



BROAD REACH

The News Letter of the Old Shirburnian Sailing Society
Issue 22

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30th Anniversary Rally in Cowes on 11th September

The OSSS will be celebrating its 30th anniversary on the weekend of September 11th/12th 1999. A formal invitation is enclosed with this edition of Broad Reach and wives and girlfriends will be very welcome. Weather permitting drinks will be served on board Riobamba at 1830, followed by dinner at the Royal Corinthian Yacht Club. The event coincides with the first Saturday of the Southampton Boat Show and there will be an opportunity for members to visit the Boat Show and then transfer to Cowes by Red Jet for the Rally and Dinner. It is hoped that most people will be able to stay on board the yachts but accommodation will also be available at the Royal Corinthian Yacht Club in the form of inexpensive cabins or reasonably priced bedrooms. The cost including drinks, three course dinner and wine will be £30 per head for members aged 25 and over, and £20 per head for those under 25. The dress code will be Blazer to assist those who are either sailing to the event or visiting the Boat Show earlier in the day or on Sunday. **If you wish to attend, please contact Vice Commodore Nick Ware on 0181 940 6659** and advise whether you require accommodation either at the Royal Corinthian Yacht club or on board one of the OSSS yachts. In particular could all members who are intending to bring yachts notify Nick Ware as soon as possible to advise whether they will have any spare berths on board for other members of the Society. The Society will be very grateful to all yacht owners who are able to provide berths for other members of the OSSS. Our aim is to get as many members as possible afloat on the occasion our 30th Anniversary.

Andrew Yorke's Retirement Party

A reminder that the OSSS are arranging a party to mark the retirement of Andrew Yorke and to thank him for the enormous contribution he has made to both the OSSS and Sherborne School Sailing Club over the years. We are organising an informal evening including supper at Bertie's wine bar in Wareham on Saturday 17 July. The plan is to go dinghy sailing on the Sunday from Arne. Tickets, priced at £12, are available from James Foster, Flat 3, 120 Cambridge Street, Pimlico, London, SW1V 4QF. Phone 0171 821 0089 or e-mail james.foster@pop.royalsun.com. Tents are available for those who want to stay at Arne and we can supply a list of accommodation if required. Yacht berths are available at Ridge Wharf.

Changes to OSSS Committee

The AGM was held at The Naval Club on Thursday 18th March. Jeremy Geoffrey stood down after several years as Vice Commodore and was replaced by Nick Ware. Andrew Yorke was elected Rear Commodore. Chris Sowerbutts stood down as Hon Secretary, and was replaced by Andrew Thomson. Giles Bradford and Tak Kaneko were both elected as new Committee Members.

Stanger Leathes I

The society managed to field a strong team for the first match of the 98/99 series for the Stanger Leathes Trophy, including a number of ex-school captains from over the past 7 years. The event coincided with a large semi-organised OS reunion weekend; so most people bumped into old friends in and around Sherborne. After the obligatory lunch at the Cross-Keys, packed with recent leavers, the match took place in perfect Sutton Bingham conditions. Lots of sun, lots of wind, and large enough windshifts to cause people to worry about going in. Excellent conditions for lardy Old Shirburnians. The school team put up a good fight but in the end was well beaten in all three races. Rory Heron, not having dinghy sailed recently due to time spent swanning around in yachts, just about managed to keep his boat upright, whilst giving a friendly Sutton Bingham volunteer sailor the sail of his life! Congratulations to the rest of team who included Alex Davey, John Archer, Tak Kaneko, Will Thomas Ferrand, and Olly Bradford and a warning to those who imagine sailing against the school is easy – they may be inexperienced but they are keen and fast!

Stanger Leathes II

An unfortunate set of circumstances left the OSSS short of sailors for this match which unfortunately had to be cancelled but thanks to Olly Bradford and John Archer for trying hard at short notice. Those who could turn up very generously offered to coach the school (something they are very keen to encourage people to do) but as it turned out it was too windy to sail, so perhaps the outcome was best for everyone in the end. The new match manager for this event next year will be Olly Bradford, and we hope to coincide it with university holidays so that you can all make it. We may also encourage the Royal Navy to send a team to sail for Sutton Bingham, who haven't produced a team for years.

The OSSS are also keen to support other dinghy events. If you can get together with 5 mates and wish to sail for the OSSS at a new event, please contact the Sailing Secretary, Alex Davey.

OSSS Welcomes New Members

The OSSS is delighted to welcome Johnny Thornback (1951 f) as our newest member. Johnny lives on the Isle of Wight and is Vice Commodore of the Royal Corinthian Yacht Club where the OSSS 30th Anniversary Dinner is to be held. He owns a classic Osborne motor cruiser Sona which he brought to the St Vaast Rally in May. Other new members who are leaving the school this summer include Piers Moth (e), Rupert Travers (g), Ali Ross-Parkinson (g), Ben Minter (g), Charlie Walsh (d), Hugo Sparkes (g) and Oliver Harbridge (g). We welcome them all to the Society and look forward to seeing them at our events whether afloat or ashore.

Broad Reach

The Editor welcomes articles written by members to include in future editions of *Broad Reach*. To contribute please contact the Editor and Vice Commodore:

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This edition of Broad Reach and more information on the OSSS can be found on our website:
<http://www.bonshaw.demon.co.uk/oss/>

Western Trophy

This event was originally started as a Dorset Schools Old Boys Trophy, but now is sailed very informally by whichever schools can muster a team. It serves as a great reunion for those friends who used to sail against each other at school, or who usually sail against each other in other classes for different teams. Those not suffering the effects of the OS reunion from the night before, were suffering from a three hour drive down from London but nevertheless teams from Sherborne (now bolstered by Stephen Wilkinson), Canford (defending champs), and WinKingRug (work that one out!) turned up to be greeted by sun and a steady breeze. Unfortunately Milton Abbey pulled out at the last minute. Some close racing followed in a breeze that turned fickle at times. The OSSS beat WinKingRug and Canford, and WinKingRug beat Canford in the round robins. Then, with the breeze dropping, Canford decided that the pub was more appealing, so a final was sailed between WinKingRug and the OSSS. The OSSS decided to make things very tricky for themselves with some extraordinary tactics that Rory and John had obviously learnt at university – putting WKR in front. However, in a dramatic last beat, involving a large windshift and some close quarter tactics, the OSSS managed to redeem themselves and claw back a win and the Western Trophy. The most extraordinary thing was how a group of rather laid back sailors for both the OSSS and WKR suddenly became very competitive when the racing hotted up! After a presentation of the Trophy by Andrew Yorke, (which was then returned to him to put on show on behalf of the OSSS, it was back to Sherborne for a quick drink at the Cross Keys (still packed with recent leavers) before the return to reality. Many thanks to Giles Bradford for organising the teams and, of course, to the school, and particularly Andrew for providing the boats. Despite what it says in the fixture card, the event is likely to be held in September/October again this year and we have recently heard that Wellington, as well as the usual regulars may join us. More details in a future edition

Five Boats Attend St Vaast Rally

Riobamba (Bob Macdonald), Meltem (Nick Ware), Sona (Johnny Thornback), Morning Herald (Charles Price & Richard Foster), and Coriolis (Very Vulgar Vessel skippered by Will Davey) made the passage to St Vaast on the bank holiday at the end of May. Richard Dennis also joined us arriving by car from Brussels. Dinner for 17 was held at La Chasse Maree on the Saturday evening after the consumption of much wine on Meltem.