has started its journey back to the Northern hemisphere, the days are getting longer and, even though we know winter has more in store, we can look forward to another sailing season.

Times are a-changing too in the Club. The work on the new balcony is nearing completion and when you read this, the renovation of the Bar will be well advanced and should be completed by the time of the Club's Annual General Meeting on February 2nd. When one comes to think about it, we have managed to do quite a bit to the Club over the last five years, starting with the complete refurbishment of the office, the Sail Loft, improvements to the ladies and gentlemen's showers, the purchase of the new *We're Here* and now the new balcony and the bar refurbishment.

At the AGM, Gill Barron will stand down as Rear Commodore Finance after five years in office. The Club has much to thank her for. One of Gill's first steps in becoming Treasurer (as the post was known until the AGM last year, when the term of office was reduced from five to three years) was to create the Club Financial Plan, which under-pins day to day prudent financial management with

a framework for 'saving for the future'. Even after the large cash outflow on the major projects mentioned above we still have a strong balance sheet, the envy of many clubs of our size. Our subscriptions and bar and restaurant prices remain competitive although they have risen in line with cost inflation and we pay good, fair salaries to our staff. I wish Gill and Mike good cruising in *Stella* for many years to come.

The AGM also sees the departure of four Members of the General Committee who have been first rate contributors to the Committee's work: Tiggie Ansell, Pat Mennie, Judy Ruffell and Jim Venn. I'd like to thank them on your behalf for their work for the Club over the last three years (or four years, in Jim and Judy's cases). The AGM will see the election of their successors to the General Committee and I look forward to working with David da Cunha, the Rear Commodore Finance elect.

The recruitment of a replacement for our Secretary, Ian Gawn, on his impending retirement is progressing well. Under the leadership of the Vice Commodore, a field of over twenty applicants for the post of Secretary has been narrowed down to a very competent and personable short list of four now being interviewed. I hope to be able to announce the name of the successful candidate in the next few weeks.

With my best wishes for the New Year

GEOFF HOLMES
COMMODORE

SOCIAL AND HOUSE

friendly and welcoming ashore

House Infrastructure

At the time of writing, the new Balcony approaches completion and the potential that it offers becomes clear from the photograph and the new flagpole already stands proud over the Clubhouse.



We are finalising the Balcony furniture and based on some of the designs available we are sure we can dress the balcony to maximise its potential. Some Members like the idea of contributions to the Balcony furniture (by racing class, or social group or individual for example) and we are looking to see how this may be achieved once the product and price are finalised.

The Bar refurbishment/replacement work will start on the 7th January and be completed by the 30th January.

This work will involve placing boarding about 4 feet beyond the existing area so that the work on the new bar can take place safely and with minimal disruption. There will also be a daytime curtained builder's access from the bar entrance to the exterior stairs by the River room which will be removed in the evenings.

There will be some disruption and inconvenience to Members during this period and whilst we will try to minimise this, the following is anticipated:

- River room dining space will be reduced and during lunch periods access to the serveries will be via the dining room and not directly from the river room. In the evening normal access will be available.
- The temporary bar will be accessible via the Library, with the bar located at the balcony end of the dining room.
- Functions that normally use the Library will be accommodated elsewhere in the Club

The outcome of having a brand new bar that transforms the ambience of the Club will more than offset the short-term inconvenience. Many thanks go to Peter Lister for managing this project.

Social Events

The events in the run up to Christmas and the New Year, were extremely popular with many being 'sold out' within weeks of tickets going on sale. The feedback has been very encouraging, and the food in particular has received much acclaim. Congratulations to Mark, Peter, Fergal and the catering team supported by the Bar staff for making the events so successful.

St Andrew's Day lunch, along with ritual bagpipes and haggis, was great fun and again sold out. This event also raised a considerable amount for charity.

Many thanks go to Alexander Kilgour for his organisation of this event.

The bi monthly Bridge evenings are now regularly featuring 'waiting lists' thanks to Judy Ruffell's organisation and these continue through the winter until the end of April. Other activities including Lymington Yachtsmen Golf, 'Wheelies' cycling and Scow walking illustrate the diversity of interests of Club Members and complements our core yachting interest. All these activities build the camaraderie and friendship among Members.

Vince Sutherland's quiz evenings continue their popularity and Vince's particular talent in both challenging and entertaining us attract a growing number of Members.

New features in the social programme include

- The Club Carols led by the St Nicholas Singers took place on Saturday 22nd December. Father Christmas arrived to help make it a truly family and Club event to launch Christmas.
- Famous Chefs dinner party: This provides a menu based on dishes from some of the famous chefs and provides a more gourmet dining for a limited number (50). The first of these will take place on the 19th January and feature a Rick Stein based menu.
- Tommy Cooper evening: A highly acclaimed 'Tommy Cooper' entertainer will work the tables and give a show that re-enacts the tricks and humour of the legendary Tommy Cooper
- We continue with the music evenings where a variety of differing styles of music are scheduled. The first of these by Members of the Hampshire Youth Orchestra was much appreciated by Members.
- Valentine Evening with 60's music
- The best of English supper on St George's day (so as not to be outdone by the very successful St Andrew's day lunch!)

All these and others can be found on the Club website, or the winter programme and posters in the Club. Come along and join in these events; there's always a welcoming Club table if you do not want to make a table of your own.

Service Delivery

Mark, Peter, Fergal and the catering team have been working with House Committee Members to review the menus.

This review has focused on the needs and expectations of the many different Members, in terms of style of food, portions size, taste and price. The outcome of this review will become clear during the early spring.

John McPhee our Bar Steward has also been reviewing the wine and beer needs of the new Bar. In doing this, he has achieved an outstanding negotiation with suppliers for a contribution to the cost of the new Bar.

In summary, the House Committee with the Staff have worked hard to deliver the ongoing improvement to the house, the Bar and Catering and events to make the Club more friendly and welcoming ashore.

DAVID HAYLES
REAR COMMODORE HOUSE

CLUB AWARDS

The Jack in the Basket Trophy this year goes to Ben Paton, World and European Laser Radial Champion 2007. See picture on page one.

The Jubilee Challenge Trophy goes to the Member with the most outstanding off-shore performance, this year John Nicholas and the crew of JEBA. They came 4th in IRC Class 1 in the Fastnet and FINISHED! And 6th overall out of 89 entries in the RORC Series (IRC). A look at their web site reveals some pretty impressive results through the season including 3rd in the Myth of Malham race and 2nd in the Cowes St Helier Morgan Cup race.

A new trophy this year, the Highlander Trophy, is an award to be decided every year by the Commodore for a major contribution over a period of years to IRC Class 1 sailing in the Club. The owner of Highlander, Mac MacDougal, has been a committed competitor in all the Club's IRC and major keel boat events, turning up every time, come rain or high winds cheerfully, enthusiastically and clearly having huge fun. The Highlander Trophy was conceived and created by a group of Mac's friends and is now a Club Trophy.

The Commodore's Cup was first presented in 1986 for an outstanding contribution to the Club by any Member. The award of this trophy is the sole prerogative of the Commodore and for 2007 the Commodore's Cup goes to Jane Clegg for her untiring support as a volunteer on and off the water.



WEBSITE NEWS

If you have visited the Club website www.RLymYC.org.uk recently a number of subtle changes may have been apparent. These are all about making access easier and more logical. Perhaps an explanation might help.

The blue menu bar has had its **CALENDAR** button replaced by **SAILING** and another has been added called **TRAINING**.

The classes of the boats we sail (XOD, Folkboats, Scows etc) have been moved into **SAILING** leaving the **RACING** area free for a racing calendar.

The **MEMBER'S** area is now easier to access - all you do is enter the club password (available from the office). The **MEMBER'S INPUT AREA** has been abolished through lack of use and the **CREW REGISTER** now has a dedicated button and is much simplified. To register availability, potential crew or skippers can enter details themselves.

Finally, we have set up a new **TRAINING AND VOLUNTEERS** area which lists the courses available at the club, and contains information about volunteering to help run club events.

THE CHRISTMAS BUFFET EVENING PROVED TO BE AS SUCCESSFUL AS EVER - AND NO WONDER!



CRUISING LOG COMPETITION

As many of you will know there is a library of cruising logs held in the chart room going back several years. We also have listed the more recent ones on the Cruising Section of the Club Website. I am sure Members find these logs of use when planning their own cruises and of course discussing their intended trip with the authors of the relevant logs. I certainly found them very useful on my Croatian trip this Summer..

Each year we run a log competition which hopefully encourages Members to submit logs so that we can continue to keep the log library reasonably current and thus of use to Members.

After some encouragement last year we did manage to get a reasonable number of logs submitted but let's try and see if we cannot do even better this time - despite the awful weather in home waters this Summer!

By log we do not mean that you submit a formal log but

rather an informal document in narrative form. This could, apart from covering navigational matters (yacht type, weather, crew, pilotage details etc) cover good harbours and anchorages, places of interest to visit, restaurants, costs etc. Photographs and maps showing routes etc are also encouraged.

So please do your best – apart from anything else it is fun to keep such records for family and friends. Lets see if we can have a bumper year. Logs should be handed into the office by Tuesday 22 January. This will give time for the judges to run through them. Who knows you may even win a prize!

In eager anticipation – thank you all very much for your contributions.

Finally - just to show you I am setting a good example, I will be submitting one covering my Croatian trip!!

DAVID HOULTON CAPTAIN OF CRUISING ELECT

SECRETARY'S NOTES

The Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will take place on Saturday 2 February 2008, starting at 1100 in the Clubhouse. All business is documented in papers enclosed with this mailing, copies of which are displayed in the Clubhouse. Please read particularly carefully the information about proxy voting.

Candidates for election as Flag Officers and to the General Committee. Please note that now there will be a ballot for appointment as a Flag Officer or to the General Committee, irrespective of whether or not there are more candidates than vacancies. Full Members only may vote, and you should vote as directed on the ballot paper. Completed ballot papers must be returned to the Clubhouse by post or by hand by 1100 on Friday 1 February 2008, in an envelope marked 'Ballot Paper'. Ballot papers received after 1100 on 1 February will not be counted.

Staff Fund

The staff once again wish to thank all those Members who contributed most generously to the Staff Fund in 2007, and join in wishing all Members fair winds in 2008.

Membership Cards and Credit/Debit Cards

Club Card accounts may not be run into debt. Regulation 17 applies. The Committee has instructed that the Regulation is to be strictly enforced. In particular the staff have been instructed to refuse to complete a transaction that will take the account into debit. The Club pays lower card transaction fees if you use a debit card to top up your card, except for the smallest transactions.

Pottership

Copy deadline for PotterShip is 1st Feb; the editor, Judy Ruffell, (t:01590 672175 e:judy@rosedale.myzen.co.uk) would be delighted to hear from you regarding any input.

Mailings

As an experiment we are inviting local Members to collect their mailings from the Club in order to reduce enormous mailing costs and the difficulty of delivering heavy packages. PLEASE GIVE THE OFFICE YOUR NAME if you are prepared to do this. The next mailing will be ready for collection on 14th March.

IAN GAWN SECRETARY

RNLI

SPRING FAIR

this year will be held on 8th March

BRIDGE DRIVE AT RLymYC

Monday 4th February 12.00-4.30pm

Tickets: £30 per table includes Ploughman's Lunch

RAFFLE AND PRIZES

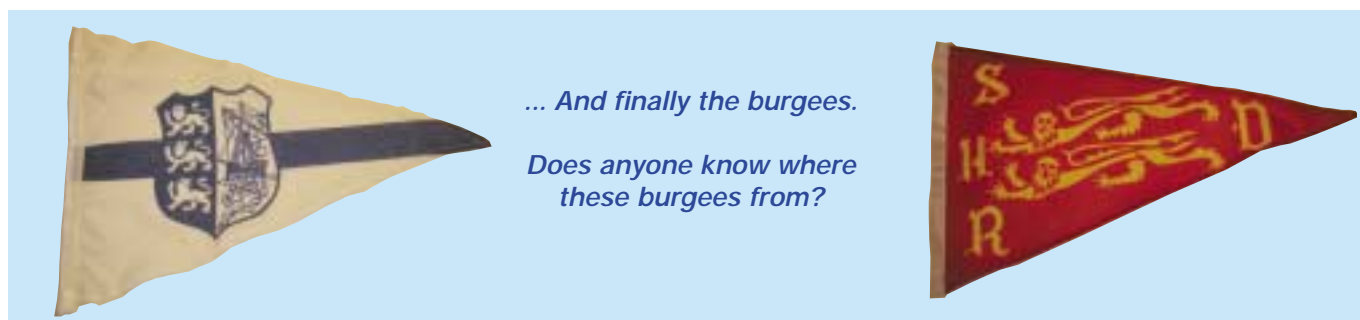
Please bring cards, scorers and cloth

If you would prefer paté to cheese for lunch please let us know

Applications to Mrs A Allpress, 37 Wainsford Road, Everton

Lymington SO41 OJR 01590 643268

DID YOU KNOW that there is an items for sale and wanted board in the Old Sail Loft. Lots of Members don't know it's there. If you would like to use this please contact the office.



... And finally the burgees.

Does anyone know where these burgees from?