

Civil Service Sailing

Volume 46 No 2

March 2009

18/19th July at Netley!

Keen dinghy sailor? Or looking for a summer sailing weekend with a challenge? Why not try the CSSC - Civil Service Dinghy Championships this year?



Friendly, competitive, fun - at Netley Cliff SC on Southampton Water. Legendary hospitality!



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FISHERS GREEN SAILING CLUB - the opening day at the 2009 Volvo Dinghy Exhibition

For a number of years now FISHERS GREEN SC have exhibited at the London Dinghy Show, where they have represented not only their own club, but also other parts of CSSA, preparing publicity and promoting our activities nationwide. This year was no exception. From the

starters horn - sounded by Britain's history-making Beijing Olympic and Paralympic team sailors - to the close on the Sunday, the show was again a great success. RYA report an increase in visitors - no credit crunch in dinghy sailing it seems! Volvo, the show sponsors had mustered a team of Olympic sailors for the event, and also many experts giving talks on tactics, racing rules, physical fitness for sailing, tuning and much more. Many of those involved commented on the approachability and enthusiasm of our Olympians and the way the specialists in the sport shared their knowledge. One lucky young sailor (Emma Keen - aged 11) walked away with a brand new RS Tera sailing dinghy as a prize. [\(A new TV launch from RYA - Page 2\)](#)



Elizabeth Francis - many shows for FGSC

Commodore's Corner

A note from our Commodore, Alex Allan

I've been sailing now for 40-odd years, and first joined the CSSA in the mid-1970s, when I did several cruises and races on the then Sea Essay. Other highlights have included an Admiral's Cup campaign in 1975; the two-handed Round Britain and Ireland Race in 1982 with my wife Katie in the smallest boat in the race, a 25' Quarter Tonner; a well-publicised episode windsurfing to work in London during a train strike in the early 1980s, complete with bowler hat and rolled umbrella; and doing the Sydney-Hobart and campaigning a Dragon while living in Australia from 1997.



More recently, I've much enjoyed my time as Commodore of the CSSA. 2008 was another successful year for the Association. The Victory Trophy and the Dinghy Championships were well organised and closely fought, and we had another record breaking entry for the IDOR. All the clubs and divisions pursued active and successful programmes - I was pleased to see CSORC having a good season as a "virtual" club following the sale of its yacht. And congratulations to Littleton on its own Golden Jubilee.

A thank you to the many volunteers spread around the country who make all this possible and enable us all to enjoy the opportunities offered by our Association. The CSSA is one of the strongest sports associations in the Civil Service Sports Council. But even we need to encourage more people to take to the water if we are to remain sustainable, so do please do all you can to encourage friends and colleagues to join and take part.

2008 wasn't a great year for me in terms of sailing: I spent most of the summer in hospital recovering from pneumonia (no, I wasn't poisoned by Al Qaeda or the Russians!). But I'm looking forward to the 2009 season, and in particular to attending the IDOR and Dinghy Championships - and before too long getting back on the water myself.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the AGM.

Calling all CSSA Skippers!

Skippers' Training Meeting

This years Skippers' Training Meeting will be at Littleton Sailing Club on April 19th, 1030-1600. For details (or requests for subjects to be covered) contact Peter Burry peter.burry@mypostoffice.co.uk

What's on? Dates for your Diary.

29th March @ Littleton SC -Victory Trophy

The tough dinghy competition against the armed services!

19th April, 1030-1600 Skippers Training Meeting

The annual training day & update for approved skippers

23rd April, 1800hrs - CSSA AGM

Our Association's AGM (& Prize-giving) at CSSC's London Recreation Centre in Chadwick Street, SW1P 2EP

2nd - 4th May Cobweb Rally

ECYD host their rally in the Harwich area - blow those cobwebs away!

1st - 5th June, Inter-Departmental Regatta - IDOR

Meeting Sunday evening at Port Solent, racing based in Cowes, this is a big, enjoyable event for teams on Sunsail chartered yachts.

18th - 19th July, CSSC Civil Service Dinghy Championships, Netley Cliff SC.

Netley Cliff will again be hosting the Dinghy Championships. The quality of venue and legendary hospitality make this an event not to be missed. Please put in your diary now!

[RYA Volvo Dinghy Show \(continued from Page 1\)](#)

RYA launch "Sailability TV" - a new online resource for dinghy sailing

RYA chose the Dinghy Show to launch their new Sailability TV. Sailability, RYA's charity which provides disabled people with access to sailing activities now has a new online information resource. You can see the boat, hear the wind, read the waves or just sail, all online.

See how this facility can extend sailing to a much wider community on: www.ryasailability.tv

CIVIL SERVICE SAILING ASSOCIATION - 51st AGM

Members are invited to attend the 51st Annual General Meeting of the CSSA, to be held on Thursday, 23rd April 2009 in the Westminster Hall at the CSSC Recreation Centre, 1 Chadwick Street, SW1P 2EP, commencing at 18.00 hours.

AGENDA

Presentation of awards and trophies

Commodore's address

Minutes of the 50th AGM

Adoption of the Annual Report for 2008

Treasurer's Report and Adoption of the 2008 Annual Accounts

Election of Officers and Committee Members (*See over*)

Appointment of Auditor

After closure of the AGM, members are invited to raise any matters for discussion.

Following any discussion, a free buffet will be available.

The minutes of the 50th AGM have been published in the online edition of Civil Service Sailing for June 2008. This is available on, www.cs-sailing.org or your club website. Additional copies will be made available at the meeting.



Full directions to the Chadwick Street Centre can be found at:-

[www.cssc-london.co.uk/
chadwickst/location.htm](http://www.cssc-london.co.uk/chadwickst/location.htm)

AGM 2009, continued:

Election of Officers and Committee Members

Nominations		Current Divisional Representatives	
Commodore	Alex Allan ¹	CSD	Eric Smith
Vice-Commodore	Robert Stephens ¹	CSORC	Trevor Drew
Rear-Commodore (Offshore)	Chris Malone ²	ECYD	Jean Rehill
Rear-Commodore (Dinghy)	Eddie Pope ²	FGSC	Brian Conroy
General Secretary	John Figgures	HPSC	Roy Tootell
Treasurer	Brian Grubb	JSC	James Hodgkiss
Offshore Secretary	Anna Wetherell	LSC	David Hartland
Dinghy Secretary	Vacant	NCSC	Paul Clark
Membership Secretary	Ken Pavitt	POG	Mike Childs
Public Relations Officer	David Richards	5KSC	Paul Brereton
Training Officer	Peter Burry		
Safety Officer	Martin Hugo		
Members (Max 9 members)	John Hall		
	Peter Shuttleworth		

Notes

1. The current period in office for both the Commodore and Vice Commodore ends in April 2011.
2. Both Rear Commodores were co-opted following the AGM held in April 2008. If now elected at the April 2009 AGM, their period in office will end in April 2011 and they then will be eligible for election for a second contiguous term.
3. Each Division has a seat on General Committee, filled by a representative appointed by the Division's Committee.
4. The Chief Executive of the CSSC, Marian Holmes, has an ex-officio seat on the General Committee

CSSA ANNUAL REPORT 2008

INTRODUCTION

As it entered its second half-century, the Association continued to provide a wide range of sailing, both dinghy and offshore. Its RYA accredited schools continue to generate a flow of trained sailors and the offshore yachts have cruised to Scotland, the Baltic and France. Offshore racing has seen a significant revival and several events were contested in chartered yachts. The IDOR again broke the record for entries and was a significant success. The dinghy sailors have also enjoyed a good season, with both the Victory Trophy and Dinghy Championships being well supported.

The AGM in April 2008 brought a number of changes to the General Committee: Alex Allan agreed to continue as Commodore and Rob Stephens was elected as Vice Commodore. Chris Malone and Eddie Pope were co-opted to the Committee as Rear Commodores Offshore and Dinghy respectively and David Richards agreed to become PRO, in addition to his role as Editor of CS-Sailing.

Civil Service Sports Council (CSSC)

The Association noted, with gratitude, CSSC's continued support through its financial, insurance, publicity and real estate management activities. As in previous years, several CSSC staff were able to enjoy a day's offshore sailing on Sea Essay which enabled them to better appreciate the sport, and to see how CSSC contribute to it.

CSSA Membership

The exercise to rationalise and CSSA and CSSC membership databases neared completion and membership remained stable.

Publicity

The Association's quarterly newsletter, Civil Service Sailing, continued to provide a forum for Clubs and Offshore Divisions to communicate with members across the Association. Electronic copies of the newsletter were also made available on-line at www.cs-sailing.org and on club websites. Printing and postage costs remain high and various options for distributing at least some of the magazines electronically were being examined.

During the year the PRO has had discussions with CSSC on a marketing strategy and he will continue to work on this partnership so as to maximise CSSC's interface with the public sector. Special recognition should be given to those volunteers working at a local level where there are some excellent publications and publicity effort, including input to sailing exhibitions and the support needed for national and CSSC events such as IDOR & National Dinghy Championships. The challenge for 2009 is to upgrade CSSA's external publicity and websites, with a view to at least maintaining our membership.

DINGHY SAILING

The Victory Trophy Tournament between three-boat dinghy teams representing the Navy, Army, RAF and CSSC took place in March, hosted by Littleton SC. The event was won convincingly by the Royal Navy. The CSSC team, cap-

tained by Damian Boreham, sailed competitively but was just beaten to second place by the Army. A team from Littleton also competed, although ineligible for the trophy. Wind conditions were good for team racing and the event was run to its usual high standard.

40 dinghies competed in the CSSC & CSSA Dinghy Championships on Southampton Water in July, hosted by Netley Cliff SC. Gusts of Force 5-6 were experienced on the Saturday, coupled with wind shifts. Sunday dawned with scarcely a breath of wind, but after an early lunch the wind filled in nicely to become a respectable force 3. The CSSC Dinghy Champion and overall winner was Martin Hughes in his Finn from Warsash SC. Laura Glover from Littleton SC won the junior prize in her Topper. Fishers Green SC narrowly beat Littleton SC to win back the Littleton Bell. The Committee and members of the host club combined as usual to ensure smooth organisation of the event and excellent hospitality, ably backed by Fishers Green SC which provided race officer, safety cover and results compilation.

It was disappointing that there was insufficient interest in entering a dinghy team for the Caribbean Challenge but other notable achievements of club members are recorded in club reports, showing that dinghy sailing has a positive future.

Fishers Green Sailing Club (FGSC)

The past year has been something of a mixture of good things (some very good) and bad (the latter mostly weather-related) as far as FGSC is concerned.

Our finest hours included retrieving the Littleton Bell at the CSSC Dinghy Championships at Netley in July, together with the prize for the winner in the most numerous class at the Championships, the Solos. It was gratifying to see three Fishers Green sailors in the first five at a coastal event such as this. It all goes to prove the oft-repeated maxim that "if you can sail well at Fishers Green, you can sail well anywhere!"

Our Cadet Squadron continues to cover itself with glory, representing us at the Cadet Nationals at Weymouth and the Worlds at Medemblick, Holland. No FGSC Cadet was in the main medals this year, but there were some seriously good results in the indicator fleets which bode well for the future. Two FGSC Cadet crews have qualified for the National Squad for 2009, which means that they are likely to be competing in the World Championships in Argentina in December, and five of the twelve crews in the RYA Eastern Region Cadet Squad are from our club. If only we could arrange to hold the CSSC Junior Championships on a date that didn't coincide with a Cadet event (this year it's the Cadet Europeans in Almeria, Spain), we could enter a serious bunch of competitors!

Two of our former Cadet sailors, Sam Brearey and Chris Proffitt are in the 470 RYA Olympic Development Squad for 2012, having successfully graduated from the 420s in which they won gold and silver in the 2007 Youth Europeans. All in all, the youth side at FGSC goes from strength to strength.

Back at Holyfield Lake, we held a full program of Open Meetings in 2008, alongside our regular Club series racing. Turnouts were a little down this year, but the summer weather and winds (some say, "What summer?") were not conducive to enthusing marginal participants. We also had a problem with weed growth engendered by the nutrient soup washed by the rain into our lake from surrounding farmland. We've trebled the quantity of barley straw distributed around the water this year in the hope of suppressing similar weed growth in 2009.

Our Clubhouse Enhancement Project came to a close with the completion of the new Galley, which is now larger, easier to clean and better-equipped than before. Just as well, because we have had to cater for anything up to 200 members and visitors at a time in the past year.

Hooe Point Sailing Club (HPSC)

Membership has remained constant throughout this year with an out turn of 123. Hooe Point have suffered the loss of two very popular members in the autumn: Alan Pitt, our Honorary General Secretary, passed away after a long battle with his illness, and Brian Earley died suddenly at home prior to a Saturday morning cruiser race in our C Se-

ries. They will be sadly missed as they were both great characters and excellent sailors.

In February an evening visit to the Plymouth School of Navigation's computer simulator suite allowed members to navigate all types of vessels, including Brittany Ferries, into the Port of Plymouth. Afterwards, we were advised not to give up our day jobs!!

Dinghy racing has been held on Monday nights during the summer. Unfortunately numbers have been declining with some family members, who were very competitive racers, barred owing to age restrictions. The Club's new safety boat has proved to be an excellent asset; it has also assisted with other sailing club events within the Port of Plymouth.

Cruiser racing has had a good year, with double figures entries being achieved when weather permitted. Suppers in the clubhouse have proved popular after evening races. Organised cruises to Guernsey & Fowey were held, but the very poor summer weather curtailed other events.

However, the weather for our Regatta Weekend in July was excellent; cruiser, dinghy, blind rowing and ladies rowing races took place with good competition & humour. For the children, there was crab fishing, home made model sailing boat competitions plus a treasure hunt. Approximately 60 people attended our evening BBQ with 70's music being performed by two members. Our annual prize giving & Christmas get together was held on December 6 at the Mayflower Sailing Club Plymouth, with about 40 members attending.

We have completed the fitting out of our changing rooms, toilets & showers; which now offer much improved facilities, especially for our dinghy sailors. The club hopes to upgrade & decorate our clubhouse kitchen this winter. Finally, a word of thanks to CSSC for assisting in the clarification of our club's future position with MOD Estates.

Jumbles Sailing Club (JSC)

This year we have had another successful year enjoying a full reservoir, a busy racing programme, hosting a Lancashire Sailing Schools Association regatta and also our own unique social events.

The New Year was welcomed in by members in the traditional manner by a party in the club house. We held the 'Laying up Supper' in February where we welcomed the Commodores of Bolton Sailing Club and Delph Sailing Club to our annual dinner and prize-giving. On the 8th November, we celebrated the Gunpowder plot with fireworks and BBQ despite near gale force winds and rain coming down like stair rods. The year ended with the Christmas Cracker novelty race where, as usual, members entered the festive spirit with Santas and snowmen crewing boats festooned with tinsel and baubles. This was followed by the children's Christmas party with that 'special person' in attendance. The 'Icebreaker' was held on the Sunday between Christmas and the New Year Boxing Day and, as usual, was strongly contested. Could it be because the first prize was a bottle of rum?

The season commenced with the Tune-up day in March and by the end of the Winter Series there had been a total of 38 Sundays of racing at Jumbles. The first leg of our annual interclub competition with Delph Sailing Club at Jumbles had to be cancelled; however, Jumbles sailors visited Delph SC in September for the return leg.

We hosted a Lancashire Sailing Schools Association regatta on our water where young sailors from Lancashire in Toppers and Lasers proved how competitive they can be. It was, despite the competitiveness, a very good natured event with no false starts or protests. Thanks go to Richard Monks and his team of volunteers who made this a very smooth running event.

Our younger sailors have been very active, this season at the club and elsewhere representing Jumbles. Congratulations to Eleanor Hopkins on winning our Commodore's Cup trophy. Congratulations to Duncan Boyter on winning our BST trophy and he also came first in the Topper under 14's in the LSSA regatta. Congratulations also to Kirk Knights who is making his mark on the open racing scene: Kirk achieved 18th in the National Schools Sailing championships at Carsington and 2nd in the North West Travellers championships. Kirk has only been sailing for two seasons.

The training section started the year with four members being awarded the Dinghy Instructor Certificate and Race Training Certificate. In July another member was awarded his Dinghy Instructor certificate giving us a total of eight dinghy instructors plus our Senior Instructor. The training programme started in April with the first of the monthly Saturday Club sessions. These sessions have been well attended by both club members and prospective members. Our RYA training centre status was confirmed at the annual inspection.

The annual sail and camping weekend this year was held at the Ullswater SC where we were made most welcome. There were 11 dinghies logged out on the Saturday for the flotilla sail to Aira Point, a distance of approximately three and a half miles as the crow flies, or six miles tacking. After a picnic stop, the flotilla prepared for the Lake District Trophy race. For the first time we made this a pursuit race with the slowest handicap boat setting off first and the rest setting off at timed intervals according to their respective handicaps. Geoff Stones and Simon Buckley must have felt entirely abandoned, alone on the shore waiting for the minutes to pass until they could start - the joys of sailing a B14. The Lake District trophy was won by Barbara Harris and Jonathan Hodgkiss in a GP14.

At the recent AGM the membership approved the plans to build an extension to the club house to provide large male and female changing rooms, a double boat garage and a storeroom. A pre-application meeting has been held with the Local Authority planning department and following alterations to the plans we have been advised by them to submit the application.

As yet, our lease has still not been renewed but we have received an invoice for the four years back rent which Jumbles owed the CSSC. This has been paid and our thanks go to Peter Chapman, the former Vice Commodore of the CSSA, for his efforts in this matter.

Littleton Sailing Club (LSC)

Many Club Members spent hundreds of hours of their time ensuring the success of the events to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Club. Chief Executive CSSC, CSSA and Club Flag Officers, past and present, joined us in the celebration. We created and chose a new flag to identify and act as a focus for the sailors of our three Clubs. The commemorative present from Fishers Green was particularly welcomed. Valuable local newspaper publicity for recruiting new members was secured through the supportive presence of the Mayor.

Some of our most active and influential office holders decided to reduce their commitments; some of them moved out of area. Finding replacements is proving increasingly difficult. We have a nascent Recognition & Reward scheme for all sailing clubs on site. Sue Antonelli (Rear Commodore Sailing) was awarded the CSSA Armstrong Trophy. Geoff Carveth (Honorary Member) is the reigning World Champion in SB3 Sports keelboat. Many other Members were successful in winning or being highly placed in open meetings, national and international events.

The innovative programme of sailing and social events continues to be well supported on both days every normal weekend with a Summer Thursday evening Twilight series. The high quality Charter and Training fleet continue to be appreciated by our Members and our RYA Recognised Training Centre. Young Sailors are organised for a 3 seasons programme sailing & training. We have hosted the inter-Services Victory Trophy team sailing event, Open Meetings for our recognised classes, and encouraging Young Sailor activity by running Surrey Schools Regatta. The winter shore based series of Club nights with visiting speakers continues successfully.

The contract for our third lake bed re-configuration is about to start and follows consultation with and help from CSSC Anglers, Divers and Community Stakeholders and extensive contact with neighbours and regulatory agencies. The plan envisages a near doubling of sailing water available for upwind sailing, available throughout the year. We commissioned a significantly more powerful IT system; this allows remote working using broadband and development of our Web site for recruitment and Member benefits.

The LSC has been faced with some contentious issues: the present low water level is unsatisfactory, our boundary fencing is regularly damaged by traffic accidents, and vandalism of the Club estate is unacceptably high.

Netley Cliff Sailing Club (NCSC)

For the second year in a row, the summer weather proved a challenge for the planned programme of events. The cruisers did however improve on last years tally, with a cruise to Poole and several successful racing events. The dinghy programme closely resembled that of previous years and was well supported, despite the disappointing weather throughout August that had, amongst other effects, caused the abandonment of the Commodore's Challenge.

The social events continue to be well supported, no doubt helped by the upgraded cooking facilities installed in the clubhouse this year. The Club once again hosted the CSSC Dinghy Championships. Improvements made as a result of the lessons learned from the previous year's event helped the event run smoothly, even the weather decided to cooperate for a change. The Organising Committee plan further improvements next year to improve registration, event management and washroom facilities.

Membership numbers continue to creep up. Storage in the boat yard is being improved to make space for additional boats, although the Club still has spare cruiser moorings available on Southampton Water. A new container store was purchased to provide additional storage for member's sails and boat equipment.

OFFSHORE MATTERS

Arising from Peter Chapman's retirement as Vice-Commodore, Rob Stephens was elevated from R-C(O) at the 2008 AGM; Chris Malone took over and quickly became involved in an inquiry into a collision involving *Sea Essay* and many other matters – somewhat of a Baptism of Fire - an awful lot happens behind the scenes; Peter Chapman's wise input is still most valued on offshore and other matters including insurance issues.

Steph Hall raced across the Atlantic during the year, having caught the offshore sailing bug from taking part in the IDOR. This is a very good example of the outcomes that can occur arising from CSSA and CSSC helping to encourage people who might not otherwise be easily able to do so to take up serious sailing. Well done Steph, who is also very willing to share her experiences with CSSA and member clubs, has already had an article published in CS-Sailing and will be giving presentations in the New Year.

Each Yacht Division provides training for members. Training courses continued to be provided for Day Skipper and Competent Crew, and during the year 3 new Approved Yachtmaster Offshore and 2 new Approved Coastal Skipper tickets were issued. 4 were issued to members of CSD, with 1 new YMO to ECYD. 5KSC have a prospective approved Coastal Skipper and there is also a new Yachtmaster Offshore in Scotland who is also a prospective Approved Offshore Skipper. The MCA/RYA Coastal Skipper **full** Certificate of Competence (i.e. by practical examination under the aegis of an independent RYA Yachtmaster Examiner, with the certificate then issued by the RYA) is to be re-designated Yachtmaster Coastal.

The general consensus of those who achieve their various tickets is that it definitely "raises their game" and all members are encouraged to pursue appropriate qualifications – these are very much more than "just a piece of paper". More qualified skippers at Approved Offshore and Approved Coastal Skipper level are also needed to better enable Divisions to provide cruising and racing capacity and also to increase the pool of suitably qualified Mates for more challenging activities.

New Yachtmaster Instructors and Cruising Instructors are needed if we are to be able to continue to operate as at present – the Principal of the CSSA Sea School is Peter Burry – please contact him if you would like to express an interest – but bear in mind that there will need to be a real commitment to provide training courses, including a willingness to travel and become familiar with different Yacht Division waters. The annual skippers' training day run by Peter Burry continues to be successful and provides an opportunity to discuss topical issues.

Each yacht division pursued extensive sailing programmes, albeit 5KSC were literally locked into Liverpool Marina for several months while the lock gate was repaired, which had an adverse impact on both their activities and income.

There are encouraging signs that CSORC are starting to make real progress using chartered yachts for relatively low cost events, although the cost of taking part in very popular events is prohibitive as charter rates soar. 5KSC have also entered competitive events with *Artful Dodger*, although CSORC are unlikely to be able to afford to obtain another yacht for the foreseeable future.

ECYD are looking into enhancing the coding of their yacht to enable longer passages to be undertaken – possibly to include Yachtmaster Ocean qualifying passages. However, prospective YMs Ocean should look very carefully into the precise RYA requirements as a qualifying passage will only count if undertaken as skipper or mate of the watch – otherwise it will represent no more than a mile builder, albeit an interesting and challenging one.

CSSA/CSSC are actively looking to recruit new members – taster sails provide a good opportunity to encourage prospective members to take things forward and are to be encouraged. Also, consideration is being given to the inclusion of keel boat racing in the 2010 Caribbean Challenge – CSSC would be likely to be involved in sponsorship – so encourage new members and training, meanwhile watching this space.

Inter-Departmental Offshore Regatta (IDOR)

This year's regatta was our largest ever with a record 22 boats entering from 8 different departments together with 6 CSSA clubs. The format was unchanged from earlier years with practice day on the Monday followed by 4 inshore and 3 offshore races over the next four days. Each entry consists of a crew of 8 racing with spinnakers and a mass start – quite a sight! The event also coincided with some perfect weather, enabling us to compete the Round The Island race for the first time in three years. Congratulations to Matt Adams and his team from the Met Office for winning the coveted Eric Seal memorial Trophy.

IDOR 2009 starts on Monday 1 June 2009.

Channel Sailing Division (CSD)

Sea Essay was in use on 202 days which included four weeks in Holland for the summer cruise. Over 320 crew have sailed or attended courses on *Sea Essay*. 22 skippers took the boat out, including 3 new approved skippers.

This season we have had 6 radar courses (23 passes), a spinnaker and sail trimming course, 2 taster sails and 1 Start Sailing Day in addition to our normal array of training courses. 23 students took part in 7 other courses and 8 Competent Crew, 8 Day Skipper and 2 Coastal Skipper course certificates were awarded and 5 candidates (2 CS and 3 YM) were successful in their Approved Skipper assessments. Nikki Sherman has been appointed a Cruising Instructor.

CSD is in a healthy financial position and we plan to be in position to order a new boat at the 2009 Southampton Boat Show for delivery in early 2010.

East Coast Yacht Division (ECYD)

We continued our training programme which was, in general, well supported. Six RYA courses were held in the 2008 season including 4 Competent Crew / Day Skipper courses, a Start Yachting and a Radar course. Sadly no Coastal Skipper or Coastal Skipper / Yachtmaster preparation with exam were held. Three informal Boat Handling courses and a Passage Planning course were also run. In June, we chartered our previous club boat, *Pegasus*, from Britannia Sailing as there was demand for introductory sails or 'Start Yachting' while *Freyja* was away on the long trip. Most of these candidates returned in October to complete their Competent Crew course on *Freyja*.

The usual rallies were held at the beginning of the season and in the autumn. The autumn rally was blighted by gales and few boats made it to the Blackwater, although the crews drove round to Badwell for the Rally meal on Saturday evening. For this year's long trip, *Freyja* broke new ground by visiting Germany as far east as Straslund,

which is very close to the Polish border. Time was spent cruising the Danish islands before returning home through the Kiel Canal and Friesian Islands.

The AGM and pre meeting was attended by 55 people. Discussions took place about where Freyja would go in 2009 and the meeting voted in favour of Brittany. This year we are organising two delivery legs from Shotley to Brest or Concarneau and then to La Rochelle with continuous sailing so that the crews can experience the watch system over 3 or 4 continuous days sailing.

CS Offshore Racing Club CSORC)

The Civil Service Offshore Racing Club has continued to build up its activities, with 120 confirmed members, of whom 30 entered at least one race this year. We entered a number of events on chartered yachts, ranging from short, 'round the cans' racing, such as the Sunsail Series, to longer inshore and cross channel races, such as the Weymouth JOG and the Cherbourg RORC. We also competed in the IDOR. These events yielded a total of 25 races with a wide range of results, including a first place.

Of particular note is the RORC race to Cherbourg that went ahead on a Sigma 38 despite the forecast southerly Force 8. It is a credit to the depth of experience in the CSORC crew that not only did they successfully complete the event, but came home proud winners of the RORC Seahorse Medallion. The Weymouth JOG, on a J109, was a lot more sedate, though not without its exciting moments, particularly at the finish! A leisurely sail back and stop-off at Lulworth made for a very memorable weekend. We also had some success in the IDOR, where the CSORC crew finished 3rd in the Pairs Competition, 2nd in the CSORC Plate, and 1st in the final offshore race from Cowes to Portsmouth.

The Club also held a 2-day training event in September, where spinnaker work, race starts, upwind techniques and other topics were explained and practiced. The Club is grateful to CSD for the charter of Sea Essay for this event.

Five Kingdoms Sailing Club (5KSC)

2008 has been a good year for 5KSC with much positive feedback from trainees, cruisers, racers and skippers. We have improved our financial position and added to our register of skippers. *Artful Dodger* has now completed 6 years with the Club and has provided the most comfortable season's sailing since coming into our service.

Our 2008 programme closely followed our now well-established format. We lost our winter racing with Liverpool Yacht Club at the beginning of the year because of the closure of the marina lock for upgrades. The work on the locks was completed behind schedule but just in time for *Artful Dodger* to leave, on schedule, for Oban in May. We had a short season of cruising in the Hebrides before a transfer to the Clyde for most of the season. The annual Clyde Muster with the Scottish Civil Service Cruising Club took place in Kilchattan Bay on the southeast corner of Bute. *Artful Dodger* returned to Liverpool at the end of August and the late season saw a series of popular weekend cruises, taster day-sails on the Mersey and racing with Liverpool Yacht Club.

Len Creswell, Chief Instructor, and his team of Cruising Instructors provided RYA training and examination on the Clyde and elsewhere producing 2 Certificates of Competence as Coastal Skipper, 2 Coastal Skipper practical, 2 Day Skipper practical, and 4 Competent Crew. The Cruising Instructors provided the RYA practical courses from Introduction to Yachting to Day Skipper and provided all-comers skippered 'sea time' cruises to meet members' demand for gaining experience without formal instruction. Introductory day-sails on the Mersey have proved very popular with novices and have been over-subscribed. Informal skills honing days have provided opportunities for those with some experience to polish skills ranging from close quarters motoring in marinas to spinnaker handling.

5KSC completed its first CSSC representative event. Unfortunately there was little wind and the officials started only 3 of the 6 scheduled races. On the bright side, *Artful Dodger* finished second in Class. The Club also took advantage of the rule changes for the Inter Departmental Offshore Regatta (IDOR) permitting entries by CSSA Clubs and our

team thoroughly enjoyed the week.

Big thanks are due to Andy Deyes and his team of committed and skilled helpers for completing essential maintenance and installing upgrades to ensure that *Artful Dodger* remains an attractive, comfortable and dependable yacht. Skippers and crews have also played their part by tending to minor repair work during the season.

Income for 2008 exceeded that for 2007 and will be close to the target turnover of £17,500 for the year. We have increased our business, upgraded our yacht, made our scheduled repayment against our loan from the CSSA, and have a small but comfortable reserve of funds. The activities of 5KSC have introduced members to opportunities in all Divisions of the CSSA and aboard private yachts both at home and abroad.

Portsmouth Offshore Group (POG)

Most of our 490 members agree that the weather in 2008 made it one of the worst sailing years in memory. We had few periods of gale-free, warm and dry weather but, although those with ambitious sailing plans were thwarted, we were remarkably lucky with the majority of our major club events.

April saw the first of these, with the launch of the 50 boats ashore for the winter; the weather was good but this all changed for the Cobweb Rally to the Island Sailing Club at Cowes. The forecast was for NE gales which ensured that the sensible cancelled and the remaining 6 boats had an “interesting” sail across and very lively night at Cowes Yacht ‘Haven’. Setting the climatic tone for the year, many boats had to motor most of the way back on the Sunday with no wind! The ever popular Folly Jolly restored our faith with great weather, 19 boats and 40 odd people having a splendid weekend, and the same happened to the Island Harbour Rally, when 20 boats and 50 people enjoyed themselves in more good weather. The two races of the year were, however, spoilt by the climate. The Nab ‘n Back forecast was for high winds so only 11 boats braved the start and 4 fewer finished despite a shortened course. The Round the Cans had the opposite experience and had to be abandoned with no wind.

Throughout the season, the informal “potters” were all well attended and were mostly lucky with the weather.

The club continue to provide 231 moorings in Portsmouth Harbour of which 221 were occupied. The unallocated moorings were those suitable only for shallow draft boats that can take the ground. The majority of our moorings are on the pontoons by the sailing centre where the clubhouse has once more proved to be an ideal centre for social and sporting activities for organised and impromptu events and is a hive of activity on the part of members, families and friends on any weekend with half decent weather. The club has organised visiting speakers for each winter month and, with the magnificent views of Portsmouth Harbour, has been an atmospheric and popular venue for the Commodore’s Dinner, the New Year’s Party and other evening meals. Our clubhouse has even hosted the AGM of another CSSA Division.

With our objective of operating a substantial business to a professional standard by using our own volunteer labour, POG continues to thrive and our membership is expanding slowly. This practice ensures mooring charges are kept to a level that enables many Civil Servants to have the pleasure of owning and sailing a boat. We look apprehensively at the near future when an increase of 20% in the Crown Estate charges for the moorings and a further 100% plus RPI over 5 years as site rent for the CSSC, means that in 2010 we will have to find an extra £35,000 a year from our mooring charges.

CHANDLERY

Rectangular CSSA House Flags

Triangular CSSA Burgees

Sizes: Large (30cm x 45cm approx) £16.00

Small (20cm x 30cm approx) £13.00

CSSA Ties (Polyester) £10.00

P & P included. Please send your requests & cheques (payable to Civil Service Sailing Association) to:

Brian Grubb,

64 St Cross Road, WINCHESTER, Hants. SO23 9PS

TREASURER'S REPORT and ABRIDGED CSSA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2008

TREASURER'S REPORT

2008 Results

1. The Association's surplus for 2008 was £13,893 compared with £9,571 for 2007. The main reason for the increase was that £250 was expended on grants in 2008 whereas £6,500 was spent in 2007. Conversely, expenditure on CSSA's magazine was significantly higher, at £10,353 compared with £6,843. This was because of increased size and postage. Expenditure on the magazine is under review, including options for an 'e-magazine'. Likewise, training expenditure increased from £995 in 2007 to £1,515 in 2008. This was partly a result of a decision to recommend that training skippers in the offshore yacht divisions should have a medical examination and that the Association would bear the costs.

Change in disclosure of loan balances

2. At the conclusion of their audit of the 2007 accounts the Association's auditors suggested that the element of loan liability due for settlement within one year should be shown separately on the balance sheet as a current liability rather than included in the overall loan balance. They agreed, however, that this change could be implemented from 2008. This has been done, using as its basis the amounts of loan capital estimated to be repaid in the following year. The comparative figures for 2007 have been re stated on the same basis. Loan assets have been split in the same way between the element due within one year and the element due later, so as to provide a true and fair view of net current assets. None of the changes affects the results or the overall financial position.

2008 Financial position and highlights

3. The Association's financial position remains strong and it has substantial reserves. Financial support for its clubs continues to be mainly in the form of loans. No new commercial borrowings were taken during the year and the Association used £15,000 of its reserves to make early repayments on existing borrowings without penalty. Such borrowings had been taken to finance interest-bearing loans to Divisions and the repayments were translated into interest-free loans to the Divisions concerned, saving them significant amounts of interest. An additional early repayment of £5,000 was financed directly by the Division concerned (East Coast Yacht Division), enabling its loan to be extinguished.

4. In addition to interest-free loans the Association made a grant of £250 to Fishers Green Sailing Club to help sponsor two of its members in international competition. Support has also been given towards training costs in the offshore divisions to keep instructors up to date.

The Future

5. It is envisaged that future financial support will continue on similar lines. For this reason, as a matter of policy, the Association aims to retain a minimum of around £50,000 in its bank and deposit account reserves. This is to allow for any difficulties that Divisions may face in matching the repayments that the Association is committed to paying on its commercial borrowings; provide short term loan financing for divisional projects; and be a safety net against unforeseen contingencies suffered by the Association or its clubs. Within those constraints and other operational requirements the Association aims to make as much of its reserves as possible available to member clubs by way of interest-free loans, so that clubs rather than the Association receive the benefit. And to the extent that

its limited annual income allows, the Association is prepared to consider making modest grants towards specific projects where there is a case to do so.

6. The joint CSSC/CSSA exercise to establish CSSA's true membership numbers has still to be finalised. However, results continue to suggest that past figures on which Membership Grant – the Association's main income source - has been based may have been substantially overstated. This might lead to calls for a future reduction in grant although the Association has a strong case for maintaining the present level. No indications have yet been given by the CSSC.

7. A motion to reappoint CW Fellowes Limited as auditor for 2009 will be proposed at the annual general meeting.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

8. Abridged financial statements comprising the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 December 2008 are attached. They are drawn directly from the audited financial statements. Copies of the full (12 page) financial statements - including the Audit Report (which contains an unqualified audit opinion), Cash Flow Statement and Notes - will be available at the forthcoming AGM. Copies may also be obtained as follows:

By e mail request to grubbs@stcross.fslife.co.uk

By provision of an SAE (A4 envelope) to me at:

64 St Cross Road

Winchester

Hants

SO23 9PS

Brian Grubb

Honorary Treasurer

11 March 2009

CIVIL SERVICE SAILING ASSOCIATION - ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**Income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 December 2008**

	2008	2008	2007	2007
	£	£	£	£
Income				
CSSC membership grant	24,240		23,535	
CSSC representative events grant	6,880		3,664	
Associate membership subscriptions	4,323		3,996	
Training income	-		-	
Interest on bank deposits	3,186		3,191	
Other Income	7		43	
	<u> </u>	38,636	<u> </u>	34,429
General Expenditure				
Committee costs	2,063		3,058	
Other administrative costs	1,590		1,406	
Functions	573		1,210	
Grants funded by CSSA	250		6,500	
Training expenditure	1,515		995	
Magazine	10,353		6,843	
Advertising and publicity	491		464	
RYA subscription	388		366	
Loan default provision	-		-	
Trophies and citations	641		352	
	<u> </u>	17,864	<u> </u>	21,194
Representative events expenditure				
Offshore racing	1,200		-	
Dinghy championships	3,235		1,705	
Victory Trophy	664		634	
Interdepartmental offshore races	1,780		1,325	
	<u> </u>	6,879	<u> </u>	3,664
Gross Surplus		<u>13,893</u>		<u>9,571</u>
Loan interest and rents				
HSBC loan interest and charges	6,575		11,888	
Less: amounts recharged to divisions	(6,575)		(11,888)	
	<u> </u>	-	<u> </u>	-
CSSC rents	68,280		64,922	
Less: amounts recharged to divisions	(68,280)		(64,922)	
	<u> </u>	-	<u> </u>	-
Net Surplus to General Fund		<u>13,893</u>		<u>9,571</u>

CIVIL SERVICE SAILING ASSOCIATION – ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**Balance sheet at 31 December 2008**

	2008	2008	Restated 2007	Restated 2007
	£	£	£	£
Loans to Divisions due after one year				
CSSA-financed interest-free loans	109,692		128,621	
HSBC-financed interest-bearing loans	50,715		96,687	
	<u> </u>	160,407	<u> </u>	225,308
Current Assets				
Loans to Divisions due within one year:				
CSSA-financed interest-free loans	28,929		29,304	
HSBC-financed interest-bearing loans	25,801		31,826	
Chandlery stock	1,474		858	
Sundry debtors	77,125		71,822	
Bank current and deposit accounts	138,421		109,404	
	<u> </u>	271,750	<u> </u>	243,214
Current liabilities				
Loans from HSBC – due within one year	25,801		31,826	
Sundry creditors	45,332		43,640	
Corporation tax	835		788	
	<u> </u>	71,968	<u> </u>	76,254
Current assets less current liabilities		199,782		166,960
Total assets less current liabilities		360,189		392,268
Long term liabilities				
Loans from HSBC – due after one year		50,715		96,687
Total assets less total liabilities		309,474		295,581
General Fund				
Balance brought forward		295,581		286,010`
Surplus for year		13,893		9,571
		<u>309,474</u>		<u>295,581</u>

Brian Grubb**Honorary Treasurer - for and on behalf of the General Committee****11 March 2009**

East Coast Yacht Division - ECYD



Open Day on board Freyja

On Easter Monday 13 April Freyja will be open and 'at home' for any CSSC member to drop by and look over the yacht that was rated No.2 in 'Best Boats of the Century' by Yachting Monthly. Members of the committee will be on board from 10.00am until 4.00pm to show you around and tell you about the club and all that it has to offer. Make it a family day and have lunch at the Shipwreck Inn at Shotley marina where we keep Freyja, and while you are it visit the HMS Ganges Museum.

We are definitely headed for La Rochelle this year.

After the usual series of early season training courses and local sails for prospective members and those who want to brush up their skills Freyja will spend three weeks away in southern Holland before returning home and starting her long summer trip south.

Final destination is the waters off La Rochelle, the furthest south that we will have taken Freyja. We start with two long 'blue water' legs from the UK in anticipation of even more adventurous sailing next year. As of right now there may be just one or two berths free in these two legs, but go to the ECYD website for the latest details.

Not made up your mind yet?

Berths still available on Freyja

for the 2009 Season

Contact the Crew Bureau!

Check the ECYD website: www.ecyd.org.uk

18:00 Friday 10 April to (Easter weekend)	to	18:00 Monday 13 April	Two days available for private charter Book Freyja with the Yacht Secretary Hilary Tyrell: yacht_sec@ecyd.org.uk (or phone - details on website)
18:00 Monday 13 April	to	18:00 Wednesday 15 April	Introductory and Taster Sail For those who are wondering what cruising is all about
18:00 Wednesday 15 April	to	18:00 Friday 17 April	Boat handling and RYA Start Sailing Taster cruise
18:00 Friday 17 April	to	18:00 Sunday 19 April	Practice Boat Handling – under sail and power
18:00 Monday 27 April	to	18:00 Tuesday 28 April	RYA Radar course
18:00 Tuesday 28 April	to	18:00 Wednesday 29 April	RYA Radar course
18:00 Wednesday 29 April	to	18:00 Friday 1 May	Boat Handling Course
noon Monday 4 May	to	noon Monday 11 May	Outbound to Netherlands and cruising In Zeeland Skipper Jeff Herschel – berth available Tel: 01628 521596
noon Monday 18 May	to	noon Monday 25 May	Return from Netherlands - Seatime for club members
noon Monday 25 May	to	18:00 Saturday 30 May	RYA Coastal Skipper Course
18:00 Saturday 30 May	to	18:00 Monday 1 June	Introductory and Taster Sail
Help bring Freyja home..... and pick up Your Competent Crew or Day Skipper Ticket at the same time..... or seatime miles for your Yachtmaster.			
Tuesday 25 August (both noon)	to	Wednesday 2 September	From Brest to St Peter Port, Channel Islands RYA Comp Crew and RYA Day Skipper
Wednesday 2 September (both noon)	to	Wednesday 9 September	Seatime from St Peter Port to Cherbourg

Littleton sailors “drown” in lifejacket demonstration Idris Curtis with your bids.

Only one survives!

Lifejacket safety was the theme for Albert Goldsmith from RNLI at his March presentation to us.

An appreciative Littleton audience included invited guests from neighbouring clubs. They watched 4 very brave volunteers struggle to don their jackets when the club lounge on passage cross-channel hit an uncharted obstruction (a lost sea container) with such force that it sank in 5 minutes. There was only 1 survivor . 1 crew drowned because of not having a jacket on. 1 crew drowned because they were not wearing crutch straps meaning that the jacket slipped off and 1 drowned because their gas inflation cylinder failed.

Not surprisingly, the audience were keen to have their personal jackets safety checked by Albert. Batteries have been found missing on new lifejacket lights and used gas cylinders have not been changed.

There was a rush to the bar to celebrate survival and around £50 was collected for RNLI!

CHANNEL SAILING DIVISION - CSD

The Sea Essay sailing programme for 2009 has now been confirmed and shows the usual raft of training, sea-times, day sails, and private charters.

Sea Essay’s extended cruise is scheduled for Sat 27th June to Friday 7th August and there are a number of weeks still available. If you are an approved skipper wishing to charter on this cruise please check the website for available dates and contact Idris Curtis. Handovers ports are to be agreed between skippers although to ease transport arrangements these might be easiest on the UK mainland or at major ferry ports in Channel Islands or Northern France .

There will be at least one delivery sea-time, providing opportunity for longer passage making, and subject to demand, may also be a sea-time in the South West. If you are interested in a berth on these sea-times please contact Andy Smith.

The full training programme is taking shape and is provisionally shown on the programme. Radar and sail setting courses were popular last year and are being repeated again this year. Please contact Nikki Shearman to express interest in any of these. There are still a number of approved-skipper charter slots available. Please contact

At the CSSA General Committee meeting on 11th March CSD were successful in the first steps in acquiring funding for a new boat for the 2010 season & beyond. The process will continue with selection of the yacht and firm decisions about replacement possibly made by September. Watch this space!

Idris Curtis	idriscurtis@ntlworld.com
Andy Smith	csdseatetime@yahoo.co.uk
Nikki Shearman	nikki@meadenvale.co.uk
www.channelsailing.org	

5 Kingdoms Sailing Club
the northwest yacht division of the CSSA

Don’t forget to have a look at the exciting sailing opportunities on “**Artful Dodger**” this season. We have excellent sailing waters in the North West, out of Liverpool.

For bookings and latest information on availability contact: -

Dave Moran
dav3mor@fsmail.net
www.5KSC.com



Cobweb Rally

Spring is here. And Spring means the ECYD Cobweb Rally.

It will, as usual, be held in the Harwich area over the early Spring Bank Holiday. The passage race up the Wallet will be on Saturday May 2nd, the main rally event on Sunday May 3rd followed by the dinner that evening and boats will disperse on Monday May 4th.

Join us in your own yacht or do as so many do, charter one for the weekend from Britannia Sailing at Shotley. But come. A glorious time is usually had by all.

Civil Service Offshore Racing Club - CSORC

Robin Miller

For those who are not aware, Robin Miller, CSORC Club Captain for 22 years until 2007, died in February. The club is planning to publish a tribute to Robin in due course. If you would like to send in your own memories of Robin to add to the tribute, including photos, we'll be happy to receive them.

The 2009 Programme

Details are available on the club's website <http://www.csorc.org> under "programme", a simplified version of which is below.

There are a variety of events.

The Sunsail Series – following on from the success of these events last year, they will provide good training opportunities, racing in the Solent. We meet at Port Solent, the Sunsail base near Portsmouth, between 6 and 7pm on the Friday evening and either leave for Cowes immediately or on Saturday morning. There are four races over two days, each lasting 2-3 hours, usually with a lively overnight stay in Cowes. The first Sunsail event is likely to be the Sunsail #3 on 27th/28th March

The JOG Inshore Series – we are entering 3 races over 2 weekends. These are offshore races but to closer destinations than across the English Channel. They bridge the gap between the "round the cans" Solent races and the more demanding cross-channel offshore RORC events. The aim is to run these on a high performance asymmetric yacht (J109) which will be of particular interest to CSSA's dinghy and keelboat sailors.

The IDOR – we will be entering the IDOR again which will start on the 1st June.

The RORC Fastnet campaign - The race itself starts on Sunday August 9th 2009 from Cowes. We are aiming for a larger yacht than usual and are looking to assemble a crew of 10. The entry requirement for the skipper and crew include completing 300 qualifying miles so we are planning to compete in three of the RORC qualifying races. These are marked on the programme below with "F" and they are normally only open to the Fastnet crew. *As these qualifiers provide ample opportunity for training and mile-building, enthusiasm and commitment are more important than depth of experience.* We estimate that costs will be around £1500 per person which will cover the charter of the yacht for a training week-

end, the three qualifying races and the Fastnet race itself, payable in installments as we go through the campaign. We think this is excellent value for about 1000 miles of top-quality racing experience! To help keep costs down, we will be applying to the CSSA for Representative Event funding which should also qualify civil servants for special leave with pay (discretionary, of course!). If you are interested, don't delay, please speak to Nick Bowles, contact details below, for more information on costs, the qualifying race schedule and anything else that springs to mind. The first qualifying race is likely to be to Le Havre on 2nd/3rd May.

Mar 28 th /29 th	Sunsail Series Round 3	125
April 9 th to 13 th	Sunsail Easter Rally	140
April 25 th /	Hayling Bay JOG	130
May 2 nd /3 rd	Cervantes - Le Havre	F
May 9 th /10 th	Yarmouth JOG	130
May 23 rd /24 th	Myth of Malham – to the Eddystone Rock	F
June Sun 31 st May to Fri 5 th	IDOR	250
June Sat 13 th /14 th	de Guingand Bowl - Channel Race	F
June 26 th /28 th	Morgan Cup - Cherbourg via marks	F
July 18 th 19 th	Sunsail Series Round 4	125
Aug 9 th – 14 th	Fastnet	F
Aug 22 nd /23 rd	Sunsail Series Round 5	125
Sept 26 th /27 th	Sunsail Series Round 6	125
Oct 10 th /11 th	Sunsail Series Round 7	125
Oct 24 th /25 th	Sunsail Series Round 8	125
Nov Sat 7 th	Sunsail Final (we'll be there!)	tba

Note – races marked **F** are part of the Fastnet campaign and are normally only open to the Fastnet crew.

New members

If you're interested in racing with us, especially the Fastnet, and want to find out about upcoming events and the club itself, then please check our website <http://www.csorc.org>, or phone Nick Bowles on 01483-306954. If you want to be notified by e-mail of impending races, then e-mail Nick at csorc@madasafish.com to be added to our e-mail list. Any CSSA member is eligible to race with us – we have no separate membership fee. We welcome people of all levels of sailing skill and look forward to hearing from you.

IDOR 2009

Plans for this year's event between 1 – 5 June are well in hand.

Initial bookings with Sunsail suggest that we could have in excess of 22 teams entering for what promises to be an excellent week of racing.

For those new to the regatta then a qualifying team must consist of up to 8 people from either your department or a CSSA affiliated club. It is a 5 day event based at Cowes, racing a matched spinnaker fleet. Monday is assigned to training and then the remaining days see a series of races over different lengths culminating in a 10 hour Round The



Island competition. The sailing is so close that very often only minutes separate the first boats home.

As always, I would especially like anyone who is thinking of entering a team for the first time to get in touch. IDOR is probably one of the friendliest events that you will ever attend.

Peteshuttleworth123@btinternet.com

Editor's tip! There's no guarantee of favourable tides and clean air to help you win the IDOR, but RYA's publishing schedule for 2009 might assist. In May this year "G74" will be published. "Solent Race Strategy" by Patrick Jolly. It sounds interesting, but will this help tip the balance for the IDOR? For only £8.99, why not check it out? It's ISBN 9781906435035 www.rya.org.uk/shop

THE GOLDEN JUBILEE PLATE

Lord Turnbull, our immediate past-Commodore, kindly offered to present a trophy to CSSA to mark its Golden Jubilee. The Association and Lord Turnbull agreed that the award should be known as the Golden Jubilee Plate and take the form of a suitably engraved silver Armada plate mounted on a hardwood plinth. The trophy would recognise the CSSA Volunteer of the Year who, during



the previous year, had:

- Promoted the CSSA ethos, and
- Made a significant contribution to the Association, with the emphasis being on effort rather than (necessarily) competition success.

Where appropriate, the award would relate to contributions to training and recruitment/retention themes, although it could be awarded in recognition of other contributions. Nominations would be sought from the whole CSSA membership and the final decision on award would be made by the General Committee.

The award will be presented for the first time by Lord Turnbull at the AGM on 23rd April 2009.

We are online! Why not try reading or downloading the online (pdf) version of "Civil Service Sailing" from www.cs-sailing.org, or your club, or CSSC website?

After trying it, if you wish, you can opt out of receiving the printed version. If you decide to do this, please e-mail kenwpavitt@aol.com include your membership details, and use "UNSUBSCRIBE" as the subject. **Thank you! Ed.**

CSSA is affiliated to the Civil Service Sports Council

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11 Lakeside Close
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csgensec@yahoo.co.uk

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14 Sussex Court
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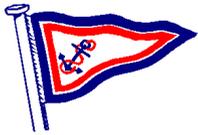
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The magazine of the Civil Service Sailing Association is published in January, March, May/June & September. Please e-mail any contributions or photographs to the Editor. (Copy in Microsoft Word please.)

CSSA can be found online at: - www.cs-sailing.org



Civil Service Sailing - Extras

Here's a couple of items that missed the tide!

SCOTTISH CIVIL SERVICE CRUISING CLUB

Secretary's Report - 2008 Season

This year we succeeded in getting two sails on Neptune SC's 'Scorcher IV' (Bavaria '37) for a week in April and one in June. Foxfire provided us with some weekend sails together with a week trip from Dunstaffnage to Kip via the Crinan Canal. The Clyde Rally in July saw us meeting Jim Naden on 'Sirius' & Paul Brereton on 5KSC's 'Artful Dodger' at Kilchattan Bay for our dinner with Foxfire & Artful Dodger meeting up again at Lamlash the following night. Whilst it was good to get the use of Scorcher we discovered that, whereas the April trip saw Suzanne Gillespie taking it down to Campbeltown with little restriction as to where we could go in the Clyde estuary, when we collected it for the June trip we were very disappointed and somewhat annoyed to be only then told that we were not allowed to take it north of Otter Spit (not even to Otter Ferry) nor south of Lochranza. It is planned to discuss this for next year. Despite the programme being put out few members contacted me asking for sails and again it was left to skippers to contact members who they thought might be keen. As a result some weekend trips were cancelled. The idea of putting out a programme is so that members can plan ahead and let me know if they wish to sail. Perhaps the dates chosen didn't suit so if folk wish to help decide our programme I would ask that they attend the AGM and let us know their thoughts. If there are other reasons I'm happy to hear them!

We had some success regarding publicity by getting a mention on the *Scotland Region* page of the CSSC website www.cssc.co.uk. However it appeared late in the year and only mentioned two trips (one of which had the wrong dates). The webmaster is down south at High Wycombe and was not au fait with the club. I did write suggesting how it could be presented so here's hoping that there is an improvement next year. On the NELSC website at www.nelsc.org.uk if members provide photos & brief reports of trips, the website manager at NELSC will be happy to convert e-mailed reports & photos into articles – these can also be passed on for publication on the CSSC Scotland web page – so get clicking & writing! Please let me know if you can do this and I will put you in touch.

The West Coast trip included a few of the sunny days this summer that added to the enjoyment of visiting Puiladobhrain, Iona Abbey & golf course (machair!), Staffa where we took the dinghy right into the cave, met some sea kayakers, and explored the top of the island with fantastic views. Thence to Arinagour (6 visitor buoys) on Coll and ashore for an excellent meal at the 'Island Café'. Next day called at Tobermory before anchoring in Scallastle Bay at the south end of the Sound of Mull. The next day introduced me to the Dorus Mor and confirmation that one does need to time the tides. The rest of the week saw us enjoying the fun of the Crinan Canal, bumping into Joe Brindley on Artful Dodger in Tarbert, visiting 'The Oystercatcher' at Otter Ferry and finishing with attending a 'Pan Pan' in the East Kyle until the Tighnabruaich inshore RNLI rib arrived.

The June trip on Artful Dodger left Rhu for Tarbert as a base from which we visited the new Portavadie Marina – has great plans for pub, accommodation, meeting facilities – should be worth visiting next year to see how progressing.

Adrian Johnston took Foxfire to Tarbert in May and Largs in August – with the pleasure of a F8 for company!

Thanks to those who have helped during the year.

Roger Ede

Scottish Civil Service Cruising Club 2009 Programme

This year we aim to continue our programme of various sailing opportunities with weekend and longer trips on the Clyde, sails on the West Coast, and our weekend rally with 5KSC folk. We are also having a taster weekend where new folk. can come & try sailing for the day, or 2 days.

Cruising Weekends - Firth of Clyde			
*Kip	Westerly Tiger 25'	Dates	Estimated costs
		4 - 5 April	£25/day
		9 - 10 May	
		26 - 28 June	
		18 - 19 July (Taster Days)	
		5 - 6 Sept	
Clyde Rally Weekend		1 - 3 August	£25/day
* £15/day introductory price to potential members wishing to try sailing (first trip only - max 2 days)			
Cruising Weeks - Firth of Clyde			
Faslane	Bavaria 36'	3 - 10 July	tba
Oban	Sun Odyssey 43'	23 - 29 May	tba
West Coast Trip	Sun Odyssey 43'	6 - 13 June	£25/day

* The Westerly Tiger is scheduled to sail from Kip on or about 28 May through the Crinan Canal to Oban returning to Kip by 21 June. This will have separate legs skippered by SCSCC & NELSC folk. We have currently scheduled the above SCSCC week out from & back to Ardfern. Further details are available from the Secretary.

- **Holiday Cottage on Skye:** In addition there is the opportunity to rent a cottage on Skye. The terms are weekly.
- **Training:** There is also the opportunity for RYA practical courses through our connections with 5KSC.

There may well be other sails and we can put you in touch with other Civil Service sailing opportunities in Scottish waters. Further information regarding the Club, details of the above programme and other sailing opportunities in Scottish waters can be obtained from the club secretary Roger Ede, 11 Hillview Drive, Dumfries, DG1 4DS. Tel: 01387 265670 (h).

We now have our own website at www.scottishcivilservicesailing.org.uk which is being developed so keep looking there for further information.

“Artful Dodger” sails again in the Northwest this season - See the following update & availability from 5KSC

Artful Dodger's summer season - update to 2009 programme.			
Saturday change-over dates:	Type of trip:	Handover port(s)	Berth availability
Saturdays in March & April	Taster sails/skills honing	Liverpool	Berths available
Sundays in March & April	Racing with Liverpool Yacht Club (LYC)	Liverpool	Berths available
2 – 9 May	Passage to Oban	Liverpool/Oban	Berths available
9 – 16 May	Private charter	Oban	Full
16 – 23 May	Sea time/IS/CC/DS	Oban	Berths available
23 – 30 May	Private Charter	Oban	Full
30 May – 6 Jun	Sea time	Oban	Berths available
6 – 13 June	Available for charter	Oban	Berths available
13 – 20 June	Passage to Largs	Oban to Largs	Full
20 – 27 June	Private charter	Largs	Full
27 June – 4 July	Private charter	Largs	TBA
4 – 11 July	Sea time/IS/CC/DS	Largs	TBA
11 – 18 July	Private charter	Largs	Full
18 – 25 July	Sea time	Largs to Oban	Berths available
25 – 1 Aug	Sea time/IS	Oban	TBA
1 - 2 Aug	Clyde Muster	Largs	Berths available
AVAILABLE			
2 - 5 Aug	Seatime/IS/CC/DS	Largs	Berths available
8 – 15 August*	Passage Largs	Oban /Largs	TBA
15 – 22 Aug	CS & Exam	Largs	Berths available
22 – 29 Aug	Sea time/IS/CC/DS	Largs	TBA
29 Aug – 5 Sept	Passage to Liverpool	Largs /Liverpool	Berths available
5 – 12 Sept	Maintenance	Liverpool	None available
Sept & Oct	Available for charter	Liverpool	Berths available
Nov & Dec	Racing with LYC	Liverpool	Berths available
IS – RYA course – Introduction to Sailing CC – RYA course – Competent Crew DS – RYA course – Day Skipper CS – RYA course – Coastal Skipper Exam – Informal refresher training followed by RYA practical examination for certificates of competence and Coastal Skipper or Yachtmaster. Dates for Taster Sails, Boat Handling, and Spinnaker Handling may be changed to suit the availability of early bookers.			
Clyde Muster to be on 1 and 2 August 2009 5KSC will be meeting with the Scottish Civil Service Cruising Club for the Clyde Muster on the weekend of the 1 and 2 August 2009. A venue has yet to be confirmed but Loch Fyne has been suggested. All welcome. If you intend joining us or would like to find a berth on one of the participating yachts please contact: - Dave Moran - e-mail - dav3mor@fsmail.net or use contact number on 5KSC website			