

# Lymington River Scow Class Association

## AGM 2017 Chairman's Report



### Chairman's Report

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome , a very warm welcome to the 20th AGM of the Scow Class Association - quite a milestone for what is essentially a strong West Solent class with some great outposts in other parts of the south coast and the UK

Those of you who read my note in the year book will have noted my use of a sentence from the Leopard ' *For things to stay the same, things have to change,* " And things are changing in the Scow class.

### Looking back over the last year

I wish that I could report on a a summer of sunshine and good winds - and as always I cannot. But racing has been good and potterers have enjoyed some fine sailing.

**Steady Growth** Dinghy parking space is full at almost all clubs - and this is a constraint to growth. Regrettably I have heard a number of potential owners saying that they would get a Scow if dinghy parking space were available. There is stilts much "bed blocking" where little (or no) used boats deprive possible new owners from getting a boat.

**Working Party.** I must thank the Working Party on behalf of the committee and the members of the Association. The idea of a Working Party was unanimously approved at last year's AGM. I sat through all the meetings and the discussions were lively and interesting. And most importantly useful for the future of the Class.

**Travellers Trophy.** An innovation by Jon Harvey which has proved popular with those who sailed at the three Clubs involved. Jon tells me that Keyhaven may try to have a "Four Lakes" race and I hope that this exciting new series will generate more interest this year.

### Looking forward to next year

**Publicity.** it is said that half of all advertising is useful and the other a waste of time. The problem is that no one knows which half is useful and which useless. I believe that we need to have a new look at publicity - based on a principle that none reads anything anymore! We are making some progress - but it is unstructured and without a coherent plan.

**The Handbook.** We have run out - and over the coming months we will need to go through the whole booklet very carefully. There will be an opportunity to bring it up to date and to consider where changes can be made to improve it.

The Committee will be looking to a few volunteers who can take a fresh look at the booklet - and we will need an editor both to help remove some minor and ensure any changes

**All-Comers Scow Regatta.** Dick Moore is taking the lead in an LRSCA supported initiative to bring together the many different Scows sailing on the Solent and further afield. Details are still being worked out but this'll be an excellent opportunity for a fun weekend -of racing - and I am sure will show that our Scows are not only the best built but also, hopefully .the fastest!

**Succession.** The Committee will face three major changes at the next AGM, Your President, Chairman and Secretary come to the end of their terms in office. The Chairman's position is assured as Jon Harvey has agreed to follow me and the Committee has already had preliminary discussions on seeking a new President. We will be looking for a new Secretary and Committee Members

**Thank You.** Finally I would like to say thank you to the Committee - and particularly to someone who gets little mention - our webmaster. Brendan has done a great job of developing our web site, of keeping it up to date and taking a number of initiatives to improve it.

Thank you.

September 17, 2017