

NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2012



Medina Mariners' Association
The Harbour Office, Folly Lane
Whippingham, IW, PO32 6NB

Registered Charity – No. 282493

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LAYING UP SUPPER

As indicated in the Summer newsletter, we have decided to hold two separate dining functions rather than just a single annual dinner. We therefore plan to have a laying up style supper in November and move to a more formal annual dinner, which we plan to hold in February. The laying up supper will be held on Friday 16th November at the Folly Inn. We can order and pay on the night but we are asking for a deposit as numbers are limited. Please find a form enclosed for completion and return to Karen Ireland by the indicated date, with your deposit. We have no firm plans yet for a venue for the annual dinner and any suggestions would be much appreciated. We also think some form of entertainment on the evening might be a good idea, so if anyone has any suggestions on this or a possible venue, please contact Karen on 5XXXX6 or by email at karen.ireland@xxxxxxxx.net.

EVENTS REPORT

The dreadful weather during the main part of our so-called summer has meant a severe restriction in activity. Our hosting of the Marchwood Yacht Club barbeque, planned for Saturday 7th July, was a victim of the elements. Cruises have also been affected, one finally being kindly arranged by Ray Foster at short notice to, funnily enough, Marchwood YC for the weekend of 21st July. Six boats attended with the weather finally cheering up with a bit of sunshine and good winds for the sailing boats. A pontoon party preceded an evening meal in the yacht club. Highlight of Sunday morning was watching Cunard's magnificent Queen Victoria leave her berth and turn opposite the yacht club before everyone left for the return journey. A second cruise was organised by Ray for the August bank holiday weekend, to Wicormarine. Not surprisingly, the weather intervened once more and it was cancelled. *For the future, if any member would like to be notified of planned cruises who isn't already on the circulation list, please let Terry Webb know on 07850 619205.* Most recently, on Sunday 16th September, Newport Rowing Club hosted a very pleasant lunchtime barbeque at their lovely riverside premises to which our members were invited. There was a good turnout with some taking advantage of the tide to arrive by dinghy. The weather just about behaved itself!

As well as the Laying Up Supper, please make a note in your diaries for:

- *MCC Boat Jumble at Island Harbour Marina on Sunday 14th October*
- *MCC Quiz Night at Cowes Corinthian YC on Saturday 10th November.*

With regard to the **boat jumble**, we hope to have an MMA pitch to get rid of a bit of surplus gear we have accumulated over the years. If any member would also like to donate any items to help raise a few extra funds for the MMA, all to be spent on good causes related to the river, please also contact Terry Webb.

DINGHY RACING

The Wednesday evening sailing has also been disrupted by the weather this year. It has also seemed somewhat different as a result of the absence after many years of Dan Lyons acting as Race Officer. In addition, it has not always been possible to have the MMA dory in attendance, in which case it has just been treated as a social sail – with a competitive edge of course!

SUPPORT FOR THE RIVER

We reported in the Spring newsletter that your Committee had considered how the Association can most effectively apply its funds to meet its charitable objectives as an alternative to directly providing its own facilities. Organisations with a presence on the river were therefore approached to bid for funds to be applied in line with our Constitution. As a result, funds have been made available to Newport Rowing Club, 2nd Cowes Sea Scouts and Cowes Sailability, to be used to acquire safety and other equipment to encourage more participation in water-based activities. All three organisations have expressed their gratitude for this support. It is hoped to repeat this exercise next year and any views from members about this will be welcomed.

FOLLY LANE

Hopefully members will be appreciative of the recent resurfacing of Folly Lane. The opportunity is taken, however, to correct the statement in the Summer Newsletter that the contractors were to be employed by the Isle of Wight Council. In fact, the owners of Medina Park employed them. Thanks must go in particular to the Medina Park Residents Association who put in a lot of hard effort to get this work done, and we were pleased to make a financial contribution, albeit small, to the cost of the works. The MPRA have also asked us to remind our members to drive CAREFULLY along the Lane, especially near to the entrances to Medina Park.

NEWPORT HARBOUR

You may be aware that a judicial review of the Isle of Wight Council's decision to redefine what constitutes the Harbour Estate is being sought. The Association has been asked to contribute to the cost of this but your Committee believes this is an inappropriate use of Association funds and also at odds with our Constitution. If any member would like to contribute on an individual basis, however, please contact Terry Webb. In the meantime, the Council is in the process of drawing up proposals for the future management of the Harbour. The intention was for these to be considered by the Cabinet at its August meeting but this has been put back for the moment. The Association has been consulted however and we re-iterated our view that these arrangements should provide for formal stakeholder input into the management of the Harbour.

AND COWES HARBOUR NEWS

The consultation process on the proposed Cowes Harbour Revision Order 2012 is nearly concluded, with the RYA now having reached agreement with the Harbour Commissioners. This will allow the Marine Management Organisation to issue the HRO, which in turn will allow the issuing of General Directions. These are planned to provide for, amongst other matters, changes next season to speed limits within the Harbour and right of way for the chain ferry, as previously reported. There will, however, be an opportunity for further consultation before any changes are implemented. With regard to the Outer Harbour Project, the Harbour Commission is anxious to proceed with the construction of the new breakwater at least. To help secure government funding for the project, a demonstration of local support for the scheme is being sought. To do this, you can send an email to "hm.chc@cowes.co.uk" with the word "Breakwater" in the subject field.

EAST COWES SC CENTENARY

East Cowes SC celebrates its centenary this year and to mark this the Club has published a new book on its history. It is in full colour with 442 pages and includes images, stories, events and records of the club, its members and East Cowes over 100 years since 1912. Formed by local sailors in the Victoria Tavern in East Cowes the Club has experienced highs and lows. Many famous people were involved with or became members including Uffa Fox, Betty Joe Carstairs, Lord Gort and Frank Beken. Patrons include members of the British and Spanish royal families. The Club was the

premier sailing club in the Solent for many years and led one design racing for several classes including International 14s, International Stars, Flying Fifteens and X one designs. The Club also developed its own one designs with the 12, 14 and 18ft ECSC sharpies. For more information or to obtain copies of the book please contact the author Graham Tracey. His email address is: grahamtracey@xxxxxxx.co.uk. It shouldn't be forgotten also that Cowes Corinthian YC is celebrating its diamond jubilee this year. We send our congratulations to both Clubs.

SAD NEWS

We have recently heard of the sad passing of Madge Jewell, one of the original founding members of the Association. We send our commiserations to her family.

NEWS FROM MEMBERS?

In days past when we produced a quarterly magazine, we had regular contributions from members on their boating exploits or on providing various tips, tricks of the trade and so on. This is something we would like to reinstate if possible so if you have some literary flair and would like to contribute to future newsletters, do forward your contribution to "honorarysecretary@medinamariners.org" or send it the harbour office (address shown in the header). Short but sweet would be preferred although we can always extend the newsletter to suit.

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