



THIS MONTH'S DIARY

Wednesday 5th February

7.30pm for 8.00pm

Talk – Whales and Dolphins

Saturday 8th February

7.30pm

Informal Z Class Supper

Wednesday 19th February

10.30am-Midday

Informal Get-Together

Exercise and Relaxation

Wednesday 19th February

7.30pm for 8.00pm

**Talk – National Coastwatch
Institution**

Friday 21st February

7.30pm

To Ireland and Cork Week

Talk with music

Saturday 22nd February

7.30pm for 8.00pm

Dinghy Dinner

Saturday 1st March

Sailboat & Windsurf Show

Alexandra Palace, London

Sunday 2nd March

Roast Lunch (pre-book)

Wednesday 5th March

7.30pm for 8.00pm

Talk – Model Sailing Yachts

FROM THE COMMODORE



Photo By Eric Barnes

Last month you will recall that I stressed the importance of pressing on very hard with all those actions necessary to ensure that we are ready to go in all respects for the season 2003. I am happy to say that thanks to some excellent planning, commitment and hard work from the team, we are back on track, but only just. However, we have also been blessed by good weather on Sundays so far; this will not always be the case so we must keep up the pressure.

This month I look in particular to those who have not yet been able to attend a working party. We really need your injection of fresh blood, you will find that whatever task you are involved in you will get a great sense of achievement and also get to know more members of your Club. Please also note that Jane Davies and her super organisation have been keeping us going with plenty of tea and coffee so there is every good reason to volunteer and join those who are already putting in the graft.

Next; the subject of Safety. Whilst overseeing the reconstruction of the jetty, Malcolm Spicer, who is probably the most experienced man on site that we have, slipped and fell onto the sand. He was very shaken and suffered damage to his ribs, BUT IT COULD HAVE BEEN FAR WORSE. Please make sure, whether a team leader or a worker bee, that you take the greatest care when working on site and if in doubt, stop, reconsider and only proceed with the greatest caution. The whole subject of Safety is being raised at the next General Committee meeting, if you have any points please raise them through a Committee member, and if you are a professional safety expert, why not volunteer your services to the Club in that capacity?

I would also like to make a few remarks on the Co-ordination of Sailing within our area. To inform those who may not know, this is done by an organisation known as the "Yacht Clubs of Weymouth" (YCW). This group meets periodically and consists of the Commodores and Vice Commodores of CCSC, RDYC, WSC and RNSA (Portland) and the Chairman of the Championship Committee, currently David Dunn. The purpose of this group is to foster and implement co-operation between the constituent clubs in all matters affecting their mutual interest, to organise sailing events and championships which are not the responsibility of an individual club, to provide facilities and support to a constituent club if requested, and to encourage training. These objectives are achieved primarily by 2 sub committees, the

Championship Committee (which speaks for itself) and the Co-ordinating Committee which harmonises our Club sailing programmes, handicaps, social programmes and other events. I think it is important that we all understand the value of the YCW organisation as it certainly irons out clashes over dates and has the potential to encourage yet further such initiatives as the IRC Series for keelboats and perhaps combined training opportunities for potential Race Officers, safety training and other activities.

Finally, think how you can contribute to a working party, think how you can help our Treasurer Judy Kemmis-Betty with your loans or donations, and above all THINK SAFETY.

Bob Turner

FROM THE HONORARY TREASURER

The Gift Aid Declaration Form is now available on the website – www.ccsc.org.uk

Judy Kemmis-Betty

UPDATE ON UPGRADING A CORNER OF THE CLUB'S GROUNDS

On the Western side beside the Clubhouse, is a small area that includes a gentle slope of green stuff (too weedy to be called lawn yet). It is above a steeper slope where Cadets did an excellent job of demolishing a wilderness of brambles and built walls last September. Below this and along the Western boundary is a steep, rough slope. Sally and Serena have planted a wonderful mixed hedge of evergreen, salt/wind tolerant shrubs. After a false start (by Diana) trying to use rough materials lying around the site when we moved in, the team overseeing the outside refurbishment of this area (Barry, Nick, Rose (Spicer), Sally, Diana, Reg ... et al) decided a proper retaining wall or two would be a good thing.

The aim is to build a breezeblock wall in a gentle arc from the Western fence to the bottom edge of the balcony to be faced with pebbles/cobbles (more attractive) stones. This will enable some levelling of the green area at the top. An area of lawn is attractive for small children and summer sunbathing, the downside being maintenance. We shall give this area a season's trial before making a firm decision on lawn or paving.

The nature of the site is bold and uncultivated so that highly 'domesticated' flower gardens are thought to be at odds with the location so the plan is to use mainly evergreens to establish largish blocks of plants. A path/flight of steps will curve from the top area to the lower floor of the Clubhouse (store-rooms). To the West and below the retaining wall evergreens with 'horizontal', spreading growing habits (probably juniper) will reduce maintenance and look tidy on a slope that is too steep to be much use. Immediately beside the Clubhouse the Cadets' 'rock-garden' will be filled with lavenders at the bottom and rosemary (probably horizontal and creeping rather than the rather fast growing, large bushes) above.

The strip of land immediately above the slip onto the Western beach will be tidied up possibly for boat racks (e.g. Toppers or tenders). A further (rather long!) retaining wall is likely to be needed to support the bank and more tough evergreens to complement the juniper will help to prevent land slippage. Immediately in front of the storerooms much stalwart work is underway to weed, tidy and reveal the tarmac that is more useful as workspace and for barbeques if we decide to hold them at the 'downstairs' level. Here we hope to encourage grass rather than reeds in the pockets between paths.

We hope this gives some indication of current thoughts for this area of the site. The practicalities of maintenance will emerge with time. Help to build retaining walls, purchase plants (or swap for plants we saved from the old site) and attack weeds (ground elder) whilst ensuring we do not leave bare earth on slopes (as this makes them unstable) will be welcome. Comments to Diana.

The Garden Gang

LASER LATEST



Key dates to be booked into your diary for the coming season:

- Laser Social Friday 28th March
- UKLA Training Day Saturday 10th May
- Laser Starts Training Sunday 1st June
- Laser Masters Nationals 27th - 29th June
- Weymouth Regatta (Dinghies) 16th - 17th August (We're promised our own starts this year!)
- Laser Open 27th September

More details to follow nearer the time

Working parties... Many thanks to the Laser sailors who did their bit to transform the access road into the Club last Saturday

Mark Wildman 01305 771050 mark.wildman@virgin.net

CLUB BURGEES

You'll want to fly one for the
80th Birthday celebrations
(for Club members and invited guests)
on Sunday 18th May

The Club received a delivery of CCSC Bugees, most of which were specific orders. The few spare **are almost sold out** and the new season will be here before you know it. They are 16"x 9.5" (40 x 24 cm) and quality is good.

Please contact Diana Gill or add your name to the list pinned up in the corridor of the Clubhouse by **25th February 2003** if you wish me to order one for you £21 each last time (hopefully same price for the next order)

Diana Gill
01305 775854

FROM THE SOCIAL SECRETARY

Dinghy Dinner

The Dinghy Dinner is on Saturday 22nd February - 7:30pm for 8:00pm. The cost of the three-course meal will be £12.00 which includes wine and coffee. The speaker will be Gary Fooks who will talk about the Ward Evans Atlantic Rowing Challenge 2001 in which he and Dominic Marsh rowed their boat 'Onward' 2900 miles from Tenerife to Barbados.

Please return the enclosed slip to me with payment by 12th February - late applications will not be accepted. There are no tickets; I will confirm your reservation by phone or email.

Boat Jumble and Table Top Sale

There will be a boat jumble and table top sale on Sunday 27th April at 10:30am. Here's the chance to pass on all those useful boat bits or sailing kit that no longer fits. (It doesn't have to be sailing related though). An opportunity for a good sort out!

There will be a charge of £5.00 per table or pitch. There will be more details in future Newsletters.

Working Party Lunches

We tried providing hot lunches for the Sunday working parties during January. However, for the amount of effort involved in producing them there wasn't sufficient response, so we have decided to stop and there will be no hot lunches in February. Thanks to all of you who supported us through January.

Sunday Roast Lunch

The next Sunday roast lunch will be on 2nd March. Can we please stress that you must book in advance so that we don't have to over-cater. Telephone or email, or speak to me on Sunday mornings at working parties. The price for the two-course meal will be £6.00 for adults (by common consent - not £5.95) and £4.50 for children.

There will also be a special Mothers Day lunch on Sunday 30th March, pre-booking essential - more details in the next Newsletter.

Jane Davies holvalcots@aol.com 01305 852817

WINTER WORKING PARTIES

All through last summer and autumn dedicated gangs brought the Clubhouse up to the wonderful standard we saw at Christmas. Since Christmas the winter working parties have turned full attention to sorting the outside. The weekend of 25/26 January was memorable for the delicious roast lunch, good humour and slave labour that makes Castle Cove the wonderful Club it is. Despite Malcolm's (Spicer) cracked ribs, refurbishment of the pier progresses, teams scraped out flotsam, packed in hardcore where the sea has eroded behind the boulders and lugged wheelbarrows of earth to landscape and clear weeds.

There was a real buzz of achievement (rather like the time Pete Davies put on the last of 40 square metres of tiling in the kitchen – that's 1400 tiles to you and me) as the Saturday gang smoothed out the access road (no more damaged sumps) and then returned on Sunday, bolstered by dozens of determined pickaxe and shovel wielders. The digger dug, the girls threaded string in pipes and old and young, male and female all shovelled as though their lives depended upon it and all to provide electricity to the boat park and a light to the main gate!

If you haven't been down to lug metal, dig clay and scrub boats – you are missing out! And a BIG thanks to the Social Committee for sustaining us with outstanding lunches and mugs and more mugs of tea.

Club Member

WANTED
To borrow or buy
The Adriatic Pilot
by T & D Thompson
Barbara Budd 01305 774674

FOR SALE Mirror 59880

Very good condition, newly varnished and painted winter 2002. New bailer, spinnaker sheets and blocks. Mast new 2001,
2 dagger boards, 2 spinnaker poles (1 brand new) sails in good condition. Trolley and cover. Garaged over winters.
£480 o.n.o. Can be viewed in Weymouth.

Brand new spinnaker also available for above - has only been up the mast 5 times, comes with bag
£140

Contact Paul or Mike Robbins on
01305 848158

FOR SALE Musto One-Design trapeze harness

Adjustable back support, nappy type, hardly used from new
Would fit large child/small adult
£30
Contact Mike Robbins on 01305 848158

DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

The Club has a large number of surplus items currently in the downstairs storerooms. The items include gas and electric boilers, sinks, radiators, toilets, lights, doors, UPVC windows etc. etc. These items can be 'bought' for an agreed donation to the Club. (Speak to our Treasurer about signing a gift aid form.)

The full list of items will be posted on the inside of the doors in each store. Items can be viewed at any time but if you wish to 'purchase' anything contact me (01305 852817) so that we can agree a price. I will place named stickers on items that have been 'bought'. As we need to get the stores cleared for the next sailing season, all 'bought' items must be removed from the stores by the end of February or they will be disposed of at the local landfill, as will any remaining 'unsold' items.

Peter Davies

SAILBOAT & WINDSURF SHOW, ALEXANDRA PALACE, LONDON

Saturday 1st March 2003

John Williams is co-ordinating names for travel and group discount from Castle Cove. If you would like to take advantage of this, and possibly cheap travel by rail, please contact John on 01305 260695 as soon as possible.

RYA OPIES

For several years the RYA Oppies have been made available for us to use at Saturday morning Cadets. This scheme has proven an ideal introduction for young sailors; particularly those who have taken one of the RYA Start Sailing courses run for us at Castle Cove by the Weymouth Outdoor Education Centre. It avoids having to invest in your own boat while you wait to see if you have a budding Ellen McArthur or young Ben Ainslie in the family, and for 2003 we are expecting all of the boats to have been upgraded. This year the boats will need to be pre booked for the season and the cost for use will be £75 per Optimist. Boats will be allocated strictly on a first come basis and I would be grateful if you would let me know of any arrangements to share boats to avoid any misunderstandings later in the season.

Contact me, or leave a message, on 01305 788793, or by email i.greens@virgin.net

Ian Green

Z CLASS NEWS

Only two months until the season starts again – is your boat nearly ready? The first race is for IRC boats on Sunday 13th April. You will need a 2003 certificate so get your application in now. The ferry service will be up and running so those of you not in Weymouth Harbour will still be able to sail.

If any of you are interested in getting an IRC rating for your boat or want to know more about the scheme give me a call and I will try and help.

Included in this newsletter is the application form for the Z Class Dinner on 15th March. The price includes "several" courses, wine and port so excellent value for money – an evening not to be missed.

For a more informal evening come along on Saturday 8th February with your crew and enjoy a fork supper and chat with fellow sailors. If you are a new member this will be an excellent time to get to know people and find out what is on offer to the Castle Cove Z Class. Roy, Rupert (Cruising Chairman) and I will be on hand to answer any questions.

Finally don't forget the winter talks arranged by Simon for all Club members – see the Social programme for dates. The Coastwatch talk includes a video with an interesting clip of one of our "lady" sailors falling overboard!!

Sara Lloyd



QUICK UPDATE ON SUNDAY WORKING PARTIES 26TH JANUARY 2003

Really a misnomer, as the teams this weekend worked Saturday and Sunday putting a flat surface on the approach to the new gates, started on repairing the top of the "Castle" slip, and dug a trench (with the aid a mechanical digger) to contain water and electrical supplies to various parts of the Club site. I left at 3 p.m. with the trench being filled by Club members ranging from Cadets to retired commodores. Sterling stuff. At the same time, the "Cave" at the old site was scavenged for useful bits, landscaping work continued, and a wonderful lunch was prepared by the social committee and served up in the best Clubhouse on the south coast! Many thanks to you all.

Those of you who cannot make Sunday mornings could offer help in the afternoons now that daylight hours are improving. Please phone me if you are available so that your time can be usefully employed. It is becoming difficult to utilise additional labour without knowing in advance who can turn up when. So if you would like to put a few hours in the next critical six weeks up to the middle of March, please give me a ring (or e-mail or note wrapped around brick) to put additional teams together for specific tasks. (For example, we will be looking to set-up a group to remove the old pier towards the end of February.)

Paul Clarke
(01305 782220 – paulc@twizell45.fsnet.co.uk – bricks not returned!)

PROPOSED WEEKLY INFORMAL GET-TOGETHER

At CCSC Clubhouse – Wednesdays
10.30am – midday

To perhaps raise a little money towards purchase of plants as well as a social occasion

FIRST MEETING – as one-off trial
Wednesday 19th February - £1.00
including tea/coffee

EXERCISE WITH RELAXATION

Wear: Loose clothing allowing for possible removal of top layer, non-slip footwear or bare feet

Bring: Something to lay on (towel, mat or sleeping bag)

Suggestions needed for future
Wednesdays

Rosemary Spicer (01305 782125)

CASTLE COVE SAILING CLUB MEMBER QUALIFIES AS NATIONAL JUDGE

Castle Cove Sailing Club member 'Charlie Watson' has joined a band of specialist international sailors by qualifying as a National Judge.

Racing yachts offshore in a number of major events since 1984 gave Charlie a solid foundation to complete the months of studying, courses, role play and 3 test papers that resulted in him gaining the National Qualification.

Charlie commented "*I am obviously delighted that the hard work over the months have paid off in my gaining the award. The Judge Qualification means that my knowledge and experience of the racing rules is now able to be used for the good of the sport and makes me an authority on the rules. This means that I can chair protest hearings up to International Event level, sit on any protest committee and give advice with regard to the Racing Rules of sailing - I could even be used in the Olympic Sailing Competitions as a judge*". He continued "*With the ever-increasing number of national and international sailing events hosted by the Sailing Academy and Yacht Clubs of Weymouth, my recognised level of knowledge and judgement coupled with my sailing experience, will, I'm sure, be of great value*".

Charlie also holds a Commercially Endorsed Yachtmaster Offshore; Long Range Telephone Licence, Medical Proficiency First Aid at Sea Certificate; Sea Survival and Yachtmaster Ocean Theory.

Jacqui Gisborne

OPEN DAY

Sunday 11th May

An opportunity to promote our Club and increase our membership – we will be open to the public, especially the local community, to provide information about our activities, facilities and, weather permitting, for prospective new members to have a go at sailing

MYSTERY DINGHY

Hayley I

For effective management of the boat park, it is essential that all boats can be identified. Please ensure that details of this boat are notified to the Hon Membership Secretary or the relevant Class Captain.

MYSTERY SOLVED

Last month we wondered what Robert Fielding's fancy dress was. Sally has put us right – it was "www. or the internet. It's amazing what you can do with the wrapping from a Christmas tree and the plastic wrapping from a ball-shaped present."

Cathy Ledger

FROM BRISTOL CLIPPER

We're in mid Pacific at the moment. We last saw another Clipper 9 days ago, when we were south of the doldrums. Since then, we have only had ourselves, a few squid and flying fish for company, apart from one container ship, last night, which came so close I had to call them up on the VHF to check they had seen us.

When I last wrote, we were at the Atlantic end of the Panama Canal, waiting for our passage through. We got this on Christmas Eve, so we could spend Christmas in Panama. The canal runs from its' north western end in the Atlantic to its' south eastern end in the Pacific. Travelling through it is an amazing experience, going into locks with monster container ships. Most of the canal is actually a man made lake in the middle of Panama. The last flight of locks down in to the Pacific has a webcam on it, so quite a few Bristol Clipper groupies spent their Christmas Eve watching us go down the locks, on the internet.

Christmas Day was slightly surreal. Everybody, from all the boats, had lunch together in the heat and sunshine.

We left Panama on the Friday after Christmas. We had a good first 12 hours and were leading the fleet. However, I, along with half the fleet, missed a trick with the weather and I could only watch as 3 of the fleet had a sleigh ride south, across the doldrums, while we had little wind on the rhumb line.

After a frustrating week of clams, squalls and lots of rain, we finished 5th in the Galapagos Islands, leaving us 4th overall in the Round the World Race.

The Galapagos Islands are amazing. It was a great break and we managed to take time off to see the islands and wildlife, swimming with sea lions, watching wild giant tortoises grazing and walking on recent lava fields. We were looking for excuses not to leave but the time came and we set off for Hawaii on Friday 10th January. Galapagos is south of the doldrums, whilst Hawaii is to the north, so the most important strategic decision is where to cross the doldrums. We had a plan for this, which went a bit awry when we ran out of wind before we had got as far west as I had planned. We then headed north to catch the north east trade winds as quickly as we could. We only completely lost the wind for an hour or two and as a result, ended up through the doldrums in 3rd place. We briefly lost a place, but are now back in 3rd and reeling in the leaders.

The trade winds are blowing hard, ENE 6 - 7 and apart from a couple of times when it has been down for repairs, we have been flying the heavy spinnaker, sometimes on the limit (beyond which we broach). The key to doing well in this is avoiding breaking things, and getting them repaired quickly when we do. Over the last couple of days, this has enabled us to make gains on the whole of the rest of the fleet.

Cheers

Richard Butler



A.D. Hownham-Meek's Yacht "Idler"

IDLER BAR

Some of our members will have noticed the rather nice carved wood door signs on the Galley, Office and Chart Room. They were done by Mike Venning, who I think is CCSC's third longest remaining member, with well over 50 years to his credit. Almost as long as he has been mending Brian's boats.

Well, on Punch Party Day with the full agreement of the Commodore and Michael Abbott, our fine custodian of that most important part of our premises and where those that like drink gather, another Venning masterpiece was installed. The new sign says Idler Bar and is probably very apt for those that frequent that area. But some of you may not know that the reason this name was chosen was that it was the name of one of our founder A.D. Hownham-Meek's yachts which used to race in Portland Harbour before the war.

Brian Wilkins

MARCH Newsletter

The deadline for the March 2003 Newsletter will be 23rd February 2003.

Recently there has been some discussion about again distributing the newsletter by email. Last month I made a trial run and am pleased to report that it was successfully sent electronically to nearly half the Club members. This saves a lot of time and could represent a huge saving for the Club. Not everyone wishes or is able to receive it in this way so the printed version will still be sent to you unless you confirm to me otherwise. Of course before you can receive it by e-mail I must have your correct e-mail address. If you would like to receive the Newsletter by e-mail in future or if you would like more information just e-mail me to let me know.

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