



Lymington River Scow Class association

Minutes of the AGM held at 1830 on Sat 13th September 2025 at RLymYC

1. Apologies were received from Tim Matcham, Clare Bender, Wendy Stickley, Jenny & Bill Helfrecht, Chis Cecil-Wright, Nigel Lang, Amanda Otway, Ann Carnegie, Chris Knox, Stuart Rowney, Jane Corden, David Linsell (DL), Michael Hampton, Bridget Wright, Meryl Deane, Laurie Draper, Nick and Sandy Walford, and the Claridge family.
Bridget Wright wrote....'Apologies from me and other sailors of Lymington River Scows in West Wittering who are not attending the AGM. I will be in warmer climes. We all love our LRSs! We have one retiree this year, well into his 80s, and his boat, Pootle, has found a happy home within the Club.'
2. Present were Allan Hill, Ros and Mike Urwin, Mac Hall, William Newton, Ken Kershaw, Robin Taunt, Jose and Robert Nieves, John Evans, Gillian and Jay Devonshire(JD), Jenny and Roger Wilson(RW), Roger Garlick, Max and Jeremy Vines (JV), Angus Raby, Nick Griffin, Jane and Chris Willard, John and Chris Chaundy, Sue and Peter Saxton, Sebastian Chamberlain, Mary Montagu-Scott (MMS), Red Johnson, Carolyn Howden, Rob Warne, Tim Mack and ANother (signature indecipherable)
3. All documents (i.e. the Agenda, 2024 AGM minutes, and the Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and Technical reports) had been distributed on-line.
4. The 2024 AGM minutes were approved. There were no matters arising.
5. The Chairman spoke...'Following my earlier published report, I will just update you on the recent event - the Championships - which have actually been very well written up in Jeremy's report that is now on the website. But to be brief... they were held last weekend, the 6th/7th of September in particularly windy SE conditions, so there was no shelter from Hurst Spit. Keyhaven YC did very well to stage the event in the conditions that were experienced on Saturday. The winner of the single-handed division, Robbie Claridge, said afterwards that if you could say sail in those conditions you could sail in anything! The runner up in the single-handed was his sister Maria and John Chaundy made a superb effort to finish 3rd and win the masters for not the first time. The racing was closer in the double handed with Catherine Maguire and Carl Thorne (cousins?) triumphing over the father and daughter team of Chris and Grace Cecil Wright. Tom Hebbert, who with his heavier Saturday crew showed us how to fly a spinnaker in strong winds, switched to his daughter Ava on Sunday and they managed a 3rd overall. The double handed masters going to our redoubtable duo Jeremy and Max Vines. It typified the Scow class that all the top slots went to family teams. Although most of the competitors were from Keyhaven, Lymington was well represented and from Beaulieu came Red Johnson and his daughter Cleo who managed 5th overall. We hope to see more entries from Beaulieu next year. I nearly forgot our President and Beaulieu sailor Mary Montagu-Scott who sailed on Sunday with Stuart Rowney (a clutch of Commodores?). Mary then presented the prizes. Finally on the championship theme, an excellent lunch combined with tea was provided by the Class, with huge thanks to all those who contributed. Our thanks go to the KeyhavenYC committee and staff who organised and

made us so welcome and to Cy Grisely and his team afloat who ran the event most efficiently. Another update for the class is the opening of our new website this month. Roger Wilson has steered this initiative with site designer Richard Mills. As you may recall we struggled with trialling a proprietary system last year; I believe this custom designed site should prove to be a better and more cost effective solution for our purposes. I think those who have visited the new website will agree that Roger and Richard have done a great job, and hopefully all that we need is available. Running the website will now be much easier as it does not require coding like the old one. Do visit it, there are some great photos and videos of the Championship, together with all the class information. I'd like to record our gratitude to Brendan Nellis for his past efforts in running the old site and also to Allan Hill who has been very much involved in the transition. Of course material to post on the site will be most welcome. It remains for me to thank our retiring committee members Richard Griffiths representing Hurst Castle, (we hope to have a candidate for the committee from them soon.) Our long serving committee member and treasurer David Linsell is departing the committee with our sincere thanks for his dedication and hard work. He leaves the accounts in a very organised state for whoever will take over. We have a small gift for Richard and another one for David, to be presented later. David remains with us ex committee, as he has volunteered to take on the role of Webmaster. Apart from the championships the other event run by the Association is the Travellers Trophy. The final race for this event takes place next Saturday at Beaulieu. We have 5 participants; it would be good to have more next year. Finally, I would like to thank Jeremy and my fellow committee members, and the 3 wise men of the Technical Group. If you see Mike Urwin and the 2 Johns - Evans and Doerr in a huddle over coffee in the bar, they are not gossiping but cogitating on some issue like load cells! Also our Class Measurer, William Newton. All put in efforts without which we could not run this great class whether racing or, as many prefer, pottering.

6. In the absence of DL, RW spoke to the Treasurer's report. He said our reserves at £11.5K are very healthy. We need to set aside circa £6000 of this for renewing the Class-owned Scow moulds at some stage. He complimented DL for the sophisticated accounting system he has set up.
7. The Technical trio John Evans, Mike Urwin and John Doerr, and William Newton (Class Measurer) were thanked for their efforts over the year, and in particular for the boat database which is now on-line.
8. Elections: Red Johnson from Beaulieu to the Committee proposed by JV, seconded by JD; RW to Treasurer proposed by Sebastian Chamberlain, seconded by Allan Hill; Roger Garlick to continue as independent examiner of accounts proposed by Mike Urwin, seconded by John Evans. All elected nem con.
9. Website: The new website is up and running thanks to RW, and paid help from Richard Mills. DL has offered to be webmaster, and this offer was gratefully accepted. The old website has been extinguished, but we are very grateful to Brendan Nellis for his sterling efforts over several years to maintain it.
10. Trophies: The 'Trail Sail' needs inclusion in the Handbook. Someone who knows the background needs to write about it. It may have been awarded in 2024 in error to Jose Nieves. Her contribution may have been more appropriate to the 'Tell Tale', and she was presented with this (there being no 2025 entries). The 'Traveller's' has no trophy at the moment.
11. Handbook: Not published in 2025. Vice-Chair Bill Vance has promised it will be in 2026. Best in mid-March after subs have come in and the actual 2026 membership is established. There was support for bringing back the boat list.

12. AOB: Mike Urwin spoke about the 2026 Nationals at RLymYC scheduled for 19/20 Sept. He wants a turnout of up to 60 boats and to encourage visitors by offering free accommodation and loan boats. Courses to be windward/leeward or trapezoidal with minimal reaching legs. The Double handed Masters Trophy will be for helms 70 years plus with crews 55 years plus to encourage more participation. The Club has been booked for the AGM and social on Sat 19th, thus sharing the date with the championship.
13. Class President MMS closed the meeting with a thank you to the Committee.

JV 14/09/2025