



## COMMODORES REPORT

DEAR MEMBERS

In the midst of the vibrant 2023 sailing season on the Helford River, the Junior Club has had an eventful year, with sailing activities smoothly sailing through with minimal cancellations, a feat attributed to the dedication of our activity Captains. The Club has seen a remarkable surge in membership, with over ninety new members joining, solidifying our position as an attractive and engaging organization to be part of.

Throughout the year, our members have been impeccably served by our exceptional staff. From Louise & Richard efficiently handling your inquiries in the office to Ollie's team providing stellar service at the bar, the experience at the Club has been nothing short of exceptional. Nathan and the team of the Cornish Food Hub have managed the kitchen with remarkable efficiency, offering a diverse and changing menu on a weekly basis.

At times, we've extended the Club's hospitality to non-members, especially during special events like the Helford Village Regatta Fireworks Display, where locals and visitors gather to enjoy the stunning display from the Club balcony. Acquiring a temporary license for such occasions not only safeguards our bar license but also serves as an opportunity to showcase our Club to potential future members.

Our Club exists for our members, encompassing the convenience of the car park, the accessibility of the pontoon, the warmth of the Clubhouse, and all that embodies the Helford River Sailing Club (HRSC). The option of signing in guests is available to all, and it is imperative that we ensure this privilege is not exploited. The HRSC committee works tirelessly on behalf of our members and always welcomes your input on enhancements we can implement.

As the water activities wind down for the winter, we eagerly anticipate your presence at our various winter social events. The comprehensive program of events has been published online, circulated via email, and will be continuously updated as new events come to fruition. My heartfelt appreciation goes out to our Committee for their unwavering commitment and extraordinary efforts in managing the Club, and to our entire membership for your continued support. I eagerly look forward to welcoming many of you to the Club during the forthcoming winter months.

*Chris Hosken – Commodore*

## VICE COMMODORES REPORT

Even with the unfavourable weather over the last part of our summer, the clubhouse has been very busy. Ollie and his bar staff have made everyone feel welcome while Nathan and his CFH team have served up some great food. There is a new winter menu coming out soon so please come and try it.

We seemed to have an increase in visiting yachts this summer; many anecdotes and stories have been exchanged in the bar over the season from around the country and further afield. I was told several times that HRSC is a really relaxed and friendly club and that visitors always feel welcome.

Our office team, Richard and Louise, have settled in well and are doing a good job modernising how we collect, collate and store information on our membership and services. All their hard work is really impressive and will streamline things for the future.

We have some wonderful events planned for the winter and planning for the 2024 summer season is in full swing. As ever keep your eyes on our socials and your inbox.

*Nick Glossop – Vice Commodore*

## TREASURER'S REPORT

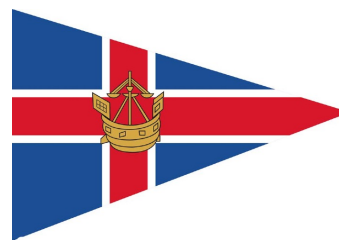
2023 has been a successful financial year for the club turning out much better than I allowed for in my original budget. Membership income which is about 27% of club turnover not only held up but increased, in spite of the squeeze on peoples' finances. The budget last year assumed about £80k would be spent on upgrading the clubhouse, carpark and pontoons but for various reasons most of this expenditure was not carried out and is to be done this winter. As a result our cash reserves have increased by about £50k, but it is planned to spend about £100k on various upgrades in this new financial year. Included in this, is improving the drainage in the carpark to avoid mud and leaves at the bottom of the steps to the balcony, possible carpark resurfacing and white lining, fixing the leak in the conservatory which may mean a new roof, office improvements and realigning the bridge onto the pontoon. Inevitably there will be repairs and bits of the pontoon that need replacing – it is policy to update and replace worn parts every year rather than arrive at a point of having to completely replace it all at a cost of towards £500k. I am also conscious of our surveyors comments from 2022 that the main club roof is past its 'sell-by' date and we should be prepared for re-roofing in the not too distant future.

Whereas we managed to save costs in various areas of club finance in the year to Sep 2022, this year costs have escalated across the board (as expected) and most of these are fixed costs like wages which carry forward to the future so we have to proceed with caution.

To summarize we are in a strong cash position with the ability to carry out much needed improvements to the club infrastructure. My draft budget for the 2023/24 year is looking reasonably good but with all material costs and services escalating at a rate well above general inflation, the committee have decided to raise some membership costs by small amounts.

*Mike Lowe*  
*Honorary Treasurer*

## **2024 MOORING FEES** (1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> October)



<b>DEEP WATER MOORING</b> per 300mm (minimum charge £550 at the discretion of the Committee)	£40
<b>DRYING MOORING</b> (Boats up to 22ft)	£590
<b>SAILING DINGHY PARK (ADULT)</b>	£125
<b>SAILING DINGHY PARK (JUNIOR)</b>	£85
<b>SAILING DINGHY PARK RACK</b>	£80
<b>CANOES, KAYAKS, PADDLEBOARDS</b>	£75
<b>TENDER ON PONTOON</b> (under 3.25m)	£125

**TENDER ON PONTOON** - there is no waiting list for boats under 3.25metres - spaces for these are allocated on a first come first served basis from January onwards by contacting the Club office.

If your tender on the pontoon has an outboard engine please could you ensure that you place a bucket over the propeller to avoid damage to other boats.

<b>TRAILER SUMMER STORAGE</b>	£75
<b>INFLATABLE RACK</b>	£75
<b><u>FINGER BERTH MOORINGS</u></b> (All boats regardless of length)	£360
Maximum Length: 5 Metres	Beam: 2 Metres
Maximum Weight: 450kg	
Maximum Outboard: 2 stroke 90hp or 4 stroke 75hp	

All finger berths, dinghy park and mooring spaces are allocated via a waiting list system. If you would like your name added to the list (one per family) please contact the office on 01326 231006 or [admin@helfordriversc.co.uk](mailto:admin@helfordriversc.co.uk)

## **2024 MEMBERSHIP FEES**

<b>JOINT MEMBERSHIP</b>	£255
<b>SINGLE MEMBERSHIP</b>	£163
<b>FAMILY JUNIOR</b> (under 18 partaking in club activities)	£25
<b>JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP</b> (Where No Joint or Single membership is associated)	£60
<b>CADET MEMBERSHIP</b> (student over 18)	£45
<b>HOLIDAY</b> (Temporary) MEMBERSHIP per week – 2 weeks MAX p/a	£60

**HELFORD RIVER SAILING CLUB**  
**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Helford River Sailing Club will be held at the Clubhouse at 19.30 hrs on Friday 26th January 2024 at which the following business will be transacted:

**AGENDA**

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting
3. Commodore's Report
4. Honorary Treasurer's Report - Approval of Accounts
5. Election of Officers
6. Election of Club Accountants
7. Any Other Business

**General Committee**

This year a large number of the general committee have completed their terms of office, these are:

**Flag Officers**

Commodore, Vice Commodore, Rear Commodore Sailing, Rear Commodore Amenities  
Captains of Adult Sailing, Dinghies & Safety Boats

and The Honorary Secretary is Retiring

In accordance with club rule 20, nominations for the above positions duly proposed and seconded must be received by the Hon Sec not less than 7 days before the AGM. Candidates for the flag officers must have previous service on the general committee. Nomination forms will be displayed on the club notice board from November.

**At Close of Meeting**

Immediately following the close of the AGM, the meeting will be opened for General Discussion of any topics raised by Members.

Nominations for election of Officers must be sent in writing, duly proposed and seconded, to the Honorary Secretary not less than 7 days before the AGM. Items of Any Other Business must be submitted in writing to the Honorary Secretary at least 28 days before the Annual General Meeting (in accordance with Club Rules 18,20 and 32 respectively).

If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else for a position on the Committee please contact the office on 01326 231006 for a nomination form.

*Peter Lethfead-Currie - Honorary Secretary*

## CLUB RULES

### HRSC Boat Stickers

This year for various reasons the office received our boat stickers much later than we would have liked, resulting in the boat stickers being released after many boats were already on the pontoon, in the dinghy park, or on the inflatable rack. Some of these did not have a 2023 sticker applied for the rest of the season which made them difficult to identify, causing problems for our team in the office. This year the stickers have been ordered in good time so will be available from January 2024.

In 2024 payment for finger berths, the pontoon, the dinghy park and the inflatable rack must be received no later than the 1st of March. Where applicable any member with unpaid dues by the 1st of March will return to the bottom of the waiting list and their berth reallocated. Our Office team will be strictly adhering to this rule. On receipt of the payment the boat stickers will be sent to you by post. You should receive the stickers within a week in good time for the 1st of April.

ALL vessels on HRSC premises MUST display their current boat stickers which will be numbered and registered for identification purposes. This year photos of any vessels not displaying a current boat sticker will be posted on Facebook and the HRSC website.

### Finger Berths

When a member is allocated a finger berth this is strictly for their identified stickered vessel only. If a member is temporarily unable to use their berth due to extended absence or illness, they may contact the office to temporarily organise a sublet of the berth using the club waiting list. It is the club's responsibility to sublet berths in these circumstances, members are not allowed to do so themselves.

### Winter Storage

It has come to our attention that some kayaks, canoes etc. on the premises do not display current stickers. If you wish to continue to keep your vessels on the premises over the winter please get in touch with the office to purchase the 2023 boat sticker. Please note that photos of all vessels on the premises after the 1st of November without a current sticker will be posted on Facebook and the website. Owners of such vessels must come forward within 28 days. After that we are at liberty to dispose of them.

### Signing in Guests

We would like to remind members to sign in their guests in order to comply with the terms of our Members Licence.

### Parking

Parking at the club can be a problem especially during the peak summer period. Please ensure that your guests park in the public carpark which at present is free after 4.00pm every day.

Finally, following the club rules is to the benefit of everyone and ensures the smooth running of our club.

Many thanks for your cooperation.

HRSC Committee





## ESCAPE FROM THE HELFORD RIVER

Early in September I realised the weather was perfect for a trip across Falmouth Bay in the Wayfarers. I had been waiting for an opportunity to escape from the Helford in the Club Wayfarers all season so, although it was short notice for the adult sailors, I decided to just go for it.

The original passage plan had been to cross the bay to St. Mawes. As it was short notice, there were only 8 of us able to make it, 2 in each of the Wayfarers and Rose and Ken Burley who were driving the Zodiac. The Wayfarer crews were myself & Sarah Marsland in One Too Many, Paul and Joanne in No4, Richard Shepherd & new adult sailing member Tim Janaway in Red Snapper.

The wind was unfortunately right on the nose so as often happens when sailing, we had a rethink and decided to go to Maenporth instead. This as it happens turned out to be the perfect plan. When we arrived on the beach it felt like we had just arrived in the Mediterranean. The sky was blue, the temperature was in the mid-twenties and the beach was looking like something out of an Italian movie. We arrived at around 12 noon and with low tide at 2.00pm we realised that we wouldn't be able to float off until around 4.00pm. So, with 4 hours on a sun soaked beach, what was not to like! We ate lunch at the Maenporth Cafe and were joined by the families of Richard and Tim who luckily we were able to divert from heading to St Mawes to Maenporth instead without too much hassle. Sarah had brought a delicious cake for us to share.

Sadly, by the time we had floated off at 4.00pm the wind had dropped so we had to resort to being towed back to the Helford entrance by the Safety Boat. On arrival, Sarah and I were able to sail up the river on a strong flooding tide with a gentle breeze behind us. It was a perfect end to a perfect day.

Let's hope for more escapes next year!

If you would like to join the Adult Sailors next year, please get in touch.

*Angie Watson – Captain Adult Sailing*



## CAPTAIN JUNIORS REPORT

The 2023 Junior Sailing season was a great one. Despite the bad weather in August and the need for a couple of clubhouse theory sessions, we got lots of sailing in.

Forty-three juniors signed up for the programme this year, with the creation of an additional Stage 4+ for the more experienced kids to learn and practice some advanced skills in racing. My thanks extended to all the families who brought their children to the slipway week after week from May to September. Thanks also to the keelboat owners who made Junior Helm Night happen at the end of the season, where our juniors were able to experience the helming of a much larger vessel.

The season culminated in a fabulous Posh Nosh party at the beginning of October where we awarded the following trophies for some stand-out performances:

- Optimist Champion Cup - Rose Lawry
- Acorn Cup for great potential - Tiggy Blackstone-Karaponos
- Carol Lawrence Cup for most promising newcomer - Yolanda Freeman
- Topper Cup for best single-hander - Oliver Stone
- Most Improved Junior Cup - Pearl Nolan
- Dubois Junior Cup - Lucas Shepherd
- Junior Yacht Helm Cup - Olivia Cattle
- Andrew Ward Cup for consistency, courtesy and commitment- Florence Cunliffe
- The Hewett Family Cup - Jo and Sebastien Rowe
- The Stella Cup for excellence in attitude and attainment - Daisy Norton
- The Propshaft Award for the biggest mishap this season - Riley Shepherd

We shared a well-received flatbread BBQ from Nathan and his team, and we partied the night away with the brilliant band Flight 42. Thank you to everyone who came along to support our event, and to all the bar staff for looking after us all on this very busy evening.

Of course, none of this is possible without our Junior Sailing family, a team of dedicated volunteers who tirelessly put themselves forward to support our juniors as they progress in their sport. Chris H, Bex, Marc, Fin, Chris S, Sam, Duncan, Nick, Freya, Kitty, Evie, Saffy, T-H, Peter, James N, Andrew, James S, Jono, Jo, Verena, Wolfe, Steve - Junior Sailing is the successful sum of all your efforts, thank you for everything.

See you next season!

*Vanessa Glossop - Captain Juniors*





## CAPTAIN YACHTS REPORT

We have a growing Yacht Racing scene here at Helford River Sailing Club with new boats and crews joining our weekly racing evenings. I've had the pleasure of adding my own boat Shere Khan to the regular roll of participants. In 2023 our season included overseeing 3 series of club racing, the highly anticipated annual L' Aber-Wrac'h race, and the exhilarating Falmouth Week, all of which were met with resounding success.

Looking ahead, we are excited to invite all keel boats, regardless of class, to get involved in the 2024 season of purpose-driven sailing. Our Wednesday evening Series Racing, starts from early May until late September. Courses are set at the river mouth or in the bay, based on the prevailing weather conditions. Races are primarily conducted on a handicap average lap time basis, ensuring that even the swiftest boats are on an equitable playing field. While the more agile boats might complete three laps, securing competitiveness with just two laps is indeed achievable, subject to your handicap. Exact details of the marks used are available to view on the HRSC website.

We also suggest you join to our Facebook group. (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/hrscyachtracing>) serves as an ideal platform for your networking needs.

If you are eager to be part of any of our upcoming events, be it as a crew member, a yacht owner, or as an integral part of our Race Officer team, please do get in touch. Your enthusiasm and participation are the lifeblood of our sailing community.

*Captain Yachts - Rowland Kirby*

## THE HELFORD RALLY – 20-21<sup>st</sup> JUNE – TIM PRICE

The Helford Rally traditionally follows straight on from the always popular Falmouth Classics and this

Don Garman Photo Julian Eley



year we were blessed with a fine and warm June. Depending on the state of the tides there are always a number of options for the

Photo Julian Eley





welcoming barbecue and also the venue for the prizegiving supper. This year the barbecue was held at Tremayne Quay which hosted 30 members to the "bring your own meat" barbecue. The SW Gaffers provided the salads and the puddings made by Pauline Garman and Don Garman facilitated the event by bringing the barbecues with him in his launch. We welcomed 2 intrepid small boat owners; Julian Eley from Solent Gaffers but living in Bristol and Peter and Sarah Elliston from the South Coast Gaffers. We also welcomed Don Thompson from the Channel Islands who was overawed by the beauty of Tremayne Quay (here seen through the masts of Julian's Bass boat).

The rationale for the event is to hold a sailing rally. Albeit we had 15 boats at the event, only 10 boats entered the racing in 2 classes. There were 6 boats in the 12 – 22' class and a further 4 in the 22 – 32' class. Unfortunately the Buddens in their new boat Black Goose were not able to enter because their lifting keel was stuck in the raised position. The day started out fine with light winds from SSE strengthening to F3 gusting 4. Class 1 raced out to Nare Point and Maenporth and back whilst class 2 completed 3 circuits out to St Dennis and back through the Estuary. Amazingly the lead boats from both classes came in within 2 minutes of each other – couldn't have arranged it better even if I had tried. The prizegiving supper was held at the Helford River Sailing Club and prizes awarded by their Commodore Chris Hosken. 1<sup>st</sup> prize in Class 1 was to Don Thompson in Foxhound and Pauline Garman in Mary Ritchie was second. In class 2 the 1<sup>st</sup> prize went to Julian Wolfram in Zoe and Peter and Sarah Elliston in Papa Little were a close fought second. The meal, yet again, was quite excellent and we must thank the Club for hosting an excellent evening.

Don Thompson Photo Steve Lorraine



Julian Wolfram Photo Steve Lorraine



## AUTUMN / WINTER SOCIAL EVENTS

NOVEMBER 11<sup>th</sup> SATURDAY 7PM

HIT & MISS- CORNISH SINGERS

NOVEMBER 18<sup>th</sup> SATURDAY 7PM

QUIZ NIGHT

NOVEMBER 25<sup>th</sup> SATURDAY 11- 4PM

RNLI CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR  
THE ALL GOOD THINGS - CAROLS

DECEMBER 9<sup>th</sup> SATURDAY 7PM

CHRISTMAS QUIZ

DECEMBER 17th SUNDAY 12 Noon  
CHRISTMAS LUNCH VISIT FROM SANTA

DECEMBER 20th WEDNESDAY 7PM  
CAROLS WITH ST KEVERNE BAND

DECEMBER 22nd FRIDAY 6.30PM  
PRALLA SINGERS WINTER SOLSTICE CONCERT

DECEMBER 31st SUNDAY  
**NEW YEARS EVE PARTY**  
LIVE MUSIC TIGER TALES @ 9PM

JANUARY 6th SATURDAY 7PM  
NEW YEAR QUIZ

JANUARY 17th WEDNESDAY 8PM TBC  
TALK - IAN JONES CEO GOONHILLY EARTH STATION

JANUARY 21st SUNDAY 2PM  
LIVE MUSIC WILL EASON & JOE HURWORTH

FEBRUARY 3rd SATURDAY 7PM  
QUIZ NIGHT

FEBRUARY 7th WEDNESDAY 8PM  
TALK - HOLIDAYING ON THE FRENCH CANALS  
VICTORIA BOLITHO

FEBRUARY / MARCH  
DINNER DANCE TBC



**HELFORD RIVER SAILING CLUB**



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