



June 2003

The Golden Lion

Founded 1894 The Newsletter of West Lancashire Yacht Club

Commodore's Cruises

Invite you onboard the SS West Lancs

for the

Mid-Summer Ball



Saturday 21 June – 19.30 for 20.00

Dine & dance the night away to

Lesley Fine & DJ Gary King

Tickets: £25

Dress Code: formal

Editorial team:-Barbara Agnew, Maureen Potts Margaret Gambie, Jack Diamond

Commodore's Comments

. . . next heat two tablespoons of olive oil and, when it's smoking, add the potatoes and onions (prize for telling me what the recipe is for, only one other main ingredient) . . . Oh the skills you learn when you are at home. I'm perched on a stool in the kitchen at my



lap top whilst keeping an eye on dinner cooking gently on the hob. Kathy has still to come home and will expect dinner on the table when she arrives! Many thanks to all of you from both of us for your kind words and thoughts during my recent infirmity. But it has been a tough few weeks for several other families in the Club and I know members have rallied round to give support wherever they can. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Howard and Anne, Jean and Allan, David and Joan, Paul, and more recently Sarah Hall and Jim Gummerson. The friendship at the Club is one of its strengths.

Well done to the teams that organised the successful dinghy open meetings for the Topper and Laser classes. It is these events that bring visitors to the Club and they cannot help but be impressed with the professionalism with which they are organised, both on and off the water.

The turnout for series racing has been excellent, with good sized fleets in all classes, including some members who

have only recently completed their basic training, well done to them too. On offshore waters David Pratt is bringing his new boat down from Sweden, Rick and Linda Hurst are moving Sojourn back to the South West Coast, and Bob Willetts is taking some members with him on a Scottish cruise in Bonaventure.

As far as the social scene is concerned there have been a couple of "select" events which have been good fun and excellent value. The big event of the year though is the Mid-Summer Ball. This year the House Committee will be transporting you away to a cruise ship environment. Not to be missed. Get your names on the list, and your glad rags on.

The treasurer continues to keep the books in good order for us. Six months into the financial year Gail reports that, thanks to everyone's cost consciousness we are on target to achieve the budget for the year. That we must achieve, so please keep up your vigilance on this one.

I had a letter from a cadet who, with the innocence of youth, thought that the Commodore ought to be able to answer a nautical poser. Well, I knew a man who could, and the reply may well be part of Pelorus Jack's article. But thank you Laura for your letter.

Best wishes – KIT ROBINSON

DIG THOSE VIBES

I am pleased to report that the **St. George's Day Party** (26th April) was a most enjoyable function. On the run up we nearly cancelled due to relatively low numbers but a late burst of enthusiasm meant all was OK.

The Southport Swords proved a great spectacle with a combination of Morris & sword dancing; & a portrayal of the slaying of the dragon.

Phil and his team did us proud with yet another excellent dinner.

This was followed by a sketch involving Tony Robinson & Phil Hardy of Channel 4's Time Team (AKA Richard Stubbs & Phil Lindsay). They told the truth about St. George – warts and all (oh dear). We now know that he hailed from Southport and The Time Team found some 'curious' remains in the boat park, including a banana on which was the cross of St. George !

Mr. Blundells Alms provided some excellent country dance music – as they always do. People were 'up' for fun and many took part. The evening ended with a sing song.

The Jazz Night (17th May) was of an entirely different character. 78 of you attended this (an excellent turn out) representing all age groups. I particularly thank those of you who were involved in the Topper and Laser open events which took place on the same and following days respectively. We were entertained by a skilfull band known as The Wirrorleans (who are well into their music), assisted by a guest trumpet player – Rebecca McShane. They played laid back New Orleans jazz either side of an excellent supper – thanks again Phil & Co. A session of the Bucket Game, followed which was well run by James Giblin.

It was good to see many different faces at the respective evenings.

We are striving to find a **programme** which will suit all tastes. Please let House Committee members know if you have any ideas & remind us if you have before.

We are looking for a volunteer to **photograph** events so that they can be displayed afterwards. Please let me know if you are interested.

One favour we would ask is that if you have placed your names on the **sign up list** you need to let Phil or me know (a House Committee member in my absence) if you are unable to attend. We have had a number of occurrences recently where people have not turned up without warning. This does make catering difficult.

To the future – an important date for your diaries – **THE MID-SUMMER BALL is on Saturday 21st June at 19.30 for 20.00**. This is one of the Club's most popular functions. It is a 'formal' where you will be treated to dinner (courtesy of the Ladies Committee), a live singing act (Lesley Fyne) and a DJ (Gary King).

Posters and the sign on list are up in The Clubhouse. If you have not been before, don't miss out – they really are well worth attending.

Thanks for all your support especially from the House Committee.

STEVE ABBOTT

Pelorus Jack

The Commodore had a letter from Laura Watters asking why the *BOOM* is so called, and he passed it on to me.

The word *BOOM* comes to us from the Dutch word *BOOM* which means “tree”. That in turn comes from the German word *BAUM* which also means tree. It came into use around 1660. Lots of words to do with sailing come to us from German (or really Anglo Saxon) through Dutch, without changing much as Dutch and German are very similar, e.g. the German for *GERMAN* is *DEUTSCHE*.

Another word which comes from *BOOM* or *BAUM* is the word *BEAM*, which, of course, means exactly the same – a piece of tree – but it has been used by different tradesmen, and so the pronunciation has varied a bit. Perhaps some sailor thought of the boom of a cannon when the boom hit him on the head!

Why COPPER BOTTOMED?

Copper replaced lead as the underwater protection against the teredo worm in 1761. Lead was heavy and too soft, so it tore easily and peeled off. The frigate *Alarm* was the first ship to be treated with copper sheets, but this proved to be unsatisfactory as the iron bolts reacted with the copper in the salt water. In 1783 orders went out that only copper bolts should be used, and from then on all important ships were copper bottomed – that is, they were safe. So copper-bottomed means secure, protected, guaranteed – unlike my ISA!

The *Oxford Companion to Ships and the Sea* says that teredo worms could be three feet long and nearly an inch in diameter. Imagine that eating its way along the grain of the planking close to your ears!

Why do we call Americans *YANKS*?

2003 WLYC Billiards and Snooker Final

24th June 2003 7.30pm

Competition

Snooker



Finalist

A.Smith
R.Sayer

Ref

Ian Agnew

Billiards

R.Abram
A.Hall

Bob Willetts

Prizes to be presented by The Commodore



Buffet Supper will be available with Wine- Cost £2-50 per person Please advise Phil. **REG SAYER**

GP Fleet News

First of all, I must give the heartfelt condolences of the WLYC GP14 fleet to Paul and all his family on their terrible loss. It will have left an awful hole in Paul's life and I hope that he can feel it in his heart to come back to the club and get, at least, a very small measure of reassurance at this time.

On a more upbeat note I am happy to report genuine stirrings of life in the GP fleet. Tim Harper, Ian Thomson and Chris Jones, with their appropriate crews, have been representing us well on the open meeting and championship circuits. It is a long time since I was the only one from the club on these circuits, so I know how Tim must have felt over the last few years, ploughing a lonely furrow. I know from past experience how much a strong away fleet enhances the club's name and reputation, long may it continue. It is even my intention to go and play away in the near future (kites permitting).

The home fleet seems to be struggling a little bit. It's great to see Ann Hivey back on the scene, and yours truly has been out on several occasions, along with a few others,



but there are lots of GPs in the Dinghy Park only going out racing occasionally. I know there are trying circumstances surrounding some members and I wish them all the best and please come back when you are able. However, the total number of entries shows what a strong fleet we could be with if everyone else supported us. We are the only spinnaker fleet in the club and we need everybody's support to get the fleet established as one of the best in the NorthWest.

Don't forget we have the open meeting coming up on June 15th. Everybody's support will be much appreciated, especially by all the volunteers who put in the time to make a great event. If you can't do the event yourself, try to loan your boat to someone who can.

DAVID BOWER

24 HOUR RACE 13 / 14 SEPTEMBER

September is a whole summer away but planning for this year's 24 Hour Race is well under way. The 24 Hr Race is very much the highlight of the club calendar; as the UK's No1 endurance dinghy race it ensures WLYC retains a high profile nationally. It is the premiere opportunity for sailing club teams to compete for prestigious trophies, whilst also enjoying the unique hospitality provided by one of the best social events in the dinghy racing calendar. This year's event is planned for the weekend 13 / 14 September; unusually the dates coincide with a major Southport tourist event – the British Musical Fireworks Competition. Therefore each evening (Fri, Sat & Sun) there will be additional attractions for us all down at the club.

Following Ted Southworth's successful reorganisation of the site infrastructure in 2002, we're planning to keep the layout the same as last year. The marquee yet again will be used for catering and a secondary bar, as well as being used for the race briefing before the start and prizegiving on the Sunday afternoon. Outside the marquee there will be tables and chairs to watch the racing in comfort while having a drink or eating a snack from the marquee. Also like recent years the main club bar will be available for all to use; however, if you want somewhere quieter, the club lounge will be available for club members to relax in easy chairs.

Sefton MBC have already agreed that the Marine Drive car parks will be available again: Car Park A (above the dinghy park), plus Car Park B (the Marine Drive car park

the other side of the sluice gates). Waterside Lodge will be available for camping (as well as the base for the Rescue Team); however we are also considering an option of permitting limited use of the club car park for caravans.

The major change planned this year is the arrangements for catering. The provision of substantial food and drink throughout the 24 Hr Race period for competitors, officials, and supporters is a huge task. No doubt those who have been involved with catering in the recent past will agree it is by far the largest and most demanding department to run. Having considered the requirements in detail, and taking a balanced view of the pros and cons; this year we have decided to franchise out the catering. Having approached several local companies and considered their responses, we have let the contract out to "Priory Kitchen" of Formby. The concept is: Priory Kitchen will plan the menus, agree prices with WLYC, order and prepare / cook the food, provide catering supplies (including plates, utensils, sauces, seasonings etc), and supervise the operation throughout the weekend. WLYC will provide the site and much of the facilities (including the club galley), plus volunteers to assist in the marquee.

In summary, the main requirements have been identified, and most of the contracts let; what really remains is the development of the work force. The main departments are listed below and (if already agreed) the departmental head is named:

Executive	Rob Pickering, Dave Bricknell, Tony Halliwell, Bryan Marshall, Mal Postance, Ted Southworth (advisor)
Principal Race Officer	Tony Halliwell
Protests	Dave Bower
Race Secretary	Mal Postance
Budget Manager / Sponsoship	Bryan Marshall
Treasurer	Gail Marshall
Scoring & Observing	John Dick
Computing	Roger Smith / John Hivey
Scrutineering	Dave Bricknell
Rescue	Andrew Hall
Information	Ilush Bicknell
Receptions	Barbara Agnew / Dianne Edwards
Prizes & Prizegiving	Alan Houghton / John Hayward
Publicity & PR	
Catering	Priory Kitchen
Shift Leaders:	Angela Ellis, Cindy Hewitt, Helen Stubbs, Julie Nutall, Cath Reaser, Kath Southworth.
Bars	Alan Speakman, Phil Lindsay, Gordon Callaghan
Dinghy Park	Mal Postance
Clerk of Works / Site	Rob Pickering / Bob Abrams
Maintenance	
Start Cannon	Chris Appleton
Main Gate	Jim Gummerson
Car Park A	Dave Taylor (Formby!)
Car Park B	Southport Scouts Association
Camping	
(Waterside Lodge)	Southport Scouts Association
(WLYC)	George Mainey

If you are interested in helping out in any of the departments, I'm sure the head of department / shift leader will be delighted to hear from you.

In the meantime, the 24 Hr Race Executive, particularly Mal Postance & Dave Bricknell, are working hard to attract as many entrants as possible. Your assistance will help to guarantee that this year's race is yet another success

ROB PICKERING, CHIEF EXECUTIVE



CALLING ALL JUNIORS

The Juniors have been out in force over the past few weeks:

Crewsaver Topper National Inland Championships

Two hundred and sixty seven Topper sailors (including nine WLYC Juniors and one senior) from all over the UK gathered at Grafham Water Sailing Club on 3rd and 4th May for the largest ever Topper National Inland Championships. It was to be a weekend of steady force 4-5 winds making racing conditions demanding, especially for the less experienced sailor. In Race one the start went well but, after a general recall in Race 2, the black flag rule was introduced and its use continued for the rest of the weekend. David Reaser started the championships well with a very promising 12th place, and 18th in Race 3. The next day was even more demanding with shifty, stronger winds. Yet again David Reaser did well finishing 32nd overall – beating Andy Kissick who came 54th. All of those who went really enjoyed the event, and had a wonderful time powering down those long reaches. Congratulations to David for sailing so well, Michelle Tickle for winning the Endeavour Trophy and Andy Kissick for winning the Senior Prize.

Eric Twiname

David Reaser and Jenny Donaldson were selected to represent the RYA West Zone in the inter-zonal squad competition. When results from all of the classes were put together the West zone finished a proud 2nd. Well done to David and Jenny who worked hard to earn their place in the team, and worked equally hard at the event.

Tenby Laser selector event

Greg Marshall went to the “Tenby Selectors” with his 4.7 rig; having won 4 out of the 5 races he won the event by a considerable margin. This recent success

is promising for Greg’s current campaign to go to the Laser 4.7 World Championships in Turkey this summer.

WLYC Topper Open

The NW Topper Travellers came to West Lancashire Yacht Club on Sat 17 May. With southeasterly winds at 15kts, the breeze was very shifty making the racing challenging. With 30 dinghies on the water, there was competitive sailing on the start line. Mike Pickering took an early lead from James Stewardson (Ullswater SC); however James soon had the measure of the conditions, overtook Mike, and went on to win Race one by about 15 boat lengths. Mike followed in second place after fending off the older (and wiser?) Andy Kissick. In the second race again Mike had an excellent start, but this time the vagaries of a SE wind acted against him and the fleet soon caught up. Yet again James Stewardson won the race, Andy Kissick 2nd, however having taken advantage of the shifts Alistair Norris (Leigh & Lowton SC) came a very creditable 3rd. In the final race the rain came down with the wind veering and reducing so the OoD amended the course. Tactics also changed but again those with local knowledge had a distinct advantage: Andy Kissick won, Mike 2nd; however Phil Manning (Delph SC) did exceedingly well to come 3rd. Overall it was a day of thoroughly enjoyable racing – James Stewardson 1st, Andy Kissick 2nd, Mike Pickering 3rd – and all concluded with an impressive selection of prizes sponsored by Shippies Marine of Preston – Thanks Dave Porter for the support.

Future Major Events include: Red Wharf Bay SC - 14 Jun Junior Handicap & 15 Jun Topper Open, Draycote SC – 21 Jun Topper Nationwide Travellers, Southport SC – 21 June 12HourRace.

MIKE PICKERING

OPEN DAY - TRY A SAIL DAY



Sunday 6th July
2003
2pm - 5pm



- Families welcome
- Experience a sail
- Bring a Friend
- Optimist, Topper, GP14, Enterprise, Laser and more
- BBQ!

Try A Sail
with RYA
Instructors



Volvo/RYA Champion Club

Complementary Therapies Day

Speaker

Freda Magee

Chair of the National Association
of
Complementary Therapies

Thursday, 10 July

11.30 am onwards

Crystals
Aromatherapy

Metamorphic
Reiki

Tickets
£17.50

In aid of the
RNLI

West Lancashire Yacht Club



TRAINING NEWS

Since the last copy of 'Training News' when Ian and Gordon reported on the successful 'Seamanship' and 'Start Racing' courses, Andrew Kissick and Ken Cooper have supervised equally successful courses of the growing 'Junior Race Training' and the popular 'Adult beginners'

Andrew Hall and Paul Rowe have now started the Friday evening course of 'Power-boat' Level 2 training and enquiries for this and Dinghy sailing are still welcome. The latter course if continued, will now revert to Tuesday evenings for the remainder of this year.

Please call me or Kath Hall if you are still interested in either of above or alternatively place your name on the

training notice board.

A further Instructor course was run this year and although dogged by lack of water in the lake, emergency change of venue and high winds on several occasions, it was finally completed this month. The patience shown by these diehard sailors is to be complemented.

Seven of our club sailors, 2 adults and 5 juniors, were successful. Congratulations to Martin Cooper, Alex Choraffa and juniors Steph Marshall, Greg Marshall, Jamie Dick, Carl Beck and David Reaser.

GWYN ROBERTS,
training@wlyc.org.uk

New Members

**Martin, Julie, Christian
and Cerys Butcher**

Hightown, Nr Formby, L38 9ES

**Leszek, Janet, Leszek
and Joseph Szczesniak**
Southport, PR9 9EE

**Keith, Carol, Iain and Nicola
Callaghan**
Southport, PR9 9GN

CHANGES IN CONTACT DETAILS

Allan Birchall

Keith Latham
Tarleton,
Preston, PR4 6AZ

**Roy, Linda, Lucy, Katie and Hannah
Kissick**
Birkdale, Southport,
PR8 2AG
T

**Robert, Keren, James
and Thomas Smallwood**
Belmont Street,
Southport, PR8 1LY

Roger Parker

Southport, PR9 9RZ

Tim Stephens
Formby, L37 3JB

REGALIA

Due to a price increase from our supplier some items of regalia will be increased in price on all new orders from 13 May 2003.

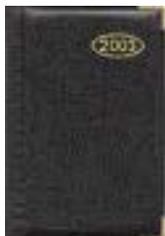
The new prices are as follows:-

Sweatshirt	£17.00
Fleece jacket Reversible	£40.00
Sweater	£22.00
Waterproof Jacket	£35.00

All other items prices remain as before

The suppliers now insist that payment accompanies all orders so I must receive payment with any order or I will be unable to process that order

All items in stock still at pre increase prices so buy now to save money!! See Phil or phone **Maureen Potts** 01704 879466



Dates For your Diary



JUNE

Sun	15th	Joint Enterprise & GP14 Open Ainsdale	10.30
Sat	21st	Midsummer Ball	19.30
Sun	29th	Joint Series (SSC)	10.00

JULY

Sat	5th	Optimist Open/Northern Area Championships	
Sun	6th	Club Open Day and BBQ	13,00
Sat	12th	Waterski Event on Lake	
Sat	12th	Supper Race	18.30
Sun	13th	Ainsdale Trophy Day	10.30
Sun	27th	Joint Series (WLYC)	10.00

AUGUST

Sat	9th	Waterski Event on Lake	
Sat	16th	Supper Race	18.30
Sun	17th	Ainsdale Trophy Day	11.00
Sun	24th	Joint Series(SSC)	10.00
Sat	30th	Oppie Fun Day	
Sun	31st	Ainsdale Trophy Day	11.00

SEPTEMBER

Tue	2nd	Offshore Gathering	20.30
Sun	7th	Airshow Barbecue	13.00
Sat	13th	24 Hour Race	12.00
Sun	14th	24 Hour Race	

Copy date: Thursday 10th July 2003