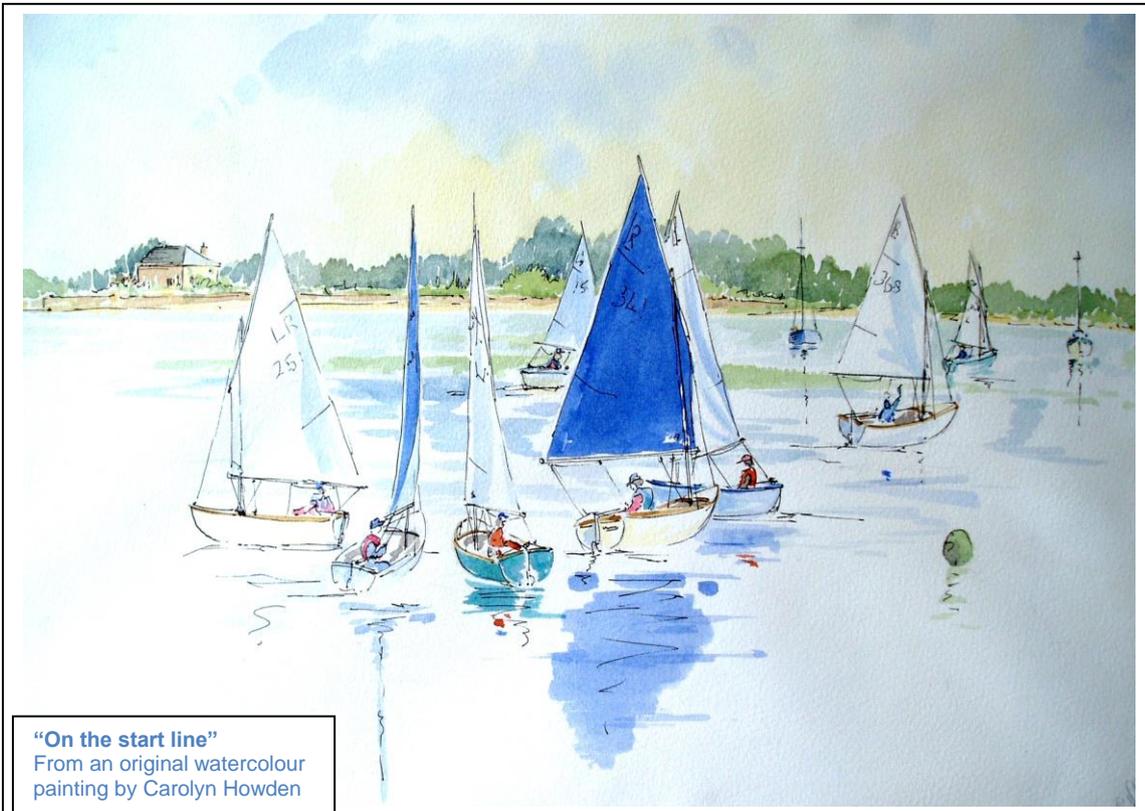


L R Scow News

Newsletter of the Lymington River Scow Class Association

Spring 2016



"On the start line"
From an original watercolour
painting by Carolyn Howden

Dear Member

Hopefully the winter is now behind us and our scows are coming out of hibernation. Our scow, Bocca Lupo is already in her space in the dinghy park at Keyhaven awaiting her first sail of the season. All the local clubs have a very full diary of events for Scows whether you are a racer or potterer or both. Our main event for the year is our annual Championship Regatta, this year being hosted by Keyhaven Yacht Club. More about that later in the Newsletter.

I would also like to draw your attention to the two items on page 6, the first concerning the new rule 6(g) regarding the mainsheet bridle and secondly rule 3(d) regarding the carrying of a painter.

I hope you all have a great season with fair winds and plenty of sunshine.

David Howden. Editor
davidhowden@talktalk.net

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Association matters

We welcome the following new members to the Association:

Nigel Russell	439	<i>Scrumpy 2</i> re-named Auk II
Jenny Grey	288	<i>Flying Horse</i> re-named Sea salt
Martin Power	371	<i>Mrs Frequently</i>
Tim Power	531	<i>Kappa</i> re-named <i>Pig in a Puddle</i>
Jo Hutchinson	337	<i>Jemima</i>
Ian Burr	351	<i>Riada</i> re-named <i>Skye</i>

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual subscriptions were due on **1st March, 2016**. If you have still not paid and wish to remain a member of the association, please send your cheque, payable to the LRSCA, to the Treasurer, David Weller, 15 Needles Court, Rookcliff Way, Milford on Sea, Hants SO41 0WA.

CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP PROCEDURE

Dan McCarthy, Class Measurer, asks that members who are selling their scows privately, to return the Owners Certificate together with the new owner's particulars, to the Class Measurer for details to be noted and a new certificate issued.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OUR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS will be held on 9th and 10th July 2016, hosted by Keyhaven Yacht Club.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held on Friday, 23rd September 2016 at the Royal Lymington Yacht Club at 6.30 pm. followed by the **ANNUAL DINNER**.

2016 Your Committee & other posts:

Hon. President: Gordon Stredwick **Chairman:** John Evans
Vice Chairman: Jon Harvey **Hon. Secretary:** Dorinda Nellis,
Hon. Treasurer: David Weller **Association Class Measurer:** Dan McCarthy.
Other members: Meriel McCarthy, Jane Cook, David Howden (Editor of the Newsletter. Brendan Nellis (Web Master)

Fleet News:

I would very much like to hear from Scow Captains/Club Secretaries about their LR Scow Class events. Editor.

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A Note from your Chairman:

It seems a long time since I last sailed my Scow but with the weather warming up it looks as if I will be back on the water before too long. I tend to try and do most of the maintenance before I put my Scow to bed for the winter but inevitably as the days get longer I get the urge to start fiddling.

Your Committee has worked hard over the winter particularly on establishing a reliable data base on members and their boats. Thank you for returning the subscription renewal forms; these have all been helpful in ensuring that, to the extent possible, the Association data base is both up-to-date and accurate. The publication of the 2016 Handbook has been delayed to enable the Committee to include all the changes arising from the return of the membership forms. If you have not yet filled in the membership form please do so now!

Gordon Stredwick is reaching the final stages of finishing his delightful history of the Lyminster River Scows. This will be sent to all members of the Association.

Discussions in the Committee and with others have indicated that all the west Solent clubs have very full sailing programmes this year. Identifying a suitable date for a trail/sail not just for the western Solent Scows but for the clubs of Chichester Harbour is very difficult. The Committee thinks it is best if those who would like visit other places make their own arrangements. The Committee will fully support any group who wish to organise such formal or informal visits to waters further afield.

Whilst slightly different, Liz Sagues has sent me details of Chichester Harbour Race Week which runs from August 15 - 19 and is based on Hayling Island SC. If anyone is interested please contact me or go to the Event web site for more information.

And now it is on to the water for, hopefully, a season of fine weather and fair winds.

John

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WANTED

At the AGM in September I have to retire from the committee having done my three year stint. It will also mean that the post of Editor of your Newsletter will become vacant. Your Committee would like to hear from any member who would like to join the Committee and also take on the Editorship of the Newsletter. If you would like to find out what is involved please do give me a call on 01590 675362 or email me at davidhowden@talktalk.net.

THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

9th and 10th July 2016

HOSTED BY KEYHAVEN YACHT CLUB

Keyhaven Yacht Club has very kindly agreed to host our Lymington River Scow Class Association National Championships and has pleasure in offering its facilities for two days of racing in the lovely waters of the Western Solent.

The programme for the weekend will include Registration, Buoyancy/ Measurement Certificate checking, welcome morning coffee and biscuits, Briefing, pre-ordered lunchtime Baguettes. There will be the traditional Afternoon Tea with Cakes on Sunday afternoon.

Buffet Supper (by ticket only) on Saturday evening.

Racing will take place over two days and the Prize Giving will follow as soon as possible after racing on Sunday.

The Notice of Race and Entry Documents will be available shortly.

In the meantime, before the event, please make sure that your LR Scow has been buoyancy tested and the Buoyancy/Measurement Certificate is valid.

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Scow news from Chichester Harbour

First, Ann Carnegie reports on a growing fleet:

The Scows in West Wittering Sailing Club are breeding. It must be a combination of influences – often nice warm weather, beautiful surroundings, friendly sailors... Each year there are a few more and if one comes on the market, it is quickly purchased by another member of the club. The Lymington River Scow has the most space in the dinghy parking area; but we are also proud to have several cousins – Bembridge Scows, Avon Scows, a Keyhaven Scow and a Chichester Scow.

The Scow is attractive to 'certain' people (!). Those who are no longer able to sail a powerful racing dinghy, but wish to sail with like-minded folks; those who wish to dabble in sailing, but not too seriously; and of course those who wish to have a little boat that sails well, is fun to own and comes (at West Wittering SC) with its very own social life! We have tea parties, breakfast parties, impromptu potters in the harbour as well as some really good racing.

West Wittering is unique as there is little water and can be accessed only on high tide; but this adds to the excitement as many a little boat with stripy or brightly coloured sails endeavours to tack down a channel which is only about 8 feet wide. This is where the oars come in useful.

So the message is, we at West Wittering are multiplying fast. Scows, Scows and more Scows, now 17. Up the Scowlers – let's have a few more. (ann@thecarnegies.net)

Liz Sagues takes a harbour-wide view:

Time and tide makes it difficult for Chichester Harbour's scattered fleets of LR Scows to gather together: whatever the arrangements, one group or more will be battling against incoming or outgoing currents, and there will be problems in reaching home before access channels dry out.

But after representatives from all round the harbour gathered for a dry-land social in the winter, we hope there will be possibilities of on-water meetings during the summer – to which LR Scow sailors prepared to trail from further afield will be very welcome. We'll circulate details in due course.

After West Wittering, the LR Scow fleet at Emsworth SC is the next biggest on the harbour, numbering nine boats. There are two LR Scows at Dell Quay SC and one at Mengeham Rythe SC. If there are any others I don't know about, please get in touch so we can include you in circulations. I'm officially approved by the Class association to carry out the annual buoyancy test and safety check required by the Class Rules, so do contact me so this can be done at a convenient time. The test is free, but obviously it makes sense to do all the Scows at one club at the same time.

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As John Evans has already mentioned in his chairman's column, Scows – all types – are to be included as a fleet in this year's Chichester Harbour Race Week (August 15-19). It would be great to have some Lymington River representatives, to show the Chichester Scow sailors our shiny wood-trimmed transoms. The week is a great regatta, organised by volunteers from the clubs of the Chichester Harbour Federation and run from Hayling Island SC. Sailing is on the open but sheltered water just inside the mouth of the harbour, with one longish race a day, which leaves time for exploring the other local attractions. HISC has fabulous facilities, including a big clubhouse whose wrap-round balcony provides a superb view of the racing area, food and drink all day, on-site accommodation, plenty of room (free) for boats and cars, and sandy beaches for non-sailing family members.



Two gentle reminders from your Committee:

The boat's painter:

The Committee is concerned that a painter as prescribed in the Rule 3 (d)(i) (page 21 of the handbook) is not being carried on a number of boats – **a painter of minimum diameter 8mm and minimum length 5m should be carried**. However this may well not be long enough for safe boat-on-boat towing. Rather than change the Rules the Committee is advising Scow owners to (i) either increase the length of their painter to 8m (of 8mm line) or (ii) when boat-on-boat towing is likely, to carry a separate longer line. In both cases floating polypropylene rope is preferred.

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Mainsheet bridle:

Rule 6(g)

The mainsheet bridle shall be of wire of finished nominal diameter not less than 5mm or rope of any type of nominal diameter not less than 6mm. The height for the underside of the bridle at its centre point when pulled firmly upwards above the forward edge of the transom on the centre line shall not be greater than 235mm. This Rule does not apply to unaltered builder supplied wire bridles supplied before 25/09/2015.