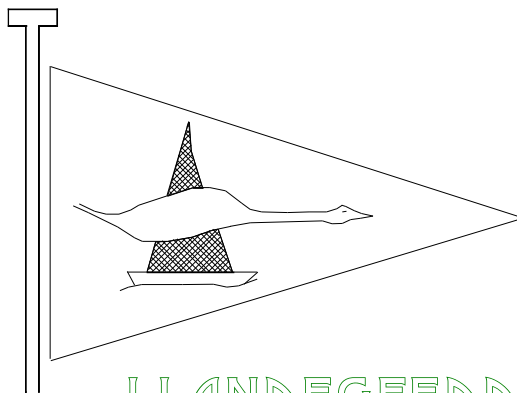


2004

News & Review

January
Number 51

www.llandegfedd.org.uk



January NEWS

LLANDEGFEDD SAILING CLUB

SOCIAL news

Commodore's Letter

Social Events

February

General knowledge quiz night, with one nautical round. Details later!

Summer

We are considering a few barbecues through the year. Where possible these will be aligned with sailing "features" so that we have a slightly different emphasis to the day. This might be discussed along with other ideas at the AGM

Appeal

If anyone has other ideas for events or wants to help, please contact Mandy or Gareth.

Dinner Dance

Our thanks to Sherene who did the majority of the organising work for the do. Its not easy, there's lots of it, no one notices (often) and it goes on after the rest of us have gone home! We only notice what goes wrong – but nothing did this time (at least, as far as us guests could see).

Thanks to all of the other helpers as well for making it all go so smoothly.

Andy

I hope that you all had a thoroughly enjoyable Christmas, and that Father Christmas brought you all you wanted. I wish you a happy and prosperous new year, with plenty of sun, just the right amount of wind, and lots of water.

Last year I said that my aim over 2 years as commodore was More people sailing better. That's two aims really, both of which have been realised so far – more people sailing, and people sailing better than before. I want to try to ensure that we have yet more people sailing better in 2004, and so I hope that you'll come along to the AGM and give us your ideas and the benefit of your experience so that you can help the club grow bigger and better.

The committee will propose a training programme which will help beginners of all ages learn to sail, and which aims to help all sailors (not just children) sail better. We also want to recruit more members, and to get people on the training courses who are likely to become long term members of the club. If you know anyone who wants to join the Level 1&2 course in May, please ask them to contact Keith Sykes. We are not taking trainees on a first come, first served basis, but it will help Keith if people apply early. More details will be given at the AGM.

We are also looking for volunteers who will serve on the committee, or help with the training courses, or take on jobs at the club. We rely entirely on voluntary help, and this club needs YOU. In particular, we need a new Secretary, because Judith Bolton is taking a well-earned rest from the Club committee. It is an important, but not particularly onerous job. My thanks to Judith who has been tireless in her efforts for the Club over very many years.

If you haven't got your Power boat certificate, please do so as soon as possible. Mervyn Reece will run courses early in the season. They don't take long, and they are cheap and fun. You will get an internationally recognised qualification, which might be useful if you want to charter a boat. You will also be certified as competent to man the club rescue boat. At the AGM, there will be a proposal that anybody who hasn't got the certificate will not be able to count his results. This sounds draconian, but is being proposed in response to pressure from Welsh Water, who control sailing on the reservoir. If you want to know more, or if you want to contribute to the debate, please come to the AGM.

It was great to see so many at the annual prize giving and dance. I'm pleased to say that we made a small surplus this year, and I think everyone had a good time. We want to organise more social events for sailors and their families. We're planning to have a Quiz Night, (with one nautical round), and another boules evening, and we'll organise a few more barbecues at the club. If anyone has any ideas for other social events, please let the committee know.

Finally, I'd like to thank Andy Howard for producing the newsletters for so many years. This is his last one, because a new editor will be elected at the AGM. Andy's done a great job.

Gareth Edwards

Summary of 2003 Sailing Prizes

Special Prizes

Award	Who?	Trophy
Service to the Club	Derek Robinson	Clubman Trophy
Best results in a well maintained boat	Mandy & Keith Sykes	Bosun's Trophy
Cadet of the Year	Kate Stanley	
Best Away Result	Dan Edwards	
Junior Crew	Nick Hammersley	
Most Improved Sailors	Phil & Lisa Weston	
Solo	John Daniels	
Supernova	Mike Farmer	
Junior Success	Richard Ash	
Best newcomer	Paul Hamer	
OD	Nolan family	OD Trophy
Best result not qualified for a series	Phil and Helen Tilley	Skippers' Cup
Capsize	Steve Clarke	Horn & Bellows

Club Championship final positions

Position	Who?	Boat	Points
First	Andy Howard/Ruth/Sue	RS400	155
Second	Mark Williams	Laser	128
Third	Nigel Tinkler	Laser	111
Forth	Bill Jackson/Nick	RS400	54
Fifth	Alan Bolton/Judith	Ent/RS200	40
Fifth/First Youth	Dave Hammersley	Laser R	40
Seven/Second Youth	Sam Williams	Laser R	30
Eight/First Solo	John Daniels	Solo	25
Ninth/ Third Youth	James Davy	Laser R	24
Tenth/ Fourth Youth	Nick Hammersley	Topper	22
Eleventh	Keith Sykes/Mandy	Scorpion	19
Twelveth	Phil Weston/Lisa	RS400	14
Thirteenth	Mike Farmer	Supernova	10
Thirteenth	Martin Phillips	Laser	10
Fourteenth/Fifth Youth	Richard Sykes	Laser R	9
Fifteenth	Elvyn Morgan	Supernova	8
Sixteenth	Dave Timson	Phantom	7
Seventeenth	Gareth Edwards/Joe/Dan	RS200	4
Eighteenth	Jack Taylor	Solo	3
Eighteenth	Ken Adams	Solo	3
Twentieth	Sean Tedstone	RS Vareo	2
Twentieth	Dennis White	Solo	2

See the web site for some pictures of the prize-giving.

Certificates awarded at LSC Annual Dinner

Red Badge

- Kate Stanley
- Hannah Jones
- Hannah Tilley
- Sara Jackson
- Myles Jackson

Stage 3

- Emily Osborne
- Zoe Iliffe
- Anna Clarke
- Alex Woolley
- Liam Nolan
- Rachel Tilley
- Maddie Stanley

Presented by Iwan Basten (WYA Regional Coach)

Power Boat 2 course

Mervyn is running a 2 day power boat course on 20th and 21st March 2004. This will provide beginner drivers with the basic skills to achieve RYA Power Boat Level 2 certification.

Cost is minimal to cover the cost of logbook and certificate.

Please contact Mervyn directly on 01633 770936

Mervyn

News from Down Under

When Sue and I planned out around the world trip little did we realise that her brother Bob would lay on such a splendid exhibition of Empire, pomp and ceremony in Perth, Western Australia. 11th October 2003 was the beginning of the sailing season there, and the great and the good came to celebrate. Our warning that something odd was happening was the instruction "You must have all-white clothes to sail in" - prompting a quick rush to buy white rugby shorts before we left Wales. We did check it was not a joke first.

The ROYAL PYC always sails dressed in white, and you have points deducted by not keeping up sartorial standards. Even shapely female midriff showing at the finishing line can cause deducted points, apparently.

The RPYC is situated about 5 miles inland from the Indian Ocean, where the Perth River widens to about 2 miles across, and a few miles long. The city is a backdrop, with clean tall skyscrapers. The clubhouse, extended in the 1980s when they held the America's Cup, is nearly at water level, with a lawn and eucalyptus trees in front. The opening ceremony had a brass band on the lawn, all the sailors sipping beer, and a parade of the fleet captains, commodore, president etc lining up and saluting. They of course had to wear white, but chose long trousers, and apart from the yachting caps could have been a cricket team. A real Commodore of the Royal Australian Navy made the speech, joking that the cannon had not fired for him 2 years earlier. It didn't this time either, so he just said "bang".

The Race Committee then got organised, loading up their boat with essential supplies, mostly heavy crates that clinked interestingly. The committee all seemed to be "fairly senior citizens", and started and finished us with some sort of firearms. It all went very smoothly and they were certainly kept busy.



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We were then let loose to sail. Bob occasionally crews with a brother and sister on their 24-foot Endeavour cruiser. Apparently Endeavours were one of the first glass-fibre boats built in Australia. No one knew how strong glass was, so they used lots to make sure. As a result the boats are a bit heavy. We joined the other 11 boats in the sail to the start line in a Force 3 wind. I was mainsheet trimmer, Sue tailed and organised the jib sheets. Mark helmed, Helen and Jill were foredeck and spinnaker hands, Bob kept out of the way and managed the beer for us



We watched other classes start, standard 5 minute sequence, flags etc. Finally we were off, crossing the line within a couple of seconds of the gun, on a long biased beat. As might be expected "the wind never usually comes in this direction", from the North, one normally gets an afternoon Westerly wind off the Ocean, known as the Fremantle Doctor. We seemed to be well up in the class, with most of the way a starboard tack. Over to the right was land, so we did not really want to go there. However as we reached the top of the beat we realised that boats to the right had gained a lead on us. We rounded with the last few, not quite sure why we were there. Was it a naff crew? The very old sails? Heavier boat? Probably a bit of each we decided.

The spinny then went up, and even by my RS400 standards it was enormous. The wind was dropping, so it was not much faster going downwind, and the mainsheet did not need a lot of trimming, so it was time for a beer. Being in Oz, there was a choice of type of beer, and size of tin. It was all cold though, from being in the "Eskie" with the ice. The most interesting part of the sail was when the fleets crossed, due to a figure of 8 course. We had to weave through some enormous 50 foot boats, with carbon fibre sails. Over 100 brightly coloured spinnakers is quite a sight. A different class of sailing entirely!

Once back at the pens we put the boat to rights, drank some beer and wandered through to the prize-giving.

Continued on Next Page

Youth Regional Training

Dates and venues for regional training are available on :-

www.welshyachtingassociation.org.uk

7 & 21 February	Corus SC Margam
13 March	Llandegfedd SC
27-28 March	Mumbles SC

The squad is doing well. We have followed progress in November in Swansea Bay at Mumbles, followed by Corus Steel in Mid December.

Bill with the Oppies and Phil with Oppies and Lasers have done wonders. I have worked with Toppers and Lasers.

We must have been quite a sight in the mist at Margam, with the ten coaches wearing Santa hats in the RIBS. It was a cool moist day, but the energy and enthusiasm is a wonder to behold, and close sailing standards are improving. Watch out Adults!

Andy, Bill, & Phil.

Perth Continued

Apparently we were 7/12 on a handicap basis. Each class winner on the water gets a pendant to fly, and these were being handed out. It was nice to see the dinghy classes being awarded, with Optimists first, through 420s, Lasers and other ones we did not know. Finally, they started on the adult racers and we found that 132 keelboats had raced that afternoon. (More than normal as it was a special day.) There was equal fuss made about each winner, youths included, with different uniformed fleet captains and commodores making the presentations. Many people heard us, and came to say hello as we drank beer (Have you spotted a theme yet?) Quite a large number of people had either passed through Cardiff in 2003, or knew people who live within 20 miles of us. It was very friendly. The club has about 1000 members so that you could argue that the turn out is not as good as ours. As a percentage we get a higher number on the water.

What a way to help cure jet lag! Sunshine, sailing and beer. It set me up nicely for the next few days even if I was not 100% myself. If you want to know about climbing 60 metre trees without safety kit; kangaroos, tingle trees, or dolphins, sailing the pacific and Tasman seas, glaciers and helicopters in New Zealand then you will have to ask Sue or myself!

Andy

LSC Optimist News

Happy New Year to all Optimist sailors, and their long-suffering parents! I hope Father Christmas had made a detour into a well-known chandlery and you found some sailing related goodies in your stockings.

2004 will hopefully be another good year for our growing fleet and I hope we will have a few new faces joining the Sunday club races. The standard will be even higher though, as several of our young sailors having benefited from coaching over the winter with either the national or regional WYA squads. Don't be put off however because Optimist club racing is for ALL sailors of Stage 2 and above.

There will be a WYA winter squad session at Llandegfedd on Saturday 13th March. Whilst it will be a little late to join the squad, please come along and see what goes on. You will get a good feel for how the day runs and see the combination of fun and quality race training that is on offer. For club racers, Phil Tilley and I will be starting our Sunday morning race training sessions in April. These courses will count towards Racing Red and White badges. I will confirm the exact dates once the club calendar has been agreed.

It would also be great to see some of last year's trainees, who started racing at the end of the season, coming to some of the WYA local junior Opens (CYRC). If you need a boat the WYA wooden Optimist should be available or how about applying for one of our Optimist Scholarships (see separate notice). There should be lots of other club members travelling and it's a great way to see some of the other places to sail in South Wales.

I am already looking forward to the new season. See you there soon!!

Bill

RYA "Start to Sail" courses

The Club will be running these courses for 3 weekends, 8 & 9th; 15 & 16th and 22 & 23rd May 2004, there will also be an introduction on Friday 7th May (evening session). It is necessary to attend all sessions.

The training will be done in 3 groups based on age: -

8 – 12 yrs in Optimist, RYA Stage 1 & 2 (12 places)

13- 18 yrs in Toppers, RYA Stage 1, 2 & 3 (6 places)

Adults in 2 man boats, RYA Level 1 & 2 (8 places)

The prices are £35 for Optimist; £50 for Toppers and £80 for Adults, there are in addition full membership fees due for non-club members. There will be a waiting list if we are oversubscribed.

If you or a friend or relative wish to train on these courses please contact me email keith@syko65.freeserve.co.uk or tel: 01633 882028.

Keith Sykes

Training Co-ordinator

Notice of Annual General Meeting

To be held at The White Hart Inn, Llangiby

On Friday, 30th January 2004 at 7.30pm

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of last AGM
3. Matters arising
4. Commodore's report
5. Treasurer's report
6. Election of officers and committee
7. To determine the subscriptions for 2004
8. To propose the sailing programme for 2004
9. To receive reports from subcommittee
10. Optimist Scholarships
11. Any other business

New blood is urgently needed on the committee, as ever! Despite the following list we will be pleased to welcome anyone else to the committee.

Please remember that being on the committee is a good way to get to know people, and to influence the future of the club

Motions

- 1 "That the Officers and Committees hold office until 1st December and that the AGM is held in November of each year. The financial year of the club shall run from 1st March to the last day of February"
- 2 "That it is made a condition of joining the club that adult members shall hold a Power Boat level 2 certificate by their second year of sailing, or the end of 2004 for existing members"

Notes

- The reason for motion 1) is that at present the old Commodore and Committee hold office during the planning of the new season, and have to make decisions which bind the new committee. If the year ends when the sailing season ends, the new committee plan the season. The old committee's duties end at a more logical time. If this is accepted, the financial year must end earlier to ensure that the accounts are prepared in time for the AGM. This motion calls for a change to Constitution Rule number 32.
- Motion 2) is due to the pressure from Hamdden/Welsh Water to only permit qualified drivers to be in control of the Rescue and Training boats. We must make sure that all sailors are capable and competent to perform their OD and Rescue duties.

OPTIMIST SCHOLARSHIPS

Llandegfedd SC own three racing specification Optimists that were purchased a year ago with a Sportslot grant. These boats are loaned to promising young sailors for a year in the form of a scholarship. Two boats were loaned last season and it would be great to see all three in use in 2004. *Anyone interested should apply in writing to the Commodore and the committee will allocate the boats when they become available.*

Before taking delivery of the boat you will be required to pay a loan fee of £100 (non-returnable) for the year and £50 damage deposit. (returnable).

Preference to be given to:

- 1) Juniors showing potential and commitment.
- 2) Those who have complete the club course, or equivalent (Stage 2 minimum).
- 3) Where parental support is forthcoming but provision of a boat is unlikely.
- 4) To those who have not benefited previously.

Proposed 2004 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Commodore	Gareth Edwards, Mulberry House, Castle Parade, Usk, Monmouthshire, NP15 1AA. 01291 673883.
Vice Commodore	Steven Clarke, Woodcroft House, Woodcroft, Chepstow, Monmouthshire, NP16 7PZ. 01291 620081
President & Membership Sec	Bill Jackson, Clockbarn Cottage, Brynderwyn, Bettws Newydd, Monmouthshire, NP15 1JP. 01873 880288.
Secretary	Lisa Weston, 10 Park View, Cwmbran, Gwent, NP44 1RB. 01633 775470
Sailing Secretary	Dave Downs 25 Orchid Meadow, Pwllmeyric, Chepstow NP16 6HP. 01291 620927
Treasurer	Colin Chapman, 36 St Anne's Crescent, Undy, Caldicot, Monmouthshire, NP26 3PL. 01633 880634
Press Officer	
Results Sec	Mark Williams, 3 Rockfield Glade, Parc Seymour, Monmouthshire, NP26 3JF. 01633 400791
Training Officer & Bosun	Mervyn Reece, 2 Glan-y-Nant Close, Ty Coch, Cwmbran, Torfaen, NP44 7AA. 01633 770364
OD Roster	Phil Weston, 10 Park View, Cwmbran, Gwent, NP44 1RB. 01633 775470
Assistant Bosun	Sean Tedstone
Assistant Bosun	Martin Phillips.
Youth Representative	Phil Leeb-du-Toit, Byways, Bryn-y-Gwenin, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, NP7 8AB01873 858736
Webmaster	Andy Howard, 132 Claremont, Malpas, Newport, NP20 9PP. 01633 857247
General Committee	
Child Protection Officer (non-committee)	Kathy Milosevic, 22 Ruth Road, New Inn, Pontypool, Gwent, NP4 0QJ, 01495 756596,
Training Co-ordinator (non-committee)	Keith Sykes, 3 The Briars, Magor, Monmouthshire, NP26 3LH. 01633 882028