



# ePotterNews



February 2013

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## Business As Usual

The work on the Salad Bar is well under way and, although I might sound like a food critic at this point, we had delicious homemade French onion soup at lunchtime this week on a sunny morning looking out across the Solent.

Cruising and racing activities for what must be a glorious summer are detailed below and there's training for race teams, both experienced and novice.

The latest news on the Navitus Bay Wind Park and and the Marine Conservation Zone at Newtown Anchorage have details of the opportunities to add your views to the debate.

Ann Brunskill

## Stop Press

Skipper Nick Bubb and the crew reached South Georgia on Monday 4th February in the 'Alexandra Shackleton' a replica of the 22 ft open lifeboat that Sir Ernest Shackleton sailed to get help for his stranded crew in 1916 to complete the first stage of their epic journey. Tim Jarvis, the expedition leader and two others will attempt to climb across its mountainous, crevassed interior to reach the whaling station at Stromness – just like Shackleton, Worsley and Crean did in 1916. More details on their [website](#).

## Club

### Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be on Saturday 9th February at 11.00 am in the Island Room.

Please remember to return your completed ballot papers and any proxy forms to the Club office by 10.00 am on Friday 8th February.

## Social

### Dates for the Diary



Click on the banner for details. Tickets available at the office from 8th February and limited to 45 so book promptly to avoid disappointment.

Six Nations Rugby Matches will be televised on the big screen in the Island Room, full details on the [website](#)

Thursday 7th February, Quiz Night

Monday 11th February, Bridge Supper

Tuesday 19th February Movie Night "The Help"

Monday 25th February, Bridge Supper  
 Friday 1st March, St David's Day themed Supper  
 Thursday 7th March, Quiz Night  
 Monday 11th March, Bridge Supper  
 Tuesday 12th March Movie Night "Salmon Fishing in the Yemen"  
 Tuesday 26th March Movie Night "Skyfall"

Please note that the Valentine's Night party has been cancelled and  
 the Fitting Out Supper has moved from Saturday 9th March to Friday 19th April

## House

### Salad Bar and Kitchen refurbishment

As observant Members will know from reading the information about this project in the bar, the work is divided into two phases. Currently the Salad Bar is under refurbishment and salad, sandwiches and hot lunches are all coming out of the kitchen and a temporary serving point in the Dining Room very successfully. Service is as normal. Part of this phase of the contract is to replace the carvery unit with two smaller, more efficient units, and we have chosen to delay that part of phase one for our own operational reasons to do with limiting the effects of the work on members. This is scheduled to be completed during the week beginning February 11th. The second phase, the complete refurbishment of the kitchen, is planned to commence during the same week subject to the assent of the AGM on February 9th. Should the AGM approve, the work will last for five to six weeks with the plan being to finish it before Easter. The Salad Bar will be opened just before the AGM, so if phase 2 goes ahead, it will be tested very quickly. There are plans to open a temporary kitchen in the Slipway Lounge and have been offered the use of the LTSC's kitchen should the need arise. Iain and the catering team have a robust plan to continue providing excellent meals for functions, banquets and special events during the kitchen closure period. There will always be a full sandwich menu and limited choice hot lunch available, and during non-event evenings a limited menu will be available subject to demand. During the kitchen closure, we will have some spare staff time, so will be extending their experience in other establishments, send them on training courses and asking them to take holidays. I know my successor has a grand plan to formally re-open the kitchen after Easter, although it should resume service well before the holiday.

### Thanks and goodbye

This is my last missive in ePotterNews before stepping down as Rear Commodore House and I would like to thank all of the committee members who have helped the Club and me in the past three years. My thanks also to the staff, who have been unflinching in their support. It has been an honour and a privilege to serve the Club and I wish my successors the very best of luck for the future.

*Neil Eccles, Rear Commodore House*

## Cruising

### Forthcoming Events

#### Day sail to Cowes, Friday 15 February

The venue for lunch is the Island Sailing Club. Full details are on the [website](#). Please book early on the form on the Club Noticeboard or by e-mail to [George Johnson](#). As usual, there will be a briefing in the Club at 0900 on the day, in order to review the latest weather information, finalise numbers of those attending and to accommodate any crew without a berth.

#### Cruising Dinner and Awards Presentation Saturday 2nd March 2013

The Guest of Honour and after dinner speaker this year is Captain Lionel Hall, former MN, RNR, Southampton Pilot and Chairman of Operations of Solent Sea Rescue. Lionel describes his talk as "A laugh on the ocean waves" and we very much look forward to welcoming him to our



Club. Tickets @ £29.75 are now available from reception and we hope you will join us for what is one of our Club's Main Black Tie Dinners. As is the tradition, seating will be on long tables, with places arranged by me. (If you wish to sit with any particular friends please let me know.) Full details are on the [website](#).

## Safety Day Saturday 16th March

Sign up for this unmissable day on the Club Notice board.

*Clive Sparrow, Captain of Cruising*

## Wednesday Lectures

Wednesday 6th February - The work of the Hampshire Water Police

Wednesday, 13th February - White Ship-Red Crosses A Hospital Ship at War - Nicci Pugh

Wednesday, 20th February - The Big Class (racing in the 30s) - Rosemary Joy

Wednesday, 27th February - The History and work of the RNLI David Howell

Wednesday, 6th March - Red Sea Tribulations - Dick and Pamela Moore

All Cruising lectures begin promptly at 1830 followed by supper in the club and are usually sold out well in advance! If you intend to come, please sign up as soon as the notice appears on the main Club Noticeboard, about 3 weeks in advance.

If you want supper, in addition to signing up for it, it is necessary to order it on the day and book a table. Orders submitted before the lecture will get their food first. If you would like to meet new people, rather than book a table, sit at the Club Table in the River Room, it is intended for precisely this purpose. Full details on the [website](#) of these and other forthcoming lectures.

*Nick Olney, Vice-Captain Cruising*

## Cruising - Past events

### "Keeping your boat abroad seminar" Sunday 13th January

We expected some interest in this topic but were delighted that 80 plus members joined us for four "mini lectures". Presenters Neil Eccles, John Priestley, Nigel Southward and I covered experiences of the Atlantic Coast of France, the South of France, Sardinia, Sicily, Malta, the Ionian and Croatia. We were followed by Nick Olney, who gave a brief resumé of methods of transporting one's boat to the Mediterranean. A question and answer session then followed and I'm sure everybody there on that January morning felt lifted by the descriptions and pictures of warm water sailing under a cloudless sky!



*Clive Sparrow, Captain of Racing*

## Newtown Harbour – Day Sail 15 January

Fifteen boats, a mix of both sailing and motor yachts, with sixty-eight Members and guests enjoyed a bright winter's day out to Newtown Harbour. A light northerly breeze and smooth sea conditions in the western Solent made for a comfortable hour to the Isle of Wight on the morning flood tide. The harbour itself was deserted with a choice of moorings in the Shalfleet approaches. The bright sunshine buoyed spirits as crews were ferried ashore in Club RIBs, for the brisk, muddy walk to the New Inn. A warming lunch in the form of fish or steak pie was enjoyed there, every table being filled.



A certain bonhomie was discernible on the walk back to the boatyard and during the re-embarkation with all safely aboard by 1430. The breeze had stiffened slightly for a beat back to the Jack in the Basket, with all able to make their moorings by 1600. The meet provided welcome cheer for those prepared to wrap up and take advantage of one of the better days of the year so far. A far cry from the snow that arrived the following Friday.



*Perrin Towler, Cruising Sub-Committee*

See further down the newsletter for the latest news on the Navitus Bay Wind Park and the Marine Conservation Zones and how you can help to ensure these meets will continue, whilst still protecting the environment.

## Racing



### Portmore Insurance to Sponsor RLYMYC Spring Series 2013.

The Royal Lymington Yacht Club is delighted to announce that Portmore Insurance will be sponsoring the Club's very popular Spring Series for the 2013 season.

Hampshire-based independent insurance brokers, Portmore Insurance, are one of the leading insurance brokers in the South and their desire to work with only the most reputable companies extends to the partnerships they undertake and the sponsorship they offer.

Paul Chapman, Director of Portmore Insurance, stated that he was very proud to announce the sponsorship and is eager to support RLYMYC in encouraging and promoting the interests of the club and its members.

Chris Neve, Rear Commodore Sailing, commented for the Club, 'We are very pleased that Portmore Insurance have extended their relationship with the Club and we are looking forward to some intense racing in this series'. With Portmore Insurance onboard, the Club has been able to keep the same race entry fee as last year at only £75 for the series.

The Spring Series will consist of eight races over four Sundays starting on 7th April for IRC classes, Lymington Handicap, Folkboats & RS Elites. With separate start and finish boats to ensure minimal delays between the two races the result will be an intense morning's racing and a return to the Club in time for lunch.

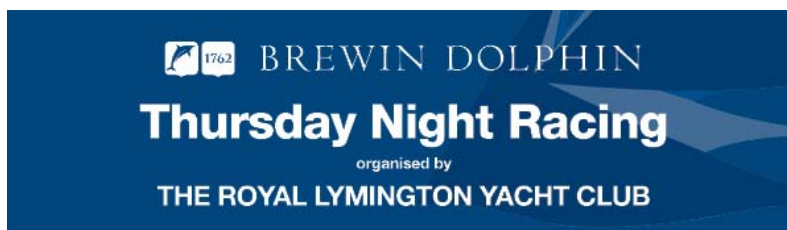
The Western Solent offers excellent racing waters only 10 mins from the Club, with a variety of options available to ensure good racing

whatever the wind direction. Once back in the Club, the racers can be sure of a warm welcome, whether they are members or visitors.

The Notice of Race for the Portmore Insurance RLYMYC Spring Series 2013 is now available from the following link:

<http://www.rlymyc.org.uk/Racing/SpringSeries.shtml>.

As an added benefit of the partnership Portmore Insurance are offering members a 10% discount on their yacht insurance.



Click on the banners for more details

## Racing - Dinghies

### Bloody Mary 2013



Congratulations to all the Lyminster sailors who completed the course at Queen Mary Sailing Club's gruelling 'Bloody Mary' dinghy pursuit race on the 12th January. With 340 starters it is the largest dinghy race in the UK and an annual classic. A cold easterly Force 3-5 wind and 150 minutes of racing for the slowest boats made for testing conditions. The commentary was expertly supplied by Malcolm McKeag.

3rd Int. Moth Peter Barton, 6th RS800 Rob Watson/John Clifton (1st RS800), 30th 420 Ben Hazeldine/Rhos Hawes (1st 420), 47th RS200 James Rusden/Will Rusden (1st RS200), 61st RS400 John Cooper/Becci Wigley (LTSC), 98th 420 Danielle Thomas/Amy Sparks, 121st RS200 Sam

Pearson/Charlotte Lawrence, 135th 29er Mimi El Khazindar/Ben Batten, 173rd D-One Nick Simmons (LTSC), 240th National 18 Jeremy Vines/ David Vines/Oliver Houseman (1st Nat.18). Full report at the YachtsandYachting [website](#).

*Peter Barton*

## 2013 Dinghy Racing

Preparations for the Lyminster Dinghy Regatta are progressing well. Please put the weekend of 13th/14th July in your diary if you would like to join in or help with the event. There will be three short races each day on two courses in the Solent, jointly hosted with LTSC, and fun evening socials. The event is open to all competent dinghy sailors in Scows, Wayfarers, Fireflies, D-Ones, Lasers and handicap fleets for dinghies with Portsmouth Yardstick 1500 or faster. Racing starts on Saturday afternoon to allow for friends travelling from further away. Further details on the [website](#).

Thanks to all those who turned out for the dinghy park maintenance morning in the melting snow. The new gravel in the Scow area looks much better and the membrane under it should keep the weeds and mud at bay; hopefully we can extend this to the other areas in due course.

*Luke McEwen, Captain of Dinghies*

## Racing

Robin Taunt, Captain of Racing has been away on holiday and whilst in the Cook Islands found a link with the Club.



Before the Olympics, the Club hosted a young sailor from the Cook Islands, Helema Williams, who was training with Ben Paton for the Laser Radial event. Helema has been coached since childhood by Arthur Neale, and here he is at home on Palmerstone Island (pictured left).

The island is one of six small atolls rising above sea level on an extensive coral reef. The total population is about 60 people, all descendants of William Marsters [sic] and his three Polynesian wives who settled on the island in 1863. It is a very religious community with a unique atmosphere. We received the traditional Polynesian greeting with the addition of a short sermon by the priest, and a prayer. The children could not sing and dance for us because we had arrived during 'Prayer Week'.

It is not clear how the people support themselves except with a small exports of fish and heavy support from New Zealand. We noticed that the new medical clinic had been part funded by the European Union! The Island

does receive some visits from blue water cruising yachts, but our small expedition ship was the first substantial visitor they had received for some time, partly due to the economic recession but also because the passage through the reef is very restricted.

Arthur described how his protégé had trained in an Oppie in the lagoon: it is a most beautiful part of the world. Although Helema did not do very well at the Olympics, Arthur is justly proud that a girl from a small Pacific atoll had had the opportunity to compete at the highest level. He asked me to convey his thanks to everyone at the Club for their hospitality.

*Robin Taunt, Captain of Racing*

## Members

### Ben Ainslie

Ben capped a challenging sailing year by being named the British Yachtsman of the Year, for an unprecedented sixth time. The title, awarded by the Yachting Journalists' Association in association with yacht insurers Pantaenius UK, caps his 2012 honours.

Ben flew to San Francisco hours before the announcement to join the Oracle Team USA, the defender of the America's Cup. He is also preparing for the next America's Cup World Series regatta at Naples in April with his J P Morgan/Ben Ainslie Racing Team. YJA chairman Bob Fisher and Lady Pippa Blake, who was to present the award, caught up with him at the Club just before he left.

Members of the Yachting Journalists' Association voted him as the yachtsman most deserving the title in the closest of ballots, narrowly ahead of finalists - Paralympic gold medallist Helena Lucas MBE, and four times match racing world champion and fellow Club Member, Ian Williams.

Ben said his aim was to lead a British team for the next America's Cup series, wherever that would be held



## Navitus Bay Wind Park

In December 2012 Eneco, the developer of the proposed wind park, published proposals for a reduction of the size of the development "As a direct result of discussions with statutory consultees and local communities". The changes include amending the northern boundary of the area to clear the edge of the Green Sector of Hurst light to protect navigational safety for vessels entering the Solent, a reduction in the maximum number of turbines that could be built from 333 to 218, a reduction in the maximum height of the turbines from 210 metres to 200 and a 12% reduction in the area of seabed to be developed, from 198 square km to 175 square km. The revised layout can be found on the News Feed page of the Challenge Navitus website in the Sailing Issues section of the Club's [website](#) or on the Eneco Navitus Bay [website](#).

The next round of public consultation on the revised proposals started on 1 February and lasts until 5 April. The proposals will be exhibited at various venues during February, with the Lynton event being held between 2pm and 8pm on Friday 7 February at the Lynton Community Centre. The Challenge Navitus [website](#) has added new visualisations of the windfarm, including a panned sequence taken from the western end of the Island. They are all well worth looking at.

The development will continue to be monitored through the revised consultation programme over the next few weeks.

## Newtown Anchorage

### Update

The Government's Marine Conservation Zone proposals are now being publicised and have been reported on by press and TV. The consultation period ends on 31st March.

A number of Club Members went to a Hampshire & IOW Wildlife Trust (HWT) meeting in Brockenhurst and questions regarding the HWT approach to Newtown were asked. HWT have agreed to have a meeting with us to discuss a joint approach to Newtown and other sites affecting sailors' interests.

We will soon be drafting a paper with recommendations on how to respond to the public consultation. These recommendations will be passed on to Club Members (and to other clubs in the RYA Southern Region).

If you are concerned about Newtown and have not yet signed up to the circulation list please email [newtownanchorage@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:newtownanchorage@hotmail.co.uk)

*David Brunskill, RYA Western Solent*

## Fleets

### LR Scows

The winter months for most Scow sailors is about lectures, walks and suppers. This was highlighted when 24 Scow members sat down to our January Informal Supper. A very relaxed and agreeable evening ensued.

It was standing room only at the opening lecture of the year by Yoyo Schepers talking about an international team race, on skis, to the South Pole. If you thought the recent cold snap was uncomfortable, think what -50C would feel like. This and many more hazards kept the audience both enthralled and in awe of what Yoyo had endured. She got there and, when asked if she would do it again, the answer was an emphatic no!

Whilst on the subject of cold weather it was heartening to see so many Scow sailors in the dinghy park work squad in January on a bitterly cold day. A great deal was achieved and I noted the age profile of the Scow sailors ranged from 80+ to 8: experience and youth appears to be a good combination on and off the water.

Your committee has started to work on the details of our planned pottering and picnic events, which means the sailing season is not too far away now.

*Dunlop Stewart, Captain of Scows*

## Lymington Optimists

January has been about as tough as it can get for small sailors of very small boats. Nevertheless a very successful Lymington Winter Training weekend saw 48 oppie sailors trying their little hearts out to impress guest coach Nick Rogers. The standard of our sailors is very high, with a large proportion being amongst the very best in the UK. Training is intense, with barely a moment between exercises. Nick spent most of the weekend sailing an oppie (which he enjoyed far too much) and was game enough to join in the racing.

This was our third training weekend this winter, with two more to go. After briefing at 10am, sailors launch at 10.30 am. Training is in groups, which all join together for racing in the afternoon. De-brief and prizes at 3.30 pm, all on their way home by 4pm.

Three of our finest sailors (Millie Boyle, Hattie Rogers and Vita Heathcote) went out to Naples for the 20th Trofeo Marcello Campobasso. The top five sailors are invited from 25 countries, and they are accommodated, fed and generally pampered very generously by the organisers. Unfortunately there was no wind, so the regatta descended into a tiller-wagging race, handsomely won by the Italians!

Arthur Fry made the journey to the Australian National Championships in Hobart. Huge waves and 40 knot gusts made life tricky for him but it was, he assures me, still worth the trip.



*George Heathcote*

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## Volunteers

All Members will have received their copy of PotterShip now with the accompanying notices. Please do not recycle the pink pages in the middle of the mailing, do as I have, tear them out and fill them in. You won't regret it. Think how nice it would be to spend a Sunday morning in April on a cosy committee boat on a beautiful day, instead of polishing your hull or catching up with paperwork. There will be no shortage of hot drinks and snacks to keep you going as you get the opportunity to enjoy the racing from a ringside seat.

For the more intrepid there are the Laser 4.7 Euro qualifiers on February 9th and 10th, spring sunshine is less likely but it will exciting racing with top sailors from all over the country. Since this is only a few days away feel free to skip the form just this once and email Kirsty directly with your availability.

Looking further ahead don't forget that we would rather have an idea of your availability early, as this really helps with planning events and if your commitments change, just let us know and we will alter the roster. You can also download the forms from the [website](#).

The Race Management Training evenings are going well; details are below so, if you haven't already done so, sign up now.

*Jane Corden, Volunteer Co-ordinator*

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## Race Management Training

Below are details of the courses that the Club will be running this winter. Each session can stand alone but preferably should be seen as part of a complete course. There have been changes of venue and an additional event, so read on. Please sign up on the main noticeboard if you wish to attend.

|  |   |                                     |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| Tuesday 5th February<br>18:00<br>Island Room | <b>Good Recording = Accurate Results = Happy Racers</b><br>Role overview and process. Equipment (traditional and modern technology) and preparation. On the course (pre start, start sequence, finish) Post Race.   | <i>Alastair Wilson</i>              |
| Tuesday 12th February<br>18:00<br>Sail Loft  | <b>Keeping Time</b><br>An introduction to the vital role of the Timekeeper in the race team. Preparation of equipment, procedures before, during and after racing. Key interaction with other team members.   | <i>Jane Clegg</i>                   |
| Tuesday 5th March<br>18:00<br>Sail Loft      | <b>Briefing on the Club's Event Risk Assessment documents</b><br>This is a session for ALL the Club's PROs and ROs<br>How to keep out of trouble: managing the risks  | <i>Kevin Podger, Club Secretary</i> |
| Saturday, 6th April<br>14:30<br>Island Room  | <b>VHF Radio Use for Race Team Members and Support Boats</b><br>Phil will share his expertise with us on: he VHF radio handset itself – which button does what. Common radio communication problems and their solutions. Looking after the VHF handset. Hands-on time | <i>Phillip Baker</i>                |
| Tuesday, 9th April 18:00<br>Sail Loft        | <b>Monday Night Dinghy Race Team training</b><br>The Monday Night team will go through their annual briefing and training session, covering starts, finishes and patrol boat activities. All welcome, particularly potential members of the team.                     |                                     |

*Frances Evans, Training Co-ordinator*

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## RNLI

### 2013 Lymington RNLI 10K and children's 1K and 2K events - Sunday 12th May

Entries are coming in so sign up today at the Lymington Station [website](#) for the 12th 'Run in the Sun'.





This is a family event for all levels of fitness and competitiveness and although the course is not suitable for wheelchair or physically impaired entrants - there being some rugged sections to get up onto the seawall, we have in the past had competitors dress up, push buggies, carry flags and even walk but most enter just to beat their target, their neighbour, their running club hot shot or their rival crew member.

Building on the success of the previous years children's races organised by our friends in the Lymington Triathlon Club - the 1 and 2K fun races have for 2013 increased entry number limits and a team trophy for schools and youth groups entering in the 12 – 14 year old category.

## Beaulieu Boat Jumble Sunday 28th April

The Lymington Branch will be running the RNLI stall at BBJ and we need all your unwanted (but useable) boat bits and pieces. The Club boatmen will take anything in but if you have a larger item you would like collecting please contact John Niven on 01590 678839

## Social Events

The Branch AGM will be on Thursday 7th March at the Lymington Town Sailing Club at 7.00 pm, followed by a talk by Adam Reay on Shackleton's voyage to South Georgia to get help (see Nick Bubb's achievement above).

RNLI Quiz Night at the Club on Thursday 21st March at 7.00 pm. Contact [Ann Brunskill](#) for details

### FOR SALE

Detailed local charts of many areas of Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Estonia (purchased in 2012) available for use by Club Members during 2013 in return for a modest contribution to the original cost.

Please call Jonathon Proctor on 07834 487134

### Small Ads

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.

Ann Brunskill

### Club Discounts

[please see list on website](#)



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