

The Report on
the London
AGM

How Do You
Want Your
Next
Newsletter

Wanted
New Treasurer
&
Secretary

What is the
way ahead for
the Club

The Old Worcesters' Yacht Club

Newsletter



It is that time of year again when the officers of the club take up their posts at the AGM and Annual Dinner in London. This years meeting went on somewhat longer than usual but more on that later. We are very fortunate to have two officers whose sea going careers could not be more diverse although I hope that so far as Bob is concerned we don't need to call upon his expertise!



The Top Table

Our new Commodore is **Andrew Lansdale** [1960-62] on leaving the ship he joined BI, served his time and then joined China Navigation, he then proceed to tour the globe so to speak sitting his tickets. Mates in Sydney and Masters in Hong Kong. He came ashore to become a Ship Broker in London, then Tokyo and Hong Kong and it was this experience which doubtless held when turn to professional journalism as Markets Editor with Fairplay. He became Journalist of the Year in 2007 before going freelance in 2009.

He still works full time reviewing and editing Admiralty Seamanship and Navigation Manuals as well as Casualty Management Guidelines.

Andrew says he is overweight, unfit and only sails when the seas are calm and the winds light. With all that writing experience why then I ask, did I volunteer to write this newsletter?

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Andrew's deputy as Vice Commodore is **Bob Lineker** who left the ship 1968 as one of the very last real Old Worcesters,. He first joined Port Line and served on MANZ and CRUSADER runs and so never left or returned to the UK by sea again. He joined the RN in 1972 going to university to gain a degree in electrical engineering. On graduation he volunteered as a submariner serving on "O" class boats before being selected to specialise in Strategic [Nuclear] Weapon Systems and then joining HMS Repulse as Senior Weapons Engineer.

He later went to the US for three years in Washington as the UK representative with the Special Projects team procuring the Trident Weapons System. He went on the head the RN Strategic Weapons School and was responsible with Flag Officer Training for the certification of Trident equipped submarine crews. He left the RN a Commander in 2004 as Head of the Strategic System Patrol Analysis Group to live in Pembrokeshire, still training but this time with the National Coast Watch Institution.

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The Rear Commodore is **Trevor Crawford** who left the ship in July 1963 as CC Main Division. He served with Port Line from cadet to Second Mate but in 1969 he joined Esso Tankers to Chief Officer serving in large coasters and up to VLCC until 1974. Trevor gained his Masters in 1973 and moved to Canadian Pacific as Chief Officer in 1975

He served as Master with various foreign flag and offshore companies between 1976 and 1988. Then followed 18 years as rig mover and marine co-ordinator with Saudi Arabian Oil Co (ARAMCO).1988 to 2006. Retired from Aramco in 2006 then employed as consultant/rigmover with Noble Denton Associates until 2010. Trevor's last job was as Marine Manager for a French/Saudi survey company (ARGAS) managing a fleet of 20 seismic survey vessels. He finally retired 2013. (Whew!)

His current boat is a Fairline Targa 37, berthed as Windsor Marina (Upper Thames).

WANTED

Our Secretary, Peter Gormley, and Treasurer, Ian Ward, have been carrying out their honorary duties for a number of years and both feel that the time has come to pass on those duties to younger members.

This year all 3 flag officers are "60's vintage". Peter and Ian will not be seeking re-election at the next AGM in January 2015.

Will anyone who is interested in taking over either of these posts please let Peter know.

We all want the "Worcester" ensign to fly as long as possible!

regards, Ian Ward.

Our Hon Sec is **Peter Gormley**. He left the ship in 1957 and joined Cunard in its Purser's Department. After four years, he left them to study in Paris. In 1968 he joined the brewery group Bass Charrington where he stayed for more than 20 years. In 1988 he set up his own company specialising in property management in London. He retired in 2007 and splits his time between North London and West Wittering.

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The AGM Summary.

Twenty five members attend at the Farmers Club accompanied by their ladies who were in for a slightly longer chat than they had anticipated. The AGM lasted longer than usual. Apologies were received from some 30 members and the usual formalities completed with the bonus that no members had crossed the bar this year.

It was time for the outgoing commodores report. Ian Ward summed up the past year explaining that with the tragedy of David Marsden's sudden illness and death preventing him from becoming Commodore in 2013, it was however felt that the club should continue with David's plans for a Rendezvous at the Royal Southern Yacht Club. So 41 members and 10 boats joined the gathering and Ian completed his report by stating that *"The whole rendezvous was a great success, although I feel we need to concentrate on improving club attendance."*

Ian stressed that nearly 70% of our members are either Life Members or over 75, who under the Club's Constitution are Senior Members with no further liability for subscriptions.

The remaining members pay just £4 a year. A few members already make a voluntary contribution by standing order, which range between £10 and £25 a year and Ian asked if others would also like to do so.

Details of the Club's account are as follows:

Account name: Old Worcesters' Yacht Club.

Bank: Bank of Scotland. Banking Direct Branch, PO Box 1000, BX2 1 LB

Sort code: 80-02-14

Account number: 00801878.

If you do make a standing order please be sure to use your name and initials

Ian was on his feet again to deliver the Treasurer's report, saying that although the accounts apparently show a deficit of £4115.81 for the year. However, Ian pointed out that this deficit included the purchase of £5000 in Premium bonds and when this is taken into account the working deficit is £1379.19, much of which arises from the losses at the summer rendezvous.

Before the officers were elected as above, the new Rear Commodore was asked to outline his provisional plan for the 2016 Rendezvous to be held at a venue on the Thames at or near Gallion's Reach. This was favourably received by the members present, in particular those on the East Coast !

The new Commodore took the chair and handed round details of this years event to be held a Bucklers Hard from 10-12 June. The rendezvous will be staged mid-week to help keep the costs down:

TUESDAY 10th JUNE p.m. Boats arrive at Buckler's Hard and dress overall.

1830 Master Builder's House Hotel **Dress - Smart casual**

Cocktail Party - The party will be held in the bar or if weather permits on the outside lawn. OWs, guests and partners are all welcome.

The Cocktail party will be followed by a cold buffet in the restaurant. However if there is a summers evening we will have a bar-b-q outside on the verandah.
There will be a cash Bar

WEDNESDAY 11th JUNE

1200 Exbury Gardens and Steam Railway.

This is a planned visit to these beautiful gardens situated across the Beaulieu and owned by Lord Rothschild.

Exbury offers riverside walks and a world famous collection of rhododendrons, azaleas, cameleers, rare trees and shrubs. There are also rides on the steam railway through the Summer Lane Garden.

A free day to explore the Beaulieu river and its delightful walks.

1900 The Master Builder's Drinks at the Bar

1945 FORMAL DINNER - Main Restaurant **Dress; Jacket and tie.**

Half a bottle of wine per person will be provided, there will be a Cash Bar.

THURSDAY 12th JUNE

1030 Church Service in Beaulieu Abbey Conducted by Rob Watson.

1230 Lunch will be held at the Royal Southampton Yacht Club's Beaulieu River Venue, Gin's Boathouse. This is thanks to Club Membership by both John Buttolph and Ian Walker. OWs are asked to order and settle their own meals.

Teatime The Rendezvous ends.

Raffle The charity raffle will be held at the Wednesday night formal Dinner. Please bring items and donations for our Charity.

The Club's Yachts

The commodore has reserved 10 berths in the Bucklers Hard Marina, for the 10-12th June. The Harbour Master, Mike Nicholls, will endeavour to keep us in close proximity, but there may be some rafting up. The details are as follows.

Bucklers Hard Yacht Harbour
Beaulieu, Hampshire, SO42 7XB

tel: 01590 616 200

Email: river@beaulieu.co.uk

Web: www.beaulieuriver.co.uk

The Harbour Office is at the top of the gangway from the pontoons. the staff are very friendly and have supplies of tinned food, bread, milk and other necessities for sale.

Charges are:	27-29 feet	£27.00 per night
	30-32 feet	£30.00 per night
	33-35 feet	£33.00 per night
	36-38 feet	£36.00 per night

There are swinging mooring to be had at a far cheaper rate.

The commodore has paid a deposit of £5.00 per berth for 10 berths and just requires boat details of club members. Because it is mid-week and not school holidays, the harbour have said that if we give sufficient notice, they could accept double the number of boats if there is a clamour. they could accept double

TIMES of High and Low Water Beaulieu River

DATE	TIME	HEIGHT
Monday 9th June	0054	1.5
	0745	3.1
	1321	1.3
	2009	3.3
Tuesday 10th June	0150	1.2
	0834	3.2
	1414	1.1
	2052	3.5
Wednesday 11th June	0242	0.9
	0916	3.5
	1505	0.8
	2133	3.6
Thursday 12th June	0332	0.6
	0957	3.5
	1556	0.6
	2213	3.7
Friday 13th June	0422	0.4
	1038	3.7
	1645	0.5
	2252	3.8

Any Other Business brought a lengthy discussion on whether the Newsletter should continue, if so how often and whether it should be distributed by post or e-mail.

The penultimate minute covered the situation thoroughly as follows;-

- i. *The meeting was not in a position to agree (or not) either to ceasing the newsletter completely or changing its distribution solely to eMail as ALL members should be given the opportunity to comment before such a move.*

The meeting did however vote by 26-1 that they considered that, the Newsletter “should remain, and that it should be issued bi-annually.”

A much earlier OWYC Rendezvous ?



How do you want to receive your Newsletter?

Our membership is finite, as are our funds unless more members feel able to support the Treasurer's pleas for some additional financial support. Second Class UK postage for a Newsletter is 50p UK and £2.48 overseas excluding stationary so costs would be around **£120.00** for a hard copy mailing.

So you can see the Newsletter is NOT a cheap option however it was the opinion of all at the AGM that the club should continue to provide one at least twice a year for as long as possible.

There are only 20 of our 170 members without e-mail so the saving could be considerable if you would be willing to accept your copy of the Newsletter by that medium and I would urge you to do so. As the compiler of the Newsletter I can send it out quite easily in a format readable to all, I would expect this to be a Microsoft document unless told to the contrary. I will assume that the continuation of an emailed Newsletter will be acceptable unless you tell me otherwise.

Let me know what you might like to see or contribute to the Newsletter. My email is:

owyc-newsletter@hms-worcester.or.uk

The Future

Obviously the Club cannot last for ever, however it is felt that we should do more to attract those members with craft to the Rendezvous but what can be done to encourage this.

We have 71 members in the UK who own boats of these 56 live south of a line from Lands End to Lincolnshire. This distribution will have a bearing upon the location of the annual Rendezvous does this discourage members from attending either by sea or overland?

In addition to the main Rendezvous should local gatherings be encouraged would they be welcome ? or are we generally more solitary during our time afloat, it would be good to know this sort of thing. So suggestions are welcome including advice on not to trying to fix things which are not broken !

**Please read and respond to our Secretary, Peter Gormley's and
Geoffrey Dunster's questionnaires**