

BEAR ESSENTIALS

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THE NEWSLETTER OF CARDIFF BAY YACHT CLUB 51.26.9 N 03.10.4 W



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CBYC CRUISER SECTION November programme...

Engine maintenance / winterising - Phil Day 14 November. Bucket quiz - John Jefferies 21 November. First aid for cruising 28 November. Sailing adventure to France - Mike Walsh.

FOR SALE Foxterrier, equipped for cruising, all in good condition, 22ft fast and comfortable cruiser, lifting keel, double axle trailer, new Mariner outboard. £5000 John Taylor 029 2089 0885.

INTERNATIONAL 2.4 Metre KEELBOATS AT CARDIFF BAY.

Through the pages of 'Bear Essentials' may we thank all your members, management and staff for accommodating the 2.4m's over the weekend of 12/13th October. We really did have a super Regatta even though we were sorely tested by the elements on the Sunday. As ever, Cardiff facilities were great. Safety cover and race management in the hands of Colin Farr were seamlessly efficient. All in all, a good event to end the 2002 season which will long be remembered and a credit to CBYC for genuine helpfulness and friendliness. Glyn Coupland.

COMMUNICATIONS WITHIN CBYC.

As a newer member of our Club - and an even more recent member of Council - I have been bothered about the low level of communications that go out to all members of CBYC. There are quite a number of distinct groups within the Club, each enjoying some level of communication within itself, covering the particular interests of that specific activity: e.g. cruiser racing; dinghies; angling etc etc. But where members are looking to spread their interests across several groups, then there is no specific "central" system of communication that is widely available and which is consistently used by all of the sections. With the growth of our membership, it seemed to be something that should be looked at to see whether the Club was meeting the needs of all our members in sustaining a broadly based involvement in all of the Club's activities. With the agreement of the Flag Officers and Council, a working group has been set up to review the present situation and to consider what, if anything should change. I undertook to be the "lead" member and to prepare a report for consideration by Council at their December meeting. If changes are needed, then they would inevitably take some time to implement after December, so that is probably only the start of the exercise rather than the end of the review. One of the ideas that was "on the table" right at the start of the review was that the Club really needs a "Welcome Pack" to hand to new members on their election to introduce them to the very wide base of activities that we support, to provide contact addresses/names for each activity, and to outline what our Club stands for. The skills of the new members are then more likely to be offered to the Club, and the new members might also feel that we really want them amongst us.

We also live in the electronic age - the Club's web site has two enthusiastic and skilled "webmasters" who are anxious to develop it as our "shop window" - but we make virtually no use of this medium to tell our members what events and activities are going on. Perhaps we should? I would like to hear from members with their thoughts and ideas - do they feel they are well served by the present system? Would they be happy to have emailed information about the gamut of what we have to offer month to month? How about "fixed" programmes of paper information, to include "Bear Essentials" at say roughly quarterly intervals? Would a broadly based approach, covering all the wide range of groups active amongst our members, be of use/interest? It's perhaps indicative of the problem that getting wide distribution of this note is itself very difficult - it will most certainly not reach all of the membership. I'm available on email at icandcarian@aol.com or the telephone on 029 20 512074 or by post at :- 9 Hawthorn Close; Dinas Powis; Vale of Glamorgan CF64 4TD Your input now would be very helpful. Jeff Owen

FLYING FIFTEENS What a slow start to the Autumn Series.

The last three Sunday races have been cancelled due to other events or high winds. Hopefully we'll have some better weather into November. Thankfully the fifteens in the compound survived relatively intact in the high winds of Sunday 27th October. However it was a good reminder to ensure that boats and covers are tied down securely over the coming months and if possible jibs should be removed rather than furled. Thanks to all the fleet members who attended the club on the Sunday and checked all the boats as well as their own. Off the water the dates for next years Classic Regatta have been agreed as 28th and 29th June 2003. Make sure you put this in your diary. Dates for other events will be posted as soon as they become available.

CARDIFF BAY CHANNEL FLEETS Present - IRC and Sportsboat Racing THE FR0STBITE 2002 SERIES 6 October to 15 December

November

Sat 09 10.00 09.00
Sun 10 10.30 09.30
Sat 16 16.55 13.30
Sun 17 17.40 14.00
Sun 24 09.20 14.00 Bay

December

Sun 01 16.40 13.00
Sun 08 09.40 14.00 Bay
Sat 14 15.15 12.00
Sun 15 16.05 13.00

Fri 20 at 20.00 Xmas social & prizes

60% of completed races to count. Starts will be PYC line or Bay. Race Officer: Lt. Col. Syd Thomas 01656 661180 Race Fees - £25.00. Cheque payable to 'Cardiff Bay Channel Fleets' sent to:- Lt. Col. S Thomas 4 Hawthorn Drive, Coychurch, Bridgend. CF35 SER.

EDITORIAL Editor - Tony Davies 16 St. Winifred's Close, Dinas Powis, Vale of Glamorgan, CF64 4TT - 029 2051 5376, Fax 029 2049 2340. Mobile 07816 337904 E-Mail enq@natures-table.co.uk. Any views expressed are those of the editor, contributor or correspondent and not necessarily those of the Cardiff Bay Yacht Club. Information contained in this newsletter is not to be used for navigation purposes, always use Admiralty publications. The publication of any article or advertisement does not imply that they are endorsed or recommended by the Cardiff Bay Yacht Club management. Club contacts:- Fees - Helen Chubb - 029 2066 6627. Membership - Les Davies - 029 2076 2500. Moorings, pontoons, yard, haul-out - Barrie Metcalf - 029 2066 6627. Sailing Secretary - Jeremy Garside - 01446 775202. Cruisers - Les Davies - 029 2076 2500, Dinghies - Jeremy Garside - 01446 775202. Angling - Bryan Morgan - 029 2021 7910. Catering - Sue Jones - 029 2061 8043 or Mob. 07779 315609. Bar - 029 2022 6575. Social Committee - Dave Penning - 029 2061 7910.

Why not visit the NEW Club web site at www.cbyc.co.uk

January 11 2003 Dinghy Section Annual Dinner

For further Information Contact Beth Pocock on 029 2089 0951

Angling Section. Unfortunately, due to the very bad weather forecast from both the Met Office and the Coastguard, we were forced to cancel the Open Cod Competition, on 20th Oct. Gales, Force 6 –8, increasing to Severe Gale Force 9, were forecast. We had 74 boats waiting to go out, with 263 anglers on board and you can well imagine, there were a lot of disappointed faces in the clubhouse at 0600 hrs that morning. But, safety is of paramount importance and it would have been foolish to continue in that stormy weather. During the evening, we therefore had to distribute the prizes by way of a Lottery, based on the numbers given to all that registered for the competition. Prior to this, our Club Commodore, Nick Sawyer, presented a cheque for £ to Geoff Rich, a Trustee of The NOAH's ARK Appeal, Children's Hospital for Wales and our Vice Commodore John Jefferies, presented another £500 cheque to Dominic Jenkins, The Chief Executive of Ty Hafan, The Children's Hospice in Wales. Many thanks to all who supported these worthy causes. The Inter-Club Cod Competition with Rumney River Club went off quite well. The winning fish, Cod 10lbs 12.5ozs, was caught by Clive Jones, our Weighmaster. 2nd was Carolyn Chisnall, Cod 8lbs 14ozs, and 3rd was Owain Lacey of RRC, Cod 7lbs 14ozs. Our next events are: - Wed 6th November, Inter-Club Pool competition with RRC and the Christmas Comp on 10th November. See notice board for details. **We hope to see more members participating in Competitions throughout the coming months. Please remember to accurately complete the competition registration form, on the notice board, before sailing, as failure to do so will result in being ineligible to weigh-in.**

FROM THE VICE COMMODORE Once more I put pen to paper to wish you all well and to highlight some of the problems being faced in the every day running of the external areas of our club.

Used Engine Oil - As most members are aware, an oil disposal container is provided near the waste disposal skip in the compound. Please pour your used oil into this container rather than leave full cans around the area. On the subject of oil, would members using the club tenders, please take more care when using them to transport used oil ashore, as recently the club tenders were heavily contaminated with oil causing inconvenience to other members, a number of which complained to the marina staff of soiled clothing etc. If you inadvertently spill oil or any other fluids, please clean them up immediately.

Waste Disposal - Would members please remember that the waste disposal container in the compound is provided at expense to the members for the disposal of waste from the boats moored within the club. It has been noticed recently that the skip is being used for the disposal of household rubbish causing the need for more frequent emptying of the skip at more cost to the members.

Dinghy Stickers - A number of dinghy owners are still refusing to display their dinghy stickers, which as you know are the indicators used by the club staff to ascertain who has and has not paid the relevant fees for the said vessel. As far as the club is concerned, no sticker visible means no fee paid and this is unfair on other members who pay their dues. In an attempt to discover the real problem (are the dinghies abandoned, stickers not yet applied for, or fees not paid,) the Marina Manager has been instructed to place the "offending" dinghies into an impounding area where they will be rendered inaccessible until the owner(s) have contacted him.

Compound Penalty Fees - A number of members have stated that they are unaware of the situation regarding Compound penalty Fees and consider them to be an unreasonable additional cost for keeping boats in the compound for long periods. This could not be further from the truth, as the increased fees after three months are structured to act as a **PENALTY** or **FINE** for people who break the three month rule. The situation being, that there is insufficient room in the compound to provide lay up for all boats, and in an attempt to "ration" compound usage to three months per vessel per year, a penalty fee of £5.00 per foot was imposed to **encourage** people to **vacate** the compound after three months in order that everyone has a chance of laying there boats up at least some time during the year. The message the club is attempting to portray is quite simply **TO ENSURE THAT EVERYONE HAS A CHANCE - PLEASE RESTRICT YOUR LAYUP IN THE COMPOUND FOR THE MINIMUM TIME POSSIBLE - AND CERTAINLY NO MORE THAN THREE MONTHS PER YEAR.**

Harbour Licenses - We have been asked to inform members that the Harbour Authority are soon to look for proof of permission to moor in the bay and may incur penalties for boats not displaying this permission in the form of the "tax disc" type sticker provided to each member. So please display your sticker at all times

Trolleys - Once again I would ask members using the pontoon trolleys to ensure that they are taken back to the compound after use. This unfortunately is not being done by all members, resulting in a risk of loss "overboard" of one of them. Also please do not let or allow any trolley to be taken outside the gates. If you see this happening please inform an officer of the club.

Rescue/Patrol Boat Use - The Dories used for this function have recently suffered damage from "heavy handed" use. In one instance the engine of one of them had to be replaced at a cost of Some £3000.00., in another, one of the dories was moored by the bow only, causing it to oscillate about this line, resulting in damage to a member's boat moored next to it, the repair of which had to be borne by the club. Both incidents resulting in unnecessary expense to the members. Would all users of these boats please exercise care in the handling/mooring of the vessels to avoid further problems of this kind.

Thefts from boats - Thankfully, thefts from boats have reduced dramatically over the past months however some cases are still evident. To provide some sort of monitor as to the gravity of the situation and provide remedial action, would all members please report any incidents of theft from their boats to the Marina Manager's Office as soon as possible after the event.

RYA Training Centre (formerly RYA Recognised Teaching Centre) - As most members are aware, the club has an excellent facility in its RYA Training Centre situated in the club grounds and which is run by volunteer instructors. It offers training on Sailing, Powerboats handling, First Aid, VHF/DSC etc. Unfortunately there is only so much that the instructors can do, and **HELP IS REQUIRED** from interested members in such areas as boat repair, general maintenance, instructor assistance even instructor training to augment the instructor force. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Ian Gorton (01446747179), Helen Phillips (02920215759) or Idris Dibble 02920252973.

Happy & Safe Sailing JOHN JEFFERIES (Vice Commodore)

WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH How to look after your pride and joy when the going gets tough. Before the storm on the last weekend of October, I visited the club to check on my Dart 15 Dartfuldodger and prepare her for the storm, which was forecast for the following day. All she asked of me was to remove her mast, cover, trampoline, and tie her to something heavy (The anchor by the gate was just fine) I also had a good look around upwind for anything that might be blown my way. I then returned home happy in the knowledge that I had done all that I could to protect my pride and joy. I awoke Sunday morning to the wind howling under the eaves of our house in Penarth, but I could rest with ease with the fact that my boat would be fine. After a leisurely breakfast, I decided to pay the Club a visit to see if I could help with any clean up operations. What a sight greeted me as I came through the gate, carnage would be an under estimation. I found Nick and Barrie in the compound (Nick and Barrie had been up since first light sorting out dragged moorings and generally saving boats) I asked where I could be of most use. I was then put to work sorting out the compound and making boats safe by lowering masts, along with several other club members. Unfortunately, we were too late to save Dart 18, Blodwyn Pig. Blodwyn Pig had decided to go sailing all on it's own and to get itself into the water, it had used the Dart 16 along side it as a spring board to get to the water. Dart 18 total right off, Dart 16 badly damaged. Other damage to boats were furled headsails, boat covers, and several dinghies blown over and damaged. Well can we learn any thing from this sad tail of woe? Yes I think we can, a well-found boat will look after you, and keep going long after you have given up. So, if she will look after you, why do we not care for her? Dinghies and Beach Cats should always be tied down. In winds more than 40 knots (gale), remove cover and lower mast, or make sure you are in the lee of some thing big (building). Always leave self bailers open. Big boats should double up warps, extra fenders, remove any sails on booms and furring head sails, remove any canopies and cockpit dodgers, check hatches are secure and cockpit drains are clear. Swinging moorings: check chain as best you can, protect mooring rope from rubbing on stem head fittings and consider a move to a marina berth for duration of the storm. Never attempt to row out to your boat in a tender, what ever the reason, until the storm has passed. Check your insurance, you may not be covered if you are found negligent. Iris Dibble

The deadline for Bear Essentials is the last day of the month, please e-mail your copy to:- enq@natures-table.co.uk