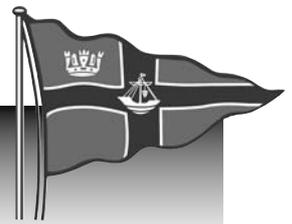


PotterNews



Issue 08 November 2006

Website www.rlymyc.org E-mail sail@rlymyc.org.uk

The Pottership Trophy was presented by Major Cyril Potter in 1937 and is awarded to the winner of the Pottership Race, a handicap event sailed at the end of the season in which all the competing yachts must be owned and helmed by a Club Member.

This year the trophy was won by Bob and Stephen Gresham in their Spring *25 Blue Streak*

A marvellous summer has been followed by a brilliant autumn, and many of us have taken advantage of the warmest October on record to extend our sailing season in the Solent and beyond. However the cold snap at the beginning of November was sufficient to remind us that "global warming" might still be some way away from turning the New Forest into a tropical paradise!

Now the sailing season is mainly behind us, except perhaps for those intrepid junior sailors who continue their training throughout the winter, come rain or snow! The season has appeared to end more abruptly than normal, as the Harbour Master emptied the Fortuna Dock area in preparation for a major dredging programme, which has also seen the Club pontoons moved to the east bank of the river for our part of the work. We will all benefit next year, and if those of us with deeper draughts go aground in the vicinity of the Club, we shall only have ourselves to blame!

Our winter social programme has started well, and Rear (now Vice) Admiral Paul Boissier inspired us all with his address and toast to The Immortal Memory. Our Wednesday lecture programme is also off to a good start, as Garry Momber described the work of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Maritime Archeological Trust in the Western Solent. The lecture programme goes on until the middle of March 2007, and Duncan MacAlister has a varied and interesting programme for us all.

The Annual Sailing and Club Review on 4 November produced a constructive discussion on the plans to create

THE POTTERSHIP



The Pottership is described as an important mid 19th century Dutch embossed and engraved silver galleon on silver spoked wheels. Designed as a wine pourer it was imported into London in 1893.

As part of the endowment it is required to be on the table at the Annual Dinner

a balcony along the east side of our Clubhouse, and the need to renew and improve our Bar, which is showing its age after many years as a focal point of

Club fellowship.

Our Annual Dinner, on 25 November, when Rod Carr OBE, Chief Executive of the RYA, will be our Principal Guest will be one of the highlights of the year, and I look forward to being with many of you on that occasion.

FROM THE COMMODORE

We have our AGM on 3 February 2007, and as you will be aware, I will be standing down, along with the Vice Commodore and Rear Commodore House, we all having completed our 3 years mandate. It is an historical accident that the

Commodore and Vice Commodore should stand down at the same time, and I shall be including in the Agenda for the AGM a one-off resolution to correct this anomaly so that in future years we may revert to the intention of the Articles and ensure continuity between the Commodore and Vice Commodore appointments. We also need four new Members of the General Committee to replace those members leaving by rotation, and we are seeking nominations for these appointments.

In conclusion, may I draw your attention to my letter to you regarding the Staff Fund, enclosed in this mailing. Our Staff work so well to make our Club a friendly, happy and successful organisation of which we are all proud. Please contribute generously.

With best wishes for the festive season,

JOHN BENCE Commodore

FIRST FLOOR JOTTINGS

Almost upon us is the Fish & Chip Supper and then the Beer Festival, with the Christmas and New Year events to come. After the New Year, we shall be trying a few new things: a regular Jazz listening evening on the third Thursday of January, February and March: normal menu, no charge and the music is free! After the AGM on February 3rd we have an Austrian 'pre ski' wine and food supper. Back by request are Alison Abrams and her musical colleagues with Romantic Classics at Seven: an evening of classical music followed by supper not too far away from St Valentines day, on February 10th. Keep an eye on the notice boards in case things change or new events are added. Last year, we introduced 'posters by email' in the period before events: please give your email address to the Club if you would like to receive these emails.

Underpinning these events is the House team led by Mark Fishwick, the House Manager. Financially, last year was a good year for Mark who continues to develop the capabilities of his team of chefs, bar staff and the front of house waiting team. All first floor waiting and bar staff attended a training course last winter to improve their skills and Mark, with help from John McPhee, will be doing more training this winter. Our Third Chef, Richard Phillips, recently completed a course leading to NVQ Level 2 in Catering and Hospitality at Bournemouth and Poole College. The only way we can improve our service to Members on the first floor is to help our staff grow their skills as catering professionals and the Secretary, Ian Gawn, with Mark, will be continuing to look for ways to do this.

Our staff are the essential ingredient that makes the Club a happy, attractive place to enjoy good food cooked from fresh ingredients, most of which are obtained from local sources and are of the highest quality. From time to time I hear comments about how we compare with other places in the area, or yacht clubs in general. Sometimes these comparisons are complimentary and we are grateful for that, but when they aren't, we do our best to look at ourselves to see how we can improve. You can help in this



YINGLING GIRLS three blondes in a boat

The Yngling Girls are delighted to introduce their third crew, Pippa Wilson. Pippa comes fresh from the 470 dinghy Olympic Class. Pippa joins the team creating 'three blondes in a boat' as adopted by the media after The Olympics in Athens where Sarah and Sarah won their Gold Medals sailing with Shirley Robertson.

The girls are training in Palma for November and December, home for Christmas, then Miami for January and February.

Anyone who wants to follow the girls' progress check their website www.ynglinggirls.com

when you visit the Club: if you've enjoyed what you have been served, please tell your friends but if you haven't, please tell us, at the earliest opportunity.

Price comparisons can be misleading. For example, I have been told that at another club, Ringwood Bitter is 20p cheaper and it almost always turns out to be Ringwood Best that the Member saw elsewhere; we serve Ringwood 49er, a premium beer that simply costs more. You'll also see 'loss leader' prices around the town, particularly for roasts. We don't go in for that sort of thing: our beef is best sirloin and all our prices are set to produce the same level of contribution to the Club's funds which, of course, go to the betterment of the Club. We do our best to look at ways to be more efficient and to increase the transparency of our financial performance. In a recent survey of the menus of six pubs and restaurants with a reputation for food in the area, our prices were 16% cheaper when comparing a dozen or so prices for starters, main courses and desserts. We weren't cheaper on all dishes but we were on the great majority.

GEOFF HOLMES Rear Commodore House

HOUSE NEWS

Dining Room & River Room

Open All Day on Fridays and Saturdays

From the New Year on, food will be available in the Dining & River Rooms all day on Fridays and Saturdays throughout the year. The normal Lunch and Supper menus will be available from 1200 to 1400 and from 1800 (earlier than usual) to 2100 or so. A reduced menu will be available outside these times beginning at 1030.

Gentlemen's' Showers to be refurbished

Early in the New Year, we will be refurbishing the Gentlemen's' showers. The work will take about 2 to 3 weeks. The showers will be replaced by GRP cubicles similar to type installed two years ago in the Ladies. The floor will be laid with ceramic non-slip tiles and the lighting will be improved, the taps will be replaced and the changing racks will be either refurbished or replaced.

LADIES LUNCH

Pippa Wilson was the guest speaker at a very enjoyable Ladies' Lunch. She gave a fascinating talk with slides, about just what was involved in being on a Olympic Team. Judging by the number of questions from the Ladies afterwards they all found it very interesting.



CRUISING

WHAT TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN 2007

Now that winter has arrived it is nice to be able to sit by the fireside and plan for next summer so here are some details of what is being discussed by your Cruising Sub-Committee.

The Cruising Dinner is on 16 February 2007. This year we are very fortunate in that Rear Admiral Tim Lawrence, has kindly accepted our invitation to be the principal guest and speaker

We do like to vary the cruise destinations, but some meets have become so established that to change them would upset too many people. So, here is what we have proposed for 2007.

Cowes in the Spring in 2007. We will dine at the Royal Yacht Squadron, then as the tides are right we are holding the Spring Anchoring Meet in Chichester in May. The format for the Anchoring Meets will be different this year. To avoid having to split the party into two or more rafts we are to have a lunch party with one large raft. Later and before dark yachts will be able to re-anchor for the night.

The Long(er) Distance Meet will be in the Rance where we hope to be able to have a proper French lunch in Dinan.

Newtown for the Family meet is one of those established venues in July as is St Vaast in August. We are planning to dine at a different restaurant this year having been to Madam Flourie twice now.

We haven't managed the Autumn Anchor meet destination for several years due to bad weather so in 2007 we are swapping the dates for Gin's Farm and the Anchor meet. And finally, Needles Relief in Yarmouth.

The winter lectures have started and we have a list of excellent speakers on many diverse subjects.

Below are the dates for the Cruising Events in 2007 to help your planning.

DATES 2007	NAME OF EVENT	LOCATION
20-22 April	Spring Cowes	RYS Cowes
18-20 May	Spring Anchor	Chichester
13-18 June	Long Distance	Rance, Dinan
13-15 July	Family Meet	Newtown
17-19 Aug	Cross Channel	St Vaast: (Deauville)
14-16 Sept	Autumn Anchor	Poole
13-14 Oct	Gin's Farm	Beaulieu
15-Dec	Needles Relief	Yarmouth

DUNCAN MACALISTER Captain of Cruising



Earlier this year the Quality Standard beef mince Be A Sport Appeal donated a total of £50,000 to SportsAid and Sophie Weguelin (Sailing) and Emma Garside (Judo) are just two of the lucky youngsters to benefit from the generous pledge, receiving £500 each. This money will help with the financial costs of training and is a vital lifeline to the next generation of our sporting stars. Sophie and Emma were joined by Quality Standard's 'Beefy' character at the Club where they were each presented with a cheque

MEMBER'S CARDS

For nearly 10 years the design on the face of Members cards has been unchanged. However, advancing technology meant that we needed to produce a new master that could be digitally reproduced. That gave us the opportunity to change the picture, as we paid a reasonably heavy licence fee to use the wave image. We will soon be producing new cards that will show the Clubhouse, using one of the pictures from the web site as the 'master'. That helps with a consistent 'image', and as we own the copyright, there is no licence fee to pay.

The new card will come in three versions, each with a different coloured border:

Blue for Full and Family members over 18

Red for Provisional Members (so that staff and Committee Members know to help with introductions)

White for Juniors and Family Members under 18, so that we can be seen to meet licensing requirements to prevent under-age drinking.

We will issue the new cards to newly joining Members, and to youngsters straight away. For all existing Members, other than Provisional Members, the new style card will be issued as a replacement if a current card breaks, is worn out or lost.

Opi Team Racing

The International Optimist Class Association UK (IOCA) Random Pairs Team Racing Championships took place over the weekend of 23-24 September at Spinnaker Sailing Club, contested by 33 Optimist sailors from around the UK aged between 10 and 15, fifteen of them from Royal Lymington Yacht Club. The official purpose of this IOCA national event in September is to select the five sailors to represent GBR at the European Opti Team Cup 4 Boat Team Racing in Berlin in October.

Final results: After 16 races on just one loss Phil Sparks from Lymington reclaimed the Rhodesia Team Shield for the second year running. All on four losses: 2nd Jonny House, 3rd Tom Britz (Lymington), 4th Robbie Urwin (Lymington), 5th Tarra Gill Taylor (Spinnaker) and 6th Olly Porter (Lymington). On five losses : 7th Matthew Goacher and 8th Hermione Stanley. On six losses : 9th Calum Murdock (Lymington) and 10th Matt Deacon Smith (Warsash).

SECRETARY'S NOTES

OUTDOOR CLOTHING

A reminder that all outdoor clothing and large bags should be left downstairs in the cloakrooms.

WINTER SUNDAY CLOSING

On Winter Sundays, until 18 March inclusive, the Bar closes at 3.00 pm, and the Clubhouse (including changing facilities) closes at 5.00 pm.

There will be no food service on the evening of Wednesday 13 December to enable the staff to enjoy their Christmas Party. The Bar will be staffed by volunteer Members on that evening.

DINGHY PARKING

Please ensure that all dinghies are removed by 31 December, to enable maintenance to be undertaken. We do have a limited number of spaces available for winter storage (1 January to 28 February) for Members who are unable to take theirs away. The cost is £20. If you require a space please contact the Club Office.

Would you please advise Stephen, if you have changed your dinghy during the year, or you plan on changing your dinghy for 2006, as this will help us to allocate spaces. Also please contact Stephen if you would like to go on the list for a space in the dinghy park, inflatables rack, tender on the pontoon, or outboard motor shed in 2007.

Please help us by displaying your sticker on boats which are legally parked, and remove those boats which are not. If you wish to leave a dinghy for which you do not have a permit, even for a short period, please contact Stephen first, so that a space can be temporarily allocated to you.

RYA LEVEL TWO POWERBOAT COURSES

We will be running a few RYA Level 2 Powerboat courses during the winter. These courses are run for Members by volunteer instructors at a price significantly lower than commercially run courses. It is hoped that members receiving training on our courses will be available to help crewing on safety boats during our sailing events. Any Member wishing to attend a Level 2 Powerboat course, and who has not already registered their interest, should contact Stephen in the Club Office.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR FUNCTION TICKETS

Function tickets will be available on the following dates:

Christmas Party Buffet	Monday 6 November
Turkey Dinner	Monday 20 November
New Year's Eve	Friday 24 November
New Year's Day Brunch	Friday 24 November

Tickets may be purchased in one of the three following ways:

1. In person from the Club Reception Desk, which is open daily between 1000 and 1600 (1400 at weekends)
2. By telephone from the Club Office 01590 672677
3. By e-mailing the Club at office@rlymyc.org.uk ensuring you include your payment details.

Members are advised that there are no refunds on tickets for these events for cancellations less than 7 days prior to the event, unless we are able to re-sell the ticket.

CLUB PROGRAMME 2007

The Summer Programme and Racing Fixtures booklet will

be distributed to Members in the January mailing. Members wishing for advance details will shortly be able to access the draft programme via the Club website (www.rlymyc.org.uk) and clicking on 'Calendar' on the left hand side of the page.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR OPENING

Clubhouse opening hours over Christmas and New Year are:

Evening Meals Closed 24 December – Reopens 2 January 2007.

Lunches Closed Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

Family 'Hair of the Dog' Brunch on 1 January – for ticket holders only.

Bar and Clubhouse closed evenings of Christmas Eve, New Year's Eve (except NYE function) and evening of 1 January 2007, and throughout Christmas Day and Boxing Day. The Clubhouse will be closed from 2.30 pm to 5.30 pm from 27 to 31 December inclusive.

Waterfront A Boatman will be available every day except Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Between 27 December and 2 January there will be a limited waterfront service until the end of any sailing event or the Clubhouse closes after lunch.

Office The office will be closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day, and New Year's Day, and open from 10 am to 2 pm on Christmas Eve and 27 to 31 December.

URGENTLY WANTED

Due to the increased postal charges Membership Mailings are now incredibly costly. YOU CAN HELP by volunteering to deliver (even a few envelopes) in the following areas:- SHIRLEY HOLMES, PILLEY, BEAULIEU, BURLEY, LYNDHURST, VINEY ROAD, PLATOFF ROAD, POLES LANE, MAIDEN LANE AND SOUTHAMPTON ROAD SOUTH. Please contact the office.



*Our guest speaker at the Trafalgar Dinner
Rear Admiral Paul Boissier, Commodore RNSA*