



## HELFDORD RIVER SAILING CLUB



### SPRING NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2015

#### **COMMODORE'S REPORT**

Recently the weather has been sunny and dry and hopefully this is a good omen for the coming summer. Our new stewards Chris and Janet Conboye who started working at the Club a couple of months ago have been doing extremely well. It is worth coming down to the Club to try their good food and drink and to follow the entertaining and worthwhile emails they send out every week informing us of their menus and events.

Those of us who mess around in sailing, motor or any other type of boats will soon be enjoying the delights of the Helford River and sailing in Falmouth Bay and beyond. There have been a couple of working parties to get the racing marks and the Q20 ready for the Wednesday night racing as well as other sailing events. There will be more working parties needed in future and any Members' help would be greatly appreciated. Please keep an eye on the emails and website for notices of talks, entertainment, sailing events or anything else that may be happening.

Lastly I would like to wish all Members and their families a great season on and off the water and I look forward to seeing all of you at the Club during the year.

Mark Buckley - *Commodore*

#### **DINGHY RACING NEWS**

After the success of the 2014 season I think we are all looking forward to another fantastic fun and competitive season of dinghy racing on the Helford.

This season will again be a mix of line start courses, average lap racing and pursuit races. With the number of racers increasing we should be able to increase the use of the Q20 committee boat and have more line starts. Committee boat duties will be requested of racers during the season.

There will be a pre-season briefing on Thursday 16th April at 7.00pm.

The weekend races are mainly on Sundays and I hope to organise several fun Saturday events to encourage new sailors and progressing juniors to join the fleet. The formal racing starts on Thursday 23rd April but depending on weather and enthusiasm there may be some informal practice races earlier in April. These events will be notified by email circulation. The Dinghy Regatta Day will be on Saturday 11th July, with the first race at 10.30am. This will be a day of 5 average lap races allowing all standards of sailing ability and speed of dinghy to compete in fun exciting races.

The Susanna May Cup will be held on Saturday 8th August at 3pm.

The May family are again hosting this fun race afternoon and party/prize giving event, and everyone is welcome. My thanks to everyone who helped make the 2014 season such a success and I hope 2015 is as enjoyable for everyone.

If you would like to try dinghy sailing, experience racing or join the adult sailors in the Club fleet of Wayfarers on a Tuesday evening, then please get in touch. Email me on [andy.j.biggs@btinternet.com](mailto:andy.j.biggs@btinternet.com).

Andy Biggs - *Captain Dinghies*

## **JOHN LAWRENCE**

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of John Lawrence.

It is very likely that a lot of current Members do not know of John's huge input to the Club. The Club suffered a devastating fire in November 1987 and John (as Rear Commodore Amenities as it was known then) took up the baton and the result is the clubhouse that we now all enjoy.

The fire took out the whole of the bar area, which had to be totally rebuilt, and smoke damage blackened all of the Club's internal timbers. If you look carefully into the corners of the logs making up the walls, that is not dirt but smoke damage.

At that time the Club had very little money. There was no pontoon at the time of the fire and the membership was about 300; keen sailors but little social activity. The bar front (pre fire) was where the bar back is now and ceiling the same height as the dining area now. It was acknowledged that it was "a bit of a barn" to the extent that there was a curtain across the middle of the Club in an attempt to make it cosier.

The easy option would have been to re-instate as before but John had far better and forward looking ideas. However, the Club had no money. This did not deter John who secured a brewery loan of £10,000 to cover the cost of the refurbishment.

The ceiling was lowered, the bar moved to its current position, new settles and tables procured and the bar area seating installed. All is today largely as originally installed by John. In the meantime it was important to keep the Club going. The current stewards' flat became the bar. This was manned by volunteers and became a very social site – organised and overseen by John. It has to be said that John did all this while still running a very successful water treatment business.

Despite transferring his greater energies to the now very successful Helford River Gig Club of which he and Carol were the founding force and driving energy for many years, John always remained faithful to HRSC. John's and Carol's contribution to our very longstanding international L'Aber Wrac'h Race is worthy of an award in its own right.

Helford River Sailing Club is hugely indebted to John. He will be sadly missed.

## **HRSC LOYALTY CARDS**

Over the winter HRSC ran a Loyalty Card scheme which the Committee has reviewed and withdrawn as the benefits to Members and HRSC are far outweighed by the difficulties in running the scheme.

Bar prices have been reviewed and are the most reasonable in the local area so we hope for a good summer for both Members and visiting yachtsmen and women alike.

## **CLUB WEBSITE**

All information about events afloat and ashore plus the social calendar and in fact everything you need to know about the Club is regularly updated on our website. You can also download Race entry forms, Notice of Race, Sailing Instructions, Club accounts etc. and find out what is going on at your Club.

**[www.helfordriversc.co.uk](http://www.helfordriversc.co.uk)**

**"Going off the Shelf and out of soundings"  
"Raising funds for the Lizard Lifeboat and the Fishermen's Mission"  
"Simon's Offshore Sailing Challenge"**

Following on from last year's L'Aber Wrac'h result with *Shebeca* (Frances 26) in which I competed single handed, I have set myself an offshore challenge for this year in which I will compete in the Jester Singlehanded Challenge from Plymouth to Baltimore (open to any yacht under 30 ft and sailed singlehanded), and from there head SW past Fastnet Rock to a position off the Continental Shelf and back to Helford via Brest. This is a distance of 800 to 900nm which I hope to complete in under 10 days. To make it a bit more of a challenge I will attempt to navigate by sextant (still learning the black art of celestial navigation!) only resorting to GPS for furthest position verification. I will of course be equipped with EPIRB, liferaft etc and being out of range of shore based VHF communication, I have kindly been loaned a Delorme In Reach satellite tracker by Global Telesat Communications for the duration. This will enable anybody to keep track of my progress via a web portal link and I will also be able to send and receive texts or emails which will be useful for weather updates or in an emergency. These devices can be rented or purchased from GTC along with a full range of Iridium phones. If you would like to support me in raising funds for both these charities you can pledge a donation by sending me your email address, plus amount pledged to [s.fayers1@btinternet.com](mailto:s.fayers1@btinternet.com). You can also donate in person at the Lizard Lifeboat Station which is open most days from 10.00am to 16.00pm or online at [uk.virginmoneygiving.com/simonfayers](http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/simonfayers). If you wish to contact me for further information, or visit the Lizard Lifeboat station and see the lifeboat (being crew I can show you around), please email above or ring and leave a message on 01326 290644. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Thank you  
Simon Fayers

**EMAIL ADDRESSES**

Where possible all notices will be sent by email to those Members who wish to be kept informed about social and sailing events. This is normally done on a weekly basis - so if you don't want to miss out on events at your Sailing Club **PLEASE** let us have your email address.

Email - [hrsc-admin@btconnect.com](mailto:hrsc-admin@btconnect.com)  
or call 01326 231006

**WI FI** is available in the Clubhouse for Members and visiting yachtsmen.

**CAR PARK**

As usual may we please ask that all Members display their current 2015 car park stickers on their car windscreens. This year's stickers will be sent out with the newsletter. All non-members **must** park in the public car park. Regular checks are made during busy times so please make sure your current sticker is clearly visible.

Thank you.

**CLUB CLOTHING**

We have the following Club clothing for sale:

Navy polo shirts with Club logo	£17
Navy sweat shirts with Club logo	£18
Club T-shirts with design by Sarah Wimperis in Navy, Sky Blue & Red	
Men's	£10.00
Ladies'	£ 7.50
Children's	£ 5.00
Club ties in silk with new design	£18

Please ask in the office or at the bar if you would like to buy.

**POST OFFICE HOSTED OUTREACH FACILITY**

For the benefit of Members, local residents and visitors to the Club I am pleased to report that negotiations are ongoing for the provision of the above facility at HRSC. The arrangement will be the same as was provided at Down by the Riverside Café and will be operative for two hours on Friday mornings each week. Hopefully the facility will be operational from early summer.

Mark Gregory - *Honorary Secretary*



**DINGHY STORAGE**

For those of you who have dinghies and would like to keep them stored at the Club during the sailing season don't forget that we have the use of the grass area adjacent to the public car park for dinghy storage. The waiting list for the dinghy park on the foreshore is quite long but there is plenty of space available in the dinghy pen. The cost per season is £65.30 for adults and £38 for juniors.

This year we are also allocating space in the dinghy pen for Members wishing to store their trailers for the summer season. The cost of this is £52 per trailer.

Please contact Penny in the Club office on 01326 231006 or email [hrsc-admin@btconnect.com](mailto:hrsc-admin@btconnect.com) if you would like to book a space.

**BAR AND RESTAURANT OPENING TIMES SPRING/SUMMER 2015**

**Saturday 28th March - Sunday 28th June**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September - Sunday 27th September**

**Saturday & Sunday including Bank Holidays**

**Bar 12.00 - 15.00 & 18.00 - 23.00 Food 12.00 - 14.30 & 18.00 - 21.30**

**Tuesday to Friday**

**Bar 18.00 - 23.00 Food 18.00 - 21.30**

**Closed on Mondays except for Bank Holidays**

**Tuesday 30th June - Sunday 6th September**

**Bar open every day 11.00 - 23.00 including Bank Holiday**

**Breakfast 09.30 - 10.30 (bookings only)**

**Lunch 12.00 - 14.30**

**Dinner 18.00 - 21.30**

**Bank Holidays**

**Good Friday 3rd April**

**Easter Monday 6th April**

**Early Spring Bank Holiday Monday 4th May**

**Spring Bank Holiday Monday 25th May**

**Summer Bank Holiday Monday 31st August**

**For reservations please call  
Chris or Janet on  
01326 231460  
or email  
[chrisconboye@hotmail.com](mailto:chrisconboye@hotmail.com)**

**Please refer to HRSC  
website for any amendment  
in opening times  
[www.helfordriversc.co.uk](http://www.helfordriversc.co.uk)  
Bar & food may be available  
at other times by prior  
arrangement with the  
Steward.**

### **DRYING MOORINGS FOR RENT**

The Club has recently acquired six more drying moorings suitable for boats up to 22ft. These moorings are situated in a very convenient position not far from the end of the Club pontoon. The cost is £364 for the mooring season i.e. 1st April to 31st October 2015.

If you are interested in one of these moorings please contact Penny in the Club office on 01326 231006 or email [hrsc-admin@btconnect.com](mailto:hrsc-admin@btconnect.com). There is a chart in the office if you would like to call in and locate the exact position of the moorings.

### **THANK YOU FOR THE PHOTOS**

As there was not sufficient room in the Club 2015 Yearbook itself, we would like to acknowledge and thank Emma Broad and Stephen Brooks for supplying the excellent action photos to be found in this year's issue.

Many thanks to them both and please if you have any hi-resolution photos of Club activities we are always glad to receive them.

### **CLUB RULES**

May we remind Members that the Club rules are available to download from the Club website

[www.helforddriversc.co.uk](http://www.helforddriversc.co.uk).

If requested a hard copy may be obtained from the office. Please call 01326 231006.

### **ENTRANCE FEE FOR NEW MEMBERS**

The Committee has decided that, if desired, payment of the one off entrance fee for new Members can be spread over two years. This will hopefully ease the financial burden for new Members. Please contact Penny in the Club office for more details. Tel: 01326 231006 or email [hrsc-admin@btconnect.com](mailto:hrsc-admin@btconnect.com)

### **CALLING ALL DINGHY AND KEELBOAT RACERS**

This year there will be no race fees for dinghy and keelboat races nor for Tuesday evening dinghy sailing. Please come along and join in - the more the merrier even if you can only race occasionally!

### **VOLUNTEERS PLEASE**

The Club cannot be run efficiently without your support so if you feel you can spare a few hours to help out with any Club activities, please contact Virginia Richardson, Captain Social, by emailing [penarvon@hotmail.com](mailto:penarvon@hotmail.com), the Commodore, Mark Buckley on [julianbuckley@icloud.com](mailto:julianbuckley@icloud.com) or call the Club office on 01326 231006.

Thank you

### **HELFORD TO L'ABERWRAC'H RACE 2015**

This year the L'Aber Wrac'h Race will be held on Friday 26th June with the ever popular Champagne Recovery Party the night before. We look forward to welcoming the French competitors and, after the success of Simon Fayers, an HRSC Member, winning the race last year, it would be great to see Helford boats competing again this year.



## HRSC SOCIAL CALENDAR SPRING/SUMMER 2015

### APRIL

- Sunday 5th Easter Sunday. The Easter Bunny will be visiting the Club pontoon at 10.45 to 11.00 (depending on tides) to hand out Easter eggs to the children. Easter Sunday lunch will be available in the Clubhouse .
- Friday 17th A talk at the Clubhouse about 'Fireworks' by Tom Smith. Tom has his own fireworks consultancy and works all round the world on major fireworks events. 19.30 hrs start

### MAY

- Saturday 9th New Members Evening. 19.00 hrs start. A chance for new Members of the Club to meet the Committee. Wine and canapes will be served.

### JUNE

- Saturday 20th HRSC Albia Yacht Regatta Day
- Wednesday 24th Dorothy Winfrey Memorial Race
- Thursday 25th Pre L'Aber Wrac'h Champagne Recovery Party. Champagne and Pimms 19.00hrs to 20.00 hrs. £5 per person. Race office open at 19.00hrs. Live music and barbecue.
- Friday 26th 56th Annual Helford - L'Aber Wrac'h Race

### JULY

- Saturday 11th HRSC Dinghy Regatta 10.30hrs start.

### AUGUST

- Saturday 8th Susanna May Memorial Trophy Race 15.00hrs
- Sunday 9th As usual HRSC will be hosting the first day's sailing of Falmouth Week . This is our biggest social event so come along and enjoy great food and music. All welcome. Barbecue and afternoon teas for race crews.
- Sunday 16th Boat Treasure Hunt. 15.00hrs on the rising tide. For more details please check your emails or the Club website [www.helfordriversc.co.uk](http://www.helfordriversc.co.uk).

### SEPTEMBER

- Saturday 4th Talk by Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust 19.30hrs



Please let us have your email address so we can keep you updated about all Club events. Contact Penny on 01326 231006 or Janet on 01326 231460