

St Mawes SC - October bulletin

Sailing

Sunday 2nd sees our first of the Autumn Pursuit Series. The winner of each race will win a bottle of wine. No boat can win more than one! For start times [click here](#)

Annual Subscriptions

This weekend is the beginning of our Club financial year and starts with the collection of the annual subscriptions. There have been a number of difficulties in preparing the subscription lists this year. If you asked for a change to be made and it hasn't happened, please let Mavis Porter know as soon as possible and if you pay by cheque please make sure that you have signed and dated it.

Catering

Sunday 2nd Roast Beef lunch

Sunday 9th - Roast Pork lunch

Sunday 16th – Turkey lunch

Sunday 23rd - Roast Beef lunch

Saturday 22nd - “Surf & Turf” supper

Saturday 29th – Evening Laying-up Party

Sunday 30th - Roast Pork lunch

Social Programme

Wednesday 26th October at 10.30 RNLI Coffee Morning. RNLI Christmas cards will be on sale.
Saturday 29th Laying-up Party & Prize-giving.

For the complete listing of our winter talks for 2016/17 [click here](#)

Percuil Sailing Club

A few months ago Dave Armstrong, the Commodore of Percuil Sailing Club, approached us with bad news. He said that Percuil Sailing Club's committee had come to realise that the club no longer had enough active members to make it sustainable. PSC was founded in 1949 and in recent years its primary functions have been to support a junior sailing programme and to plan and run Percuil Regatta, and Dave and his team were particularly keen that these elements should continue.

We then had a series of meetings to discuss how StMSC might help and it has now been agreed that PSC will effectively be incorporated into StMSC. We have offered existing members of PSC (who are not already members of StMSC) attractive rates to join StMSC for the next year after which they will be welcome to continue their membership at our normal rates.

A sub-committee will be formed, with a mixture of existing members of PSC and members of StMSC, which will have the responsibility of planning and running Percuil Regatta from 2017 onwards; and junior members of PSC who join us will obviously have the opportunity to take part in our own Junior Sail Training programme.

Rona Sailing Project – a message from Nigel Sharp

I hope that many of you will remember that, in 2014, eleven teenagers from St Mawes SC took part in the Falmouth to Greenwich Tall Ships' Regatta on a 62-foot schooner called *Merrilyn* which belongs to the Rona Sailing Project (photo attached here).

There may be another opportunity for StMSC's young members to sail with the Rona Sailing Project again in 2017 and that is what I am now emailing about.

Merrilyn and another of the RSP's boats, the 75-foot ketch *Donald Searle*, spend the majority of each summer sailing on week-long voyages starting and finishing on the Hamble River, near Southampton. While these voyages may not seem to be as interesting as a voyage such as the 2014 Tall Ships' Regatta, they do have a big advantage in that the skipper and other afterguard are free to decide on their own destinations, the only restrictions being the weather and time. (To give you some idea, during the 13 years I have been involved with the RSP myself, I have crossed the Channel many times – visiting Cherbourg, Guernsey, Alderney and Sark – and also sailed west to Poole, Weymouth, Dartmouth and Torquay).

The cost of these voyages is £200 "all found" per person (the real cost would be about three times that but the RSP is a very well-funded charity) and there would also be some extra cost involved in getting to and from Hamble. There may, however, be funding opportunities which may reduce these costs for everyone and there may also be opportunities for bursaries for individuals who might struggle with the cost.

The purpose of this email is to see if there might be sufficient interest to book a boat for a week but **we would need to do that soon so I would be grateful if anyone who is interested could get back to me by the 26th of October.**

In 2014 the group we had were aged between 16 (more or less) and 19 and that worked well, so I would be interested to hear from anyone in that age range (including anyone who came in 2014 - and will still be within that age range - although if we were oversubscribed I think it would be fair to give priority to first-timers). But it would also be interesting to hear from anyone in the 14 to 16-ish age range although unfortunately RSP rules say that voyages with a crew of that age are unable to cross the Channel.

Merrilyn has 16 berths and *Donald Searle* 20 so, given that each boat needs 6 afterguard, there are berths for 10 or 14 teenagers respectively.

The dates that we would be able to book a boat are as follows:

Sat 8 – Fri 14 April

Sat 15 – Fri 21 April

Thurs 8 – Wed 14 June

Thurs 15 – Wed 21 June

Thurs 22 – Wed 28 June

Thurs 29 – Wed 5 July

Thurs 6 – Wed 12 July

I realise that some of those dates may not be great from the point of view of exams but those are the only dates available for a group booking such as this (but if any of you were interested in sailing with the RSP at any other time, with other people, do let me know as there are always plenty of opportunities).

So please let me know by the 26th of October if you are interested in taking part in a St Mawes SC voyage

- **and how old you will be next summer**
- **and which of those dates you can or can't make.**