

Diary Events to Note

Sat 10 Dec - 8.00pm Christmas Party

Wed 14 Dec - 8.00pm A.G.M

Sat 31 Dec - 7.30pm New Year's Eve Ball
"Back to the Future"

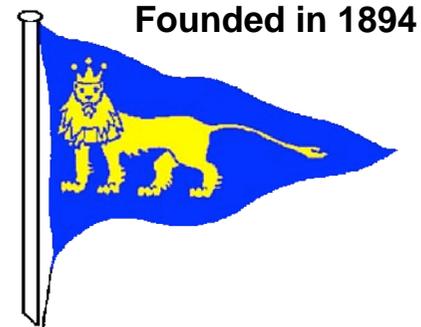
See also the 'What's On' poster on page 6

Next Copy Date is Monday 9th January 2012

Please send copy to the editor at:

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December 2011

GOLDEN LION

The Newsletter of West Lancashire Yacht Club



Another Junior & OnBoard Success - see Report on pages 8 to10

Commodore's Comments

The end of season races finished the sailing off in style. The Brasileiro Trophy Race Day for the juniors was sailed in excellent conditions, which was a relief, having had to postpone the event because of windy conditions the previous week. Twenty-four youngsters took part and there was some pretty competitive sailing going on. The Level 1, 2, and 3 winners will have their names inscribed on the board. They are: Level 1, Rudi Wilson, Level 2, Alastair Rimmer, and Level 3, Ben Hill. The event was a fitting tribute to the late Dougie Hague who donated the trophy and would have been very pleased that all of this activity was going on in his name. His vision has encouraged our youngsters to show off their sailing skills at whatever level they have achieved. Thank you Dougie.

Then there was the supper after the racing, when all who attended brought along some food to share. A team gathered in the galley to bring everything together - and others washed up after the meal. Thank you to all the helpers. It was fun to be a part of it all.

I wish to say a particular thank you to Heather Malliband and Bob Caton, but also thanks to their team of helpers who have organised and led the junior training sessions through the year. Your dedication to junior sailing has been outstanding and the benefit for the youngsters was there for all to see on the Brasileiro Race Day.

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The Late Dougie Hague



As the reports by the Commodore and Heather Malliband have both emphasised, Dougie Hague will be greatly missed by all West Lancs members.

Dougie was a highly qualified Marine Engineer and Surveyor. At the clubhouse, he was always lively and dapper, with a twinkle in his eye and ready with a fund of highly risqué jokes, which made him a very popular member of the snooker room.

Beyond the Clubhouse, he was an accomplished and intrepid sailor who crossed the Atlantic in a yacht with a friend, and sailed in the Gulf of Mexico with his daughter Rachel.

Others will remember him as a skilled and imaginative cook, who was a generous and hospitable host, while younger West Lancs members have him to thank for donating the Brasileiro Trophy for our junior competition.

True to character, Dougie proved to be a brave and cheerful patient who never lost hope but faced his illness with great courage. He was a loving partner of Vera and a very proud parent of his daughters. He will be remembered by us as a great friend and member of West Lancs Yacht Club.

Bob Abram

Junior and OnBoard Report continued from page 9

Prize giving and a shared meal followed.



The results were:

On Board

- 1 Dominic Collins with 3 firsts
- 2 Fleur Birchall) Decided by tie break
- 3 Abraham Birchall) only 1 place difference

Medal Winners

Beau Birchall and Daniel Kirk

Level 1

- 1 Rudi Wilson
- 2 Alex Clayton
- 3 Ben Wilson

Medal Winners

Robert Appleton, Lucy Pettifer, Alex Dance,
Gabby Lynch and Grace Nixon

Commodore's Comments - continued from page 2

The Monkhouse Cup on 22nd October was held on a sunny but breezy day and fifteen boats competed. There could have been more. However some potential competitors took a look at the very windy conditions and decided that discretion was the better part of valour. But that did not deter some youngsters who, having had such success the previous week, ventured out on to the water. The conditions proved too strong for a few of them, but three intrepid Optimist sailors held their own in the difficult conditions. The Mirror sailors also did really well. Kaye Tickle was our champion sailor on the water, winning the Ship's Log, but Rob Smallwood, with son James as crew, was the winner of the Monkhouse Cup. Molly Nixon was the winner of the Optimist Trophy for the leading Optimist Helm. Molly has been sailing really well this season and is going from strength to strength as she becomes more experienced. A new sailor this year, Rudi Wilson, will be a young man to watch out for in the future. As a beginner Rudi sailed incredibly well in the windy conditions, and won the Ship's Bell prize for the best personal performance in an Optimist.

Many thanks to the House Committee for setting up the room after the race for the Monkhouse Cup and to the Catering Committee who prepared the Supper. Particular thanks must go to Denise Nixon for her contribution to a most delicious hotpot.

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Commodore's Comments - continued from p.3

Thank you, also, to all those Members who contributed to the success of the Prize Giving on Saturday 26th November. Do not forget that there is the Christmas Party on Saturday 10th December and I know the House Committee members are already working on a little entertainment for you. Please offer your services to assist them. It's the taking part that counts!

The Club's AGM will be held on Wednesday 14th December. If you have anything that you consider should be brought to the attention of the members, please let me know so that it can be included on the agenda.

Kathy Robinson
Commodore

Welcome to the following new Members:

Richard Barnes (re-joining)

Richard Beswick-Calvert

Simon, Mandy, Dominic, Leon, Ellis, Gracie, Jemima, Barnaby and Eden-Hope Bisset

Campbell and Ben Grant

Alan Green, Tamsin Magan, Oliver and Charlie Green



Our season ended with our race day on Sunday 16th October, now the **Brasileiro Trophy Junior Race Day**, sadly with no Dougie Hague to present his prize.

We had to postpone the race day the previous week due to strong winds, but the weather was great on the day and 12 "mini" races were hotly fought over. The juniors were split for the races into four levels of ability and each level had three races to sail. For many of the sailors, it was their first racing experience.

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Junior and OnBoard Report



We have had a very busy and successful 2011 season for On Board and Junior training. Since starting in April at least 74 children have had a first go at learning to sail on a Saturday! Our number of regular sailors has also increased and a typical Saturday has around 30 young sailors. It is lovely to welcome so many new families as members. With the increase in numbers we have now moved to two sessions, 1.00pm to 3.00pm for On Board, those working to stage 1 and those having just completed stage 1. 3.00pm to 5.00pm for confident stage 1 and above.

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From the Hon. Secretary

Every member will receive a printed copy of the Golden Lion in the post within the next week. It will include the Agenda for the 2011 AGM and the Accounts for 2010/11. These items are not included in this website version of the Golden Lion. As last year, we have managed to generate a clash between the date scheduled for the AGM date and an external club booking. The AGM will now be held at the Club on Wednesday 14 December 2011 at 20.00.

Copies of the minutes of the 2010 AGM will be available on the evening of the year's AGM. (I am not proposing to circulate them to save copying and postage costs. However, if you would like a copy in advance of the AGM, please let me know – preferably by e-mail to admin@wlyc.org.uk, so I can reply with an e-mail version).

The September meeting of the Club committee approved an estimate to re-felt the lower level of the club roof, and I expect that by the time you receive this Golden Lion the work will be complete. Premises working parties, which have been concentrating on the wooden cladding on the west, north and east faces of the club (Sikkens on the cladding on all three walls; paint on the north face), and on cladding with white plastics the unclad upper levels of the club walls where they extend beyond the lower roof levels, have now been running for a month, and I am hoping the work will be finished before the AGM.

The November meeting approved the terms of reference for a Review Group being set up under the chairmanship of the President, Rick Hurst, to consider how the club should seek to develop. The terms of reference envisage that the membership be offered the opportunity to submit ideas on possible future developments/changes to the Group for consideration. Expect an invitation to submit your ideas in the New Year.

Tony Halliwell - Hon. Secretary

WHAT'S ON

Christmas Party

£5

Saturday 10th December 8.00pm

Finger Buffet

'Push in Boats'
Panto performed by the 'The Abbreviated Panto Co'

Carols
Angela Abram on Keyboard

Time to PARTY! unwind from the hustle and bustle of the Christmas preparations. Revel in the Festive Spirit and warm inviting ambience that welcomes you down at the club. **EVERYONE WELCOME!!!**

Salsa Pa'lante **SALSA DANCING**
Every Monday Night
Ring Dave & Val 0777 920 4338

BURNS NIGHT - 7.30pm
Saturday 21st January 2012
ANNUAL DINNER - 7.30pm
Saturday 25th February 2012

LOOK OUT FOR EVENTS IN 2012

Remember to put your name down on the list or ring Phil at the Club 01704 530840

down at the club

Diary Notes

New Year

BACK TO THE FUTURE

£37.50

Saturday 31st December 7.30pm

Experience the thrill of time travel

Rave into the New Year with the new sensational 'Re-Sessions'

WHITEHEAD BOWL 2011

The Whitehead Bowl Golf Competition was played on Friday 23rd September at Southport & Ainsdale Golf Club. Ten WLYC Members turned out to play for one of WLYC's most beautiful trophies. It is a full-handicap Stableford Competition - so everyone gets a decent chance of winning.

The weather was excellent and a good day's sport was enjoyed followed by a lovely meal and presentation.

This year's winner was Gordon Callaghan with 40 points. Ian Williams came second with 31 points and also won the longest drive. Ted Southworth came third, 30 points, as well as winning nearest the pin.

Many good men have turned grey trying to win this coveted trophy - but not our Gordon - even with the flash photography for the presentation picture - not a hint of a glint or sparkle emanated from his tonsorially elegant coiffure!!!! "

Ted Southworth