



Ilfracombe Yacht Club

THE QUAY • ILFRACOMBE • DEVON • EX34 9EQ TEL: 01271 863969

Affiliated to the Royal Yachting Association

A Member of The Bristol Channel Yachting Conference

CASC REGISTERED & SPONSORED BY NORTH DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2008

FROM THE COMMODORE

We had the first St Austell Race on Monday, so Summer must be on the way. Unfortunately the wind dropped to nothing for the first time since Sinbad was a sailor. Nevertheless, Peter T and Haze valiantly drifted in convoy until thirst drove them back to the Club.

Earlier in the month the Coast Guard paid us a visit and gave a short talk on safety but also took away all of our pyrotechnics that had passed their sell-by date. (We won't delve into the ownership of the parachute flare dated 1967). Ian did point out that the arrangement whereby the Coast Guard dispose of out-dated flares will terminate at the end of this year. Negotiations are underway but it is unlikely that any new arrangement will be as user-friendly as the current one, so if you have any antique pyros best get them to the Coast Guard before next January.

We have had a number of events and functions in the past month but attendance at some of them has been disappointing. Please let us know your feelings on Club functions and do try and come along some of them. Thanks to Mike Old for yet another excellent quiz night and to Tony and Mo Reeves for Dino and Pasta.

My thanks to those of you who came along to the open meeting (again it would have been nice to see a few more people there), discussion was lively and a number of good ideas were put forward for consideration by the committee.

With the improving weather we can look forward to good sailing and a lively social scene.

Chris Marman

SOCIAL SIDE

How nice the harbour looks with all the boats back in their right places! A great view can be had from the club bar. Launching day went with its usual precision and the party was fairly well attended.

Last month's events had highlights and lows, but thanks to all who helped out; Kerry Sturgess for the ladies night, Mike Old for another great quiz and the Coastguards for their timely reminders on the use of flares and putting to sea in general.

I look forward to seeing you next month.

APRIL

Sat 26th The visit to Falmouth Maritime Museum has had to be cancelled, but we hope to organise it later in the year.
In place of the trip we are having a Western Night at 21:00.
Val and Martyn Bell are hosting this and cooking up a "cowboy supper".
A great chance to dress up western style.

MAY

Sat 10th Quiz night - 20:00
Always a fun night – usual quiz prizes.

Sat 17th Curry & Pint night – 20:00
Come along and have a curry and a drink for £5 per person.
If you fancy a game of skittles or darts after your curry it can be arranged.

Sun 25th Afternoon Barbeque

LADIES SKITTLES

I've always said skittles is a funny old game – one week you're a star, the next you're rubbish! Well, this season *Sailors Girls*, the IYC ladies team, pulled out all the stops and finished the season in a three way tie for the top spot of the 3rd division. Unfortunately we lost out to two superior teams and became the runners up. This means we stay in the 3rd Division but it gave us a chance to play for the runners-up "Molly Yates" trophy.

Much to our surprise we defeated a 1st Division team in the first round. The final was against a 4th Division team and we made it. We have won a trophy at last!

Thank you team – I'm proud of you.

The Team

Team Captain: Bobby Davies

Vice Captain: Maureen Lowe

Sue Bassett, Jo Turk, Kay Loveland, Christine Ouldcott,
Sharon Maslen, Mary Blake, Ann Jenkins, Diana Boulton.



Bobby

RYA TRAINING

Sea Survival – Theory & Practical.

WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO BE IN A LIFE RAFT.

The penultimate in sea safety tuition took place recently when members of the yacht club took to a life raft in their local swimming pool. The latest in a string of sea safety courses organised by the club proved to be the most enjoyable yet, and a valuable experience in the application of surviving at sea. And, like the previous popular courses, the attendance was filled by a combination of both members and non members and from varying boating backgrounds.

The instruction resulted in a RYA certificate acceptable for leisure craft sailing and recognised by the MCA as a statutory requirement for commercial fishing trawlers.

The instructor, south coast based Kevin Riley MBE, is a well known and respected expert in survival on both the sea and land, being an ex-paratrooper, a pilot and a regular lifeboat safety and Station Operations Manager. He stated ***“All sailors should know what to do in an emergency, and if you understand the principles taught in sea survival it will help you in the dreaded emergency. Being thrown into a distress situation is not the time to start thinking and planning as things can happen very fast. Preparation and planning is the key to survival”***

Colin Savage, also a qualified RYA instructor and no stranger to the club, was also at hand helping to make the day very informative and highlighting the importance of being aware of what to do in an emergency situation, whether in a life raft or in the sea, showing the realisation of just how difficult things could be in the unfortunate event of a real life drama. The cold, fear, extreme condition and darkness would all add to making survival much more difficult for the unprepared. The correct way to conserve energy and body heat, keep up morale, and prolong life for as long as possible were explained in detail as well as procedures for getting help and attracting attention from rescue operations. The familiarisation with the huge variety of equipment demonstrated was of great benefit by way of reassurance in the event of it ever being needed to be used. It was also highlighted how important it is to carry the correct safety equipment and check, maintain and keep it serviceable. Faulty equipment can cost lives.



Synchronised floating!



Tony Reeves being propelled by Mark Silvester and John Barbeary towards David Barbeary, Bert and Jane Gear

I am still laughing to myself when I remember what it felt like to be propelled into the life raft. It was great fun as well as a valuable experience. Being a non swimmer, I am really pleased that I took the course. Having the practice in the controlled conditions of the pool coupled with the invaluable advice gained from the theory part of the day, was an essential experience.

Jane Gear

WEB SITE

The Club web site is up and running and regularly updated.

There is a page for members to sell boat related bits (called 'QuayBay') for a minimum 10% donation to club funds.

Why not give it a visit and see what else is there. <http://www.IlfracombeYC.org.uk>

DIARY

APRIL	
Sat 26 th	Western Evening 21:00
MAY	
Fri 2 nd – Mon 5 th	Cruise to Cardiff & Bristol 06:00
Tue 6 th	Copperas Race heat 1 18:15
Sat 10 th	Quiz Night 20:00
Sat 17 th	Curry & Pint night 20:00
Tue 20 th	Copperas Race heat 2 18:00
Wed 21 st	St Austell Race heat 2 18:30
Sat 24 th – Mon 26 th	Lundy Clovelly Triangle Cruise 10:00
Sun 25 th	BBQ in the afternoon
Sat 31 st	Bilbeck Race 13:45