

- Shearwater and Catapult TT 5th & 6th June,
- Club open from 19.00 on Friday Evenings for Drinks, games and other entertainments.

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Sesalter Sailing Club

Newsletter

WWW.SEASALTERSAILING.ORG.UK

7 MAY 2004

Editorial by Martin Searle

The season has got off to a positive start. The weather has been our main problem however with either too little or too much wind. Despite the fickleness in the wind we have completed several of the racing series including the Ace Cup over the Easter holidays, this saw some very close racing with several people able to win it going into the final race (see Racing News later for the full stories).

Much work was done at the successful work party and the newly re-surfaced ramp is prov-

ing a hit with people when they are lugging their boat over the sea wall ! Well Done to all who attended. During one of the



Racing during the Cedric Wren/Lady Helms Cup,

weather hit days Chris Stafford, Steve Willis and Martin Searle moved the wind indicator from its former position on the club roof to a new position on-top of the flag pole, this removes the troublesome leaky mast that we had projecting through the club roof, we are watertight again !.

During one of the races we tried out Steve Willis new computerized start system and this showed much promise although there was a teething issue with the lights that day

Social Scene by Chris Stafford

The Fitting Out Supper was held later than usual this year to allow more members to be aware of this momentous start to S.S.C's social scene.

Twenty stalwarts attended to be confronted by Lesley and Daves huge supply of delicious food., good conversation during the meal(s) washed down with suitable liquid!

When the assembly was judged to be ready, the Giant Jenga was set up, and play commenced with suitable bravado or trepidation until Martin was left holding an arm full of bricks as the Tower collapsed. The second game was truly nailbiting as the tower grew taller and taller, and Eric and Lesley needed a ladder to put bricks on the top. The game ended in a draw as there were no

bricks left to remove.

The May Day Bank Holiday cruise (What happened to the racing) was a magnificent blast for the early starters with a 5 ish blowing along the beach and a flat sea, nice hull flyers towards Shellness and back. The conditions saw two 18's ,2 15's (don't let JD kid you he is a light wind sailor) and 2 dinghy's Mike Lennon with his Solo

Social Scene...



A Beach BBQ

and a new member Bill with his Topaz, unfortunately Steve and Joan got rigged and changed just in time for the weather to dramatically change. Which saw those afloat head for the beach to escape from the real wild stuff. De-rigging was a little exciting! Yours truly was on his best behavior taking out a new member Eric for his first and hopefully not his last Cat Ride. The afternoon finished off with the ACES of the gal-

ley Dave and Lesley producing magnificent roast potatoes and sausage sandwiches plus the usual goodies. Don't worry about eating before you come to the club let Dave feed you!

Don't forget that at the moment the Club is open on FRIDAY nights for a social get together from around 7pm till late.

"Volunteers are needed to help with the Bar and Patrol Boats for the Shearwater and Catapult TT event to be held on 5th and 6th June"

Shearwater and Catapult TT

Volunteers are needed to help with the Bar and Patrol Boats for the Shearwater and Catapult TT event to be held on 5th and 6th June.

The event is usually quite enjoyable with some close and very competitive racing to enjoy.

We also need volunteers for the Open Fowley race (1st Aug.) patrol boats.

If you would like to help please contact Chris Stafford for Patrol Boat or Bob Walker for the bar or alternatively contact any member of the committee, or email:

OpenEvents@seasaltersailing.org.uk



Open Day 2004

Whilst everyone is in the volunteering mood (you are aren't you?) we also require volunteers to help out during the Open Day on the 20th June.

We need volunteers to take visitors out for short taster sails. These

can be quite rewarding and its nice to see someone who has never been on sailing boat enjoy their first trip in one.

Hopefully there won't be as much wind as last year which rather curtailed the event.

We will also need people to help run the event in the clubhouse, again contact any

member of the committee or email:

oday@seasaltersailing.org.uk

A **Beach BBQ** will be a held after the end of the Open Day for Club Members so come down and make a day of it !.

Open Day
2003 (A Bit
Windy !)



Racing News by Martin Searle



The start of racing this year was delayed by adverse weather (gales of 60+mph !) which caused the abandonment of the Sally Forth Trophy for this year.

Over the Easter weekend the Ace Cup was sailed for and this saw some close racing with any one of three people able to win it on the last day. The final race was won by Martin Searle and he took the spoils. Easter eggs were awarded to the top 3 placed sailors.

The Lady Helm Cup was awarded to Lesley Stafford sailing a Dart 18

Start of Lady Helm Cup 2004

on a very sunny day with very light winds. The event was also combined with one of the Cedric Wren cup races that had been postponed from the previous week, so there was quite a large fleet of 8 boats for the race, . Defending Ladies champion, Joan Willis was forced to retire after the wind died its death leaving her becalmed and going nowhere fast on the last lap! Along with Wendy Dalton.

The Spring Series was again hit by the adverse weather. Only 3 races were able to be sailed, in total the entry for the series was 8 boats so not a bad turnout nevertheless. So far only an unofficial result has been worked out so the results

maybe subject to change.

A full set of results will be put up in due course on the website (when I get some free time at work! — ed.)

Race Training, 3rd July

This will be given by Martin Searle.

This year the race training will be geared towards speed sailing, tuning and improving your tacking and gibing techniques. The day will take the form of a little talk, demo on land and then we'll head onto the water for some practice, before finally sailing Saturday Series 5 & 6, Mars bars may well be awarded for best performances by attendees on the day !

“Mars bars may well be awarded for best performances by attendees on the race training day !”

Event	Place	Helm\Crew	Class
Ace Cup	1st	Martin Searle	Dart 15
	2nd	Chris Stafford	Dart 15
	3rd	Joan Willis\Steve Willis	Dart 18
Lady Helm Cup	1st	Lesley Stafford\Chris Stafford	Dart 18
	2nd	Joan Willis	Dart 15
Spring Series (unofficial result)	1st	Martin Searle	Dart 15
	2nd	Chris Stafford	Dart 15
	3rd	Joan Willis	Dart 18 & 15
Novice Cup	1st	Bill Tipple	Topaz
	2nd	James Wilkinson\Judith Wilkinson	Mirror



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The Seasalter Club is on the North Kent Coast just to the west of Whitstable.

The sea is shallow and we can only sail +/- 2.5 hrs of high water but the swell is quite interesting (great to surf down on the leeward leg). The courses are always spot on.

Food for Thought.....

Getting the most out of the club:

- Come along to some of the social events. During the summer there is nothing like having an evening beach barbeque at sunset and having a good old natter.
- Try a race or two, we are not all ultra competitive pot hunters (even me ! Ed). Races tend to be very friendly and during my time in the club we have not had a protest. It's a great way to improve your sailing skills. Dinghy sailors are extremely welcome and dinghies have proven to be competitive against multi-hulls with Martin Searle winning last years Spring Series in his Laser.