

Autumn Newsletter 2011 from LBK6

Up Front News

Laying Up Supper is on 22nd October.

'Burgers and Bangers on the Beach' is on 4th November.

Xmas bar times – open Xmas and New Year's Eve (watch the fire works from LBK6).

Saturday Quizzes – October and December cancelled – see Social Scene item.

Retrieve your uncollected membership cards – see Membership Notes.

3 Club training courses on offer – see Hon. Secretary's Section.

Diesel at £1.04 a litre from the Club – see Nick's Diesel Notes.

Commodore's Corner

The Laying Up Supper fast approaches as more boats get lifted from the water and a sometimes indifferent sailing season draws to a close. However, the Club has been busy on many fronts in 2011. The racing members have made good when the weather permitted. The cruisers have made several social passages, some further than others.

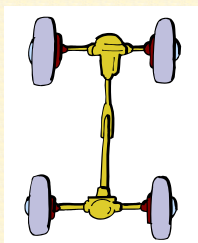
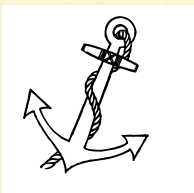


On the shore many improvements to the Club premises have been achieved thanks to the hard work of some very dedicated members. You only have to think back to Spring 2011 to see how much has changed. The Work Party Report lists the many improvements that the Tuesday and Saturday efforts have achieved. What a difference they have made. LBK6 is starting to resemble the grand vessel she once was.

And other Members have, in addition to their normal duties, worked wonders on other fronts. Members now have access to our own diesel supply. Inside, the team working on LBK6 are transforming the lower deck. I applaud those who turn up week after week to cut, saw, screw, grind, weld and wire, particularly the painters. The Club is indebted to all these hard working members.

We are also an increasingly social club. The bar and quizzes on LBK6 are well supported and making a significant contribution to Club funds. Thanks to the bar team for their work. I also hope that members will take advantage of the winter training opportunities being offered in this Newsletter.

With all best wishes for a safe, warm and productive winter. Robert

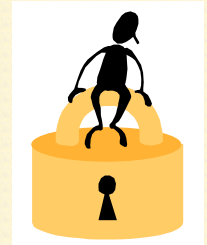


End of Season Blues

Laying up time comes round again,
The trailer wheels need greasing.
The mast comes down and lays around,
The cheque book takes a beating.
Tie up those halyards firm and neat,
Flay ropes and chain and down it.
Don't forget the "Marine Watch" rules
Or next year you may be grounded!

In other words, please remember to secure your boat and lock the gate after you!

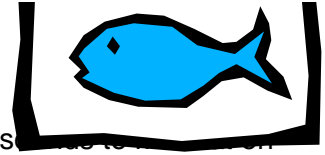
Courtesy of Violet Phillips



Vice Commodore's 2011 Sailing Report

What another grim summer! A few of our hardier retired salty types have had a better season than the family sailors who have to rely on annual holiday periods and weekends. Why does the weather always turn for the worse during the school holiday weeks? Those who launched early had the better part of the season and did manage to get some warm sailing in.

Early season North Sea crossing - I understand that some of those boats that made the crossing to Belgium and Holland assisted the trawlers in the area with some regular ground baiting. We know that one member, who was himself a professional fisherman in a previous life, sympathised with the lack of shoal fish in the North Sea and considered ground baiting to be necessary to assist his former associates in keeping up their quotas ---- I think that's what he said!!!!. To avoid embarrassment I haven't mentioned his name but he is a young (ish) big bloke, superb sailor who is currently on the lookout for another boat. Any way it seems that on arrival in foreign lands a good time was had by all and the local brewery struggled to keep up stocks. The H&DSC was well represented and it seems like an early crossing is likely to be an annual event. The more the merrier I reckon. Always better to make that crossing with other boats if possible just in case someone gets into difficulties. I know one of our members was pleased when another helped him following such circumstances. Always more enjoyable to see another suit of sails nearby for some friendly banter when possible and great for the less experienced or those making their first crossing. It can be very lonely out there!



Racing was affected by inclement weather this year with a couple of races not taking place. A number of races only had two entrants. I know it has generally been the rule that you need three entrants for it to be considered a race but due to the circumstances this year I have made an executive decision that two boats can constitute a race for our purposes providing the two finish. I think interest will be maintained that way and there will at least be some cups presented this year, albeit bearing the usual names. The points awards for the races I hope are creating a bit more interest. You don't have to win the race to receive the highest points and there is an individual prize at the end of the season for the holder of the most points. The idea is aimed at family racing. All racing results are posted in the club. Can I thank those members who have assisted in the starting of the races as unfortunately I have not been available to do so.

Engine problems - Not only has the weather caused difficulties this season but Murphy's Law has definitely been in evidence with several members experiencing serious engine problems sometimes necessitating removal from the water for repairs and refits. We all sympathise with those members; not only have they lost the sailing time but the costs involved add to the frustrations and concerns.

I notice that a number of boats have now been laid up and by the time the newsletter is circulated the yard will almost certainly be full. For all those members that changed their boats this year I hope you enjoyed your new acquisitions. I'm sure everyone is looking forward to next year with fingers crossed for better weather.

Paul Hurley

CLUB 'SAILS'

Signal Flags - Complete set (15")
packed in roll. As new. £25
Tel: 01255 503975

GRP dinghy - 8ft Lightweight. Ideal
for towing and landing. £30.
Tel: 01255 503975

STORAGE SPACE – do you require some extra storage space for sailing gear etc? Would you share part of a rented garage? It would probably work out at about £25 a month each.

Or, perhaps you have some spare space in your garage you would be willing to rent out.

Trevor Williams Mob: 0787 290 7719

Inflatable dinghy - Bombard
AX3. Hard transome for
outboard and slatted floor.
Complete with paddles and
pump and seat. £100.
Tel: 01255 503975

Hon Secretary's Section:

Please accept my sincere thanks to you all for your many kindnesses, prayers and support over what has been a very difficult time for my family.

Talking of family, many of you will have attended various courses led by my husband, Peter Phillips, along the years. One of these was a very successful "Ladies Sea Safety" morning held on the old Barge Clubhouse and, to the amusement of most Skippers, a great success. As this winter commences and laying up gets underway it has been suggested that a few hours on a Sunday morning might be put to good use in similar vein.

LADIES SEA SAFETY - if there is sufficient interest, Peter would like to offer his services to run a 2 -3 hour session on a Sunday morning. All materials will be supplied.



KNOT TYING - is there any interest in a refresher session? Having seen some of the "knitted on" fenders during the summer where we live, it seems as if some of these skills are a dying art - only joking! An hour on a Sunday followed by a pint before the roast dinner could get you out of laying the table! Why not leave the Skipper to baste the beef for a change!

On our boat the beef baster is the Skipper. That's what she tells me anyway! Ed.

FIRST AID & FOOD HYGIENE - Speaking with other Committee Members it has been suggested that the Club organise another First Aid course and perhaps first level Catering Hygiene training.

If you are interested in any of the above, please could you email me in the first instance at vipeter@otenet.gr and when dates have been organised details will be sent on.

Have you any skills to pass on or ideas for courses that members might find interesting? Please let any Committee Member know and we will do our best to arrange these over the winter months.

Thank you. Kind regards, Violet

CLUB CLEANING HELP. Although the club has a thorough clean on Saturday mornings by Sunday morning it could do with a quick once over just to keep the standards up. Is there anyone who can give a little time on a Sunday morning to whip a duster over the tables and Hoover up? Likewise during the week.

It does not have to be the same person all the time. Perhaps we could draw up a rota. If anyone is prepared to help out please contact John Miall on 01255 553136 or johnmiall@ssky.com.

Nick's' Diesel Notes

Hi everyone. An update from the diesel team. Our latest purchase from the suppliers is the old full sulphur and hopefully we will be able to get this for a while longer. Bit of a can of worms regarding the new legislation, but the full sulphur cannot now be used for inland waterways, i.e. `not at sea`, so sulphur free has to be used. To compensate for the loss of sulphur FAME (fatty acid methyl ester) is added. In other words bio diesel. For those of you interested, see British Marine Federation Guidance Note December 2010 for an article.



The latest delivery is 1p per litre (pl) more than the last lot. This is due to the fluctuation in the market for crude in the last few weeks. I will always endeavour to get the best deal so £1.04 pl is the latest price. Remember that this is quite a bit cheaper than our old friends at the marinas and, of course, 5p pl profit goes to the club.

For those who wish to purchase, the key holders are: myself, Nick Turner – 0776 8007 092 or 319130, Nick Seabourne – 0770 2229 343, Phil Cuthbert (most people have his no.), Gary Good and Alan Sharp (these guys share a key as Gary is at sea half the time), Mike Doogan – 0777 4730 718 and John Miall (Emergency holder).

That's all for now. Thanks Nick

Tuesday Evenings Work Party's Report

I would like to thank all Members for attending work parties from May to September 2011. We have achieved a lot and the improvements are a credit to the Club.

We've done a lot of moving - tables and chairs from one container to another and back again; tractor to new container and power and water to the outside.

Repairs achieved include the fuel tank painted and installed to set up the fuel station for members to buy fuel at a reduced rate; crash barrier near crane; making of strong wooden box for strops and chains; removal of chain (trip hazard) and replacement with plate on side of quay.

If it didn't move, it was painted - all containers, cranes, bollards, railings on the deck of barge, fence and others that I have not mentioned.

The site is now much tidier with scrap metal (steel, brass and copper etc.) separated, put in skips and sold; rubbish removed from the car park to allow more parking spaces; and the strimmers and lawn mowers were on the go every week.

In containers the old tractor floor was replaced (big job) to allow 16 more locker spaces that have now been allocated and a partition put in another as a bar store.

Heavier work included digging trenches to put cables in so we can power up more containers, and rocks and debris were moved from quay face.

And the road (that bloody road) - if we filled the holes once we filled them a dozen times. We also tried to raise the level of the roadway wherever it was low.

Many other jobs were completed that I have not mentioned and I thank all Members for their contributions and hard work.

John Miall



WORDS FROM THE BOAT PARK – it's laying up time so there has been increasingly feverish activity with crane hoists and moving boats to their winter resting places. With increased boat numbers the yard will be more congested than ever so can Members please continue to help others by:-

- Keeping the area around your boat and trailer clear and tidy,
- Keep routes around the yard clear for tractor/boat/trailer movements.
- Take all your waste materials and rubbish home with you for disposal.

With consideration we can keep the boat yard tidier and safer for all users.



USE OF BEACH. We have been granted use of our beach again, on the condition that we do not abuse the privilege.

Definitely **no dog walking** and, in general, the **gate is to be kept locked** except for specific use and for emergency purposes. There are four keyholders: Robert Day, Richard Dale, John Fisher and John Miall. There will also be a key in the safe at the Club for emergency use.

SAILING CAN BE LIKE THIS - A mobile phone text message was sent to a fellow sailor. The recipient saw the first screen, 'Hi. So that somebody knows, we left Ramsgate at 06.30 for home via Fisherman's Gat and Sunk'. She went into apoplexy thinking the crew had come to a watery end until scrolling down further, the message continued, 'I'll text at 18.00 to say we are safely in the Blackwater'. Modern technology can have its unintended shortcomings!



MEMBERSHIP NOTES

obtain your uncollected cards from the bar please

At the start of 2011 I wrote out a membership card for every member and left them in a box behind the bar. A lot of people have collected their cards but many have not.

As I understand the situation, the Licensing Authority has the power to enter a club and check that people on the premises are either members or signed-in guests. So, when visiting the Club, please make sure that you carry your membership card, and any guests that are with you are properly signed in. Irregularities could cause the Club to lose its licence.

We don't want to get to the stage of having to show cards in order to buy a drink!

Geoff Newson, Membership Secretary



DID YOU KNOW THAT...?:-

It is illegal to dump food waste within 12 miles of the UK east coast? The North Sea, including its estuaries and rivers, is designated a special Area under the MARPOL regulations. Food waste may only be put over the side outside the 12 miles limit, Otherwise it must be disposed of properly ashore. We all can all do something to help protect our environment.

Project Kraken is a multi-services vigilance operation to tackle terrorism, organised crime and to strengthen our borders. If you see any suspicious activity do not take direct action but report it on 0300 333 4444. See leaflets on LBK6 for further details on both.

Trinity House Notice to Mariners are available on line. Two recent notices affect localish waters:-

+ North Foreland Lighthouse – from January 2012 this will display a light at night only.

+ Foulger's Gat – passage is not recommended during construction of the London Array Offshore Wind Farm. The lit buoys removed in May 2011 will be reinstated later.

If interested you can arrange to receive future notices by logging on to the website at www.trinityhouse.co.uk/mariner_info/notice_to_mariners/c/10102011.html

Top sides cleaning with a difference –

While on a bird watching walk towards the end of September we spotted a man washing a boat's top sides from his tender in Kirby Creek. Clearly intent on topping up his late summer tan, he had not a stitch of clothing on. The exposure was quickly hidden below deck, probably after he saw a telescope being set up on its tripod – to look at birds in the adjacent field of course.



Could the gentleman be identified as a H&DSC member? Fuller than normal description available on request!

Sea Shanty Festival Oct. 2011 – If you didn't visit LBK6 during the October weekend you missed a treat. Not everybody's cup of tea but some of the groups were very good. The bar was bustling on Saturday and the best appeared to be saved for the last act on the quieter Sunday. A stand-in quartet, The Portsmouth Shanty Men, were super entertainment with witty banter, humorous tales and a good variety of shanties, old and modern, well sung with great enthusiasm. A good date for next year if you like the idea of sitting in comfortable surroundings with a pint, or two, or any other beverage for that matter, listening to a shanty or three with an excellent spread of food to pick from ...12,13,14 October 2012



The function area is well underway down below on LBK6. So it is hoped that it will soon be in operation and all the events on the calendar will all go ahead with, perhaps, others added in.

Sat. 22 nd October	Laying up Supper.
Friday Nov 4 th	Burgers and Bangers on the Beach
Sat. 26 November	Quiz Night 19.30 for 20.00 start
Sun. 4 th December	Xmas Lunch
Sat. 10 th December	Children's Party
Friday 16 th December	Xmas Music Night
Sat. 17 th December	Annual Christmas Draw
Sat. 31 st December	New Year's Eve Party on the Barge.
Sat. 21 st Jan. 2012	Dinner & Presentation of Trophies on LBK6
Sa.t 11 th February 2012	February Supper
Sa.t 31 st March 2012	Annual General Meeting

Please note - there will be no Quiz Nights in October and December due to a clash of dates. Emails will be going out where possible to remind everyone what is on.

Shirley

Bar Banter

The bar is being well supported and we have two new volunteer bar staff, for which many thanks and welcome to the team. We recently had our first wedding reception there & wish George and Ann Engle all the best for the future.



If any members would like the bar open for a private function (at a time when the bar is not usually open) please contact us on 01255 880965.

Can we also remind people that guests are more than welcome but MUST be signed in the Guest Book, not forgetting of course the licensing law requirement that you carry your Membership Card. A massive thank you to all the volunteer bar staff who give their valuable time to keep the members lubricated. If they are busy and service is slow please don't moan, lend a hand!

Christmas Opening hours –

Friday 23rd Dec.	7.30 - Close
Saturday 24th Dec.	12.00 - 3.00 & 7.30 – Close
Sunday 25th Dec.	Closed
Friday 30th Dec.	7.30 – Close
Saturday 31st Dec.	12.00 - 3.00 & 7.30 - Late (Why not watch the fireworks from LBK6)
Sunday 1st Jan. 2012	12.00 - 3.00

Cheers, see you in the bar. Jim & Helen Egnor

Hello from the Newsletter Editors - Anne and Trevor Williams are pleased to have been invited to edit the Club Newsletter. We sail First Light, a Beneteau First 26, currently berthed at Blackwater Sailing Club near Heybridge Basin. Having enjoyed our many sails to the Stour and Orwell Rivers we moved to Harwich a year ago and look forward to lots more local sailing and active involvement at the Club.

We invite your contributions for future newsletter issues. Items on interesting events, humorous interludes and anecdotes will be most welcome. Our contact details are Tel: 01255 242280, mob: 0787 290 7719, email: anneandtrevor@hotmail.com.