

# Broad Reach

The Old Shirburnian Sailing Society Newsletter



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## Committee

President: Bob Macdonald  
Commodore: Nick Ware  
Vice Comm.: Peter Innes-Ker  
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Committee members:  
Richard Anderton  
Tom Beard  
Marcus Chavasse  
Neil Duncan  
Michael French  
Robert Gosling  
Tak Kaneko  
Alec Russell  
Chris Sowerbutts  
Charles Trefusis

## Belvedere Cup 2005

The highlight of the racing year to date has been the Belvedere Cup, a team racing event hosted by the Royal Thames Yacht Club, which took place in Cowes at the beginning of April. Sherborne had been invited to take part in this new event along with Bradfield, Radley, Uppingham, Winchester and two teams from the Royal Thames Sailing Academy. The RTYC provided Sonar keel boats for the event, with each team made up of two boats each crewed by three / four sailors. The Sherborne team comprised Ed Whipp and John Archer as helms, plus Alec Russell, Ed House, Rob Gosling and one ringer as crew.

The format of the event was round robin team racing. Races are won by the team which did not have a boat finishing fourth. The format therefore demands that the two boats comprising each team must work together to ensure that both are well positioned (for example the lead boat of one team may be forced to slow down an opposition boat, potentially relinquishing a place to do so, if this means that their partner boat is able to move out of the fatal fourth position). This makes for some very close racing, and a terrific spectacle to watch. Umpires in RIBs followed the races closely in order to spot any infringements. Nick Ware took 'Chindit' as a support vessel for the Sherborne team which was an excellent platform for watching the racing.

We couldn't have asked for better weather on the first day, as it brought bright sunshine with a consistent 12-18 knots of wind. The course was set in Osborne Bay, a short sail from Cowes, which enabled the crews to gain at least a small degree of familiarity with the boats before the racing started! The evening saw a meal hosted by the RTYC at the Royal London Yacht Club in Cowes, which was very well attended by the teams and attendant supporters. Each team was presented with a copy of 'The Chronicles of the Royal Thames Yacht Club', the Sherborne copy of which now resides in the school library.

The winds were slightly lighter on Sunday which saw the racing brought to an end without all races being completed - the Sherborne team were the envy of the competition as the crew were hosted



to luncheon aboard Chindit in between races. The OSSS eventually finished mid-table, but the event had been thoroughly enjoyed by all. We owe a sincere debt of thanks to the RTYC for organising and funding the event, including the hire of the boats, ribs and the lending of the time and expertise of the race officers, and we very much hope to be invited to participate in the event again in the future.

**It is with great sadness that Broad Reach records the death of Andrew Yorke, OSSS Rear Commodore. Please find our Tribute to Andrew enclosed with this edition.**

### Forthcoming events:

September 23rd—  
Second OSSS cruise  
aboard Paddle Steamer  
Waverly. See back page  
for details.

October 1st—2nd—  
Annual Boys Sailing  
Weekend. See back page  
for details.

October 1st—2nd—  
Arrow Trophy, Cowes

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)

## Cross Channel Rally

The Cross Channel Rally was scheduled to take place at the end of May. Chindit (Nick Ware), Harrac (Angus Cater) and Riobamba (Bob Macdonald) had planned to make the crossing to St Peter Port. However thick fog intervened and all three skippers decided not to leave their home ports. Contingency plans came into action and by popular vote it was decided to make the rather shorter crossing to Yarmouth on the Isle of Wight where a Rally dinner was quickly arranged at Sian-Elins on the Friday evening. By Saturday, the fog had lifted but the wind had increased to over 30 knots. Harrac decided to brave the conditions and set off for Cherbourg where she arrived in the evening with seasick crew and bilges full of water. The crew of Chindit



and Riobamba made the passage on foot to the Red Lion at Freshwater. On Sunday the two remaining boats sailed to Poole Harbour, and anchored in South Deep in the tranquillity of the lee of Green Island. On board Charles Trefusis' prayers for sunshine and fair winds were answered on the Sunday and we enjoyed an excellent sail back to Gosport

## OSSS Sailing Successes!



**Transatlantic OSTAR Victory!** - Mervyn Wheatley (above) is to be offered our most sincere congratulations on his fantastic victory in this single-handed transatlantic race aboard his yacht *Tamarind*, a Formosa 42. Mervyn achieved a corrected time of 23 days, 7 hours and 6 minutes (a winning margin of 5 precious minutes!) Mervyn has described *Tamarind* as 'heavy, slow and comfortable' and it is certainly worth mentioning that she is equipped with her own bathtub!

**Cowes Week - The Captain's Cup** - Stuart Jardine this year won the the Captain's Cup at Cowes in the XOD class for a truly remarkable sixth time. Aboard his boat *Lone Star*, Stuart beat his own brother by just one minute, setting a record of victories that some believe will never be beaten. The former Olympian won 5 races and was never positioned outside the top 8. Stuart's achievement is all the more noteworthy when one considers that the XOD is the biggest class at Cowes, this year attracting 79 entries.

### Notices...

**RTYC USA Tour:** 3 Members of the OSSS have been fortunate enough to be invited as guests of the Royal Thames Yacht Club to compete in Annapolis in the United States in September. John Archer, Ed Whipp and Alec Russell are the lucky few - we wish them the best of luck!

**Committee Changes:** We are pleased to welcome Alec Russell and Tak Kaneko (for his second stint!) onto the Committee. Another change has seen James Chilton take on the post of Honorary Secretary.

**President's Prize:** At this year's AGM, Vice Commodore Peter Innes-Ker was awarded the Presidents Prize in recognition of his considerable efforts to promote further racing events for the

### Future Events

**Paddle Steamer Waverley:** The Second OSSS cruise aboard the Waverley, the world's last remaining sea going paddle-steamer departs from Tower Pier London at 1930 on Friday 23rd September 2005. Tickets are £12.95 from Nick Ware, [nick.ware@chindit.co.uk](mailto:nick.ware@chindit.co.uk) or telephone 07769 643359

**Annual Boys Sailing Weekend: October 1st-2nd 2005.** Any skippers willing and able to bring a boat and host current boys from the school would be most welcome! Boys to join boats at their home ports and rendezvous that evening for dinner at Lymlington Town Sailing Club, returning to home ports by mid afternoon on the Sunday. Please contact Bob Macdonald at [airalert@gmail.com](mailto:airalert@gmail.com)