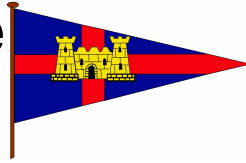


Castle Cove Sailing Club



July 2005 Newsletter

DIARY

Saturday 6th August
Try a boat day
Yarmouth Race/Rally

Saturday 13th August
Singlehanded races

Saturday 27th August
Alderney Race

Monday 29th August
Bank holiday fun day



Tall Ships Race (see article)

FROM THE COMMODORE

I would like to thank again all those members who supported the Kingfisher Marine Weymouth Regatta, either on or off the water. Despite the varied weather there was a lot of fun and great sailing, and the Hope Square party another terrific evening. While the keelboat numbers were up, it was disappointing to note less support for the dinghy elements of the Regatta. This may have been due to the date and possible conflict with the school holidays, but I am sure that the Class Captains would appreciate any feedback, as would I personally, to encourage a better dinghy turnout.

Looking ahead to the Autumn, please be prepared to bid for your keelboat haul out, dinghy park space requirements and check your November diary to make the Annual Dinner and Prizegiving and the AGM. I am sure you will appreciate that early communication for all these activities is really appreciated by the Club Officials, who want to provide an optimum service for the members.

Have some great sailing in August, the evenings are already getting shorter and now is the time to get out on the water.

Bob Turner

TRY A BOAT DAY Saturday 6th August

If you've ever looked enviously at another boat wondering what it would be like to have a go, this is your opportunity. So if you've never been in an asymmetric boat and wonder why they don't go downwind or normally sail a laser and would like to have someone to talk to—come down on Saturday.

Boats will be available all day

For optimists see separate advert

For further information on specific boat types, contact the class captains—listed in the handbook.

Celia Rushton

SOCIAL NEWS

I would like to say a very big thank you to all those people (24 in total) who helped me in the Galley over the 3 days of the Kingfisher Marine Weymouth Regatta and B14 Europeans. Also, a special thank you to everyone who donated a cake. The events went very smoothly and we had a lot of compliments from appreciative sailors, especially on Sunday morning! Thank you again and with 12 months to recover, perhaps we can all get together for a repeat performance!!!

Andrea Clarke – Social Committee.

Galley Inspection

The Galley was inspected recently and sadly we have dropped from a silver to a bronze rating. Although the inspector was pleased with the standards of cleanliness and hygiene, we fail because not enough of the food handlers have the Basic Food and Hygiene Certificate. The Galley is such a Central part of Club life, it does contribute to Club funds and is a wonderful way of getting to know people. We urgently need people to volunteer to do the Basic Food and Hygiene course and therefore we are planning to run one in the autumn. It would be in the Clubhouse and would be over two evenings, finishing with a very basic multiple choice exam. This would be funded by the Club, and you would not be required to do any more Galley duties as a result. Although the course is educational, much of it is common sense, and many of the things learned are useful for everyday hygiene in the home. Please give this some thought, and if you are willing to do the course call Immy Turner.

Immy Turner 01305 786863

Thank you to everyone who sponsored me participating in the local "Race for Life". Happily I was able to send a cheque for £248.00 to benefit Cancer Research.

Rosemary Spicer

TRAINING

RYA Mirror Class Coaching 29 October:

There is an RYA Coaching day planned for 29th October, and is open to both adult/child and child/child crew combinations. The event is supported by the UK Mirror Class Association who are providing one of their experienced instructors. This will be an ideal opportunity for Mirror sailors to get top coaching as well as great advice on boat tuning and setup.

The Mirror association have agreed to support the event financially and the cost is £18.00 per boat for the day (you provide your own boat).

South West Mirror Zone Squad

Are you aged between 10 and 14 years old (please note: must be U14 on 31/12/05), and interested in joining a race training scheme designed to help you get the best out of your Mirror? If so, please register your interest by downloading, **and returning by 30/09/05**, the SW Mirror Zone Squad application forms from: <http://www.rya.org.uk/Racing/Youth/ZoneJuniorSquad/Southwest>

Richard White—Class 1 captain

Improve Racing Day

“Improve Racing Day” on 16th July was instructive and a lot of fun. The division into “Beginners” and “Advanced” left some of us dotards struggling to keep up with the beginners, but by the end of a couple of exhausting but exhilarating hours of instruction we almost felt we could perhaps begin to describe ourselves as something close to “Pre-Beginners”. That’s progress! Thank you, Sarah, Ben and others for your patience and humour.

John Cunningham & Joel Clompus

**OPTIMIST SESSION -
Saturday 6th August, 9am-1pm**

An open session aimed at younger members (8 plus years) who can swim and would like to try an Optimist dinghy. Whether you have your own boat or want to borrow an RYA dinghy, please turn up at the sailing club at 9am prompt on Saturday 6th August.

Please bring:

- a.. A buoyancy aid or lifejacket.
- b.. An adult able to give permission / provide contact details.
- c.. Swimwear and old warm sailing gear or wet suit.

This is a one off starter session - just for fun! We hope to get an Optimist group running next season.

Please contact Mairi Kershaw Tel: 01305 782490 Mo: 0787 5642550

Moorhen deprives yachtsman

Did you know it is an offence to disturb nesting moorhens? Barras Stone (D Gill's office-mate, who keeps his boat up river at Christchurch) hasn't been able to sail and it looks like being August before he can - he waited patiently for moorhen chicks to hatch a week ago but the moorhen was so taken with his anchor well, she laid a second clutch while his back was turned (rescue driving over the weekend for an Open)! The RSPB have told him she might lay 3 times!!! Sadly the photo of her accessing the nest is not digital - she flaps her way up the mooring chain.



Sivota Bay .. no crows' nest ~ but a moorhen's nest!!

BANK HOLIDAY FUN DAY

Monday 29th August.

Obstacle course—A day for kids—big or little. Sail round the course as fast as possible, doing silly things as you go.

The race will be followed by a barbecue

TALL SHIPS RACE

I have just returned from one of the best and inspiring two weeks of my life. When I signed up to take part in the Tall Ships Race, with the Ocean Youth Trust, I had no idea what I had let myself in for. I had previously spent week on a yacht, but nothing that could prepare me for the initial 4 day non-stop crossing: a turbulent combination of seasickness, battling waves, and beautiful cold star lit nights, topped off with a sunset encounter with dolphins swimming along side us.

We arrived exhausted after our crossing, from Portsmouth to Waterford (Ireland), to be greeted by thousands of spectators. We were later joined by over a hundred other boats, from the Indonesian and Russian 5 masted square riggers (complete with sailors on the yards!) to small yachts. The atmosphere was alive and for 4 days we enjoyed live music, street festivals, parades, fireworks and crew activities with young people from around the world.

The Tall Ships Race set sail on the Saturday 9th July. Despite the lack of wind it was a breathtaking event, seeing hundreds of tall ships, sails filled, in every direction gliding across the turquoise sea towards the start line. After three frustrating sun baked days the race was cancelled; however, like everyone else I was stunned when that night I was thrown out of my bunk as the wind suddenly picked up and we streamed into Cherbourg-completing the first leg of the race.

Every bit of this trip was memorable; from the night we dressed up in oilskins to go to the fun fair; the parades of sail and the crew parties and foremost the race and meeting the diversity of people from all nationalities and backgrounds, united together by sailing, at this amazing event, one I definitely want to be a part of again!

Katrina Hollis

'Snow Goose' at the Sigma 33 Class Championships

This year's Sigma 33 Class Championships took place in Torbay so it seemed the perfect opportunity to take part and find out how we compared with others in the Class.

The series comprised a practice race on Sunday, followed by two races per day from Monday to Thursday, with a final 9th race on Friday. All racing took place within Torbay on windward-leeward courses. The main aspects of our preparation included:

- New sails and running rigging where needed in the winter refit.
- Hull cleaning immediately prior to departure for Torquay.
- A strong crew consisting of Michael, Diana, Olly and Roly Gill with Michael and Robyn Abbott and David Ham (Robyn's dad). A two family affair which was fun as well as being effective.
- Reserving shore accommodation in the area, to avoid living on board.
- Removing all unnecessary equipment from the yacht, only leaving on board the essentials to meet Class rules and the sailing conditions on the day, e.g. no oilskins and boots for sunny days.
- Acquiring as much local knowledge as possible on the peculiarities of racing in Torbay.

This was a first time for us in a Sigma class racing event so we had some fairly simple aims; namely to be in the top half of the fleet and to be ahead of the other boats from Weymouth.

Snow Goose took us across Lyme Bay to Torquay on Friday; we spent Saturday morning unloading gear and making final preparations followed by crew training in the afternoon. On Sunday morning we went out for another short training session to work on our tacks and gybes and then in the afternoon there was a practice race. This consisted of just one beat and one run on a shortened course. Our 3rd place raised morale and expectations considerably.

The racing started in earnest on Monday morning in excellent conditions. Our general race strategy was to choose the best side of the course in advance using Jim Saltonstall's Torbay racing guide, the local tide charts and weather forecast, as well as David's extensive experience. The choice was usually sound, although it was not always possible to implement consistently. A little later in the week we added the need to stay clear of other

boats when ever possible. When we could follow these simple rules our performance was distinctly better. In the first race on Monday we achieved another 3rd place but slipped back to 6th in the afternoon as others realised the benefits of closing the Northern shore and it got more crowded on that side of the course.

On Tuesday we were missing one crew member but the conditions were light so this did not cause us to worry too much. However an 8th place in the morning following a poor start was disappointing. In the afternoon the conditions were even lighter. The race officer used a black flag and three boats were caught out. In very light and shifty winds we managed to claw our way up to 3rd place approaching the first windward mark, only for the race to be abandoned before we could get there. Another disappointment but it did prove we could go well in light conditions.

Wednesday was our low day. We were lucky to be joined by a successful local Melges 24 sailor who brought more excellent local knowledge and sailing skill. Despite these advantages we scored a 7th and a 9th place, which we put down to:

- Not consistently following (or being able to follow) our simple strategy
- Poor communication amongst the crew
- Attempting some untried manoeuvres e.g. a windward spinnaker drop, while under pressure from other yachts.

On Thursday we were back to full strength and had a much better day; there were far fewer mistakes and we gained a 5th and a 7th place in very close racing.

Friday saw everything going right for us in the final race of the series. A 2nd place was a great way to finish, even if the two leading boats in the series up to that point were engaged in a tactical battle at the back of the fleet. We followed our strategy successfully, were 3rd at the first windward mark, gained another other place on the following run and held on to it to the finish. Being protested by the boat behind us for hitting a windward mark (we didn't) spoilt the feeling somewhat. However the protest was dismissed by the panel as the protestor failed to fly a red flag.

Discarding our 9th place left us with a total of 38 series points and 5th place overall out of 11. A result that fulfilled all our aims and rounded off an excellent week of racing. The social side wasn't bad either.

We learned a lot. We were certainly sailing better in all conditions by the end of the week and are now far more confident about what makes Snow Goose go well. The key points were:

- The preparation paid off. The new sails were terrific. Lightening the boat ruthlessly was ESSENTIAL. Living ashore was worth the expense.
- Local knowledge was very important, especially given the rather tricky conditions in Torbay.
- Make a simple racing strategy and stick to it consistently whenever possible.
- Looking at a wide variety of ideas for tweaks and general boat set up in a larger fleet gave us plenty of ideas for more improvements to Snow Goose.

In summary, the one design keelboat racing was great fun and windward leeward courses were a real test of tactics and boat handling. Snow Goose didn't win any prizes but we had a most enjoyable week and came home satisfied with our overall performance.

Michael & Diana
'Snow Goose' GBR 4524

Z Class Notice Yarmouth Race

Saturday 6th (early start TBC), CCSC Start
Entries to Roy Griffiths by Wednesday 3rd August
Limited space at Yarmouth for overnight stay so please submit entry as soon
as possible to roy@creativesolutions-uk.com or phone 07976 425719

SECURITY—still an issue

Please remember to
LOCK UP EVERYWHERE

This means slipways, changing rooms, store rooms, the
main building and the gates

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

The deadline for the next Newsletter, which will be out in September, is **27th August 2005**. There is no need to use special formatting – simple text is much easier to work with and any photographs are preferable as separate files. A few notes about the photograph or a suggested caption are helpful as well as the photographer's name.

Read this Newsletter on the website www.ccsc.org.uk - click on Social, then Club Newsletters. You will see it all in full glorious colour and the photographs are much more impressive than in the copy sent through the post.

PLEASE GIVE ME YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS and I can send you a link to the Newsletter as soon as it is out (instead of waiting for printing and the post). E-MAILS ARE SENT AS BLIND COPIES SO YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS WILL NOT BE SEEN BY ANY OTHER RECIPIENTS. It usually only takes a couple of minutes to download. The fewer paper copies we send out the more money we can save for the Club – you will be aware from the accounts that it is expensive to produce. And, of course, if you read it on screen, it saves trees.

Celia Rushton – newsletter@ccsc.org.uk – (01305) 777511

FOR SALE / WANTED

FOR SALE— Optimist Thumper

Wooden Hull, re-built 2001
Strong, light, epoxy coated & good buoyancy bags.
Aluminium mast & boom
Distinctive fluorescent yellow race sail
Regular winner at CCSC Junior Opens
Complete with launching trolley
£350 ono

Contact: The Rowles' family on Weymouth 773922

FOR SALE

3-5hp Outboard engine, Mariner, air-cooled
Old but still working £100

Contact: Nick Rowles Weymouth 773 922

FOR SALE

Mini BIC child's windsurfer

Ideal age 5-9 years
Board & rig complete £80

Contact the Rowles family on Weymouth 773922

WANTED

Laser radial rig & sail.

Anya de longh - 01305 251190 or 07749774486