

ELSC Windmill March 06



A foggy morning and a gallon of petrol, what more could you want?

Upcoming Events:

- Grand Splash - 12th Mar
- Laser Open – 2nd April
- Easter Egg 16th April
(it's late this year!)
- Working Party -8th April
Tasks: Hedgerow and Club Ents Corner Clearance – **Bring Tools**

"To be honest, I've never sailed through sheets of ice before! It must be the start of summer..."

Greetings one and all from the Officers and Committee

Hello Folks and welcome to the new ELSC Windmill Newsletter for 2006. I hope you're all looking forward to the 2006 season as it promises to be a good 'un on the water with more competition in more classes than ever.

The season opening Grand Splash is almost upon us (12th March) and we hope to see as many sailors as we can out on the water. A Race Programme is attached for 2006

James P.

Commodores Report

The club enjoyed a particularly good year last year with membership being the highest for approximately five years. This is with no small thanks to the training run by **Alex Layton**, so again thank you. The cadets are going from strength to strength, some of them sailing the Winter Series, well done chaps, and of course there are a few of you not aware that the committee entered **Bob Lewis** for the Service to Sports Award run by Stratford upon Avon District Council, and I am happy to report that he fought off stiff competition and won. A result for Bob and for the Sailing Club.

Looking forward to 2006 – Well I suppose it will be much of the

same, lots of sailing, good winds (hopefully) a full lake, (wishful thinking). I hope that with the Grand Splash on March 12 that we will see all you sailors back out on the water enjoying whats to come.

On a more serious note, there was an incident last year when a members car was damaged on club grounds, it goes without saying that parking is at owners risk, but what I am disappointed at, is that the culprit did not come forward. Please drive carefully, The club is known through out the Midlands as being a friendly club, please lets not ruin our reputation. Happy Sailing

Diane M3241



Dinner Dance Report Inside!



Dinner Dance and Prize giving at the Ramada Hotel



But who is manning the safety boat?



Frank Fern is going to need a bigger sideboard! At the Annual Dinner and Dance hosted splendidly at the Ramada Hotel in Solihull, our Merlin Class rep scooped a host of trophies!

Dancing went on in the wee hours as people relaxed to the sounds of "retro" an eighties New Romantic tribute band (it was like someone got all of my old records out and played them!)

Graham Bentley acted as Master of Ceremonies and introduced Darren Layton who proposed the toast of our Ladies and the Guests, and delivered the new members' speech. Remember to sit forward in the boat Darren!

Next Graham introduced a man who needs no introduction! Bob Lewis proposed the toast to

Earlswood Lakes Sailing Club, and paid thanks to everyone who has helped him run the youngsters training over the years.

Diane then completed the formalities with the Commodores speech and the prize giving where she thanked everyone who helps make the club what it is today – shipshape!

A Big **thank you!** on behalf everyone at the club to Diane for hosting an excellent event!



Bob Lewis – An Inspirational Sailor

On the 22nd January, at an awards ceremony to honour sports people in the Stratford District Council area, Bob won the "Service to Sport" award.

He had previously been nominated by the Club Committee and then shortlisted for the award with two other people in this category.

There were awards for seven categories and Bob's was the last to be presented. Cheered on by his 'groupies' - Di, Jenny, Steve P, Ken D and me (Oh, and Sheila his wife!) - the citation indicated how much Bob has put into the Sailing Club, having been one of its founders and still giving lots of his time to the young sailors in the Club.

In typical unassuming style Bob said he never expected to win. I think he was the only one in the Earlswood party. Well done Bob - you did us proud!

Alan Wright



The Award Winning Bob Lewis!



ELSC Officers 2006

Commodore

Di Thornton

0121745 8191

Vice Commodore

Jenny Parsons

01564 702016

Secretary

Dave Pitt

0121705 2597

Treasurer

Steve Perring

0121 744 8821

Sailing Secretary

Alan Wright

01926 773 786

Membership Secretary

Ken Davenport

0121 4433993

New for 2006 a Team Racing event at Earlswood

In discussion with the Sailing Secretary, we plan to hold a **Team Racing** event at Earlswood on 14th May!

One Day Event – 3 Race Series - Personal Handicap – Menagerie Start

Teams of 4, with 8, 12, 16, or 20, boats to compete.

Each Team must consist of a Merlin, an Enterprise, a Laser, and one other boat of any class, and must display team colours whilst sailing!

Before the event all the Merlins will be put in one pot, all the Enterprises in another, Lasers in another, and other boats in another.

The teams will then be drawn from the respective pots at random until each pot is empty thus making the teams. Entry Forms will be available at the beginning of May.

Fixtures List is Published!

Alan Wright has now released the Sailing Programme for the 2006 season and it is attached to this edition of the Windmill.

For those of you who have not sailed over the winter months please check your OD and AOD dates on the list and report any issues back to Alan or arrange a swap with someone else.

For the coming season it would be **nice to see more qualifiers in more series races – after all the trophies are there to be won** – so if you're a novice sailor or even an experienced one, think about targeting a specific series and sail to qualify in it perhaps.

It's a great confidence booster to see your name up the list on the results sheets!

**A Port Tack boat must keep clear of a Starboard tack boat
(Rule 10)**

**A windward boat must keep clear of a Leeward boat
(Rule 11)**

**A boat clear astern shall keep clear of a boat clear ahead
(Rule 12)**

ELSC Committee 2006

TrainingPrincipal

Alex Layton 0121 430 7521

Bar Committee

Pete Middleton 01564 826000

Elected Members

Sue Stewart 01564 700023

James Patterson 0121 7771433

Rear Commodore

Neil Cappell 0121 744 7062

Windmill Editor – James Patterson

E-Mail: james@jamespatterson.org

ELSC Web Site: Dave Vanes

www.geocities.com/earlswoodsc

**Novice Focus:
Target a race series
and get enough results
to qualify. You'll feel
great about it!**



Rules Corner – an unplanned gybe round the common rules of the road!

New to the Windmill Newsletter we have decided to help re-iterate some of the more common rules that Novices and (Experienced Sailors!) sometimes forget.

In this series we will focus most on the rules that are most commonly problematic on a small lake like Earlswood. Mark rounding is a particular worry for newer sailors, but first the basic rules:

A Port Tack boat must keep clear of a Starboard tack boat (Rule 10)

A windward boat must keep clear of a Leeward boat (Rule 11)

A boat clear astern shall keep clear of a boat clear ahead (Rule 12)

Below the illustration shows the basic rights of way at the windward mark, and as this is usually the first mark in any race, rounding it well can greatly increase your chances of getting a decent result.

Rule 18 details the rules when boats are approaching marks and next issue I'll be clarifying whom has rights when boats are "about to pass the mark" and approach the "two length zone."



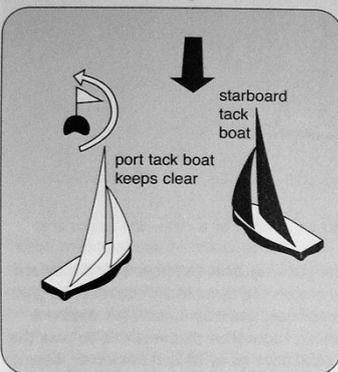
Insurance Notes

Sailing without insurance is never a good idea and strictly prohibited within the club so you need to make sure your insurance is up to date and covers you for racing. Although there is a rather limited market for small dinghy insurance, the service from the companies that do is usually very good. The minimum requirement is to have 3rd Party Liability insurance with racing included.

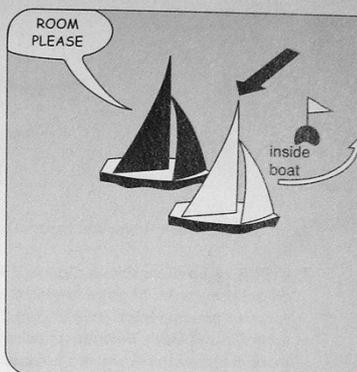
I use www.NewtonCrum.com for both my Topper (£25) and the Enterprise (£30), but we use www.NobleMarine.co.uk for the Merlin Rocket (£31.50) as it is a specialized boat in insurance terms and ours can only be covered 3rd party because of it's age. Others I know of are www.bishopskinner.com and I'm sure others at the club can also recommend good deals.

Basic right-of-way at a windward mark

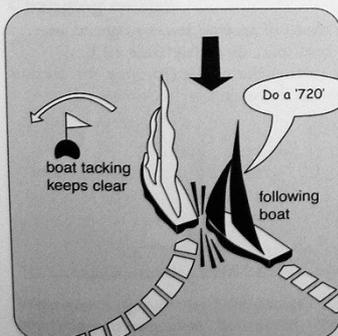
At a windward mark - that is a mark of the course that you have been tacking to get to - the basics are:



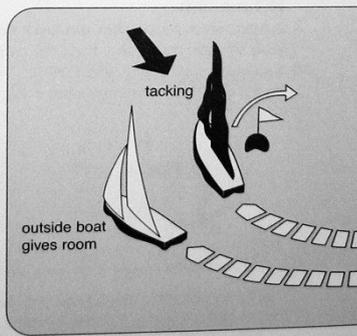
1 When on opposite tacks, take the mark away and apply the principles as in open water (rules 10 and 18.1(b)).



2 When on the same tack, the boat next to the mark must be given room to pass the mark by the boat outside (rule 18.2 (a)).



3 When a boat is tacking to pass the mark, she must keep clear of any other boat (rule 13).



4 A boat overlapping on the outside must give room to a boat tacking on the inside (rule 18.2(a)).