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SEAFLY NEWSLETTER SPRING ISSUE - MARCH 1980

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1980 NATIONALS

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EDITORIAL

Hello again. No doubt like me you can't wait to get launched. I expect most of you will be testing the water at Easter. We hard men up here in Norfolk take the plunge then - or at least some of us do. Of course, it's a much less daunting prospect for you southerns down in the tropics....!

As you will see from the Newsletter the committee has been quietly beavering away trying to promote the class. I'm hoping we shall pick up some new members - and orders - at Picketts Lock. Colin May is working on three boats but he can't live on promises, although I know several of you want one of his boats as soon as you can sell your old ones. The advertising seems to have stimulated a fair amount of interest and hopefully this summer we will sponsor a couple of helms at a big open meeting where we might generate some new interest. However, all this costs money, and we are living hand to mouth. A lot of "members" don't pay their subs, even though it is only £2.00. If we are to continue to run the association efficiently they will have to go up anyway. So please give us your money as well as your support. Hopefully this year we can also build on the slightly improved turn out at Open Meetings. Please remember most Fleet Captains can fix you up with a bed if you travel. It's often cheaper than staying at home!

NATIONALS CAMP SITE

For those planning to caravan or tent at Plymouth the RIVERSIDE CARAVAN PARK appears to be the ideal spot. I have spoken to the owner Ian Gray explaining that the Seafly "travellers" like to be together so he has reserved approximately 15 spaces. He says he would be delighted to have us and anyone with queries can contact him on Plymouth (0752)334122. A booking form is reproduced elsewhere in the Newsletter which should be sent away as soon as possible together with the booking fee. Riverside Caravan Park is at the end of the A 38 dual carriageway near the Marsh Mills roundabout only three miles from the city centre. It is on a level, well-drained site surrounded by "beautiful woodlands" and bordered on one side by the River Plym. There is a camp shop selling groceries, milk, eggs and newspapers and Calor Gas. The toilet and shower block has shaver and hair dryer plugs and a laundry and ironing room. There is also a play area for the children. According to Mr Gray dogs are welcome but must be kept on a lead on the site. All in all it sounds a perfect place.

NATIONALS START TIMES

Several members have asked if we could bring forward the start time of the races from 1.30pm to 11.30 am as on the last day.

I contacted Margaret Walker of the Corinthians Club who said the race officials had learned from bitter experience that if starts were any earlier there was a distinct danger of violent wind shifts which could quickly turn windward legs into runs. It was much safer to set cources after lunch when the wind settled guaranteeing better racing conditions.

PICKETTS LOCK DINGHY EXHIBITION

The association will be represented on March 22-23 with two boats - a wood and a GRP - but what a struggle it has been to stimulate interest.

John Slater kindly offered to loan his excellent wood boat but despite numerous phone calls to Highcliffe no-one could be found to give up a couple of days and bring it down to Picketts Lock.

Determined that it should not be a one boat affair like last year I approached Brian Blogg (Blakeney) and he kindly agreed to loan me his year-old Flower boat. Both "Bloggy" and Brian Cooper have been working hard preparing it for the show.

The GRP boat on display will be champion Colin May's foam sandwich prototype. The stand will also include a display of photographs and a leaflet will be available giving details of the boat, association and builders. Helpers who can man the stand for a couple of hours or so are still needed. So far only three people have volunteered - Peter Gray, Brian Howe and Alan Izzard.

In previous years there have always been several inquiries about second-hand boats. Anyone with a boat for sale should contact me as soon as possible so I can have a list prepared.

ADVERTISING

We shall be repeating our Yachts & Yachting display advertisement in the special Picketts Lock Preview issue on March 14th which will also include a free entry in the preview section.

There has been a good response from the two preview advertisements in November and December and inquiries have been passed on to the builders and details supplied about the boat and the association. Each advertisement cost £37 but with the special association discount the net cost comes down to £28.05 per insertion. We shall be recovering some of the cost with donations from the builders and the three sail manufacturers mentioned in the advertisement.

COMMITTEE NEWS

Committee member Alan Mogg (Highcliffe) has resigned with "some reluctance and disappointment" because of business and family committments, and is selling his boat C459. Says Alan: "I have really enjoyed my involvement with the Seaflys, albeit a short one. It's been a pleasure to meet such nice people."

The association still does not have a chairman. It is hoped sufficient committee members will attend the Picketts Lock meeting to elect someone. The meeting is scheduled for 4 pm on the Saturday on the stand.

Will all trophy holders please ensure that they bring them to Plymouth or make other arrangements for their return if they are not entering the Nationals.

It was decided not to enter sponsored helms in the Nathan Silver Salver on March 8 at Draycote Water. It was felt that other class helms attending events such as this are most unlikely to be converted away from their particular class and that the association's money would be better spent sending a couple of boats to a big open meeting in the summer when there is likely to be more potential "customers" about in the dinghy park and on the water.

A meeting at Rutland Water may be chosen or some other major inland venue with better sales potential. It is also hoped to visit a coastal venue as well.

RULES REVISION

Peter Gray has almost completed the tortuous task of revising the Rule Book. He is still waiting for some information from Ted May but has sent out a copy of the re-written version so far to fleet captains for interested members to study and comment. Says Peter: "I hope the fleets will seriously consider my suggestions so we can produce a new and more meaningful measurement form which will make our association more business like." Please let us have your comments or suggestions as quickly as possible so we can hopefully be in a position to approve a final draft at the AGM. In the Meantime, thank you Peter for undertaking such a necessary but tedious operation.

Anyone with queries should contact Peter at 130 Hampton Road, Redland, Bristol. Tel. Bristol (0272) 29631.

RACING DECLARATION

Thank you Jim. It may be that the Corinthians are already aware of this but I will certainly draw it to their attention.

LETTERS

More from Jim on another subject:-

"Well at last Colin has produced a fibre glass Seafly that from his performance at the Nationals and from remarks made by other helms who have had the chance to sail this boat, made a boat that is watertight and is also stiff in the right places.

There is however one point which from the construction of the boat will raise a problem with owners of the wooden Seafly. That is in the area of the forward tank, mast step and shroud, in which Colin has been able to use a stiffer material to stop the boat from flexing. A previous National Champion tried to stiffen his wooden boat but the only way was to increase the thickness of the ply flooring which was out of class building rules. We all know the answer and I am sure Colin would be happy to supply but we do have a number of wooden boats as it has been said before".

Popular Seaflyer Bill Prescott who has moved to Sussex writes:

"We are taking some time to settle into our new quarters - the house is OK but the activities are rather more restricted. One of the aftermaths of the Worthing Open for me was a strained shoulder from putting up masts which is still with me. As a result I'm beginning to wonder how much more sailing I shall be doing.

I have joined a local (pond) club, Wen Wood but have not sailed there yet." Bill's new address is Long Ridge, Lewes Road, Horsted Keynes, Sussex.

Welcome new member Derek Langley from Swindon, Wiltshire, who sails at Bowmoor S.C. He writes: "There is my C 108 and Frank Tanner's C 69 plus one or two appearances of the Hambro Life Staff Club Seafly, but none score any achievements. A newcomer to sailing is on the look-out for a Seafly and that could make us a foresome."

Derek's Address is 12 Keyneston Road, Swindon, Wiltshire. (Tel. Swindon 41971) Derek joined the association after seeing our Yachts & Yachting ad. Another new member is Geoffrey Turner (STARCROSS) who has bought Dick Flower's latest boat C 627. Geoff says he "got lonely" sailing a Seafire at Starcross and decided to join up. Welcome aboard Geoff.

Watch out Messrs. Lloyd and Tucker....627 is reputed to be a very fast machine!

SEASALTER

S.C.

Brian Howe reports that the Seasalter fleet now stands at eight boats, all "keen racing types." The club has lost Bill Prescott who now lives in Sussex, but hopefully Bill will be at the Nationals. Two young members currently sailing in the general handicap class are very keen to buy Seaflys and anyone with a boat for sale should contact Karen Avery, Goat Lees, Bought Aluph, near Ashford, Kent. (Tel. Ashford 23729) and John Watson 18 Wellington Road, Sittingbourne, Kent (Tel Sittingbourne 21058) The sailing season at Seasalter starts at Easter and the Seafly class captain is Eric Sales (Tel. West Malling 842982).

SEAFLY

OPEN MEETINGS

YAM	17 - 18	Highcliffe S.C.
JULY	12 - 13	Worthing Y.C.
JULY	19 - 20	STARCROSS Y.C.
AUGUST	10 - 15	Nationals
AUGUST	30 - 31	Royal Plymouth Corinthians Y.C. Blakeney S.C.
SEPTEMBER	14 - 15	Seasalter S.C.

BUILDERS

GRP and foam sandwich C.M. MARINE, 36 Fairfield, Christchurch, Dorset. Tel: 0202 - 482098

Wood.

Dorset Dinghies,
Nea Close, Highcliffe,
Christchurch, Dorset.

Works Tel: Ferndown (0202) 891854

After Hours: 04252 - 77408

BOATS FOR SALE

C 451 owned by Ex- National Champion Dave Black & Bill Rabbetts. Excellent racing record.

Immaculate condition Proctor mast, Mountfield

Sails, centre main roll over bar, bailers, cover and launching trolley. Extras negotiable. £950 contact Bill Rabbetts, New Milton (0425) 615544

Dave Black, Highcliffe (04252) 71007

C 450 wood, fast boat V.G.C. 2 seasons use only. All extras, trolley, road trailer included in price. £850 o.n.o. Tel Sittingbourne 24218

C 622 Colin May's 1979 Champion boat in GRP and foam sandwich. Centre main strop, bailers, Proctor E mast, 2.6 boom, McNamara sails and spinnaker, glass sheathed centreboard and rudder. £1,400 o.n.o. Tel. Christchurch (0202) 482098

C 509 An immaculate GRP boat, beautifully fitted out by Roger Beavis. Centre main hoop, bailers, Proctor Beta Plus mast and 2.6 boom. Seahorse main, two jibs, and spinnaker, launching trolley £850 Tel. Norwich (0203) 413593

SEAFLY ASSOCIATION DUPLICATE BOOKING FORM FOR RIVERSIDE CARAVAN PARK

Longbridge Road, Marsh Mills, Plymouth, Devon, Tel. (0752) 334122 42250

NAME
ADDRESS
•••••
TENT TYPE & SIZE
CARAVAN
MOTOR VAN
DATES REQUIRED

Charges per day £2.00 per van or tent,& two adults plus 40 pence per person.

Booking fee £1.00. All prices exclude VAT.

SEAFLY DINGHY CLASS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP - August 10th to 15th,1980

ENTRY FORM

Entries to be sent to:	
	Royal Plymouth Corinthian Y.C. Madeira Road,
	Plymouth, PL1 2NY, Devon.
Name of Helm	. Crew
(Chr	istian & Surname)
Helm's Address	Tel. No
	::
	Helm over 45 years
	Yes/No
Club	•••••
Boat Name	Sail No
Hull Colour	
Car Registration No	
ENTRY FEE £19.00 Cheque/	P.O. payable to Royal Plymouth
	Corinthian Yacht Club
Signature	Date
Number of tickets for th	e licenced steamer River Trip,
75p each	
(Tickets to be paid for	on arrival, see the Beachmaster)