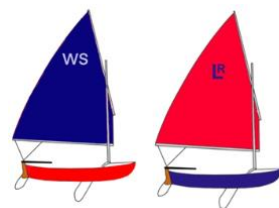




NEWSLETTER OF THE LR SCOW CLASS ASSOCIATION



2025/ ISSUE 1

*HCSC local potter entering NW
passage Keyhaven 2024*

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Although I have only taken over as chairman of our class committee since September, it has been a busy off season planning for 2025.

We have had to revise our website, the original which served us well no longer marries up with modern systems, our grateful thanks to Brendan Nellis who ran the site.

Last year we decided to invest in a system used by many other clubs. It has turned out to be too complex for our needs, and although promised there has been no face-to-face support for its installation.

We therefore took the decision to abandon this system, with its annual charge for non-existent support, and replace it with a simple website for a one-off cost matching our annual charge. This is now being installed with the help of an on-site expert and should be up and running shortly.

We intended to store our technical class information and hope to go paperless on buoyancy certificates (whilst still preserving the test; see elsewhere in this in this newsletter). The website should also keep the class up to date with events and articles.

I am also conscious of our class cousins in Chichester Harbour where there are many active Scows, both pottering and racing. So far geographical factors have prevented our fleets from sailing together as we in the West Solent are able to do. I hope we can find a way to resolve this in the future. Any suggestions would be most welcome and hopefully an effective website will also give us a feeling of togetherness.

I look forward to a busy summer. All three of our clubs are very active with their own racing and pottering and many of us will hopefully combine over the Travellers Trophy and the Championship.

I am most fortunate to have the help of a very effective committee with a variety of talents, with all three of our Western Solent clubs are represented, and I would like to thank them all for their efforts.

Good sailing and see you on the water.

Jay Devonshire

TRAVELLERS TROPHY 2025 – NEW SCORING.

This year the Travellers Trophy will be scored by sailor rather than by boat, allowing Travellers to participate, and perhaps win, without having to move their Scow. KYC(secretary@keyhavenyc.co.uk) and RLYC(sail@rlymyc.org.uk) have Club boats which can be available and Travellers have borrowed BRSC(scows@brsc.org.uk) members' boats in the past – if you would like to borrow a boat just ask and you will be able to participate in this lovely series without any hassle or the need for a road trailer. **First leg at KYC imminent** – Sunday 15th June – racing starts at 12.00 so please get there in plenty of time 10.30 latest. Entry on the day – 2 Club Scows booked out for the day so please contact KYC if you would like to use one. There should be food available post-racing.

NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2025

At the AGM (September 2024), Chris Knox (retiring chair) thanked Allan Hill, Philip Gossage and Jose Nieves for all their work on the committee and the class is very grateful to Chris for his 'calm helmsmanship'.

New members and officers were elected as follows:

Chairman - Jay Devonshire

Vice Chairman – Bill Vance

Hon. Secretary – Jeremy Vines

C'tee Members – Roger Wilson and Nic Freeston

Continuing members and officers are:

Hon. President – The Hon Mary Montagu-Scott

Hon. Treasurer – David Linsell

C'tee Members – Stuart Rowney, Richard Griffiths and Jane Corden.

THE 2025 CHAMPIONSHIPS – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.

As you will know, a lot of work goes into these events both on and off the water and this year we need help with refreshments. No Championships would be complete without the cakes and tea/coffee after sailing and we need some help with that this year. If you are willing to help at KYC on the 6th and/or 7th September please make yourself known to Stuart Rowney(sjrowney@hotmail.co.uk). Many thanks in anticipation.

BUOYANCY TESTING – COMMON SENSE.

Technically, there is a potential liability which could fall upon our buoyancy testers 'in the event of an accident following a failure to follow the correct procedure'.

We, as a class, are confident that we have procedure that is accurately described, and our testers have been informed of the procedure, have the appropriate equipment and know how to carry it out. We do not want to abandon annual buoyancy testing, together with the opportunity for pre-season safety check. For that reason, we are asking all class members to note the following:

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

15th June: Travellers Trophy KYC.

24th August: Travellers Trophy RLYC.

6-7 September 2025: Annual Championships, Keyhaven Yacht Club.

20th September: Travellers Trophy BRSC.

"I accept that Buoyancy Testing by LRSCA Buoyancy Testers provides evidence of LR Scow Buoyancy Tank Integrity at the time of testing. It does not provide a guarantee of the state of a boat's buoyancy tank at any other time."

THE TREASURER WRITES:

Payment of Subscriptions.

Many thanks to the 93% of members who have paid by Standing Order – up from 83% last year and much appreciated.

David Linsell/Honorary Treasurer.

HCSC, POTTERING AND THE DARK ART OF MOTOR-SAILING

I was recently asked to join the LRSCA committee to represent potterers and Hurst Castle Sailing Club [HCSC].

HCSC is based in Keyhaven and as such is situated in a perfect location for pottering in the local lakes and adjacent Solent or for venturing further afield to Yarmouth, Lymington, Newtown, the bays on the Isle of Wight north shore etc.

Pottering is thriving in our club, both in our official programme which has a healthy number of local and longer distance outings but also with 'Ad Hoc' pottering spontaneously arranged by club members.

The longer distance potters are run in conjunction with our neighbour Keyhaven Yacht Club which has resulted in a good rapport between the clubs and has helped with providing adequate support boat cover for these popular outings.

In the last couple of years there has been a significant up take for the use of electric outboard motors in our club's scow fleet by those wishing to undertake longer distance potters outside the cover provided by support boats for the those in the official programme. The use of an appropriate motor correctly fitted can convert a scow into an efficient motor-sailer thus extending the range of any pottering ventures e.g. by allowing exploration of the creeks at Newtown, preventing you from becoming becalmed a long way from port or generally ensuring that you keep up to speed to comply with your passage plan.

The conundrum of finding a suitable electric motor and fitting it so that you can steer with the scow's rudder and tiller while rigged for sailing was solved by Nick Griffin a few years ago and these details appear on John Claridge's website. It is an excellent system that is highly recommended if you want to extend your range of independent pottering.

We are blessed with a fabulously versatile dinghy in a stunning, if challenging, area for pottering adventures. Make the most of it!

Richard Griffiths. April 2025

THE TECHNICAL GROUP.

Over the recent months the Technical Group, with assistance from the Class Measurer, has entered the measurement details of some 350 Scows built onto an Excel spread sheet. With this data it has submitted to the LRSCA Committee a paper outlining how the data should be managed with the underlying principle that it should be freely available to members.

One result is that details of the annual buoyancy tests are being entered when a boat passes the test. This means that, in future, certificates will not be required at the championships as up-to-date information will be available from the data base.

John Evans for the Technical Group.

May 2025



En route to Yarmouth KYC/HCSC joint potter 2025



Ad hoc potter Newtown 2019

ENTRIES FOR TRAIL SAIL AND TELL-TALE TROPHIES ALWAYS WELCOME!

DO CONSIDER SUBMITTING NEWS AND VIEWS FOR OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

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

Both with Mark II stainless trolleys. PVC covers. All standard equipment. Refurbishment and buoyancy testing by manufacturer John Claridge. View on Appollo Duck advert 789756. All-inclusive price - £4750. Contact the Club at: training @rlymyc.org.uk

Other new and refurbished Scows on sale through our builder – contact John Claridge and visit his website for full details. <https://www.johnclaridgeboats.com/>

Contact us: LRSCA.sec@gmail.com