



COMMODORES COLUMN

What a great year from a sailing point of view! It's been a few years since we have had such a combination of wind and sunshine – long may it continue.

The last week in May saw Phil Simpson and team run the RYA Level 2 course. Thank you folks and congratulations to x, y and z. As you probably know, things have changed on the training front and there's no longer a need to commit to four or five weekends for the Level 1 and 2 course since the syllabus is now modular – much easier for you and a great deal easier for the training team! Another training event on 7 and 8 June; this time the RYA Level 1 course which took x, y and z through "Start Sailing" skills.

18 May saw the Flying 15 and Laser Open and we did manage to attract a few visiting Lasers. Congratulations to Francis Staples who walked away with the trophy.

On 15 and 16 June we held our traditional Fun Weekend. Most of this takes place on the Saturday and revolves around two teams of the young (and young at heart). As is usual for this event, there seemed to be a lot of rule bending going on.

On to the Junior Open on 28 June. Very light airs on this day any my suspicion that some people were dozing off – in fact most of the action seemed to be from the photographers (take a look at the results and photos on the club web site (<http://shropshiresailingclub.co.uk>) and click on the scrolling banner.

The novice races held on some Saturday afternoons has attracted quite a following. There are just two more to go – on Saturday 19 July and on 02 August. Whilst each of these is hosted by a named regular sailor, some additional help would be appreciated.

...and now **the Open Day**. Have you ever known such a scorcher? Nice wind, sunshine and lots of people – around 55 got on the water – many for the first time. We gave away most of the 40 odd club info packs and many people have said that they plan to join. We will have to wait and see of course but the profuse thanks that we had made it all worth while even of some of us were pretty desperate for a drink before the end. This sort of day takes quite a bit of planning (and execution). I'd like to thank everybody that contributed to the day and especially those that took on the less exiting but vital roles behind the scenes and in the clubhouse (Brian did offer to help with the food but is still in disgrace following the episode of the uncooked and capsized quiches last time [*It didn't say it wasn't cooked on the packet and it wasn't really my fault that they overturned in the boot of my car – Brian*])

Fleet Working Parties – August is the month for Lasers and Toppers. If you have one of these then please see what job(s) you could undertake from the list on the noticeboard, talk to your fleet captain or contact Mary Clifford.

Mere Whisper Trophy - With the season now underway and sailing activities outside the club, don't forget that this trophy is available for the best article to be submitted to the Newsletter for a non racing activity.



Vice Commodore's Column

House Committee

We don't seem to have too many problems at the moment which is just as well since we'd all rather be sailing. I'd like to extend a big welcome to Gill Bamford who has very kindly offered to come on board.

Our big project right now is the refurb of the ladies changing rooms. We are very fortunate to have Stuart Murray on board – an expert in this sort of thing and who has derived a complete project plan for the work. If all goes according to plan, we hope that the ladies changing room refurb will be completed (or at least available for use) between two weekends.

You'll see that the grounds are looking pretty tidy and I think that's due to a "little and often" approach to mowing and strimming. However, you may also notice some pretty untidy berths – now the rules are that with your berth comes a responsibility to keep it tidy. If your berth is in the untidy category, please drop into the club and tidy it. Mowers and strimmers are in the locked store to the rear of the Nissan hut.

Rear Commodore's Column

And finally

Forthcoming Events to look out for

Club visit to Bala	August Bank Holiday Weekend	Get your name on the list in the clubhouse
Ellesmere Regatta	14 September	Our annual outing on the main mere
GP, Solo & Menagerie Regatta	5 October	This is really one for everyone but you really need three boats from each class to compete (no Lasers or FF's ...you've already had yours!
Halloween and Bonfire Party	01 November	Not to be missed. See everyone covered in flour !
AGM	21 November	Your chance to throw out all the current officers and elect your own choices !!
Laying Up Party	14 December	
Dinner Dance & Prizegiving	24 January 2004	