

NEWSLETTER OF THE LR SCOW CLASS ASSOCIATION



2024/ ISSUE 1

A MESSAGE FROM THE CLASS ASSOCIATION CHAIRMAN, CHRIS KNOX.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

22-Jun: Travellers' Trophy 1: Beaulieu River Sailing Club.

18-Aug: Travellers' Trophy 2: Keyhaven Yacht Club

01-Sep: Travellers' Trophy 3: Royal Lyminster YC with Figure of Eight

7-8 Sept: Scow Championships, Lyminster.

16 September: Annual General Meeting, RLymYC.

YARMOUTH SCOW CELEBRATIONS

14-Jun Sail from Yarmouth to Lyminster for lunch.

27-Jun Sail from Yarmouth to Newtown Creek

21-Jul Centenary celebration, Yarmouth. Lunch and talk.

Details in this Newsletter.

The year 2024 is a very significant year in our history as it marks the Centenary of the Scow. The first boats went on sale in 1924 for the princely sum of £90. This gives some idea of inflation trends over the last 100 years! They were made of wood, of course, no GRP in those days. There will be celebratory events, most of which are being arranged by Yarmouth Sailing Club. Details included later in this Newsletter.

Meanwhile, the sailing season is in full swing, even though we are still waiting for the arrival of summer. It is not too long until the first of the Travellers' Trophy races, to be held at Beaulieu River Sailing Club. This is always a splendid event. Plans for the Annual Championships are well in hand; they will be held at Lyminster this year. We are seeking to encourage more Junior entries, as these have tailed off in recent years. Any help from parents and grandparents in this respect will be greatly appreciated.

After a very successful visit to West Wittering Sailing Club last year, we are having a 'return match' in July at Keyhaven. This will be a mixture of pottering, racing and plenty of socialising. All will be welcome to join in. Again, details will follow.

The Technical Group has been busy and, no doubt, the fruits of their labours will become evident at the Class AGM in September.

Meanwhile, fair winds and good sailing.

Best wishes,

Chris.

DECISIONS FROM THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Just over 20 members attended the 2023 AGM, which was held at the Royal Lymington Yacht Club. Nine resolutions had been presented to the Committee for discussion and there was a lively exchange of views before eight of them were passed and one left for further consideration. The ensuing changes to the Rules are as follows:

1. Previously, the Rules – if taken literally – specified that only owners of Lymington River Scows which remained identical to the building specifications (something which is necessary only if the scow is to be raced) would be eligible to be voting members of the LRSCA. The Association recognises that many Scow owners do not want to race and so the change to the rule allows anyone who has a Lymington River Scow but has in some way altered it to fit their purposes (e.g. adding a block for an outboard motor) is still eligible to be a voting member of the Association.
2. Cam cleats for the headsail are now allowed, as long as they are fitted in the same position as the original fairlead fitting.
3. In order to be absolutely accurate in our nomenclature, the word 'gaff' has been replaced by 'yard'.
4. The yard can now be made from carbon fibre reinforced epoxy resin, as well as the aluminium alloy and glass reinforced polyester which have previously been allowed.
5. The spars, with the exception of the whisker pole, shall be nominally circular in cross-section and fabricated from carbon fibre or aluminium alloy which shall be anodised and may be powder coated for protection, except that the gaff may be glass reinforced polyester resin moulded over a class approved mandrel.
6. Because the Association is not allowed to hold any assets apart from cash, it has been agreed that the other assets of the Association (such as the moulds for the boats) will be held on behalf of the Association by whosoever are Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Association at the time.
7. It was agreed that sending emails to members is a valid way of communicating with them. It is also valid to post documents on the website and then to email members to let them know that they can be viewed there.
8. The Committee updates all members details as and when they are communicated to it. It was agreed that the Committee, by using the contact details held by the Association at that time, will be deemed to have communicated properly even if these contact details are out of date. It is the responsibility of the individual members to update their contact details, via the Secretary, as necessary.

The full list of Committee members is published in the LRSCA Yearbook distributed to all members but is summarised here.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Officers.

Honorary President: The Hon. Mary Montagu-Scott (2023-28)

Chairman: Chris Knox (2021-24)

Vice-Chair: Allan Hill (2021-24)

Honorary Treasurer: David Linsell (2022-25)

Honorary Secretary: Jose Nieves (2021-24)

Members.

Jane Corden (2023-26); Jay Devonshire (co-opted); Philip Gossage (2021-24), Richard Griffiths (2023-26); Stuart Rowney (2022-25); Bill Vance (2022-25).

Technical Officers.

William Newton (Class Measurer)

Ann Carnegie (Buoyancy Tester – West Wittering)

John Claridge (Buoyancy Tester)

Matt Daly (Buoyancy Tester)

Jay Devonshire (Buoyancy Tester)

Nick Griffin (Buoyancy Tester)

Liz Sagues (Buoyancy Tester - Chichester)

Representative in Chichester Harbour area: Ann Carnegie.

Technical Group.

John Doerr, John Evans and Mike Urwin.

The meeting was pleased to appoint **Dan and Meriel McCarthy** as Honorary members in recognition of their sterling contributions to the Association as measurers over many years.

PLANS FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIPS IN SEPTEMBER.

Plans for the LRSCA Championship to be held over the weekend of Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th September hosted by the Royal Lymington YC are well advanced.

The Notice of Race was published recently and includes the primary details that 5 races are planned with a discard if 4 or more are completed. 3 races are planned for Saturday with the remaining 2 on Sunday. Apart from the usual single and double handers, there will be prizes for juniors, masters and newcomers. The NoR and online entry can be found on the Club website: https://rlymyc.org.uk/Afloat/Racing/LRSCA_Championships.

As well as the racing, there will be a BBQ at the Club on Saturday evening with live music. We will be sharing the Club with an 'Old Gaffers' dinner. Most appropriate! On Sunday after racing and before the prizegiving, there will be a tea laid on for all competitors. If previous years' experiences are anything to go by, you won't need supper that evening....!

On the practical side, it is planned to offer a boat transport service for members of west Solent Clubs to help get their boats to/from Lymington. We have also reserved some Club owned Scows for use by visitors, principally those from Clubs outside the Solent. Space will be available for the storage of visitors bringing their own trailers.

And finally "Buy One Get One Free"! The previous Sunday, 1st September, is the Royal Lymington Scow Division's annual 'Figure of Eight Race' which is the Lymington leg of the LRSCA Travellers Trophy. This race circumnavigates Pylewell and Oxy Islands, part of the salt marsh system around the mouth of the Lymington River, forming an 8 shaped course. There will be separate classes for single and double handers. It's great fun and entry is free to members of the LRSCA. Members wishing to compete in both this race and the Championship may leave their boats and trailers in Lymington free of charge for the intervening week.

Do come and join the fun!

Mike Urwin / Scow Division Vice-Captain, Royal Lymington Yacht Club.
mikejurwin@gmail.com

LRSCA WEBSITE.

At present, the Association relies on the goodwill of Brendan Nellis to manage and update our website which has become less and less fit for purpose following technical developments and increasing concerns about website security as well as privacy issues. Several website designers have been approached to quote for modernisation and re-design of our existing website. We are also investigating the RYA-supported site management tool known as 'Sailing Club Manager' (SCM). See: <https://www.sailingclubmanager.com/>

A separate investigation led by David Linsell is attempting to test the utility of a rival tool called Just.Go, a membership management tool. Details can be found here: <https://justgo.com/whyjustgo/>

We hope the membership supports these efforts to transition to a more robust and modern website as well as the inevitable additional costs. We are especially eager to hear from any of our members who would enjoy helping us with this website transition and managing the new site. Your LRSCA Committee has limited website preparation and management skills and any technical help would be really appreciated!

Allan Hill/ Vice-Chair.

THE TREASURER WRITES:

Subscriptions

March is the Treasurer's busy time each year, closing the accounts for the previous 12 months, preparing the accounts for Independent Examination, setting up records for the next 12 months and receiving and logging the Membership subscriptions due on the First of March, these arrive as a flood followed by a trickle.

In February I sent out a reminder that subscriptions were due on 1 March, with the intent that Members should satisfy themselves that their Standing Orders were set correctly. Unfortunately, a number of Members jumped the gun and

immediately paid their subscription by Bank transfer. The second problem was that in most cases there was also a Standing Order in place, resulting in an over-payment of some subscriptions.

I am working through the lists to email Members who I think have over-paid to identify corrective actions. The preferred actions are to return the over-payment or convert the over-payment to a Donation to LRSCA funds. If, after two emails, there has been no response from the Member, then Donation will be assumed as the correct action.

In all, 204 subscription payments arrived on 1 March 2024, as required by the Constitution. Thank you. A further 51 payments were received before the end of March. This was the cut-off for compiling the Yearbook Members List. A further 14 subscription payment have been received since the end of March but these Members will not appear in the Yearbook this year.

Of course, each year Members join and Members leave. Where previous Members have not paid their subscription by the end of March then they are deemed as Lapsed Members. I have tried to contact these former members to confirm their membership status one way or the other. Re-instatement is simple, by paying the subscription!

How can the subscription process be improved? We all have a part to play:

- The Treasurer must be more precise in any message advising the subscriptions will soon be due and advise against paying subscriptions before 1 March!
- All Members can help by setting up, or checking, that their Standing Order is due to be paid on 1 March each year. If not paying by Standing Order then please make the payment as early in March as possible.

Membership numbers are presently:

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| 193 | Full Members |
| 58 | Associate Members |
| 2 | Honorary Members |

GDPR

One vital tool in the management of the LRSCA is the Members Register, in which we keep records of Member's member status, names, address, email, phone number, boat number and name. This information is necessary for the running of LRSCA.

Under the GDPR regulations Members are allowed to limit the ways in which this data is used/promulgated. Accordingly, over the next few weeks I shall be sending out forms for completion by each individual Member (Full, Associate, Honorary). The form will ask for confirmation of your personal details, as required in the Register. The form will also allow Members to identify if there are any restrictions on how and where the data may be used.

David Linsell / Treasurer.

NEWS FROM THE CLUBS.....

Dell Quay - Liz Sagues writes:



It's the Wild West in Dell Quay where mice eat Scow mainsails... Fubbs 517 drew unwanted attention from a mouse during winter. Thankfully, Noble Marine came to the rescue, paying in full (less our £50 excess) for a brand new mainsail replacing the very nibbled 11-year-old one. And John Claridge working with Sanders Sails managed with some effort to find the right colour cloth (photo by Carol Andrews/ Dell Quay Scow sailor).



Liz Sagues / Buoyancy Tester – Chichester.

West Wittering Sailing Club – Ann Carnegie writes:



The ranks of LR Scows in West Wittering have increased. We now have 16 Scows all lined up in a row on Snowhill Creek.

Unusually our boats float at high tide, so they must be securely tied down to chains laid specially on the shore. After one exceptionally high tide which coincided with a storm of scary proportions, a couple of the boats were damaged. John Claridge suggested a small addition to the transom of the boats to make the stern ropes more secure. Thank you, John, several of us have made this adjustment and will now sleep more soundly when the wind blows hard.



Racing started at West Wittering over Easter with the keen competitors braving the cold and the wind. Hopefully more will venture out now that 'summer' is here! We are looking forward to visiting Keyhaven Yacht Club in July for two days of fun pottering and racing. Thanks to the Association for organising this trip. We are hoping for some sun and fair winds. Fingers crossed!

Ann Carnegie / Buoyancy Tester, West Wittering.

Lymington - the joys of pottering in a scow. Jane Corden writes:

It was a sunny but fairly breezy 23rd of May when seven Scows from the RLymYC Scow Division set off in the direction of Keyhaven. After discussions on the slipway reefs were put in and plans made to sail through Crooked Lake and Oxey, hug the coast to keep out of the flooding tide and rendezvous with the Keyhaven fleet in the vicinity of Hawker's Lake. Three support ribs, headed by Graham Neal and Melanie Ganley, accompanied the sailing group. The wind and sea proved kind, good speed was made



and we soon spied the lead Keyhaven Scow which was to be our guide. Eagle eyed Graham also spotted a seal which decided to make a quick exit. Once inside the shelter of the spit the combined fleet headed off down Mount Lake giving their support boats the slip as the depth decreased. It had been decided that there was

sufficient water for the Scows alone to make their way along the Northwest Passage so the support boats proceeded to the Harbour to moor up confident that the sailors could always get out and wade home through the mud. The sailors and support crew were joined by KYC members, and members of the division who had cycled or driven to join us. All enjoyed an excellent lunch of soup and sandwiches sat in the sun, before rejoining their preferred mode of transport for the return trip. A fast downwind leg back through Hawker's and Oxey saw the fleet return swiftly to Lymington without incident, where they were met by the welcome sight of 'trolley dollies' John Evans and Allan Hill. Boats were recovered and crews mustered on the balcony for a well-earned drink and debrief in the sun. Thanks must go to Graham for planning and KYC for their hospitality, and we look forward to a return visit from Keyhaven in a few weeks' time.



Jane Corden/ Scow Division Secretary, Royal Lymington Yacht Club.

REMINDER: ENTRIES FOR TRAIL SAIL AND TELL TALE TROPHIES

Calling all those with a Scow tale to tell. Entries are invited for 2024.

Once more, the LRSCA would like members to enter their stories of life aboard a Lymington River Scow, by entering either the Tell Tale or Trail Sail competitions. Please let us read of your exploits on board your Scow, either locally – for the Tell Tale Trophy – or of more far flung adventures encountered after (or while) trailering your boat elsewhere. Entries will be considered by the Committee and the winners will be announced at the AGM.

Bring forth your pens and take up your paper. Encourage the creative within you and share with us your stories of Scowing derring-do. All Tales to be sent to the LRSCA by the end of August 2024.

If you have taken your Scow away to sail elsewhere, please write about your experiences for the **Trail Sail Trophy**. If you simply have a great story to tell about life with your Scow, please tell the tale and enter the **Tell Tale Trophy**. This year's winners will be announced at the next AGM. Please send your entries, stipulating the relevant Trophy, to Jose Nieves at LRSCA.sec@gmail.com.

YARMOUTH SCOW CENTENARY CELEBRATION.



Yarmouth Sailing Club, IOW

Presents



SCOW 100

A Celebration of the first Yarmouth Scow being
built in 1924.

Date: Sunday July 21st 2024 @ YSC

- 10.45 - Welcome coffee/biscuits - scow socialising.
- 12.15 - Sail pass/parade (no racing) and salute.
- 13.15 - 'American style luncheon'.
- 14.15 - Exhibition and short talk - 100 year history of the Yarmouth Scow fleet.
- 15.30 - Followed by tea & celebratory cake.

We would love to see scow sailors from other clubs and if possible, their scows, wooden or GRP. (Room for storage).

Contact Pete Giles. Muttbuzzley3@outlook.com

Fri June 14th; sail to Hurst (@0730) to meet members of the two sailing clubs for a packed breakfast on the beach; sail up to RLYC for a soup/sandwich luncheon (mooring at RLYC pontoons), arriving 1115-1145. Depart back to Yarmouth about 1330-1345).

Lymington and other Scow sailors welcome to join us under their own steam/safety cover).

Thurs June 27th; sail to Newtown. Leave Yarmouth at 1200 to meet up with Newtown/Shalfleet scow sailors for a 'picnic' snack either on the beach or quay. Depart for Yarmouth about 1515 as patrol boats needed for ASC later that day! Again, feel free to join us with your own PB cover.

Finally, the main event - Sun July 21st; we hope the attached poster is self-explanatory; all scows would be welcome.....between us, we can negotiate with Harbour authorities for scows to come through the harbour.

More details and some historic photos on the Yarmouth Sailing Club website <https://www.yarmouthsailingclub.org.uk/>

Peter Giles/Yarmouth Sailing Club. Muttbuzzley3@outlook.com

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

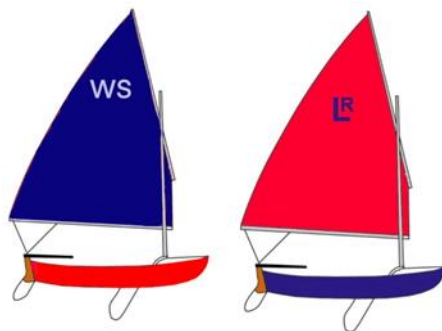
Ex-WJS Scows for sale by the Royal Lymington Yacht Club.

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| <p><i>Seventh Haven 467. Stormy Haven 427. Thanks Haven 484.</i> All with Mark II stainless trolleys. PVC covers. All standard equipment. Refurbishment and buoyancy testing by manufacturer John Claridge. All-inclusive price - £6500 o.n.o.</p> <p>Contact the Club at: training @rlymyc.org.uk</p> | | |

Other Scows for sale by John Claridge include sail numbers 408 (Cassie Strang 07715 177629) and 298. See the website for photographs and full details:

<https://www.johnclaridgeboats.com/S-H-Boats-Trailers>

Do consider submitting news and views for our next Newsletter in mid-Summer!



Contact us: LRSCA.sec@gmail.com