

# Telltales

The official newsletter of Scammonden Water Sailing Club



## Inside this issue:

Commodore	1
Sailing Captain	3
Laser Open Meeting	4
The protest	5
Ent Nationals	6

## Forthcoming Events

- Challenge Trophy  
Monday 29th  
August
- Ladies/Junior  
novice day  
3rd September
- Seamanship Trophy Sunday  
4th  
September.
- Ladies Coffee Pot Sunday  
25th  
September
- RNLI Trophy  
2nd October
- The Scammonden Cup  
16th October

[www.scammondensailing.com](http://www.scammondensailing.com)

## FROM THE COMMODORE

AUGUST 2011

Hello to all members and I hope that you are all enjoying some good sailing, whether at the club or on expeditions elsewhere. I know that since my last communication members have travelled to various events including the Birkett, Abersoch Dinghy Week, Supernova Nationals, Filey Regatta and others. We even had a contingent involved in the Round the Island Race which was a wonderful experience.

I know that some of our younger members have been travelling the Topper circuit to compete at various locations and I hear that they have been doing well so well done to Isaac and to Sally.

As you will all be aware the water is at a relatively low level but seems to be sustaining that level and we still have plenty to sail on. With the recent rainfall hopefully the level will start to rise again soon.

One of the surprising elements of this season so far has been the strength of the wind over several weekends without a break. I don't remember having so many sailing activities postponed or abandoned by this time of the year due to boat-breaking winds. It has certainly had an effect on the activities of the training centre where it was neces-

sary to abandon some teaching schedules and re-arrange on subsequent Saturday afternoons.

So far this year we have taken two full courses of a total of 12 beginners through the Level 1 syllabus and they have all completed their courses and some have joined our club as new members.

During June the centre underwent its annual inspection which it passed with only a few minor points to need attention over the ensuing weeks. Many thanks goes to Max Townend for his work as Principle of the centre and also to the others, who have put in a lot of effort to make the TC effective. The TC is an important part of our club efforts to attract new members and to raise revenue to keep the club going. If any members feel that they can offer help with this or with the Race Academy on a Saturday afternoon please speak to either Ben, Mike or me.

This Telltales was edited and produced by Chris Smith. Please send all info for Telltales to [sales@black5design.co.uk](mailto:sales@black5design.co.uk) or give to me or a member of the committee for forwarding. Please spell check all your reports and text.

In May we hosted an open meeting for the Topper Association which seemed to run very well and was a credit to everyone who helped to make it a success. Jamie mentioned that the organisers of the Topper circuit have already indicated that they would like to return next year, which says a lot for our club. Thanks to everyone who helped on the day in whatever capacity. Events like this can't take place without that commitment so thank you again.

The Sail for Gold event saw a total of 14 boats on the water all enjoying a pleasant afternoons racing and training. The actual race itself was won by Isaac (1<sup>st</sup> junior) and Derek (1<sup>st</sup> adult) so well done to you both.

The Sail for Gold event saw a total of 14 boats on the water all enjoying a pleasant afternoons racing and training. The actual race itself was won by Isaac (1<sup>st</sup> junior) and Derek (1<sup>st</sup> adult) so well done to you both.

In July we hosted an open meeting for the Laser racers which again proved to be a successful event and one that was appreciated by the competitors. Once again thanks to all who helped and enabled the event to happen.

The next open meeting will be for the Enterprise racers and this will take place on the 21<sup>st</sup> August. It will probably have happened by the time this is published.

The club Southport 24Hr Race team are still looking for as many participants as possible and training will soon have to get underway so please speak to any members of the sailing committee if you wish to join in – don't be shy! Come along and get involved.

One of the elements of running the club that has been taking place in the background has been discussion with Newsome High School & Sports College about establishing a link between our organisations to facilitate them teaching sailing to a school syllabus and we feel that this has now reached a successful conclusion – thanks to

Jeremy Child for his efforts in this matter.

After the school holidays we expect to see NHS running a regular programme of teaching during school hours for pupils who have opted for a sailing experience.

A warm welcome goes to new member Paul Cornish who is already involved in the racing series and also a warm welcome to returning member Bruce Calverly. I hope that you get lots of enjoyment at SWSC.

With this issue of Telltales you will receive the latest OD list for race and rescue duties. Please check it straight away and make a note of your duty dates. We can only function as a club if members turn up on the day to enable the water based activities to happen. Thanks

Finally please remember the date for the:

### **40<sup>th</sup> Dinner & Dance**

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2011**

**At the Rock Hotel, Holywell Green**

This year, as it is a celebratory year we will be enjoying live music provided by the Psychoslin-kys so make a note of the date and start brushing up on those dance floor moves. Tell your friends about it and make your plans to be there. The band are on the web so you can take a look at them via the internet if you wish. We expect good food, good music, lots of prizes and a good time for all.

Finally, finally:-

### **WORKING PARTY**

On Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September at 10.00am we intend to organise a working party to deal with some of the essential maintenance and repairs around the club that really needs to be done. Help is needed! If you can spare a few hours please come along and help with the tasks as many hands make light work and the more that help the quicker we finish. Old clothes and assorted tools are the order of the day.

Thats all for now – see you on the water or in the bar.

**Steve Yates**



Summer has been officially announced by the arrival of the Webb Morris Fireball, but there has yet to be a wind to suit it. Major regattas have been and gone. Scamonden sailors have participated in The Topper nationals and worlds, Laser opens, Super nova Nationals and opens, The Lord Birkitt memorial Trophy, J.P.Morgans Round the Island Race, Filey and Abersoch Dinghy week, to name but a few. A big well done to all who have been and competed in them.

Racing here has been good. The Fathers Day Trophy had 6 boats competing. Only 2 of the 3 races were sailed due to the weather but the Solo of Ben Ratcliffe proved too strong, taking the silverware. I was an extremely close 2nd. Angus Illingworth in the Phantom came in 3rd with Paul Cornish in a Topper coming in in 4th.

Five boats attended the mid summer pursuit With an appearance from Ben Ratcliffe in a Streaker, this was to retire so a last place for him there then. Mike Goodwin in his Laser won the trophy with Simon and Joan Bottomly in there Enterprise coming 2nd. Phil Davis in his "NEW" Super Nova came 3rd with Sally Ratcliffe coming 4th.

The Captain V Commadore, fair teams were agreed and the racing started. The captains team made light work in beating the commadores team in both races. This was due to heavy winds, fine team racing and the commadores team suffering a lot of breakages. Never the Less another win for the captain and with 3 years on the trot something for the next captain to follow!!

A total of 20 boats competed in the 2nd wednesday series, with 7 boats qualifying. It was very close racing, but Ben Ratcliffe in his Solo, again taking the silverware. Just behind was the Laser of Chris Smith coming 2nd. 3rd was Mike Goodwin in his Laser.

## Scammonden Water Sailing Club Laser Open

Warm sunny weather and a force 1-2 wind greeted nine Lasers at Scammonden in West Yorkshire. Competition was strong on the first start but it was the Laser of Paul Scott, (Southport), a later mistake handed the lead to Glyn Purnell, (Leigh and Lowton), but another mistake at the wing mark gave the reins to Wendy Jones (Dovestones). A good second beat from Ian Lees, (Scammonden), put him in first place and he managed to hold this then to the finish. The Scammonden Galley was in full swing and after a fantastic lunch of chilli followed by fruit pie and custard the fleet was suitably refreshed and ready for race two. A big thanks to Yvette and Sophie Yates for preparing this.

The second race saw a change of course utilising all of the dam. Once again a tight pack on the line but it was Adrian Saunders who led from the start closely followed by Ian Lees. The wind started to shift a bit causing some mistakes in the fleet and positions lost for 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.

With it all to play for, the wind blew up for the 3<sup>rd</sup> race. Ian Lees stormed out leading the race from the start with a slightly more spread out pack.

Ian Lees won the event overall. A solid win on his home water, 2<sup>nd</sup> was Adrian Saunders.

3<sup>rd</sup> was Glyn Purnell (Leigh and Lowton),

4<sup>th</sup> was Wendy Jones (DoveStones).

5<sup>th</sup> Paul Swainser (Southport),

6<sup>th</sup> Andy Scott (Southport),

7<sup>th</sup> Paul Cornish (SWSC),

8<sup>th</sup> John Horwood (SWSC)

and 9<sup>th</sup> Chris Lancaster (SWSC).



## The Protest.

I just missed the tell tales with this so it may seem a bit dated

All has not been plain sailing up at the dam during the Easter weekend, as the temperatures rose so did the protest flags. This article is my account of the incident. I have changed the names to protect the innocent, and because of a super high court injunction. **I will have to stress that no one fell out and it was a mock protest to demonstrate how it should be done.**

Angry Pensioner, protested Small Business Man, whilst running down wind into number 10, whilst at the same time Whiter than White and True Blue were overlapped and very close to the bank. Whiter than white called for water at Small Business man, who was unsure of who the call was directed to, even though his crew shouted "no you don't", so he did not move. Angry Pensioner had an overlap on Small Business man and called for water of which he was denied. Angry Pensioner was forced to tack off and miss the mark. After some un-pleasantries a protest was called against Small Business man. We all sailed on.

A protest form was filled in, in the bar and the Officer of the Day, formed a protest committee. Angry Pensioner put forward his case and so did Small business man. Angry Pensioner called Whiter than White to give his version of events. Whiter than White gave a good account of events that matched Angry Pensioner, but he could not account for where Angry Pensioners exact position on the water was. True Blue could not account for Angry Pensioner, this was because he was looking at whiter than white hoping he would move and let him have some water to keep his boat afloat.

The Protest committee were left to obtain a decision and after some anxious minutes, (another drink was ordered) it was reached. Angry Pensioner had insufficient evidence to prove he had the overlap on Small Business man, so the results stood. However if Angry Pensioner had got a better eye witness or if Whiter than White, had protested Small Business man then the protest would of stood. Water for the bank over rules all other rules.

Moral of the story, READ YOUR RULE BOOK!! If someone has made an infringement then the correct person should protest. Shout clearly and direct it to a boat or person, and get good eye witnesses in the protest committee.

The Southport 24hr race has a revised date of the 10th and 11th of September so please adjust your diaries. We are trying to take 2 teams so please forward your name to myself or Mike if you are wishing to go. We are trying to get people out in ENTS over this month, so check the website or just come up to the club. The Scammonden Ent needs a good coat of looking at if anyone has the time.

### **Up and coming events**

Challenge Trophy Monday 29th August 13:00hrs Start, 1.5 hour pursuit race.

Ladies/Junior novice day 3rd September 13:00hrs start.

Seamanship Trophy Sunday 4th September.

Ladies Coffee Pot Sunday 25th september

RNLI Trophy 2nd October

The Scammonden Cup 16th October

## Enterprise Nationals 2011

It seemed like a good idea at the time to enter my first National competition in my mid 50s, the big attraction being the location of Looe in Cornwall. How different could it be to Abersoch or the Birkett?

Looe lived up to its billing as a very pretty place but getting to the sailing club was difficult as you had to drive through the very narrow and busy streets of West Looe to reach the sailing club. Very well organised and very helpful we parked at the side of the Lifeboat station and readied the boat for measuring. Only one little problem, the O ring on my hatch cover had perished, which we couldn't get locally, but a repair with PTFE tape was deemed adequate for the event. In the evening came the briefing and then we found out how different it was with terms that we hadn't come across before such as pathfinders, gate starts and spacer marks.

Luckily we had a practice race on the Sunday prior to the first race of the week so soon got to grips with both of these concepts. My aim for the week was not to come last, a good job it was just a practice then! The first race was interesting with changeable conditions and we found quite close racing throughout the fleet of 58 boats. Our position oscillated with anything between 0 and 12 boats behind us, end result just 3. The Monday saw two races in slightly lighter conditions than the day before and again very close racing. I had my target a boat called Big Yellow Taxi who was around 40<sup>th</sup> on the first day. The first race saw a marginal improvement with 4 boats behind us at the finish having been last at one point. The second could have been so much better as we crossed BYT on the final beat and he came in 44<sup>th</sup> to our 51<sup>st</sup>.

Back on shore some adjustments were made after talking to some of the sailors who were further up the field than us ready for the Tuesday. Lovely weather but where was the wind? Postponed for a couple of hours we headed out in reasonable conditions hoping to do two more races. Aagh we spent nearly 4 hours sailing around with just one abandoned start to show for it. We had a day off on Wednesday so we walked to Polperro along the coast on another lovely day. Unfortunately that was the end of our racing as Thursday repeated the pattern of Tuesday and we never left the shore on Friday.

So would we do it again? I think you have to put the wind down to one of those weeks although I believe we could have had at least two more races if the rules had allowed line starts as well as gate ones. The main thing though was what was this pole hanging from everybody's mast which I seemed to be the only one not to have? The answer was a fly-away pole that replaces the need for a jibstick and can be deployed or released much quicker, looks like a project for this winter. So next year it is Tenby from August 11<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup>, could we break into the top 50?

**Simon & Joan Bottomley**

