



Porthpean Sailing Club

Lower Porthpean - St. Austell - Cornwall. - Tel (0726) 66266

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1990

COMMODORE'S REPORT Peter Pope

The start of another episode of Howard's Way seems a pretty good time to commence another report, and I've managed to miss every episode so far!

Quite a lot seems to have happened since the last Newsletter. Our Regatta produced a pleasing turnout of almost 50 boats, some very good sailing but, most of all, tremendous support from a broad cross section of the membership; whether involved in race organising or providing refreshments or doing a duty in the bar or galley. It was great to see so many new and old contributing to a very successful event.

Similarly there can be few complaints about our second Enterprise Open of the season. Conditions were not ideal with an easterly wind throwing up a lumpy sea and beaching at high tide certainly focussed a few minds, particularly among the visitors. The "on the water" support could not be faulted and a three race series for Enterprises and normal Club sailing took place without incident. Congratulations to Dennis Bray who took charge of his first Open Meeting and to Brenda Setchell whose timing and recording in the D.O.D. box were again impeccable.

A recent telephone conversation from the Enterprise Association's Rear Commodore, Peter Vincent, confirms that they intend to hold their 1992 Nationals at Porthpean. I have asked for written confirmation and when this arrives we will form a small Steering/Planning Committee to get things underway.

Members will be aware that the Taser Nationals for 30 - 40 boats will be held at P.S.C. next year and the Committee has asked Lionel to form a Sub-Committee to co-ordinate the preparations. As further information becomes available regarding both major events we shall endeavour to report to members through the Newsletters.

Mike Setchell has been asked to form a Sub-Committee to investigate the viability of purchasing a third rescue boat and engine. Various options will be examined and any recommendations will be discussed fully at the main Committee before any decision is made.

In the meantime there is much to look forward to - a full month of sailing and a varied Social programme including Nov 5th festivities and the Laying Up Supper.

Finally a gentle moan "can we please give the Rescue Boat the priority it deserves "whether it is recovery after the Sunday morning race or pulling it back up to the yard at the end of the racing; it seems to be the same few who take the responsibility. PLEASE DON'T LEAVE IT TO SOMEONE ELSE.

Best wishes

Peter Pope

A special welcome to all new members this year, Richard Vercoe, Vincent Tse, Tracey Johnson, Alan & Wendy Plaice, Robin Featherstone, Andrew Skerrett, Rob Hockley & Steph Cairns, John & Anne Dates, Peter & Tanya Ringrose, Colin Truscott, Sarah Nieill, Brian & Wendy Smelt, Andrew & Kate Cogan.

SAILING SECRETARY'S REPORT

I write this report, on the first Wednesday after the Summer Wednesday season's racing. In fact as I look out I wonder if I curtailed the Wednesday racing a week too early as the weather seems so good. Unfortunately, once again, most of our season has rushed by with only the Autumn series left.

My job as Sailing Secretary has been made much easier again this year by the continuing help I have had from Brenda Setchell, Roger Curtis, Dave Wedgwood and John Clark. However there is one name missing from that list and that is a person who is often seen around the Club but rarely heard. He has been responsible for ensuring that the rescue boat always sits in the garage prior to racing with a full tank of fuel. That person is Henry Pope. Henry comes down to the Club during the week and refills the petrol tank from the fuel bunker. He is helped in this chore by Mike and Peter who toddle off with a trailer and replenish the jerry cans as they get low on fuel. It really is a relief to know that the fuel side of the racing has been so well looked after.

I know that for this newsletter the various Class Captains will be making contributions so I will let them give you the lowdown on their fleets and I will try and generalise.

The Tasar fleet has shrunk a little this year though interest is being shown by members of Restronguet and Fowey. No doubt the sight of the brand new Tasars ordered by Denis and Stuart may tempt others to join the fleet. The Scorpions have been joined by 2 older boats and I believe Paul March is revamping his boat to compete more regularly next year. Actually they may well make fleet status which would be nice as there are some lovely Scorpion Trophies from days gone by to be won. The Enterprises, never really made fleet status this year. We have seen Mike and Peter sailing in most of the Golden Hind events, which has had the benefit of improving their racing skills. The Laser fleet splutters and spits, never managing to get more than 4 boats on the water at any one time. The Mirror fleet, well the boats look nice in the yard but would look nicer still if they managed to sail more often! The Handicap fleet, originally made up of Laser 2's, Contender, Javelin and 470 has seen the demise of the last 2 but have been joined by a Fireball and a Bullet, hopefully more from them next season.

Attendances this year never reached the dizzy heights of 30 boats that I had hoped for, but nevertheless numbers have often reached the 20 mark with a solid core of dedicated racers regularly turning out.

The weather has been rather a let down from the sailing side. Winds have been much lighter and fickle this year, interspersed with some very strong gusty days. The lack of beach at the beginning of the season followed by the oil slicks and invasion of jelly fish have all contributed in some way to these frustrations.

This year we held an Open meeting for the Laser travellers circuit and were blessed with some 15 or so visitors coming from as far a field as Bristol and Penzance. They had a dismal drizzily day with a good force 4 which allowed some very competitive racing.

In late June we were the hosts for the Enterprise Areas. Unfortunately although the weather was dry, the winds were most unkind, insisting on blowing at somewhere in the region of force 5 to 6 for the entire weekend. Despite the conditions those who were present witnessed some of the finest capsizes they will ever see. The only person not to have capsized all weekend was one Ian Pinnel. In physical size he is not much

different than me. There the resemblance ends. He is an extremely talented helm, proving this by winning this years Enterprise Nationals for yet another time, to go with other National, European and World titles that he has won in other classes. Congratulations go to Mike Satchell and Oliver Venning who managed to finish both races that were held inspite of several capsizes.

The Tasar Open meeting went very well with the usual number of visitors from the London area. Fresh breezes allowed the racing to be fast and furious with Steve Mitchell revelling in the conditions to win, aided by Mike Trise. By a big margin. Stacey Bray and Paddy Seyler doing very well to finish 2nd and 3rd respectively.

Our Regatta was well supported by both Pentewan and Fowey swelling our fleet to 47 boats. A well stocked galley and bar with a barbecue went a long way to making this a very profitable and enjoyable time.

This weekend (Sep 16th) we held an Enterprise Open meeting that was combined with Club racing. By giving the Enterprises 10 minutes start we managed to keep the 2 fleets separate, thus allowing the Enterprises a fair fight and also giving our Club members chance to race also.

I have had visitors at all five of the above mentioned events coming to me at various times complementing me on the organisation, friendliness and catering of the Club. Our reputation of providing well organised events is spreading as we have been asked to host the Tasar Nationals in 1991, the Enterprise Nationals in 1992 and the Scorpion Nationals again in 1994. All these events although entailing a lot of hard work will enable the Club to continue for many years on a very secure financial footing.

The three minute intervals between flags seems to be well accepted and the practise of starting on a beat regardless of wind direction is now the norm and has resulted in more competitive starts and some very interesting moments at the first mark rounding, especially when we have had a short beat from the start line. By the time you read this we will have held a sailing meeting in the club house after racing one Sunday. Hopefully ideas may come out of this meeting that may influence the type and style of racing for next years programme. I have an idea of keeping one Sunday say the 2nd Sunday of each month from April to September free for a Club Champion series. All racing to be scored on handicap, 12 races to be held and 8 results to count. No doubt other ideas will materialise and may be implemented.

I mentioned above that Porthpean will be hosting the Tasar Nationals next year. The date set for this will be 28th July - 2nd of August. We expect somewhere in the region of 30-40 boats. This means that we will be able to run all the catering and social activities from the Club house which should keep our expenses down and still give a good profit to the Club funds. More will be mentioned about the Tasars in the near future and if we can obtain the same sort of help enjoyed by the Club in former years then we can look forward to another enjoyable event.

Did anybody see the sailing member wearing her thong this year? I didn't and she won't even show me the photographs.

Regards,

Lionel Rigby

Taser Report Dennis Bray

Once again we approach the end of another successful sailing season. Unfortunately, the year in general seems to have been fraught with mainly light weather, which has frustrated us heavyweight sailors, or has on occasions gone to the other extreme and been very windy or rough, when we have been unable to sail at all.

In general the Taser Fleet has been well supported at Club level and we had an excellent turnout of Club boats for our "Open" in July, P.S.C. boats taking the first 3 places, with Steve Mitchell/ Mike Trise winning, Stacey Bray/Mark Trise 2nd and Paddy Seylor/Phil Harrison 3rd.

The fleet this year has remained fairly static but we do welcome Stacey Bray and Mark Trise who joined us early in the season and have turned in some very respectable results especially in heavier conditions. We also look forward with interest to see how Stuart Page's and our new (Kim Furniss built) Tasers perform once we get them sorted to our own liking.

Tasar fleet racing has, once again, been dominated by Lionel and Neil Rigby but 2nd and 3rd places have varied through the year, with some very close and exciting racing taking place on occasions.

Looking ahead to next year, we have an extra special event for Tasar sailors in the form of the TASAR NATIONALS which we will be hosting at P.S.C. between 28th July and 2nd August 1991. I hope we can achieve a 100% club boat turnout for this event, so if you want some good racing with about 40 others, remember not to book your summer holiday abroad on these dates and we hope it will be a sailing year to remember. Heather and I look forward to seeing you all at the Laying Up Supper and wish you all continued pleasure in your Tasar sailing.

Dennis Bray

Tim'sBit (Handicap Captain)

Well, not much has happened in the Handicap fleet this year and all the interesting things have been pinched by Lionel in his report. This leaves me to award Paul March the "Chris Millard Prize" for the latest start to a season. September must be a record!

I see that Kevin Newton has flogged his Scorpion to his long suffering crew Lisa Jewell who christened her new acquisition by being towed in on Sunday on her first time out!

It is good to see another Scorpion sailor Paul Rogers propping up the fleet; also welcome to John Hill who has wisely invested in a Laser, a proper boat!

See you all at the A.G.M.

Tim

Social Secretary's Report - Mary Newton

Dear Members

There are still some interesting Social and Sailing events before the end of the season, there is a SPORTS NIGHT, a HALLOWEEN PARTY, BONFIRE BUILDING, BONFIRE NIGHT and then the LAYING UP SUPPER on 9th NOVEMBER. (#9 tickets available at the Club on Sundays or ring me on 63496). See the Social Sheet for more information.

The last sail of the season is Sunday 28th October.
The A.G.M. has been set for Wednesday 21st November at your Club - looking forward to seeing you there.

Regards Mary Newton

SOCIAL DATA

- 14th October Sunday Sports night at Polkyth 7 - 9 p.m.
Bar open till 10.30 p.m. Pentewan v Porthpean v Fowey
Enrole at the door on the night.
- 31st October Wednesday. Halloween Night. Dress - anything goes.
Please bring a plate of food! Bar open, 8 p.m. start.
- 4th November Sunday Bonfire building in the field at 2.30 p.m.
All welcome, bring some wood.
- 5th November Monday, Bonfire Night, fire lit at 6.30 p.m., please
bring a few fireworks.
- 9th November Friday Laying Up Supper 7.30 p.m.
Venue Cliff Head Hotel Carlyon Bay.
#9 per head, tickets from the Clubhouse on Sundays
or Mary Newton 63496
- 21st November Wednesday A.G.M. 7.30 p.m.bar - Meeting starts 8 p.m.
Be there to vote for next season's Committee.
- 14th December Friday Decorate the Club house for Christmas from
7.30 p.m.
- 26th December Wednesday Boxing Day 10.30 a.m.
Mince pies in the Clubhouse. Watch the brave souls
swim for charity, (or join in).
- 31st December Monday 9.00 p.m. New Years Eve party, (note the time).
Theme- Masquerade, masks only. Please bring a plate of
food. Bar open. All welcome.
- 1st January Tuesday, New Years Day Football Match v Pentewan.
At Charlestown Football field 10.30 a.m. for football
then back to the Clubhouse for tug of war, eats and
Trivial Pursuit.