

# Yacht Section AGM

Annual Report 2019/2020

Chichester Yacht Club

*9th October 2020*



## *2020 Highlights or The New Normal*

Helen Jupp, Rear Commodore Yachts

***As we know it's been a challenging year for all of us personally and for the Yacht Section and for the Club.***

Our Yacht Section Committee this year has been composed of:

Philip Brown	Secretary
Kevin Brown	Social Secretary
Carole Middleton	Cruising Secretary
John Lake	Racing Secretary
Tim Walker	Training and Technical Secretary
Jerry Quinton	Media and IT Secretary
Jane Phelps	New Members Secretary
Nick Cole	Communications Secretary

(Nick Cole was co-opted after Kevin Fearn left the Club in January)

The Club committees were re-organized, so the General Committee (GC) met less frequently.

The main business of running the Club is conducted by:

BSC (Business Sub Committee) - we were pleased that Philip Brown, as a general member of GC, was on this committee, and

MSC (Members Sub Committee) looking after members' interests – Jane Phelps and myself represent the Yacht Section.

When lockdown started and the Club was closed, the Commodore formed an emergency committee (MIC) which met remotely on a regular basis, and they are to be congratulated on the efficient manner they kept the Club going at this difficult time.

The beginning of the year started off with excellent lectures on Sunday mornings, some informal discussion groups on practical subjects, energetic walks and sessions for the ladies.

Should you have any questions relating to our

Report or indeed any concerning the section generally, please send them to the committee email address [yachts@cyc.co.uk](mailto:yachts@cyc.co.uk)

A full Cruising and Racing Programme for the 2020 season was planned, thanks to the members who volunteered as cruise leaders, and this was presented in March at a “What’s New Seminar”.

Social activities during the winter months included:

- Laying up Dinner & Prizegiving
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday Sailors Suppers including a festive December evening
- Cruise Leaders Supper
- Commodore’s Cup - won this year by the Motor Section – there was little support for this event which needs to be reviewed for next year
- The Annual Dinner unfortunately had to be cancelled due to Covid.
- The last lecture of the series was presented on Zoom, and many members who live at a distance remarked how convenient that format was for them.

Indeed, Zoom became the mode for the Yacht Section Committee to meet every two weeks.

And members were able to chat socially via Zoom on Friday evenings – we increased the frequency of these to weekly. These proved to be particularly useful to those new members in getting to know others.

Whilst the Club was closed, we were conscious of our more vulnerable members during lockdown and got in touch by phone to see if they needed any help.

Graeme and I had been really looking forward to running the Easter Cruise and Spring Cruise but, along with all the cruises planned for the Spring, these had to be cancelled. Indeed, we were all frustrated not being able to check or work on our boats during this time.

So eventually the first official cruise took place in July, but members also organized pop-up cruises, and many went further afield on their own.

The weekly missive, “*Over the Yardarm*”, keeps members up to date with what’s happening, alongside the weekly Club newsletter, “On Board”.

The Yacht Section now has three main What’s App groups:

- Yachting Matters for exchanging Information on keeping others informed when out sailing, and other technical issues
- Yachting Chat – an informal forum for lighthearted banter
- Crew Exchange – for skippers and potential crew to link up



There was a meeting in the Autumn for Crews and Skippers to meet up, and together with the What's App Crew Exchange, this seems to have worked better than the Crew Exchange when it was on the website.

Another new initiative, started last year, Buddying up for experienced sailors to share their expertise, has continued this year, but I hope it can be developed further this winter.

The Photographic Competition was launched last year when members were encouraged to put their best snaps on Yogile. For some reason, there have been a disappointing number of entries this year.

My thanks go to all the Committee for their support and hard work, as well as Jane Gosnell for organizing the CYC Rambles, and Judy Walker for running the Yachtie Ladies group.

## ***A BIG THANK YOU***

On behalf of the Section, I would like to say **THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU** for your loyal support of the Section and the Club. You make the Club the friendliest Club for miles around! We want to know what activities you would like to see organized, so please let us know.

Some of our committee will be stepping down at the AGM:

Philip Brown – not only the Yacht Section secretary but a valuable member of the BSC and more recently MIC

Jane Phelps who has started a challenging new job – she has been a breath of fresh air in introducing the “Host” scheme to support new members

Jerry Quinton – understandably he needs to devote more time and energy to his job

We thank all of these for their work over the last few years.



Helen Jupp,  
Rear Commodore Yachts

# ***Welcoming new Yachties to the Club***

**Jane Phelps,  
New Member Secretary**



For the period 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019 to 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020, there have been 39 new memberships out of 70 which identified an interest in the Yacht Section. This represents 56% of all new memberships in the same period.

Of the 39 memberships which identified an interest in the Yacht Section, 16 identified the Yacht Section as the only section of interest to them.

A breakdown of the type of membership for each of the 39 memberships which identified an interest in the Yacht Section is below:

Individual memberships – 13 out of 39, or 33%

Family memberships – 26 out of 39, or 67%

Memberships owning a yacht – 15 out of 39, or 38%

### **Promotional Activity and Communications**

Promotional events have been significantly restricted due to Covid-19. Similarly, events for new members, such as New Member Receptions, have not been able to take place. Despite this, the Yacht Section has made every effort to welcome new members and ensure they have access to the information they require to get the best from their membership and meet other members. This includes information about accessing the website, invitations to join online events, subscribing to club newsletters, booking onto cruises, plus how to join the various WhatsApp groups offered by the Yacht Section and the wider club.

### **Second Friday Socials**

New members have been especially welcomed during online Second Friday Socials. More recently, some new members attended the first face to face Second Friday Social at the club, during which the YS Committee was supported by several YS Hosts, to ensure all members received a warm welcome. The YS Committee looks forward to meeting other new members in due course.



# Everyday is a School Day!

By Tim Walker, Training and Technical Secretary

This role was created following the 2019 AGM as a combination of the previous roles of Training and Technical & Safety. There are 2 main strands to the role:

1. To determine with the support of other Committee members the kinds of training opportunities which might be welcomed by members of the Yacht Section and investigate how these might best be met.
2. To explore and action opportunities to publicise and expand the Buddy system and also act as the conduit and response for any technical queries raised by members of the Yacht section. To act as a conduit to the Club Safety and Technical Coordinator.



On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2019 the introduction of '*Discussion Groups*' started with a lively session of over 40 members sharing their experiences and fears of the much maligned Cruising Chute. This topic had been suggested by YS members' discussions on the WhatsApp forum. These ranged from regular outings of the sail to a confession that it had remained in the attic at home since being acquired with the boat. David Roberts showed us an innovative way of flying the sail, ably assisted by anecdotes from Gill! The format of a coordinator, assisted by one or more experienced members proved to be a success and provided the blueprint for the subsequent sessions.

In November we took the Discussion into the technical arena with a look at the sinister black shapes that lurk in a locker or the bilges – *Batteries*. Everyone who attended will remember John Purslow's magic figure of 12.4 volts!



We started 2020 with a discussion on *Night Sailing and Venturing Further Afield* led by David Burall and John Lake. With a wealth of knowledge and experience they tried to ensure that no one would be left in the dark!

The February 2020 discussion covered the topic of *Anchoring/ Mooring Safely* and we explored the connection between depth of water, wind speed and type of rode. Again, it was a lively discussion and those with experience gave information, guidance and support to some members who had never anchored. It was agreed to offer practical sessions in the season, but then came lockdown!





***The Cruiser Racing Discussion*** at the end of March took place via a then 'new' Zoom session with John Lake taking his audience through the do's and don'ts of this version of the competitive social. This was the start of the 'Summer of Zoom'!

How the Discussions planned for the autumn and winter months will take place is still subject to Government Guidelines, but we have investigated a hybrid system of live and Zoom presentation, but things may have changed before the first topic of Winterisation/Laying Up on 23<sup>rd</sup> October. By the time Cruising Safely in Fog is discussed on 27<sup>th</sup> November things may be a little clearer?!



***Opportunities to 'Buddy'*** with other members were promoted at the 'What's New for Yachts?' presentation in March and the inclusion of the Buddy scheme when signing up for a Cruise were new additions this year. Unfortunately, the cancellation of many cruises means that this has not come to fruition.

Yacht Section Members' training needs have been discussed at Membership Sub Committee Meetings and a club wide approach offered and publicised in OTY.

More opportunities will be identified in 2020/21

# Chasing After Crayzee Feeling

By John Lake, Cruiser Racing Secretary

*This year, we had the usual 5 "competitive" cruises planned:*

3 Weekend joint fun race and cruises: to Cowes, Lymington and Yarmouth  
(Two scoring events each weekend)

1 Day Passage "Rally" to Cherbourg

The Bramidge Trophy v CCRC

Due to COVID-19 & poor sailing weather, this has been a disappointing season so far.

At time of writing (early-September) the Cross Channel could not take place; our Round the Island was cancelled due to bad weather; & the scheduled Cowes race finally took place 3 months late - in very challenging weather!

Only the Yarmouth races and the Bramidge Trophy are still to go this season.

Participation this year has been excellent again, considering the difficult conditions. That just shows how keen we have all been to get out on the water - when we can.

For anyone interested, the full results will be on the Yacht Section Notice Board; the website; & also in the CYC Magazine

You don't need a "racing cruiser" to take part with some success in our events - after a few races, your handicap will help you!

Thanks to everyone who has taken part, as that is what makes the organisational efforts worthwhile.



## STOP PRESS + STOP PRESS

The "Racing" season is now over for the year, with the Ian Brunt Trophy - Yarmouth & Return - on the 5/6 September; & the Bramidge Trophy v CCRC the following Saturday completing the programme.

There was a fantastic turn out for the Yarmouth event - 17 boats actually made the start! That, I believe, is a *record turnout* for a race for some years now. But (& I say "but" rather tongue-in-cheek) the race was won by Steve Cray (Crayzee Feeling)...again. Congratulations Steve!

*CYC "triumphed" in the Bramidge Trophy again this year!* So, we retain the cup for the second year in succession. Congratulations to the 9 stalwart CYC crews who kept going, even when there was no wind. I'm sure that made the difference this year.

So now, with those results, the CYC Race Skipper of the Year winner can be calculated.

*And the winner is...*



# CYC NHC 2020 RACE SKIPPER OF THE YEAR

## CYC NHC 2020 Race Skipper of the Year

Results are provisional as of 13:05 on September 14, 2020

### Overall

Sailed: 5, Discards: 1, To count: 4, Rating system: NHC1, Entries: 22, Scoring system: Appendix A

Rank	Boat	SailNo	HelmName	CrewName	NHC1	NewRating	Cowes Out	Cowes Return	Yarmouth Out	Yarmouth Ret	Bramidge	Total	Nett
1st	Crayzee Feeling		Steve Cray	Crayzee Crew	0.973	0.978	2	3	2	1	(9)	17	8
2nd	Windreaver	9119T	John Lake		0.920	0.885	1	4	4	(8)	6	23	15
3rd	Kerry Dancer		Jerry Quinton		0.814	0.791	4	1	9	6	(23 DNC)	43	20
4th	Cool Runnings	4904L	Peter Collins		1.026	1.078	(23 DNS)	23 DNS	1	4	2	53	30
5th	Stormcruiser	2362C	Richard Serna		0.946	0.984	(23 DNC)	23 DNC	23 DNS	3	1	73	50
6th	Elyse	3636T	James Connell		0.939	0.953	(23 DNC)	23 DNC	5	2	23 DNC	76	53
7th	Tern IV		Claire Greenfield	Martin Greenfield	0.925	0.925	(23 DNC)	23 DNC	3	23 RET	4	76	53
8th	French Maid		Wendy McGuinness		0.970	0.942	3	(23 DNS)	6	23 RET	23 DNC	78	55
9th	First Light	9940T	John Gosnell	Jane Gosnell	0.931	0.910	(23 DNC)	23 DNC	8	5	23 DNC	82	59
10th	Pim		John De Witt		0.940	0.940	(23 DNC)	23 DNC	7	7	23 DNC	83	60
11th	Lowenna		Chris Lane		0.813	0.806	(23 RET)	2	23 RET	23 RET	23 DNC	94	71
12th	Good Time Girl	660	Kevin Brown		0.950	0.970	(23 DNC)	23 DNC	23 DNC	23 DNC	3	95	72
13th	Bugsy 2	1584L	David Roberts	Gill Roberts	0.951	0.934	(23 DNC)	23 DNC	23 DNC	23 DNC	5	97	74
14th	Good Day Sunshine	ZZ	Philip Brown	Sue Brown	0.870	0.841	(23 DNC)	23 DNC	23 DNC	23 DNC	7	99	76
15th	Serendipite	4704L	Chris Knight		0.966	0.931	(23 DNC)	23 DNC	23 DNC	23 DNC	8	100	77
16th	Misty Blue		Simon Benson		0.916	0.907	(23 DNC)	23 DNC	10	23 RET	23 DNC	102	79
17th	Katy	508	Gary O'Grady		0.895	0.895	(23 DNC)	23 DNC	23 RET	23 RET	23 DNC	115	92
17th	Aquadisiac	8669T	Nick Cole		0.931	0.931	(23 DNC)	23 DNC	23 RET	23 RET	23 DNC	115	92
17th	Star Dancer		Mike Howard		0.941	0.941	(23 DNC)	23 DNC	23 RET	23 DNS	23 DNC	115	92
17th	Acquisition		Stephen Morris		0.866	0.866	(23 DNC)	23 DNC	23 RET	23 DNS	23 DNC	115	92
17th	Ursa Minor	4	Nick McCarthy		0.905	0.905	(23 DNS)	23 DNS	23 DNC	23 DNC	23 DNC	115	92
17th	Kerenza	4220L	David Burall	Susie Burall	0.997	0.997	(23 DNC)	23 DNC	23 RET	23 DNS	23 DNC	115	92

Sailwave Scoring Software 2.19.8  
[www.sailwave.com](http://www.sailwave.com)



# When Zoom became the location for 2nd Friday

By Kevin Brown, Social Secretary

*The 2019/2020 Winter lecture series was well attended* with the following talks:

The Goodwood Story   Harry Sherrard  
Tales from a circumnavigation and lessons  
learned   Richard Gribbin  
Invaders, Explorers and Shipbuilders   Jeremy  
Batch  
Enjoying the Wildlife of Chichester Harbour  
Judi Darley  
AIS and Radar   Bob Garrett

The last talk by Bob Garrett was interrupted by the imminent Covid shut down so we went virtual and Bob gave his talk on Zoom in a taste of what was to come.

We had a well-attended spring outing to the Boat-building Academy in the Portsmouth Naval Dockyard.

The Annual Dinner was cancelled due to the Shut-down.

*The Second Friday social was switched to a Zoom meeting.*

We used the 'breakout room' feature to split the group into smaller groups where everyone could get a chance to contribute to the discussion. I received a lot of positive feedback from this experience; people said that they had spoken with new people and new members found it easier to get to know people. The Zoom breakout rooms had the effect of mixing people up in a way that does not happen in our usual meetings. This proved to be so successful that we continued to meet every Friday until the attendance dwindled due to people happily getting out on the water again.





# Covid Slashes Cruising in Company Programme

By Carole Middleton, Cruising Secretary

Planning of the 2020 programme was completed at the end of October 2019 for inclusion in the Club Programme, with information uploaded on the website over Christmas and available for booking from January 8, 2020.

37 Cruising in Company events were planned: 11 Harbour Day Cruises (HDC), 21 Cruises & 5 Cruiser Races.

By February, 14 of the 21 cruises had reserve lists. 59 different boats had registered, of which approx. 20 were newish members.

Cruises were planned over weekends, long weekends, weekdays, and longer cruises, to a variety of destinations – Littlehampton, Bembridge, Hamble, Portsmouth, Cowes, Gosport, Yarmouth, Poole, Cherbourg, Fowey, Weymouth...maybe?



In addition to the popular cruises – Boots, Buses Bikes; Far/Middle East; Castles; Marchwood; there were cruises linked to the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the sailing of the Mayflower “In the Wake of the Mayflower” and the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day “VE75”. Visits were planned to the Classic Boat Museum, Submarine Museum and Portchester Castle..

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, *overnight cruising could not begin until July, when 2 cruises had to be cancelled as the marinas and planned visits were not open. Other cruises were revised to different destinations.*



The first over-night cruise, on July 18 to Bucklers Hard was attended by 18 boats. Storms Ellen and Francis in August scuppered plans to run the revised Marchwood and Middle East cruises.

The HDC have not proved particularly popular and did not get underway until August 15, when 5 boats sailed to Emsworth pontoon for a socially distanced lunch.

“What’s New in the Yacht Section” was held on March 1. This was well attended and included updates on Cruising in Company, HDC, Fun races, buddying, photo competition, WhatsApp, hosting new members.

The Cruising in Company booking pages on the website were changed to allow people to identify if they wanted a buddy or would be a buddy and to put in the names of crew.

Planning is now underway for the 2021 programme, in the hope that there is some return to normality.

Thanks to all the Cruise Leaders for planning cruises and re-planning the later ones so some cruising in company could take place. Thanks also to Chris Lane for trying to get HDC off the ground.





# CYC Ramblers escaped the 2020 Lockdown

By Jane Gosnell, CYC Ramblers



*The popular winter walks had another successful season.* The walks are organised by the Yacht Section, and are open to all club members, but in reality 95% of attendees were affiliated to the Yacht Section.

The programme last winter ran from October to March, with walks organised on the 2nd Saturday of each month. Thanks to the volunteer leaders we enjoyed a great variety of walks both in harbour locations and on the South Downs. Walk length was 5/6 miles and finished with a pub lunch. Numbers attending were between 30 and 40. Using the website for members to sign up enabled walk leaders to decide a maximum number of walkers and diners as appropriate. The exceedingly wet winter did give some challenges as paths became very slippery. Unfortunately the February walk had to be cancelled due to very high winds.

Due to the popularity of the walks, we decided to add some additional walks on the 4th Saturday, with the brief that these could be of a different length, shorter/longer or special interest. Kerry Jackson lead a fascinating bird watching walk around the harbour in November. Sadly, the February 4th Saturday walk fell victim to the weather and the March 4th Saturday to Covid as we were by then in lockdown.

I would like to thank all the walk leaders for their support- Kevin and Annie Brown, Kerry Jackson, Tony and Chris Dickenson and Simon Benson, David and Stella Ingram, John and Pat Purslow, Tim and Rosie Haigh, David and Janice Thomas and Jane Phelps.

Looking ahead to the forthcoming season it is hoped that we will be able to run a similar walk programme, albeit with some restrictions due to ongoing Covid situation. Numbers will have to be restricted and the pub lunch may not always be possible.



# YACHTIE LADIES EVENTS CONTINUE ONLINE

**By Judy Walker, Yachtie Ladies**

We held one meeting in the autumn which included a general discussion about future events and a useful session practicing and learning new knots. Unfortunately, the sessions planned for this year were cancelled due to Covid 19 but we hope to run them next Spring.

Duncan Wells of Westview Sailing was going to hold a bespoke one day teach in on Basics of Navigation for which we had 24 ladies signed up.

The RNLI was also going to repeat their session on practical VHF enabling ladies to practice their routine and emergency calls on real radios.

To keep the Yachtie Ladies group in contact during lockdown we held Zoom coffee mornings initially weekly then fortnightly with an attendance of around a dozen people each time sharing tips on how to cope with lockdown, different sources of learning new techniques, how to make masks etc.

We suspended the meetings for the summer but due to popular request plan to resume once the sailing season is over.

Delighted that we have managed to attract some new members to the group.



## LOOKING FORWARD TO 2021

By John Lake

There is no denying that 2020 has been an unusual, not to say, difficult year for us all. Yachting activities for March until June were almost non-existent because of COVID-19; & then, when we could go cruising, the weather turned! But in spite of that, CYC yachties' enthusiasm is undimmed – as shown by the turn-out on some of the later cruises in the year!

So, what are the priorities for next year? Well, getting back to a more normal level of sailing activities for a start.

But even before that, there are the Friday evening Discussion Groups; the Second Saturday Rambles; the Sunday Lectures throughout the winter months. Your committee have some excellent ideas about how the “inside” events might be a combined “live” & “Zoom” affair – so you have options dependant on attitude to risk. Watch out for details of the first Sunday Lecture this autumn.

It will be interesting to see whether sailing to France & the Channel Isles will be permitted next year – we will plan to go, but maybe look at West Country alternatives, too.

And from a strategic point of view, the committee will continue to consider the changing demographics & levels of boat ownership in the Yacht Section – and how best to provide for all levels of interest in “...going down to the sea again...”.





**Don't forget if you have any questions please send them to the committee email address**

***[yachts@cyc.co.uk](mailto:yachts@cyc.co.uk)***