

Adverts ...

FOR SALE

Pacer 2200 'NU-ERA' Wood/Epoxy construction, Measurement Certificate, 3 yrs old. Rigged for racing. Spinnaker chute system. Launching trolley, cover. £750 ono. Frank Ward 01-311-4046

FOR SALE

Fireball K9120 Plycraft hull. Extensive refit 2years ago (including new M3 mast & boom, Harken fittings, Alverbanks). Fly-away pole system. A mature boat but with plenty of life left in her, ideal for competitive club sailing. £600 ono. David/Fiona Tozer 01-852-5028

FOR SALE

Laser 75110 Two sails, new cordage, metal trolley, cover. Good condition. £525 Ian/Elle McDonald 04747-2192

FOR SALE

Tasar 472 with cover & trolley £500 Ring Tony Moore 01-904-2821 (home) 01-456-8946 (bus.)

WANTED

Crew for Fireball. 'Phone Janice Smith 0689-35379

MISSING

Missing from the dinghy park, a yellow 'Fleet' trailer for an Enterprise. Please contact Terry Field 01764-1166 (home) 01489-0564 (bus.)

ADVERTISE

Club Members can advertise here free of charge. Simply contact the Editor.

WORK PARTIES

21st January

4th February

11th March

9:00 start, Lunch 14:00

Bring a Shovel

INSTRUCTORS' MEETING

Would all Instructors please attend the Work Party on 21st January - There will be an Instructors' meeting at lunchtime.

TS

WANTED : BUY OR RENT TOPPER

Contact Gerry March
0689-57563

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The Journal of

Wilsonian Sailing Club

31 1/2

January 1990

Issue Number : 41

Commodore's Letter ...

This is probably my last chance to monopolise the front page, so I would like to take the opportunity to write about the past three years.

To say that I have thoroughly enjoyed the honour of being your Commodore would be an understatement as there is so much more to it, that my limited literary talent cannot translate into words. We have such a wonderful Club whose family spirit is the envy of many others, that being its representative made me feel very proud wherever I went. Margo and I have made many good friendships which will be lasting reminders to us.

The Mayor

Our highlight socially was undoubtedly the visit of the Mayor of Rochester for lunch in 1987, for most of us had never spoken to a mayor before let alone entertained one for lunch. Well, Mary Fennemore and husband Wilf were so thrilled with the Club and the way they were received that our friendship, started then, later in the year led to an unofficial drink in the Mayor's Parlour after a function - privilege indeed. The following year we had a repeat with the new mayor and his lady, Ben and Jenny Reeves. Again a good friendship was soon established and I will never forget Jenny's loyal support everywhere that Ben went despite her terrible handicap, her courage was an example to everyone. She did, however, draw the line when Ben took off from shore in a very high powered speedboat!

Throughout my term of office, Margo has been at my side guiding, encouraging and even pushing me when I needed it. Not only has she done duties as an

officer in her own right, the amount of preparation and participation has made my life so much easier. I know she likes to be in on everything but, by jove, I've been glad to have her.

Team Effort

Of course, when it comes down to the work of running the Club it's a team effort - and what a magnificent team I have been privileged to lead. Nothing they have been asked to organise has been too much, but I think the way the Pacer Nationals were run was brilliant; it was not the first and it will surely not be the last Nationals to be hosted by the Club.

I have avoided mentioning personalities deliberately, but there is one I must name as he was responsible for picking me to do the job over six years ago. It was of course Bob Jones, the immediate past-Commodore and your Vice-Commodore, whom I must thank for the great experience of the past three years which I have enjoyed immensely.

Finally, I would like to encourage those of you who are thinking that you would like to involve yourselves, but are too shy or think you will not be wanted, to come forward. Make yourselves known. We will always need fresh talents and new ideas. Remember, I volunteered to go on the General Committee at an AGM when no proposals were forthcoming for the vacancies. I had no ambitions, just a willingness to help.

Thankyou all.

Ken Crundwell

Bits & Pieces ...

At this time of year preparations for the new season and the AGM start to loom on the General Committee. We shall have several gaps on the Committee so we are looking for people to nominate for election. I am happy to tell you that Ray Fryatt has volunteered to take over the membership renewals from me. Ray Craddock has offered to act as my deputy as secretary this year with a view to becoming the secretary in 1991 ... always assuming that you good people out there do not replace the lot of us at the AGM! So one way and the other I should be able to wind down my activities as secretary over the next 12 months or so. Anyway, watch out for the Queen's shilling in the bottom of your glass at the AGM (on Thursday 22 February at the Masonic Hall, Gravesend again) - that's how I was caught!

I might tell you that our committee meetings are not always without their moments. The Commodore spent the last one with one hand suspended from a hat stand, having had a contre-temps with a piece of machinery that day. A very extreme way of getting out of being in the chair! But seriously, it was typical of Ken that he did not let it stop the meeting going ahead despite spending part of that day in hospital.

Renewals

The new renewal form is in the centre of this issue of the magazine. You will see that this year we have held the increase in subscriptions to 5%, which is less than the rate of inflation. In the event we are going to have to wait another season before we can have the front of the dinghy park stabilised, so we have not had to fund that yet.

Another change on the renewal form is that we have gone back to asking you to put your name and address on the dinghy park form as well as the renewal form itself. Sorry, but we have to split the form between various people and this avoids anyone having to copy out this information unnecessarily.

We need as many people as possible to renew as quickly as possible after Christmas because we cannot organise the duty lists until we know who we have got and this in turn delays issue of the sailing programme. So get those forms in folks.

Just one word of warning. I have not reminded people that they owe me old keys or key deposits, but there is a note on each membership card to remind us that this is due before we issue your 1990 membership.

Winter Dinghy Parking

As I write this at the beginning of December, I have issued 19 winter dinghy parking tags, but there are nearly 60 boats in the park. So if your boat is going to be there from Monday 11 December onwards, get your dinghy park application form sent off to me. Otherwise you may not be able to renew for 1990 until you pay up for winter parking and that just makes work for everyone.

Junior Fleet

We are planning to start a Junior Fleet next season, probably functioning on a Saturday. We have given a lot of thought to whether we need to change our rules to let non-sailing parents of under 14's become members, since it is important to make sure that parents remain responsible for their children rather than the Club. In the event we have opted for a byelaw (which I still have in draft) to make sure that under-14 members may only be at the Club under the supervision of a Single or Family member.

There is of course a potential legal liability problem with any member under 18 so I am afraid that in the new season we shall have to ask all Junior members to send a fresh parental disclaimer with their renewal. It should be in the following form:-

" I/we understand that (junior member's name) is a member of Wilsonian Sailing Club at his /her own risk and I/we agree to absolve the Club of any liability in the event of any accident or injury.

Signed parent(s)/guardian(s)

Date

Print Name(s) of parent(s)/guardian(s)

Address.....

..... Postcode

Telephone no.

We have also revised Byelaw 8 so that we can admit boats suitable for younger children, which would

otherwise have been excluded. The new byelaw is as follows:

"Byelaw 8 - Dinghy park spaces may be allocated only to boats of Club sponsored classes or, with the approval of the Sailing Committee, to boats of established single hull dinghy classes, provided that the overall length of the boat does not exceed 5.05metres and the Portsmouth number does not exceed 146. The Sailing Committee may, in the case of boats to be used solely by Junior members under 16 years of age in connection with the activities of the Junior Fleet, approve the allocation of dinghy park spaces to dinghies of specified classes with a Portsmouth number exceeding 146. Other boats, sailboards and canoes may only be brought onto the Club's premises with the permission of the Sailing Secretary and

provided that they have insurance cover against third party risks."

The Junior Fleet has got off to a flying start with the gift of a Mirror from Gordon Ramage, for which many thanks. Anybody else got an Optimist, Topper, Mirror that they don't want?

Conclusion

1989 was a very good season, but let's make 1990 even better. I expect that I will meet some of you on the forthcoming work parties or at the AGM.

I wish you one and all a happy new year.

Brian Rennie

Sailing Secretary ...

This will be my last article as Sailing Secretary, as I will be retiring at the AGM.

The 1990 sailing programme is well advanced with basically the same format as before. A copy of draft 3 is pinned up in the clubhouse.

The Frostbite Series for 1989 was cancelled with only 17 people - 11 boats - having signed the sheet by the limit date of 24th September. A minimum of 25 people is required to run a 5 week series. So don't forget to sign on early for the 1990 series.

The Laying-Up Cup was abandoned due to high winds.

Results

Commodore's 4

1st	Fireball	12698	Mike Upton
2nd	Contender	373	John Reed
3rd	GP14	12758	Chris Harris

Bosun's 4

1st	Mirror (s/h)	47662	Bob Callow
2nd	Topper	28999	Stephen Bright
3rd	Topper	11773	Ken Davis

Ladies' 4

1st	Topper	26119	Wendy Ward
2nd	Comet	70	Jackie Hudson
3rd	Miracle	2110	Doreen Davis

Juniors' 4

1st	GP14	12758	Adrian Harris
2nd	Miracle	3024	Natalie Jones
3rd	Topper	28999	Stephen Bright

Overall Results

Commodore's

1st	Contender	373	John Reed
2nd	GP14	12758	Chris Harris
3rd	Fireball	12698	Mike Upton
4th	Tasar	371	Ray Fryatt

Bosun's

1st	Miracle	2180	Paul Absolon
2nd	Miracle	2873	Patrick Ward
3rd	Topper	26119	Wendy Ward
4th	Topper	28999	Stephen Bright

Ladies'

1st	Topper	26119	Wendy Ward
2nd	Graduate	2804	Jean Bright
3rd	Miracle	2110	Doreen Davis
4th	Comet	70	Jackie Hudson

Juniors'

1st	GP14	12758	Adrian Harris
2nd	Miracle	3024	Natalie Jones
3rd	Topper	28999	Stephen Bright
4th	Miracle	1808	Kirsty Smith

Dave Vettergreen

GP14 News ...

I will start this article by expressing my thanks, and I hope yours, to the following people:

Jan and Chris Harris for very kindly allowing us to use their house for our fleet evening; this was not intended to happen but the weather got the better of us at the last minute. (They say God works in strange ways, or was it a case of the Devil looking after his own).

Mike Doherty for his support and advice as Assistant Fleet Captain, a role he has fulfilled quietly without the knowledge or thanks of many.

Lastly to all of you who own, sail, crew or make up the GP14 family, making the fleet as strong as it is both on and off the water - THANK YOU.

If you did not receive an invitation letter to the fleet evening and you should have done, I am sorry. This probably means I have the wrong address for you or I do not know you should have been invited. Either way would you please let me know so I can rectify the matter.

The fleet evening was well supported if you did not attend!! You missed a good night. Several points were raised:-

- 1) The pottery prizes were presented.
- 2) I would like to know if you own a GP14 and do not belong to the GP Association. This is not a crime, but the Club, me and the association are trying to update their records.
- 3) Is your buoyancy sufficient and properly secured??? This could be put to the test by an annual check (of the wet variety). You have been warned!!! Again, if you would like advice or help

Miracle ...

Fleet evening 17th February @ 8pm, at John & Sue Smith's.

Please come since we will be presenting last season's trophies and discussing this year's sailing programme.

On a personal note, I will be standing down as fleet

please let me know - that is what I am here for.

- 4) I would like to know if you are a member of my/our fleet and you either do not intend to rejoin the Club in 1990 or you are changing class. Again this is for the records and to assist me in compiling a duty list to cover the open event we are running, ie. the Fireball /Comet Open on the 23rd September 1990.
- 5) Our start times have been moved forwards by five minutes, ie. we and the Enterprises have changed places with Handicap "B" and the Miracles. This is mutually convenient and will allow us to sail the longer courses usually sailed by Handicap "A" whilst not splitting the rescue boat cover.
- 6) I was re-elected as Fleet Captain for another year, with Paul Heather elected as assistant.

Other significant or relevant points to 1990's sailing were raised and if you would like to know about them please contact me.

It is intended to have another fleet evening early in the new year to discuss forms of handicapping within our fleet, the intention being to spread the prizes throughout the fleet, so watch your post for further details.

I am sure that by now all association members have had their quarterly magazine from the association, so you are all aware that shortly you will have the opportunity to vote on the new hull. This probably will have the most significant effect on the Class and possibly our own fleet for a decade.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all the best for the forthcoming season.

I.Parris

captain this year due to taking on other commitments in the Club. I would just like to thank you all for your support over the past few years.

Jane and I wish you a prosperous New Year.

Patrick Ward

Handicap 'B' ...

We held our annual prize-giving on Friday 17th November. That was the evening when there was a two hour hold-up on the M25, and British Rail had a signal failure at St. John's deciding to close Charing Cross station to commuters, or customers as we are now called.

Frank & I were late (thanks to the previously mentioned BR problem) and drove around the estate a couple of times looking for a bungalow with lots of cars parked outside, only to find that we were the first arrivals. I think our host & hostess thought no was coming. But all's well that ends well and we had a hilarious evening.

The Sailing Secretary had asked us to discuss if we would like to have team racing and relay racing in the programme this year. We thought that it would be a good idea, but with team racing all the boats

must be the same - like all Streakers, GP's, or Toppers, or whatever. We also decided to have the Summer Points split as a AM & PM series instead of Early and Late series. The Spring & Autumn Points will stay as they are. The other difference will be the JP OASTHOUSE series which will be run in May (Handicap 'B' members only) at the same time as the Spring Points; there will be six races in the series with four to count.

Thankyou everybody who came to the meeting. We missed those who were unable to make it this year. A big thankyou to Terry & Edna who hosted the evening and laid on a super buffet.

Happy new year to you all. I look forward to seeing you all in the 1990 season.

Wendy Ward

Handicap 'A' ...

The Autumn Points Series saw a marked reduction in the number of boats sailing, which probably explains why yours truly managed to win! The winning places were as follows:

1st	Fireball 9120	David & Fiona Tozer
2nd	Contender 373	John Reed
3rd	Wayfarer 84	Bob Dutton

The overall statistics for the fleet for 1989 are as follows:

	Max. Boats Afloat	Average Boats/Race
Spring Points	8	4.4
Early Summer	13	6.6
Late Summer	9	5.5
Autumn	6	3.7

The overall trophy for the year, the Femco Shield, goes to David & Fiona Tozer in Fireball 9120 (who?).

Fleet Evening

Of course, all those who came to the fleet evening on the 1st December will already know all of this. Those who didn't miss a splendid evening. My humble apologies to anybody who didn't get an invite - but after about 50 'phone calls I wouldn't be surprised if one or two people slipped through the net. (If you didn't hear about it, please give me a ring and I will ensure that you hear in future.) About 28 people came to our local pub (The Royal Oak in Blackheath) for a few bevies and a bite to eat; occasionally the conversation even strayed off sailing! Anyway, it was good to have a good old chin wag in relaxed surroundings.

How about another social before the start of the season? Give me a ring if you are interested.

So, get those boats maintained and ready to go for an early start to the season.

See you soon.

David Tozer

Albert ...

Phew! What a summer this has been. It certainly brought the birds out! That is your sort, not mine. As it was getting too warm for me I decided to head up north to a cooler climate.

On the way I passed over several areas where people go sailing. The water that they sail on varies in size considerably. On the smaller lakes the sailing seemed very close especially at the start of the race. All the boats sail along between two marks calling 'Starboard' to each other. I assume that this is some kind of ritual.

There are three sound signals spaced out and on the last one all the boats turn so that the wind is on the right side of the boat. The ritual of calling 'Starboard' stops for a while and other words are heard.

The boats at either end, if they are unable to get between the marks, do a U-turn and start behind the first group. One boat was in front of the others when the third sound signal sounded. It sailed on with the others and when it was safe it turned back and passed around the left mark and started again.

The next interesting bit was when the lead boats started to round the first mark of the course. Here

the ritual of calling 'Starboard' was heard again. The rest of that race look like follow the leader.

That's enough about sailing. I think it's time to look for some water of my own. The sight of all those birds laying around the side of the lake is too much. I think it's time to find some open water of my own and maybe a Squid or two.

I am a sea bird that likes to fly so high
Looking for a lady up in the sky

Well that is the theory. I think I made a mistake when I turned left at Cape Horn.

You see I have come from the Island of C.Espinola which is in the Galopus Islands of the South Pacific. I am the third offspring of my parents wedlock. The Albatross mates for life and breeds on the Island of C.Espinola in May when there is plenty of seafood in the Gulf Stream that flows from north to south that time of year. I was born on 5th July, this making me a Lion at heart. My favourite dish is Squid, so if you have any left over from Christmas save some for me.

Ray Craddock

Brain Teaser ...

A man is rowing upstream. As he passes under a bridge he drops a bottle into the water. He then continues to row, at a constant speed, upstream - for a further 20 minutes. He then turns the boat around (in zero time) and rows downstream at the same speed. He catches up with the bottle one mile downstream of the bridge.

How fast is the river flowing?

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BOAT SHOW

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10-7 weekends

