NATIONAL OSPREY CLASS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER, 1969

This is my first NEWSLETTER since I took over from Joan Wade as Secretary of the Class Association at the end of August.

Since I have taken over the job, I have discovered what a tremendous amount of work Joan has been doing for us all over such a long period.

The Silver Platter which Gordon Cooper, our Chairman, presented to Joan on the last evening of this year's Championships can only be a very small token of our joint debt to her for all the work and time given to us over the years.

I, for my part, still lean on Joan for advice and "know-how" on how to be your Secretary. I only hope I can live up to her very high standards.

I enclose a short note from Joan to all of us.

Thank you Joan.

FUTURE NEWSLETTERS:

I believe that the only way an Association can thrive and go ahead is when all Members really know what that Association is trying to do for them and also what all the other Members, scattered as they are in this Association all over the World, are doing.

I will, therefore, do my best to provide you with as much information as possible as often as I can, and as often as I can afford to spend your money on postages.

To achieve this, would Members, Club Secretaries and Class Captains please send me all news, chat, gossip (the right sort of course!) from their own areas: I also want news from Members overseas. Nothing is too trivial - please let me be the judge of whether I can use it or not.

I do not like formality - so when you have news, please let it be of people and events; and I like to know their Christian names if you mention individuals.

The next NEWSLETTER goes out December 10th. So, will you help?

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PUBLICITY:

Nigel Paige (The Close, Westerland, Paignton, Devon; Office Tel. No. Paignton 55748) has kindly consented to act as Class Press Officer.

This will help me considerably and I would ask that any news which should have National coverage be passed to him.

Would Class Captains, Club Secretaries and Club Press Officers continue to do all they can to see that all OSPREY activities get maximum publicity: You may already have contacts on the Yachting Papers - in which case please use them: But if you have difficulty, please contact Nigel and I know he will do what he can to help.

The OSPREY Class has expanded fairly rapidly in recent years - now is the time to make it go even faster, so:-

THINK OSPREY - SAIL OSPREY

THE 1969 CHAMPIONSHIPS:

No Class Association could have had better organisation, goodwill or a greater welcome than that given to us by the Saundersfoot Sailing Club in South West Wales this year: The Championships were held from 17th - 22nd. August and our very sincere thanks must go to the many who gave so much time and energey in making the event such a huge success.

Thank you Saundersfoot.

1969 CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS:

Those Members who competed at Saundersfoot will have had the full list of results direct from the Club: I give below only the winners of each days race and also the list of prizewinners overall: The Saundersfoot Club gave ten prizes for the overall results and so I give these also.

Sunday	The Plycraft Trophy	-	H.G.Carter	501 (Boat No.)
Monday	The Bell Trophy	-	Ken Robertson	728
Tuesday	The Ian Proctor Trophy	-	John Horrell	743
Wednesday	The Martini Trophy	-	Ken Robertson	728
Thursday	The Marlow Trophy	-	Ken Robertson	728
Friday	Saundersfoot Trophy	-	James Curnow	666

The overall positions were as follows:-

1.	Ken Robertson	728	Mounts Bay S.C.
2.	J.Curnow	666	Mounts Bay S.C.
3.	J.Mathews	735	Mounts Bay S.C.
4.	I.Roxburgh	734	Mounts Bay S.C.
5.	N.Noye	603	Mounts Bay S.C.
6.	J.Marsh	607	Mumbles S.C.
7.	M.Corbin	683	Lymington Town S.C.
8.	T.Iddon	489	Glasson S.C.
9.	J.Gardiner	594	Glasson S.C.
10.	P.Agnew	664	Mounts Bay S.C.

FUTURE CHAMPIONSHIPS:

You will see from the enclosed copy of the Minutes of the last A.G.M. of the Association that we have decided on trying a fixed rota of venue for the Championships. Following this meeting, your Association Committee prepared a list of such venue and has already approached a number of Clubs.

The 1970 one will be held at Mounts Bay, Marazion, Cornwall (a few miles from Penzance) from August 9th to 14th. Anyone interested in getting in first with accommodation bookings etc. can contact James Curnow, Secretary of the Mounts Bay Sailing Club at Barlowenath, St. Hilary, Penzance, Cornwall.

In 1971 we hope to go to Filey. In 1972 we are booked for Plymouth.

News of the next five year fixture will be in the next NEWSLETTER if the arrangements can be settled by then.

THE BOAT SHOW:

At one time it looked as if Class Associations would not be allowed to appear anywhere at this year's Boat Show: However, sense has prevailed and the OSPREY Class Association will again be represented on a Builder's Stand during the Show.

The dates of the Show are from the 7th. January to 17th. January: Don Ledwith of the Stone S.C. has again kindly said he will organise volunteers to be present at the Show to answer questions on the OSPREY.

If any Member can spare any time to help out on the Stand, would he please contact Don Ledwith direct at 83 Tinemouth Drive, Enfield, Middlesex.

Please volunteer if you possibly can.

BOATS FOR SALE:

This seems to be the time when Members part with their boats and buy new ones.

Would you please let me know if you have a boat for sale as I have many inqiuries for good second-hand boats. If you do write to me, can I please

BOATS FOR SALE (cont.)

have the following information:-

Number of the Boat. Type of construction. Whether it has a certificate or not. Your full name and address. The price you are asking.

All I do is to make a list of boats for sale and pass it to all inquirers: All negotiations must be conducted between yourselves.

At the moment I have would-be buyers not only here at home, but also from Nigeria and Guernsey. The latter two want Fibreglass and high number boats.

And in connection with the sale of Boats - would Members who do sell their Boats please drop me a line and let me know the name and address of the new owners: This gives me a chance of asking them to join the Association.

CLASS CAPTAINS AND/OR CLASS REPRESENTATIVES:

A number of Clubs already have Class Captains or Class Representatives who look after the interest of the OSPREY in their Clubs. I am now anxious to make certain that we have such a Captain in every Club where the OSPREY is sailed.

Would present Class Captains or Representatives, therefore, please drop me a line and let me know how many OSPREY they have in their Clubs and the Sail Numbers of these boats.

Likewise, where there are Clubs with OSPREY sailing and there are no official Class Representative at all, would one Member take it upon himself to contact me with the same information I am asking for above from Class Captains.

Once I have heard from you, I will then write more fully on how you can help me and the Association to make the OSPREY mean even more in the dinghy sailing World.

Please treat this as urgent.

OPEN MEETINGS, TWO AND ONE-OF-A-KIND EVENTS IN 1970:

Your Club Secretaries will no doubt have already let the Royal Yachting Association know the dates of all your own Club's main events in 1970.

Could I also please have details of any such events in your Clubs where the OSPREY can compete: If some Member could ask the Club Secretary to let me know, I would be obliged.

This is particularly important in the matter of One and Two-of-a-Kind Meetings as I can arrange well in advance for Helmsmen to compete.

SAILING IN GUERNSEY:

Dr. Nick Le Poidevin writes to say that the OSPREY is gaining strength at his Club, the Guernsey Yacht Club, and that he and his friends are anxious to encourage other helmsmen to visit them, race against them, etc. They have about six OSPREY at the moment (711 is joining them in November) and are prepared to supply Boats for team racing etc.

So, if any group of Members is interested, please contact Nick direct.

BOAT BUILDING:

In case Members do not know, plans for home building of the OSPREY can be got from the R.Y.A. at 42/-d. per set.

Is anyone building a boat in or around London this Winter? I have a Member who is anxious to get some advice from someone building: Please let me know.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP:

The total Membership of the Association at present is 295: This is both Full Members who are OSPREY Owners, and Associate Members who are either Crewing, or just supporters of the Class.

The latest issued Sail Number is near 770. About 150 OSPREY are abroad. A number of boats have been destroyed, or just died of old age.

But this total of Membership is not very good. Can we all do something about it?

The tendency is for Owners to join for the year when they compete in the Championships, and then to let their Membership lapse again. Well, can I ask you not to let this happen?

The Association's main income comes from membership fees: I cannot do any advertising, pay for any publicity materials or really promote the OSPREY as a Class unless we have sufficient funds.

Can I ask every single OSPREY Owner and Crew Member to help?

Will you as an individual, will each Class Captain and Class Representative do all he can to bring further Members into the Association?

How many of our Crews are Members: Its 10/- per year for such Associate Members. Try and get yours to join, please.

Any new Membership applications I now receive I am taking as 1970 subscriptions and Membership. So, can I ask you to act now so that we can start the New Year with a really high Membership.

Don't worry about Application Forms: All I need is names and addresses (and No. and name of boat for Owners), and the Club at which applicants sail - and of course 10/- for Associates and £ 1. for Full Members.

Please do something about this NOW. Thank you.

OVERSEAS:

I understand that the OSPREY will shortly be built in Nigeria and I will let Members have further news about this. There are already quite a number of OSPREY in Lagos and other places in Nigeria.

A start has also been made in Canada. Nigel Stacey visited svereal OSPREY Helmsmen whilst in Canada in March of this year: He has made a report to the R.Y.A. on the OSPREY they have and it looks as if this will be considered to qualify as a geniune OSPREY. More news later.

CONCLUSION:

I hope Members, or prospective members (if they contact you) will not hesitate to write to me on any subject allied to the OSPREY and Sailing: I may well not know the answer to all your questions, but I know whereto find the answers.

Will all Members please help me to make the OSPREY mean something in the Sailing World: We have a thundering good boat - let us get as many sailing it as possible. So if you individually can promote the Boat in any way, please do not loose one single opportunity to do so.

I for my part will do all I can to take the work done by so many before me, and Joan Wade in particular, even further.

Thank you.

PETER AGNEW.