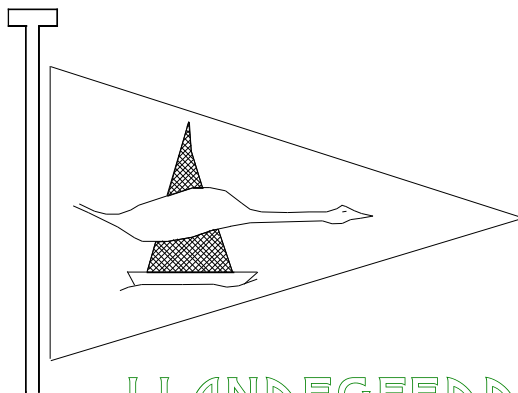


# 2003

News & Review

August  
Number 49

[www.llandegfedd.org.uk](http://www.llandegfedd.org.uk)



# August NEWS

## LLANDEGFEDD SAILING CLUB

### SOCIAL news

### Commodore's Letter

#### BOULES EVENING

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September  
2003 at 7pm

Panteg House, Greenhill  
Road, Sebastopol,  
Pontypool

#### End of an era?

Details of both on the last  
page.....

#### Volunteers required

##### President's Day, 9 September

Any volunteers to help Bill  
run the Laser Open /  
Llandegfedd Pin, please  
contact Bill.

##### Asymmetric Open, 28 September

We need a rescue boat  
driver and assistants for this  
day please. Contact Dave  
Downs for this.

Note that these two days a  
excellent training  
opportunities to see how it's  
all done, and see some good  
racing from close quarters –  
if we are lucky with the  
winds.

I expect that catering help is  
also appreciated. Please  
volunteer to Bill, as it's a  
worse job ringing around  
and being a press gang than  
doing the work sometimes.

One of the things that has pleased me about sailing this year is the age range of people who have sailed regularly. We've had an 8 year old and an 80 year old in the same race. It shows that people of all shapes sizes and abilities can race and enjoy themselves on the water.

But when we get young children on the water, we are all aware of their safety, and keep an eye on them. We must do the same when we have more senior members on the water. We've had two incidents recently when members have been in the water for about 15 minutes, and it has taken a long time for the Welsh Water/Dwr Cymru rescue boat to arrive. Fortunately, on both occasions it was midsummer, and the water was warm, and neither man suffered any ill effects. But we must all be vigilant to ensure that such a delay doesn't happen again.

I have written to DC/WW and invited them to discuss safety issues with me, and I hope that their safety service will improve. However, as a club and as individuals, we must be aware of our own responsibilities.

The Rangers provide rescue facilities, while the club can (but does not have to) provide safety cover. The race officer must carry out a risk assessment before and during each race in order to decide whether to launch and man a power boat. Factors to be taken into account will include the weather, and the sailors racing. If Optimists are racing, a safety boat must be launched, whatever the weather.

If the race officer is unsure whether to launch a boat, he should do so. If the weather conditions are good, he may decide that the boat can be beached near the OD hut, so that it can be put into operation very quickly.

In inclement weather, the race officer should give a radio to the Rangers. He should be able to contact them by radio or by phone.

If you are sailing, and see someone in distress, you should stand by. (The sailing committee will give you redress, so that your race position does not suffer). I'm grateful to Phil and Lisa Weston and to Ken Adams, who stood by to help a member recently, and who waited until the rescue boat arrived.

Earlier in the season, we ran a Power Boat course, and I am asking Mervyn to run another course as soon as possible. There is a charge, but it is a useful qualification, and the course is fun. Richard Poole (Chief Ranger) can also give the qualification. I urge all members over the age of 16 to try and get some power boat training as soon as possible. I think Mervyn is away at present, but we'll publicise the course asap. We will also try to make sure that if anyone does not know how to start the engines, we'll show them on a Sunday between races.

We have also asked the Rangers to make arrangements to berth one of our boats near the water's edge, in order to make it easier to launch the boat.

*Gareth Edwards*

## Youth Training

**Sunday, 24 August, 10:00**

We are holding a training session on Sunday coming to try to prepare as best possible for the PGL regatta.

For those who have completed this year's course we will give you all the information you require for the WYA/PGL regatta and help organise club boats if you need them.

Please be there rigged and changed by 10:00. We will coach in the morning and have a mini regatta in the afternoon. We may have some visiting South East sailors as the WYA training session planned for Cardiff Bay had been cancelled due to weed problems. Iwan Basten, our regional coach, will definitely be there to help coach the more experienced racers.

### Toppers, Lasers, Optimists, ++

This is not just for Optimists. We hope to see our Topper, Laser Radials and other young sailors!

*Bill, Phil and your race coaches*

## OD Training

We have a training session set up and ready to roll on OD Duties, how it all works, what those pretty lights mean, why the course start and finish line moves around in a confusing manner. We ought ALL to be able to set courses and run the race sequence.

If you are unsure about your abilities, please contact Keith to join the list to be trained. Dates in autumn TBD.

*Keith*

## OD Lights system

The more observant of you (especially if you actually go to the OD hut to sign on) will have noticed that our windmill is missing.

In fact, we have had a whole chapter of odd things to do with the battery and charging system. We boiled a battery dry, having got used to not needing to check car batteries, and then wondered why the new one went flat.

The wind driven generator has been in place for about 18 years, and the brushes had worn out. They are easy to get, but in the dismantling process and climbing ladders ON TOP of the OD hut various bits were broken.

However, new parts have arrived, and we should be back in business soon. We also have a regulator for the battery so we ought to keep the battery in good condition. Thanks to Upal, Phil, Mark and Andy for fighting back to get it going again. Let's hope that the saga does NOT continue!

## WYA / PGL Regatta

The weekend after next (August 30-31) is the WYA/PGL Regatta at Llangorse. This is a great fun weekend event and an excellent regatta for young sailors of all abilities. There is a separate start for Training Optimists with on the water coaching provided. It would be great to get as many club boats out as possible so please try to make the effort. There should be lots of members going so if you need transport, accommodation advice or any other help please ask now.

Entry forms are available at the club and probably via the WYA website. There is a small discount if you book before Monday 25th.

P.S. Parents can have a fun weekend camping near by. There should be a few of us so should be quite social!

### Need a boat?

We MUST book use of club boats as we only have 5 Toppers, 6 Optimists and the 420 between potentially lots of our juniors.

*Bill*

## Llangorse Challenge

Saturday 27 September sees the rematch of our club against the Juniors of Llangorse. This year we are hosting it on our own water. We are the current holders, after about 10 years of not winning it, despite various scoring and umpiring strategies.

We will organise this after the WYA / PGL regatta, but please show interest to

**Gareth**, if you a Topper sailor, or

**Bill**, if you sail an Optimist.

## Results

The full results, with **every boat** position, will be on the web site by the end of the week. On the next page is a quick preview of the overall championship positions. Still to come, Wednesday Holiday and the two Autumn series.

The web site is now up to date to end of the Summer series. There are a lot of names getting well placed, which is good news for the club. I hope that you are all enjoying it with the warm weather.

*Andy and Mark*

## Asymmetric Open Meeting

**28 September, 11:00**

Another open event for us, with an open invitation for all Asymmetric Classes.

If you know any friends in other clubs with RS400s, 200s, 700s, 800s, Buzzes, ISOs, Varios, 49ers, etc then bring them here!

## Llandegfedd Club Championship results, 2003

We have had some good racing this year. Some notable podium positions have been obtained by Nick and Dave Hamersley, Joe and Dan Edwards, James Davy, as well as some of the non-junior members, such as Jack, and newcomers to their dinghy classes such as Phil and Lisa, Alan and Judith.

		Spring p/s	Spring h/c	Wed h/c	May Races	Wed p/s	Summer Stakes	Wed Hol	Happy Hol	Autumn p/s	Autumn h/c	
First		Andy	Andy	Andy	Andy	Bill	Nigel		Mark			
Second		John	Mark	Mark	Nigel	Mark	Mark		Alan			
Third		Nigel	John	Bill	Mike	Andy	Andy		Andy			
												Points
Andy + Ruth	RS400	20	20	20	20	10	10		10			110
Mark Williams	Laser		15	15		15	15		20			80
Nigel T	Laser	10			15		20					45
Bill J	RS400			10		20						30
John Daniels	Solo	15	10									25
Alan B	RS200								15			15
Mike F	Supernova				10							10

### Llandegfedd Pin & President's Day

**Sunday 14 September, 11:00**

is a whole day of sailing. In the afternoon we race for the Llandegfedd Pin. This has an impressive list of winners, including world champions, Olympic Medallists and Phil and Helen Tilley (three times)

#### Laser Open Meeting

If you are sailing a Laser this year, you should be racing on the same date in The Laser Grand Prix. We are hosting it by special request on 14 Sept. Once you're race tuned, you will still be able to have a shot at the pin!

*Andy*

### Carpenters Arms

#### End of an Era

Mine hosts at the Carpenters arms are retiring (again, they tell us) at the end of August. Please come along on

#### Wednesday the 27<sup>th</sup> August

After sailing. This date is our last Sailing Wednesday this year. We are not sure if the pub will have a new landlord, or even if it will stay as a pub.

### BOULES EVENING

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2003 at 7pm**

We have booked the floodlit boules *pistes* at Panteg House, Greenhill Road, Sebastopol, Pontypool for Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> September. We hope that as many as possible will be able to come. Children are welcome.

We've arranged to borrow boules, but if you have a set of boules, please bring it. We've also arranged for an expert to explain the rules, and give a few hints. We'll be able to play in teams of 3 or 2, so you can arrange your teams in advance. If you've never played before, don't worry.

Numbers for the game don't really matter, but there will be a buffet at £4.75 per head. So will you please tell me if you are coming, so that I can book the buffet. (01291 673883)

#### Directions;

- from the A4042 (Newport to Pontypool road), coming north;
- turn left towards Cwmbran at the Rechem (New Inn) roundabout;
- Turn right at the next roundabout;
- Fork left on crossing the old railway bridge at the south end of the Avesta works; straight up the hill for about half a mile.
- When the road curves to the right at the top of the hill, you'll see a large brick wall, and turn in through the gate on the right opposite Glen Garrif Court.

**See you there.**

*Gareth*

## August News – Part TWO!

As soon as I had pushed the first three pages out to the e-mail list, I had a barrage of questions, broadly on the lines of “why did you not put in the bits I sent you about....?” The basic reason is that I was pushed for time and tired! Half of the first section was edited in a hotel in Huntingdon, the rest in a hurry so that it could go out before the Wednesday sailing.

The reason for the weeks delay is that, apart from work, I have put the windmill power generator back together, joined in the Youth training session, helped move buoys around (see below) sorted out the bouncing e-mail addresses and done some sailing myself.

Please, check the volunteers list, ask Bill and Gareth how you can help, and generally get stuck in. There is no shortage of things to do, if you ask us “why don’t we do... something”, why not do it yourself, NOW? If you don’t know how, or know where to find something, that’s the time to ask!

### Social Events

We’re organising some social events for the winter months.

#### Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> September

Boules evening and buffet at Panteg House (*see details elsewhere*)

**October;** Talk and videos on the Sail Training Association. We also hope to show the video of the sailing at the last Olympics. *Date and venue to be arranged.*

#### Saturday 22nd November

Annual dinner and prize giving. No speeches; ceilidh band and hog roast at Usk Conservative Club. Tickets on sale soon.

#### Friday in January

AGM and social evening (Date and venue to be fixed)

#### February

General knowledge quiz night, with one nautical round.

### Boats for sale

#### Laser 141568

- fast hull vgc
- full and radial rigs - radial new 2002
- trolley and top cover
- padded toestraps
- gorilla tiller
- £1450
- call 01285 659995

Based Cirencester, Gloucestershire

#### On the club Notice board

In the club house are a number of adverts for boats;

#### Laser II Regatta

about £2000

#### Another Laser II regatta

About £500 - I think you cannot go wrong with this, its in berth F24 and presumably has a permit? I have not looked at it!

#### Fireball,

From Tony Whent, who was a stalwart in the club 20 years ago.

#### And some others!

### Sail Training Association

The exciting winter programme is now available, voyages in the twin Brigs Prince William and the Stavros S Niarcos range from a one day sail from a local port to the an 11-day voyage in the Caribbean.

The Stavros S Niarchos will visit Barry Docks in **September** arriving on Sat 6<sup>th</sup>, the ship will be open to visitors in the afternoon, in the evening a charity reception will be held on board at a cost of £10 per person. On Mon 7<sup>th</sup> and Tues 8<sup>th</sup> a one day sail in the Bristol Channel is available for £69 this is available for boys & girls and also adults, between the ages of 16 and 75.

Why not come along to Barry to see the ship and maybe have a day’s sail in a 60 metre two masted square rigger!

Contact Mac Pearce ( Solo 2475) for further details.

Or e-mail [macpearce@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:macpearce@tiscali.co.uk)

Or look at the STA web site, [www.sta.org](http://www.sta.org) Mac

### Buying a boat

If you are considering buying a boat, but have never done it before, some things to consider;

- If it’s wooden, it ought to be kept dry over winter (in a barn or your garage etc.) You will need to varnish it every other year, but many think they look far better than plastic boats!
- Boats do not depreciate as fast as cars, unless absolutely new. You can afford to take a risk on a boat and sell it again without losing a fortune
- Check for rotten parts, damage, leakage, delaminating fibreglass, softness. Take a friend, the club can provide you with one! Ask one of us. We know a lot of the weak points.
- Sails are replaceable, but may cost £100 second hand or £300 new. Balance against cost of boat
- Trailer, trolley, cover etc should come with boat, replacement is not cheap. Rope and lines can be replaced cheaply, especially at the dinghy show.

*Andy*

## Buoy moves

Your committee never rests.

After last Wednesday's sailing, we held an informal but very well attended committee meeting in our ~~clubhouse~~ local pub, The Carpenter's Arms. We reviewed the buoy positions at the dam end of the reservoir, with further soundings taken from other members.

### Start Area

To give ODs greater flexibility, it is proposed to move buoy 2 across closer to buoy 1 and buoy B 20-30M north of buoy A.

The changes will mean that it is easier to set an unbiased line in a wider range of wind directions. It does mean that we will not have an inner distance mark (Ex buoy B) but **remember that the start line is a line passing through both transit poles on the OD hut.** It is anticipated that this will now normally be aligned with A or B as a distance mark. The start will be between the near bank and the chosen buoy or the far bank and the chosen buoy.

The start of the course will be advised by selecting the big course letters appropriately i.e.

- When starting windward to 1 or 2, a green A or B will be displayed to indicate a near bank start i.e. A or B to starboard. A or B will be part of the subsequent course and the finish.
- Similarly, a red A or B will be used for a far bank start.
- When sailing north, the opposite will apply i.e. a red A or B for a near start and a green A or B for a far bank start.

On occasions when the wind is from a difficult direction, the transit will continue to need to be set approximately at right angles to the wind and not necessarily onto A or B as the outer distance mark. This might result in a full width start, unless say buoy 9 or 10 can be used as the distance mark. (Paul's technique, C or 4 can be first Mark in Westerly wind)

### Buoy 2

Will be moved towards Buoy 1, so that it can be used either as a "spacing" mark to keep upwind and downwind boats apart after the start, or provide a truer beat to the South-South West. It was so far over to the West that it had tricky winds or no wind.

### Buoy 3

Will be moved in towards the middle of the reservoir by a very small amount. It is often surrounded by an area of no wind, even in Northerly and Southerlies.

In fact, Mark, Bill and Andy moved these around on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>. We have not tried the new arrangements yet, but it looks promising.

*Alan and the sailing committee*

## Advice for ODs

At an ad hoc meeting of the committee over a pint at the Carpenters on Wednesday, the subject of ODing was raised. It is recognised that ODing can be a little daunting, particularly for the newer members facing a tricky wind speed and direction!

In these situations, it was felt that it would be helpful if a more experienced member was formally at hand (as opposed to an informal gathering!) to assist if required with some of the key decisions before starting the racing.

It is proposed to trial this idea during the September and October programmes by nominating Assistant ODs (sailing). Mark Williams and Andy Howard will AOD in September with Bill Jackson and Alan Bolton AOD-ing during October (if there's any water left!). Note that the AOD is *expected* to go sailing, and this duty is a purely advisory one that does not take any responsibility away from the nominated OD himself or herself.

Whilst we recognise that not everyone will need this help, some of you might feel happier if you had assistance in setting the course. A check list will include;

- Does the course have a true beat?
- Is it a varied and interesting course, appropriate for the conditions and boats?
- Is the start line as near as can be 90° to the wind? (you can move it to point to #9 or 10)
- Is a rescue boat available? Must be available if Optimists or less strong sailors on the water
- Are the radios working?
- Is the timer set to -5 minutes?
- Are the light controls switched on and ready
- Are flags set right on the buoys?
- Is course displayed on board and on front of OD hut correctly?
- Are the toots for the pursuit race start understood and organised?
- Does the OD understand how to work out handicap results?

*Alan and the sailing committee*

## Informal Wednesdays

Some people are going to try an informal race at 6.30 on September Wednesdays. Whilst there is a glimmer of light in the sky its worth trying.

Why not try to join in and see if the wind acts the same at 6:30 when it sees boats as it does at 7:00?



# CYRC ROUND UP

## Cymru Youth Racing Circuit

The final CYRC event of the series, was wrapped up on the Dock, hosted by Barry YC over the last weekend of June. 36 sailors made the trip with the overall titles still up for grabs in each of the classes, abilities were tried to and tested by a broad spectrum of tricky sailing conditions ranging from flat calm to F5 on the Sunday. *Writes Iwan Basten, our guest contributor and South East Wales Area Youth coach. Thanks for letting me reproduce this and training our squad.*



## Toppers

In the Topper Dan Edwards (Llandegfedd) stamped his bid for the series with 3 straight wins on the first day in the light winds, the Sunday saw a change of fortunes with both Nick Hamersley (Llandegfedd) and Adrian Davies (Penarth) scoring wins to keep the pressure on Dan. A fourth in the last race was good enough to give Dan the event, by most firsts tie break with Nick. This also decided the overall series positions which Dan and Nick both already had a 1<sup>st</sup> and a second each!! 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> were also tied, but Adrian Davies's 1<sup>st</sup> ensured it was he that came third at the Barry CYRC, but a fourth by Jack Burton (Barry YC) reversed this for the overall CYRC series position.

## Optimists

17 Optimists took part with abilities ranging from GB National Squads to first ever sailing event, which were split into 3 fleets for the CYRC series results.

In the Training fleet which has begun to flourish since Llandegfedd, saw some new sailors trying their hand at racing with Tom Paine from CBYC showing the way on the Saturday. The stronger winds on the Sunday, and by finishing 5 of the 6 races gave Nia Jones the win, to repeat the win she had at Llandegfedd. We look forward to seeing all those in the training fleet to attend Regional Squad Training in October.

## General Handicap

A series dominated by David Hamersley (Llandegfedd) was again repeated at Barry with a clear victory. The battle for second place was more interesting with Bronwen Burton and Ricci Marshall (Barry YC) sailing a 420, needing to win to secure second place in front of Tom Sanderson. A second overall at Barry gave the girls 3rd overall.

## With Thanks

May I extend my, and the associations thanks to all those who have assisted in running the series, most recently of course the effort put in by Barry YC to turn a disused dock into a sailing venue for a weekend!! Without the support of each and everyone involved in setting up and running the events they would not possible. This extends also to all the parents involved with brining the sailors to the events, (Sailors buy your parents something nice!!)



Can I also thank all the competitors for making it a worthwhile and competitive series, which can only continue to build and raise the standards across the fleets. *Iwan*

## Every CYRC Sailor Is Invited To The Regional Squad Training This Winter!!

### SE Wales training at Llandegfedd

Iwan moved the Youth training to Llandegfedd over the August Bank Holiday weekend. (Weed or Algae at Cardiff bay.) We had a few visitors, but the majority of sailors were our own youth squad. It was a northerly wind, with sunshine and heat. What more could we want? There was even a BBQ in the evening on a do-it yourself basis.

- Bill and Keith assisted with the Regatta Optimists, and the starts the team were doing at the end put our adults to shame!

- Phil coached out Laser Radials and Toppers – majoring in sailing by the lee at extreme angles from what the rest of us could see at the end of the lake.
- Iwan and Andy concentrated on the more experienced Optimist sailors, who now know more than enough about windshifts and what to do about them.

Overall, our squad is well prepared to represent us at the WYA/PGL regatta and the Llangorse challenge.

*Andy*