
ROYAL LYMINGTON YACHT CLUB

INFORMATION SHEET 38

7.10.86

Subscriptions

With this mailing is a letter to those who pay their subscriptions by Direct Debit, showing the amount to be demanded on 1st January 1987. The commissioning of the Direct Debit program for the Club computer has not been without its problems, and its first run in January 1987 may smoke out some unforeseen gremlins. Members are asked to notify the Secretary promptly of any errors which affect them.

Election of New Members

The Executive Committee has held to the spirit of the Resolution adopted by the 1986 Annual General Meeting, matching the number of new Full Members elected to those who withdraw. So far in 1986 just nineteen such vacancies have arisen and all have been filled: the number of proposals remaining on the file is still considerably in excess of the vacancies likely to arise in the next year. The Executive Committee has therefore concluded with regret that it is unlikely that further proposals can be accepted until at least Summer 1987. Members will be advised in advance, through one of the Club's normal mailings, of when the ban on new proposals will be lifted.

Members' Bar

The "Members Only" bar experiment tried out last winter will be continued through the forthcoming winter.

Members Art Exhibition

Lady Boxer is again co-ordinating the Members' Art Exhibition, on the 24th, 25th and 26th October. Exhibits should be delivered to the Club on Wednesday, 22nd October between 10.00am. and 4.00pm.

Cadiz and Quains Cups & Brownlow Cup

The Quains Cup is awarded for cruises of under three weeks in length and the Cadiz Cup is awarded for cruises of any length. The closing date for the submission of the logs for these competitions is the 15th January 1987. The following factors will be considered by the Judges:-

- a) Merit of the cruise taking into account the type of yacht, time available, weather conditions and strength of crew.
- b) Seamanship.

- c) Pilotage and navigation including navigation aids.
- d) Presentation and content of log and track chart.

The award of the Junior Brownlow Cup may be made for the best account of a cruise by a Family or a Junior Member under the age of fifteen. The Judges will pay particular attention to the way such accounts are presented and the way in which they are illustrated.

In 1986 a separate prize was offered for the best log of a cruise under power, but no entries were submitted, the experiment will be repeated for 1987; so if you completed a cruise in a power boat in 1986, why not write it up and enter?

Annual Dinner

The Annual Dinner will be on Saturday, 15th November 1986 and this year will be held in the presence of our Patron. The guest speaker will be Dame Mary Donaldson, GBE. The price of tickets has not yet been decided, but will not be influenced by likely demand. Members who wish to attend should therefore complete the enclosed proforma and return it to the Club Office as soon as possible. If demand exceeds supply, as seems likely, the draw for tickets will be held on 31st October and those successful will be notified by letter posted on Monday 3rd November. Seating will be restricted to about 140 and attendance will be limited to Members only.

New Years Eve Dance

In previous years it has been necessary to ballot for tickets to the New Years Eve Dance. This year's draw will take place, if necessary, on 21st November, and Members who wish to attend should complete the enclosed application and return it to the Office before that date.

Christmas Card

It is regretted that the Club will not be producing a Christmas Card this year.

Regalia

The stocking of regalia for sale to Members has been affected by two major difficulties: the need to limit the amount of money tied up in stocks, and the delay and unpredictability of obtaining follow-on supplies. These problems are linked, in that to ensure continuity of supply means a need for large stocks, which either puts the price up (because it ties up capital) or limits the range of choice. We have been trying to narrow the range of items sold by reducing the price of the slower moving lines, and will continue to do so. Meanwhile, new stocks of V-neck pullovers and sweatshirts have arrived, and should make acceptable Christmas presents.

New Steward

Mr. John McPhee has been appointed Steward in succession to Mr. Seal. Mr. McPhee entered the RAF as a trainee Steward in 1964 and retired earlier this year as a Flight Sergeant after 22 years. His most recent appointment was Manager of the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes at RAF West Drayton.

The John Seal Fund

Most Members will know of the untimely death of John Seal early in July. Mr. Seal had been Club Steward since 1975 and his death followed a long illness. A fund was opened for his widow to which members have so far generously contributed £970. The fund will remain open until 31st October 1986 when the proceeds will be given to Mrs. Seal. Any additional Members who wish to contribute are asked to send or give their donations to the Secretary before that date in an envelope marked "John Seal Fund". It is intended to supply Mrs. Seal with a list of names of those who have contributed, without showing the individual amounts.

Weather Forecasts

From time to time Members ask if weather forecasts can be displayed in the Club. This proposition has been considered by the Sailing Committee and turned down on the grounds that the additional expenses and office work can not be justified, in view of the extensive provision now made elsewhere for the supply of forecast information. In the short term, BBC national forecasts are often a poor guide to conditions in the Solent, which are better covered by Radio Solent forecasts, coastal waters forecasts, or by a telephone call to Marineline. Those contemplating a cross-channel passage need to start following the forecasts at least 24 hours beforehand, to develop a knowledge of the developing weather pattern.

Royal Lympington Cup

The Royal Lympington Cup event will take place on 7th-10th May 1987. This well-established event is of World standing and is acknowledged to be among the best run of its kind, which reflects considerable credit on the Club. It needs the help of nearly 100 Members to run it, and there is always room for new faces. If you are willing to help in the work of planning and running it, in any capacity from meeting a competitor at Heathrow to loaning a support boat, the Secretary would like to hear from you.

Viyella Cup

Match Racing took another step forward in 1986 with the staging of the Viyella Cup series by the Royal Yacht Squadron. The Club crew brought the Trophy and 1000 guineas home to Lympington and the problem we now have is to keep it here (and win another thousand guineas). The selection of next year's crew will start early in the season and those Members who would like to offer themselves as potential skippers and crews are asked to let the Secretary know as soon as possible. The 1987 event will probably be staged in late June.

The Junior Sailing Fund

The junior sailing programme has been very successful, thanks to the hard work put in by Dr. Jonathan Rogers and his team. The Club is now an RYA-recognised training establishment, and more than 300 children have had some experience of sailing under their guidance. The programme has been run so far at minimal cost to the Club, but it does need more money, and at the suggestion of the crew who won the Viyella Cup a Junior Sailing Fund has been formed from the thousand guinea prize that they won. It is hoped that the Fund will be able to provide enough to support the junior sailing over the long term out of contributions already being made voluntarily by parents and schools and by other Members who support the concept. Contributions are always welcome and

should be given to the Secretary or to Dr. Rogers. One major way in which Members might benefit the Fund would be to bequeath to it their debentures: other similar ideas may suggest themselves. The objective is that the Fund, by investing in young sailors, should invest in the future of the Club.

One Design Racing

The Royal Thames Yacht Club has circulated a paper arguing for a new one-design class of genuine cruiser-racers as a way of restoring the dwindling numbers coming to Solent starting lines. Any Member who would like to read and comment on the paper may obtain a copy from the Secretary's office.

Members List

The current Members List was printed in 1984 and is badly out of date. Its production then cost over £2,000 and in order to defray this cost it was necessary to seek substantial revenue from advertising, which further increased the work of preparation. The task of producing a new Members List is beyond the resources of the current office staff until the computer can be adapted for typesetting. It is hoped to start on this work in 1987.

The Staff Fund

Members are asked again to contribute generously to the Staff Fund, which takes the place of tipping. In 1985 nearly 40% of all Full Members contributed to the Fund which was shared by the Steward and his staff, the Caterer and his staff, the Boatmen and the Assistant Secretaries - around 30 employees in all. The Flag Officers hope that more Full Members will feel able to contribute this year.