



BROAD REACH

The News Letter of the Old Shirburnian Sailing Society
Issue 26

December 2002



Take Your Foot Out of Your Mouth

A Light Hearted Review of How Not to Race a Dinghy in 2001

By Tak Kaneko & Nick Ware

February 2001. The days are getting longer. The ice has melted on Sutton Bingham. The daffodils are poking through the ground. Yachtsmen are busy anti-fouling and preparing passage plans for summer cruises to far-flung and exotic locations. Dinghy sailors are looking forward to the warmer weather. The OSSS dinghy squad has an active season ahead and OSSS Sailing Secretary Tak Kaneko is putting the final touches to team selection for Stanger Leathers and the Western Trophy. There is an air of excitement that 2001 could offer some memorable dinghy sailing and famous victories for the OSSS.

March 2001. The first match of the season is the keenly contested **Stanger Leathers II** match against the School team on 17th March followed by a battle against Sutton Bingham Sailing Club the next day in the **Sutton Bingham Trophy**. As the weekend approaches, there is a real sense of anticipation amongst the formidable team of Rob Hoey, Toby Clay, Will T-F, Rich Lowndes and Tak Kaneko. They are itching to get onto the water for the first sailing event of the prestigious Veuve Cliquot OSSS Season. Then, as the Foot and Mouth virus reeks havoc across the countryside, the first thing that brings it home to the city-dwelling OSSS team was when reservoirs across the country started shutting their gates. Sutton Bingham was a casualty and the match was cancelled. Oh well – a trip to the pub instead – and only a month to wait until the next fixture on 21st April. And Uncle Tony and his cohorts in Westminster promise that the outbreak will be over by then.

April 2001. This year, the popular racing and boozing weekend at Arne was to be combined in a “double bill” with the newly resurrected “Western Trophy”. This new event was to provide some high level racing between several old boys’ teams including with Sherborne and Canford. The event was co-ordinated by Stephen Wilkinson, now at Canford. The team knew that the venue, the Spinnaker Club in Ringwood was open with members sailing every weekend. Excellent news – an opportunity to get on the water. But, at the last minute an announcement to say the club is open – but not for visitors due to foot and mouth. Do they really think that city dwellers have heifers walking down Piccadilly and Bulls tramping up Oxford Street and are more likely to bring foot and mouth to the shores of a Hampshire reservoir than their own members. Surely not – perhaps they are just so considerate that they don’t want to pass their foot and mouth back to us. Anyway the result was that The Western Trophy was sadly called off. We hope that the event will run next year and if anyone knows of any other schools that may wish to take part, please get in touch with Tak Kaneko tkaneko@iee.org or Stephen Wilkinson.

With all matches in the season cancelled, the OSSS squad were now angry and determined to prove their sea worthiness at Arne. Surely no foot and mouth there – it’s a beach and fish, dolphins prawns etc don’t have feet. However birds do and the RSPB vetoed use of Arne and **Stanger Leathers III** had to be dropped too. Thanks to those who were to race: Rich Lowndes, John Archer, Tom Beard, Graeme Kerr, Rob Hoey, Dan Skinner and Olly Nichol. Also special thanks to Toby Clay who organised the event.

Five Yachts Reach St Vaast

The St. Vaast Rally was held on the Whitsun Bank Holiday Weekend at the end of May. Sans Just (Angus Cater), Riobamba (Bob Macdonald), Chindit (Nick Ware), Taboo (Johnny Thornback) and Crusade (Giles Bradford - skippering Charles Liddel's yacht) made the passage across the Channel to Normandy at the end of May. The Commodore and Vice Commodore entertained the President, members and guests at a Champagne reception aboard Chindit on the Saturday which was followed by an excellent dinner ashore at La Chasse Maree where restaurateur Gilbert Lucas proudly displays the OSSS Burgee on the wall.

New Events for 2002

The 2002 Fixture Card is enclosed with this edition of Broad Reach. We are instigating some new events. On the weekend of June 22nd / 23rd, we will be holding a summer cruise in the Solent. We would particularly encourage members with yachts to attend and will endeavour to make berths available for wives, girlfriends and families. There will be an informal dinner in the evening. On the dinghy front, we are hoping to arrange a London based event on the Thames in conjunction with Aerial. Details and dates will be announced in due course.

Southampton Boat Show Report

This year's Southampton Boat Show Pub Meet took place at The Duke of Wellington on Bugle Street. Nick Ware, Bob Macdonald, Marcus Chavasse, Giles Bradford, Philip Milln, Malcolm Galloway, Andrew Yorke, Chris Hamon and Richard Anderton plus family attended the event. Riobamba and Chindit were moored in Cowes with OSSS crew who watched the start of the Volvo Ocean Race on the following day.

OSSS Defeated in Arrow Trophy

In spite of a strong team, the OSSS were issued with a slow boat by Sunsail which adversely affected their ability to compete to their full potential. Having failed to finish the Saturday Fleet Racing in the top four, the beer flow on Saturday night resulted in an improved performance on the Sunday with the result that the OSSS came second in the Fleet Race. The team comprised Thijs Knapper, Giles Bradford, Will Thomas-Ferrand, Pete Scoffam, Oliver Bradford, Tom Beard and John Archer. Dinner was held at the Royal Yacht Squadron on Saturday Night. The event report received by the editor does not state who won the Arrow Trophy this year – perhaps some minor school not worthy of comment?!!

Merry Christmas

Broad Reach wishes you a Very Merry Christmas and Happy Sailing in the new Millennium. We look forward to seeing you either afloat or at one of our many shore-based events next season.

Broad Reach

The Editor welcomes articles written by members, as well as news about members successes (and failures) afloat to include in future editions of *Broad Reach*. To contribute please contact the Vice Commodore:

Nick Ware,
94 Princes Road
Richmond-upon-Thames,
Surrey, TW10 6DH
Tel: 020 8940 6659
E-mail: nj_ware@compuserve.com

Successful Season for Stuart Jardine

OSSS member Stuart Jardine has completed one of his most successful sailing seasons in three different "One Designs". In his J24 "Stouche" with his brother Adrian he came 2nd in the European Championships (63 boats), won the National Championships (43 boats), the Welsh Championships and the Southern Area Championships. They also won the Easter Regatta at La Trinite, France collecting heaps of oysters and wine etc. again! In his XOD "Lone Star" Stuart won the National Championships at Cowes Week (73 boats) and Adrian was 4th in his XOD "Lucrecia". In a Flying Fifteen, Stuart was 2nd in the French National Championships (38 boats) at Dinah in a borrowed boat as featured in The Telegraph on Thursday 3rd August. Our congratulations to Stuart on an outstanding season.

Edain Seeks Crew for Lofoten Voyage

Next summer, Mike Rearden hopes to take Edain up to the Lofoten Islands for a brief visit to the land of the Mid-night Sun and Aquavit. Of course it depends on weather, but mostly it depends on crew - and in particular crew with time at the right time. Mike would be very interested in hearing from any OSSS members that could be interested in joining him for the voyage. Mike's plan is to leave the South Coast, in early/mid May and go direct to somewhere North of Bergen and then through the Leeds up to Bodo and the Lofotens. The return would be via the Caledonian Canal, west coast of Scotland and either east or west of Ireland depending on the weather. Edain is a Westerly Oceanlord 41 and is quite well equipped for ocean and offshore sailing, with almost everything except Inmarsat. Above all she does have an Eberspacher heater on board, but Nordland is apparently not too cold at that time of year anyway as it does benefit from the Gulf-Stream. Mike Rearden can be contacted on 01935 891633.

Boys Weekend

On the last weekend of September, Chindit (Nick Ware), Riobamba (Bob Macdonald), Jenny Wren (Richard Franklin) and Buccaneer (Chris and Malcolm Galloway) took out 24 boys and staff from the school. A dinner was held at Gins Farm on the Beaulieu River on the Saturday evening where the school kindly entertained the skippers. Blustery conditions with forecast gusts in excess of 60 knots curtailed activities prematurely on the Sunday with the crew on Buccaneer coping admirably with the emergency tiller after the steering cable snapped.