Sept. 1979 ~~Oct.~~

NATIONAL OSPREY ASSOCIATION

NEWSHEET No. 1

1980 Nationals

There has been a change of venue for the 1980 Nationals which were to have been held at Torbay; the venue is now Mounts Bay and the dates donfirmed as Saturday, July 26th to Friday, August 1st inclusive. Preliminary notices will be sent out as soon as possible, you are advised to book early for accommodation, particularly camping and caravan sites.

1980 Open Meetings

Will all Fleet Captains please note that Clubs wishing to hold Osprey Open Meetings in 1980 should advise the Class Secretary of the dates of those meetings before the 15th of January, 1980 so that a full list can be issued in the supplement to the Yearbook.

Most Clubs have a set weekend each year for their Open Meetings, so to avoid a clashing of dates, clubs which do not have a regular date should ask for details of free weekends. This year there were no major Open Meetings south of Birmingham prior to the Nationals so if any southern based Club would like to move their Open Meeting to June or July, I'm sure it would be appreciated.

Wilkinson Sword Trophy

The Association has been awarded a trophy in the form of a full size replica of one of the famous Wilkinson Swords. The Sword is 3½ feet long with an engraved blade, a rosewood handle and gold-plated details on the hilt. The Trophy is valued at around £400 and only 300 were awarded among the 1400 applications.

The Trophy is to be awarded annually to the helm and crew with the best 3 results out of 5 named Open Meetings. The nominated meetings are:—

The Scottish and Northerns which were held on June 2nd and 3rd.
The Chalmers Park Meeting at Filey on September 8th and 9th.
The Panmorra Cup Meeting at Mounts Bay on September 15th and 16th.
The Welsh and Midlands at Stewartby on September 29th and 30th.
The 'Jack in a Basket' Meeting at Lymington on October 6th and 7th.

The Trophy will be awarded at the last named event in the year's calender, helmsmen who wish their results to count should send details to the Secretary in time for the Lymington event.

Scottish & Northerns. Filey. 2nd & 3rd June, 1979

Abbreviated report

Results

Race 1.
1st. 1141. M Mooney, Royal Yorkshire YC.
2nd. 1167. T Greaves, RYYC.
3rd. 834. J Haddock, Filey SC.

Race 2.
1st. 1167. T Greaves, RYYC.
2nd. 1141. M Mooney, RYYC.
3rd. 1175. K Carroll, Morecambe & Heysham YC.

Race 3. Declared null and void after protests.

Race 4.
1st. 1138. A Hawksworth, Blithfield SC.
2nd. 1167. T Greaves, RYYC.
3rd. 1175. K Carroll, MHYC.

Overall Results

1st. 1167. T Greaves and M Clack, RYYC.
2nd. 1141. M Mooney and C Batty, RYYC.
3rd. 1138. A Hawksworth and D Mager, Blithfield SC.
4th. 1175. K Carroll and J Gillow, MHYC.
5th. 834. J Haddock and C Moore, Filey SC.
6th. 1074. R Drayton and B McCarthy, Filey SC.

Full reports of this meeting and all others with photographs will appear in the next full edition of the newsletter at the end of the season.

Social Review of the 1979 Nationals at Shoreham: By Maureen Carroll

Shoreham turned out to be a fine venue for the Championships, everyone agreed that the sailing was good and the race organisation and the catering was well up to standard.

During the week all eyes were on Andy Barker, the new Osprey moulder, sailing his first production boat. Andy was reported to be very impressed with the Osprey and who wouldn't be after finishing second overall on his first time out. Andy's address is High Performance Sailboats, Furzebrook Road, Wareham, Dorset, the telephone number is Wareham 6222.

I arrived in Shoreham about 7.30 a.m. on the Saturday morning after cadging a lift from the Gatwick exit on the M23, leaving Ken with a broken down car. Our thanks to Arthur Dixon for my lift and to Chris Stacey who gave Ken a tow to the nearest scrap-yard which was successfully raided for the necessary spare part.

It is always nice to arrive early on the first day, meeting old and new friends more than make up for the lack of sleep the night before.

One of my first duties on arrival, was to introduce myself to the ladies on the entry desk and to iron out any problems which may have arisen. Next came the collecting of Association subscriptions which is a pleasant task when one is sat outside in the lovely weather which we had for the first three days.

On the Saturday night there was a welcome party at the Sussex Motor Yacht Club, our hosts for the week. It was nice to see our former secretary, Liz, who had managed to get down for a few days before jetting off to a teaching job in the USA. A 'Miss Osprey 1979' contest was organised by the host club and (blushes) was won by yours truly! The bouquet of flowers enhanced my hotel room all week, but I'm saving the champagne for our wedding anniversary.

Sunday and Monday nights were get-together nights at SMYC where the talk revolved, naturally enough, around the days sailing. It's funny isn't it how often you hear sentences start with "If only I'd . . . . ".

Tuesday night heralded a Disco at the Sussex Yacht Club back across the river from SMYC. Prizes for Tuesday's race were presented by the Chairman of SMYC and his wife. Although Tuesday's race had been hard with force 6 winds, the hardy Osprey crews managed to enjoy themselves with hardly a yawn between them.

The Civic Reception scheduled for Wednesday evening was cancelled so the SMYC put on a Jazz night in the Clubhouse, which although not well attended, was enjoyed by those who did go. Future organisers take note, Jazz does not appear to be the Osprey sailors' cup of tea.

Thursday night, the host club put on a barbecue with spit-roast pigs and chickens and entertainment put on by a Steel Band. Before the pigs were barbecued they had to be subjected to a strange ritual which involved one of the carcasses being strapped into a trapeze harness and the other positioned in the helmsman's seat of Ken Robertson's Osprey to be photographed for posterity. After the throng had eaten their fill, the host club ladies organised a 'Mr Osprey' contest which was won by John Marsh's crew Malcolm, who received as his prize, four pig's trotters. With a Steel Band, we couldn't resist organising a Limbo contest which was won by Ken Carroll (after 8 years I still don't know all his attributes). Ken elected to take a more palatable pint of bitter as his prize.

The prize-giving at SMYC on the Friday evening was well attended although a lot of competitors had started the long trek home. A group provided the entertainment and the prizes were presented by the Commodore of the Sussex YC and his wife. The helms and crews of the first 12 overall places were presented with Ingersoll watches. Tony Powell, the overall winner, thanked the race organisers, the catering staff and rescue staff on behalf of the competitors. A presentation of a Host Club Burgee was made to the Chairman of the SMYC on behalf of the Class Association.

A nice touch during the racing was the announcements of the first 12 boats in each race as they rounded the different marks of the courses, the announcements were accompanied by cheers or groans from the wives, girlfriends and kids waiting for news. All in all, I think a good week was had by all — roll on Mounts Bay next year — miss it at your peril!

Two articles promised for the next issue: The true story behind the phenomenon known as Oscar Chess by 'Anon' and from the man himself — Oscar Chess discusses the merits of using compressed tripe as an alternative hull construction material.

Poole YC Open Meeting — September 15th and 16th

Election of Committee and Officers of the Association 1979/80

Hugh Carter, Lymington Town SC ..... *Chairman*
Maureen Carroll, Morecambe and Heysham YC ..... *Secretary*
Dave Hill, Mumbles YC ..... *Treasurer*
Mike Corbin, Lymington Town SC ..... *RYA Centreboard Committee Rep*
Roger Mant, Stewartby SC ..... *Publicity Officer*

Committee

Dave Edwards	Creeksea
Maurice Whiteman	Ogston
Ken Carroll	Morecambe
Chris Stacey	Mumbles
Malcolm Woolcock	Mounts Bay
Mike Gilbody	Royal Yorkshire
Geoff Dean	North Devon
Oscar Chess	Mengeham Rythe
Nick Houlding	Sussex
Huw Pierce	Datchett Water

Technical Advisers

Tony Blachford
Ian and Keith Proctor
Ken Robertson
Andy Barker or a representative from High Performance Sailboats.

New address

Ken and Maureen Carroll, 6 Thirlmere Grove, Morecambe, Lancs, LA4 4NS
Tel: Morcambe 418924

We are pleased to hear that Tony Blachford is all right after competing in the ill-fated Fastnet Race. We extend our deepest sympathies to the families of those crew members lost during the race.

Will all members please note that the deadline for articles and photographs for the end of season glossy newsletter will be the 10th of October. Articles on any topic will be welcome.
