



HELFDORD RIVER SAILING CLUB



SPRING NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2016

COMMODORE'S REPORT

Now that the winter is over, we will hopefully enjoy a far better summer than last year which will enable us all to get out onto the water and have lots of fun.

We have new Stewards who started at the Club just before Easter and we wish George and Linda Dykes the very best in their new venture. As we all know working here at the Club and keeping everyone happy is a challenging job! If you have any comments or suggestions please pass them on to our Vice Commodore, Heather Ibotson. May we take this opportunity to remind Members that only food purchased from the Stewards may be consumed on Club premises.

Training courses at the clubhouse are back on the agenda so please sign up to learn new skills or to refresh existing ones. The initial course run this year was the First Aid course on 2nd April. Please keep an eye on the Club website and emails for future courses.

We have now provided some facilities for children in the end room of the clubhouse so the whole family can now come down and enjoy time together at the Club. Parents are reminded that children do need to be supervised at all times please.

The ever popular adult dinghy training on Tuesday nights will continue. Wednesday evening keelboat racing needs a lot more support this year. Handicap, 707 and white sail racing can all be accommodated so please come along and join in. Dinghy racing on Thursday evenings has a strong and active contingent and is very competitive and will no doubt thrive again this season. Junior sailing will take place again on Friday evenings and is, as always, very well supported.

During the winter months Yoga classes have been held at the clubhouse and these will soon be joined by Art and Spanish classes. Please look out for notices about these and possible other classes on the website and emails.

Now is a particularly good time to join the Helford River Sailing Club as the joining fee has been reduced to £10 so please encourage your friends to join.

We have an active social calendar planned for this summer as you will see later on in this Newsletter. Notable amongst the events are the L'Aber Wrac'h Champagne Party on Thursday 23rd June and the Falmouth Week Helford Regatta Day on Sunday 7th August. Please come along and support your Club and our new Stewards.

Finally may I wish all Members a very happy and fun-packed summer both on and off the water and I am looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible down at the clubhouse.

Mark Buckley - *Commodore*

DINGHY RACING NEWS

What a great 2015 year hosted by Team Captains Dinghies Andy and Karen Biggs. Writing this with 70 mph gusts outside we are reminded how generous the wind was with only one outright race cancellation. Andy gained huge support from the Committee for re-investment in 2016 dinghy racing –

Two RS Visions - think Wayfarer with easy righting / crew recovery, naturally aspirated with huge Spinnaker and a 1134 Handicap to die for. The perfect introduction to club racing.

A dual purpose Safety / Committee boat with a robust construction we think will tempt more Safety Boaters out in all weathers.

We need to get on the water a little earlier for three equipment acquaint sessions starting 3rd April to hone our Safety and Asymmetric skills before racing starts on 14th April.

Andy on andy.j.biggs@btinternet.com is keen to take out new and adult Members for refresher race training in the Visions on Tuesday evenings or as convenient. If any juniors' parents are kicking their heels on the quay, we hope to offer similar temptation on Friday evenings. The Club's stock of lovingly maintained Wayfarers is also available for adult sailing / training on Tuesday evenings. Contact Dave Sumner on 01326 240350 or mouldyoldboats@googlemail.com.

We are actively exploring ways HRSC and HRCST can encourage the flow of adults and juniors into racing and hope there are opportunities with RNAS Cudrose. The Club, founded in 1948 by many ex-RN members, naturally should exploit their "special relationship".

Saturday 18th June 14:00 – HRSC Dinghy Regatta: we have the return of the Junior Feva Travellers, Laser 4.7ers, and let's see if we can lure RNAS Cudrose to the friendly melee. We are delighted and proud to have secured Commodore Grafham Water - Tom Smith, to RO the day. Tom will require the generous loan of a Committee boat capable of comfortably holding 4-6 volunteer spotters and recorders under cover.

Saturday 23rd July 18:00 - Susanna May Memorial Cup: the perennially popular event for the May family and friends to joust with HRSC Dinghies. Congratulations to Captain Reginald 'Fido' Vivian-May for his British Empire Medal awarded last September!

Saturday 17th or Sunday 18th September - Bart's Bash: www.bartsbash.com it is appropriate in an Olympic year to honour Sir Ben Ainslie's late friend Bart Simpson by sailing for Bart on 18th September.

I look forward to meeting old and new rivals alike on the river for an exciting programme of Club racing, regattas, and even the odd expedition or two.

Stephen Brooks - *Captain Dinghies* helforddinghies@gmail.com



The Club has made significant progress with our new CRM database software. We have now manually updated the entire membership and are in the process of setting up new contact lists, mailing templates, duty rosters, calendar and many other functions that can help enhance our communication with our Members. One outcome of this project is to involve you as a Member more in what we are doing as a Club so that you will get maximum benefit from your membership.

One noticeable result of the project so far is that we only have email contacts for around 50% of our Members. Since most of our communication at present is by email, we are only reaching half our membership!

We now have the capability for each Member to log into their own contact details and update these individually and we now need to rely on you to update these. You will shortly be receiving an email with login details and a password unique to you. The URL to access the database is: helfordriversc.website.clubmin.net.

Type this into your browser address bar, press enter and it will take you to the Members page. Enter your email address and the password that has been sent to you and this will give you access to your own record and profile. You can place information about yourself, your boat, your relationships with family etc. and also see the Club membership, calendar, duty rosters etc. We will draft up a complete procedure and post this on the HRSC website. In the future, we hope to make access to your individual records through the HRSC website. Please help us to get this project fully underway. If you are having any difficulty logging in, i.e. you don't have an email address logged with us, then please send an email to Penny at hpsc-admin@btconnect.com. Penny will then update your record with the new email address and send you a password to enable your logging in.

Our thanks go to Sue Hewett, John Lake and Clive Dudley for the work they are doing to get this project afloat. We would also like to thank Jeff Meadows for his continuing administration of our great looking website.

EMAIL ADDRESSES (See above)

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 - hpsc-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 2016 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
Club burgee	£35

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

DONATE A LASER

HRSC Junior Teen Racing



We have a thriving Junior Teen Racing section that competes amongst themselves and seniors.

HRSC Juniors need

2-4 GOOD condition Lasers

New Lasers cost £5000 so $x 4 = £20,000$ - way beyond the Juniors Budget. So we would love your Lonely Laser

Put delicately, your **pristine** (no flowerbed or hedge gap fillers please) Laser is required, for a good cause – but not the best of homes.

Contact

Lizard: Captain Juniors:

[Nick Glossop](#) 07884 433130

Mainland: Captain Dinghies

[Stephen Brooks](#) 07763 703999

CLUBHOUSE FACILITIES

We are making an effort to create a multi-purpose area in the end room of the clubhouse to include a training room which will provide much needed training courses.

We will also be including facilities for children. However may we remind Members that it is the responsibility of the parents for the children's supervision and welfare when using the Club.

Thank you

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



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 if you would like to book a space.

BAR AND RESTAURANT OPENING TIMES SPRING 2016

Tuesday 5th April - Sunday 26th June

Saturdays & Sundays including Bank Holidays

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

Tuesdays to Fridays

Bar 18.00 - 23.00 Food 18.00 - 21.30

Closed on Mondays except for Bank Holidays

Bank Holidays

Early Spring Bank Holiday Monday 2nd May

Spring Bank Holiday Monday 30th May

Late Summer Bank Holiday Monday 29th August

**For table reservations please
call George or Linda on
01326 231460
or email
geordie.lin@gmail.com**

**Please refer to the HRSC
website for any amendment
in opening times
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. There is a chart in the office if you would like to call in and locate the exact position of the moorings.

WAYFARERS IN 2016

As a new season inexorably approaches the pulse quickens, the eyesight becomes somehow sharper and the distant autumnal smells of rotting leaves become past memories. There are some of us in the Club whose Tuesday evening delight is to take a Club Wayfarer out onto one of the most delightful stretches of coastline in the South West, which is our very own Helford River.

Unfortunately, before that can happen the ageing fleet of Wayfarers has to be brought up to scratch and the numerous problems which are a legacy of the previous season, and in some cases, (seasons) before, have to be remedied. All of this requires the co-operation of the Tuesday night group of stalwarts who, for reasons best known to themselves, are more than willing to help maintain these ageing craft, especially if beer is involved!

The operational maintenance plan will have been carefully crafted over the winter season when, instead of spending time out on the freezing water on a Tuesday night, the bar sailing programme plays a pivotal and essential part of the Wayfarer maintenance planning programme.

For those of you Club Members who may not be aware of the Tuesday evening sailing programme with the Wayfarer fleet, you should know that regular Members provide a means to get intimately acquainted with the Helford River at a slightly less frenetic pace than might otherwise be the case with the racing component within the Club. The joy of having a Club which entertains a diversity of interest is to be much admired in my opinion. Catering for everybody's needs is difficult however; for those of us whose racing days and interests are dwindling into old age and obscurity, the gentle art of Wayfarer sailing fulfils our, and maybe your, need to the very letter?

The majority of the "Tuesday nighters" have reasonably extensive experience of various types of craft and, as a result, can provide a pathway to learn sailing skills or to regain forgotten ones. We accommodate all ages and over the years have catered for the young, old, and even those with learning difficulties with a degree of success commensurate with the enthusiasm that is brought to the evening. During the season we usually enjoy a barbecue which is always well patronised and our post sailing analysis of the evening's events at the bar afterwards can be interesting if not revealing.

So, if you fancy trying something new, or old, just remember that we assemble after 1730hrs and are usually out on the water by 1830hrs. We aim to be back on the moorings by 2000 – 2030 hrs. Please let us know in advance if you will be joining us so we can plan to allocate you a seat in a boat as sometimes it can become quite cosy out there on the water if we get too many people. Life jackets are essential and warm clothing will be needed in the early and latter part of the season. We try to accommodate all concerned ...depending on the tides.

Dave Sumner - Tuesday evening Wayfarer Group

mouldyoldboats@googlemail.com



HRSC SOCIAL CALENDAR SPRING/SUMMER 2016

APRIL

- Saturday 16th **Quiz Night and Play Your Cards Right.** Great fun entertainment.
19.00 hrs.
- Tuesday 19th **'AZAB - Just Do It'** An illustrated talk by John and Tom Lake on the challenges of preparing for and taking part in this unique sailing event.
19.00 hrs.
- Saturday 23rd **Last Night of the Proms.** Three course British dinner and sing-along.

MAY

- Saturday 21st **Barbecue on the Balcony**

JUNE

- Saturday 18th **HRSC Dinghy Regatta**
- Wednesday 22nd **Dorothy Winfrey Memorial Race. Barbecue**
- Thursday 23rd **Pre L'Aber Wrac'h Champagne Recovery Party.** A celebration of the arrival of the L'Aber Wrac'h race crews with food and live music. Champagne and Pimms 18.30hrs to 19.30hrs. £5 per person. Race office open at 19.00hrs.
- Friday 24th **57th Annual Helford - L'Aber Wrac'h Race**

JULY

- Saturday 23rd **Susanna May Memorial Cup Dinghy Race**

AUGUST

- Sunday 7th 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 provided by 'Loose Change' There will also be the legendary afternoon teas for the race crews. All welcome.
- Wednesday 17th **Commodore's Cup 18.30 hrs. Barbecue**

We are planning a Summer Ball at the Club at the end of August and details will be posted later. This will be in place of our Annual Dinner Dance in January which has not been supported. Let's make this a special night for all Members.

All social events and opening hours are posted on our Facebook page and on the website

www.helfordriversc.co.uk

Our stewards George and Linda are serving a full menu in the clubhouse. To book a table call 01326 231460 or email geordie.lin@gmail.com



YACHT RACING AND CRUISING

We had a very useful yacht wash-up meeting recently at which we discussed the current interest in racing and cruising among Club Members. The minutes of the meeting are on the Club website (www.helfordriversc.co.uk) in the Yachts section.

I am sure that many of us are aware that the level of participation in yacht racing has declined significantly over the last couple of years. No doubt there are a number of reasons for this and you will see from the meeting minutes that we have agreed various actions to address matters.

One of the things that the meeting thought might be putting off potential yacht racers from joining in was cost so I have put together a short list of our 707 costs for last year.

They were as follows:-

Mooring- £650, Insurance - £193, Crane in out and trailer storage - £426, Winter storage - £300, General maintenance and antifouling - £290, Total £1859.

Obviously some of these costs could be reduced by self-launching, recovery and storage. Boats are currently available for around £5,000 so shared amongst a syndicate this represents very affordable racing.

However the most important thing that we on the Committee must do to encourage participation is to find out from Members what we all want with regard to racing and cruising and then to try to address these requirements.

Therefore if you are at all interested in participating in any sort of racing, or any sort of cruising events, and have any suggestions which we could put into practice which would encourage your participation, do please let us know what they might be.

Either email me, Nick Gough (nickcarolgough@yahoo.co.uk) Captain Yachts, or if you would prefer, have a chat with Pat Scannell (pat.scannell@btinternet.com) Joint Captain Yachts, or Clive Dudley (clive.dudley@btinternet.com) Rear Commodore Sailing.

Do please get in touch as we are keen to revitalise sailing together at the Club.

Nick Gough - *Captain Yachts*

RACE OFFICERS NEEDED PLEASE!

The Race Officer rota on page 35 of the 2016 Club Yearbook has many empty slots. We need more volunteers. If you can help please would you either put your name on the Duty List by the bar in the clubhouse or contact Nick Gough or Pat Scannell (details above).

Thank you