



Golden Lion

The West Lancashire Yacht Club Newsletter



Founded 1894

August 2017

24 Hour Race - 9th & 10th September





Commodores report August 2017

As I write this article it is drizzling and grey outside, but I do hope you are enjoying your summer and the sailing season, and of course your holiday, if you have managed to have one.

It is very pleasing to see a really strong fleet of boats sailing regularly this season, particularly racing on Thursday evenings. The informal sailing on Tuesday evenings is also gaining popularity, and it is very noticeable how busy and active the Club is on Saturday afternoons.

There are many unsung heroes that make our club function as it does, but amongst those, I would like to make special reference to all those members who turn up week in week out on a Saturday afternoon to support our Junior sailing programme. The instructors and safety boats, the catering team and the organisers all do a fantastic job, and as a result Saturday sailing has been really strong this year. Many thanks to everyone involved. You know who you are!

24 Hour Race

The 24 Hour Race is fast approaching and for me this is absolutely the highlight of the Club year. This is our club at its very best; many members and some non members all pulling together to put on a show that we can all be very proud of. The weekend of the race is of course very exciting, but the weeks and days immediately prior to the event, for me are also fantastic, when meetings and briefings are taking place, and all types of work and preparations are being undertaken in an atmosphere of great anticipation.

It is an incredible achievement to have such an event still going strong 51 years after it was launched, and particularly when you consider it is almost completely run on 'self help'.

The Committee organising this years race have been working hard all year, and many of you who kindly head up the various functions will be busy organising the teams and rotas. To those who help out every year, many thanks. If you are a newer member or have not really been involved before, please let it be known and we can slot you into a team and of course, we hope to see as many of you during the course of the weekend at the club.

There is a list within this publication of the members heading up various teams. Do please contact them directly and get involved. We do need your help!

The entries continue to come in and we are expecting a strong field of competitors, with some clubs returning who have not participated for many years. Our Sponsors have been very supportive again this year and my thanks to them all. We have two new sponsors which is tremendous, in Halliwell Jones, Southport car dealers and Precision Yacht Paints.

24 Hour Race Parking

For those members helping out during the weekend, you are able to get a special parking pass, which enables you to park in the Coastal Road car park at advantageous rates. You need to both have a pass that can be obtained from the club and pay £1.10 in cash at the machine to obtain a Pay & Display ticket. Display both and you can park all weekend. **DO NOT** pay by telephone. **You must have the appropriate ticket to display.**

It just remains for me to thank everyone involved. I am sure the event will be a great success again and of course, I would like to wish the WLYC teams the very best of luck for the race.

Richard Barnes
Commodore

***** Club Security *****

You may be aware that during a recent Thursday evening race, we had an intruder in the Gents changing room and several mobile phones and wallets were stolen.

Since then a vehicle has been broken into whilst in the dinghy park. We all need to be vigilant and the Ladies and Gents changing rooms need to be kept locked. They are already equipped with locks and the security code is available from the bar if you don't already know it.

External security lighting is about to be upgraded and CCTV is being installed, but we all have a duty to be vigilant.



Golden Lion August 17 Sailing Matters

The holidays are in full swing and many club members are away on holiday or at various National Championships and other events around the country.

For those of us left behind the 24 Hour Race looms – less than a month to go now!

Racing

Nationals. Impressive results - last month: Sam Cooper 2nd in the Topper World Championships at Cercle Nautique de Loctudy, France. And now, we've just heard, he became Topper National Champion, at Pwllheli. Well done Sam.

At the Enterprise Nationals held at Abersoch, Dave and Beth Porter came 10th, Molly Nixon was crew in the boat that came 12th, Ben and Gabe Hill were 14th overall and second in the Silver fleet, Charlie and Megan Adams were 19th.

Thursdays The evenings of class racing have been well supported for much of the season, with some exciting racing for all

Sundays Racing each Sunday, with the management shared on the lake with Southport SC, remains disappointing as regards the numbers of sailors participating. However, with often the best from each club sailing against each other, the racing has been enjoyable. Having said that the format may need amending. Thoughts that have been mentioned are:

Why plan to sail every Sunday? Is that too often?

What about racing Saturday mornings before the training starts? Such a change in format would need agreement with other Lake Users and Colin Poole.

Tidal Sailing. The tidal sailing at Ainsdale in May was a great success, but since then has been disappointing. In June, because of the appalling weather forecast, the **Club Regatta** at Ainsdale was moved to the lake; even there we needed 3 safety boats out! However, at least the planned 3 races were completed in very challenging / rewarding conditions.

The **Boghole Trophy** in June had a very disappointing turnout in almost ideal conditions. Maybe the format needs changing to the normal Tidal One Day Series. August's planned racing on the tide was cancelled because so many club sailors were competing elsewhere.

There are few places in the NW where you can launch dinghies to race on the sea. Even at Ainsdale, with the constraints of the tide, there are few dates in our sailing calendar when we are able/permitted to launch. It takes much effort to manage racing at Ainsdale, but if the sailors don't support the race management team it is hardly worth the vast extra effort. **Use It or Lose It**

One Day / Trophy Events

Town Cup. 23 Entries in a Pursuit Race, followed by what is now the traditional “Afternoon Tea”. Overall a most enjoyable day.

Junior 6 Hr Race at Hollingworth SC. Two teams of 12 + (Juniors and Cadets) travelled to Hollingworth Lake SC for the 6 Hr Race. They were a creditable 4th & 5th overall – a brilliant effort.

SSC 12 Hr Race. The race attracted 21 Entries, and our team of Juniors finished 6th overall, 3rd out of 10 Enterprises, 2nd U18 team and 1st U18 Enterprise. A good result – Well Done!

Lloyd Hayes Junior Travellers. We ran a challenging programme of racing for 53 Junior sailors. Jo Cropper and Jake Dickinson were 2nd in the RS Feva fleet, and Molly Nixon with Laurence Dorr 3rd in the Youth fleet. Overall an impressive event, thank you to all those who made the day possible.

Radio Controlled Racing. On Tuesday evenings throughout the summer, RC Laser / Dragonforce sailing has remained popular with all ages (from grandsons to grandads). Then over the weekend 7th – 9th July we hosted the RC Laser Nationals, when people travelled from all over UK to join the event. Next year we have been asked to host an International One Metre (IOM) event, probably 23rd / 24th June. The reputation of WLYC as a venue for RC Sailing events is growing.

Push the Boat Out (PtBO) / Try Sailing

We have had 2 big pushes to attract members of the public to join our club. Each event was marketed slightly differently: ‘PtBO’ using essentially local leafleting and advertising; ‘Try Sailing’ marketed through digital media. As a result, each event attracted a different audience – ie they complemented each other. The format of both days was very similar, involving the support and enthusiasm of many club members. It is pleasing to note significant numbers joined the club / our training programme. Much thanks must go to all those who supported the events.

Training

Junior Training / On-board. With the success of PtBO & Try Sailing many new juniors and cadets have joined the training on Saturday afternoons, when the club becomes a hive of activity.

Adult Training. Again with the unprecedented and pleasing success of our marketing we have had to arrange extra adult training courses. Even so some potential trainees are unable to commit to courses fixed to calendar dates. Therefore, we are considering a more modular format to offer more flexibility.

Social Sailing and Coaching

Tuesday evening coaching (**Sail It!**) and Wednesday pm (**Ladies who Launch**) continue to attract a steady interest, with the aim of keeping new sailors on the water. But what is lacking is the ability for club members, particularly those new to sailing, to have access to the club dinghies. Therefore we have put together a “Use of Club Dinghies” scheme. Recent incidents of opportunistic theft have highlighted security issues that, for the time being, limit the complete access for club members; however at least it is a start. Read more about the scheme elsewhere in the Golden Lion

Overall sailing at WLYC is a massive programme to run, and to succeed we rely on volunteer club members: Race management, Training (trainers and assistants / admin), Coaching (coaches and assistants), Scoring, safety / rescue (drivers, crew and maintainers), Galley, Sailing Committee. You don't have to be a sailor to contribute.

If you want to be involved at the club please contact:

Me -Rob Pickering	vice.commodore@wlyc.org.uk
Dinghy Captain -Dave Porter	dinghy.captain@wlyc.org.uk
Training Principal -Mike Dorr	training.principal@wlyc.org.uk
Training Secretary -Kath Hall	training.secretary@wlyc.org.uk
Scoring -Martin Butcher	results.admin@wlyc.org.uk
Catering -Stella Pettifer	
Safety / Rescue -Skip Reaser	

Rob Pickering
Vice Commodore

CATERING

24 Hour Race helpers needed

Hello members of West Lincs! This is the annual plea from the catering team for helpers for the **24 Hour Race**. We will be serving an array of food over the week-end. If you can help at any time, even if only for an hour or so, please contact Stella on 07969352674 and let her know when you are available.

West Lincs is always complimented for the quality of food produced over the Race weekend, especially on our cakes. If you can bake some goodies to contribute to the supply that would be lovely. Thank you.

Catering for Club Functions

The catering team and helpers have continued to provide a high standard of food for various club events. So far this year these have been the Annual Dinner, the Fitting Out Race Supper and the Afternoon Tea. Some of these events I am sure you may well have enjoyed.

BUT to continue producing this quality of food we do need more helpers, whether it is to peel a carrot, dry a cup, or make a toastie, help IS needed. If you are willing and able to assist at any time, even for just a short period, please speak to any one of the Catering Team, Cathie Reaser, Lin Caton, or Stella Pettifer.

Thanking you in advance for your help: The Catering Team



24 Hour Race Weekend **Saturday 9th - Sunday 10th September**

We need volunteers to help please:

There is a job for everyone, **no previous experience** is necessary.

Preparation Week

Monday 4th - Friday 8th September

Help is required to set up the site from 9am each day.

Any assistance (*even for short periods*) would be greatly appreciated.

Or just come down and help - there's always lots to do.

Contact Rob Pickering (rob@mfsailing.co.uk)

Race Weekend

Friday 8th - Sunday 10th Departments and point of contact

Listed below are the Heads of Departments who are seeking help.

Again - there is a job for everyone, **no previous experience** is necessary.

Marquee Bar - Bryan Marshall

Clubhouse Bar - Phil Lindsay (club steward)

Rescue / Safety boats - Skip Reaser

Catering - Stella Pettifer

Scoring / Observing - Steve Caldecott

Information - Sue Porter

Docking Area - Jim Gummerson

Receptions - Angela Dorr

Race Parking in the Coastal Road (sea wall) public parking space
You need a 24 Hr Race pass + £1.10 ticket from Pay & Display

Recycle that unused or outgrown sailing gear

Clearing out our loft, I recently came across some old buoyancy aids that our children had when they were little. They are now in the boathouse at the Club where they have been put to good use.

This year our 'Push the Boat Out' and 'Try It' sessions have been really successful, with nearly 150 people trying sailing for the first time. We had several families with young children taking to the water.



One unanticipated problem we had was a lack of buoyancy aids, particularly for very small children. This problem was compounded as we were running the regular OnBoard training at the same time and many of our buoyancy aids, life jackets and spray tops were already in use by our regular junior sailors. There were times when we had families eager to be taken on the water with boats and helms ready and waiting, but we were waiting for buoyancy aids and suitable clothing to be available.

If, like me, you have some buoyancy aids or serviceable protective clothing which you no longer need, please consider donating it to the Club where it will be put to good use.

Many thanks, Ian Hughes

Trainees with their Instructors, enjoying an August RYA training weekend



Trainees:

Mark Aynsley, Anne Lauder,
Louise Grimmer, James Swire

Instructors:

Ian Hughes, Kath Hall,
Mark Newton.

RYA Level 1/2 trainee feedback on her training course

From: sheena o'brien

To: kath hall

Had a wonderful time today, I have been very, very lucky Kath on these courses to be with such very nice people.

Today they kinda spilt us up into the three women and the three 'kids', not sure how that happened.

Needless to say we three mature 'girls' loved our day of freedom.

Two brilliant instructors, wonderful food (totally stuffed at dinner) and great weather.

Laughing and serious all day.

Happy exhausted bunny tonight.

Sheena

Here's an opportunity to develop your skills
before deciding which dinghy to buy

What's on Offer

Use of Club Dinghies by
club members when not
being trained or coached

**Aim: To give recently
dinghy-trained club
members the opportunity
to develop their skills
without first having to
purchase a boat.**



- "First Come First Served" - no pre-booking available.
- Only when organised club sailing also planned
- Tues eve, Weds pm, Thurs eve, Sat pm, Sun am
- Scheme managed by Training Principal

Cost per dinghy per session:

Oppie, Topper £5, RS Vision, RS Quest, Wayfarer £10

Here's how it works

Open to Club members who:

- Are RYA Level 2 dinghy or better
- Have been shown how to rig, launch and recover the club dinghy
- Juniors and Cadets must be accompanied by a "Safeguarder"
- (this person does not have to sail but must always be "on-site")

Before sailing helms are asked to:

- Complete Dinghy Use Logbook (on Training Notice board).
- Complete the Payment Envelope & insert payment
- Post payment under bar door or give to Bar Steward
- Arrange access to Boathouse, rig dinghy & launch
- After recovery to shore de-rig & return sails / foils to Boathouse
- Ensure Boathouse / Clubhouse secure

Sporting Challenge Evening June 2017



Visitors to the club on a challenge evening back in June.

They obviously enjoyed it a great deal. They arranged to bring 7, plus support workers and brought 17! They'll come again next year too.

Thank you to our members who made it happen.

Helpful pairs of hands, safety crews, competent helms we need you all!

Contact Kath Hall training.secretary@wlyc.org.uk

West Lancs held the RC Laser National Championships on 9th/10th July



There were 20 skippers raring to go, with many competitors from West Lancs' amongst the numbers. On Saturday a light north-westerly wind had the course layout towards the bridge for the first beat. A triangle-sausage course with a gate at the leeward end caused problems, not only for skippers but also for the starting officials. Also a number of 'jump the gun' starts had many over the line. RO 'Captain Horn Blower' Clive Porter, with vigorous use of his bugle, soon gained the attention of the offenders.

On Sunday it was more of the sun ripening weather with slightly stronger winds - B rigs were the order of the day. Clive started the day off with a change of course, with the use of four buoys, sailing in a figure of eight pattern into a westerly. A commotion arose at one stage when some RC Lasers were being attacked by a swan whilst rounding a mark. Apparently a cygnet was hiding behind the buoy and the swan was only protecting it.

After 24 races with 3 discards Dave Fowler, of Blackpool and Fylde, won the event. First Junior was Jordan Porter, and youngest competitor Thomas Dorr, both from West Lancs.

Many thanks to both Organising and Catering teams who did a magnificent job.

Alan Tickle

WLYC 100 Club

There was much excitement at July's Executive Committee meeting (honestly), as Phil Lindsay, our Club Steward, drew the names of the first 100 Club winners from the hat.

Congratulations to our Prize Winners who shared more than £700 in prize money between them.

Thanks to all of you who bought a ticket for the draw, which raised almost £3,000 towards refurbishing the lounge of the Clubhouse. I'm looking forward to seeing the benefits of this in the coming months. Thanks to the hard work of our Commodore and many others, we managed to sell 37 tickets at £100 each. The scheme was so successful that we are planning to repeat it in 2018 when there will be another chance to win some great prizes.

If you didn't buy a ticket this time, please consider joining the 100 Club next year to support another great project.

Ian Hughes - Hon. Sec.

Welcome to New Members

Simon Andrews

Lydia Ashton

Holly Ashworth (daughter of Pete and Jules)

Mark Aynsley and Louise Grimmer

Chris Bailey

Rob Barnes (son of Richard)

Alexander Boyes

Sebastian Brix

David Burton with his son Henry Burton

Gordon Culshaw with his children Charlotte and Jack Culshaw

Martin Dooley

Kate Grace with her children

Charlotte Grace and Jamie Lovett-Grace

Michael Gribble (father of Mike)

Steven Hesketh with his son Luka Hesketh

Dylan and Connor Hurst (grandsons of Harry)

Patrick Lane with his granddaughter India Pietzsch-Lane

Craig Marshall with his daughter Daisy Gilliver

Attila Németh

Eric Shepherd

James Swire

Kaylie Taylor

Brad Walsh and Victoria Handley with their children Maya,

Tabitha and Lewis Handley-Walsh

Simon Winrow and Kate Munday

DIARY DATES

August Regular racing, Junior Training and Social Sailing continues
Ladies Who Launch Wednesdays - continues
Monday 28th August Bank Holiday
Thursday 31st S1 & S2 Racing starts at 19:00 (+supper) Note early start

September

Sunday 3rd

Please remove all boats from the dinghy park in preparation for the 24 Hour Race

Sunday 3rd Southport Lifeboat Pursuit Race - at SSC 10:30

Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th 24 Hour Race

Thursday 14th S3 Racing starts at 19:00 (+supper) Note early start

Friday 15th eve, Saturday 16th/Sunday 17th Southport Air Show

Saturday 16th Junior & OnBoard Training and Social Saturday Sailing

Saturday 16th Powerboat event - town side of lake 14:00 - 18:00

Sunday 17th **Air Show Barbeque**

Sunday 17th Series - Sep1 &2 &3 (incl Bart's Bash) at SSC 10:30

Tuesday 19th **Reunion Lunch 12:30 for 13:00**

Sunday 24th Joint One Day Event 6 (Final & Prizegiving) 10:30 at WLYC

Thursday 28th S5 Racing starts at 18:45 (+supper) Note even earlier start

Saturday 30th Junior & OnBoard Training and Social Saturday Sailing

Saturday 30th Sea Cadet National Regatta (Waterside Lodge)

October

Sunday 1st RYA Power Boat Levels 1 & 2 Day 1

Tuesday 3rd Commodore Offshore Cruise - starts

Sunday 8th RYA Power Boat Levels 1 & 2 Day 2

Sunday 8th Series - Oct1+Oct2+Oct3 10:30

Saturday 14th **Brasileiro Junior Race Day 13:00**

Sunday 15th RC Sailing Lasers N Champs and Dragon 65

Saturday 28th **Monkhouse Cup 14:30 - and Supper**

Sunday 29th BST ends RC Sailing End of Season Race

November

Friday 10th Club Autumn Supper - Offshore theme 19:30

Tuesday 14th **Reunion Lunch 12:30 for 13:00**

Saturday 25th **Prizegiving 19:30**

Next copy date: Sunday 5th November 2017

Golden.Lion@wlyc.org.uk

Editor: Kathy Robinson, Assistant Editor:

*The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the editor
nor of the WLYC Committee.*