

Broad Reach

THE OLD SHIRBURNIAN SAILING SOCIETY NEWS LETTER

40th Anniversary Rally & Dinner 27th June 2009

In 2009 the Old Shirburnian Sailing Society will celebrate its 40th Anniversary. To mark the occasion there will be a Midsummer Madness Rally and Black Tie Dinner to be held at Gin's Farm on the banks of the Beaulieu River on the evening of Saturday 27th June.

Tickets are £50.00 per head to include drinks before and with dinner. Wives and girlfriends will be very welcome. We would encourage all yacht owners to bring their boats and we have reserved the walk ashore pontoon at Gin's Farm for the evening. We will make as many berths available on member's yachts and in addition for those who cannot be accommodated afloat or would prefer to be ashore, we are making arrangements with local B & B's within the New Forest area. This promises to be the OSSS event of the decade so please book early! Please notify Nick Ware as soon as possible if you would like to attend (nick.ware@chindit.co.uk) 07769 643 359

Girls...Girls...Girls

At the AGM in April, the Society unanimously voted for a change in the constitution so that Old Girls from Sherborne School for Girls can join the Society. Initially we would like to establish contact with girls who regularly sail and know some of our members. Following initial discussion with a small group we will then establish contact with the Old Girls Society. If you know any Old Girls who you think might be interested, please ask them to contact Nick Ware (nick.ware@chindit.co.uk) 07769 643 359

Three London

Events

In recent years we have held the London Boat Show Supper on a Wednesday evening at Shampers on Kingly Street. This has been well attended but we have found that none of our members have visited the Boat Show beforehand.

This year we are changing the format and the OSSS will be meeting at the Guinness stand at the Boat Show at Excel on Saturday 10th January at 4:30 pm before moving on to a restaurant at Borough Market which has been researched by Alec Russell and Marcus Chavasse. Tickets for the dinner are £25.00 (excluding wine) and members should contact Alec Russell (alecrussell@hotmail.co.uk) 07967 827 332 if you wish to attend.

Various members have indicated that they enjoy the mid-week Shampers evening and therefore we have decided to retain that within the fixture list but as an additional event to be held on the evening of Wednesday 25th February. For tickets (£25.00 excluding drinks) please contact Nick Ware (nick.ware@chindit.co.uk) 07769 643 359.

Alec Russell will again be organizing a younger members evening for those aged under 30. The venue will be announced in due course and those interested in attending should contact Alec (alecrussell@hotmail.co.uk) 07967 827 332.

Andrew Thomson

After over 20 years on the Committee, Andrew Thomson stood down at the AGM in March. Andrew has held the offices of the Hon Secretary, Broad Reach Editor and most recently Hon Treasurer. He has put in a huge amount of both effort and time over the years for which the Society is extremely grateful. Andrew was awarded the Presidents Prize at the AGM in recognition of his significant and lengthy stint on the Committee.

Andrew Yorke Boys Weekend 2008

We were blessed with beautiful sunny autumn weather for the Andrew Yorke Boys Weekend this year. In bright sunshine but with minimal wind Chindit and Riobamba headed West down the Solent on the afternoon of Saturday 27th September towards Lymington. Eventually the tide turned and Chindit had to resort to the motor to reach Lymington in time for dinner.

On the Sunday morning there was even less wind and we ended up motoring up to Cowes for lunch before returning to Gosport in the afternoon.

A total of ten boys from Sherborne crewed aboard Chindit and Riobamba during the course of the weekend.

COMMITTEE

President:

Bob Macdonald

Commodore:

Nick Ware

Vice Commodore.:

Peter Innes-Ker

Rear Commodore (Yacht Racing):

John Archer

Hon. Treasurer:

Ed House

Hon. Secretary:

Alec Russell

Dinghy Sailing Secretary:

Rob Gosling

Committee members:

Richard Anderton

Tom Beard

Marcus Chavasse

Stephen Foot

Michael French

Winter 2008

Cross Channel Rally

In 2008 for the first time we rescheduled the Cross Channel Rally to the May Day Bank Holiday weekend rather than the traditional Whitsun Holiday crossing at the end of the month. This did not prove popular and we ended up with just two under-crewed boats. Therefore on the day of departure both Riobamba and Chindit decided to combine forces and Chindit was the only boat to make it over to St Vaast. The rally dinner at La Chasse Maree was accordingly smaller than usual but perhaps that didn't result in any less wine being consumed. Following a raid on Monsieur Gosselin, Chindit returned to Gosport by day on the bank holiday Monday.

For 2009, the cross-channel rally will be held on the Whitsun Bank Holiday weekend departing on Friday 22nd May and returning on Monday 25th May. The destination will be St Vaast. Those wishing to bring their boat or just looking for a berth should contact Nick Ware (nick.ware@chindit.co.uk) 07769 643 359.

Stanger Leathes

The school have fielded some strong teams recently for Stanger Leathes with some mixed levels of competition from the OSSS. Septembers bad weather was a surprise for both teams as the Stanger Leathes weekend can usually be counted on to produce one of the last weekends of summer sunshine. The team of four core members being Chris Gosling, Freddie Saunders, Tom Badham-Thornhill, and Robert Gosling along with two Sutton Bingham instructors Shaun Kingdon and Lotti Cargen met in good time at Sutton Bingham to discuss tactics. By fielding a strong team early on were able to start the 08-09 season with a solid win. In the evening the boys and Dr Hamon were taken to the Raj Poot for the traditional debrief meal.

Arrow Trophy

This years Arrow was definitely a mixed bag, after a bit of difficulty raising members for both teams, with people having to pull out at the last minute due to unforeseen work commitments. The OSSS ended up with a slimline Hot Shot team of Ed Whipp, Alec Russell, Robert Gosling, Michael Pope, David Hoey and a ringer in the form of Shaun Hopkins. The Old Guard were helmed by Stephen Foot, supported by an able crew of: Rupert Bonham-Smith, John Jordan, Marcus Chavasse.

Light winds were the order of the day and much drifting was had, with half the hot shots team forming an important ballast position in the forward cabin and creeping out cap like for each manoeuvre. They managed a first in the first race in clear air. Unfortunately tricky tides for the rest of the three races led to a lack of clear starts and mid-fleet results and lack of qualification for the match racing on day two.



Day two brought thick fog partially induced by the fantastic meal at the Royal Corinthian Yacht Club on the Saturday night. There was a delay in starting proceedings which was a good opportunity for the crews to physically and mentally prepare themselves, for some this meant staying in a sleeping bag in a darkened cabin.

When boats were finally able to leave Cowes they set out following the committee boat through the fog out of sight of land.

The committee then set a start line close to the Brambles bank (of QE2 fame) to keep competitors on their toes.

The Hot Shots finished with a mid fleet position, while the Old Guard were not so happy with the conditions and finished further down. The Old Guard continued there tradition of damaging the ringer bowperson who managed to fall down the bow hatch.

We'd like to Thank Peter Innes-Kerr for organising our entries and both himself and Nick Ware for the use of their yachts as committee boats and hostels.

New Look for OSSS

After 40 years, the Committee feels that it is time for our logo, ties, burgees to be updated to a more contemporary design. We are looking for an OS graphic designer who can help us with this task. If you have any ideas, **please contact Nick Ware** (nick.ware@chindit.co.uk) **07769 643 359**

Broad Read Editor Wanted

You may have noticed that Broad Read has been published less frequently in the last 18 months. Since our last Editor, Neil Duncan, stood down we have been unable to find a replacement. If you are able to help and would like to hone your journalistic skills, **please contact Nick Ware** (nick.ware@chindit.co.uk) **07769 643 359**

Mid-Summer Madness 2008

Having gone West in the previous two Madnesses, the 2008 Madness headed East for a change, to the welcoming waters of Chichester Harbour. Getting into and out of Chichester Harbour requires attention to timing of tides, at least for most keelboats, as the depth over the bar at the harbour mouth can be minimal in any sort of swell. The weekend we had selected was far from ideal timing wise, necessitating a pretty early start for those coming from Portsmouth, and a very early start for the Hamble yachts. However this did mean that the fleet of four yachts and one motorboat was able to assemble off the beach at East Head in time for a leisurely lunch. Regular participants *Chindit* (Nick Ware) and *Resolution* (Peter Innes-Ker) were joined by Alec Russell in the family Sweden 38 *Associate* and John Jordan's Hunter 27 *No Option*. There seemed to be an awful lot of attractive young ladies present, surely not all OS but very welcome anyway. It here that the always-entertaining Rupert Bonham-Smith (Cigarette 40 *Shogun Star*) won his nomination for a nautical Darwin award: guess why one should not generally light up a portable BBQ on a motorboat with three petrol outboards, each with its own petrol tank??? Spectators were enthralled by the clouds of smoke, the smell of burning spare ribs....and the flaming fender!!



Later, safely attached to the visitors' moorings at Itchenor, attention turned to how to get from the yachts up to Bosham Sailing Club for supper, a very shallow two miles away. Whilst Commodore Ware was as usual perfectly prepared for every nautical challenge, with an inflatable dinghy and decent 4 HP outboard motor capable of 3 knots, your scribe elected



to have his dinghy towed up river by a rib that just happened to have been procured by Mr R B-S. In retrospect this was a mistake, the rib having an indecently powerful 150HP motor and being difficult to drive below 10 knots. Gosh what a lot of white water! What white knuckles!

After a great supper at BSC and an amazing ride back to Itchenor in the dark, it was time to test again just how many kinds of whisky are kept on *Chindit*.

Luckily Sunday dawned fine and calm, and a reviving swim at East Head was just the ticket on the way back home. A splendid sail followed, rounding off a memorable weekend.



The Commodore and Flag Officers would like to wish all the members and their families a happy Christmas and a prosperous new year. They look forward to welcoming you at the various sailing events in 2009



OCC

Bursaries

The Ocean Cruising Club is offering bursaries to young people to give them the opportunity to go "Blue Water" cruising with an experienced OCC skipper. They will in the process complete a voyage of at least 1000 nm which is the entry qualification for the Ocean Cruising Club. The bursary, which can be up to £3000, is intended to help with air fares and the purchase of suitable foul weather gear. The full requirements and an application form may be found on the OCC website.

www.oceancruisingclub.org

Sherborne School Sailing 2008

2008 has largely been a very successful year for sailing at Sherborne with relatively fine weather (sailing wise) and a keen and enthusiastic group of sailors, particularly lower down the school which bodes well for the future.

With the departure of 3 more senior boys the team was rather young and inexperienced. Captained by James Jenkins (c) they acquitted themselves well in a number of races. Out of 11 races, 3 were cancelled due to bad weather, 5 were won, 2 lost and 2 races were cancelled as the opposition could not raise teams. Where Sherborne lost races was not due to poor sailing or boat speed but inexperience against stronger more tactical sides. This is something that needs to be addressed and has been built into this coming year's training. For the first time in a number of years the team raced against Bryanston and Wellington College, the latter showing our tactical weakness. At the Itchenor School's Week in July, the School 420 with Will Gibbon and Harry Saunders came a creditable 6th out of 17 boats, the best we have managed in years, and this bodes well for the future.

Sailing at Poole was again very popular with 30 boys attending sailing camp and with 58 boys sailing throughout the term either during the week, at weekends or both. The majority were juniors and it was encouraging to see how many of the new intake were both keen and could sail. Whilst the weather lacked on sun, the wind was seldom too strong to sail and the boys sailing skills were greatly enhanced in some taxing conditions. On the back of the term's sailing 13 boys achieved either level 1 or level 2 RYA certificates and two achieved their level 2 powerboat qualification.

4 more boys applied and were subsequently awarded the Andrew Yorke Award to train as

RYA dinghy instructors. This award has enhanced the sailing at the school as it not only gives the recipients formal qualifications but also encourages them to use the qualifications to instruct and improve the sailing of younger members. An honours board in the school is to be erected to recognise the boys who have been successful in completing this award. In the longer term the school aim to build on this by becoming a registered RYA establishment.

In addition to the Poole sailing there was the ever popular Old Boy's weekend and a trip to the boat show. Also worth noting was Gordon Whitley (e) sailing with Ellen McArthur in the Round the Island Race. Though their bid was unsuccessful the School should be proud that one of its recent pupils should be sailing with such an eminent sailor.

Equipment continues to be in good nick. A careful rolling programme has ensured that the kit is maintained to a high standard. The school is fortunate to have two good fleets of boats which are well maintained although at some time in the future the 420's at Sutton Bingham will need to be replaced as they are approaching 18 years old.

As ever the sailing is run on the good will of the staff lead by Dr Chris Hamon and assisted by Gillian Pryor (now Powerboat 2 qualified), John Mitchell, and Michael McGinty. Sailing does take up a considerable amount of time in the summer and they give of their time freely.



Winter 2008

Dates for your Diary

January 9, 10 2009

**Boat Show Drinks & Supper
Docklands & Borough Market**

Alec Russell
alecrussell@hotmail.co.uk

February 25 2009

**London Supper
Shampers London W1**

Nick Ware
nick.ware@chindit.co.uk

March 2009

**Date to be confirmed
Younger Members Drinks Party
London**

alecrussell@hotmail.co.uk

March 14 2009

**Stanger Leathes II
Sutton Bingham**

Robert Gosling
goose69_4pz@yahoo.co.uk

March 26 2009

**AGM and Dinner
RTYC**

Alec Russell
russellaj@sherborne.org

May 22-25 2009

**Cross-Channel Rally Convening in
St. Vaast Friday 22nd May
Dinner Saturday 23rd May**

June 20 2009

Stanger Leathes III

June 27 2009

**40th Anniversary Rally & Dinner
Gin's Farm**

Please send articles for the next edition of
Broad Reach to nick.ware@chindit.co.uk
Photographs are especially welcome!