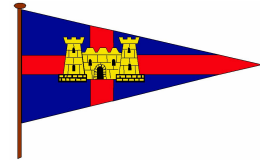


CASTLE COVE SAILING CLUB APRIL 2006 NEWSLETTER



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 2nd April

Spring series starts for dinghies & YCW

Thursday 13th –15th April

Keel boat lift in

Monday 17th April

Easter Monday race

Wednesday 19th April

1st Wednesday series starts

Saturday 22nd April

Cruising supper - postponed

Monday 24th April

1st Monday series starts

Monday 1st May

Race training (on-water)

Friday 5th May

Ladies sailing starts

Saturday 6th May

New members' coffee morning

FROM THE COMMODORE

I have the sad duty of informing Club members of the death of Andrew Holland in mid March. It was a shock to everyone, but especially to his wife Dao. Our thoughts are with her and the other members of the Holland family. We all remember his time with the club boats since the move to the new site, and previously at the beach hut in the Cove.

New fencing has appeared on the West side of the Club site, joining the main gate to the club house. It is part of the scheme to form a continuous line of fences and gates to contain as much of the site as possible with the exception of the two ramps leading straight to the water. This work should be completed during April under the supervision of Barry Grant and Nick Browning.

The security problem has not worsened, but the problem has not disappeared as other sites in Portland and Weymouth Harbours are suffering as well. Our site is becoming more secure, especially from the casual trespasser, although it is recognised that further actions may be required during the main sailing season and into the boat storage period from October through to April next year. Please report any incidents via the "Incident Logbook" in the Chart Room, including calls to the Police.

The Sunday working parties have ended, and the appearance of the site continues to improve with more space being created for members boats. Special thanks goes to Sara, Hazel and Andrea for producing Bacon Butties for the work force every Sunday morning! Work will continue on Saturdays during April, so please contact Barry Grant if you have some spare time.

Bob and Robin have lead an industrious team of volunteers who have succeeded in preparing the club boats for the coming season – well done to all.

It's arrived – the sailing season! I for one am not ready, but the planned cruises are not due for another month at least, but for the intrepid dinghy and keel boat sailors who are rushing to be ready in time, I wish you all a very good season.

Paul Clarke

FROM THE SAILING SECRETARY

I hope you are all looking forward to starting the new sailing season. We have a packed programme ahead.

We will be looking for volunteers to help out at the open events (Laser Club championships in June, the Laser/Contender Open in Oct and the cadet Open in September, so please let myself, or any member of the sailing committee know if you could help out in any way.

There are about 57 Lasers in the club. I have only had 5 sailors let me know what rig they intend to use during the spring series. It is not possible for the ODs to change the handicap of a boat on race day, so please let me know what rig you intend using otherwise you will be down as a standard rig.

There is a yellow file on Silver Spray with useful information for the OD, so please read this once on board.

If you have any queries about the programme please contact me, or a member of the sailing committee.

Thank you to everyone who has helped out at the working parties to get everything ready in time.

Alison Stephens

DUTY ROTA 2006

By now you will have received your handbook and duty rota.

I have had very few phone calls so I hope that means that everyone is happy (not that you haven't read it!)

I have even had a call from a new family member complaining that they are not on the list. oh to be so keen! don't worry they will be allocated.

Please please put your duty in your diary NOW, don't rely on my reminders. This year I am trying to send as many as possible by email, to save time and postage, so please keep a look out and confirm that it has been received. Please tell me your email address if you have not already put it on your subscription form.

If you find you need to swap duty at some time, please let me know.

Thank you in advance for all your help

Sarah Winterton, 01305 813000 sarah.winterton@talk21.com

PS This is becoming a bigger job each year, if there is anyone who would be willing to help me, I would be very grateful.

BOAT PARK

By the time you read this newsletter the 'transition programme' for the boat park should have started; lift-in of the club boats and some of the pontoons should be complete and the tent dismantled.

Lift-in of the keelboats is, weather permitting, scheduled for 13th-15th April with the period 26th-30th April listed as a contingency.

Once the eastern side is clear of keelboats it is planned to carry out some maintenance of the surface before the dinghies enter the area

Dinghy sailors wishing to bring their boats to the site during April should only use the western side of the boat park.

Assuming the lift-in programme is unaffected by the weather we are planning to fully open the boat park on Saturday 29th April so that dinghies can take up their allocated positions, in both the east or west side, from this date. We plan to start at 09.30 and with a team of around 12 we should be able to complete the move within 2-3 hours. Please contact me if you are able to help with this task.

Volunteer are also urgently needed to assist with slipway cleaning. No cleaning was done during the 'winter period' due to mechanical problems with the pressure washer so the weed growth on both slipways is now very thick/widespread.

Mike Clarkson, 01305 853966 mestclark@aol.com

<p>A big thank you to all who bought Bacon Baps on Sunday mornings. £270 was raised for the Club. The Galley Team</p>
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NEW MEMBERS' COFFEE MORNING SATURDAY 6 MAY 2006 10.30 a.m.

We would like to invite everyone who has joined the club in the last year to join us for a Coffee Morning on Saturday 6 May. This is a very informal occasion which will give you the chance to meet some members of the Committee, Class Captains and Trustees. It will also give you the chance to ask any questions you may have with regards to your duties and for you to learn more about working parties. As always it is very important to know how many people are planning to attend therefore, please give me a call or send an email by 1 May if you intend to come along. If anyone missed the New Members' coffee morning last year you are more than welcome to join us.

**Karen Horlock, 01202 625711 karenhorlock@aol.com
New Members Co-ordinator**

LADIES SAILING

All sailors are very welcome to join the group of regular dinghy sailors for this series of Friday morning sessions, run throughout the summer by Sara Lloyd, Diana Gill, and Jo Isaacs. Two hours on the water gives an excellent opportunity to improve your sailing skills in a non-competitive setting. Complete beginners are advised to do a Level 1 RYA course before joining.

The first session will take place on Friday May 5th 2006. Please arrive in time to rig your boat ready to start sailing at 10am. Several club boats are available for hire if you do not own your own. Please contact me for further details.

Cathie Williams (Ladies' Sailing Coordinator), 01308 482232 bridehead@worldonline.co.uk

The Tuesday morning Exercise Group will be having their last session at the Clubhouse for this season on 4th April. We're pleased to say that we've raised Clubs funds a little; it's certainly been a happy meeting point, and hopefully we are all the fitter for it too.

We now wish for a good Sailing Season before returning to more exercise sessions in the autumn.

Rosemary Spicer

Postponement of the Cruising Supper on Saturday 22nd April.

This event seems to be "doomed, doomed" to quote Private Fraser from Dad's Army.

It is unfortunate that a number of other events are also taking place on the same evening and likely to create a conflict of interest for club members, I have decided to postpone the supper until a suitable date can be found – hopefully in the not too distant future. Details of the new date will be posted on the club notice board and in the newsletter.

My sincere apologies and hope to see you on the new date.

Mike Carter

Z Class Dinner

Just a note to thank everyone for all their help in the Z Class Dinner, we had a great turnout of 80 guests who were totally impressed by the meal prepared by Tim Emberley and his galley crew.

As usual club members, including the cadets, all got stuck in to make sure the evening was a great success and it would appear each and every one was determined to have a great time themselves.

Our speaker Steve White has also been in touch to ensure we knew how much he and his wife, Kim, enjoyed the evening.

So thanks again everyone for your help

Roy Griffiths

Z Class Capt

CADETS

IMPORTANT CADET NEWS

Senior cadets will NOT be starting Saturday April 15th as stated in the club handbook. We will start Saturday April 22nd instead. Please spread the word.

Dave Cumber, dtcumber@aol.com

Cadet Sailing Courses

These are organised by WOEC. They take place at Castle Cove during Half Term; Tuesday 30 May to Friday 2 June 2006. Also there is another course during the first week of August; Tuesday 1st to Friday 4th August. The courses lead to RYA qualifications and have been running successfully for many years. The courses start with RYA 1 for beginners. RYA 2, RYA 3 and RYA 4 are for the more experienced. We have some Optibats and Toppers available for hire on a first come first served basis. The fee is £10 per day. These courses offer much better value than

elsewhere. The children also enjoy meeting up with their sailing friends. Please visit the Cadets website for an application form. Please send this to me together with a cheque as soon as you can to secure a place. If you have any queries, please phone me.

**Maria Ellison, 01305 260403.
7 Woodlands Crescent, Poundbury, Dorchester, DT1 3RQ.**

CCSC LASERS

With the spring series due to start on Sunday 2nd April (10.35am) this is an opportune time to update you on some exciting developments - and some less exciting housekeeping - before the new season commences.

Thank you very much for your responses to the laser questionnaire. With over 30 returned, we have a more representative sample and are planning to present the results at a social in the near future. If you still haven't completed yours - we are still interested !

What is emerging is the interest in fleet racing – a laser turnout of at least 6 boats. With this in mind we are promoting specific club events where it would be good to see a large number of lasers racing. So if you are in doubt as to which event to sail these should be diarised!

17 April	Easter Monday race
14 May	Novice cup (great for those new to racing)
20 May	Allen Welling Cup
17/18 June	Laser club championships (numbers limited, refer below)
8 July	Cove Cup
22/23 July	Basso Cup
30 September	Castle cup
7/8 October	Laser open

If sufficient lasers turnout as a class we are looking to have immediate post-racing prizes.

The club hosts the Laser Club Championships on the 17/18 June. We can send eight sailors to the event - details are on the notice board. To date, the following will be competing and representing CCSC – Diana Gill, Anya Delongh, Malcolm Lofts, Chris Brann, Hugh Shone and John Shone. Any further interest will be decided on performance in the Spring and first Wednesday series up to 3.5.06

UKLA training event at CCSC on 16th June. Organized by Jon Emmett

This precedes the event and is open to all CCSC members (cost is £20). Please contact me if interested – we need to have an idea of numbers.

In order to support the Club Class Championships (possibly 120 competitors) we need your support.

Please look at your calendars to see if you can spare some time and contact me. (saves me a phone call!!!!)

We are particularly looking for assistance with the safety boats and supporting the catering.

Whatever assistance you can provide would be really appreciated.

Saturday training

This training is open to all members of the laser fleet, including cadets. We plan to organize one a month. The first is on Saturday 22nd April and the next is Saturday 6th May. The focus at these sessions will be on boat handling and starts. Nick Orman has kindly agreed to provide the coaching with assistance from other members of the class. The structure, subject to weather will involve

9.30	Briefing (changed and boats rigged)
10.00	on the water
12.00	off the water
12.30	Debriefing
1300	FINISH

Would you please let me know whether you wish to attend so that we can tailor the events accordingly? Also, numbers will be limited.

Declared Rigs

It is important for producing the results on the computer, that you declare which rig you will sail in for a series or event. (As in previous years you can still opt to down-size if you would otherwise not want to race). Would you please ensure that you have notified Alison Stephens (sailing secretary) ASAP - AND update the list on the noticeboard. OTHERWISE IT WILL BE ASSUMED THAT YOU ARE SAILING IN STANDARD RIG.

Laser Rack slot - Details will be on the notice board in the near future.

See you on the Water !

John Shone, Laser Class captain

HANDBOOK CORRECTION:

Page 81: Portland Harbour Authority Telephone No is 824044
When you spot an error, please let D know! Thanks

D Gill

Are you in need of anything to do with boats?
Eg boat repairs, navigation theory decking?

Don't forget there is a lever arch file (red) in Clubhouse bookshelf with some of the advertising that comes into the club from time to time

D Gill

Make your own Sausages Social Evening.

Fancy having a go at making your own sausages / salamis / bacon ?

Friday 7th April at the Clubhouse - at 6:30pm

Starting with fresh local free range rare breed pork, create your own sausages using only the best ingredients and natural casings - mince it - flavour it - stuff it - link it.

You can also have a go at making salamis and dry cured bacon and see how to start off a dry cured air dried ham.

At the end of the evening you should be able to take home about a kilo of sausages, a salami or two and about a kilo bacon (a few days later for the bacon)

Cost about £12 per person (we don't know how big the pig is going to be yet !!) including snacks.
Numbers very limited - please phone or email if you are interested

Jane Davies Tel: 01305 852817 email: holvalcots@aol.com



TALL SHIP TO ANTARCTICA

What better way to get away from the UK winter than to head down to the Southern Hemisphere summer, but maybe I went a bit far south! Since 1998 when I went sailing around Tierra Del Fuego at the southern tip of South America and met people who were sailing to Antarctica, I have wanted to follow their tracks.

Apart from taking your own boat, which was too ambitious for this trip as it's a long way and I only own a Laser, the other options are traveling on a cruise ship (which is expensive) or paying to sail on one of a number of yachts based in Ushuaia at the bottom end of Argentina (which is even more expensive). A search on Google for 'Sailing Antarctica'

quickly revealed another (somewhat cheaper) option of a 3 week trip, sailing on the Dutch Tall ship Europa, from Ushuaia down to the Antarctic Peninsula and back.

The cold damp morning of Sunday February 12th saw the start of a very long journey by train to Clapham Junction, another train to Gatwick Airport, a 3 hour flight to Madrid, an 11 hour flight to Buenos Aires, a 5 hour flight to Ushuaia and finally a 10 minute taxi ride to the ship. On the train to Gatwick, there were two men opposite, chatting. After one of them said "I can't wait to see the first ice berg", I quickly ascertained that they were on the same trip!

On board, we quickly began to get to know our fellow 36 passengers and the 17 crew. There was a mix of nationalities, half Dutch and the rest a mixture of other European countries, a few Brits, some Americans and the odd Australian. There was a fair amount of Dutch spoken but the 'official' language for announcements and lectures was English. The passengers, like me, could get involved as little or as much in the sailing of the ship as we liked, so some of us did all the watches, whilst others were less involved.

An early start took us East to the end of the Beagle Channel before heading south. After a wild 24 hours sailing before the wind, we had a few days motoring across the Drake Passage which isn't always windy and wild! Our first sight of Antarctica was the South Shetland Islands. A short trip by Zodiac took us ashore on an unnamed island in the Aitcho Isles (named after the UK Hydrographic Office – UKHO). Here we had our first sight of penguins, terns, skuas, and seals all of which became more familiar over the next few days.

Over the next 10 days, all our landings were to a set programme which Europa had agreed with the International Association of Antarctic Travel Operators (IAATO), which governs all the main Antarctic operators and ensures that there are no clashes between the different vessels visiting the main landings and that the effect on the wildlife and ecology by tourism is kept to an absolute minimum.

Our route took us to the penguin colony at Hannah point on Livingston Island and then on to Deception Island, where you can sail in to a volcano crater, and which has erupted as recently as the 1960's. We had a landing at an old whaling base before a hike across part of the island and then a swim in the sea, warmed by the underground volcanic activity. Swim too far one way and get boiled or the other way get frozen!

We then headed to the Antarctic Peninsula itself where we saw much more ice, both on land in the form of glaciers and on the water in the form of ice bergs of varying size. The Antarctic autumn is the time of year when there is least sea ice around, so whilst avoiding the biggest ice required careful pilotage, it was never a barrier to progress. The daily pattern of shore landings continued, visiting further penguin colonies, several 'research' stations, and a couple of glaciers which after climbing up, we tobogganed down! We also had a couple of Zodiac trips around the ice where a glacier was calving. Day after day, the landscape and wildlife were absolutely stunning and I ended up taking a total of 1200 photos.

Our southernmost point was the Vernadsky station, a Ukranian research station at 65 degrees, 15 minutes south. Here they do climate and radio research including research in to holes in the Ozone layer. This is also the southernmost Souvenir shop in the world.

We then started heading north, visiting the museum and post office at Port Lockroy, from which I sent my post cards (which are still en route). This is a restored British research station run by 3 staff for the tourist season. Some of the craziest passengers and crew went for a quick dip and are now founder members of the Antarctic Swim Club (www.antarcticswimclub.com). We also had a barbeque and party here, outside on the main deck of the Europa. The following morning, the sea was frozen and I had my first Antarctic hangover!

Our final stop was the Melchior islands, where we visited an Argentinean research station and explored the islands by Zodiac. A highlight here was the plan to sail off the anchorage in a small bay, bear off and out to sea. The briefing was great but by the time the anchor was up, the wind had died and we had to motor. As we left the islands, we had the amazing sight of a couple of Humpback whales repeatedly surfacing and then diving exposing their flukes as they go.

On the way back, we had a great 24 hours of sailing, including a starlit night when we could view the Southern Cross. The wind then came round on the nose, and increased, so the square sails were furled and in order to get back on time, we had to motor sail, with the fore and aft sails providing much needed stability. Sadly the wind remained blowing force 7 to 8 on the nose for most of the trip back. After dying away as we approached land, we had the final fury for the last couple of hours in the Beagle Channel as the wind suddenly built up to about 50 knots. This made docking decidedly interesting!

We had a final night in Ushuaia which gave the opportunity for consuming large Argentinean steaks, before starting the long journey home. It turned out that it had been colder in Weymouth than where I had been!

I've now sailed to six out of the seven continents. The final one beckons, so if you are sailing to Australia and looking for crew, please count me in!

Richard Butler

RSPB Bird Cage

Club members should be aware that there is a cage of birds in the harbour, recovering from oil pollution. Sailors are asked to keep clear of the cage to avoid subjecting the birds to unnecessary stress and race officers are asked to set courses that keep clear of the cage. (I am not exactly sure where the cage is - I think it is somewhere in the direction of marks 1 or 2. You will be informed when I get further information.)

Celia Rushton

Next month's newsletter

Please have contributions in by the 24th of next month.

If you receive this by post, but would like an e-mail notification, please supply me with your e-mail address. You will receive other e-mail reminders and notifications at short notice.

Celia Rushton – newsletter@ccsc.org.uk, 07977 912407

FOR SALE

Pandora International 21

4 berth sailing cruiser, fin keel, reasonable inventory, road trailer, £2000.

Long shaft engine negotiable as an extra

Clive Pakenham

01935 813137