



AQUARIUS S.C.

# THE MAIN SHEET

*Spring 2002 Edition*

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## Commodore's Bit

The start of season party on Saturday 23rd March heralds a new season. We are all hoping for friendlier conditions this year. Racing will start with Easter Bunnies - and eggs - on Sunday 31st March.

Don't keep sailing to yourselves. Why not bring a friend or neighbour down to sail one Sunday. They may be tomorrow's members. Please make sure that they sign in the visitors book and know the club's safety procedures.

The racing time table has changed this year and we would like your feedback. And talking of feedback, you will receive a little form to complete with your membership bump. The committee regularly discuss what they want from the club. We would like to know the feelings of everybody.

Madeline and her team have produced an interesting social programme for the year with events for all the family. In fact the season is so full, it has been difficult to find slots for all the events.

Through this wet and windy winter, those stalwarts of the club have been working on the clubhouse and the rescue boat. This culminated in a final blitz - for blitz read working party - in mid March. Our thanks to all of them with special mention of Diana Carpenter for preparing a delicious spread of food for lunch.

So pray for Force 3 to 5 and a very little current and we will see you on the water soon.

Rodger

## AGM, Prize Giving & End of Season Party

A very pleasant evening was had by all who came to the AGM, Prizegiving and End of Season Party. As usual the business of the evening was dealt with efficiently and quickly enabling us to enjoy the Prizegiving ably presided over by Richard Cannon followed by the party with mulled wine, mince pies and other delectable goodies.

As you can see, once more, an enthusiastic team of officers and committee has been elected to run the club on your behalf and we would appreciate it if you could spare five minutes to complete the enclosed questionnaire enabling us to give the service you would like.

A full and varied social programme has been devised by Madeline Hatton and her committee. LADIES please note that tea and cakes are to be served every race afternoon at 3pm so leave those household chores and come down for a chat and a "cuppa" - we're a very friendly lot.

More good news is that the subscriptions and berth fees are remaining the same - thanks to our treasurer's careful management. To make our jobs easier, I would appreciate

## Know Your Officers and Committee for 2002- Joan Bray

### Officers

President	George Bray
Commodore	Rodger Wheeler
Vice Commodore	Keith Hatton
Rear Commodore Internal	Peter Carpenter
Rear Commodore External	Eric Bridgewater
Secretary	Joan Bray
Treasurer	Joan Garrett
Boatswain	Laurie Bridges
Harbourmaster	Bryan Clements
Sailing Secretary	Richard Cannon
Publicity Officer	Mike Baker
Social Secretary	Madeline Hatton

### Management Committee:-

Diana Carpenter	John Neale
Charles Dennis	Bob Gloyne
Barry Jones	Nigel Knowles
Mike Rogers	Mark Hollamby

### Social Committee

Madeline Hatton (Chair)	George Bray
Joan Bray	Richard Cannon
Diana Carpenter	Peter Carpenter
Mary Dennis	Keith Hatton
Mick Rogers	Lynda Rowley
Janet Edwards	Bob Sumner
Rodger Wheeler	Linda Wheeler

Hon. Auditor

Graham Thompson

Keith Hatton is also Bar Chairman and organises a team of bar people to serve on race days, Wednesday and other Social evenings.

All our committee members work for you on a voluntary basis carrying out a variety of tasks. There is quite a bit to do to prepare for the new season - if you can spare a few hours, your help will be much appreciated.

Contact details for committee members can be obtained from Richard Cannon (01932 786636).

early payment and please may I ask you to fill in the subscription forms to help us keep our records up to date with details of boats, email addresses etc.

Finally, I'd like to wish everyone a very happy and successful season.

Joan Bray

## Sailboat & Windsurf Show 2002

So, let's see, it's 3:30pm on Monday 4 March. Hugh & Jean Stanistreet have just collected ST915 for it's trip back to Windermere and, short of putting a few thing's away, The Sailboat & Windsurf Show 2002 is over. It's been a long but quite successful weekend !

Mind you, last Wednesday I wasn't sure if we were even going to have a dinghy. On Tuesday the 915 boat was still in Fyne Boat Kits paint shop at Bowness-on-Windermere. The hull paint job had gone belly up a few days earlier. The temperature had gone from +5 to -3 over night and 915's Marlin Blue paint had not reacted well. It all had to be rubbed down and repainted. She came out on Tuesday night and arrived at Aquarius SC on Thursday. Having dropped the dinghy off and promising to pick it up again on Monday afternoon, Hugh and Jean then carried on to the Channel, a ferry, and Antwerp for the weekend.

I finally got into the Great Hall at Ally Pally at 12:30pm on Friday only to find a contractors lorry parked on our stand. Our pitch was in a row under the Rose Window and shared with the Graduate, Snipe, Gull and British Moth classes.

Steve Leeding, the ST Sailing Sec, arrived at 2:30pm. The lorry was moved by the stewards, and we set about building up the SigneT display. Steve had some really good display boards, a VDU display unit and the laptop to run the Power-Point based slide show.

We were a bit worried about rigging ST915. She was so new that apart from some basic fittings (i.e. shroud & stem head plates and genoa sheet sliding blocks) everything else had to be gleaned from elsewhere. She ended up with ST369's spars & standing rigging and ST858's sails. We were far from sure it was all going to fit, but fit it did and she looked great.

Probably the dinghy's best feature was the finish. The hull had been sheathed in epoxy, two coats inside and three outside. This had been rolled on, rubbed down and the inside and decks given five coats of varnish. The outer hull, as already mentioned, was painted in Marlin Blue. It looked like it had been sprayed on but Hugh assured me it was vertically hand painted. We finally got away at 5:30pm, straight out into the North Circular traffic. Oh frabduous joy!

Saturday was hectic! I've never seen so many people at the show. Many thanks to Steve & Johnathan Leeding, Frank and Joyce Cownern and Roy Melsom for all their help on the stand. We were all kept pretty busy. Despite protestations to the contrary Joyce came over 'all unnecessary' when Ben Ainsley wandered onto the stand and signed the Associations visitors book.

The stand seemed to have people on it most of the time including many friends who stopped by to admire the new Fyne Boat Kits dinghy. Several trade photographers also thought it worth a few exposures and flashed away to their hearts content.

Sunday was marginally less hectic but still very busy. Many thanks to Madeline & Keith Hatton, Jenny & Patrick Overs and Richard Cannon for all their help especially with packing up at the end. If you've never experienced an end of show 'tear down' I can't explain it to you. I can say however that it pays to have a really good team with you, and I had the best. Thanks guy's.

It would be most remiss of me not to thank Paul and Hugh Stanistreet, the co owners of Fyne Boat Kits, for the loan of ST915. The guys worked hard to get the boat ready and judging by the speed with which their handouts vanished off the show stand many people were very interested in Fyne's kits. And intrigued by their 'assisted build' option (i.e. build your SigneT in Fyne's spacious boathouse at Bowness and if you get in a pickle, or just need a second opinion, Paul or Hugh will sort you out).

I do feel however you might have a little difficulty convincing the wife that a week or two in a boathouse in Cumbrria was preferable, in comparison with say, The Bahamas, The Maldives or even Bali !

Me, I settled for a 'half-way house'. Hugh's currently re-decking Over Easy for me and Lyn's not even having to brush the sawdust of her shoes. Retail therapy in Windermere, Ambleside and Hawkshead apparently was far preferable and ensured she never had to get a whiff of marine ply or epoxy resin. Strange creatures women, why wouldn't they want to spend some time in a great boathouse with all it's atmosphere and smells!!!

Mike (Over Easy) Baker

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## AQSC AGM, Prize Giving & End of Season Party - 8 December 2001

So if you didn't attend the AGM, or send your apologies for absence, WHERE WERE YOU? The AGM is a really important annual meeting to determine the way forward for The Club in the coming year. Every full member of The Club should exercise their right to be part of, and have a say in, that process.

The AGM was the first order of business. The Commodore, Rodger Wheeler, opened the meeting. The last AGM minutes and matters arising were quickly dealt with. Rodgers own report covered three main areas. The first covered an update on the proposed footbridge across the Thames adjacent to The Club. Rodger was assisted in this by Eric Bridgewater who has been keeping a watching brief on developments for some time. The second was to revue the years achievements and to thank individuals for their contributions. Finally Rodger announced that after four years he was standing down as Commodore of AQSC.

Joan Garrett delivered the Treasurers report and answered questions arising.

George Bray took over the Chair to oversee the election of Club Officers and Management Committee members for 2002.

Rodger agreed to another years term, but only with changed responsibilities. Accordingly George Bray will chair the monthly Management Committee meetings and Rodger will be assisted by two Rear Commodores; one to handle External matters (i.e. The Bridge, the UDP and Thames Water) and one to handle Internal matters (i.e. Premises).

Following discussions the Officers and Committee were elected.

Following AOB the AGM was closed and the annual prize giving got underway. (See Richard Cannon's separate report).

The evening concluded with mulled wine, mince pies and other goodies supplied by "The Ladies". Many thanks to all involved for a lively and enjoyable evening marking the end of another sailing year at Aquarius SC.

Mike (Over Easy) Baker

# Proposed Bridge at Sunnyside Reservoir (Hampton to Molesey)

## Eric BRIDGEwater

Members may have seen reports of a proposed pedestrian/cycle bridge at Sunnyside. We are very concerned about the impact this will have on us and have had a joint meeting of Hampton SC and Aquarius with the TOPS group. The main points made follow.

Around 1995 it was proposed that a pedestrian/cycle bridge crossing the Thames at Sunbury be studied. Out of these discussions a separate small un-affiliated group to be called Thames Overways Projects (TOPS) was born. TOPS expanded the objectives to consider 4 pedestrian/cycle bridges between Staines and Hampton Court. Meanwhile Spelthorne has built two Leisure Centres, which was good for Sunbury residents but removed one of reasons for the Sunbury crossing and therefore initial attention has turned to Sunnyside.

The engineering company Whitby-Bird & Partners were funded by Surrey and Richmond through SWELTRAC (set up to solve problems of surface access to Heathrow) to perform a feasibility study.

In the case of the Sunnyside crossing 3 sketches were produced and one proposal, Option 1, was fleshed out in a little more detail. No consultations with local organisations have been carried out. A press release was put out and an exhibition showing the results of the study is going the rounds (at Sunbury Library from 16Mar2002). A revised press release has been issued because of factual errors in the original but it appears that some papers are still using the old press release.

The two clubs were unable to discern from TOPS any valid argument for building a bridge at the Sunnyside location. Sunbury seemed to be the obvious location for such a bridge. Sunbury is halfway between Walton Bridge and Hampton Ferry, has a community living on one side of the river with desirable facilities and destinations on the other side and a developed infrastructure for the roads with lighting on both sides.

Some of our members living in Hampton pointed out differences from Sunbury. There is no riverside community at Sunnyside. Where Hampton comes close to the river there is already the ferry. There is no Civic Leisure centre in Molesey, which would be accessed by the proposed bridge. Molesey does not have the facilities of Walton.

It was clear that TOPS interest was in looking at the activities on the river but did not understand them. We need to emphasise to people that the bridge would destroy the sailing which is one of the key attractions to people on the towpath in this reach of the river.

The two sailing clubs would have their sailing reach, between Sunbury and Molesey Lock, cut in half by the proposed bridge. Aquarius Sailing Club boats would be trapped in their moorings in some conditions.

We pointed out that any bridge will affect airflow and will in certain conditions prevent sailing boats from moving upstream. A bridge with 10 metres headroom over nearly the whole width of the river would be required to allow the Aquarius and Hampton fleets to sail upstream and even then not in all conditions. The current proposal is for 5.9 metres over the middle part of the river

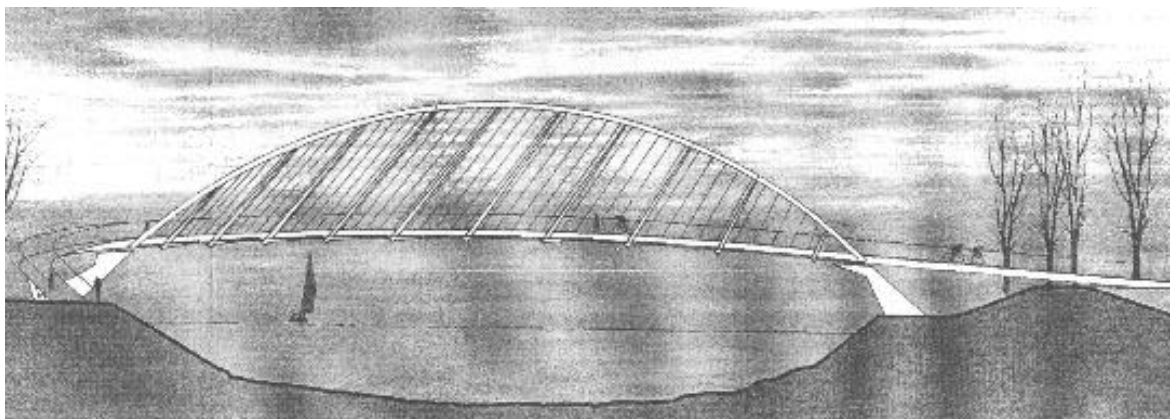
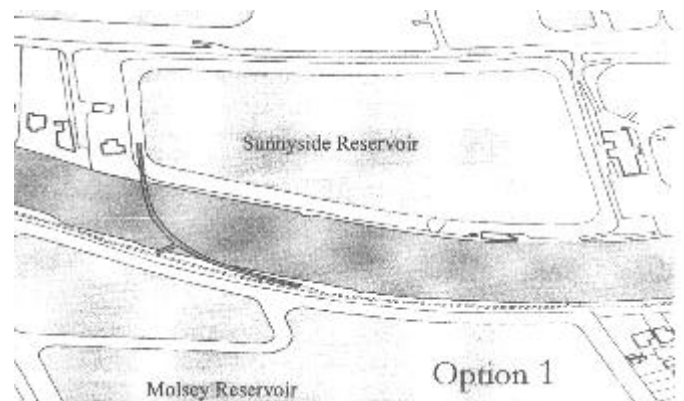
The two clubs advocated the relocation of the proposed bridge to an existing barrier such as Sunbury Weir. A crossing at that location would not hinder any river user and could be of much smaller scale.

It was clear that TOPS had much less support and much less time had gone into the proposals than conveyed by the publicity produced. We need to be aware of all comments made about the bridge. If anybody sees any comments like the following by Molesey Conservatives please let me know (020 8941 4135).

"Would you spend £2.5 million on a pedestrian and cycle bridge in Molesey? Surely this is the last item on most residents shopping lists, but is being given serious consideration. £2.5 million could be put to much better use."

Please attend the exhibition and add suitable comments to the book.

Illustrations courtesy Whitby-Bird & Partners



## SAILING SECRETARY REPORT 2001 - Richard Cannon

Last year was poor and unfortunately this year wasn't any better. We were unable sail for the first five Sundays due to the strong current and light winds; the first time this has happened since I joined the Club in 1992. The wind tended to be light during the middle of the season but improved towards the end.

The normal entry was only about 4 to 8 boats per race and the best was 11 boats at the Regatta and 10 boats on the last day of the season. A total of 39 people helmed or crewed in at least one race.

The Club boats were well used with generally 1 to 2 boats in use and on one occasions four club boats were out.

Our first sail was at a new event for us at Littleton SC. This was the Mid-Thames Trophy inter club event that was moved from Desborough SC, due to the current, at the last minute. Other clubs were Littleton, Desborough, Staines, and Laleham. We had 8 boats, the largest number of visitors. There were very good sailing conditions with 10-15knt wind and we did excellent to come 2nd to Littleton. A very enjoyable day.

We were very fortunate to have a good steady 5-10knt easterly wind for the two Open days; the first time we were able to sail on the river and conditions were ideal for taking around 32 visitors out. The safety boat was a joy to use with the new diesel engine.

There were the usual visits to Bewl for the Spring and August Bank Holiday weekends. The Spring Meeting was excellent sailing both days; hot, sunny and 7-15 knt winds. The August visit was one with extremes of conditions from zero to 30knts wind, in the same race. Sunday was much better

AQSC members supported all the Signet Meetings and came away with the majority of the prizes. At the Signet National Championships Richard Cannon, with Robert Britton as crew won.

Bob Jones has supported many Skipper and Catapult meetings and has traveled away from the Club more than anyone.

As usual all trophies have been allocated to Personal Handicap results and this gives much closer Series results and usually helps spread the Trophies amongst the competitors instead of all going to one helm. Some results were very close with a tie for the Autumn PH result for the Cruiser Trophy that needed four levels of tie breaking.

I would welcome suggestions that might improve support for events. Am I giving members what they want? should racing be different times or days, too much or too little racing, alternative events. Please let me know so I have a chance to incorporate any suggestions in next year's program.

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### 2001 PRIZES

The race series match those of last year and the same trophies have been awarded. Everyone who was 1st, 2nd, or 3rd for Boat Handicap or Personal Handicap result in a main series received a glass. Some glasses were also awarded for amount of sailing.

If a helm capsized or had any other incident or breakage would they please make sure it is recorded on the race sheet so it can be include in my result records. Brian Clements was awarded the Water Rat for 3 capsizes, in particular for being towed back capsized when he was determined to avoid getting wet..

Michael Stevens received the Young Helm Trophy; he continues to make very good progress, and at one point hav-

ing the lowest PH and came 2nd on BH in the Summer and Autumn.

A total of 67 races on 25 days, including 14 Fun races, were sailed during the year; Bryan Clements and Graham Thompson were extremely keen to compete in 47 and 43 races respectively.

A printed report of each race entry, series results, summaries and other items are in the Race Result folder that is normally kept in the Club entrance. As the race entry reports are very compact and give virtually all the information (except intermediate lap times) on the original race entry sheets these will not be retained.

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### PRIZE POINTS

The following table lists the places of helms that were in the first three places for Boat Handicap or Personal Handicap in any series, except the Fun series. One point is given for each 3rd, two points for each 2nd and 3 points for each 1st

place. Ranking is according to the total number of points obtained; rank gives an indication of overall performance including BH and PH results.

SERIES	TROPHY
Autumn PH	Cruiser Cup
Sprint	Enterprise Cup
SPA	Saturday Trophy
Young Helm	Young Helmsman Cup
Spring PH	Handicap Class Trophy
Summer PH	Laser Cup
Boat Handicap Result	Charles Broken Boom
Event	Water Rat

Rank 5	Glass
Rank 7	Glass
Most races & no other prize	Glass
Most races Junior	Glass
Most Crewed	Glass

MEMBER, H = Helm, C = Crew  
Graham Thompson by tie break, 43 H + 0 C 43 races, 1  
Richard Cannon, 33 H + 0 C = 33 races, rank 2  
Charles Dennis, 36 H + 0 C = 36 races, rank 3  
Michael EStevens, 32 H + 0 C 32 races, rank 4  
Bryan Clements, 44 H + 3 C = 47 races, rank 6  
Charles Dennis  
Graham Thompson  
Brian Clements for 3 capsizes with problems

Pat Halling 25 H +1 C = 26 races rank 5  
Rodger Wheeler 27 H + 2 C = 29 races  
Keith Hatton 22 H + 1 C = 23 races  
Fin Gloyn, 7 H, 2 C = 9 races  
Ian Powell 4 H + 3 C = 7 races  
Bob Gloyn, 8 crew races

## AQSC Annual Dinner

This years dinner was held in the clubhouse on the evening of Saturday 24 November. The reception, presided over by Commodore Rodger Wheeler, commenced at 7:30pm. The clubhouse had been decorated with pennants, sails and fairy lights to set off the formally laid up dinner tables. Quite a sight, each with a candle lit floral centre piece designed and arranged by Joan Bray and Diana Carpenter. The dinner itself, catered by Sarah Sinclair and Bridgett Davies (i.e. 'Tasty Morsels') was excellent with everybody being served with a pre selected menu. This was accompanied by a good selection of wine, toasts, party poppers and rounded off with coffee, mints and a very generous raffle, beautifully packaged by Keith and Madeline Hatton. Bouquets were then presented to dinner organiser Madeline Hatton and the Commodores wife Linda Wheeler. Following dinner the bar was opened and live music was provided by Chris Jarvis.

John & Carol Money caused some amusement during the evening when they distributed some 'dubious' substances collected on there recent trip to South America. People seemed very unsure whether to drink it, smoke it or snort it through a rolled-up fiver.

Many thanks to the organising committee for a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Special thanks to Mary Dennis, Madeline Hatton, Diana Carpenter and Linda Wheeler for serving dinner and ensuring everything went smoothly, it was much appreciated. Thanks also to George Bray, Keith Hatton, Peter Carpenter, Richard Cannon, and Mike Rogers for all their work before, if not during the evening. Long may the AQSC annual dinners be held. They have become an real must on the social calendar

Mike (One of the three DJ's) Baker

(That's an 'in joke' for those who attended the dinner)

### 18Nov01 "AQSC RESULT SUMMARY FOR 2001" "In Name Order For Selected Series"

Each helm has a Line for Boat Handicap Place and one for Personal Handicap Place

HELM	SERIES	Autumn 2001	Spring 2001	Spring/ Autumn 2001	Sprint 2001	Summer 2001
Allen A	BH PH	11 11	8 7		12 12	12 12
Baker M	BH PH		14 15			
Bridges L	BH PH	12 12	7 8		9 9	
Britton R	BH PH	14 14				10 10
Cannon RC	BH PH	3 4	2 4	4 5	1 1	1 2
Carpenter P	BH PH	9 8	11 11	9 9	8 8	9 8
Clements B	BH PH	5 5	5 1	7 4	5 2	6 5
Clough R	BH PH		13 13			
Dennis C	BH PH	4 1	4 6	3 1	2 3	4 1
Gloyn F	BH PH				18 18	13 13
Gloyn R	BH PH					11 11
Graham J	BH PH	15 16	15 14			
Halling P	BH PH	6 6	3 5	2 3	6 5	8 9
Hatton K	BH PH	8 9	9 9	5 6	10 10	5 6
Neale J	BH PH				13 13	
Powell I	BH PH	13 13	16 16	12 12	17 17	
Rogers M	BH PH	10 10		11 11		
Stevens M	BH PH	2 3	12 12	8 8	4 6	2 3
Sutton P	BH PH				16 14	
Terry J	BH PH	16 17			11 11	
Thompson G	BH PH	1 1	1 3	1 2	3 7	3 4
Thornhill R	BH PH				14 14	
Tomkins J	BH PH	17 15	10 10	10 10	15 14	
Trotman F	BH PH		16 16			
Wheeler R	BH PH	7 7	5 2	6 7	6 4	7 7



Our Caterers Preparing Dinner



Rodger Wheeler addressing the diners

# **A Fyne Windermere Boat**

## **Another Fyne dinghy you got me into Stanley**

### **A Mighty Fyne SigneT**

The latest addition to the SigneT fleet is ST915, as yet unnamed. She was built by Paul and Hugh Stanistreet who are the owners of Fyne Boat Kits at Bowness-on-Windermere. ST915, the prototype for Signet kits, was on our stand at Alexander Palace this year but because only the hull was ready she carried ST369's standing rigging and ST858's sails. A good team effort !

Lyn and I spent a few days up at Bowness recently to have a look at the dinghy. Her most notable features were that she is totally sheathed in epoxy and Hugh told me that he only used five screws in the whole construction ! As we arrived she was just about to go into the paint shop. She will have a Marlin blue hull with varnished interior and decking. Hugh had some interesting suggestions re SigneT construction and will be taking these up with the class committee at the earliest opportunity.

Fyne plan to sail ST915 at our 2002 opens and the Rutland Water Nationals so you will have plenty of opportunity to take a look at her. Her helm is likely to be a colleague of Hughs called Paul Taylor. He's a sailing instructor based at Windermere.

Paul Stanistreet had suggested that I take Over Easy up so they could do some comparisons and take a look at her rigging and Paul Taylor was of course very keen to sail her. Everything started well. Windermere was very high with a fair chop and it was blowing about a four. I put Over Easy through her paces for a while and then handed over to Paul. He had been on the helm only a few minutes when unfortunately the rudder snapped off just below the stock.

Now given the conditions and that we were well out on the lake I might be forgiven for being a little worried. Steve just decided that it was a great opportunity to practice rudderless sailing .... and duly sailed us back to Fyne's boathouse as if it was nothing out of the ordinary. Yes, he knows what he's doing !

The Fyne facilities are interesting. They have a boathouse on the edge of the lake at the end of the lane that leads down to the Windermere car ferry. It's built into the bank with manufacturing facilities for smaller boats above and storage and repair facilities for larger boats underneath, including a slipway straight into the water. In the same area there are other boathouses that specialise in all aspects of wood and glass boat building and repair including paint and varnish shops.

Fyne had some amazing boats underneath including an 1803 Windermere sailing Yawl awaiting restoration. While I talked SigneT's and Sailboat 2002 with Paul and Hugh, Lyn, bless her little cotton socks, got on with some serious retail therapy in Bowness, Windermere and Hawkshead ! She knows where her priorities lie !

If all goes to plan ST915 will be delivered 'down South' a few days before the show together with details about kit prices and build options that Fyne are keen to promote. Hugh was very upbeat about the epoxy sheathing which he was sure would solve many of the maintenance problems associated with wooden boat ownership.

After the show Fyne want to test and fine tune ST915 against other SigneT's and incorporate that information in subsequent dinghy's kits. Fyne's plans for the promotion of the SigneT are enthusiastic and refreshing and could give The Class a fresh lease of life.

Mike (Over Easy) Baker

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## **TRIVIAL PURSUIT EVENING**

### **Diana Carpenter**

On the last Saturday in January, after an exceedingly wet and wild day, twenty four members and friends of the Club joined together for a Trivial Pursuit evening.

This consisted of highlights of news footage from over the past fifty years accompanied by snippets of contemporary music. I have to admit being around all that time but some events I did not recognise at all.

We were split into three teams, rather unequal in size I might add. Then each team after watching their piece of quiz had to answer questions. Sometimes the answers were rather more colourful than accurate, but this all added to a very good humoured evening.

During the break we had home-made soup, cheese and jacket potatoes. It all looked so tempting I could not resist eating even though I had already had an evening meal.

After a very amicable evening quantity rather than quality in the team ruled the day – and the 'Mob' won.

It was an excellent evening with good order being kept by our Quizmaster – Mary Dennis.

Do come and join us at the next event.

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## **AQUARIUS WEB SITE**

### **Richard Cannon**

The AQSC Web site and E-mail continue to be useful communication media. The latest race results are generally available on the web site by the evening following Sunday racing. Other useful pages are general News, Sailing and Social program, Sailing and Bar duty rosters, and the last 6 newsletters. I hope members are finding it useful.

If Members with Email are not receiving occasional E-mails from me, and would like to, could they please send me an E-mail.

I would welcome any suggestions on improving the communication, marketing and presentation aspects of the web site. It is rather short on graphics for the sake of speed and I am not artistic. Also I don't have high power programs for preparing the pages.



## Working Party 16 March 2002 - Richard Cannon

We were extremely fortunate that after two very wet days Saturday was dry until mid afternoon.

Although there had only been a couple of replies to the Email publicising the working party there was excellent support with 19 members helping out.

Many tasks were completed including:

- the trailer park tidied and strimmed
- the frontage cleaned and the chains painted
- windows cleaned
- clubhouse inside cleaned
- new floor fitted to start hut
- new shutter fitted to a club bay to replace that that had been blown away
- the garden tidied
- a lot of rubbish cleared away from around the bosun store
- the PIR in the car park replaced
- the telephone wiring repaired
- the gully along the back of the club house cleared out
- life bouys and posts cleaned up
- rubbish was burnt or taken away in a trailer.

And all this was achieved before lunch.

The real highlight of the day was the super lunch prepared by Diana Carpenter. Every one sat down to a free lunch of jacket potatoes, chicken, chili or vegetarian hot fillings, and bread sticks, with enough for second helpings. Many thanks to Diana for preparing us such a vast amount of delicious food. It helped make it a great social occasion.

Also thanks to every one for all the work they did to get the Club in fine shape before sailing starts.



Bryan Clements burning rubbish



Peter Carpenter strimming in the trailer park



## Social and Sailing Calendar to May

March	11:30 am	2:00 pm	3:30 pm	Officers and Notes
<b>23 Sat</b>				Start of Season Party 8 pm NOTE date change
31 Mar	Fun race	Easter Egg race 1	Easter Egg races 2 & 3	R Cannon, M Jerwood, P Carpenter
<b>April</b>				
7	Fun race	Spring race 1	Spa race 1	Linda Tillman, John & Margaret Tomkins
14	Fun race	Spring race 2	Sprint races 1 & 2	John Money, Barbara & Tony Allan
21	Fun race	Spring race 3	Spa race 2	George & Joan Bray, Maggie Fletcher
<b>27 Sat</b>				Maritime Fun Time
28	Fun race	Spring race 4	Spa race 3	Mike Baker, Madeline & Keith Hatton
<b>May</b>				
5	Inland Waterways Association Cavelcade at Little Venice			
6 Mon	Mid-Thames Trophy at Desborough SC			Bank Holiday
12	Fun race	Spring race 5	Sprint races 3 & 4	Bob Sumner, Janet Edward, John Botterill
<b>18 Sat</b>	Club Open Weekend			
19	Training and Funday racing			
<b>25 Sat</b>				Right Royal Time with cheese and wine
26	Fun race	Spring race 6	Spa race 4	Rodger & Linda Wheeler, Pat Halling

### Aquarius Open Weekend

Right you lot, heads up please ! I'M GIVING YOU PLENTY OF NOTICE. The Aquarius SC Open Weekend for 2002 will be held over the weekend of 18 & 19 May. In addition to media coverage, by mid April, there will be plenty of promotional handouts in the clubhouse and I would appreciate if you would ALL collect a few and get distributing in your area. Prime targets should be Libraries, Shops, Adult Education establishments, Schools and Sea Scout/Venture/Ranger Units. It doesn't end there ! During the 2002 season The Aquarius management committee would like EVERY MEMBER to bring at least one colleague, friend or relative to the club with the intention of introducing them to sailing and ultimately Aquarius SC membership. Not a lot to ask is it ?  
Mike (Publicity Officer) Baker

### Annual Club Fees (Polite Notice)

It's nearly that time of the year again folks! Joan will be sending out those A4 forms and inviting all you good people to renew your membership and mooring fees. The majority of members view this as an annual responsibility and take the appropriate action straight away ... and some don't. This means come August/September she can still be chasing down outstanding fees. Members are politely reminded that fees are due shortly after Joan's letters land on the mat and prompt attention to this not unexpected annual occurrence would be appreciated by your Management Committee.

Mike (Wonder what happened to my cheque book) Baker

### The Royal Yachting Association Richard Cannon

The RYA is the national organisation which represents the interests of everyone who goes boating for pleasure, a far larger range than just yachting.

The Aquarius Sailing Club is affiliated to RYA but the greater the membership, the louder their voice when it comes to defending members interests. This is particularly important with all the regulations that can come from Europe.

Annual Personal Membership includes quarterly copies of the RYA magazine and a £6 voucher towards publications. The AQSC copy of the Racing Rules of Sailing 2001-2004 was obtained using a voucher .

The RYA has a number of National Regions that operate autonomously from the RYA; Richard Cannon is Treasurer of the Thames Valley Region.

More information is in the RYA Personal Membership application form enclosed with some copies of this newsletter or you can join by phone on 023 8062 7400. Their web site is [www.rya.org.uk](http://www.rya.org.uk).

### The Sailing Program Richard Cannon

There are a few changes to the sailing program for the coming season.

By request the Fun race has moved from being the last race in the afternoon to the first race in the morning. The Fun race schedule will be flexible and there may be more than one race. Quite often the wind has improved as the day has progress and sometimes the best wind has been after we have finished racing; It is hoped that having longer races in the after noon will give better sailing later in the day.

On the the Bank Holiday Monday May 6 the Mid-Thames Trophy inter club event will be held at Desborough SC, there will be no organised Club racing at Aquarius on Sunday 5 May but it is planned to visit 'A Canal Way Cavelcade' at Little Venice organised by the Inland Water Ways.

The Aquarius Open Days are 18 and 19 May; members are encouraged to bring a friend along with them.

The Late Spring Holiday, 1-4 June, visit to Bewl Water is a 4 day event as the Tuesday is an additional bank holiday. The Tuesday racing is a special Junior event but we can cruise.

The Signet Class Owners Association have asked if we could run a Signet Open Meeting for them on Sunday July 7; this has been agreed to and therefore all races on that day will be Fun races with separate starts for the Signets.

We hope that the weather will be kinder to us this year with good East or West winds without any current and we get a good number of boats racing.

### Start of Season Party Saturday 23 March 8pm

Come and meet all your friends and get the Season off with a swing. Good food, entertainment and great conversation. So come on, shake a leg and have a break from that box in the corner