

# ELSC Windmill

## Spring 09



Jack Frost signs on and we all take a break!

### New Year, New Commodore at the Helm!

It's the start of the new season, and apart from looking forward to the year ahead on the water, we have some ambitious plans for the year ahead off the water too.

We place a strong emphasis on the RYA training scheme that we offer both to encourage non-sailors to try our chosen sport and also to promote ELSC. Our team of trainers work hard to make the events a success and I am grateful to them.

This year we are going to invest a little money to improve the boats and trolley. We have also bought a Laser Pico which will be for hire and which we hope will provide a stepping stone for novices before committing to their own boat.

The committee has taken a fresh look at strengths and weaknesses at the club and identified areas for improvement. Our finances are in great shape, the

sailing programme is excellent with lots of boats taking to the water and our membership numbers are strong. We will therefore be focusing on further infrastructure projects like replacing the OD hut and improving some of the tired areas that just need a coat of paint and a good sort out.

A personal focus for me is to address the old 'Orphan' boats that are dotted around the boat park. We need to find the owners and agree their future. Watch carefully for more details.

We look forward to seeing you all at the Grand Splash and best of luck to you all in the coming season!

*Terry Bridgewater*

### Events Diary:

~Saturday Sailing Starts

Sat 21st Mar 2pm

~ GRAND SPLASH!

Sun 15th Mar 10am

~Working Party

Sat 28th Mar 10am

~ Laser Open

29th March

~ Easter Egg

12th April

~Enterprise Open

3rd May



Terry proposes a new rule at the Dinner Dance



## Working Party 28<sup>th</sup> March



*Skip will clean this window!*

First working party of the year will be on Saturday 28th March between 10am and 12pm.

A great social event as well as an opportunity to demonstrate your skills and help the Club. Do what you feel comfortable with. Areas for attention are:

- Clubhouse. Painting the outside (old paintbrushes welcome), fixing the handrail, tidying the area at the back, fixing mast racks on the wall.
- Moving the trailers towards the fence and cutting the long grass to increase car parking area.
- Painting the Bosun's Hut and tidying the area around it.
- Identifying orphan boats and excavating old masts from the hedge.
- Fitting tyres to the landing stage and concrete wall.

Free tea and toast are always provided for the workers!

*Iain McDowall*

## Earlswood Prize giving and Dinner Dance

The Annual Earlswood Prize giving and Dinner Dance took place last weekend at the George Hotel in Solihull. Our yearly shindig was well attended again this year and a good time was had by all present.

Fine dining and excellent service from the hotel staff once again made it a great night for the food lovers amongst us. The Lamb was done to perfection and the starters and puddings were of the high standards we have come to expect from the George.

After the dinner Louise Busby took the floor to do the new members speech, and proposed a toast to the guests. Jenny responded on behalf of the club and said her sad farewell as this is her last Dinner Dance as Commodore.

Terry Bridgewater thanked Jenny for the advancements the club had made over the past couple of years and ushered in the new era.

The raffle raised over £100 with a great set of prizes and a slide show of several hundred photos kept people amused with the Howard King disco!



*Scribbler*



Jenny is shrinking and here's the proof!!

## Earlswood info Page – all the useful info in one place!

### ELSC Officers 2009

#### Commodore

Terry Bridgewater-01564 742513

[terry.bridgewater@virgin.net](mailto:terry.bridgewater@virgin.net)

#### Vice Commodore

Darren Layton-01684 275512

[dlayton@uk2.net](mailto:dlayton@uk2.net)

#### Secretary

Dave Pitt - 0121 705 2597

[dlpitt@btinternet.com](mailto:dlpitt@btinternet.com)

#### Treasurer

Steve Perring - 0121 744 8821

[sgperring@aol.com](mailto:sgperring@aol.com)

#### Sailing Secretary

Alan Wright - 01926 773 786

[alanw-sailaway@ntlworld.com](mailto:alanw-sailaway@ntlworld.com)

#### Membership Secretary

Ken Davenport - 0121 443 3993

[kendavenport@foucansurf.com](mailto:kendavenport@foucansurf.com)

#### Training Principal

Alex Layton 0121 430 7521

[Layton10@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:Layton10@blueyonder.co.uk)

**Remember to insure  
your boat for racing,  
it's not the damage -  
it's the third party  
liability.**



# ELSC Day

Wanted: New Bar Committee  
Members, anyone interested  
please see Pete Middleton asap!  
01564 826000

**Warning!**  
This boat has been  
targeted for disposal

If you know who owns it please tell a  
committee member. If the owner is not  
identified it will be disposed of in accordance  
with the ELSC Orphan Boat disposal process.



## Email List for Everyone!

It's easier to communicate with you all  
via email in most cases, so don't miss  
out and join the Earlswood Lakes  
Sailing Club email D-List. Very useful  
for OD Duty swaps, finding a crew,  
finding a helm... the possibilities are  
endless.!

#### Post message:

[earlswoodsc@yahoogroups.com](mailto:earlswoodsc@yahoogroups.com)

#### Subscribe:

[earlswoodsc-  
subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:earlswoodsc-<br/>subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

#### Unsubscribe:

[earlswoodsc-  
unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:earlswoodsc-<br/>unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com)

#### List owner:

[earlswoodsc-  
owner@yahoogroups.com](mailto:earlswoodsc-<br/>owner@yahoogroups.com)



Darren forgets what his boat is  
called so stops to check –  
Karen shouts from the other  
side- her suggestion contains  
several xxx's too!

### ELSC Committee 2008

#### Bar Committee

Pete Middleton 01564 826 000

[Pm012h0686@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:Pm012h0686@blueyonder.co.uk)

#### Elected Members

Sue Stewart 01564 700 023

[suestewart1@btinternet.com](mailto:suestewart1@btinternet.com)

James Patterson 0121 777 1433

[james@jamespatterson.org](mailto:james@jamespatterson.org)

Bernie Smith

[bernsmith@hotmail.com](mailto:bernsmith@hotmail.com)

Iain McDowall

[iainmcdowall@live.co.uk](mailto:iainmcdowall@live.co.uk)



#### Windmill Editor –

James Patterson

E-Mail: [james@jamespatterson.org](mailto:james@jamespatterson.org)

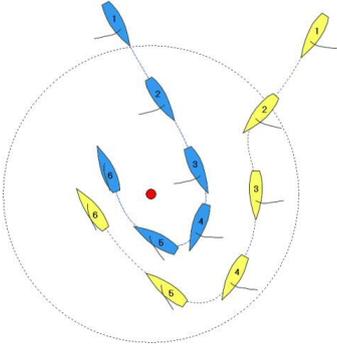
ELSC Web Site: Dave Vanes

<http://www.earlswoodsc.co.uk/>

## Rules Update – **3** boat lengths now in operation

Rule 18 (the rule about room at the mark) 'switches on' at 3-hull lengths from the mark, instead of two. If there is an overlap when the first of the boats reaches this area, then Rule 18 applies and the outside boat must give the inside boat mark-room.

1. An outside boat must give an inside boat **room to sail TO the mark** and **to sail her PROPER COURSE while at the mark**.



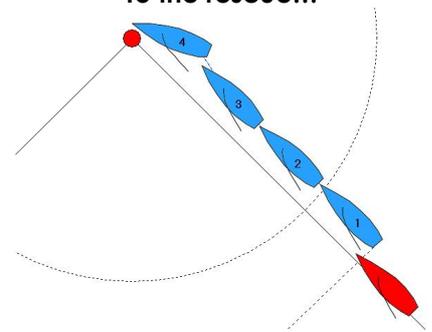
Under the old rules, as Yellow is Starboard boat, she could have sailed on and forced Blue to gybe before she got to the mark. She would only have to give Blue room, while they were at the mark.

However, the new rules include a new concept of mark-room:

*"Mark-Room: Room for a boat **to sail to the mark**, and then room to sail **her proper course while at the mark**..."* Therefore in this situation, even though Yellow is Starboard Boat, when she enters the 3 hull length zone, she must bear away to give Blue room to sail to the mark.



### To the rescue...



Remember it might look like **5** boat lengths when the overlap is actually

## Orphan Boats Plan

I would like to press on with the removal of orphan boats but I know that we will have to have a rigorous and auditable process.

For reference, our current Rule 9 states:

***"Any ex-member leaving his / her boat on club premises may be charged 4% of the annual subscription per week and after two years the boat and any accessories, including trailer and trolley, may be sold by the committee to recover the charge."***

Obviously, any sorry looking boat that is stored here but where the owner pays his membership in full has a right to remain.

To get us going, I propose the following process:

- At the next working party select the six worst looking and probably abandoned boats and attach a notice to them stating that they are subject to removal three months later
- Try all reasonable means to find the owner and, if found, tell them to remove it or we will remove it for them
- Take photos, publish this process in the newsletter, on notice boards and by email. Invite comments about the fairness of this process
- If no owner is found by the deadline, advertise the boats on eBay, with no reserve, buyer to collect.
- Record carefully all money received as a separate item in our accounts
- If not sold, strip the boats of useful items (shackles, ropes, buoyancy bags etc.) and scrap them. The useful items to go into a club store for free issue or sale.
- Then we pick the next six boats.

If the owner subsequently appears and wants some compensation, we explain the process and give him any profit from the sale. We do, obviously, have the right to withhold unpaid club fees.

*Terry*

## ELSC Early Fixtures 2009

SUNDAY	10:00	11:30					
SUNDAY 1 DAY	10:00	11:15	12:15				
SATURDAY			14:00	15:30			
WEDNESDAY			14:45	15:45	19:10		
DATE	DAY					OD	AOD
15 Mar	SUN	GRAND SPLASH 1      2      3				M Guest	A Jones
21 Mar	SAT	SS 1    SSP 1				R Marshall	D Gabb
22 Mar	SUN	AM 1	CC 1			B Farmer	B Smith
28 Mar	SAT	SS 2    SSP 2				P Stedman	G Rogers
29 Mar	SUN	LASER OPEN 1      2      3				G Bentley	J Butroid / A Nudds
4 Apr	SAT	SS 3    SSP 3				C Baugh	D Hooper
5 Apr	SUN	AM 2	CC 2			D Pitt	L Busby
11 Apr	SAT	SS 4    SSP 4				S Stewart	P Newbery
12 Apr	SUN	EASTER EGG 1      2      3				F Fern	J Parsons
18 Apr	SAT	SS 5    SSP 5				D Pendleton	J Rees
19 Apr	SUN	AM 3	CC 3			D Coleman	C Styles
25 Apr	SAT	SS 6    SSP 6				A Jones	A Bajjon
26 Apr	SUN	AM 4	CC 4			P Dufrane	D Haywood
29 Apr	WED	MW 1				A Wright	**
2 May	SAT	SS 7    SSP 7				A Pearson	R Jones
3 May	SUN	ENTERPRISE OPEN 1      2      3				P Middleton	K Marsay / M Clark
6 May	WED	MW 2				M Guest	**
9 May	SAT	SS 8    SSP 8				T Bridgewater	E Bridgewater
12 May	SUN	AM 5	CC 5			D Layton	K Layton
13 May	WED	MW 3				S Perring	**
16 May	SAT	SS 9    SSP 9				J Wood	H Wood
17 May	SUN	AM 6	CC 6			A Layton	M Rollason



### Training Principal's Report

Bookings are coming in for the upcoming training courses in April and July and our instructors have been catching up with the latest developments at an RYA update event at Bartley reservoir recently.

We've also bought a new boat for the club fleet, please welcome the Laser Pico to Earlwood Lakes. It's a versatile one or two person boat, ideal for newer members to build confidence. Can be sailed with or without the jib. Latest PN: 1259/1263.

Also each of the club boats has been adopted by one of the instructors, and it will be their responsibility to ensure they are fit to race and to train. Boat 1 will be James Patterson, Boat 2 - Alex Layton, Boat 3 - Terry Bridgewater, Boat 4 - Darren Layton, and Boat 5 - Steve Perring.

*Alex Layton*



## Yachts and Yachting Battle of the Classes Pursuit Race – 18<sup>th</sup> January 2009

The sails were flapping in the breeze, the gusts were blowing straight down the dock and the competitors were chattering excitedly in the boat park; the Battle of the Classes pursuit race was imminent. It was a bitterly cold day, with a wind of force four gusting five and the most watched sailing race in the World, maybe even the universe, was waiting to take place as the showcase event of the ExCel boat show.

Rigging began with Darren keeping up a constant barrage of encouraging comments, convinced it wasn't as windy as last year and absolutely certain they would make it at least fifty feet past the first mark before that inevitable capsizes, an improvement on the year before. The briefing began and the course was explained and the competitors asked to confirm the colour of their spinnaker and the latest event they had won – neither Darren nor Dad could claim anything, not even the Summer Bottle. It became evident at this point that sixteen National Champions and three European Champions had turned out for the event; suddenly the prospect seemed a bit bleak.

The race began with the 'Cadets' starting first, upwind and into a rising breeze. It wasn't long till the Xenon had started and having made a good first beat up to the windward mark everything looked positive for the first downwind leg. That was until the spinnaker went up, and then went in – the water, a mere thirty feet this time from the first mark. The boat capsized and then turned turtle, Darren (in the dry suit) stayed out of the water and Dad (in the wetsuit) was left swimming until Darren stopped hogging the centreboard (Dad's words not mine). Having spent five minutes righting the boat, the dynamic duo continued their



Ooooooh!



Corrrr!



Dohh!!

*Laura Quest*

way round the course with my Father complaining bitterly that some parts of him had never been so cold.

The course was crowded the entire way round, as Karen and I watched the sailing from above, the team below started to get into their stride and even started to pick off some slower boats. As the wind continued to increase ten boats had to pull out, the National Twelve even being towed off the water. Already the Earlswood delegates had improved on last year's position of last but one.

The prize giving was given on the main stage of the show, with a crowd watching, the Xenon's crew had their fingers crossed that they wouldn't come last, Karen was helpfully reminding the team that they were certainly outclassed. The results were announced in reverse order starting with the forty first, amazingly Darren and Dad were announced as thirty fifth, a startling improvement.

All in all another great day out, and at least Earlswood wasn't too poorly represented. Darren has calculated, following the pattern of improvement, they should be winning by 2015, especially with their four point plan. Point One, get fitter, (Darren's Idea), point two get lighter, (Darren's Idea again), point three, get younger (hyperthermia was setting in at this point) and finally, point four, cut some hand holds in the bottom of Darren's boat (Dads idea). So if you want to see a successful Earlswood team, its 2015. More realistically if you just want a laugh, I would recommend the London boat show next year.