



LYMPSTONE SAILING CLUB

December 2020 Newsletter

'Great Scott!' Zoom quiz, 7.30pm Friday 4th December

Don't miss the 'Great Scott!' quiz this Friday evening! The theme will be 'Lympstone Sailing Club' (which means there will be a few questions about Lympstone, some about sailing and perhaps some about clubs... but none about Lympstone Sailing Club itself because that does not make for a fun night). It will be lighthearted and at times irreverent. Rather little actual knowledge will be required to take part. You don't need to put together a team - it will be one team per household so we can all comply with the Tier 2 rules. Children welcome and may actually be helpful. Do come along - the Zoom link will be emailed out to all members later this week.

Dougal Scott

Lympstone "Mermurs"

On or should I say in the water activities have still been occurring with a group of LSC members and non-members taking to the Exe and the Sea for winter socially distanced swims. Wetsuit or Swimsuit, Gloves or Hats all acceptable! So even with the boats ashore there is still water fun to be had come rain or shine.

Claire Belcher



For Sale

Small but sturdy wooden rowing boat with trolley and fenders, has been used to get to yacht on mooring.
£150 ono. 01395 279669.

Liz Wells

Commodore's Corner

It has been an extraordinary year - and perhaps the most extraordinary thing is to find myself writing my first article as Commodore of Lympstone sailing club, especially as the only sailing trophy I have ever won was the Darling Rock trophy! I realise I have many sets of big shoes to fill, but am looking forward to the challenge, supported by our newly refreshed committee and yourselves. I want to start by saying a heartfelt thanks to those retiring from the Committee who have done so much to keep us all afloat over the last few years - Mike Gall in his second term as Commodore, Basil Strickland serving for an astonishing ten years as treasurer and Simon Pryor our out going all water sport enthusiast Vice Commodore. I would also like to welcome on board our new committee and look forward to working with them over the coming years. Watch out for "Who's who on the committee" interviews in future Newsletters...I am sure we are all keen to leave 2020 behind, but we do need to remind ourselves that it hasn't all been bad. We are incredibly lucky to live where we do and this has allowed many of us to continue to enjoy the water this year whether as part of LSC's amazing sailing programme, on our own craft large and small, or in the water with the recent rise in the popularity of wild swimming. As we head into 2021 there is still much uncertainty, but there is light at the end of the tunnel with the promise of vaccines soon to be approved. As a committee we will continue to respond to the ever changing regulations guided by our ever efficient secretary Peter Turgoose. We managed to run a significant proportion of our planned programme this year and our winter talks will run into the spring. We look forward to the continued support of all our members as we move back towards a more normal season in 2021. Finally, I'd like to wish everyone a safe and happy festive season and best wishes for the New Year!

Cheryl Scudamore

Dates for next year's diary

Monday April 12th 2021 am - craning out

Saturday October 9th 2021 am - craning in

Wanted

Two single sit-on **kayaks** and paddles. Please contact Steve on 07940-830487



LYMPSTONE SAILING CLUB

LSC Contacts

Commodore Cheryl Scudamore

Vice Commodore Claire Belcher

Membership Fiona Archer

Secretary Peter Turgoose

Rear Commodore. Judith Carter

Treasurer Adam Rejzl

Newsletter Margaret Turgoose

Website: lympstonesailingclub.co.uk

AGM

On Friday 27th November, via Zoom, the outgoing Committee presented the annual Report and Accounts (If you did not receive your copy by email, [click here](#)) at the Club's Annual General Meeting. Almost 60 members attended the meeting via Zoom and a further 27 nominated The Chair as their proxy for the all-important approval of the Report and Accounts and the voting in of a new Committee. A huge thank-you to all who took part and supported their Club.

Officers of Lymestone Sailing Club:

The following have been nominated, seconded and approved by the members for roles as Officers of Lymestone Sailing Club:

Commodore: Cheryl Scudamore

Vice Commodore: Claire Belcher

Rear Commodore: Judith Carter

Hon. Sailing Sec: Dougal Scott

Hon Membership Sec: Fiona Archer

Hon Treasurer: Adam Rejzl

Hon Secretary: Peter Turgoose

General Committee of Lymestone Sailing Club.

- Elaine Paul
- Sophie Cocks
- Helen Scott
- Bill Boaden

Each of the above have been nominated, seconded and approved for a General Committee position in Lymestone Sailing Club. **Peter Turgoose, Secretary**

DIARY DATES

Fri	4 Dec	19:30	The "Great Scott" Christmas Quiz
Fri	8 Jan	19:30	Anne-Marie Culhane: "Tidelines"
Fri	15 Jan	19:30	Ed Maltby - "Wholescapes"
Mon	12 April		Craning afloat
Sat	9 Oct		Craning ashore

Membership Annual Subscriptions – Your club still needs you !!

Invitations for renewal of membership will be sent out soon...

From one challenging year ...

- Despite Covid we were first on the water on the Exe and ran a pretty full racing programme
- We are enjoying a winter programme of talks and quizzes
- The bar has continued to be open when allowed

To the next ...

- Next year we expect to be moving back towards a full programme, restrictions allowing
- More collaborations between our fleets for trips and fun events
- More training and 'taster days'
- Summer range of water-based activities and social interaction for all ages and abilities, informal, teaching and racing.
- New committee members bringing fresh ideas and renewed enthusiasm!

Why the club still needs you...

Your committee work very hard to ensure that LSC remains the best value club on the Exe. Membership subs are essential to our finances to maintain the clubhouse, the club boats and pay our fixed costs utilities, insurance, RYA affiliation etc. We look forward to an exciting year with your support! Please renew as soon as possible. It is very quick and easy to do and it is even more important this year that we retain our membership and encourage new members to join in order to continue the success of our very special club and its facilities.

Fiona Archer, Membership Secretary



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“Ways to Leave Land”

Local Artist and Sailing Club Member Louise Banks is one of the few selected artists to Feature in the Sunday Times Watercolour Competition with her work depicting Lympstone Harbour entitled “Ways to Leave Land”. The competition and exhibition

(<https://www.sundaytimeswatercolour.org/exhibition>) that was open to all UK-based and international artists, celebrates watercolour and water-based media in all forms. It is one of the UK’s most prestigious prize for contemporary watercolour painting. Huge congratulations to Louise. **Claire Belcher**



Louise Banks
Ways to Leave Land

Winter Programme

8th January: Anne-Marie Culhane: “Tidelines” connecting communities in the Exe estuary through science, creativity, research and action

15th January: Ed Maltby - “Wholescapes”

We have a few more ‘surprise’ events up our sleeves which we will announce once they are confirmed. On the day we will send you an e-mail with a link for you to click on your computer to access the event. You don’t need a camera and you will only need a microphone if you want to ask questions, even then you can type in questions if you prefer. **Cheryl Scudamore**

Winter Programme

In May’s Newsletter I introduced my winter project of replacing the engine in Curlew under ‘Thump, thump no more’. August’s update suggesting perhaps that cabin and cockpit refurbishment had progressed whilst I awaited a used engine to come on the market. An observer now might well question much progress on the former front, whilst there is definite progress on the latter. Not that the market coughed up an engine; I lost faith in Marine Enterprises Ltd of Melbury Osmond, Dorchester who I discovered are notorious for promising much and delivering little. A call to Beta Marine in early September produced most encouraging news. Yes, they could provide the engine I’d chosen and as it was BoatShow season, I could have over 30% discount delivered on a palate to my house, which is what happened in the first week of October. A pillar-box red Beta 3-cylinder 20hp inboard diesel engine with gearbox. What was also encouraging is that the weight of the unit is half that of the old which simplified hoisting.



(L)SABB single cylinder 10hp @ 1,800rpm

(R)Beta 3 cylinder 20hp @ 3,600rpm

With the gunwhales of Curlew at eye-level, and the depth of both units $\frac{3}{4}$ of a metre, the beam enabling the traverse of the units from hull to ground needed to be 4m high; Heath Robinson would be proud I think. Thanks to Andy Wadham’s lifting tackle, the transfers were completed securely & safely.



Richard Crisp



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Prize Giving and Spuddle

On Friday 13th November we held our first ever virtual Prizegiving and Spuddle. Thanks to all those who ignored any doubts that they had about Zoom and joined us. As you can see from the results below, the Collett family marched off with most of the silverware with Chris Atkins giving them a good run for their money, often missing out by only the narrowest of margins.

SERIES	3rd	Pts	2nd	Pts	1st	Pts
Moore Cup	George Collett	18.5	Chris Atkins	16	Dave Collett	6
Short Courses 1	Chris Atkins	17.5	George Collett	17	Dave Collett	9.5
Peters Cup	Chris Atkins	18	Dave Collett	13	George Collett	12
Pursuit	Chris Atkins	12	George Collett	7	Dave Collett	6
Short Courses 2	Chris Atkins	19	George Collett	18	Dave Collett	16
Horn Cup	George Collett	18	Chris Atkins	11	Dave Collett	10

The Junior Cup went to Kirsty Scott for her consistent performance throughout the season both as helm and crew across a number of different craft.

The Kay Conner Cup was awarded by the Vice-Commodore to Rory McDougall who, in Short Courses 1, race 7, sailed at a remarkable 12% above his handicap.

The Darling Rock Trophy (sometimes seen as the most prestigious award of them all) was, as is traditional, awarded by last year's winner, on this occasion, Chris Atkins and this is the citation he gave for the winner: *Given the short season I saw little sailing other than races this year so awarding the Darling Rock trophy has been 'challenging' to say the least. I requested nominations and received three, all for the same potential recipient, Claire Belcher, for a combined two incidents, one of which involved a dismasting and this was a challenger for the award. However, I felt that the award should be given for something I actually witnessed. My impression of the racing season was one of a lot of people falling in the water for one reason or another. Margaret Turgoose came very close when sailing south into a wind shadow by the shore and Dave Collett impressed with an uncharacteristic number of capsizes, mainly on gybes and while running by the lee, and a spectacular fall over his transom while trying to clear weed from his rudder. I experienced a couple of dunkings myself for over-enthusiastic roll tacks in which the mainsheet caught the back of my buoyancy aid. However, the winner was Penny Lupton for a slow and graceful capsize to windward in almost no wind while on a dead run and heeled over to windward (as she should have been doing). My congratulations to all our contenders and to Penny in particular.*

The Alan Dixon Trophy: photo on the right, citation on page 5





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Alan Dixon Trophy

The Club is extremely sad for the loss of Alan Dixon earlier this year. I think Alan will always be remembered for his willingness to help anyone in need. Jill has a memory book regaling his activities and the introduction captures him perfectly: "boating; mending things; perhaps a slight talent for narrowly avoiding disaster; but most notably a selflessness and willingness to assist others and an uncanny ability to always be on hand when help is needed." Jill has very kindly donated a lovely trophy (see picture on page 4) to be awarded annually in memory of Alan's cheerful help and practical skills. She has said that it should be presented to the member recognised to have contributed most to the club during the year. 2020 has been an exceptional year with unforecast and ever changing demands for us all and a requirement for a different practical skill set. The Club, the Committee and Jill agreed that the first recipient of the trophy should be Peter Turgoose. His conspicuous commitment to the whole membership ensured a safe return to all activities afloat and to permissible social gatherings in the clubhouse. It was his vision, his acumen, his attention to detail and familiarity with IT that ensured Lymestone Sailing Club transitioned safely out of lockdown. We could so easily have been becalmed but for the watchwords of "selflessness, willingness and an uncanny availability to be on hand." Peter is the very deserving first recipient. Congratulations.

Mike Gall

How good is your life Jacket or Buoyancy aid?

By design or by sheer misfortune dinghy sailors, kayakers and paddleboarders tend to spend a good deal of time in the water rather than on it and, assuming they are wearing one, rely on their buoyancy aids all the time. At the end of a tiring series of capsize the buoyancy aid might be the only thing with the energy to keep us afloat when our tiring muscles are refusing to step up to endeavours only too simple just half an hour ago, before effort and cold drained our strength. Staying onboard and, hopefully, dry is the aim of those on cruisers and powerboats and, amongst a host of other things, our life jackets are one item aboard we all hope never to have to use in anger. Flotation aids, whichever type is right for your activity afloat, are scorned by some and relied religiously on by others. Either way the truth is made very clear by the RNLI's catch phrase 'Useless, unless worn'. It could also be said that they are 'Useless if not maintained in a serviceable condition'. None of us ever plan to capsize or fall overboard and it is easy to become complacent about this thing that hangs around our necks, getting in our way and restricting our movement. In recent years the humble lifejacket and buoyancy aid have had serious face lifts and now can be found with much more ergonomic and fashion-conscious designs at affordable prices. Additionally, like many other changes in attitudes in society, wearing them is becoming more the trend. Long may that continue. Now, as our boat have been put to bed, what have you done with this item that has selflessly protected you through your season on the water? Has it been hastily dried (ish) and bundled away until the spring or have you done the decent thing and given it some well-earned end of season checks? If not, what checks should you do? Buoyancy aids are fairly straight forward to deal with. At the very least they should be washed in fresh water to remove the accumulated salt then thoroughly dried to avoid mildew and rot during winter storage and checked over for general wear and tear. Lifejackets should at least be unpacked and Inflated (using a pump preferably to avoid condensation in the tube) and leave it inflated for 24 hours to check for leaks. Like the buoyancy aid it should be rinsed to remove any accumulation of salt that might draw moisture in over the winter months, dried thoroughly and at the same time you should be checking:

- The cylinder is tight and not corroded
- There is no fabric abrasion
- The inflation tube is in good condition
- The webbing and stitching is sound
- The Auto trigger is in date?

Whatever your flotation aid further checks should also be done in the spring, before you use it again, to ensure it has not deteriorated during its hibernation and is robust enough to meet its intended challenges for the year. None of this is particularly time consuming and, whether you wear it at all times, or have it close to hand for when you feel the need to use it, our lifejackets and buoyancy aids, like so many other things aboard, should be included in our winter maintenance program so they are ready to start the new season of quietly and unobtrusively protecting our lives in times of need. Don't be the one to get caught out. **CHAS**