



Ilfracombe Yacht Club

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*Affiliated to the Royal Yachting Association
And a Member of The Bristol Channel Yachting Conference.*
CASC REGISTERED & SPONSORED BY NORTH DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

JULY 2009

FROM THE COMMODORE

Firstly my apologies for the lack of communication last month, I experienced a host of computer problems coincident with a change in broadband provider. All seems well now, I have a whole lot of new kit that seems very different to the old stuff and the big challenge will be to see if I can send this off to Mike in time for the next newsletter.

In May we had a visit from Sebastian representing Guy Cotton who have been regular supporters of the Lundy Race. He brought with him the excellent news that Steve White has agreed to come to Ilfracombe for the race this year. Steve completed the Vendee Globe single handed round the world yacht race earlier this year in his yacht 'Toe in the Water' Coming eighth, he captured the imagination of French enthusiasts because he achieved this with very little sponsorship from the big players. Steve will be in the club for the Skippers Briefing on Friday 7th August and will be around for the start of the race, before dashing off Saturday morning for the start of the Fastnet race on Sunday! I am sure he will have a few good yarns to tell and we look forward to welcoming him to the Club. The summer has made a promising start and I think we can look forward to some good sailing and socialising in the coming months.

Chris Marman

POWER BOATS WEEKEND

The Power boats will be back on the 18-19 July and again we will be hosting them for the weekend. We will need some volunteers for help during the weekend, so if you can spare an hour or so please get in touch with Mike Elmer or Chris Marman.

SOCIAL SIDE

Wed 24th is a mid – summer quiz, this time set by Ann Clemence. Usual rules, teams of 4 and cash prizes. Start 20:00

Sat Jun 27th. Armed Forces Day with various harbour side activities.

Sun Jun 28th Sponsored Gig Row to Lynmouth starting at 08:30, Followed by BBW at the club (weather permitting) from 17:00. Everybody welcome.

Wed July 1st. There will be a meeting at the club from 20:00 with a presentation from "Lundy Marathon Swim Committee". The swim from Lundy to Woolacombe will be on 16th August with sponsorship money going to Children's Hospice – S. West. Please come along and hear more about this worthwhile project.

The Power Boats are back with thrills & spills over the weekend 18/19 July. We will need some help in the evening for the BBQ & party so please speak to Max or Mike and leave your names on the notice board. There will be a BBQ from 19:00 – 21:00, again all are welcome.

Sat 1st August is the BT Challenge from 13:00-18:00. a social sail followed by a buffet.

Sat 8th August is the Around Lundy race. If there is anybody not involved with the race itself all help would be appreciated during the day to run the shore duties. Again please leave your name with max or sign up on the notice board.

See you soon,

Bobby

ILFRACOMBE RNLI SEA SAFETY TEAM

FLARES

Despite the advances with VHF Radio, GPS and mobile phones, flares are still an essential part of your safety equipment. For the typical coastal and off shore journeys undertaken by local yachtsmen, you should carry a full flare kit including rockets, hand held flares and smoke flares. They may be used to attract attention, or to pinpoint your position when rescue services are coming to your aid. Flares are sold in packs which are designed to meet your particular needs.

Above all, it's important you and your crew know how to fire them safely. Fortunately, most of us have never had to fire a flare in a distress situation. Firing mechanisms do vary, so you need to read the instructions carefully. You don't want to be doing this in the dark by fading torch light; in a rough sea.....it's best to be prepared!

A lot of skippers keep some of their flares immediately inside the companionway /cabin for rapid use. It's a good idea to keep the rest of the pack in a readily accessible, watertight, screw-top container.

TOP TIP: Keep a torch and a pair of gloves in your flare container.

For any specific advice about the suitability of different types of flares, their visible range, burn time, disposal etc your local Sea Safety contacts will be pleased to discuss this or any other sea safety matters with you – John Clemence and Mark Rumson.

Good sailing!

ROUND LUNDY RACE

Saturday 8th August.

Can you help out on the day of the race?

This year's *Round Lundy event* is now little more than a month away!

As you know, this is a prestigious and important event for the Club, and it relies on a lot of "behind the scenes work" to make sure that everything runs smoothly on the day. We're expecting up to 75 yachts to sail across the line! **Volunteer helpers are needed – both old and new: *without you, the event can't go ahead!***

Helpers fall into two main categories.

Firstly, we need a team to prepare the Clubhouse for the evening presentation, and to help out with the BBQ on the Saturday evening when the crews return from the race. This work is coordinated by our Social Secretary Bobby Davies. Please see Bobby with offers of help, or leave a message and your contact number with Maxine behind the bar.

Secondly, we need a team of volunteers to man the *Race Control Station* sited on Lantern Hill. There are lots of jobs to do such as spotting yachts, timekeeping, answering the mobile phone, monitoring the VHF Radio, etc etc. This aspect of the race is overseen by Ken Old as *Officer of the Day*. A rota is being posted on the Club notice board with descriptions of all the jobs. Please volunteer to fill a slot if you can. We need to staff Race Control for the full duration of racing – that's over 12 hours in total!

Now in its 5th Year, the race is already established as one of the best events in the Bristol Channel, and I'm sure we'll be able to put on another event of which all of us at *Ilfracombe Yacht Club* can all be proud.

Thanks in anticipation for all your offers of help.

Mark Rumson – on behalf of the Lundy Race Committee.

PILOT GIG CLUB

For information on the Gig Club activities check out their site:

www.ilfracombepilotgigclub.org

LUNDY ISLAND

Just a reminder that we have an arrangement with the Island, that by the club paying an annual fee, members are exempt from paying landing fees onto the island. We will be monitoring the use of this exemption to decide whether to continue the payments next year. Use it or lose it! www.ilfracombepilotgigclub.org

FROM THE DIARY

JULY

Tues 5.....Copperas Race 5 18:15
Wed 8..... Lundy Meeting 20:00
Wed 15.....Committee meeting 20:00
W/E 18-19.....Power Boat festival
Wed 22.....Ladies race 18:00
Wed 29.....Lundy Meeting 20:00

AUGUST

Sat 1.....BT challenge social sail 10:00
Sun 2.....Birdman on the Pier
Tue 4.....Lundy meeting 20:00
Wed 5Youth Race 18:00
Thu 6.....copperas Race 6 18:30
Sat 8..... Lundy Race
Wed 12.....Emergency services Rescue day
Sun 16..... Lundy Swim
Mon 17..... IYC / RNLI yacht race
Tue 18....Lundy de-briefing meeting 20:00
Wed 19.....committee meeting 20:00
Sat 22.....Clovelly Rum race 10:00
Sat 29.....Gig Regatta