

Telltale

December 2004



Commodore's Corner

What a year! The events for the 50th anniversary of LYC have gone very well and the annual dinner dance was a great success. Unfortunately I was in Canada and missed a good evening.

Most boats are now laid up for the winter and it is only the hardy few attending to moorings that are in boats. Thanks to Hamish and anybody helping. This raises the point that all dinghy masts should be taken down as soon as possible. Would any enthusiastic Soling sailors please help with the lifting frame dismantling operation.

Soon there will be digging operations in the dinghy park and I would ask everybody with a dinghy to check that there are no bits and pieces for their boats lying around which might get misplaced or buried.

Please do all come to the Xmas Party. Full details elsewhere in Telltale.

Richard.

Auld Yins Christmas Party

On the 17th at the Clubhouse starting at 19:30. Couldn't be simpler! Food provided, with a donation to cover cost. Bring drink and a present (marked male female or neutral) up to £5.00. Santa will be on hand to dish out presents.

If you ever wanted to know how he gets round, now is your chance to ask. (Children barred in case they work out who Santa is. Lapland is just the business address.)



And a Happy New Year!!



After you have all recovered from Hogmanay there will be a chance to go sailing. It would be good to see more than one boat - or sailor - on the water some time after 12 noon. (I know I'll rue writing that bit.)

Memory Lane

Mairi Cameron has been busy collecting the scrap book this year. Lots of promises of photographs have not materialised - yet. Would it be possible to scan or produce two sets so that a copy of the scrapbook could be kept in the clubhouse?

More Memories

I'm looking for memories for a simple booklet of 50 memories of sailing. What I'm after is 50 best memories of sailing from anytime during the lifetime of the club, preferably each from a different person. It could be anything from the first time you went cruising, winning a race, first time out in a boat you built yourself. It doesn't have to be on the water really. My mother's only memory of sailing is:

'Your Dad and I met as marshals on the Ben race. He seemed pretty keen on me and asked me if I enjoyed sailing. I said "Not really, but I like rowing." I never saw him again until after the racing season.'

If you don't fancy writing, just tell me all about it and I'll 'ghost write' it for you, then you can edit it.

Membership Fees

The 2005 subscriptions renewal reminder will be coming round shortly and subs are due on 1 January. The rates for next year, which include a small increase to meet 'the price of fish' as the saying goes, as follows:

Single £66, Family £87, Junior, Student and Unemployed £23, Country £33 (single) and £37 (family).

The rates for storage space and race fees, due at the same time as membership will be unchanged at £40.





Dinner Dance and Prizegiving

A fair mob of people enjoyed the Jubilee Year dinner dance at the Grand Hotel at the end of November. Commodore was away in Canada, so Cheryl and Simon stepped into the breach for the last time. Richard wouldn't have looked so good in Cheryl's red shoes anyway, and Hamish would not have got so many kisses.

There was a surprise for David Robertson when he was awarded a special wooden trophy created by Paul Biggin for entering, and completing, the Loch Swim this year.

The Thing...(cue Twilight Zone music)

During the demolition of the more decrepit bits of Downies an unusual artefact came to light - The Thing!

Way back in the 60s, when the Club was young, there were inter-club team races. The Clubs we raced against were Chanonry, Loch Ard and Oban, and the boats used were GP14s, Mirrors and, on at least one occasion, Flying Fifteens.

the Club Commodore at the time was F N Goss who was the manager at British Aluminium. He presented the Club with "The thing" which seems to have been a weird by-product of some esoteric part of the making of aluminium. Maybe he thought it would be good to have a trophy which people weren't too keen on winning! Anyway, at least it is unique - there cannot be another trophy the same anywhere. It will be on show at the club - have a look for yourself.

And about team racing:

Usually in team racing the host club provides the boats (two teams of three) which means you don't have to tow your boat and helms are barred from sailing in their own boats. Unlike in normal racing if you can slow down the opposition and let your own side ahead it doesn't matter even if you finish last yourself. In fact, if you just get in front and sail on to win you are letting your team down. So there is lots of scope for tactics and that kind of dirty work.



Anyway it can be lots of fun and maybe we should start it again. Who's keen?
Adrian Hope

(The Club is putting out feelers to other clubs to see if they are interested. Provisional dates are 14 or 15 May and return match on 27 or 28 August. It hasn't been decided what class to use, so it really depends on offers from trusting owners. Please contact either Martin Faulkner or Hamish Loudon)

North of Scotland Sailing Squad (NOSSS) By Dawn MacRae

On the 6th and 7th November LYC hosted a NOSSS training weekend, which was attended by about 15 boats – 11 topplers and 4 lasers.

Over the weekend the laser group practiced using their control lines, sitting at a buoy, and starts. While the topper group practiced starts, tacking and gybing on the whistle and follow my leader. Some managed to put in some extra capsizing practice when the wind picked up on the Sunday morning.

On the Sunday afternoon the laser and topper groups joined up and did some races to put into practice what they had learnt over the weekend.

Overall it was a great weekend and all those who participated enjoyed it. Thank you to the club for hosting a very successful weekend.

New Committee and Responsibilities

Richard Rumney	Commodore
Pete Hyde	Vice Commodore, club dinghies and dinghy park
Chris Strong	Secretary, safety boats
Bob Aitken	Treasurer
Liz Loudon	Keelboat convener
Dawn MacRae	Junior rep
Becky Hyde	Junior rep

Brian Fallowes	Training rep
Jim Douglas	Cruising
Sandy MacLennan	Catering
Kay Jerram	Shore based support
Adrian Hope	Training
Robbie Robertson	Club dinghies and dinghy park
Harry Jeffrey	Property
Martin Faulkner	Dinghy Convener, radios

Articles

Telltale doesn't write itself. If you have any articles, or ideas send them to Martin at martin.faulkner@snh.gov.uk, leave a message on (01397) 702724. If you have any constructive suggestions send to the same. Since Telltale is done in spare time destructive criticism will be listened to then constructively ignored. I promise to try an improve formatting for next time. Deadline is 1 February.