

TRAINING

Autumn elementary course

The Training Committee have decided that the two Autumn training weekends should be given over to a further Elementary Training Course. The course will take place on the two weekends 10th to 12th September and 17th to 19th September. Sessions start on the Friday evenings and the courses are residential (on the barge). For further information or to apply for the course please get in touch with the training secretary, Mrs Sylvia Reed at 31 The Knoll, Hayes, Bromley, Kent; Telephone number 01 462 3232.

Safety boat training

On a recent Sunday, about twenty minutes after the start of a well supported race in the Commodore's Trophy series, one of the rescue boats towed back a Laser. The boat handling was excellent. However, if the rescue boat crew had attended one of the rescue boat courses they would have known that one of the first lessons is that you do not take a rescue boat off station for twenty minutes or half an hour to tow back a disabled boat during the course of a race, when it is perfectly reasonable to leave it on a mooring or on the shore and collect it later. The Club's rescue boat courses are intended to teach the principles of rescue boat organization as well as the practical techniques of boat handling, towing and recovery. The next course will be held on Saturday 10th July lasting for seven well packed hours from 1000 to 1700. If you interested (vacancies are limited) please contact Sylvia Reed.

NEW MAGAZINE

USED BOAT AND MARINE EQUIPMENT

Britain's only marine advertising magazine

As a sales promotion ploy, the Club has been sent a complimentary copy of USED BOAT, a new magazine devoted entirely to advertising boats and boat bits. It costs 50p from newsagents. It seems well supported and provides an alternative advertising medium to "Y and Y" or Exchange and Mart. Dinghies for sale up to £350 (and bits up to £50) can be advertised free.

SITUATIONS VACANT

Perhaps my telephone has been out of order or the postman has been sick, but I do not seem to have had the rush of applicants that I expected for the post of Editor for this magazine. The post carries with it a free seat on the General Committee. Please ring me (Peter Bolton) if you are interested. Those of you who are busy writing articles about sailing holidays in the Himalayas or contributions to the occasional articles on 'other peoples boats' are reminded that the closing date for copy for the September edition of '31½' is the end of August.



THE WILSONIAN SAILING CLUB MAGAZINE

Number 21

June 1982

WILSONIAN SAILING
CLUB
Hoo, Kent

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The magazine of the
Wilsonian Sailing Club is
called '31½' because the
Club's headquarters, the
barge "WILSONIAN" is
moored halfway between
navigation buoys 31 and
32.

Acting Editor:
Peter Bolton
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Meopham, Kent
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Opinions expressed in
this magazine are not
necessarily those of the
Editor or of the Officers
or of the General Comm-
ittee.

THAT CLUBHOUSE . . .

THE CLUB IN THE FUTURE

You will all have received the notice of the Special General Meeting which we have called for the evening of 7th July at Swanley.

After several years' work by a number of sub-committees and many individuals, the General Committee decided that we have reached a point at which members can and should make their decision on the kind of clubhouse and facilities that they want for the future.

Essentially the choice is between a clubhouse on the shore and a vessel afloat; which is up to you.

Prior to the meeting all members should have received full reports and details of the proposals to be put before you.

I hardly need say that I hope that each of you who can possibly come to the meeting will do so to enable us to have a full and frank discussion of what we want, so that everybody knows what is happening and so that by your vote the General Committee will have a mandate to implement the decision of the Club.

Christopher Stevens
Commodore.

ENTERPRISE

David Vettergreen

Spring points series

The first long series of the season was convincingly won by Ray Fryatt (and Molly) with five wins and two second places as distac-rds. The second and third places were more closely fought between Carl Palmer and John Vinson. This was decided on the last race when Carl's jib halyard broke before the start. The only races to be finished that Ray Fryatt did not win were won by John Bradley, who had to include two non-starts in his results, but still managed to finish 5th overall.

Results:	First	Ray Fryatt (Rag Time II)	0 points
	Second	John Vinson (Peacemaker)	34.4 points
	Third	Carl Palmer (African Queen)	35.4 points

MIRACLE

Martin Jessop

At the time of writing, the number of Miracle dinghies at the club stands at 17. Four of these boats are being sailed by new recruits to the class and they are especially welcome. Various members of the club have been spotted in borrowed Miracles over the past few weeks and rumour has it that the sailing secretary, no less, managed to capsize his borrowed craft, albeit after crossing the line first! Anyway, on with the results:

<u>Spring points series</u>	1st	Martin Jessop	(Merlin)
	2nd	Jim Tyler	(Wat name)
	3rd	John Cassell	(Fipenanna/Geronimo)

Easter Cup

1st	Martin Jessop	(Merlin)
2nd	Jim Tyler	(Wat name)
3rd	John Cassell	(Fipenanna/Geronimo)

Open Meeting

1st	R. Paish SEGAS SC	(Paws)
2nd	M Fish WSC	(Shazam)
3rd	K Crundwell WSC	(E. L. O.)
4th	J Cassell WSC	(Fipenanna)

Whitsun Cup

1st	R L Jones	(Geronimo)
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That's all for now, except to say that if there are any more discerning members wishing to meet the challenge of sailing a Miracle (or crewing one) then come over and see us!

TOPPER AND MIRROR CLASSES

Reg Kuhn

I am very encouraged with the turn-out of the Topper boats so far this season but disappointed with the Mirror turn-out. I can only plead with the Mirror owners to support the few racing regulars who would like more competition.

The Topper spring points series was a very closely contested series with the second place being decided on the final race. Good ol' Ron Jordan ended up with a clean score sheet. Make the most of it, Ron.

The weather during the series was fairly heavy during most races, but most of those who took part came through unscathed and smiling.

<u>Spring points</u>	1st 21573	Black Jack	Ron Jordan
	2nd 16822	Pieces	Reg Kuhn
<u>Easter Cup</u>	22110	Sky	Paul Tyler
<u>Whitsun Cup</u>	22110	Sky	Paul Tyler



COMPETITIONS FOR THE 1983 ROYAL YACHTING ASSOCIATION LONDON DINGHY EXHIBITION

In order to give photographers plenty of time to take memorable pictures during this summer's sailing, the RYA London Dinghy Exhibition Committee have already agreed details for next year's Photographic Competition.

There will be two sections - one for black and white prints, (maximum size 10" x 8") and one for colour prints (minimum 5" x 7", maximum size 10" x 8"). First prize in each category will be £25 and there will be further prizes depending on the number of entries. The theme this year gives great scope; it is simply 'Dinghy Sailing'.

A new competition is for a cartoon on the subject of dinghy sailing - great room for humour here. This will also be in two categories: one for those under 16 on 1st January 1983 and one for the over 16's. First prize in each category will also be £25.

Closing date for both competitions is Monday 21st February 1983 and the best entries will be displayed at the 1983 RYA London Dinghy Exhibition. It must be stressed that both competitions are open only to amateur photographers and cartoonists.

Full details available from Peter Waring, Royal Yachting Association, Victoria Way, Woking, Surrey GU21 1EQ. Telephone Woking (04862) 5022.

CB: An Aid to rescue?

One of the subjects which has been a recurring item on the agenda of the General Committee over the years is that of radio contact with and between the Club's safety boats. Conventional marine band radio is expensive to purchase, the licence fee is high and the equipment should be operated only by an approved operator. Some clubs on the river use this system but have found the snag that while being able to communicate with other craft also fitted with radio, they have to fit their messages around inter-cruiser chat. An alternative possibility is the use of citizens' band radio. Being of shorter range and with 44 channels to choose from, would the risk of channel congestion be so high? Is the range sufficient? Could messages be heard over boat engines? Is there equipment available which will stand up to marine use? There is only one way to find out and the Committee has agreed that professional advice should be sought with a view to carrying out a trial. In the meantime, any member who considers himself an expert on CB may care to impart some of his experience and learning to the Sailing Secretary. In the meantime the intriguing question of callsigns needs to be considered as well as the jargon. Why not 'Willybase' for the race box for example? I will offer a club burgee for the best collection of nautical CB jargon to reach me before the end of August - but I cannot promise that any of it will ever be used on the air.

We are situated in the Glynn Valley, perhaps one of the most picturesque settings in the West, ideal for either a touring centre or for a restful "stay put" holiday, surrounded by beautiful scenery and lovely walks.

You will find us on the A38—a quick look at local maps will show you we are in an excellent position: for exploring Cornwall, both moor and coast-line.

The area abounds in History—both legendary and archaeological.

The energetic may enjoy pony trekking, hiking, shark fishing or sailing (we have two sailing dinghies available to guests). There is excellent trout-fishing on the River Fowey.

We can offer you a relaxing holiday with good food, a licensed bar, and colour TV.

If you prefer not to drive, there is a very good Motorail service from Paddington to St. Austell, or, alternatively, we would be happy to pick you up from Bodmin Rd. Station.

Twowatersfoot,
St. Neot, Near Liskeard,
Cornwall.
Telephone: Dobwalls 30749

Proprietors: Colin & Yvonne Brierley

(formerly members of W.S.C.)

Trevelbyn
Dean
Lodge

Where we are in Cornwall



Where we are in detail



Our terms are:- (1992)

Bed, Breakfast
and evening meal. £8.50 per day
£55 per week
Children under 12. 25 % less
Bed & Breakfast only. £6 per day

Mirror results:

Series	Points	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Spring Points	21171	Flying Foggit	Ken Crundwell		
	51476	Lucky Dip	William Irving		
Easter Cup	6623	Pointless	Phillip Walker		
Whitsun Cup	51476	Lucky Dip	William Irving		

HANDICAP FLEET

The Season has started well with a fleet total of 41, compared with 42 last year. I thought you would be interested to know our fleet make up, which is as follows:

Boat	Count	Boat	Count
Cherub	1(1)	Mirror 16	1(1)
Firefly	1(1)	National 12	1(0) (1981 figures in brackets)
Graduate	6(3)	Solo	4(4)
Laser	18(18)	Tasar	6(4)
Marauder	1(2)	Wayfarer	2(2)

The spring points results were:

1st	8.7	Wayfarer 3187	John Reed
2nd	14.4	Laser 52340	Martin Jones
3rd	29.7	Laser 37346	Chris Gregson

Results sheets for the spring and early summer points series can be seen on the barge notice board.

This year we have two open meetings: the third Tasar Open on 11th July and the first Laser open set for 19th September. We hope to get 100% turnouts of home fleet boats for both meetings. Last year we had 15 Tasars competing; this year maybe more I am pleased to say that a number of people have expressed interest in sailing my 'spare' blue Tasar (1269). The boat, which is on loan to me, is the Association's demonstration boat. Please let me know if you would like to use the boat (any club member).

Due to the arrival of Oliver (our off spring number three) I was not able to sail regularly during the first part of the season. My thanks to Tom Keenan for his sterling job as Vice Captain when standing in for me and his able setting of Laser courses - no doubt! The Commodore's Trophy heat sailed on 9th May was well supported by our Fleet. This series provides the opportunity for the fleet to compete with all classes in the Club. Mark your diary for the next race (the third in the series) on 8th August. There will be a mid-season prize giving for our fleet on the barge at lunchtime on Sunday 18th July. Please come along for a plot and a jaw.

SMALL ADS

FOR SALE Bell built Mirror dinghy in good condition complete with some extras, plus trolley and cover nearly new and certificate.
£200 apply Peter Isaac Telephone Medway 73408

There is no charge for members' small ads. Just write to the editor.

ALL AT SEA

AN ACCOUNT OF A DAY OUT ON THE THAMES BARGE "VICTOR"
(or what he can remember of it) by Colin Crawford.

The Club barge was recently revarnished by the Ferry Boatyard at Upnor and as the person charged with the job of lising with the Yard I had to go along and meet Owen Emerson, the owner of the Yard.

Owen and Rita Emerson live on the Thames sailing barge 'VICTOR' - moored at Upnor, just across the road from the Cabin Yacht Stores. I was invited to go below and found myself in another world: gleaming varnished wood is everywhere with souvenirs from other barges, paintings and photographs of barges and silver trophies won by Owen in barge races. These items are spread around a large comfortable saloon with a wood burning stove that must make the place every sailor's dream of heaven on a cold evening. There were two other occupants: a budgerigar which, I think, is used as a gas detector system and an animal who is just known as 'dog'.

I went to see Owen a few times and each time found myself more and more fascinated with the barge, its rigging, its lee boards and the thought that these barges had been operated by just a man and a boy. A desire to experience barge sailing became stronger at each visit and in the end I just had to ask "How much to charter?"

The answer (£110) seemed a lot for just a days's sailing at first, - but shared among twelve wouldn't be too much at all. At a charged of £15 per head there would be plenty for food and drink (a catered charter costs a bit extra).

At this stage, fate was very kind to me because the first person I asked was Dick Jordan who agreed to come provided he could ask Derek Cummings. Derek agreed but suggested that we should ask Alan Smith who is our chess captain who said that we should ask Ray Blyth because he makes smashing home made wine who said that we should ask Alan Wood: it might get boring and he is always good for a laugh. I had got my twelve people.

A meeting with the ladies was just a little bit difficult when they found out that they were the catering staff but a promise that once they were on the barge they would be waited on hand and foot brought them around; and although they were allotted only a nominal sum - the modest remainder being required for liquid refreshment - they did a magnificent job. There was turkey, ham, exotic salads, garlic bread followed by fruit tarts for lunch and scrumptious home made cakes for tea.

Alan Wood had kept the details of the day from his wife Frances as a surprise, merely telling her that she was going on the water for a day out and we were all highly delighted when they turned up (last as usual) with Frances saying "This is a surprise Alan, I thought I was going to Boulogne!"

The weather was good as we sailed from Strood Pier down through Hoo Creek and on to the Thames Estuary. Owen, who has been on the River Medway all his life,

WARNING NOTICE

The following warning notice has been issued by Airborne Industries Limited

AIRBORNE INDUSTRIES/ SOWESTER LIFEJACKETS

Airborne Industries manufactured a range of inflatable lifejackets between 1977 and 1980 which were sold under the Airborne and Sewester brand names.

It has been found that in certain cases the neck moulding on these jackets may have deteriorated more quickly than might have been expected and they may therefore be unsafe for use.

Owners of these jackets are advised to check them immediately in accordance with the printed instructions.

Airborne Industries ceased the manufacture of lifejackets in 1980 and the ownership of the business changed hands in 1981.

NOTE Sewester lifejackets other than those made by Airborne are not affected.



AIRBORNE INDUSTRIES LIMITED
Airborne Industrial Estate
Aerial Road, Leigh-on-Sea
Essex, S52 4ET



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4 ASHWELL STREET, ST. ALBANS, HERTFORDSHIRE
Telephone: St. Albans 50662

Please send me a copy of your brochure to:

Name:
Address:
..... (31)

A WARM WELCOME

John Cassell - House Secretary

After an afternoon of wind and squalls, the weather quietened down to give an ideal evening for the barbeque and boat burning on Saturday 1st May.

Maureen Kelsey, Judy Vinson and helpers did a grand job in producing the food to satisfy the hungry swarms of members who came along; the hot soup, beefburgers and baked potatoes going down very well as the evening became cooler.

Perhaps the highlight of the evening was the burning of "Jutland", Geoff Maskall's old Fireball. There was a moment when we thought that Geoff was going to set himself alight in his enthusiasm to set the boat burning. However, he survived and the result was a floating fireship which, as a spectacle, must have rivalled those of the Dutch when they invaded the Medway in 1667 (if that is the right date).

Many thanks to all those who came to make the evening a success and my sincere apologies to those whose late applications for tickets I had to refuse.

Our next social function is our informal open evening on the barge on Thursday 22 July during Medway Regatta Week. Come along for a drink, a snack and a chat. No advance booking is necessary

THE CABIN YACHT STORES

• Lower Upnor •

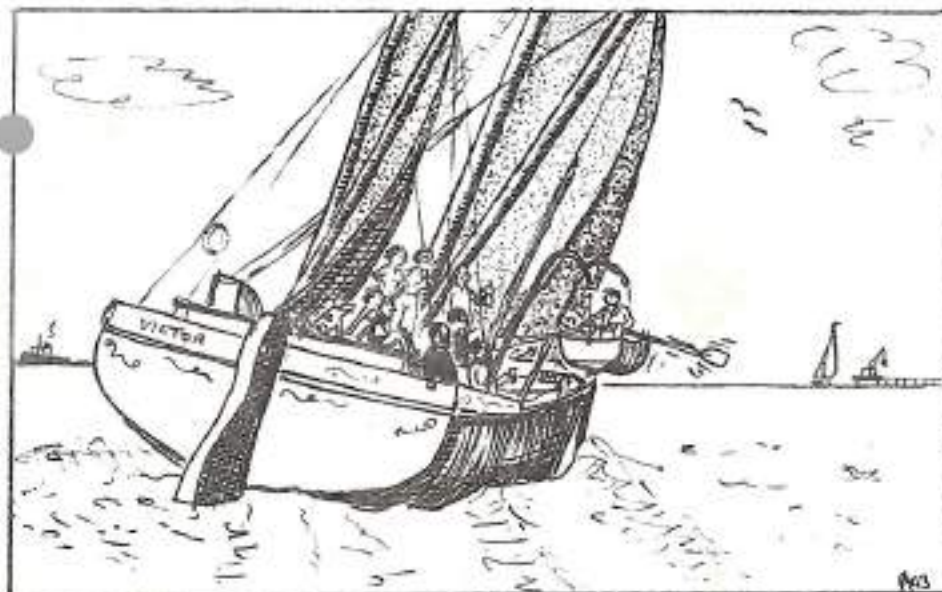


Kent County Council have kindly built a new road to make it easier for you to drive to your nearest chandler. We carry a wide range of fittings, cordage, clothing, paints, charts, flags etc. Rigging repairs using Talorit or Hexloc rolled swaging. Leave your damaged rigging with us on Sunday afternoon - pick it up next Saturday or Sunday.

10% discount to WSC members on orders over £5.
Open Saturdays and Sundays to 5.30
Telephone: Medway 78020

Don't forget you can drive, walk or sail to the Cabin Yacht Stores.

made the trip all the more interesting with his obvious knowledge and his stories of barge sailing. I think the trip would have been very educational but at one point, I am not sure when, Ray opened his bottle of home made wine. Soon after, Alan Wood ran up the rigging and had to be enticed down with a banana. Carol Smith kept throwing bread at this big, white bird which turned out to be a sea-plane, as interested in us as we were in him. Alan Wood suddenly appeared in the tender



rowing as if to save his life, though at the time the tender had been hoisted in its davits, and then things went progressively more blurred and I next remember waking up the next morning.

On reflection, it was a marvellous day and soon four of us will be joining Owen again, this time crewing in a barge race.

If any other Club member is interested in chartering the barge or in crewing in a barge race, just contact Owen Emerson on Medway 723272. You could end up having an unforgettable day - we did.

PS. Make sure you take Alan Wood.

PRIZES

This is a special request to those of you who were the winners last season of perpetual trophies, that is to say the silver cups and things for such races as the South Kent race, the Leigh Trophy and Bank Holiday series. Will you please ensure that the trophy is returned cleaned to the sailing secretary before the race (or series) is sailed again so that the new winner can be presented with the trophy at the prize giving at the end of the race.

MEDWAY YACHTING ASSOCIATION MEDWAY REGATTA

Thursday 22nd July to Sunday 25th July 1982

This year's Medway Regatta is being held from Thursday 22nd July to Sunday 25th July. The full race programme again provides events for a wide range of dinghy and cruiser classes on all four days. Start times and start lines for classes sponsored by the Wilsonian Sailing Club are as in the following table.

Gillingham line

	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Fireball	1005 1420	1005 1420	1005 1420	1005
Enterprise	1015 1430	1015 1430	1015 1430	1015

Uppor line

Handicap A	1010 1430	1010 1430	1010 1430	1010
Laser	1030 1450	1030 1450	1030 1450	1030
Wayfarer	1040 1500	1040 1500	1040 1500	1040
GP 14	1045 1505	1045 1505	1045 1505	1045
Handicap B	1100 1520	1100 1520	1100 1520	1100

On Sunday afternoon there will be a race in aid of the RNLI for all dinghy classes with group starts at 1400 and 1410. This race is organised by the Wilsonian Sailing Club but the start is from the Uppor (MYC) line.

Entry fees for dinghies are £1.50 per race (or £2 per race if received after 15 July 1982). If all races are entered on or before 15 July £1.50 may be deducted from the total fee - i.e. £9 for seven races. Entry fee for the R.N.L.I. race will be £1.50 whenever you apply.

Entry forms are available at the Club or from the regatta Secretary who is Mrs Eleanor Ries, Meade Cottage, Dunn Street, Bredhurst, Gillingham, Kent. Telephone number: Medway 362788. Entries can be made for any or all of the races and late applications can be made to the race office at the Medway Yacht Club during the Regatta.

The Club barge will be open from Thursday morning until Sunday afternoon but remember that there will be no Club racing during the Regatta period. Details of the social programme that accompanies the Regatta are given on the page opposite.

If there is anyone who is interested in helping with rescue boat or with running the barge on any of the days of the regatta, will they please contact Peter Bolton on Meopham 813029.

MEDWAY YACHTING ASSOCIATION MEDWAY REGATTA

Thursday 22nd July to Sunday 25th July 1982

Programme of social events

THURSDAY 22 JULY

WILSONIAN SAILING CLUB - AT HOME

The barge will be open all evening to visiting sailors from other Clubs and the Officers hope that there will be a good turn out of Wilsonian Members there. No entry fee; usual bar prices and hopefully some refreshments.

FRIDAY 23 JULY

MEDWAY YACHT CLUB - BARBEQUE

The Medway Yacht Club will be organising a barbeque which is expected to cost about £3 per head.

SATURDAY 24 JULY

MEDWAY YACHT CLUB - CANDLELIGHT SUPPER

The MYC's usual Saturday event is expected to cost this year about £3.50 per ticket.

UPNOR SAILING CLUB - SUPPER AND DISCO

An opportunity to visit Uppor Sailing Club's impressive new clubhouse next to the Cabin Yacht Stores at Lower Uppor. About £3.50

Information about how to get tickets for those events that require them will be provided to Regatta entrants in due course.

The bars on WILSONIAN and at the Medway Yacht Club are expected to be open during the afternoons of the Regatta as well as at the usual times.



For entry forms fill in this coupon

Name & Address
.....
Tel. No.
No. Apps. Req.

Return to:
Mrs. Eleanor Ries,
Meade Cottage,
Dunn Street,
Bredhurst,
Gillingham, Kent.
Tel: Medway 362788