



ePotter News



ROYAL LYMINGTON YACHT CLUB

Welcome Neil Eccles | [Logout](#)

January 2016

Club

Annual General Meeting 2016 – 11 am Saturday 6th February

The annual audit has been completed, reports written, candidates in place and notices up. The printed pack will grace your letter box on 14th or 15th January, ready for the AGM on Saturday 6th February at 1100. Do please complete and return the ballot form in your pack to vote for your favoured candidates to join the General Committee, and make a note of the meeting in your diary. All being well, the Commodore will invite Members attending to a drink 'on the house'.

Hospitality Manager

We extend a very warm welcome to Stuart Cox, our new Hospitality Manager, who joined last week. Stuart, who cut his teeth at Center Parks and the Sydney Opera House, spent seven years learning the food and beverage trade in large hotels in Auckland and Wellington, followed by another eight years managing Novotel hotels in south of England. Stuart is delighted with his appointment at the Club, he will bring a structured and professional approach to the oversight of the whole of our catering and bar operation. He is looking forward very much to working with Rear Commodore House, her committee and the first floor staff.

Clubhouse maintenance

By the time you read this, I hope the second batch of misted windows in the bar will have been replaced, with apologies for the inconvenience. The balcony end of the Dining Room has also been re-decorated this week, and the winter programme of 'touching up' of paintwork continues. We are also doing some 'non-interfering' work on the showers in the men's changing room, where we will be replacing the rusty benches with stainless steel framed versions in the next couple of weeks.

LTSC members

We welcome sailors from the Town Sailing Club to use our showers and changing rooms as their club is refurbishing their changing rooms. They have been asked to use the north door and to bring their membership cards, and they have been told that they are welcome to use the bar and restaurant while they are here.

Kevin Podger, Secretary

Pontoon Project

On the 4th January the remainder of our old pontoon was disconnected and was towed away by the Lymington Harbour Commissioners and the Lymington Yacht Haven, leaving just the gangway and the last few piles. Walcon's piling barge then lifted out the gangway releasing the final piece of this giant pontoon jigsaw and removed the remaining piles to leave a very large and empty space in front of the Club. The gangway was taken back to Southampton on the barge for refurbishment.



Dredging commenced on Monday 11th January and is scheduled to take one week assuming the weather is favourable. In that time we expect to remove between 8 and 10 barge loads of mud which will then be relocated to Hurst narrows during the ebb tide.

For those of you who like trivia, the 250 tons per barge empties out in 4.5 seconds and the combined weight equates to between 2000 and 2500 tons of mud or the equivalent weight of 197 new Route Master London double decker buses or eight Boeing 747 aircraft; whichever way you look at it a lot of mud!

Also in the last month we have installed the new water and power supplies as far as the bridgehead in addition to data cabling, and we have bored a hole through the sea wall above the height of HAT to allow these services out on the new pontoons, so it's fair to say the project is gathering momentum.

Further details of the project, including more photos, and blog updates can be found on the [website](#).

Andrew Eady - Pontoon Project Team.

House

Wow, what a great Christmas and New Year. The Christmas Party Buffet was great, Carols with Santa and New Year's Eve Party amazing. Great numbers, great fun and well done everyone for coming and enjoying it all.

The Club is now gearing up for 2016. We welcome Stuart Cox as our new Hospitality Manager. Stuart joins us from a long background in the hotel and hospitality field and I am sure he will add a lot to our first floor.

January holds our first function that will appeal to Scots and Poets alike with Burns Night on the 23rd. Our Lecture Nights have restarted with the introduction of a Lecture Night Duo special menu of two courses, main and dessert for £12.50. The old favourites of Quiz Night and Bridge Night Suppers continue, as well as up-to-date films fortnightly on Tuesdays. As always, if you are a new Member and want to meet other Members, do let Stuart or the Office know and we will arrange for you to join a table.

Happy New Year to you all.

Denise Moore, Rear Commodore House

Royal Lyminster Cup

Royal Lyminster Cup Event Team and first Entry received

Peter Scholfield has agreed to chair the event team. Together with Roger Wilson, Principle Race Officer, he will put on a first class event both on and off the water. They will be getting a team together in the next few weeks and will be looking for your full support and assistance.

On-line entry opened this month and our first team entry has been received. Peter Morton with *Salvo* and David Franks with *Strait Dealer* have teamed up. Both these yachts won their class at Cowes Week 2015. Also Adam Gosling with *Yes*, the top IRC boat at Cowes 2015, is looking for a Royal Yacht Squadron team mate to make an entry. We have other teams forming so now is the time for Members with IRC yachts to be looking to challenge this high quality fleet.

Lyminster together with Cowes and Hamble were the centres of cruiser racing for many years and the Royal Lyminster Cup is aimed to re-establish our position within the top flight. Please give Peter and his team all your encouragement.

Stuart Duffin, Rear Commodore Sailing

Social



Please click the link above for info about this year's Burns night.



More information about Valentines Day will be available shortly.



To attend please sign up on the Social Notice Board or [online](#). The normal Club Menu will be available on the evening. Please pre-order to ensure your food is ready as soon as the film finishes.

Past Social Events

Christmas Buffet Party – 11th December

The Christmas buffet party is maintained its reputation for excellence.

Our chef, Aly, and his team produced a showcase display of food – so artistic that to destroy it was rather like throwing a rock at through a Rembrandt, However everyone tucked in to a delicious selection of fish, meats and salads followed by deserts so special that many partygoers ate two.

Following the mayhem of the party boxes full of streamers, party poppers and flying balloons, there was Vince's special table quiz – this year challenging our brains with the logical demands of 'Dingbats'. Not too difficult once the concept was understood. The selection of music from the disco tempted most people on to the dance floor until the evening came to a successful end.



New Year's Eve

The ball on New Year's Eve saw a spectacular turnout of 108 party goers, with some equally spectacular masks. Five fine courses of food and excellent service, preceded the revellers heralding the coming of 2016 in true Club style.



Dinghy Sailing

Past events

Peter Andrae Trophy

Another windy day at Lymington greeted the junior sailors at the RLymYC on the Sunday after Christmas for the annual Peter Andrae Trophy sailed in Lymington River Scows where the helms and crews must be under 21 years on that day. The wind was averaging around 20 knots with gusts of 30 knots and many of the younger sailors wisely opted to crew. Nik Froud our oldest sailor kindly agreed to take Sam Griffiths rather than Sam having to watch from the shore. A smaller than usual fleet enjoyed some great racing and the opportunity to admire the fancy dress costumes of the LTSC sailors competing for their Hunt Cup rushed down the slipway with their boats, including a very friendly crocodile who visited the Club pontoon looking for his boat!. A large and vociferous crowd watched from the shore.

PRO Stuart Jardine and his team ran an excellent event, the penultimate on the current Club pontoon before it is replaced, much enjoyed by competitors and their vociferous supporters ashore.



The final positions were 1st Vita Heathcote (3pts), 2nd William Heathcote (10 pts), 3rd Nik Froud & Sam Griffith (10 pts, but 3rd on countback), 4th Tim Hire & Tom Wharmby (12 pts), 5th Kate Wharmby & Amy Hire (13 pts), 6th Henry Heathcote (14 pts) (Ella and Emma crew in race three) and 7th Ella Lightwood Emma Breeze (21 pts).

Penguin Trophy 2015

Similar conditions prevailed the next day for the Penguin Trophy when the 'senior sailors' went racing. The wind was helpfully blowing straight up the river, and a triangular course was set up off the Club With seven boats on a short line starting was always going to be tricky. The competition was fierce and the starts action-packed so PRO Vince Sutherland deployed the black flag after the first start.

A measure of just how tight the racing was showed in the results: first place went to daughter and father crew, Jo Elliott and Nick Ryley (10 pts), three crews tied for second on 11 points; Nik Froud & Laura Brunning, Luke & Emma McEwen and Charlie & Freya Cox. 5th place was tied between Barry and Carol Dunning and Karl Thorne and Tim Hire on 13 points. James and Will Rusden's OCS was shown by their 7th place with 18 points.

With the boats put away, everyone gathered for a warming glass of mulled wine, mince pies and delicious chocolate cake provided by Cherie Dodd. There were seasonal prizes for all the finalists and the delightful Penguin Trophy was awarded to Jo Elliott and Nick Ryley.



Luke McEwen, Captain of Dinghies

Cruising

The Events Programme for 2016 is available both on the [website](#) and on cards from the Office. The first event is the day Sail to Newtown Creek where we will be met

by two RIBs to take everyone to the quay to walk up to the New Inn at Shalfleet for a hearty lunch. This is always a great day out, just what is needed to blow away the winter blues.

The next Cruising Supper is on the 1st February where you can meet up with your old friends and even meet new ones in the warm and relaxed atmosphere of the River Room.

Another very popular day sail is scheduled for Thursday 25th February to Bucklers Hard for lunch at the Master Builder, now under new management.

Cruising Dinner: Saturday 27th February

A black tie affair with our Guest Speaker this year being Brigadier Andy Bristow. Some of you may remember him for a very spirited lecture on his sail to Svalbard at the beginning of last year. This is the big night for the Cruisers featuring the award of the trophies won during the previous season. Everyone is welcome and it is a great event through which to meet up with fellow cruisers and even some racers have been known to come.

Details of all events are posted both on the [website](#) and the notice board as well as reminder emails sent out just prior to the event. Everyone is welcome on a Cruising Section event, motor yachts, sailing yachts, RIBs and where appropriate Scows and other dinghies.

Past Events

The Cruising section had two events before Christmas. The first was the traditional Needles Relief event shared with our racing friends and this year held in quite testing conditions. Nevertheless some 25 boats competed in the race and were joined by the cruisers, who mainly used the ferry, in the Royal Solent Yacht Club to witness the RNLI perform their exercises. This year the coordination of the Coast Guard Helicopter and the Yarmouth and Lymington Life Boats was made more onerous due to the prevailing weather conditions. The winner of the raffle was on the Yarmouth Life Boat and thus had a first-hand experience of the event. (See below) The proceeds from the raffle and the race entrance and berthing fees are donated to the RNLI and divided between the two local boats. This year £1,089 was raised due to all those kind donations, thank you.



Our second event in December was a Cruising Supper attended by 46 people who were able to choose from an extensive menu. (picture left) Everyone enjoyed the evening in a very relaxed style, absolutely in the fashion of our Cruising Events throughout the year.

George Johnson, Captain of Cruising

Needles Relief



David Hayles, the winner of the Needles Relief Raffle, recounts his experience on the Yarmouth Lifeboat on very windy day in December 2015.

A fantastic experience given by a very special RNLI crew. Four of the crew have worked together for the past 27 years, having all joined at the age of 17 following their school time together. The weather and tide conditions made the exercise even more exciting, with SW winds of 30 kn gusting 40 kn and a strong ebb tide. The ability of the helicopter and boat crews to coordinate so precisely that no-one even dipped into the water. Not so sure how they do this in 30ft waves but the confidence they exude leaves no doubt it would be similarly precise.

This was an experience of a lifetime and we'd recommend anyone to buy loads of raffle tickets to increase the chance of winning this amazing prize next year.

David Hayles

Future Meets

Summer Cruise 2016

The cruise will continue the informal format adopted over recent years. There will be no fixed passage plan but everyone who signs up will be kept up to date with 'fleet' movements by a daily text message from mid-June until mid-July to facilitate ad hoc meets in a wide variety of locations.

This year the cruise will start a couple of weeks later than before with a pre cruise supper at the Club on Monday 13th June. This will be followed by a group dinner in

Dartmouth on Thursday 16th June. Dartmouth is a good location for those of us planning a leisurely cruise to the West Country but also provides a good starting point for a Channel crossing for those of us planning to go to the Channel Islands and beyond.

Early expressions of interest by [email](#) to me would be appreciated. If this can include information on your likely cruising area so much the better.

Ken Claydon, Cruising Sub-Committee

Cruise the Caledonian Canal – Charter 2016 - Meeting Tuesday 24th November at 11 am

So far, five cruisers have been chartered to start from Inverness on Monday, 19 September for 1 week, representing 18 Club Members and friends. There is also the possibility of one joining us in their own boat.



The aim of the charter is to bring together Members, their friends and families, in this beautiful region of Scotland, rarely seen by most 'southerners'. The cruise starts at Inverness and will traverse from the east to the west coast through The Great Glen to Fort William, perhaps taking in a malt whisky distillery trip, an organised dinner or two. There are outdoor activities to be experienced and should you want to know more [email](#) or call me (mobile 07971 206864) and I can arrange a 10% discount on your charter fee. (Picture: Urquhart Castle looking towards Inverness over Loch Ness.)

Derek Barnard, Cruising Sub-Committee

Day sail to Newtown Harbour with lunch at the New Inn – Tuesday 26 January 2016

The opening event of 2016 is a short daytime cruise to Newtown Harbour, with lunch at the New Inn at Shalfleet, and a transit time of an hour or less. Boats attending can moor at the buoys laid in the harbour or anchor. Club RIBs will assist in ferrying crews ashore to the jetty at Shalfleet Quay Boatyard, with a 15 minute walk to the New Inn, which is well known for its food.

Lunch will be available from 1215 with a choice of either steak or fish pie at a price of £11.50. **The list for the event on the Club Noticeboard will close at 1200 on Friday 22 January, so that numbers and details can be passed to the New Inn and contingency plans made in the event of bad weather.**

There will be a briefing at the Club at 0900 to update any changes to the plan, especially in the light of the weather on the day. Any volunteer crew are most welcome and invited to the brief where they can be married up with available spaces.



Perrin Towler, Vice Captain of Cruising

Winter Lectures

The next lecture will be on Wednesday 13th January - In Shackleton's Footsteps by Martin Thomas. Full details and signup sheets on the Noticeboard

Volunteer speakers for the 2016/17 lecture season are invited to contact [Perrin Towler](#) or the Secretary. Full details on the [website](#).

Perrin Towler, Vice Captain of Cruising

Training

First Aid Courses - 09:00 - 17:00

- 23rd January 2016
- 27th February 2016
- 12th March 2016

Members - £50, Non-Members £70



RLymYC PB Level 2 + Course – 6th February 2016

£10 for Members and Non-Members

Mark Laying Course - 12th March 2016

£10 for Members and Non-Members

Full details and booking information on the [website](#).

Vicky Leen, Events Assistant

Race Team Training

Thursday 21 January 2016, Island Room 1800 - Knots and Knatter – plus Happy Hour!

An informal session to remind ourselves of the knots needed to keep the flags flying - the bowline, sheet bend and clove hitch. The secret of the matchstick and the art of folding flags. Start sequence count downs – give it a go. Come and meet other race team members. Bring some string.

Frances Evans and Paul Driscoll

Tuesday 26 January 2016, Island Room 1815 for 1830 - “When It All Goes Pear Shaped”

The problems that lead to protests – and how to deal with them – David Brunskill

Tuesday 09 February 2016, Island Room 1815 for 1830 - A Practical Session

Re-live the CRO Course Scenarios and more - Jane Corden and Frances Evans

Thursday 10 March, 2016, Island Room 1815 for 1830 (date changed) - Course Setting

RLymYC Keelboats Series - Simon van der Byl

Tuesday 15 March 2016, Island Room 1815 for 1830 - Setting Courses for Monday Evening Dinghy Racing - Steve Green

Saturday 16 April 2016, Island Room 1030-1130 - VHF Radio Use for Race Team Members and Support Boats - Phil Baker

NB Phil tells me that some of the buttons on the new VHF radios have different functions compared to the old radios we have all become used to. Just when you thought you had coped with the latest update!

Please add your name to the sign-up sheets on the notice board for these sessions.

Frances Evans

Race Team



Christmas 2015

The Club prides itself on a varied program of racing and the events over Christmas were certainly an example of this. As usual race team members were integral to the running of these successful events which were run to the same high standards as any other event run by The Club.

There were of course the challenges unique to such seasonal events, the inclement weather, the reduced pontoon and the distraction of mulled wine and mince pies, but our teams took all these in their stride, although Race Officer Vince Sutherland used the black flag to start a couple of races (possibly the first and last time a black flag on that pontoon) and a good time was had by all.

Sailing Events Team Form 2016

The Sailing Events Team Form 2016 is now live on the Club [website](#) . If you need any more information please contact Kirsty at the Club and she will be happy to help.

Jane Corden

Fleets

LR Scows - Winter Programme

The programme starts with a talk on 18th January by Jonathan Cook and colleagues entitled *The Scow Coast to Coast Challenge*, an account of their 200 mile, 14 day walk across the north of England following the route described by Wainwright and starts at 1830.

On 15th February Phil Lawrence will tell us about the *Extreme 40s* (for a preview watch the [video](#)) and in complete contrast on 7th March, Malcolm McKeag will describe the Royal Thames Half-Model Collection, which traces the history of yacht design from the mid-19th century to the present day.

The next talk on 21st March is by stalwarts Rory Paton and Mike Urwin, who will take us through *Preparing for the Racing Season*, a not-to-be missed collection of tips and advice from two of our ablest sailors.

On Monday 1st February and again on the 29th Members are invited to come along at 1930 for an informal supper; no need to book but a chance to catch up with friends in a relaxed atmosphere.

I hope to see many of you on at these occasions. There will be a sign-up sheet for the talks on the noticeboard to help the staff set up the Island Room and details will be emailed by David Weller in advance of each event.

Dick Moore, Captain of Scows

Juniors

RS Tera

We are pleased to report that the Tera squad now has available both Pro (large) sails and Mini (small) sails that can be used for the training sessions. This means that the younger/lighter sailors can still sail in stronger winds and that the older/heavier sailors can carry on sailing Teras for longer. The training dates currently in the diary are:

- 23rd January
- 20th February
- 27th February
- 9th April

We are looking at the possibility of some sailing over half term as well.

Julian Hire, Captain of RS Teras

Laser 4.7 and Radial

The Laser 4.7 squad welcomed newcomers from Oppies and Fevas in December. During the Club training, the squad was split into two groups, transitional and race. The light to medium wind conditions suited both groups and they made full use of the big waves created by the spring tide. The race group polished their boat handling skills under the instruction of Chloe Martin, whilst the transitional group was coached by Frazer Woodley and made great progress. Hopefully, they will be able to join the race team for our next Club training on Sunday, 24th January.



A very happy and successful New Year to you all.

Dori West, Captain of Laser 4.7

Optimist

The class had a special weekend on 19th/20th December with team racing, Father Christmas, more team racing, cinema night, Christmas Dinner and Prizegiving. There was a great team of local coaches, Josh Atherton, Nik Froud, Charlie Cox and Max Moyles, who organised many fun exercises for each morning, so the children could learn all the secrets of team racing; in the afternoons they purely raced and very much enjoyed it. On day one, they also got to come back for lunch to see Father Christmas coming by boat.

Sunday's racing was followed by a film and a yummy roast dinner, where all the parents, family members and coaches joined together. They were joined for the prizegiving by Junior Sailing Captain, Jenny Wilson and Rear Commodore Sailing, Stuart Duffin.

The Lymington Optimists are now having a few weeks off , before tackling the second half of their Winter Training , which takes part once a month and caters for all levels and abilities, from children just out of Bronze Fleets at Salterns, to those in National Squads.



Valeria Sesto, Captain of Optimists

Sailability

Lymington Sailability Blue Monday Charity Lunch at Pebble Beach on Monday 25th January

Not only will you get to enjoy a delicious lunch, we are having a guest appearance from the fabulous Friday Girls. You will also get the chance to win some fantastic raffle prizes, including an overnight stay at the fantastic Pebble Beach. Tickets £29.50 available from Aly (07738 702255), Becky (01590 610346) or [email](#).

RNLI

Quiz Night at the Club – Thursday 18th February

Vince Sutherland runs another of his brilliant quizzes for the RNLI. Tickets £5. Make up your own table or join one of the RNLI tables. Supper available. To book and for further details [email](#) Ann Brunskill or call 0590 677630.



Early Reminder – Beaulieu Boat Jumble Sunday 24th April 2016

The Lymington Branch are always happy to accept items for this year's Beaulieu Boat Jumble. Contact John Niven 01590 678839 or Celia Lassen, 01590 672881 for more details.

For Sale Notices

Email me the details and any photos and the ad will be in one month's ePotterNews. If you don't want your contact details published, interested parties can be asked to contact you via the Club pigeon holes in Reception. Satisfied customers will be requested to make a small donation to Sailability or the RNLI. The listing of items for sale or wanted in ePotterNews does not indicate that RLymYC has knowledge of the authenticity of the advertisement and does not recommend or guarantee the items advertised and the Club cannot accept any liability in this regard.

