

## Diary Dates for January to March 2012

Sat 21 <sup>st</sup> Jan	Burn's Night	19:30
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Reunion Lunch	12:30 for 13:00
Tues 21 <sup>st</sup> Feb	Offshore Evening	20:00
Sat 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Annual Dinner	19:30
Sat 17 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Fitting Our Race	14:30
	Fitting Out Supper	19:30
Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Sunday Series	10:30
Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Mother's Day Lunch	12.30 for 13:00
Sat 31 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Southport Town Cup	TBC

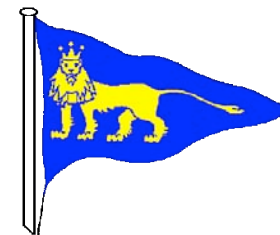
**Next Copy Date is Monday 20th February 2012**

Please send copy to the editor at:

[goldenlion@wlyc.org.uk](mailto:goldenlion@wlyc.org.uk)

*Views expressed in the Golden Lion are not necessarily those of the editor or the WLYC executive*

Founded in 1894



January 2012

# GOLDEN LION

The Newsletter of West Lancashire Yacht Club



It's YOUR Club

What style of Yacht Club  
do you want in the coming years?

Let the Review Group know

See article inside

This January edition of the Golden Lion includes detailed lists of the club's sailing courses planned for the coming season, with the names and contact details of those members who will be pleased to give you further information about the various sessions on offer. Now is the time to give them your names so that Ian Donaldson, whose report is on page 9, and the other instructors can plan their training effectively.

You will find the Commodore's comments on pages 3 & 4, and then, on pages 15 & 16, Kathy adds her report about a very enjoyable West Lincs members' 'Wintry Walk' near Winster in the Lake District.

Tony Halliwell is the Chair of the West Lincs Review Group and on page 5 he gives details about how you could contribute towards the work of this group. Meanwhile, on page 6, Louise Halliwell invites all Lady members to join in her efforts to encourage more of you to get out on to the water this summer. On page 7 Linda Hurst gives full details about the Club's many social activities during the next month.

There are other reports and notices including a request for someone to take over from me as editor of the Golden Lion. My thanks to all of those members who have given me their advice and support while I have been editor. In particular, Merylyn has quietly got on with the task of proofreading each edition and helped me to avoid more mistakes than you need to know about. Please contact the Commodore if you are interested in taking over, and you are also very welcome to telephone or e-mail me if you think that I could help with any more information.

## **Urgent** **Golden Lion Editor Required**



**Your Golden Lion needs a new Editor, can you help?**

**Some knowledge of a Desk Top Publishing program is required.**

**There are about six editions of the Golden Lion a year.**

**Please contact Commodore Kathy Robinson if you can help or need more information before stepping forward.**

## Commodore's Comments

Where does the time go? It has been a busy, interesting and most enjoyable year for me as Commodore. The Club is full of really friendly people and is a great place to be. 2011 was drawing to a close with the Christmas Party, the highlight of which was the Abbreviated Panto Co and their hilarious production of Pushin' Boats. Dick Whittington's tale will never seem the same again. The New Year's Eve ball was a really enjoyable evening. The Club looked resplendent as ever and the revellers saw in the New Year in traditional style. Many thanks to Linda Hurst and the House team. Many thanks also to Jayne Tickle, Cathie Reaser and the catering team for a delicious meal. The Lamb Henry melted in the mouth.

The New Year is a time for changes of roles. The Club's President Rick Hurst retired and the new President is John Hayward. Welcome aboard John. The role of Secretary has also changed as Tony Halliwell has stepped down and Bryan Marshall taken over the mantle. Linda Hurst has also stepped down from the position of Chair of the House Committee. We are still seeking a replacement Chair. Please don't wait to be asked, just step forward and volunteer your services. My phone number is in the diary. There is a fantastic team in place, but a co-ordinator/secretary is needed, to ensure all on the team know who is doing what. Perhaps a couple of people might share the role? May I say a big thank you to those stepping down for your contribution to the Club over the last three years. It is greatly appreciated.

Looking forward to the new season of 'happenings' at the Club, we start with Burn's Night on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January; an occasion for celebrating Scotland's favourite bard in traditional style. Do book your places. Cyril Porter is organising a Reunion Lunch on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February. Our Offshore Captain Gordon Callaghan is proposing an evening with a Baltic theme on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February. All welcome, and bring your friends along, it's not just for offshore sailors. The following Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> February, is the Club's Annual Dinner. This is when your Club entertains guests from our fellow kindred clubs. Do come and help make our visitors feel welcome. There are lists by the bar or phone Phil and ask him to add your name.

**[continued on p.4]**

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## Club Bank Details

Santander, the Club's banker, has changed the sort code for our account from 72-00-00 to **09-07-20**.

The account number remains unchanged: **06228399**.

For those members who have not yet paid their annual subscriptions, and will be paying by bank transfer, please note this change of sort code.

If you have already made your payment, Santander will have re-directed it to the new sort code, but will not continue this automatic change for much longer.

Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

**Gill Pinch**

### Commodore's Comments, *continued from p.3*

The sailing season starts with the Fitting Out race on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March, followed by a Fitting Out Supper in the evening. It's Mother's Day on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March and Phil is putting on a special lunch at the Club. Why not give Mum a treat? Booking is essential. Please make your reservations with Phil. Regular sailing takes over then with Sunday racing starting on 25<sup>th</sup> March. The Southport Town Cup, an Open event, is on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> March.

To help your Club Committee look to the future of West Lancs a Review Group has been set up to gather ideas and Tony Halliwell is chairing it. A questionnaire is enclosed with this Golden Lion asking for your opinions and ideas as to how the Club could develop and grow. If you like what the Club is doing please tell us about this too. Can you offer your services to the Club to assist in any way? Ideas don't need to be massive, a small change may make all the difference. Please fill in the form and return it, by post to the Club, or by email to [admin@wlyc.org.uk](mailto:admin@wlyc.org.uk) all by 29<sup>th</sup> February, to help the Review Group collate your views into proposals. We'll use the Assistant Secretary 'pigeon hole' to collect them at the Club.

A big thank you to our gallant Golden Lion editor Roger Ryan. He had stepped down from the role after the last edition, but very thankfully he agreed to step into the breach and produce this edition, as we haven't yet found a replacement for him. We urgently need a new Golden Lion editor. Can you help? Please speak to me.

May I wish you all a joyful, healthy and prosperous year, with many happy hours of sailing in 2012.

**Kathy Robinson, Commodore**

A poster for a sailing course. The background is a light blue and white abstract pattern of overlapping lines. The text is centered and reads: 'RYA' in red, 'Dinghy Sailing' in black, and 'Basic Skills - Level 2' in black. Below this, it says 'Saturdays 9am-5pm' and 'March 31<sup>st</sup>, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>.'

**RYA**  
**Dinghy Sailing**  
**Basic Skills - Level 2**

**Saturdays 9am-5pm**  
**March 31<sup>st</sup>, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>.**

- practical teaching techniques
- rigging and launching a boat
- sailing a triangular course
- coming alongside / man overboard
- returning safely to shore

On completion of this course, the successful sailor will be safety conscious, have a basic knowledge of sailing, and be capable of sailing a dinghy without an instructor on board in light winds.

**Adult members £100.....Juniors Half price.... Non-Members £250**

Enrolment forms in the clubhouse and on the web  
**Contact : Kath Hall 01772 615638**

## ***A West Lancs Wintry Walk at Winster: continued from previous page***

Back down into more sheltered terrain we found our path gently descending. Our route took us through farms and woodland, past some very fancy houses and a wonderful pond with some exotic ducks dabbling on it. A small copse in the corner of a large field had some canny sheep sheltering in it. They peered out from behind the trees to look at us in a very inquisitive way. In what seemed no time at all there was the Brown Horse pub ahead and we had completed our route. Dumping our muddy walking gear in the cars we were kindly invited to Roy and Margaret's lovely home, where we enjoyed some very welcome tea and cakes. It was then only a short hop back to the Brown Horse for a pre-arranged group meal. A really enjoyable day was had by all. It was a chance to catch up with people we haven't seen for quite a while, as well as continue conversations with others we'd seen more recently.

Thank you Roy and Margaret for your very warm welcome, for all your efforts, planning and most delicious cakes, and for making it a really wonderful winter walk.

**Kathy Robinson, Commodore**

## **West Lancashire Yacht Club – Review Group**

Dear Fellow Member,

As we start a new year – your Club Committee has set up a Review Group to consider how WLYC meets your needs and how it should develop.

So that we can do this comprehensively, we are asking for your help. Please fill in the enclosed questionnaire. Spend a little time telling us what you enjoy AND what you don't enjoy about WLYC.

Once we have all your views and suggestions, we will be able to put in place developments that will benefit you and the rest of the membership.

If you return the questionnaire by the end of February, the Review Group will be able to report to the Club Committee in May.

Thank you for your help in making improvements to WLYC – ***YOUR*** club!

**Tony Halliwell**  
**Chair of the Review Group**

## Calling all prospective "Ladies Who Launch"

The idea is to encourage lady members of the club to take to the water in a sociable and fun way, perhaps including lunch, afternoon tea or supper and hopefully fostering new friendships whilst building confidence on the water. If weather conditions are unkind then the social side will be the main feature. **This is intended to be enjoyable.** I know of several clubs around the country who have tried something similar and it has proved a great success

There will be some experienced lady sailors on hand to encourage, offer advice and provide sustenance.

Double-handed sailing is a good way to join in as it is obviously more sociable whilst on the water and I'm sure that it will be possible to arrange partnerships. Of course single-handed sailors are also most welcome. As there is a selection of club craft, not owning a boat is not an issue.

To these ends I should like to ask you to let me know as soon as possible if you are interested in this idea and if so, what day and time would be best for you. I will endeavour to find the most convenient time for the majority and then we can hopefully get going in the spring.

Other members wishing to participate would be most welcome to man rescue boats when required and help in the galley.

## A West Lancs Wintry Walk at Winster

On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January a group of West Lancs members and friends got together for what has become our annual ramble in the Lakes. Roy and Margaret Gambie, former members who now live in Winster, a little village near Windermere, organised the occasion for us. We gathered at The Brown Horse in Winster for coffee, before setting off up the hill behind the pub.

The weather was mild and overcast and a little inclined to occasional drizzle. It had been raining for days before and consequently some of the fields were flooded. Muddy stretches and huge puddles were therefore the order of the day, in stark contrast to the ice and snow of the walk last year. There was some tussock hopping and a bit of wall clinging to negotiate flooded stretches of track. A light drizzle started as our path ascended quite a steep hill and a chilly wind blew over the crest. Suddenly we were behind a large rocky outcrop and it was really sheltered. This was opportunity for our picnic lunch stop. It was then a short uphill stretch to a lovely scenic viewpoint on Brant Fell, overlooking Bowness. Lake Windermere was spread before us, with views over Belle Isle, and the boats moored nearby.

***Continued on next page***

**RYA Power Boat Level 2 –Inland**

The course covers basic boat preparation, launch, recovery and of course, boat handling on the water. Level 1 is intended to be a quick introduction to the sport - with safety aspects a priority, the Level 2 Powerboat Course aims to teach boat handling and seamanship to a higher degree, and covers more manoeuvres in a wider range of conditions, as well as further safety and seamanship knowledge. Experience required: None.

Course Duration: two days.

**CONTACT: Neil Croston 01704 840623**

**RYA Safety Boat –Level 3**

For those who use powerboats to provide support and safety cover for other water sports such as sailing, windsurfing and canoeing. It includes rescue techniques and elements of race management and mark laying. To acknowledge the tremendous advances in boats, equipment and people's aspirations, the revised Safety Boat syllabus now covers the rescue of high performance asymmetric dinghies and more traditional craft, windsurfers and canoes. Experience required: PB Level 2.

Course Duration: two days.

**CONTACT: Neil Croston 01704 840623**

**WHAT'S ON**

**Live Ceilidh Band**

**down at the club**



**Burns Night**

**Saturday 21st January  
7.30pm prompt start**

Mr Blundell's  
Alms Ceilidh Band

Traditional  
Scottish Cuisine

**Tickets  
£22**

**Annual Dinner**

**Saturday 25th February 2012  
7.30pm prompt start**



**Tickets  
£24**

*Excellent Cuisine  
&  
Fine Wines  
Formal Dress*

**SALSA DANCING –**  
Every Monday Night  
Ring Dave & Val  
0777 920 4338



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

We've now waved goodbye to the economic doldrums of 2011 and are looking forward to a fantastic 2012.

Of course there have been lots of highlights and memorable moments, but every New Year brings an exciting new calendar of great opportunities. So shed all those festive overindulgences, wedge yourself into that figure hugging Lycra and shape up for the new season.

There's plenty of fun in store this year for those who want to get involved and enjoy the experience of sailing and social activities at the Club.

Last but not least, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the House, Catering and Sailing Committees and all members and friends who have given their invaluable support to make 2011 a Huge Success.

It's your Club - come on down, see what's going on, join in and enjoy!!!

Linda Hurst  
House Chairman

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**Regalia**

**BE  
INSPIRED**  
New Stylish Designs  
for Summer  
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- |                               |        |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| Quarter Zip Sweatshirt        | £23.40 |
| Quarter Zip Fleece            | £21.00 |
| Full Zip Fleece               | £27.30 |
| Pull on Hoodie                | £23.94 |
| Mens & Ladies St Mellion Polo | £17.70 |
| Long Sleeve Rugby             | £23.34 |
| Childs Polo Shirt             | £11.10 |
| Childs Hoodie                 | £14.70 |
| Gents Ties                    | £5.00  |
| Club Badge                    | £1.00  |
| Car Sticker                   | £0.50  |



**REMEMBER!**  
you can order good quality  
**WLYC REGALIA**  
personalised with  
any name -  
**MAKES A PERFECT GIFT**

Club log is included in the price, customisation is extra  
**Club Colours Only** navy, yellow or white

Contact: Janine Forbes – [regalia@wlyc.org.uk](mailto:regalia@wlyc.org.uk) or phone as in the diary





On the 7th & 8th January, West Lancs played host to the RYA Northern Mirror Zone Squad.

The Squad had two days of intensive coaching on and off the water. Six boats came to join Ben and Gabe Hill, the furthest having travelled for five hours all the way from Essex.

They are now busy practicing for their next weekend at Beaver SC, near Goole in Yorkshire, which is in two weeks time.

Thank you to Phil, and Tim Harper for all their help and also to Martin Butcher for his Wii support.

An enjoyable time was had by all.

## **Sarah Hill**

VCC Co-ordinator

### **RYA Better Sailing - Level 3**

Sail better and faster, fly spinnakers or have a go at racing. This improver course seeks to bridge the gap between Start Sailing L1, Basic Skills (L2) and the five Advanced Modules and is intended to make the transition easier for those sailors wishing to progress further through the scheme, allowing them opportunity to practice and consolidate their techniques and also have a taster of what some of the advanced modules have to offer. Time on the water actually sailing is maximised. Students will have the opportunity to sail different dinghies during the course, with greater emphasis on two person dinghies. Experience required: RYA Level 2.

Course Duration: two days.

**CONTACT: Ian Donaldson 01704 879964**

### **RYA Sailing with Spinnakers –advanced module**

Everything you need to know about sailing with conventional and asymmetric spinnakers. How to rig the boat, gybe and recover one type of spinnaker, either conventional or asymmetric. How to sail the best possible course downwind. At the end of the course you will have the ability to use one type of spinnaker. Experience required: RYA Level 2 & one season regular sailing in double-handed boat.

Course Duration: two days.

**CONTACT: Ian Donaldson 01704 879964**

### **RYA Seamanship- advanced module**

The syllabus covers anchoring, rudderless sailing, centreboard effects on a boat, heave to, reefing afloat, being towed by a power vessel, sailing backwards -all very useful! On completion of this course, the successful sailor will be capable of manoeuvring a dinghy in a seamanlike manner and making seamanship decisions in moderate conditions. Experience required: RYA Level 2 & one season regular sailing.

Course Duration: two days.

**CONTACT: Ian Donaldson 01704 879964**

### **RYA Start Racing –advanced module**

This course is designed to give you the confidence, skills and knowledge to take part in club racing in good conditions. Much of the work afloat will be done without an instructor on board. It is assumed that every student starting this course has already mastered the practical skills and absorbed the background knowledge required for Basic Skills Level 2. The syllabus covers boat tuning and boat handling, starting and race strategy, tactics and rules together with practical exercises. All the skills required to enjoy club racing, including how to maximise boat speed and how to outwit your opponents. Experience required: RYA Level 2 & one season regular sailing

Course Duration: two days.

**CONTACT: Ian Donaldson 01704 879964**



### **RYA Junior Training**

Junior Training is for club members aged 6-16yrs who have a basic knowledge of sailing. It takes place on a Saturday at either 1-3pm or 3-5pm depending on your experience and you will work towards completing the RYA Youth Training scheme stages 1-4. You will also be introduced to racing and in time you may wish to join in club racing on a Thursday evening or Sunday. Experience required: Basic knowledge of sailing.

Duration: two hours Saturday afternoons 1-3pm or 3-5pm for more experienced from April 14<sup>th</sup> 2012.

**CONTACT: Heather Malliband [optimist@wlyc.org.uk](mailto:optimist@wlyc.org.uk)**

### **RYA OnBoard Sailing**

OnBoard sailing is a five-week introduction to sailing for youngsters aged between 6 and 16. It takes place on Saturday afternoons between 1:00 and 4:00, from April to October. OnBoard training costs nothing for the first week, with a small weekly charge for the remaining four weeks. You will be introduced to the basics of sailing, working in a small group with an RYA instructor. All our instructors and helpers are volunteers. The boats we use are mainly Optimists and Topper dinghies. A more experienced young sailor will often take you out first, to give you a feeling for being on the water. If you enjoy your OnBoard experience, and want to carry on sailing, you, and the adult who accompanies you, will need to become a member of the Club to be able to join our Junior Training. Experience required: None.

Duration: five Saturday afternoons from April 14<sup>th</sup>

**CONTACT: Sarah Hill [onboard@wlyc.org.uk](mailto:onboard@wlyc.org.uk)**

### **SAIL IT! - Improve your Sailing and Confidence**

This is for beginners and improvers. It takes place on Tuesday evenings at 7pm – from April 24<sup>th</sup> 2012. Start the season confidently. Safety cover and help and advice available if needed. Experience required: None.

Duration: Tuesday evenings from April 24<sup>th</sup>.

**CONTACT: Gordon Callaghan 01704 574802**

### **RYA Start Sailing & Basic Skills – Levels I & 2**

The emphasis is on practical teaching techniques, and the syllabus covers rigging and launching a boat, sailing a triangular course, coming alongside or man overboard, and returning safely to shore. On completion of this course, the successful sailor will be safety conscious, have a basic knowledge of sailing, and be capable of sailing a dinghy without an instructor on board in light winds. Experience required: None.

Course Duration: four days.

**CONTACT: Ian Donaldson 01704 879964**

### **TRAINING DIARY**

A very happy new year from the training team! The training diary for the coming season has now been finalised and during the next few weeks maintenance of the Club training boats will be undertaken to ensure that our boats are in full working order for the first training courses.



RYA OnBoard and Junior Training, held on Saturday afternoons (starting Sat 14<sup>th</sup> April), will be organised by Heather Malliband and Sarah Hill. The RYA OnBoard Scheme is aimed at introducing young people to sailing either as individuals or through links with schools and youth organisations. OnBoard Clubs benefit from the potential increase in membership, access to grants for volunteer development and training and a raised local profile. Junior training continues this early experience following the RYA Youth Training Scheme.

We will be running three adult (16 yrs +) Beginners sailing courses in April, June and August. Each course will take place over four consecutive sessions. Completion of all four days is required to achieve RYA Dinghy Sailing Level 2. The course is mixture of theory and practical sessions designed to teach basic sailing skills. Once completed you will be able to confidently rig, launch, sail around a triangular course and recover your boat. After the success of the RYA Better Sailing Level 3 course last year we are planning to repeat this course on two Saturdays in May.

Details of all courses and Club Training together with contact details and an application form can be accessed through the training section of the Club website. For those of you who have completed training courses and wish to practice your skills, or those who prefer to learn in a less formal way than Sail It! sessions could be for you. Sail It! will be held on Tuesday evenings when there will be an experienced Club member at hand to help and advise. We are hoping that one of the RYA North West Regional Coaches will be at the Club on two occasions during the summer (dates to be announced). We will also be continuing to support RYA Sailability. A small but enthusiastic team will be meeting on Wednesday evenings to provide sailing opportunities to local people with disabilities.

The provision of training within the Club requires a huge effort from both instructors and volunteers, but the rewards make this worthwhile. If you would like to be a part of the training team please let me know or speak to the organiser of the group with which you would like to be involved.

**Ian Donaldson - Chief Sailing Instructor**

## What's New on the Water for 2012?

Saturday Feb 18<sup>th</sup> starting 9 a.m.

**RYA One-Day First Aid Course**  
Contact Neil Croston 01704 840623

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> & Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**RYA Safety Boat (PB3 Inland)**  
Contact Neil Croston 01704 840623

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March starting 10 a.m.

**Instructors/Training Volunteers Day**  
Contact Ian Donaldson 01704 879964

Saturdays - 31<sup>st</sup> March, 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> April, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**RYA Dinghy Sailing - Basic Skills Level 2**  
Contacts Ian Donaldson 01704 879964 & Kath Hall  
01772 615638

Every Saturday from 14<sup>th</sup> April to 13<sup>th</sup> October

**Junior Training & On-Board Sailing**  
Contacts are Heather Milliband [optimist@wlyc.org.uk](mailto:optimist@wlyc.org.uk)  
& Sarah Hill [onboard@wlyc.org.uk](mailto:onboard@wlyc.org.uk)

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April

**RYA Streaker Training Day**  
Contact Tony Halliwell 01704 878572

Tuesdays at 7 p.m. from 24<sup>th</sup> April

**Sail it! Get that boat on the water for Beginners and Improvers - Includes RYA Skills Development Training, 22<sup>nd</sup> May & 12<sup>th</sup> June**  
Contact Gordon Callaghan 01704 574802

## What's New on the Water for 2012?

[continued from page 10]

Saturdays 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> May

**RYA Dinghy Sailing - Improvers Better Sailing Level 3**  
Enquiries, Ian Donaldson 01704 879964

Wednesdays at 7 p.m. 16<sup>th</sup> May to 11<sup>th</sup> July

**Sailability Taster Sessions**  
Enquiries, [sailability@wlyc.org.uk](mailto:sailability@wlyc.org.uk)

Four Days, 9a.m. to 5 p.m. on 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, & 23<sup>rd</sup> June

**RYA Dinghy Sailing - Basic Skills Level 2**  
Contact Ian Donaldson 01704 879964

Four Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> August

**RYA Dinghy Sailing - Basic Skills Level 2**  
Contact Ian Donaldson 01704 879964

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> July - If there is sufficient demand

**RYA Advanced Dinghy Sailing - Spinnakers, Start Racing, Seamanship**  
Enquiries, Ian Donaldson 01704 879964

**You will find more details about these and other WLYC courses on pages 12 to 14**