



# Watermouth Yacht Club

Berrynarbor, Ilfracombe, North Devon, EX34 9SJ

51° 13' N 004° 05' W

# AHOY

## *Newsletter August 2016*

### ***Commodore's Column***

Dear members,

The summer is passing by rapidly and seems to be following a rather familiar pattern of mixed weather conditions, this has resulted in the harbour being quieter and therefore the Clubhouse has suffered on Saturday nights with very few calling in. I am pleased to say that the nights when events have taken place we have been busy. My thanks to all of you who have supported these evenings. My thanks also to all who work so hard to put on these events.

The scheduled Club cruises have also suffered partly due to the weather. Prior to the cruise due for Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August the weather forecast was looking ideal for a night at Lundy, however, as is often the way, it gradually deteriorated so in the end a trip out to Lundy and back in the day was enjoyed by Steve on Chablis and Geof on Chaser who kindly invited me to join him. We had an excellent sail both ways in dry, sunny conditions, which was most enjoyable.

I hope that we have a few weeks of settled weather before the dark nights set in.

**Please remember that the Club is open every Saturday night during the season.**

### **THINK SAFETY**

ARE THE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS YOU CARRY THE CORRECT TYPE AND ARE THEY SERVICED AND UP TO DATE?

Are the flares you carry the correct type for the area you sail in and are they in date?

Are your life jackets serviceable?

***Simon Kemp***

A timely reminder, I inflated all my lifejackets and left them overnight, they were ok but at least I know they are ok, when did you last check yours ?

***Geof Pierce***

### ***Membership***

Unfortunately no new members since the last Ahoy

***Carol Gell***

### ***Club Maintenance***

I am short of news for the report this time as there has not been much going on apart from routine maintenance. I would like to mention that Dell King has given the Club a very nice double seat in memory of Dave West. I have now secured it to the railings and will be fixing the plaque shortly. All for now.

***Simon Kemp***

## ***Treasurer's Report***

Club finances at the moment are relatively settled with all large outgoings behind us and, barring any surprises, a clear run for the rest of the year ahead of us. It is at this point in the Club's financial calendar that we have secured the funds needed to cover our large fixed costs in the following year. It is also from this point onward that we start to accrue the reserves necessary for longer term stability.

Headline figures at the time of writing are as follows:

### **Income**

Bar	£ 949.23
Social	£ 1,336.95
Membership subscriptions (inc mooring premium)	£ 4,029.00

### **Expenditure**

Sailing & RYA subscriptions	£ 169.00
Club mooring fees	£ 720.00
Insurance	£ 1,065.25
Maintenance	£ 689.85
Gas, electricity and water	£ 335.41

Cash at bank £13,969.49

A detailed breakdown of the account is posted on the notice board from time to time but should anyone require further details, please let me know either in person or via the club email account: [watermouthyachtclub@gmail.com](mailto:watermouthyachtclub@gmail.com)

I wish all members a safe and enjoyable conclusion to this year's season and I look forward to seeing you all in the Club soon.

***Steve Barron***

## ***Cleaner's Whinge***

I would like to ask all members who use the club facilities to consider other users. Recently the remains of fish were left in the gent's washroom bin which was not pleasant for the member who found it sometime later, then kindly dealt with it for me. I have already put signs beside all the bins because of a previous incident. Please do not use these bins for items which are likely to cause a smell or other offence.

***Sue Kemp***

## ***Social & Coming Events***

The season seems to have flown by and there aren't many events left

Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> August	IYC Round Lundy Race
Saturday 10 September	BBQ Last one ☹
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	Pool Competition
Saturday 29 October	WYC Dinner & Dance to be held at Ilfracombe Golf Club Tickets from Moira <a href="mailto:watermouthyachtclub@gmail.com">watermouthyachtclub@gmail.com</a>

## Quiz Night

Another very enjoyable evening, starting with one of Moira's very tasty lasagnes.

A good attendance, 28 people (and one child) meant there were six teams.

The winning team was Ruby consisting of Sylvia & Roger Tabor, David & Shirley Gough with their son and Mike Jarvis.

Moira's team came second and the booby prize went to John Hurley's team, having six and a half members didn't seem to be an advantage!

## The Confessional

*Where forgiveness comes for free if you tell us your sins*

Ok, as the rest of you appear to be saints .....



I recently bought a blue tooth speaker to play music from my mp3 player or phone on the boat so I tried it out the other evening, coming back from Copperas.

Chaser was sailing herself nicely with the Autohelm set to track the wind. I put the speaker on the cockpit seat and was enjoying some Fleetwood Mac when I thought it would sound better if the speaker was a bit higher and in front of me - the sliding hatch seemed the perfect spot and it was, the music did sound better but unfortunately Chaser started to go round in circles.

Note to self, you know you shouldn't put anything magnetic near your fluxgate compass, or any other type of compass for that matter !

**Geof Pierce**

## Caption Competition No 8 - it's him again !!

Please send captions to [watermouthyachtclub@gmail.com](mailto:watermouthyachtclub@gmail.com)



## **Club Cruises**

I'm afraid the June 25<sup>th</sup> Club Cruise was another non-event ☹

The midweek weather forecast looked promising but as the week went on it had deteriorated significantly so there was no option but to cancel as it's meant to be an enjoyable event, not a wet & windy challenge.

I could claim to have done the cruise but as it was only from an outer mooring back to my mooring, less than ¼ mile, I don't think it counts.

The Aug 6<sup>th</sup> Club Cruise looked like it was going to be the same, a good forecast midweek which gradually got worse into the weekend. Saturday still looked ok but Sunday's forecast was F6-F7.

Rather than waste Saturday, Simon & I in Chaser and Steve in Chablis did a day trip to Lundy and back.

It was a very good sail but disappointing not to land and stay overnight.

There were two or three Ilfracombe yachts in the landing bay who looked like they were staying over. As it turned out, Sunday's weather was not as bad as the forecast, but it would have been a very lively sail back!

## **Answers to Caption Competition No 7**



Will Strawbridge        Yeah but the mooring fees are soooo cheap!

Alan Bosely        Do you think it will float off on the tide Keith ?

Mike Jarvis        Now I know the topside rigging and fittings all reach, I'll go and paint the hull !

Geof Pierce        I should have calibrated the echo sounder

Simon Kemp        Falmouth coastguard - Affirmative - I am stuck fast on the beach.

Brian Jones        I've heard about this idea of using sand as ballast but I think I've put in too much.'

Richard Coggin        Are we nearly there yet ?

The winner caption is Simon's, picked by Sylvia Tabor, (without knowing the names).

**Falmouth coastguard - Affirmative - I am stuck fast on the beach**

Which, I think, makes Simon the first two time winner, very well done Simon !!



## ***Trip to Lundy***

On Saturday 4th June myself, Mike Watkins, and his mate Bob had a brilliant trip to Lundy on Jeldi Jeldi. Almost immediately and apart from a couple of thin mist patches on the way had wall to wall sun all day, returning to the persistent gloom on our return to Watermouth in the early evening. Unfortunately there was no wind so it was motoring all the way there and back. We met Jeff Duffin "Weird Fish" in the Marisco at lunch time and he hadn't even bothered to take off his sail cover! The highlights of the trip were two Dolphin encounters on the way across and seeing 20 to 30 Puffins at Jenny's Cove. We spotted the first Common Dolphin group feeding on a shoal of fish ahead of us with Gannets diving in as well. As soon as they became aware of us they stopped feeding and swam over, surrounding us and taking turns riding the bow wave for about twenty minutes. The pod appeared to be twenty or so strong with a number of youngsters. We had a similar encounter with a smaller group closer to Lundy and they stayed with us for around ten minutes. We had an enjoyable lunch in a very busy Marisco, the Oldenburg having arrived shortly after us, and the huge pasties we all scoffed were really good, the chef said they used Lundy lamb but were made for them on the mainland.



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We had an uneventful return passage with the Oldenburg passing us just off Ilfracombe.

***Mike Corner***

Mike, your trip was a bit less eventful than my Lundy trip in July:-

1. Got on board Chaser to find diesel under the engine, (the priming bulb in the fuel line had split), so had to cut it out, make a new connection to the filter and mop up the mess
2. After only ½ an hour it started to rain
3. It was fairly breezy for a while so I put in the 1<sup>st</sup> reef but when I tried to take it out, the reefing line jammed in the boom - it took over ½ an hour to free it and get back to full sail
4. At N end of Lundy, I set the auto helm for an easy sail back to Watermouth but it wouldn't hold a course so I started to hand steer only to find the helm was incredibly stiff, (something must have caught on the rudder), and I could only manage 20 minutes at a time before having to change arms
5. Then the wind died and I had to motor all the way back to Watermouth
6. My dinghy had got trapped under Chablis's bows when the tide came in and was full of water

I've had better days .....

***Geof Pierce***

## ***For Sale or Wanted***

I wondered if the Ahoy might be a good place for members to offer or request any boating bits & pieces, or anything else for that matter

Please contact us if you have anything [watermouthyachtclub@gmail.com](mailto:watermouthyachtclub@gmail.com)

## ***HELVALLIAN***

The Lake family are the proud new owners of HELVALLIAN.

After travelling for miles looking at boats for the last year it's so nice to have bought from Watermouth!  
We drove down to see an IP24 in Plymouth in the winter and have always loved that shape of fishing boat.



## ***Reminder***

Have a look at the WYC Facebook page as Moira regularly posts new (and old) photos

<https://www.facebook.com/Watermouth-Yacht-Club-776612512399078/>

There's another Facebook page with photos of North Devon, which may be of interest

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/aplaceinnorthdevon/>