



**31 1/2 SPRING 2016**

## Welcome to the spring edition of 31½

The work parties have been completed, work has been done on the boat, the AGM has been attended and now with the business done it is time to get on the water. Having said that there is always plenty to do at the club so if you can offer a skill or some time, please contact any member of the committee.

The club offers a wide range of opportunities so why not make this year to try a cruise, seek out other members going the nationals, take the sail or power training offered by the club or even crew in different boat to see club racing from another perspective.

As always thanks to all the contributors who have made this edition another good read.

David Wraight

**NEXT COPY DATE:** 15th June 2016  
**Future copy dates:** 15th October 2016  
15th March 2017

**Copy to:** editor@wilsoniansc.org.uk

**WILSONIAN SAILING CLUB, Hoo, Kent**  
**01634 250318**  
**www.wilsoniansc.org.uk**

**COMMODORE** Martin Vinton 01634 716472 martin.vinton@btopenworld.com

**SECRETARY** Martin Smith 01634 319432 martinj\_smithz@yahoo.co.uk

**SAILING –SEC.** Matthew Love 01474 874754 mathewguylove@yahoo.co.uk

### Contents

- 2. From the Commodore
- 3 KSSA Event 23 April 2016
- 4 Skimmers Report and Junior Get Together
- 5 Forthcoming Dates
- 6 Automatic Starting Lights
- 7 Slow Fleet Report
- 8 2000 Fleet Report
- 9 HMS Princess Irene
- 10 Sailing on YouTube
- 11 Minutes of the AGM of 27 February 2016

## From the Commodore...



At last the long winter is over and hopefully we will have lots of fine sailing weather this year. This year the work parties have been very successful, with lots of improvements completed. Our main task was the repainting of the club house and boat houses.

Our club lease has been secured for many years to come. The upstream slipway works are complete. This should make the slipway much safer and easier to use this year.

This year's warm-up series enabled some hardy sailors to get out sailing.

Early in the series it was very windy, but calmed down for the later races. Well done to everyone that took part and thank you to the volunteers that helped made the series a success.

### Training.

Since the last issue we have increased our Dinghy Instructors, well done to Jeremy Drummond on becoming a Senior Instructor, plus Dinghy Instructors Anna Crane, Peter Cyriax, James Downard, Kevin Downard, Amanda Randall, Rachel Sheridan, Paul Thorpe and Richard Tutt.

Our club handbook lists the Sailing and Powerboat courses already planned for the year. Please contact Paul Thorpe if you are interested.

### Sailing.

A few changes this year; there will be a separate am and pm series for the summer, to enable those who are unable to attend both races on a Sunday, to complete a series.

Stewart Robertson has been building a new starting system, using lights instead of the boards. Trials should start soon. This should make the Race Officers task much easier, with a computer based automated starting sequence.

The split for slow/medium fleets has been changed, to move Laser Radials into the slow fleet. Although the fleets fast/medium/slow have handicap guidelines, we can all choose which fleet we want to race in, however if starting in a different fleet to the handicap guidelines, you cannot influence the choice of fleet for that course.

Saturday skimmers will have started again for juniors on Saturday mornings.

We have a Miracle dinghy that has been kindly donated to the club by Colin Freed. This is an ideal dinghy for families to go sailing in. If there are multiple applications, names will be put into a hat. We would like a £50 donation for the boat. Please contact me if you are interested and would like to view the boat. A decision will be made one month after 31½ has been published.

Here's to a great sailing season this year!

Martin Vinton

## KSSA is Coming to Wilsonian Sailing Club – Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April

We are delighted that KSSA has asked Wilsonian SC to host this year's Opening Splash - otherwise known as "Regatta With Coaching", taking place on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April. This is an all day regatta and we will therefore not be running Skimmers that day.

The KSSA regattas cater for all standards of racer – from those who have only just started their racing careers though to experts! Any Wilsonian Junior who has participated in the Skimmers Racing group is of an appropriate standard to take part in this event.

So how does it work? First, do look at the Events section of the KSSA website [www.kssa.co.uk](http://www.kssa.co.uk). If you are expecting that you will be able to take part, please pre-register as soon as possible. This is simply to give us, as hosts, an indication of numbers so we can plan safety cover and catering. If you pre-register but for whatever reason can't come along on the day, there is no fee due.

Registration will be from 9am. If you have pre-registered it is simply a matter of the sailor and parent/guardian signing the form, paying the fee - for single handers £10 and double handers £12 – and collecting a tally band. It is possible to enter on the day and complete the form at the Club (for this the fees are £15 and £18 respectively).

Tally bands are part of the safety system. Each sailor will be allocated a tally band with a number. When coming ashore the tally band is returned to the Race Office and the signing off sheet signed. Sailors collect their tally bands again in the afternoon prior to launching and return them once ashore after racing.

The kitchen will be serving bacon rolls and drinks from 9a.m. as well as lunch and afternoon tea and cakes. Sailors will need to be rigged and changed in time for the Race Officer's briefing at 10.15a.m. The Race Officer will explain the racing area (which will be in sight of the Clubhouse) and course to be sailed. This will be very similar

to Saturday Skimmers racing, the only difference is we will have extra boats from visiting clubs.

The intention is for two races to be held back-to-back in the morning. As with Skimmers, we use Average Lap Racing so the slower boats such as the Teras might sail one lap whilst Lasers and faster boats might sail 3 or 4 laps. Then everyone will come ashore for lunch, going afloat again in the afternoon for two further races. Three races count towards the Regatta results.

So, lots of fun racing for the Juniors... and parents (or indeed other Wilsonian members who'd like to volunteer) we need your assistance too. This event does not fall within the usual Duty Rota so we will be needing help with the catering, safety cover, recording of times in the Committee boat and also help launching and recovering boats from the shore. Many of the sailors are single handers so help on hand suitably dressed to go into the water, hold boats and retrieve trolleys is very useful.

For Wilsonian Juniors who do not have their own boats, it is possible to use a Club boat. However, these need to be booked in advance (please contact Jo) and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

It would be good to see as many of our Skimmers racers as possible representing the Club at this KSSA regatta and there will be on water coaching for the less experienced. The Regatta is also an opportunity to find out more about KSSA activities including how to qualify for the Kent Team, sailing for Kent at both regional and national level. And as well as all that, this should be a good spectators' event. Do come along and support our Juniors!

## It's Skimmers time again

Saturday Skimmers is now underway. Sessions run from 9.30am to 1pm with sailors grouped according to ability. There will be a register to sign in so that we know who is attending and who will be the sailor's nominated guardian for the day. Please avoid arriving after 10 a.m. (beginners and intermediates) as we need to know numbers each day as soon as possible in order to allocate instructors, safety boats and club boats.

We are dependent on parent/guardian volunteers to support these sessions. Lending a hand with the running of the programme from time to time or regularly is a great way to get to know other members and their families and to enjoy the benefits of the Club.

We need help with

- safety boats – driver/crew (please bring some kit or use Club kit)
- the kitchen – to cook & serve the sausages
- the racing - assistant to the Race Officer (great view of the action)
- general help on the beach – bringing boats to the beach and back to the dinghy park
- launching/recovery of boats (the Race Officer and instructors will advise when to launch)
- making sure that borrowed sailing kit is rinsed out and hung back up in the clothing shed

### Racing

The Racing group usually sails three short back-to-back races. As long as you can sail competently to windward, you can join in with the racing.

Wherever possible we offer on water coaching to assist those with less experience. The first race starts promptly at 11 a.m. but please be rigged and changed by 10.30 a.m. to help with the launch of the safety boats. There will be four race series during the year with a trophy awarded at the Prize Giving dinner to the winner of each of the series.

### Intermediates

Where possible we will run an intermediate group (often in Toppers and Teras), aimed at improving sailing skills sufficiently to progress to the racing group.

### Beginners

This group mainly uses Optimist dinghies sailing between the shore and the first line of moorings. Whilst it is usually possible to have all our Optimist dinghies on the water, there may be occasions where adverse wind and tide conditions mean only one or two boats can be launched. If the instructor deems conditions to be too windy for this group, the session may instead be held ashore.

We look forward to welcoming you all to Saturday Skimmers 2016 for some great sailing!

The Skimmers Team

## Junior Get together

On Thursday 18th February the juniors had a get together, in preparation for the start of the season. We went climbing at the Kent Scout climbing wall in Maidstone.



Those who came had a great time, climbing many different types of walls, Jayne Thorpe even put some of us to shame- yes me. We ended the evening with an abseil from two storeys up.



Thanks to Steven West for helping organise this event.

If anybody fancies another go at climbing, sessions run at the weekends.

Richard Tutt - Junior Fleet Captain

## Forthcoming Dates

23rd April	KSSA Regatta
15th May	Friday Fun days
21st May	Open Day / Push the Boat Out Day
28th May	Adult Improvers Start
11th June	John Yeo Evening Race and Supper
2nd 3rd July	Medway Regatta
9th July Saturday	River Festival
11.30 -17.30	
10th July	Admirals Cruise
30th Oct	Laying Up Supper

Christine Godber

The House Committee will be covering the following events:

Open Day / Push the Boat Out Day

Donations of any cakes, quiches & culinary delights welcome

Medway Regatta

Donations of any cakes, quiches & culinary delights welcome

Laying Up Supper

Full details to follow

Christmas Dinner Sunday 18th December

Full details to follow

Please contact the House Committee members if you can help at any event

Nina

One of the largest chandlery stores in the UK

# Pirates Cave

## CHANDLERY

Visit us in store 7 days a week

**Raymarine**

UK Retail Centre Of The Year 2013

- ✓ Over 7,000 Items In Stock
- ✓ Knowledgeable & Friendly Staff
- ✓ Easy Returns
- ✓ Competitive Prices
- ✓ Rewarding Loyalty Scheme
- ✓ Fast & Reliable Ordering Service
- ✓ Established Over 20 Years
- ✓ Buy Online And Collect In-Store



**WE'VE  
MOVED  
TO A  
BIGGER  
STORE!**



### Pirates Cave Ltd

Unit 6 Kendon Business Park, Maritime Close,  
Medway City Estate, Rochester, Kent ME2 4JF  
Phone: 01634 295233, sales@piratescave.co.uk

Twitter: @piratescave

Facebook.com/piratescave

**www.piratescave.co.uk**

\*Terms and conditions apply.



Get an up front discount & earn points  
with our loyalty reward card

# Gillingham Marina CHANDLERY



**The One Stop Shop, Just through the Medway Tunnel**

**[www.gillinghammarinachandlery.com](http://www.gillinghammarinachandlery.com)**

Dingy and keel boat sailors will be impressed and pleasantly surprised at our stock, prices and rapid ordering.

**Price Matching, Special events and discounts available**

**Please see our New website and Gillingham Marina Facebook page**

**Open Monday to Friday 08-30 to 17-30**

**Saturdays 09-00 to 16-30, Sundays 09-00 to 15-00**

**CHANDLERY: 01634 283008**

**[chandlery@gillingham-marina.co.uk](mailto:chandlery@gillingham-marina.co.uk)**

**GILLINGHAM MARINA, 173 PIER ROAD,  
GILLINGHAM, KENT ME71 UB**

## Automatic Starting Lights

You may have heard that we are automating the starting signals at WSC and if you haven't heard, you have now!

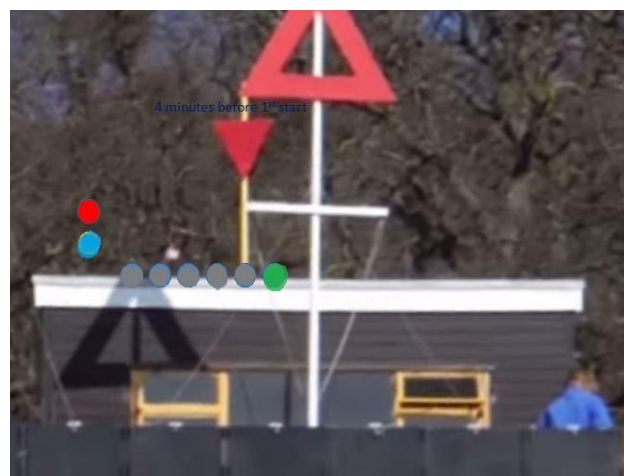
It is hoped that we'll be getting this going in the next few weeks and so I thought 31½ would be a good opportunity to give you a taste of how it is going to work. The system uses very bright lights so that even on a bright sunny day you should be able to see which light is on and which is off. There is the possibility of having 6 consecutive starts. Because it is completely automatic and very accurate there should be little opportunity for error. It is intended the Race Office selects how many starts he actually needs (this is often 4) and pushes the "Go" button, from then on the RO doesn't have to keep any time. The lights and the horn will operate without any intervention.

The RO does have to see if anybody is over the start line and he will have a means of indicating a recall and when the offending boats have restarted that indication can be cancelled. So the RO is not quite redundant during the starting sequence. Nor will the RO be redundant at the finish, somebody still has to note down the time each boat finishes, but with this system he will have an accurate stopwatch indicating the time elapsed from the first start. Incidentally it will be impossible to accidentally stop the stopwatch; the only way it can be reset is by switching off the power. Hopefully the RO will do that between the morning race and the afternoon race – we'll have to make sure he does!

Now I guess you be wondering what it looks like. There will be 6 green lights which come on one at a time for each start. Hence the Fast Fleet have the first light and the Medium the 2<sup>nd</sup> and so on through the sequence. If you are a member of the Fast Fleet and the first green light is on – then your start has occurred and you'd better get going. If as a member of the Medium Fleet and you can see the first green is on you will know that your start is less than 5 minutes away. But you'd want more warning than that so just as with the flags (or should I say boards) you get an indication of 4 minutes and 1 minute to the start when the "Blue Peter"

is raised and then lowered. So too with the lights, there is a blue light which comes on at 4 minutes and goes off again at 1 minute to go. There's also a red light which represents the class flag so that comes on at 5 minutes before and goes off at the start. However that red light no sooner does it go off for your start and it will be on again for the next start, so what I have done is I've made it flash for the last 10 seconds up to a start.

Here's an example.



One green light is on - so clearly the first start has occurred and that fleet will have disappeared down towards Gillingham Reach. We are clearly into the second start, the red light is on representing the class flag and so too is the blue light and so it must be less than 4 minutes to the second start.

What's going to happen next? The blue light will go off at 1 minute to the second start and then 10 seconds before that start the red light will flash. When it goes solid the next green light will ignite and that is the second start. That sequence will continue for all 6 starts. There will be a sound signal coinciding with each of these changes. Should the RO feel there is an Individual Recall he can flash the green light until the recall it is cleared.

How will it look for the RO?

Mounted in a box about 400mm long and 200mm wide, he too will have a row of 6 green lights and above each light will be a switch. If a switch is off that start will not occur. In this way

the RO can have only 4 starts. Beneath each start light there will be another switch, if that is used the green light will flash - indicating a recall. Also on the box there will also be a red light above a blue light just as there is outside, and so the RO can see what is happening with the lights outside without getting wet. The only other controls on the box will be a horn push and a start button and a stop button. Right in the middle of the display will be a digital display. All the RO has to do is switch on, select which starts he wants and push "Go", the box will provide all the lights and horns to run the starts he has selected. The digital display will give him a count-down to each start. When all the starts have occurred the digital display will switch to displaying the elapsed time from the first start. All the RO has to do now is press "Stop" and wait for boats crossing the finish line. When a boat crosses the finish line he should sound the horn and note the sail number and the time on the digital display.



When he has finished all the boats he should switch the box off at the mains (this incidentally wipes the elapsed time).

If any boat was foolish enough to be over the line at the start the RO will have to flick the recall switch for that start (and sound the horn) and when that boat returns he flicks the switch back again, thus clearing the recall and making the green light stop flashing.

I can see the Race Officers are going to get fat, they have very little to do. However for the first

year I'm going to suggest the Race Officer also operate the boards (prompted by the automatic system) so that he and the competitors can get used to the system.

Stewart Robertson

## Slow Fleet Spring 2016

Spring has sprung! With the warm-up series in full flow and three Streakers so far representing the slow fleet, we have enjoyed both gusty winds and calm flats.

The slow fleet is expanding with the Laser Radial (PN 1136) now becoming part of the fleet, a warm welcome to the Radial! The Streaker (PN 1137) has gone slightly faster whereas the Miracle (PN 1210) and Laser 4.7 (PN 1195) remained unchanged. I hope to see as many of the slow fleet boats out on the water as possible.

There are three Streaker open meetings in the South East, at Bough Beech Sailing Club (02 April), Downs Sailing Club (15 May) and Chipstead Sailing Club (19 June). I plan to attend all three and at the same time find the opportunity to promote our Streaker open that will take place during the Medway Regatta in July.

There are also Laser open meetings in the South East, at Bough Beech Sailing Club (26 March), Laser/Radial/4.7 at Chipstead Sailing Club (24 April) and Downs Sailing Club (15 May).

Plenty of Miracle open meetings too, albeit a fair drive further away from the South East; they are all listed on the Miracle association web site.

If any members attend any of the open meetings we would really like to hear from them and hopefully write something about the events and share their experience.

Best wishes for a great season ahead; see you all on the water!

Georgios  
Streaker 1416

## 2000 Fleet Captain Report



At our 2000 Fleet AGM, Fleet prize giving and social fish & chips lunch on 16 January 2016, I looked back over 2015 season highlights and looked forward to 2016 season. Firstly I would like to thank my two Vice 2000 Fleet Captains, Roy Winnett and David Vettergreen, for their continued support and advice. In particular a big thank you to Roy for updating the WSC Race Results each week and to David for taking those fantastic photos. Another thank you to the Fleet for voting me as your 2000 Fleet Captain for a third year and I will continue to represent the Fleet on the Sailing Committee.

Spring Points 2015 had a total of 10 entries with overall 2000 Fleet winners Adam Gray and Claire Perkins (2350), 2nd place Paul Rogers and Paul Thorpe (22131), 3rd place myself and Anna Crane (2229) and 4th place to Lesley O'Rourke and Zoe Ralph (22115). Race 3 on 12 April 2015 was extremely windy, I was sailing with Jayne Thorpe and I remember crossing the start line, just managing to keep upright and avoiding capsize, then joint decision, we retired; the overall results were first place Colin Treadwell and Lauren (22258) and 2nd place Brian Lamb and Brian Warwick (22111) and 4 DNF's which I think says it all!!

Early Summer Points 2015 had 11 entries over the series with various helm/ crew combinations. Overall winners were David Vettergreen and Janice Smith (2643), 2nd place Paul Rogers and Paul Thorpe (22131), 3rd place Roy Winnett and Geoff Lambert (21792) and 4th place myself with Caroline Kilbride (2229). I recall sailing with one of our junior's Jack Dann and discussing the difference from his Topper compared to 2000 and on another occasion sailing with Viv Pickrell in June and her awesome spinnaker work.

Late Summer Points 2015 overall winners were Lesley O'Rourke and Simon McCausland (22115), 2nd place myself and Anna Crane (2229), 3rd place Darren Horton and Ken Jarrad (2924) – hopefully that's correct as I know they often switch helm and crew positions.

Autumn Series 2015 had 8 entries from 2000 Fleet with overall winners Roy Winnett and Geoff Lambert (21792), 2nd place Nina Wallis and Bernard Smith (21405) and 3rd place Lesley O'Rourke and Simon McCausland (22115). I recall sailing one race with Lesley Le Gassick who is a great fun crew and an experienced Medway sailor; particularly helpful when pointing out that we were in the shallow water and about to run aground 'Rachel do you think we should tack now as I can see the wading birds feet'!!



Throughout the sailing season at Wilsonians there are a number of single races or short series and I am just going to mention a few. At the start of the season the Ice Breaker Race saw Brian Lamb and Sam Pygall (22111) finish overall 2nd place in the 2000. New for 2015 was the introduction of the Bosun's Series, set as a lapping course, alongside the Commodores Series of longer race course. The Bosun's Series proved popular with 2000 Fleet with a total of 7 entries and overall winner was Roy Winnett and Geoff Lambert (21972). The morning races of Ladies, Juniors, Novices and Masters saw Lesley O'Rourke and Simon McCausland (22115) overall 2nd place for the Ladies Race. On 9 August the very long South Kent Race had a total of 21 entries across all Fleets, with Paul Rogers and Paul Thorpe (22131) finishing overall 9th place. The

end of season Laying Up Cup had a total of 13 entries across all Fleets, with 5 entries from 2000, with David Vettergreen and Janice Smith (2643) finishing 4th place. The overall winner was Brian Lamb and Sam Pygall in his Wayfarer. I remember a closely fought battle at the back of the Fleet between me and Brian White (2229) with Paul Rogers and Paul Thorpe (22131), as the wind was patchy and the tide was turning, I just pipped them into 10th place but it was a great game of cat and mouse across the course.

Another highlight for Wilsonians season 2015 was the popular Medway Regatta held on 18th and 19 July 2015 with over 70 entries across all Fleets, with 10 entries for 2000 Fleet including 4 visitors. Overall winners were Colin Treadwell and Lauren (22258). I would like to thank Tom Wareham and Steve James (2721) who were working behind the scenes as part of the Medway Regatta Committee. Overall Fleet winners for the 2000 Trophy were Roy Winnett and Geoff Lambert (21792) and the Vixen Trophy was awarded to Adam Gray and Claire Perkins (2350). Roy Winnett was also awarded the Crundwell Plate.



Away from the club the 2000 Class Association had a busy race programme in 2015 and there have been a number of Wilsonian entries. Andy Hockey and myself/ Anna Crane (21914) entered the Millennium Series at Broadstairs SC, Force 5-8 gales (it certainly felt like it!!) finishing 6th place out of 10 entries including Colin Treadwell who kindly stepped in to sail with me when Nik Antoniadis strained his back. Andy Hockey (21914) also competed at Weston SC with 13th place out of 16 entries, Chichester SC with a large Fleet of 29 entries and finishing 23rd place. Andy's overall end of season finish was 13th place out of a total of 81 entries for the Millennium Series. The one day Turbo

Event at Weir Wood on 20 September 2015 was good fun with 15 entries for 8 quick races and Andy Hockey and Felix finished 10th place and myself and Anna Crane finished 13th place.

The 2000 Class Association Inland Championships were held at Grafham Water SC on 13th and 14th June 2015 and Adam Gray and Claire Perkins (2350) finished overall 11th place out of 16 entries.

The 2000 Class Association National Championships were held at Abersoch, North Wales in 9th to 15 August 2015 and Wilsonians SC had a total of 6 boats entered along with a large group of supporters including friends and family. There were 43 entries and with 8 wins out of 10 races, Fergus Barnham and Serena de Nahlik from Snettisham Beach were in fantastic form. Overall results were 16th place Colin Treadwell and Lauren (22258), 19th place Adam Gray and Claire Perkins (2350), 21st place David Vettergreen and Janice Smith (2643), 27th place Andy Hockey and John Hewat (21914), 33rd place me and Paul Chilcot (Army) 2229 and 37th place Nina Wallis and Bernard Smith (21405). I did a write up of the Nationals for the winter edition of 31 ½ newsletter.

At our 2000 Fleet AGM, it was a great pleasure to award our prize winners and acknowledge the Fleet results. However, not wishing to make it all too serious, I hope you will forgive me for a series of 'alternative prize giving'. Firstly to David Vettergreen for the 'photographer of the year' with some great pictures sent in to 31 ½ newsletter. Next award of 'Tough Mudder' not the cross country endurance course but Early Summer Points in June when the wind died and, as my crew, Geoff Lambert valiantly trudged through Hoo Bay mud to get us safely back to the club. The 'Damsel in Distress' goes to Nina Wallis for a series of misfortunes at the Nationals. 'Highest Mileage' to Andy Hockey and Anna Crane for travelling to the 2000 Class Association events. The 'Most Sociable Sailor' to Lesley O'Rourke for the highest crew combinations including Simon McCausland; although, I came a close second. 'Can't make my mind up sailor' to Brian Lamb with lots of winning places but switching between his 2000 and his Wayfarer – he's even been known to sail on his own (Autumn Series Race 3). 'Lovers on land but not at sea' for Bernard and Janice Smith who both sail in 2000 but with other sailors – must be the secret to a happy marriage! The next award is a bit cheeky as I was very grateful when Colin Treadwell, who came along for a social visit, kindly stepped in as my crew when Nik Antoniadis hurt his back at Broadstairs SC in May 2015. However he didn't have any sailing kit with him, so this lead to

an exchange of dry suit with Nik, well let's just say it was a tight fit!! Finally (in an Australian accent) 'hey mate, can you give us a tow' to Brian White as my crew on 25th October when the wind died and we were drifting back to the club, he saw his friend motoring past on a yacht, who heard the request and threw us a tow line back to the club.

Looking forward to 2016 season, there's a busy sailing programme at the club. I'm keen to encourage new members to join us and please let me know if you are looking for crew in advance and I will try and help. Also I will continue with my regular email updates every couple of weeks from my new email address Sheridan.rachel@icloud.com . I've updated the notice board and it's been suggested that I add a list of boat numbers with helm and crew, plus weekly updates, where possible, of race results.

There's a great list of events to both old and new venues on the 2000 Class Association website and I'm pleased to let you know that the Medway Regatta on 2nd and 3rd July 2016 is listed as well, so this should encourage a few more entries for 2000's. I will be at Chichester SC on 21st and 22nd May 2016 for Millennium Series 2 plus a few other events, so please come along and join me.

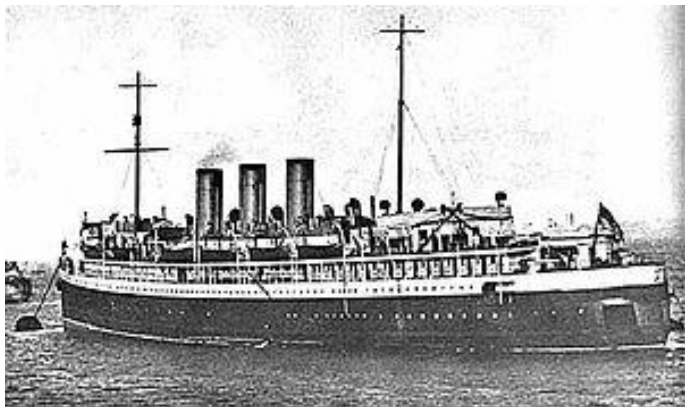
The National Championships will be held at Castle Cove, near Weymouth from 13th to 19th August 2016 and we've already got 6 entries. I can't believe I managed to sort out my accommodation in January – I've never been that well organised!! There is some accommodation still available and its only 165miles to Weymouth, so come along and join us – let's go Team Wilsonians!

Breaking news: at last weekend's Dinghy Show, Steve Cockerill from Rooster Sailing told me he had enjoyed sailing a 2000 recently – see Class Association for his write up – and Rooster would be sponsoring some Nationals prizes plus Steve and his wife Sarah will be competing. I hope I have included all 2000 sailors at WSC but some people may have been competing in other Fleets for the 2015 race series, so I duly apologise.



Happy Sailing  
Rachel Sheridan  
2000 2229

## HMS Princess Irene



Many members will be familiar with the story of the explosion of HMS Bulwark. Ironically six months later an even larger explosion ripped through another naval vessel moored in Saltpan Reach.

In May 1915, *Princess Irene* was moored in Saltpan Reach, between [Port Victoria](#) and [Sheerness](#), being loaded with [mines](#) in preparation for deployment on a mine laying mission. At 11:14 [GMT](#) on 27 May, *Princess Irene* exploded and disintegrated.

A column of flame 300 feet (91 m) high was followed a few seconds later by another of similar height and a pall of smoke hung over the spot where *Princess Irene* had been, reaching to 1,200 feet (370 m). Two barges lying alongside her were also destroyed.

The explosion was larger than that which had destroyed [HMS Bulwark](#) six months earlier, although the loss of life was less. A total of 352 people were killed, including 273 officers and men, and 76 dockyard workers who were on board *Princess Irene*.

On the [Isle of Grain](#) a girl of nine was killed by flying debris, and a farmhand died of [shock](#). A [collier](#) half a mile (800 m) away had its crane blown off its mountings. A part of one of *Princess Irene*'s boilers landed on the ship; a man working on the ship died from injuries sustained when he was struck by a piece of metal weighing 70 pounds (32 kg)

Wreckage was flung up to 20 miles (32 km) away, with people near [Sittingbourne](#) being injured by flying debris, some of which landed in [Bredhurst](#). Severed heads were found at [Hartlip](#) and on the Isle of Grain. A case of [butter](#) landed at [Rainham](#), 6 miles (9.7 km) away.

A 10 ton (10,160 kg) section of the ship landed on the Isle of Grain. The [Admiralty's](#) oil storage tanks there were damaged. The sole survivor from *Princes Irene* was a stoker, who suffered severe burns. Three of her crew had a lucky escape as they were ashore at the time.

The victims whose bodies were recovered were buried at Woodlands Road Cemetery, [Gillingham](#). A memorial service for the victims was held at the Dockyard Church, Sheerness on 1 June 1915. It was led by [Randall Davidson](#), the [Archbishop of Canterbury](#). Inquests were held on two victims of the disaster. The [coroner](#) stated that he did not intend to hold an inquest for any other victim unless there were exceptional circumstances that warranted it.

A Court of Inquiry was held into the loss of *Princess Irene*. Evidence was given that priming of the mines was being carried out hurriedly and by untrained personnel. A faulty primer was blamed for the explosion.

Paul Nudds

# Vantage Sailing

## Online Dinghy Sailing Chandlery



**10% discount for Wilsonian SC Members**  
**Parts can be posted to you or delivered to your boat.**

**We stock parts by**

**Allen, English Braids, Falkor, Harken, Holt, Hyde Sails, Marlow Ropes,  
Rain & Sun, Robline, Ronstan, RWO, Seasure, Superspars, West  
Mersea Trailers & More!**

**If you can't find what you want on the website then contact us, the  
chances are that we can get it!!**

**We are also an approved supplier of Buzz & ISO Parts  
and supplier of the New Buzz and ISO sailboats**



**www.vantagesailing.com**  
**Stuart & Zoe - 07976 760844**  
**Based at High Halstow, Rochester**



**For you discount enter WSC10 in the shopping cart**

## Sailing on YouTube

We often hear people telling us that there is not enough sailing on TV. Well in this modern age there is more sailing to watch than there is time to view it, you just have to know where to look... and that is online. And the easiest place to find that is on YouTube

Before we get into what's out there the best way to watch any of it, if you can, is to link you're PC/tablet/phone up to your TV (or if you're real lucky you will have one of the new smart TV's that can show you on line content). Things look so much better on a big screen and most online content is now available in HD so as long as your internet connection is up to it, it is just like watching the telly!

So once you're connected up where do you look on YouTube...? It's not all dogs doing cute things and stupid people hurting themselves! There are now more and more channels run by both businesses and individuals alike that are doing interesting and exciting things, many with regular daily or weekly content... and many of these have something to do with boats.

Before we get into detail the best way to make the most of YouTube is to login with a Google account. If you use Gmail then you already have one but even if you don't it's a pretty simple and stress free process to get one. An account lets you subscribe to the channels that you like and then YouTube will then let you know when they have upload new content. It will also suggest other channels or films for you, based on the sort of content that you watch. When you find things you like, you can show your approval or disapproval of each film by clicking the thumbs up or down icon. This provides valuable feedback to not only YouTube but the film creator as well; you can further interact with the clip by leaving comments if you wish. It's actually good fun commenting and getting to know some of these people, all but the most popular channels will reply to your posts and corresponding in this way makes it all the more real.

When you find a channel that you like you will find that there are several different ways to view it. On

their home page you will see a row of different tabs. The '*Home*' tab shows you what they have been up to, not only the films that they have released but also (if they haven't disabled it) films that they have liked and other channels that they have subscribed to. Often the more useful tabs are both the '*Videos*' tab, which shows you everything that they have released and, if they have loads of content and you're not sure what you want to watch then the '*Playlists*' tab might help you break this down into different parts.

Any way enough of the how-to let's get on with viewing something. The channels we'll mention in a moment aren't your normal contrived shows produced for TV in which they blend real life with special effects so well that you're left wondering what's real and what's not. These are real people doing real things and by taking their camera along with them, we get to share in some of their adventures.

So what to watch, well obviously your first port of call should always be '*fun n stuff with the foxwells*' (just type that into the YouTube search) We show you our sailing adventures, be that on big boats or small boats and most of you should be able to find something here to comment on ☺

The RYA '*Royal Yachting Association*' has a channel dedicated to all kinds of boating activities and magazines such as '*Yachting Monthly*' '*Yachting World*' and '*Practical Boat Owner*' all do features on sail boats in general which includes some excellent reviews on both new and old yachts.

If dinghies are your thing then search for the classes that interests you first. Many class associations or keen individuals have channels dedicated to their class. We learnt a lot about sailing our National 12 from watching others sail them on '*N3444TC*' and of course Ian has films of his Blaze sailing on our site '*fun n stuff with the foxwells*'.

But as an example just search for '*49er sailing*' to see some fast and spectacular racing action or '*Finn Olympics*' to see why Ben Ainsley is one of our greatest ever sailors.

Another dinghy related site that is worth a look is '18 footers TV' which brings you all the action from the 18ft dinghy racing *LIVE* each Sunday on Sidney harbour. It used to be just edited highlights which we found better, but then the beauty of watching modern TV is that you get to choose what you watch, so you can skip the bits that are a bit slow. On a windy day in Sidney the 18's still produce some of the most exciting dinghy racing that you'll find.

If you're into yachts on a budget then the first person to check out is Dylan Winter at '*Keep turning Left*'. Dylan is sailing around Great Britain in various small shallow draft keel boats, which in itself isn't that remarkable. But Dylan is going the long way round by exploring every little coastal wiggle, river and island... often going as far in land as he can. By the time he has finished he will have sailed more miles than he would have done, had he set off around the world!

If you think that living on a boat might be fun then you might like some of the following people that share a part of their life with us.

'*Sail Life*' Mads is a real character from Denmark who lives aboard an Albin Ballard and he has always got a project of some sort on the go.

'*Accidental sailor girl*' Kourtney and Pete live aboard an old Gaff Rigged Cutter with a Square Sail named Norna which is moored on the east coast of America. Their channel is just a diary of their day to day lives although they have been across the Atlantic and back in this boat. (Look at some of their older films)

More exciting are those people that are living the dream, and you would be amazed at just how many people there are out there that are a) living it and b) sharing some great films of them doing it.

'*SV Delos*' Brian and Brady are two brothers. Brian took out a mortgage on a 53ft Amel Super Maramu and between them, their girlfriends and others that tag along from time to time they make some truly first class films of their adventures in many of the world's most exotic and remote places.

'*Follow the boat*' Jamie and Liz are a photographer and writer who are travelling the world on an Oyster 435 called Esper, with their cat Millie and are living life at a more relaxed pace.

'*Sailing La Vagabond*' Riley and Elayna are two of those sickeningly good looking and talented people that seem to have everything going for them, but these two Australians work hard at having the perfect life. They met in Greece, bought a 43ft Beneteau Cyclades, even though they didn't know how to sail, and are now making their way around the world. The first films were a little shaky but they are getting better and better at it now, and have an ever growing following.

'*wwwYachtTeleportCom*' Chris Bray and Jess Taunton (now married) are Australian photographers that enjoy high latitudes. They bought a unique little junk rigged boat in Canada which turned out to be completely rotten, but did it up and then sailed it through the North West passage producing some stunning photography on the way - really inspirational stuff.

On a different note, ever wondered where those hovercraft that are sometimes seen tearing up and down the Medway, have come from. Well they have a channel as well just search for '*British Hovercraft*'

Then there is the Americas cup with the awesome foiling catamarans. Just search for '*America's Cup*' '*Artemis Racing*' '*Land Rover BAR*' '*EmTeamNZ*' and others.

And it goes on and on... these are just a few of the channels that we have found and follow. There really is more sailing to watch now than there are hours in the day!

Ian Foxwell



# Wilsonian Sailing Club

in conjunction with the Medway & Swale Boating Association



# MEDWAY DINGHY REGATTA

Premier Annual South East Open Event

**Sat 2nd & Sun 3rd July 2016**

Racing for 2000, BLAZE, STREAKER, WAYFARER,  
Fast, Medium & Slow handicap fleets.

Along with the racing, there's lots going on off the water as well,  
so come and join us whether you want to sail or socialise.

*Visitors will be welcomed on the Friday 1st July and can camp in tents  
or small motor homes. Food will be available on the Friday evening.*

## On the water...

- 2 races on Saturday and 2 on Sunday,
- Prizes for individual race winners
- Perpetual prizes for Class winners
- Keepsake prizes for Class positions

Reduction for all 4 Races Paid together

*Notice of Race and Entry forms will be  
available on our Website or on Sailracer  
in April*

## Off the water...

- Friday evening - bar will be open and food available.
- Saturday breakfast
- Saturday lunch
- Saturday Evening Food and Entertainment by live music
- Sunday breakfast
- Sunday lunch
- Tally raffle after the Evening Food with excellent prizes.
- Selection of real ales in the barrel, as well as the usual selection of bottled beers/lagers

[www.wilsoniansc.org.uk](http://www.wilsoniansc.org.uk)

Main Road, Hoo, Rochester, Kent, ME3 9HF

Telephone: 01634 250318

email: [info@wilsoniansc.org.uk](mailto:info@wilsoniansc.org.uk)



## WILSONIAN SAILING CLUB

### MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON 27 February 2016 AT 19.00 HRS.

**Martin Vinton (Commodore) chaired the meeting. 32 members were present.**

#### **1. Commodore's Opening Remarks:**

The Commodore welcomed all those present and thanked them for coming before moving on to provide an update on the latest events –

Announcing that the Club lease has been secured for the future though there were a few minor points to finalise, but the rent is agreed and the lease secure.

He stated that during the year our upstream slipway has been repaired and the contractors are coming back to do some minor “snagging”, required to finish the work, which will be completed during week 29th February to 4th March.

Noting the success of the work parties he thanked Roy Winnett for organising and all those attending for their work.

The Commodore explained that we are registered as a CASC club, which gives us 80% rate relief, plus, at present, 20% discretionary rate relief from our local authority. We also gain from tax benefits. To maintain our CASC membership, 50% of members need to attend at least 12 times a year. There are a few other requirements, including membership being less than £520 per year which we meet. Thank you to everyone that completed their membership forms and confirmed the intention to attend at least 12 times during the year. 73% of members confirmed this intention, so we are well above the 50% requirement.

The question was asked as to whether Skimmers counted toward this figure to which the answer was a definite yes.

The next question was “what is the requirement to audit the figures for CASC” to which the answer was that the RYA considered our approach correct but HMRC have not published a formal requirement.

The Commodore also commented that the membership was up on 2014 and he would welcome any suggestions for improvements to ensure we provide what we as members require of the club. He also noted that during the year we have increased the number of dinghy instructors, so well done for all their hard work.

In response to a question on the web site he confirmed that Power boat courses are now published on the web site.

In closing he wished to thank everyone who has helped me during the year and all the hard work behind the scenes and the cleaning team in particular which means we can come down to the club and enjoy our sailing.

#### **2. Apologies for absence.**

1. Apologies were given for – Matt Love, Ken Crundwell, Martin Fish, Jayne and Paul Thorpe, Alan Bailey, Trish Ayris, Richard Seabrook, Graham Jenkinson, Tim Kift, Colin Treadwell, Thomas Lambert, Stan Sprot and Roy McLeod.

**3. 2015 Minutes** Rachel Sheridn Christine Godber the 2015 minutes were accepted with a small correction to the title of the Training Principal (principle) to which the Secretary commented that he did not wish to change peoples style in reports and was grateful to insert verbatim.

#### **4. Matters arising.**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

#### **5. Treasurers report presented by Paul Rodgers.**

##### **Income**

Income increased by £7,550 mainly due to increased subscription's (£4,093), more income from training and junior week (£1,041) and the first part of the slipway grant from Sport England (£3,347). Sponsorship and the chicken shed income were down.

##### **Expenditure**

Overall cash expenditure was down by £5,356. This was mainly due to the rent being £7,000 below last year, this will catch up over the next few months as the balance of payments relating to the new lease will be finalised and paid (£8,900). We have so far paid out £14,260 on the new slipway and as of 31 December we received £3,347 of the grant, the balance being received in January. Expenditure on boat maintenance and club house cleaning were significantly reduced during the year due to boats being newer and cleaning being taken over by club volunteers.

We have made provision for future boat and safety boat replacements of £4,000 and added £2,000 to the generator replacement fund. We had no significant expenditure on new boats in 2015.

### Cash Position

When allowance is made for the receipt of funds for the slipway, the back payment of rent and the money set aside for future replacement's there are cash reserves left of £40,000.

We should however remember there will be significant costs in the forthcoming years for the sea wall maintenance and repairs to the access road through the woods.

### Wilsonian Sailing Club

#### Report for 12 Months Ending 31 Dec 2015

Dec-15

Dec-14

#### Income

Kitchen/Bar + Func	£16,660.92	£16,135.28
Clothing etc. Sales	£27.50	£38.00
External Functions	£0.00	£275.00
Advertisements	£450.00	£600.00
Subs/Joining/Dinghy Fees	£38,905.01	£34,811.50
Sale Club Hire Boats	£0.00	£0.00
Club Boat Hire	£290.00	£400.00
HNYC Fee	£316.00	£316.00
Donations/Sponsorship	£164.00	£882.00
Excise Duty Refund	£658.50	£758.22
Medway Regatta Entries	£1,590.00	£950.00
Race Entries	£70.00	£99.00
Training and Junior Week	£5,903.00	£4,861.95
Key Deposits	£180.00	£180.00
Chicken Shed	£1,545.00	£2,504.55
Chicken shed overheads	£198.50	£131.95
Sundry Income	£155.99	£100.00
Bank Interest	£155.05	£22.46
Sport England Grant	£3,347.00	
RYA Grants	0	
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>£70,616.47</b>	<b>£63,065.91</b>

#### Expenditure

Food & Drink + Func	£11,026.09	£10,149.90
---------------------	------------	------------

Clothing etc. Purchases	£0.00	
External Functions	£45.00	£529.08
Training and Junior Week	£2,346.51	£2,382.70
Telephone	£343.23	£360.21
Subs/Donations/Licenses	£905.00	£912.43
Rent & Rates	£4,740.60	£11,740.60
Boat Maintenance	£1,706.90	£3,648.91
Site Maintenance	£6,931.07	£6,568.90
Insurances	£5,407.44	£5,189.05
Cups & Prizes	£1,704.98	£2,001.70
Printing/Postage/Stationary	£738.87	£1,043.93
Membership/Sty/Labels	£787.20	
Water/Sewage/Waste/Elec	£2,480.45	£3,821.95
Fuel	£4,661.29	£5,380.31
Radios Maint. New	£0.00	£175.00
Chicken Shed	£1,070.00	£2,534.55
Chicken Shed Refund	£0.00	£20.00
Key & Subs Refunds	£1,227.50	£282.00
Sundry Payments	£124.22	£38.14
Club Cleaning	£133.22	£3,528.73
Club House Improvements	£0.00	
Boats/Engines - New	£250.00	£4,000.00
Slipway	£14,260.52	
Locks & Keys - New	£92.00	£262.20
Solicitor Fees	£644.00	£2,411.80
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£61,626.09</b>	<b>£66,982.09</b>
<b>Surplus Income/Expenditure</b>	<b>£8,990.38</b>	<b>-£3,916.18</b>

The accounts had not yet been audited and an EGM would be required to accept the accounts.

## 6. Sailing Report

## 7. Committee Reports:

### Bosun's Report & Club Boats - Geoff Lambert

## RIBS

Not a lot to report this year though the small RIB Dunlin had to have new engine management control unit fitted as the current one was faulty but this was done under the engine warranty. Thanks to Roy Winnett and Martin Smith for taking the boat to Essex to get this sorted. We also had to put a new steering cable on so you don't need muscles like Popeye to steer it now!

All the Rib trailers have had their wheel bearings checked and replaced if needed.

One of the larger Ribs had its radio repaired as the microphone button had broken and also had a new gear cable fitted.

Both Dunlin and Bluebird had to have new isolator switches fitted so I used the opportunity to move Dunlin's switch to the same position as the other Ribs.

## Club Boats

Lots of small repairs have been carried out during the year (lost shackles, bits of rope missing, broken battens etc) but overall I am happy considering how much all the boats have been used last season.

During last season Richard Seabrook purchased a new Wayfarer and very kindly gave the club his old boat which has been used a lot for training. Thank you Richard.

A few weeks ago, during a work party, another member, Caroline Kilbride asked if we would like to have their in laws, Peter and Heather Toll, Comet single hander as they were going abroad for 2 or 3 years. I checked this boat out and it was complete right down to the Windex on the bow so I have accepted on behalf of the club.

We have had to write off 2 of the Club Toppers this last year as they were not economical to repair but we have been offered 3 replacements from the Arethus Centre at a good price.

## **Training Report - Paul Thorpe, Training Principal.**

2015 has been a year for understanding the training needs and requirements of the club. The club training centre was not inspected this year I can only assume it was because we did not have any failings in the previous year's inspection.

The club has a range of RYA courses it can provide. In 2015 we had only a limited number of volunteers all of whom I am truly grateful for their valuable time they gave to the training within the club.

Saturday skimmers both junior and adults was a great success the membership of the juniors was strong and we had good numbers on all sessions. The adults came along in good numbers and benefited from sessions provided by Andy Kerr.

Junior week was a great week with 47 participants, there was a solid crew of volunteers who gave up much time to run this ever popular event. All levels up to stage 4 was awarded.

The power boat training had success with power boat 2 and safety boat courses being run.

In 2015 we added first aid courses to our training centre repertoire many thanks to Dave Fry for putting our first session on last autumn. There will be another course towards the end of March.

2016 will be a year where WSC can enhance its training due to the successful training of new instructors we now have 8 new DI's and 1 SI and 1 SI course being attended in April.

I would like to thank Martin for his support as CDO when the DI course was running it was much appreciated by the participants.

We also have a new Power Boat Instructor to compliment the courses advertised on the website. John has set a balanced PB training plan for this year. This has been enhanced by the provision of power boat refresher courses this winter and for those who took part the feedback was very good.

The sailing training this year will include Level 1 and 2 courses both modular taking part on Saturday afternoons and a conventional weekend course structure. This offers varied forms of training that fits in with people's time limited lives.

We will also run a seamanship course in the autumn to compliment the training that the Saturday sessions have been put on to increase the level of confidence amongst our membership.

We will also be able to plan joyride (RYA term) sessions to give people interested in starting to sail, the feedback from the RYA is these sessions provide excellent conversion to membership and full course participation.

The RYA have also shown keenness to provide Safe Guarding training for instructors and members who wish to attend. We are looking into how we can provide such sessions to the club.

I am looking forward to a successful year for training at WSC this year as we have greatly enhanced our capability to run courses throughout the year.

### **House Secretary report – Nina Wallis.**

The Galley has been “Arm Chair Managed” in 2015 by myself, Derek Zobel and occasional help from Andy Hockey. The House Committee members now has 9 members.

The AHOs' were contacted during the week, given a shopping list and asked to run the galley. A Galley prompt re “Setting Up” and “Closing Down” list was provided.

Paul Thorpe provided the weekly sausages and the cheese. He also made sure that the stocks of food and drink were topped up.

In the main, the system worked well. Duties were fully completed except for two instances which Martin Smith is aware of.

Towards the end of the season, there were a few names missing on the Duty Man. Somehow with a lot of goodwill the posts were covered.

A big Thank you to Christine Godber for providing a delicious meal on the 20<sup>th</sup> December and for Bobby's help.

Event evenings were superbly managed by Jayne Thorpe and volunteers throughout the year. Jane Treadwell organised the galley during the Summer Regatta.

Several Members have remarked that the Galley could do with a Spring Clean more than once a year. Amy Adams suggested having two galley cleaning parties, one winter and one during the summer. Those who could help out in the summer could forego working in the winter party. Two dates in June have been designated Thursday 2nd June and Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June. Several people have put their name down for these.

At the first House Committee meeting several suggestions for change were made and I would like members views –

Pre order meals and pay beforehand – members agreed to trial

Tea pot honesty box suggested – members were not keen

Simplify menu – members agreed

Simplify bar price structure – mixed reaction with drinkers against and bar people for – trial

House Committee were aware of following events – Open Day, Fitting out supper, John Yeo Trophy, Laying up Cup and Christmas dinner. Brian Lamb volunteered to be stand in for Father Christmas.

### **Duties**

The Dutyman administrator reported that -

Approximately 70% of members went on-line to choose their own duties for 2016. Quite why the remaining 30% preferred to be allocated a duty they might not want on a date they might not find convenient, we'll never know, but the reasons are likely various.

In general, DutyMan has been well-received, with several members commenting that they appreciated the opportunity to easily choose and swap their duties and dates. Not only is it easier to find a swap-partner than before, but if a swap is made then all relevant people are updated immediately via the website, thus reducing the likelihood of ‘surprises’ on the day.

While it is possible within DutyMan to limit members to a particular choice of duty-type, this option has so far been avoided in order to give members more flexibility. Many like to perform both an RO and a RIB duty, for example, while even unqualified members are able to choose between AHO, ARO or RIB crew. The only thing that might threaten this freedom is if people start taking duty slots for which they are not qualified, which will require intervention to correct. So far, however, most people have chosen sensibly.

A little confusion seems to have been caused by members being sent two different sets of login details. A permanent one for the main site, then this January an additional one which allowed them to login to an ‘allocation roster’. The allocation roster makes it easy to choose duties for the coming season and easier for the administrator to add the finishing touches (the missing 30% of members’ duties!) to the roster before it is transformed into the official ‘live’ roster for the season, which is accessible via the permanent login. Overall, it seems that the benefits outweigh the confusion caused, which should be much reduced as members become familiar with the system.

The decision to launch the allocation roster in two waves – one for CDOs and ROs, and the second for all duties – seems to have worked out favourably, with a good initial take-up of the difficult-to-fill duty slots. Some concern was raised by responders to the first wave that their crews and family members might not be able to book duties on the same day when the second wave was launched. This concern was found to be ill-founded, however, and everyone in that situation seems to have got what they wanted.

To improve take-up in the first wave of CDO and RO duties, it is nonetheless being considered to offer to pre-allocate the crew and family member slots of prospective CDOs and ROs if they e-mail DutyMan admin at the time of their signing up in the first wave. It would be interesting to have feedback as to whether this option might encourage more early-bookers to join the first wave, thus more fully filling the vital CDO and RO slots.

Overall then, DutyMan seems to be very worthwhile both for the administrator (Duty Secretary) and the duty-performing members. In fact, it probably reduces the Duty Secretary's workload by 50%.

The question was asked as to whether parents who did not join up as they could not do duty on Sunday might be encouraged to join. The Commodore responded that the General Committee would consider if this could be achieved.

A further question was "as CDO did the duty still commence at 12.00 on Saturday and lock up on Saturday as well?" The Commodore responded that this was the case during the main season to enable fuel to be obtained and the site secured.

Jo Wicken commented that Skimmers will lock up race box and boat house.

## **Publicity and Web site**

Not much has gone on during the past year but –

**Publicity:** Our annual Open Day saw another large amount of public interest and I believe a record breaking 9 memberships signed up on the day. No other channels to advertise the club were investigated and as such goals set at the start of the year did not reach fruition.

**Website:** The website continued to be updated by designated members with a revamp on the backend content management system which allows more members to add and edit more content to the site.

Andy Hockey commented that the club magazine failed today as did the sailing programme and events but he was unsure whether this was just a transient problem.

Rachel Sheridan asked if it was possible to archive reports and results. Secretary tasked to enquire from Jason.

## **Winter Work Parties Report – Roy Winnett.**

The main job this year was painting the outside walls of the clubhouse. To help achieve this safely scaffolding was erected at a cost of £1068.00 by a comrade of Duncan's. This also allowed painting of the window frames and replacement of the flood lights with LED ones. The weather favoured us, most of the scheduled work days remained dry, the rain easing off early morning or arriving later. However we did have our usual spells of low temperatures and high winds.

Duncan had unfortunately fractured his wrist earlier; so some jobs where his expertise was required were postponed

Maintenance work included:

- Relaying the paving in front of the extension
- Painting balcony railings
- Annual clear out of the gutters
- Spring clear of kitchen and bar area including extractor fan
- Fitting of spray head over sink
- Shower heads cleaned
- For gas safety reasons:  
The old gas heater removed

Water heater in the ladies changing room was recited

New extractor fan recited in the family changing room

Carbon monoxide detectors fitted in kitchen, gents, ladies and family changing rooms

- The plywood replaced of the wooden clothes rack in ladies changing room
- 13amp socket fitted in entrance hall
- Picnic tables treated
- Walls of outside toilet painted
- Racking for Optimist
- Stirling Board around RIB cage treated
- Door of Bosun's store covered with ply and painted
- Pot holes in track filled with crushed concrete and compacted
- Road trailer park cleared

- Drainage ditches rear of clubhouse and dinghy park cleared
- Slip pressure washed
- Fan in gents changing room and the duct cleaned
- Cleaning material cupboard walls and floor painted
- Gravel on beach to form path over mud at low tide

Thanks to:

All the members who turned up and completed the work successfully and especially those who attended several times

Those who supplied and prepared the much appreciated hot food for lunch, tea and coffee organised by Nina Wallis

Extra thanks to:

Duncan Griffiths for purchasing materials and organising the work

Brian Lamb, Bernard Smith, Martin Vinton, Derek Zobel, Geoff Lambert, attended all the works parties and contributed greatly to the successful completion of the work

### **Report: Club Cleaning 2016**

David Vettergreen, Bernard & Janice Smith and Roy Winnett were the regular members of the cleaning group with occasional help from Graham Jenkinson

David took a leading role, producing a cleaning programme, procuring cleaning materials and equipment

Essential cleaning has been the toilets and shower areas in both changing rooms with an attempt for this to be done weekly. The floors in the changing rooms, the kitchen and dining areas and stairs have been done on a rota basis, often dependant on the number of the group available. Other cleaning jobs including windows, dusting, paintwork, etc are done as appropriate.

I was very upset last Thursday. I had organised an extra winter work party the previous Saturday to complete some work and clean the club house for the AGM. We washed the stairs and the upstairs dining area but unable to wash the floors of the changing rooms as they were being used by the Dinghy Instructors Course.

On Thursday I found the changing room floors had not been washed and some areas of the upstairs floor covered in mud!

If the club wishes us to continue cleaning the club, then it is important that club members show respect to the cleaning group. Members should be aware that the club does not miraculously get cleaned during the week by some helpful angels.

### **WSC Site Service Report 2016 - Site Services Manager Ray Craddock**

Events

Generator 1 and 2 have had some problems last year

Thanks to Tim Kift these have been kept going.

The site Electrics have been checked and have passed their safety checks

Stan Sprot has been working on the Down Stream gate that has improved this entrance

also improved the sight line down the slip at low tide.

The upstream slip has been levelled and the sides supported with gabions.

This project was overseen by Christine Godber (and project managed by Graham Gibbs).

The Club has been cleaned regularly by Bernard Smith and his team throughout the season.

Club Gas System

We have a service contract with British Gas who also do a Gas Safe check.

They would not give a Gas Safe certificate due to 4 problems.

- The gas heater in the club room had a broken front glass. This heater has been removed.
- The water heater in the Ladies changing room had its vent situated over the propane gas cylinders. This water heater has now been moved and each shower now has control valve.
- The vent in the family changing room was over the gas boiler outlet. This also has been moved.
- The gas hob does not have an extractor hood and the Co2 level was tested and exceeded the safe limit with all the burners on the cooker going. It was explained that the club is only in use 2 day a week and all the burners were never in use at any time. This problem is still being reviewed.

The Fire extinguishers have had their annual check 2 were found to be out of date and have been replaced.

The extinguisher are all fitted on brackets and should not be removed except in an emergency.

Winter work parties were overseen by Roy Winnet and Duncan Griffiths.

We thank all those who attend and assisted with this essential work..

8. There being only one, or none in the case of Duty Secretary, candidates for the posts of Flag Officers, Secretary, Treasurer, Sailing Secretary, Club Bosun, House Secretary, Members of the General and House Committee and Auditor the meeting accepted the proposal en bloc with no vote. The Commodore noted that the House Committee numbers were over the required number but that this would spread the load further and thanked the volunteers.

These are listed below together with appointed officers :-

#### Officers and Assistant Officers nominees – 2016

<u>Office</u>	<u>Agreed to stand</u>	<u>Proposer</u>	<u>Seconder</u>
Commodore	Martin Vinton	Colin Treadwell	Rachel Sheridan
Vice Commodore	Christine Godber	Martin Smith	Rachel Sheridan
Rear Commodore	Bernard Smith	Martin Smith	Martin Vinton
Honorary Secretary	Martin Smith	Martin Vinton	Bernard Smith
Honorary Treasurer	Paul Rodgers	David Vettergreen	Martin Smith
Sailing Secretary	Andy Hockey	Rachel Sheridan	David Vettergreen
Bosun	Geoff Lambert	Martin Vinton	Roy Winnett
House Secretary	Nina Wallis	Martin Vinton	Colin Treadwell
GCM (6 members)	Brian Lamb	Martin Smith	Roy Winnett
	Brian White	Martin Smith	Geoff Lambert
	Jo Wicken	Tim Kift	Rebecca Franklin
	Ray Craddock	Christine Godber	Geoff Lambert
	Rachel Sheridan	Rebecca Franklin	Nina Wallis
House Committee	Matt & Amanda Causer	Nina Wallis	Derek Zobel
	Derek Zobel	Roy Winnett	Rachel Sheridan
	Phillip & Michelle Cope	Nina Wallis	Derek Zobel
	Anna Crane	Roy Winnett	Rachel Sheridan
	Georgina & George Rafeletos	Nina Wallis	Martin Vinton

<b><u>Fleet Captains</u></b>	<b><u>Captain</u></b>	<b><u>Vice Captain</u></b>	
Handicap Fast	Grahame Smith		
Handicap Medium	Stewart Robertson		
Handicap Slow	Georgios Rafeletos		
Laser 2000	Rachel Sheridan	Dave Vettergreen	& Roy Winnett
Junior	Richard Tutt		
<b><u>Appointees</u></b>			
Assistant Sailing Sec	Tony Hunt		
Dinghy Park Sec	Dave Vettergreen		
Duty List Sec	<b>VACANCY</b>		
Memb Renewals Sec	Christine Godber		
Membership Sec	Lesley O'Rourke		
Training Principal	Paul Thorpe		
Chief Sailing Instructor	Tom Lambert		
Website Manager	Jason Ramsden		
Editor 31.5	David Wraight		
Publicity Officer	Jason Ramsden		
Trophy Secretary	Ian Parris		
DBA	Ian Parris		
Youth Co-ordinator	Jayne Thorpe		
Parent Liaison Officer	Kevin Downard		
Chief Power Boat Instructor	John Evans		
Site Services Manager	Ray Craddock		
Dep site Services Manager	Stan Sprot		
Site Dev Officer	Duncan Griffiths		
Maint Co-ordinator	Bernard Smith		
Cruising Secretaries	D Wraight/D Zobel		
Assistant Bosun	Georgios Rafeletos		

Trustees: Martin Fish, Colin Treadwell, Bernard Smith, Dave Vettergreen Auditor: Trish Ayris

Rachel Sheridan asked that Dave Vettergreen and Roy Winnett be nominated as Vice Captains for the 2000 fleet to which they agreed and they are shown as such above.

### **9. Honorary membership Award:**

The Commodore asked the meeting to endorse the award of Honorary Membership to recognise the long and continuing service of Trish and Len Ayris. This proposal was seconded by Dave Vettergreen and passed by the meeting.

### **10. A.O.B.**

Derek Zobel raised the matter of the quantity of unclaimed clothing in the changing rooms which almost fills the space in the family changing room. After some discussion it was agreed that a 12 week notice of disposal was reasonable and the General Committee were to implement.

Dave Vettergreen enquired as to whether there had been any progress on the proposed new flag? The answer was no and Secretary was to ask Tom Lambert for an update or whether he wished to hand the task on to another.

Brian White informed the meeting that, as he hated cycling and running he proposed to do a 24 hour sail in a Wayfarer on the 18/19 of March with a giving page on Social Media. (Secretary was too polite to ask what Social media was.....)

The Commodore, in his closing remarks, thanked all for attending and informed all that he and the Vice Commodore had attended various RYA meetings at which a number of possible funding sources had been suggested. He closed the meeting at 8.50.