

## ADULT SAILING GROUP AUTUMN REPORT 2017

As the end of the year falls upon us like the leaves from the scrub oaks that line the river banks, we can take stock of the successes and achievements of the adult sailing group. Such has been the popularity of the adult sailors group that there are now two days of the week i.e. Tuesday and Saturday, that are open to those who feel in need of either renewing or exploring for the first time, the salty environment that is the Helford.

The Wayfarer fleet has been supplemented by the Drascombe Lugger which has provided an ideal platform to teach the basics of sailing in a not quite so frenetic environment as the smaller Wayfarer can give us. In addition, this larger vessel gives suitably qualified Club Members a chance to explore the river on days other than Tuesday and Saturday in a bit more comfort. This larger platform with its engine can provide the ability to cope with most weather conditions and give Club Members an all-season opportunity to explore the river with friends and family in the same boat as there is space for four or five souls.

The fleet can only operate by virtue of the fact that members of the group put in their own time to maintain the boats as wear and tear take a toll on this fleet of ageing ladies. I would like to say a big thank you to Angie and Peter Watson, John Hilton and all the rest of the willing helpers who worked their socks off to get the boats up to scratch. At this point I would also like to say thanks to the rescue boat crews who shepherd us on Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings - it is much appreciated. The boats have been pulled out of the water now and are awaiting our ministrations for their winterisation. This requires quite a bit of help from all concerned to turn them over and powerwash them so that they can be anti-fouled later next year prior to being launched in April.

All in all it was a successful season in which we had our fair share of too much or not enough wind or tide. Despite this, we all enjoyed the wonderful opportunity the Club affords us to enjoy the Helford River. Do not forget that if you are suitably qualified you can take out a Wayfarer during the week providing you have been signed off as competent. What's not to like?

Dave Sumner - Adult Sailing Group

## THANK YOU TO OUR 2017 SPONSORS

As ever we would like to extend a big thank you to our 2017 Race Sponsors:

Hine Downing Solicitors - Early Summer Yacht Series  
Budock Vean Hotel - Mid Summer Yacht Series  
Ancasta International Yacht Sales - Race Marks

As we begin the winter work on our fleet of Wayfarers and the Lugger we can reflect on a successful summer of Adult Dinghy Sailing. In addition to the ever popular Tuesday evening sail under the watchful eye of Dave Sumner, we, for the first time, took to the water on Saturdays, where we welcomed Club Members and invited prospective members to join us.

On Saturdays we needed the support of experienced helms and I would like to thank Paul Randall who supported me at every session. The most exciting thing was the support generously given by other sections of the Club. In particular I would like to give a big thank you to Andy Biggs, Andrew Hosking and Roger McDonald from the racing section and Tom Smith who joined us in his 707. So good to see sections of the Club enjoying working together. A big thank you also to Simon Drakeley and Nick Etchells for their constant support in the safety boat. Next year we hope to include Fevas and RS Visions in the Saturday fleet.

Angie Watson

# HELFDORD RIVER SAILING CLUB

## WINTER 2017 NEWSLETTER

### COMMODORE'S REPORT

Now that most of the boats and yachts are on dry land for safety over the winter season, and waiting for repairs and servicing to be done before launching again for next summer which I hope goes well for all Members, we have time to reflect on the season which hopefully we have all enjoyed.

The Club has been very popular this year and our new stewards have done extremely well. Word has been spreading up and down the coast about the great atmosphere and food at the Club. As a result of this we have had visits from many visiting yachtsmen and women, other sailing clubs and South West Gaffers to name but a few, all enjoying the Club facilities. Members have also been making the Club really busy this year, so much so that it has been necessary to buy extra seating for the balcony. Not only have the clubhouse and balcony been really busy but all the activities the Club runs have gone very well this season. Our Social Committee has arranged a really good social calendar for 2017/2018 and Members should keep a close eye on the Club emails and also this Newsletter for details. The ladies on the Social Committee have done us proud this year.

You will see from this Newsletter that all Membership, Mooring and Berthing fees will increase for 2018. Last year the fees were not increased because of the poor service offered to Members due to the lack of stewards. The increase for next year is to keep in line with inflation and more importantly to keep the Club on a sound financial footing. If you look around at the other local sailing clubs you will find that they do not offer as many activities or sailing boats that can be used free of charge, so that Members still have a good deal financially. In order to secure any stewards for this year the Club had to subsidise them as another year without stewards would have badly damaged the Club's reputation and been a financial disaster. As the Club has been extremely busy this summer the Committee feels that it was a good decision. The winter season is also always difficult for stewards to make a living and they lose most of the profit made in the summer, thus the need for a subsidy. This arrangement is however up for negotiation in December.

As from the AGM on 19th January 2018 you will have a new Commodore who I hope will enjoy the job as much as I have and I am sure he or she will make a great success of it. All is looking good for 2018 here at the Club and better weather next summer would be a bonus.

Finally I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a successful New Year.

Mark Buckley - Commodore

### WINTER PONTOON

As the season comes to an end there are a few jobs to be done putting boats away and clearing up. There are still a few tenders on the pontoon, some full of green water. Owners will be contacted and boats will be removed and any costs incurred will be passed on to the individual Club Members. Please remove all items from the dinghy park and beach area. This is for safety reasons as in the past items have been washed away and could cause damage. There are a small number of tenders on the pontoon with special reasons and permission. If you need to keep a tender on the pontoon please ask me.

Next year we will need to carry out some maintenance on the pontoon and your help will be needed. Without us all pulling together and helping around the Club we will have to pay a company to do the work which will incur much higher costs.

Dave Blanning - Captain Moorings



HRSC SOCIAL EVENTS  
WINTER 2017/SPRING 2018

Saturday 11th November

Vice Commodore's Quiz Night. Quiz starts at 20.00hrs. Prizes will be awarded for the winning team. Food will be available.

Saturday 18th November

Beer Tasting Evening with music by the famous and fabulous Cadgwith Singers. Singing will start at 19.00hrs followed by the beer tasting session and then more music. What's not to like?!!

Friday 1st December

Film Night. Details to follow.

Friday 8th December

Yacht & Dinghy Prize Giving Evening 18.30hrs start

Saturday 9th December

Vice Commodore's Christmas Quiz. Quiz starts at 20.00hrs. Food will be available.

Friday 15th December

Christmas Carols with accompaniment by St. Keverne Band 19.00hrs start. Come along and get in the mood for Christmas by singing some carols. Mince pies, sausage rolls and mulled wine will be served.

Sunday 24th December

Grand Christmas Eve Family Lunch. There will be face painting and a magician plus a delicious lunch for all the family. What a start to the festive season! All welcome. Starts 12.00hrs

Events Planned  
for Spring 2018

'Vinyl' Evening in January  
Barn Dance in February

**Details of these events and many more will be posted on our website [www.helfordriversc.co.uk](http://www.helfordriversc.co.uk), HRSC Facebook page and emailed to Members. If you have not already done so PLEASE send us your email address. You can call the Club office on 01326 231006 or email [hrsc-admin@btconnect.com](mailto:hrsc-admin@btconnect.com).**

**HELFDORD RIVER SAILING CLUB**

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Friday 19th January 2018 at 19.30 hrs

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 19th January 2018 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. Motion to increase the size of the Committee by two members
6. Election of officers
7. Election of Club Accountants
8. Any Other Business

Close of Meeting

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)

**COMMITTEE VACANCIES**

It is very important that as many Members as possible attend the AGM as we need to elect several new Committee members for 2018. Several long standing Committee members will be leaving at the end of their term and we need to replace them.

Commodore  
Vice Commodore  
Rear Commodore Amenities  
Rear Commodore Sailing  
Captain Yachts  
Captain Safety Boats  
Captain Amenities  
Captain Social

THE CLUB WEBSITE IS REGULARLY UPDATED - KEEP UP WITH THE LATEST  
NEWS ON [www.helfordriversc.co.uk](http://www.helfordriversc.co.uk)

2018 MOORING FEES (1st April to 31st October)

Deep Water Mooring	£29.00 per 300mm
(minimum charge £500 at the discretion of the Committee)	
Sailing Dinghy Park Adult	£118.00
Sailing Dinghy Park Junior	£ 79.00
Sailing Dinghy Park Rack	£ 79.00
Car Park Dinghy Area	£ 73.00
Shed Key	£ 18.00
Canoes and Kayaks	£ 35.00
Tender on Pontoon (under 3.25m)	£117.00
Trailer summer storage	£ 59.00
Drying Mooring (boats up to 22ft)	£410.00
Inflatable Dinghy Rack	£ 49.00

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.

Finger Berth Moorings

Maximum: Length 5 metres Beam 2 metres  
Weight 450kg

Outboard: 2 stroke 90hp or 4 stroke 75hp

All boats regardless of length £326.00

All finger berths and dinghy park spaces are allocated via a waiting list system. If you would like your name added to the list (one per family) please contact Penny on 01326 231006.

[Dinghy News](#) Another good year for dinghy racing and there are two dry meets left.

[Dinghy Wash-up Wednesday 15th November 19:00](#) - a change to the calendar in keeping with Club hours. This is for racers and everyone helping out - Safety & ROs to review the past year and make suggestions for the year ahead. [Prize Giving Friday 8th December 18:30](#) Usually great fun join us for a meal after. It's been great to see many new faces and friends returning to support the fleet and indeed race. Amongst the many, Tom Smith and Steve Kestin aboard the Bolitho family's Bold Lancer awash with sausage rolls for the Regatta and Ginnie & Katie Sykes for the May Family Cup. We have had everything from the St Mawes youth to a Thames Moth, Adam Mason in a Europe, Cornwall's oldest Laser, a Royall couple in a Cherub, Ollie & Ed for a last outing in a RS400 and not forgetting HRSC's Wayfarer - either full on or hardly any wind at all. On the last Sunday in October, RO Keith Goy with Si Drakeley made sure the season's racing would finish on a high note. Culdrose recorded a 4-6 nor'westerly some of which whistled through the narrows, north down the valleys; nothing if not consistent 45 degree wind shifts providing the entertainment. Ready to capture the fun was Dan Flunder on camera - wickedly egged on by his director Dave "Zodiac" Church. Settling for a triangle from Bosahan to Durgan and Trebah there was everything from a reach to beat across river, a precarious wobble up and the opportunity of a pirouette back down - elegantly performed by Biggsey who shall remain nameless and came third. In a saintly Solo, Dave Philpott sailed four laps to perfection brazenly sporting a shorty wetsuit - the man has antifreeze in his veins. Forgoing his Halo, Phil Philpott showed the necessary Tarzan like strength & agility required to leap about the vast deck and scaffolding of the Blaze. Just behind Phil, but near enough, Laser scholar Keith Wilkins was warming up for a double first. Most improved Laser racer of the year, young Andrew Hosking, established dominance over his arch rival Brooks and came fourth.

Results:

1<sup>st</sup> K Wilkins 2<sup>nd</sup> P Philpott 3<sup>rd</sup> A Biggs, 4<sup>th</sup> A Hosking, 5<sup>th</sup> S Brooks, 6<sup>th</sup> D Philpott

Stephen Brooks - Captain Dinghies

## YACHT REPORT

I write this towards the end of October and almost all of us have got our boats off their moorings, out of the water and safely tucked away in barns and boatyards for the winter. The nights are closing in and the season is almost over. 'Summer's lease hath all too short a date' as Shakespeare famously wrote and this year's lease seems to have been rather shorter than most as the latter part of the summer did not see very much really good weather and we missed out on the lovely autumn we were hoping for.

However we did have some pretty good sailing weather in the earlier part of the year.

I had a lovely week on Scilly with some friends, being especially blessed with an easterly to sail over and a westerly to return, spinnaker up both ways, nothing to complain about there! And I know that others took advantage of the June weather to get over to Brittany for a glorious cruise along the north coast and back via the Channel Islands.

We organised an early summer cruise in company to Fowey which was well attended and great fun. We also had another cruise in company to Fowey in late August when we experienced the most torrential rain squalls I have ever sailed in and which certainly tested my reefing skills and my foulies to their limits!

The annual Helford to L'Aber Wrac'h race was well supported, again mainly by the French contestants despite the loss of some entrants due to a twenty four hour postponement for the bad weather to clear. The French contingent again took all the podium positions. However Helford's honour was upheld in fine style by Wally Royall in his 90<sup>th</sup> year sailing his excellent boat 'Xenia' and taking the Sundancer Trophy for first Helford boat.

Wednesday evening racing continued as usual throughout the summer but again, despite our efforts to encourage a variety of boats to enter under the PY handicap system, only five 707s were racing. Although we had a much depleted fleet we all still had a lot of fun in some very hotly contested races with almost every contestant winning at least one race. However Charles Richardson and his crew sailed 'Dragun' most consistently and won all three series, though when Ed Bolitho and his crew on 'Miss Money penny' were free from their Half Ton duties, their boat speed certainly gave the rest of us something to dream about.

Who knows what the next season will bring, but rain or shine no doubt we will all be out enjoying ourselves on the water one way or the other and hopefully in the Club over the winter.

Nick Gough - Joint Captain Yachts

## JUNIOR SAILING 2017

We had a fantastic summer season on the water. Junior Sailing was at capacity again this year. All the sailors progressed on so much while having an amazing time. There were some challenging conditions to sail in this year but the sailors coped incredibly well and came away more confident in their abilities. There were new friendships formed and new challenges reached. I'd like to thank all the volunteers for their help this year. Without their dedication and time Junior Sailing couldn't happen. We will be celebrating Junior Sailing at Posh Nosh, the date of which is to be confirmed soon.

Nick Glossop - Captain Juniors

PLEASE LET US HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS SO WE CAN KEEP YOU  
UPDATED WITH ALL CLUB NEWS OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE  
[www.helfordriversc.co.uk](http://www.helfordriversc.co.uk)

### 2018 MEMBERSHIP FEES

	Entrance	Annual
Joint	£ 11.00	£225.00
Single	£ 11.00	£145.00
Family Junior (18 and under whose parents are Members)	£ nil	£ 19.00
Junior (18 and under whose parents are not Members)	£ nil	£ 42.00
Cadet (Over 18 under 25 and in full time education)	£ nil	£ 42.00
Children under 5 are free		
Temporary Membership £56.00 per week (2 adults plus 2 children - maximum 2 weeks per year).		

### SAFETY BOATS REPORT

The summer is gone and what a wet one it was! June was baking hot and then rather more rain in July and August than we would wish for. Despite that there were only a very few dinghy races and only two land based junior sailing sessions cancelled, so all in all the rescue boats have been well used throughout the season.

We did have a problem in that the Rib's engine failed terminally which meant the purchase of a new one. I cannot thank Falmouth Yacht Brokers enough for the very prompt action in getting and fitting the new engine ready for Falmouth Week. The Rib was out of action for only a week and this same week the Funyak also had a trip to Falmouth to have a cooling blockage cleared. Again Falmouth Yacht Brokers pulled out all the stops to also get the Funyak back to us in a very short time.

Dinghy racing has been active with many line starts. Our race officers have been using the Seaviper Committee Boat or at times the Funyak. At other times the rescue teams have started the race then acted as rescue boat then at the line to finish the race - what a feat of multi-tasking! Well done and thanks to all rescue boat helms and race officers for their efforts during the season. Without you it would be very difficult to run the HRSC race calendar.

The highlights for me this year:

1. The Dinghy Regatta - always exciting with so many dinghies on the water.
2. The May Cup - a very humorous afternoon racing with the May family and friends.
3. HRSC hosting the first day's racing of Falmouth Week. When organising the liberty boats and crews, the jollity of this occasion is second to none. The racing crews who come into the clubhouse for our renowned teas are all in high spirits after the race and there is always a lot of banter with the crews of the different boats. When we return them to their boats they are possibly in even greater spirits!

It has been great to have the stewards on board to provide menus for all occasions, from the juniors on Fridays to great BBQs after the regattas and afternoon teas for the May Cup Regatta.

I hope to see many of you at our winter events.

Chris Hosken - Captain Safety Boats

## A SAILING OVERVIEW

So an end to another successful sailing season. Whilst the summer was not a scorcher there was much activity on the water. The 707 fleet had some close racing until the intervention of 'Miss Money Penny' when the results began to become somewhat lopsided. Dinghy racing took place virtually every Thursday evening and Sunday throughout the year, being the last to leave the water at the end of October. The annual Helford River Dinghy Regatta was yet again a great success with a strong contingent from St Mawes taking part. Organised by Stephen Brooks (Captain Dinghies) and supported by Tom Smith (Race Officer) alongside many other volunteers on the day, this event made for a spectacle as sailors competed against each other.

This year saw the Junior Sailing section benefit from a closer working relationship with the Helford River Children's Sailing Trust and under the tutelage and vision of Nick Glossop juniors are in safe hands. None of our sailing activities could take place without volunteers to man the rescue boats and we are very grateful for their time and effort - thank you. The same goes to Chris Hosken, who soon completes his three year term as Captain Safety Boats and who has had to work hard to keep all the boats serviceable this year.

A special mention goes to the Adult Dinghy section who this year have literally worked a miracle with their schedule of maintenance and commitment to build Club activities. For the last few years the section has been headed up by Dave Sumner but he is stepping down as he has recently been appointed Deputy Launch Authority for the Lizard Lifeboat - thank you Dave. The Adult section has nearly doubled in 'membership' with many more people now taking to the water making full use of the seven Wayfarers and the Drascombe Lugger. Early in the season I suggested that the section might want to develop a day's sailing at the weekend. Little did I think that Angie Watson and others would not only run with the idea but advertise and run Saturday sessions along the lines of open days. This initiative was extremely successful and recruited several new Members to the Club and introduced others to sailing and what the Club has to offer. Many of the dinghy racers helped out to skipper boats at the sessions and it was good to witness various sections working together towards making our Club successful.

Unfortunately the sailing season did not really happen for me due to being diagnosed with neck cancer and subsequent treatment. Like our Commodore we have both been through the mill but hopefully it looks as though we are out the other side. What I've gone through has caused me to deliberate hard over my continued involvement on the Committee and it is with regret that I have decided not to seek re-election in January. I would like to thank those I have worked with on the Committee and wish them well for the future.

Clive Dudley - Rear Commodore Sailing

It's getting to that time of year when the boats are disappearing from the river. Many are taken to Gweek Boatyard where they are taken from the water by crane and either put on trailers or for bigger boats placed on cradles in the boatyard.

The winter months are then used to clean the hulls of much growth of either barnacles or weed or sometimes both, sails removed and stored somewhere dry and generally tidied ready for the winter. The hunter 707 I crew on was due to be taken out on 6th October. Well the 5th was a nice day so rather than stowing the sails we used the opportunity to have one last sail.

Andrew Hosking and I met at the sailing club at 3.30 and had the boat rigged and ready for our sail by 3.45. We left the mooring and headed to the mouth of the river in a north westerly blowing about 13 mph gusting probably 16mph. We sailed across the bay towards St. Anthony Lighthouse at a good pace reaching just over 7 knots. A good wind, nice weather and good views - what more could one ask for?

We tacked under the lighthouse and headed for Helford. Again the wind was in our favour so back to the mooring where we removed the sails, rolled and tied them then stowed them in the boat. All sheets removed and generally tidied up ready for the short trip up to Gweek the next day.

The boat now sits on her trailer at the boatyard eagerly awaiting next spring and the return to her mooring.

See you on the start line in 2018!

Chris Hosken