



**Notice of Meeting**  
**West Lancashire Yacht Club**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**is on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021**  
**at 20:00 hours**

**The Minutes of the 2020 AGM are available on request from the Secretary.**

## **Phil Lindsay is retiring!**



After 31 years as our Club Steward Phil has decided to retire at the end of the year, to spend more time with his fiancée Joanne, his family and his dog.

The Club is indebted to Phil who has served it well in so many ways. He always has a warm greeting for members and visitors alike, and many a booking for the Club was taken on the strength of Phil's welcoming helpful personality. For Club functions he was always on hand to help set things up, run the bar, serve from the galley, then, perhaps even more importantly, clear up afterwards, including on New Year's Day, after our NYE Ball the night before.

He has been a tower of strength in preparing for, during, and after the 24 Hour Race, and his knowledge will be sorely missed.

We wish Phil, and Joanne, all the very best for the future and hope he enjoys many happy years of retirement.

## **Commodore's Comments**



Suddenly it's the end of the sailing season and it's Prizegiving time once more. Perhaps it was the late start to the season, but time seems to have flown this year. The Brasileiro Junior Trophy day was also a Pirates' day. Once the racing battles on the water were over and the pirates back on land, they brought out their water cannons and water battles ensued. Cap'n Bob and his Scurvy Crew fought hard, but it was decided it was a draw when the Galley Slaves called 'supper time'. A good day was had by all.

The Monkhouse Cup was on yet another windy day, of which there have been quite a few this year. There were 18 competitors, including some juniors, who took part in this challenging handicap race. Steve Blackburn was the overall winner of the race on handicap. The Monkhouse Cup is presented at the Commodore's discretion. After discussion with the Officers of the Day, it was decided that this year Steve Blackburn was a worthy winner.

The RC sailors have also been busy, hosting the RC Dragon Open Weekend event on 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> November. Please see Alan Tickle's article for a full report.

We have the AGM on 9<sup>th</sup> December. Do come along and give your views. As mentioned in the last Newsletter, our Steward Phil is retiring after the AGM. We will very much miss his welcoming presence.

**Tim Harper –Commodore**

## Monkhouse Cup



Steve Blackburn wins the Ship's Log for being first overall, and also the Monkhouse Cup



## Brasileiro Trophy Day (see Commodore's comments)



## RC Sailing

### RC Sailing Dragon Open in November

The Radio Control (RC) sailors have been very busy during the weekend of 13 & 14 November with a two-day Open event. Friday was a planned practice day, but the wind was 25 knots, gusting 35 knots so there were no takers! Another factor was the wind direction, as it was due to change materially on each of the three days. Over the weekend the courses were tweaked frequently and on Sunday after the lunch break, the wind changed through 90 degrees! The course options at WLYC are considered one of the best in the country, not to mention the excellent facilities. No wonder we get good turnouts to our events. We welcomed just under 40 sailors each day from all over the country. On Saturday we raced DF65 and Sunday DF95. The day's race format for this number of boats involved seeding races - to put the sailors in the right Heats for their abilities. Then two Heats are raced, B first and then the top six went into Heat A, and the places were declared. In one race on Sunday, John Tushingham was last over the line of the B Heat and managed to get into the top six, then went on to win Heat A and so winning the race! Those of our own sailors who watched were dazzled with the world class sailing standard.

With the help of a few visiting sailors who took on the role of OD, and Scorer Judith Baldwin, we had two days of cracking sailing. Peter Baldwin, who sailed on both days, was also the 'backbone' on course

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Ready steady go for the radio-controlled yachts Open Weekend

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tweaking and final processing of the results. The winner of the DF65 was Derek Priestly, from Fleetwood MYBC, and on Sunday the DF95's was Craig Richards, from Windrush RYC, the current national champion. As it was the last Open Meeting in the series, the TT winner was announced. This was John Tushingam. The race format for the National TT series is the total of the DF65 and DF95 results added together. John is an old friend of West Lancs, and he has involved us in the development of these classes over the years. These classes of RC boats are now sailed in their thousands throughout the world, and are also the most raced single class in RC fleets! We were lucky enough to be the first Club in the World to race the DF95. John is the designer of both these boats, and the current World Champion. He volunteered to be OD for the DF65 on Saturday. John Brierly, one of the top sailors from Birkenhead RC&BP, was good enough to be OD for the DF95 on Sunday.

A big thank you to our Club members who were able to support the event from home or on site, namely Neil Croston, Skip Reaser, Bear Trotter and friend, Michael and Diane Harrison.

A big thank you goes to Kate Grace, who ran the Galley, supported by her daughter Charlotte, Linda Caton and Cathie Reaser. Meal orders were placed when registration took place, but after some of the supporters saw the quality of the food, additional dishes were sold. This was a highly successful weekend's sailing, due to outside Club support. It would be great if we could have considered manning all the roles over the two days from within our own highly skilled and experienced sailing family. Maybe a whole or half day support would allow us to capitalise on the success of an event of this size? National events could involve a lot more boats and income!



RC Sailors love us at WLYC!

***PS** Due to our Club members having non-CV related illnesses we have had to transfer our RC Laser Open on 28<sup>th</sup> November to Fleetwood. It's great to have interclub support like this.*

*\*Sailing continues on Tuesday afternoons, starting at 13:00 hours until the lack of light stops us!*

*\*Sunday racing continues 09.30 for 10.00.*

### **Alan Tickle – RC Racing**

## **Lunch Time Launch**

The Wednesdays Lunch Time Launch group have returned to group lunches for the winter. Sailing and other water based activities may happen if the weather is appropriate, the lunches will be on anyway.

**Eleanor Mehew – LTL Coordinator**

## **Training**

This year has seen a tremendous effort to kick start on the water training again, with great success. The Club has run both adult and junior courses throughout the year. In recent months there have been RYA Dinghy Level 2 & Level 3 courses, and a powerboat Level 2 course.

I would personally like to thank all our Volunteer Instructors who have assisted with the delivery of training this year. Not forgetting the Safety Boat crews and the Volunteers supporting in the galley. A special thank you must be given to the Training Secretary, Cathie Reaser, for her continued support and guidance to the smooth organisation of the training courses. Without all your continued support, we would not be able to deliver such high quality training to our members.

Congratulations to Anne Rushton on successfully completing her RYA Senior Dinghy Instructor course. Anne has been a valued member of the volunteer Instructor team, supporting not only the junior training, but also several adult beginner courses. Greg Walker is going on an RYA Safety Boat course at Hollingworth Lake this coming weekend. Greg has volunteered numerous times, assisting with crewing the Safety Boats for the Club as required.

Although on the water training has concluded for this year, there are still plenty of opportunities for land based training within the Club. First aid and navigation courses are planned through the winter months. Please contact the Training Secretary, or look on the Club website for details.

**Mike Gribble - Training Principal**

## Lake District Walk



Overlooking Lake Windermere

We gathered at the Lindeth Howe hotel in Bowness, where Roy and Margaret Gambie welcomed us for coffee. The weather forecast for the day was mixed, and there was a light drizzle in the air. We were therefore well wrapped up as we set off for our walk. As we ascended the hills we had to dodge around lots of boggy patches and find various means to cross the many streams. It cleared up a little as we came out near Rosthwaite Heights, at the lovely viewpoint overlooking Windermere. A little further on in a more sheltered spot we stopped for our lunch. Heading off again

we wended our way down towards Rosthwaite Farm. Sadly, on the way Joan Willetts slipped and hurt her foot. She found she couldn't put any weight on it at all. Two gallant men (thank you gentlemen) carried Joan to the bottom of the field, where there was a padlocked gate and a style, with a narrow gap and five steps up and down to cross the stone wall. After much discussion it was decided to lift the gate off its hinges! With quite a struggle this was managed and Joan carried through. After more struggle the gate was successfully back on its hinges. Whilst Joan was perched on a bench outside a farmhouse Roy went to collect his car, in order to take Joan, Bob, and 'sister' Barbara Agnew, to Kendal hospital. The remainder of the group continued our walk, guided by Margaret. We took a slightly shorter than planned route back to the hotel, and then went on to Roy and Margaret's home nearby for the much-anticipated tea and cakes. Later there was a pleasant group dinner at the hotel.

As always, these walks are very enjoyable occasions. It's lovely to be able to catch up with people from the Yacht Club we don't often see, especially after the lockdowns. A big thank you to Roy and Margaret for organising the day, and coping brilliantly with the whole situation that arose.

*PS Joan has now had the broken bones in her foot pinned and plated, and is progressing well.*

## What's On at the Club

### November

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>

**Prizegiving** supper – 19.00 for 19.30

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>

RC Laser Open TT

### December

Tuesdays

RC Club Racing – 13.00 - continues weekly

Wednesdays

Lunch Time Launch 11.00 – continues weekly

Sundays

RC Club racing continues 09.30 for 10.00, until about 12.00ish

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>

Decorate the Club for Christmas 19.30

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>

**AGM 20.00**

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>

Round the World Christmas Supper - Time to be advised  
and Junior Christmas party – Father Christmas is coming.

### January 2022

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup>

**New Year's Day** Drinks and nibbles to welcome in the New Year 11.00 to 13.00

Tuesdays

RC Club Racing – 13.00 - continues weekly

Wednesdays

Lunch Time Launch 11.00 – continues weekly

Sundays

RC Club racing continues 09.30 for 10.00, until about 12.00ish

Friday 21<sup>st</sup>

**Burns' Night Supper**

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> )

RYA Topper Training weekend

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> )

### February

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>

**Annual Dinner**

### March

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup>

**Club Spring Supper**

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup>

**Fitting Out Race and Supper**

**Planned events are subject to change  
due to any current restrictions on Club activities**