

# Shotwick Lake Sailing



## Christmas Newsletter

### Editorial

*Hello and welcome to our Christmas Special Newsletter.*

*It's a bit later than expected (nearly a New year Newsletter) but family commitments over the festive period – otherwise known as parties has meant that I've only just sobered up!!*

*I will shortly be preparing the next full Newsletter and once again I'm looking for contributions, to date I have received only three, one from a regular contributor and two from one of our youngest members – thanks Alex – so come on the rest of you, put finger to keyboard and gets writing.*

*Please send something/anything to [newsletter@shotwicksailing.org](mailto:newsletter@shotwicksailing.org)*

*Colin*

### Presentation Evening

*Once again the annual presentation evening was a great success. For the second year running this was held at Connahs Quay Civic Hall and was enjoyed by everyone. The only negative comment I've heard so far has been from some of our younger members who have complained that the drinks were so cheap that they ended up getting too drunk. What's the youth of today coming to?*



**Tony Forster and "a few" of our trophies. These could be yours if you race next year.**

For those of you unable to attend a full list of the prize winners is given below along with a copy of Tony's speech – thanks Tony – saves me typing too much.

*"Ladies and gentlemen may I welcome you to Connah's Quay Civic Centre for the 2007 sailing season awards ceremony of Shotwick Lake Sailing. First and foremost, this evening is about honoring those who have achieved success over the last twelve months and those who have contributed in many ways to the well being of our club. However, it is also about coming together as members and friends to enjoy each other's company and I thank you all for being here to share this evening's experience.*

*It is difficult to believe that we, as a club, are now twenty four years old. Maturity as a club has also brought independence with Shotwick Lake Sailing enjoying its second year as a company and registered charity.*

*That independence has been good for the club and it is pleasing that our membership remains strong at 132 plus 4 permit groups with membership forms still arriving this late in the year.*

*Activity during the year has been impressive with over twenty dinghies regularly sailing our racing events. Our new fleets of Wanderers and Toppers have hardly been off the water with the increased levels of training for adults and youths continuing throughout the year. Windsurfing tasters and training have filled weekend gaps in these activities and, all in all it is now difficult to find a weekend when the club is not fully in use.*

*In amongst all of this activity you still found time to raise £260 at the annual charity race day for presentation to the Lifeboat Operations Manager at Flint Lifeboat Station.*

*You also had a fantastic time at the annual Lakeside Barbeque.*

*After all that activity, by now, you must be really tired but you still manage to keep Shotwick Lake Sailing buzzing with a great friendly atmosphere and the ability and confidence to go forward and build on our success.*

*I would now like to introduce the presentation ceremony by asking Hannah Salisbury to come forward to present the awards on behalf of Shotwick Lake Sailing.*

### **Awards Table**

<b>Trophy</b>	<b>Presented For</b>	<b>Winner</b>	<b>Runner Up</b>
Mersey Cup	Spring Series	S Jardine & A Jardine	J. Sargent
RAF Shield	Spring Series	C & S Jones	C. Walker & P. Newman
Capenhurst Cup	Summer Series	S Jardine & A Jardine	R. King
Presidents Cup	Summer Series	C & S Jones	C. Walker & P. Newman
Dee Shield	Autumn Series	A. Hughes	R. King
Shell Shield	Autumn Series	A. Hall & T. Hall	D. Riley & D. Morgan
Cheshire Shield	Port Series	R. King	J. Frodsham
Brian Farrer Memorial	Port Series	J. Sargent	R. Jones & T. Hall
Commodores Salver	Twilight Series	R. King	I. Postings
Corus Colors Salver	Twilight Series	J. Sargent	C & S Jones
Shotwick Cup	Starboard Series	R. King	I. Postings
Alyn Sheild	Starboard Series	C & S Jones	R. Jones & T. Hall
Centenary Shield	Spring Regatta	C & S Jones	S. Hopson
George Forster Memorial Plaque	Autumn Regatta	G. Henshall	S Jardine & A Jardine
Luff Trophy	Best club boat at Scorpion Open	C & S Jones	-----
	Best club boat at Solo Open	S. Hopson	-----
Junior Shield	Best Junior	A. Jardine	-----
Most Promising Newcomer or Novice (Catherine Jelfs Plate)	Best Newcomer	I. Postings	-----
Travellers Trophy	Traveller Series	J. Hopson	C & S Jones
Carver Plate	Windsurfer of the year	P. Siderfin	-----
Club Person of the Year	Club Person of the Year	G. Siddel	-----
	RNLI Charity Race	S Jardine & A Jardine	S. Hopson

*The club would now like to give a token of gratitude to Hannah in appreciation of presenting the awards.*

*That concludes the formal presentation but before we get on with the festivities I would like to offer thanks, on your behalf, to a number of people without whose efforts the club could not continue.*

*Firstly Carl for his excellent work as Sailing Secretary and for the organisation of the trophies and keepsakes for this evening. To this I would add the gratitude of the whole club to all those who have helped in any way towards the well being of the club and its activities. These include race officials, safety boat helms, the training team, work party attendees, our warden, Shellie, and those who come down and utilize the club for enjoyment.*

*Special thanks are also deserved by the "Galley Slaves" who continue to make Sundays and other organized events such a gastronomic and sociable experience. In appreciation of their efforts we would like them to come forward to receive tokens of thanks – Dot, Gladys, Win, Julie and Sheila.*

*Thanks also to Dot for organizing this evenings event which I am sure you are all enjoying.*

*Special thanks to your Directors and co-opted Management Committee members who work tirelessly in the background ensuring the continued existence of the club.*

*And, finally, thanks to all of you for being here together as a club. I hope that you will enjoy the rest of the evening."*

**Tony Forster**

## **Frostbite Series**

*Another successful Frostbite Series was held at the club this year with what was probably a record number of entries (correct me if I'm wrong Carl) and defiantly a record amount of wind. For those of you who were luck enough not to be there Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December was something special. Having heard the heavy rain and strong winds in the early hours of the morning I decided that "discretion was the better part of valour" as they say and phoned my crew to say I wasn't racing.*

*Two hours later sat at home looking out at the sunny sky and slightly less wind I decided to go down the club to get a few good pictures for the Newsletter, camera in hand I set off. The closer to the lake I got the better the weather was.*

*After arriving at the lake I was commandeered for safety boat duty along with Geoff Siddall, this suited me as it meant I'd be closer to the action and able to get better pictures.*

*Out on the water 5 minutes to go "Bl\*\*\*y H\*\*l" that suns nice and the wind ia about perfect a nice force 3 probably – me and Geoff are gutted. Five minutes later and they're off, a good first beat over to "8" followed by a reach across the lake to "9" then a gybe and another reach down to "4".*

*We follow the fleet for a few minutes weighing up where to get the best photo's from, the wind has now picked up a bit with a couple of gust that were probably about an f5 – the reach to "4" looks great and the sun is just in the right place for some good shots.*

*As we're heading to the location of our "shoot" we notice that there is a boat over by "7" and go to see if there OK, it's Jack Frodsham in his Solo, he's OK and doesn't need any help –Old Sea Dog that he is.*

*Then all hell breaks loose, the wind really gets up and there is carnage, about 8 boats have gone over in as many seconds down at the bottom of the lake. We head down there flat out*

*(this new boat and engine a great) and do a head count, everybody is OK most are on the bank and the ones that aren't are all righting the boats and are setting off again – the wind has dropped a bit – for about 2 minutes – then it's back with a vengeance.*

*More carnage, boats over, broken masts, broken rudders – you name it they had it but every one is still OK even though the boats aren't, even we're "sinking", the waves are so big that they are breaking over the bow of the safety boat and swamping us, once again we realise how good the new boat is.*

*Eventually everybody gets ashore and we put the boats away, Chris Walker's mast is still in the lake and will stay there for another 2 weeks when it needs 4 wheel drive to pull it out. Gareth Henshall and Tom Piggot are the only ones who actually sail in under their own steam (must be in the Genes).*

*That night I check the weather on Wind Guru and see that it was gusting f9 at West Kirby, Carl checked for the North Wales Coast and that was gusting f8-10.*

*And after all that I got no pictures – too busy. Phil Gallagher got a few shots on his phone and one of these is reproduced below – check out the waves – nothing at sea **but on our lake?***

*We will try and post some of these on the website or the next Newsletter – I feel another caption competition coming on.*

*Colin*



**Spot the Mast**

## **Frostbite Results**

*There were no less than 43 entries for the series which was eventually won by Steve and Alex Jardine sailing Graduate 2914 with James Hopson in second sailing Solo 4021 and Carl & Shellie Jones 3<sup>rd</sup> in Scorpion 1974.*

*Full Results are available on the club website.*

*The final race of the year was a personal handicap pursuit race held on the 16<sup>th</sup> December this was won by Tom Piggot sailing a Topper.*

## **January Newsletter**

*The next "proper" Newsletter is scheduled for Mid-January 2008 and at the moment I'm short of content, please send contributions over the next two weeks to me courtesy of [newsletter@shotwicksailing.org](mailto:newsletter@shotwicksailing.org)*

*Why not tell us all about your own experience on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December or any other sailing experiences, do you have any good photos of the club or it's members or even tell us what sailing related goodies Santa brought you.*

*Thanks for now and Happy New Year*

*Colin*