

# Broad Reach

The Old Shirburnian Sailing Society Newsletter



Issue No. 27  
July 2002

## OSSS in the Dock

There was something Extraordinary about this years Annual General Meeting of the OSSS. The 32nd AGM of the Society was hosted by OSSS member David Mauleverer, the Queen's Sheriff of the City of London, at the Old Bailey on March 23. As befitted the splendour of the surroundings, 40-odd OSSS behaved as only OS can at the Royal Courts of Justice, being treated to a tour of the courts and a marvellous dinner.



Whilst waiting with characteristic patience for their refreshment, those present passed the proposed motion of the Society to raise subscription levels from £8 p.a. to £20. Subscription levels had not been increased for 10 years, and the large majority of those present held the view that the rise was necessary for the society to continue to fulfill its role as an active supporter of OS sailing events. The motion was passed and the AGM culminated with the re-election and election of the officers and committee. For more details see opposite.

The serious business of the evening dispensed with, we proceeded to a most entertaining tour of the courts, led by the Under Sheriff and Secondary George Gauchi. Several of the younger members present were seen to cast nervous glances towards the dock: premonitory perhaps? As the Under Sheriff kindly gave his time free of charge, the OSSS made a donation of £190 to the Sheriff and Records Fund. Next we sat down to a sumptuous dinner hosted by the Sheriff, and were entertained by speeches from our generous host and the Commodore. Only one question now: how can we equal this event next year?

## Midsummer Rally and Cruise

A sunny June weekend (22nd/23rd) provided the perfect backdrop for 8 OSSS to escape the smog and enjoy some relaxation messing about in boats. Bob MacDonald (Riobamba), Nick Ware (Chindit), Neil Duncan, James Chilton, Ed Biggs and Tom Hyde boarded the two boats and had a spirited spring sail around to the Elephant Boatyard on the Hamble. They were joined by Philip Milln (Hamble Warrior) and Tom Beard for a champagne reception aboard Chindit, courtesy of the Flag Officers, before a fine meal at 'The Ferry.'

Hangovers were swiftly dispelled by a sun drenched run back to Portsmouth on the Sunday. If any OSSS need an excuse for a weekend on the water, such rallies provide an unbeatable antidote to the working week.

## London Boat Show Dinner

Once again the OSSS held a most successful gathering in the aftermath of slaving over the goodies on offer at the London Boat Show. The Vice Commodore had nothing to do with choosing the venue of Shampers Wine Bar off Regent Street, where all enjoyed an excellent buffet supper. The event was appreciated by both established members and a bevy of young pretenders now living and working in London...

## New Committee

**President:** Richard Anderton

**Commodore:**

Bob Macdonald

**Vice Comm:** Nick Ware

**Rear Comm and Hon.**

**Secretary:** Andrew Yorke

**Hon. Treasurer:**

Andrew Thomson

**Sailing Secretary:**

Tak Kaneko

**Other:**

John Archer

Tom Beard

Marcus Chavasse

James Chilton

Neil Duncan

Chris Sowerbutts

Will Thomas-Ferrand

Charles Trefusis

Ed Whipp

**Hon Auditor:** Michael French

## St. Vaast Rally

Unfortunately this event had to be cancelled this year, in part due to Nick Ware breaking his metatarsal. Similarities with David Beckham end here...

As you can see, **Broad Reach** has an all-new, brilliant technicolour look. Designed by La Barbe Productions, it is hoped that this new format reflects the continued vigour of the society.



For more photos, up-to-date info, and past issues of Broad Reach, don't forget to visit:

[www.oss.org.uk](http://www.oss.org.uk)

## Stanger Leathes II & III

The race series between the OSSS and the School Sailing Team continued this year. The second match was held at Sutton Bingham on 16<sup>th</sup> March. Tak Kaneko, Giles Bradford, Tom Beard, Will Thomas-Ferrand, Rich Lowndes, and John Archer formed the high performance OSSS team.

Despite gentle airs, they beat both the School and the Sutton Bingham team convincingly. The School team, however, displayed much promise, and OSSS members went on to pass on some of their tactics in a training session. A beautiful March afternoon on the water, was followed by a lively meal in the Half Moon in Sherborne that evening.

For the third match of the season, pressure of university exams meant that the OSSS could not raise a team for the event. Those present, therefore, took the tough opportunity of testing out the new 470s at Arne.

25 knot winds, and insurance restrictions initially hampered the OSSS need for speed, but as the weather started to (relatively) calm down, those present were treated to an epic afternoon of very fast, very wet sailing. Most then decamped to the OS hog-roast at the Archer's on Saturday night, before returning to put the new Hobie-Cat through it's paces on Sunday.

Many thanks to Tak Kaneko, Toby Clay and John Archer, for their organisational skills, as well as to Simon Skinner and Chris Hamon.

### 'Au Revoir' Riobamba

Commodore Bob Macdonald has announced the sale of Riobamba. The Westerly Ocean Ranger was Bob's 5th Westerly in over 30 years sailing during which he completed over 40,000 miles. Over 100 OS have been fortunate to have been introduced to yacht sailing aboard the various Riobambas. Bob will now be joining members including Johnny Thornback and Will Davey in the OSSS Water Motorist Fleet, when he takes delivery of Riobamba V, which is to be a twin-engined trawler yacht!

### The Western Trophy 2002

2002 will go down as the year in which the Western Trophy was retrieved from the history books. As it turned out, the revival of this inter-Old Boy team racing event was rather a shaky one. Canford turned up at the venue, the Spinnaker Sailing Club, a day early by mistake. That left just Sherborne and Winchester to battle it out on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April.

Conditions were interesting, with strong gusts sweeping the race course from any given direction: a regular phenomenon at that 'unique' pond near Ringwood! The racing was close-quarters stuff (sometimes a little too close!), and the teams well



The OSSS team at Spinnaker for the Western Trophy

matched. At this juncture it should be noted that, while Sherborne turned out a full team (and on time), consisting of Tak Kaneko, Giles Bradford, John Archer, Tom Beard, Olly Bradford and Rob Hoey, Winchester managed only 3 people. The deficit was made up by friends and Stephen Wilkinson (who helped organise the event and kindly provided the use of Canford's 420s).

The final result? Well, perhaps due to the intimidation of sailing against their old coach, or more likely due to a small lack of practice, the OSSS narrowly missed out on being the first to wipe the dust from the Western Trophy shield.

### Micky Walford

Micky Walford died on the 16<sup>th</sup> of January 2002, after a short illness. There was a private family service, followed by a memorial service in Chapel which 200 OS and other friends attended. Simon Wilkinson gave a splendid address and the Rt. Rev The Lord Sheppard, ex-Bishop of Liverpool, led the prayers. Micky's genius as a sportsman, having played both hockey and rugby for England and cricket for Somerset, will be remembered by all Shirburnians. In later life he turned to sailing, making at least 50 channel crossings in Davy Gamm. The OSSS was represented at the service by Andrew Yorke.

### John Riley

John (Pat) Riley died on May 12<sup>th</sup> 2002. Many generations of Shirburnians and OS owe John a debt of gratitude, as he discovered Arne. Until 1964 the school sailed from Poole Harbour Yacht Club, camping in the Mauleverer's garden at Canford Cliffs. Looking to develop school sailing John sailed one day towards Wareham, and landed at high tide at the beach at Arne. Despite the inevitable obstacles, John persuaded the owner to allow us to use the beach at Arne as a base. We have now been at Arne for 37 years. Aside from this immeasurable contribution to sailing, John was Head of Physics, ran the CCF, and was tutor in Westcott and School House.