

Seasalter Sailing Club

Newsletter

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SEASALTER SAILING CLUB

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Club open from 19.00 on Friday Evenings for Drinks, games and other entertainments.
- Laying Up Supper 19.00 for 19.30 Saturday 27th November 2004 including Prize Giving so if you want your prize please turn up!

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Editorial

by Martin Searle

The season is now nearing its end and this will be the final newsletter for this sailing season.

Over the past few months there have been quite a lot of social activities (both during Wednesdays and Friday evenings) and racing. There have been several new members join and we welcome them to the club.

During the racing we have seen more and more dinghies enter and this is a very positive step forward. For next season we will be having two separate

classes one for the Dinghies and the other for Catamarans. This should allow everyone to sail for the maximum amount of time without any pressure being exerted on differing boat



James and Judith Wilkinson racing their Mirror.

classes. This will mean that there will be even more WINE to win at the end of the season!

The last major social event of the year will be the **Laying Up Supper**. This will also feature the prize giving. There will also be prizes for people achieving feats during the year so even if you haven't won very many series, events, or may not even have raced at all during the year you may still be up for a prize.

Just Cruising

by Chris Stafford

This year the weather has not been kind to the Wednesday and occasional Friday cruisers, and consequently the takings have been down at the Shipwright's.

Never the less a small but dedicated band have taken to the water over the summer(?) usually just for a blast or drift around the bay. The comprised various classes of craft. On one occasion the fleet almost

reached double figures.

On the first trip to the Shipwrights the hardy band was lead by Jeff K and a friend on the club 18. They were almost out of sight by the time the rest of us launched. The "US" consisted of Leslie S and Dave L on Nermal, John D on his 15 and Chris S and Elisabeth on Greebo and much later Steve & Joan on their 18. The wind was swinging around and very patchy the

thirsty Kiddle and friend made a record breaking voyage to the house of refreshment, Chris and Elisabeth arrived just before last orders and took pity on those afloat and organized suitable liquid replenishment.

Sadly the wind by now had dropped right off. Steve & Joan gave up, John D made it to Faversham creek before calling it a day but Leslie And Dave, being made of sterner stuff (or possibly thirsty) carried on and made

Just Cruising... by Chris Stafford



A Beach BBQ

it to about 50yds from the drinks before the ebbing tide took over. Despite desperate use off a paddle by Leslie they went backwards away from the Shipwrights'. This left those on shore with a problem "What to do with the spare beer". After a long discussion it was reluctantly decided to drink it.

Now, the trip back was something dreams are made of. The wind had filled into a nice S.W. 4 so it was hull flying to Whitstable and a good play

around the bay. The second trip to the pub saw Jeff on a 15 sprint and Chris and Dave on an 18. A good sail down, a couple of beers and a drift back, not very comfortable with the beer making its presence felt!

At the time of writing (30.09.04) Dave has just been afloat in the ex John Foster Solo. Lets hope he has now escaped from the race office. So now you will have to find someone else to do your duties.

If you fancy a midweek cruise or sail, look at the tide tables , and contact Chris, Steve/Joan or Dave and remember that Wednesday sailing is not set in stone.

Don't forget Fridays evenings with the club open Friday nights. An afternoon sail,BBQ afterwards followed by a chat / giant Jenger and a couple of beers for those who don't have to drive. Its your club, Use it.

AGM by Martin Searle

The Clubs AGM was held on 26th September at 15.00.

The following major item(s) were approved by the membership:

1. Membership fee for next year : £135
2. Frank Avery stood down as Commodore
3. Jeff Kiddle was elected to replace Frank as Commodore.
4. The remaining Committee members remain the same as this year. They are: Chris & Lesley Stafford, Bob Walker, Eric Sales, Martin Searle and Steve Willis
5. Some discussions were held after the meeting and these will be taken up by the committee. The views were on:
 - Racing and dinghies
 - Training
 - Heating for the clubhouse

!)



Remember if you have any queries or views that you wish the club to address, please talk to a member of the committee so that they can be raised at a meeting.



LAYING UP SUPPER

27th November

19.00 for 19.30 in the Clubhouse

Racing News by Martin Searle

There has been a lot of racing from the end of May to October. Lets say that it has varied from the downright boring in little or no wind to the extremely exciting in LOTS of wind !.

The Shearwater and Catapult TT event was a roaring success and once again the Shearwater class contributed greatly to the club funds with their liberal use of the bar ! The event itself was held in relatively light winds, the most eventful thing that occurred was the white patrol boat (driven by Martin Searle) being rescued four times by Chris Stafford driving the other boat which was hardly the right impression to make. Since then the engine has been looked at and now appears to be in working order. The event was a success with both classes wishing to return to the club next year al-

though at different times

With the laying up supper so close I won't be giving you any results in this newsletter so if you want to know who won what then come along to the Prize Giving at the **Laying Up Supper**.

There has been some exciting incidents during September that are worth reporting:

During a very windy (force 6-7) Dickie Wren cup race Bill Tipple and Mark Wilkinson gave everyone a great demonstration of synchronized diving by abandoning Bill's Topaz whenever it got too hairy for them !. The way they managed to enter the water in synchronization was truly a sight to behold, surely good enough to earn a gold medal at the Olympics for it !. They repeated this no less

than 6 times and they earned themselves a sailing legends point each, excellent work chaps !.

In the very next race the Wilkinson clan were again in the thick of the action when James and Judith snagged the gybe mark's anchor rope which in turn knocked their rudder off their Mirror, leading to an inevitable capsize. Now it was at just this moment an even more unfortunate incident occurred the patrol boats engine conked out ! The engine stubbornly refused to restart. Race Officer Dave Lincoln eventually had to call in Whitstables Patrol boat to help out, this with the Mirror now half way to Whitstable., everyone was safely brought back with the mirror being retrieved with just its rudder missing.

*"Bill Tipple
and Mark
Wilkinson
'club
champions' in
synchronized
diving"*

Friday Nights by Chris Stafford

This year saw the start of the club opening on Friday evenings for a beer and natter etc.

The first opening was St Georges day it seemed a good excuse. We seem to have around ten regulars with other members dropping in. We usually call it a day around midnight but on one occasion people crawled out at two-thirty. If you want feeding let Leslie know.

The normal program is food, drink and a good old natter, followed by scalextric, jenger or some other activity for the active ones. This latterly has been Salsa dancing led by Lynn Reynolds.

Friday is also a chance for boat tweaking/quick repairs.

If there is interest, we hope to carry on over the winter, perhaps once or twice a month.

Next year maybe we could incorporate the social evening with race box training (Honking the hooter and flashing the lights at the right time) or any other theory parts per se power boat coarses etc.

With Christmas falling on a weekend this year, How about a walk along the Saxon Shore way Monday 27th at 14.00ish.

Remember the club is there ALL-months not just the sailing season, if you have any ideas to extend its use, let the committee know, especially as heating for the club is being considered.



*Above: Scalextric during a Friday night,
its not all sailing you know!*



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The Seasalter Club is on the North Kent Coast just to the west of Whitstable.

The sea is shallow and we can only sail +/- 2.5 hrs of high water but the swell is quite interesting (great to surf down on the leeward leg). The courses are always spot on.

Food for Thought.....

What if I break something when using a Club boat, what do I do?

The first thing to do is to fill in the trouble report book, this is positioned in the clubhouse by the noticeboard on the ground floor. If a member of the committee is present then inform them, they won't shout at you, promise !.

The club now has a Bosun, whose job it will be to maintain the club boats, by whatever appropriate means. Dave Lincoln has taken on this role so many congratulations to him.

SAIL LOCKER: Please remove any equipment from the locker at the end of the season this will allow it to be refurbished more easily.

Now for something even more important:

Do fish get thirsty? Hmm quite an imponderable there.....