Commodore

Annual Report

I am presenting this report at the end of my second year as your Commodore. It has been an enormous honour and privilege to serve the club in this way. I am very grateful to all the support that I have had and especially to our past Commodores for their sound advice and good counsel.

My biggest thanks however go to our team. Our Flag Officers and Committee are a small group. We have all worked together well and have had good fun along the way. Outside of this small group we have our volunteer teams who work tirelessly for the club. I should like to record my special thanks to Karen and Des Fletcher, Carol and Steve Morris, Helen Lloyd, Fionola O'Neill, Matthew Henry, James O'Brien, Simon Hancock, Sue Hunt, Sarah and Stuart Crisp, Phil Hargreaves, Stuart Place, Peter Saunders and Derek Knowles. There are many others who we can call on to step in and help at last minute notice, thank you all.

We also enjoy some excellent relations with our key sponsors, and I would especially like to thank, Boatworks, Marine & General, and Nashcopy. Their support is instrumental in our club success, and they have always been extremely generous and easy to work with.

Philip Hugo our Vice Commodore has carried the role of House and has efficiently organised bar staff Jill, Simon and Harsh, managed all the deliveries of our beverages, whilst also ensuring the club meets its licencing and hygiene standards. During the year we managed to maintain very attractive bar prices whilst serving excellent wines, champagnes and quality beers. We have found the formulae of opening weekly on every Thursday to Saturday evening, plus race days, to be the most effective use of our resources. Various volunteering members have also regularly hosted nibbles on a Friday evening which always proves popular and entertaining. These club nights are always well attended by our members.

Sarah Hancock our Rear Commodore has been largely responsible for our excellent Newsletters, managing compliance issues and LBG company obligations. Her report on our social activities follows this report.

Andy Round our Rear Commodore (Sail) has done a sterling job in organising all our racing and (with help from Stuart Crisp) cruising events. He is also responsible for our now excellent website and facebook – which is always up to date and has some superb imagery from our club photographer Pierre Bisson. Andy`s sailing report follows.

Nick Le Huray our Honorary Treasurer manages the finances. We continue to have monthly updates to ensure we keep things on the straight and narrow. We always aim to cover all costs and produce a small year-end surplus. His report follows.

Fi Taylor does an excellent job as our Honorary Secretary and keeps us all well organised. Fi manages significant continued improvements in our processes and systems and ensures the clubs contacts and relations are all communicated professionally and efficiently.

I have tried to promote our joint vision of our club as a warm, friendly, inclusive and inviting home base yacht club. I believe we are achieving that goal. Financially, we are continuing to make a sensible surplus. This year it is around £3.5k, whilst at the same time maintaining our low bar prices and fixing our low membership fees. The acid test is that our membership remains to be steady throughout the year, and this trend looks set to continue through 2026. We have organised over 25 sailing, cruising and racing events. In addition, we have hosted more than 25 social events, ranging from quizzes through to suppers, music nights and dinners.

In closing I would like to repeat my thanks to this team for their hard work, skills and commitment to the Club.

For those committee and Flag Officers retiring; Philip, Sarah and Andy I should like to thank them for their hard work for the club across the last 3 years. They have all put in a full shift and I am very grateful for their huge engagement and free time that they have given the Club.

We have a vibrant new group to elect to the committee. I am proposing to stay on (if you will have me) as your Commodore for another year. I am delighted that Dr Sarah Collins is standing to join the committee as is Jan Collins and Martin Priest. This new group will bring lots of experience to our small team and I am sure we will find their contributions to be an invaluable and fresh addition to our club. Nick is planning to continue in his role as Honorary Treasurer and William is planning to take on the very important role of Vice Commodore.

I would like to thank them all for deciding to stand for election. I wholeheartedly, and without reservation, commend them to you.

Peter Lloyd
Commodore