Osprey News

July, 2001

Ed's Epigram

Well guys'n gals, here we are, right on top of the Nationals and I'll bet some of you haven't booked your accommodation, cleaned the car, renewed the string and the rags or polished your bottom yet.

There's still time!

At last check yesterday (Monday) there is still accommodation available in B&B's around Highcliffe, Mudeford and Christchurch. The orices seem reasonable to me, around £22-24 per night, sometimes with discount for a weeks booking. **Best buy**, Foxgloves in Mudeford, £20 per night. Phone Sally on 01425 279102. (No! She's not my auntie) Or phone the tourist office on 01202 471780 or email cic@christchurch.gov.uk for last minute availability.

Highcliffe SC are busy finalising the arrangements. They've polished the brass, cleaned the windows and ordered more glasses and stuff to fill them with. They've borrowed the Lutine Bell from Lloyds *(Thinks! Does that mean something?)* and the Royal Navy have offered to lend them one of those big grey things with guns on it as mother ship. I didn't ask if the guns were for the start signal or as a control for premature starters.....

So those of you who are undecided, don't think you're good enough or simply haven't thought about it, **hesitate no longer.** Book up, pack up and move to Highcliffe for a week. You won't regret it.

We appear to have lost a few members this year..... or are they just late in paying up? Remember that you can't sail in opens or nationals if you are not a member, neither can you vote at the AGM. To those of you not racing at the Nationals please make the effort to join us at the AGM on 2nd Aug at Highcliffe after the sailing. After all, it's your association and your voice needs to be heard. The up side is that we welcome several new members. More later.

Your mid-year magazine is late because the printer moved premises in June and someone b-------d his main machine, so everything is late. This allows me to add more stuff but only if you send it to me.

See you all at Highccliffe! *Ed*

Chairmans Chat

With the overriding problems associated with foot and the mouth disease it comes as no surprise that the open meeting attendances have been low, however the good news is that those of us who have still managed to travel, there have been two new venues to go and play at.

Cardiff Bay is a brand new venue to us and offers a great welcome at a new shiny club where the spectator and supporters facilities are excellent and some of the sailing has to be seen to be believed. This new venue will allow us to reinstate a Welsh and Midland circuit when put in conjunction with an open at Blithfield, British Steel and Mumbles. All of these venues have had discussions to attempt to either resurrect their opens or continue their good work.

Hayling Island in June with sun waves and wind. Now I ask you, what more could you want. We were all treated to fantastic sailing (thank you Bev Moss and your race team) and terrific hospitality. Progress is being made on the new clubhouse and I feel this venue has resurfaced on the Osprey circuit with a spectacular bang. What a great Nationals we have in store there.

And speaking of Nationals, Highcliffe is fast looming upon us. The clubs ready, the race team is in place, the curry houses are primed so all we have to do is light the blue touch paper and enjoy. What's more, we're getting even more value for money by having an entire extra race day FOR FREE !!!!

So get your skates on and I'll look forward to seeing each and every one of you in sunny Dorset. Remember, we are the lucky ones, we get to sail Osprey.

Safe journey folks,

Regards

Adam.

Zen & the Art of Osprey Sailing

(A Beginners Guide)

Here follow a few hints for those of you starting out along "The Road to Enlightenment" or those who may have "lost the map". The little pulling monkey and I have learned these the hard way.

Sail with your Buddha (or buddy)
Somewhere in an Osprey there should be a Buddha shaped object; either crew or helm is fine. Make sure you relate well to the person you sail with. You will spend much time with that person. Very often bad vibes will be heard on the water which spoil the karma of sailing and will affect your performance.

The winter season is for practice
There won't be many onlookers in January. Make mistakes in front of sheep not the fleet. It makes for more enjoyable bar time as you can tell stories without fear of the truth emerging. There is nothing better than time in the boat.

At the foot of the mountain the slopes are gentle.
The choices you make here will affect your route to the top. At first don't try to race. Spend time perfecting boat handling. Make notes and document the steps for each action and the triggers. i.e: when tacking; helm shout "ready about", crew; release sheet etc. Simple stuff but it ensures consistency.

The battle is within, not without.
Know when you have sailed well and enjoyed it. The results may not match the feeling and in the early days don't use them as a gauge. Also, sometimes you know you have sailed badly but still do well. Resist the temptation not to review your performance when this happens.

Simplicity brings clarity
Keep the fittings to a minimum and the layout simple. Mast control - chocks; cunningham - not required; outhaul finished on the boom; all tails tied off to something; Only kicker leads back to helm. There's less to knot up, trip over or break.

Observation shows the path to enlightenment.
Watch your surroundings. When passing behind one of the fast boats observe body positions, sail set, techniques etc and copy them.

Faith aids the journey
You must know the boat won't let you down. Keep a note book and write down all the jobs that need doing after each race and do them before you next sail. *(S. Watson Esq had one of these. It was full of girls phone numbers once but since his chest moved south he's found another use for it. Oh! and he nags Rob until the jobs are done.)* By this simple technique you will find that you may let the boat down but it won't do it to you.

Know the path to enlightenment
At the Nationals, or any other meeting, start on time, sail the correct course, don't hit anything and finish correctly. Surprisingly,this will put you ahead of many other boats. No one knows why this is difficult, but it is.

The path to enlightenment should be a joy. If it becomes a chore, sit on a bench.
Sailing is meant to be fun. If it ever becomes less,
Take a Break.

I was asked to write this having just sold AHAG. Hopefully I will be doing some sailing this year but not much of the circuit. as I'm off rowing and the little pulling monkey is playing air guitar in a band (available for weddings, funerals and your daughters 18th birthday). See you all around and Happy Sailing.
Tony Harper

If you don't know all this by now you haven't been paying attention, so here it is again, just in case.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

HIGHCLIFFE SAILING CLUB
28th July to 3rd August 2001

Great Racing
Lots of Accomodation
Pretty South Coast Venue
Cheap Beer
Good for Families

Highcliffe SC is located at Mudeford Quay a prime coastal location between Highcliffe and the New Forest to the East, and Christchurch to the West. It benefits from easy access to the open water where our championship courses will be set and easy

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sheltered launching..

Competitor registration will be open from 09.00 on 28 July and from 09:00 on 29 July. Please allow ample preparation time, as, at the discretion of the Race Committee, all boats may be scrutinised and weighed.

There will be no buoyancy test facilities at Highcliffe, so please ensure that your buoyancy endorsement is valid for the entire Championship prior to your arrival at Highcliffe.

The race schedule is as follows:-

Date	Race Number	Warning Signal
28th July	Practice	14:50
29th July	1	10:50
30th July	2	10.50
31st July	3	10.50
1st August	4	10.50
2nd August	5	10.50
3rd August	6	10.50

Although a new venue for the Osprey fleet, the club has a history of hosting major events, including National, European and World Championships. The club has a wealth of race management and shore-side logistics experience to draw on as it prepares to put on a first class event.

The HSC clubhouse, known as 'Sea Vixen', has a well stocked bar, and a professionally run galley. Some will remember the reasonably priced beer and the value for money food. Social events, will all be held at HSC, include a Commodore's Reception, Barbeque, live band and Championship prize-giving.

Our Friday evening extravaganza will be slightly different. The organising committee has decided to run the event at the club. Due to space constraints we will not be sitting down to a formal supper. However, we are certainly seeking to maintain a high standard finale to the Championship; Friday evening will consist of a quality hot and cold buffet, the Championship prize-giving, followed by partying until late.

If you don't already have an entry form for the 2001 Championship, please either visit the Osprey website (http://osprey.mariner.co.uk), or call Jane Seymour.

Parking is in the pay-and-display car park adjacent to the club. A subsidy is still under negotiation with the local council. Details on the day.

For families, the area offers a superb variety of attractions. Miles of beautiful sandy beaches; easy access to the New Forest; short drive to Christchurch, Bournemouth, Southampton, Lymington, Beaulieu, and many small towns along the Dorset and Hampshire coast.

Detailed information regarding accommodation and local attractions is available from Christchurch Tourist Information:-
23 High Street
Christchurch
Dorset
BH23 1AB Telephone: 01202 471780.
email: cic@christchurch.gov.uk
The HSC website is:-
http://www.highcliffesailing.org.uk/

Any questions please contact :-

Highcliffe Sailing Club	01425 274874
Phil Angrave	01202 885942
Jane Seymour	01245 268776
Adam Bowers	01305 761125

Oh! and don't forget to bring your Radio controlled model aircraft and boats for the 'off-racing' fun and games being organised by Oscar & Co.

New Members

On behalf of the Osprey fleet I would like to extend a warm welcome to six new members who have joined us this year. They are:-

Andy Reid, Hornsea
Dr. Peter Cormie, Penzance, Cornwall
Mel Sharp, Penzance, Cornwall
Brian Aldgate, Helston, Cornwall
David Long, Tivetshall St. Mary, Norfolk
Roger Somerville, Newcastle on Tyne

As we are a fairly well scattered membership and normally only meet each other on the circuit I thought it would be good if we used the news and magazine to introduce ourselves to the fleet. Why not send me a short resume of yourselves that I can publish. You know the sort of thing:- age, height, weight, married or not, how many wives you have, how many mistresses, their names and phone numbers, Oh! and where you sail, your boat, it's name and sail number and anything else that may be of interest.

In fact, why don't we all do this. Details of new houses, new wives, new children, even new grandchildren. In fact any juicy gossip, scandal and scurrilous rumour.

Watch this space

or better still, help to fill it.

Send me hints, tips, advertisements,

race results, births, marriages and deaths,

offers of accomodation for open meetings,

opinions of events and venues, in fact

communication of any kind.

Lets find out what we're all up to.

Ed

Membership Subscriptions

At the last count 30 odd subscriptions had not been paid and are now well **OVERDUE**
Have you paid yours yet?

Wot? Lost your form. You can obtain a new one from Will Odling. Call him on 01454 228650 or email him, will.odling@amtrak.co.uk

Remember, if you are not a member of the association then you can't sail in Open meetings or the Nationals, you can't vote at the AGM plus you won't be sent any more magazines after this one.

So pay up and look big or we'll send 'The Accountant' (Watson that is) to obtain money with menaces.

Fleet reps. It's part of your job description to remind all Osprey owners of the benefits of joining. Go find 'em!

If you pay by standing order; most members do; it saves both you and Hon. Tres. an awful lot of work and keeps your association afloat, so to speak and saves me having to write mean sounding reminders like this one.

Useful Stuff

Build a Wooden One

A full set of plywood frames and patterns are available to build an Osprey hull. Boat nos 1234 and 1280 were built on them.

Please communicate your offer to Paul Hosking on 01736 756686. email:- papahosk@tesco.net

Plea from the Heart

I'm trying to go to the nationals at the last minute - as always. Have boat, new sails: just short of a second person to go in the boat - at either end.

Normal crew *(is there such a thing? Ed)* has been sent to France and I don't feel I can fly him back on company time and expenses - tempting though it is.

Peter Gordon, Poole
email:- peterg@rockleywatersports.com or
Phone Simon Bridges on 01202 671091

Remaining Calender - 2001

28th – 3rd National Championships
Highcliffe **Jane Seymour**
01245 268776

August

18th -19th Sunderland Open Alec Mamwell
01670 505822

September

15th – 16th Kielder Water Open Alec Mamwell
01670 505822

29th – 30th **Netley** **(Southerns)** Bob Thomas

October

13th – 14th **Rutland Inland Championships** Nick Jones
01525 751712

N.B: Two new events and two changes are shown in bold italics.
Wilkinson Sword. Trophy to be presented at 2001 Nationals for competition period Aug 2000 to July 2001. One Special Event and Four best Opens to qualify.
Special Events: Lord Birkett.

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