

ELING SAILING CLUB

"SAILING THE SOLENT AND BEYOND"



The ESC Editorial ...

As a new year begins I wonder if it's a good time to reflect on what you have achieved last year and what goals you want to set yourself in the next 12 months.

For me it was a great year culminating in my first channel crossing as crew on Marlion, Steve Smiths Westery Merlin.

When he first asked I must admit I first thought "Am I up to it—Have I got enough experience and most of all will I disgrace myself and be as sick as a dog all the way over"

Then I thought hang on in less than 18 months with no real knowledge or sailing experience I bought a boat, refurbished her to a safe and seaworthy state. I'd also taken her out over 40 times this year alone.

I was at that point I realized I needed to start to stretch myself, be brave, "Man Up" and start to do what all the experienced members of the club do and that is go sailing.

It was a good decision to make. Our crossing was a bit bumpy like sailing a corkscrew with a following wind but the long passage got me used to it and more importantly gave me the confidence to realize these little tubs of fiberglass are really quite safe. I was now proper sailing.



Marlion

When I got back and had finished telling my stories showing the photographs and generally showing off about my new experiences I realized it was time to do more myself in my own boat so as skipper of my own vessel I ventured across my own channel "The Solent" to Cowes Yacht Haven and had a wonderful time and a few (that is many!) beers with Dave Bob and Steve.

And now for next year a new boat great friends and teachers and my challenge "Do more of the same Keep learning and encourage other members to use their boats and above all have fun"

- **"For me it was a great year culminating in my first channel crossing"**
- **"Will I disgrace myself and be as sick as a dog"**
- **"These little tubs of fiberglass are really quite safe."**
- **"Do more of the same Keep learning and encourage other members to use their boats get out on the water and above all have fun"**

Commodores Report

I would like to welcome you all into the new season.

First I must bring to your attention the recent court action that was bought against the club by a previous member. This was asked to be raised by a member at the AGM last year. I can now confirm to you all that on the 17th January I attended Southampton combined courts for our application to

strike out this case, we were successful in our application to have this case struck out against us. The judge also awarded that the claimant pay all the costs associated with bringing this action against us.

It was a great success to which we all owe a gratitude of thanks to those people that dedicated their time in helping me put this all together.

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Commodores Log



**MEMBERS
DAY
6TH APRIL
AT 1.PM**

I now wish to look forward to a year of celebration.

This year hopefully is going to be a busy year as we are celebrating our 80th birthday this year. There is going to be a limited edition 80th birthday regalia available to the members in the very near future. We will also be having a big 80th birthday party at the club on 7th September this year.

Now I am sure that there are a few members that remember life before ESC but hopefully none of us will remember life after ESC. As many of you are aware, Eling Sailing Club prides itself on being a self help club. I have noticed that a lot of people have been absent around the sailing club and would like to understand why this is. No I am not talking about just attending the bar when it is open but people attending work parties around the club and helping out with events. Your club will only survive if the members put the time in to help run it. We are all volunteers. We will be having a club working party day on Saturday 30th March. This will be to prepare the club for the coming season with a lick of paint and a tidy up of the areas. It was decided to have a work party separate to our members day. Our members day this year will be on the 6th April starting at 1300. More will come out about this event soon.

We are now on the look out to fill two committee positions, unfortunately recently our Secretary and Social Secretary have resigned. Please let me know if you are able to help out with any of these roles or if you have any questions in regards to these positions.

I am very much looking forward to the season ahead and hope to see you all attending club rallies or events throughout the year. Recent years has seen a big increase in boats attending rallies and this has been a great thing to see. It will be great to see more of you this year.

Happy Birthday to you all!

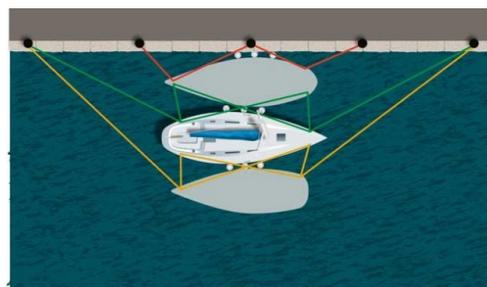
Rob Pike
Commodore

Can I raft up? - I'm leaving at 5am!

Everyone it seems has a rafting story to tell and no other subject appears to raise the ire of yachtsmen like this one. I rang up a local marina last year and asked "will I have to raft up" The reply was "only if you're French they seem to like it" Everyone has a view!

Well even here at Eling we sometimes have slight differences of opinion and so our Mooring Master Barry has documented our Rafting etiquette and published it on the notice board. It will soon also be on the

website. Please take time to have a look, unless of course you are French!



Towing Lizzy by David Meecher

Well Andy asked if I would go along. It was to meet up with Rudi on a westerly 21 coming from Chichester at the Solent forts. Well we left Eling creek about 0740 soon after Frisco Bay floated. It was a cool start to the day and overcast with no wind to speak of, vis was about a half mile. We were soon around Gilkicker point and in radio range. We thought Rudi would have come through the sub gate, no Rudi chose to keep out side of the forts and came by way of Bembridge end and then aim for Browndown ranges. We met up and headed for Warsash, arriving about 3pm to an empty pontoon so made ourselves comfortable, then off for a meal, a drink, then for a late siesta. About 7pm had a pasty supplied by Clair Lowe, lovely grub. Then an hour in pub and back to boat and bed. Up at 0645, kettle on bacon sarny all round then go. Problems! Lizzy's engine refused to start, but after 20 mins it was coaxed into life and off we started for Eling. After clearing the river Rudi came up on radio and said his engine had died, just north of BP jetty. We sort of expected something like that after all that's why we were there so we rounded up came alongside and took Lizzy in tow. We plodded along until we reached our home port and club safe and sound soon after eleven, oh Lizzy's problem was a pin sheared on the throttle linkage. By the time all was sorted the tide had run off. So an end to a perfect trip.

Baroom Banter by Gordon Allen

Having been asked to write a few words for the bar at a quiet time of the year when members are working on their boats or so they say when I see them in the Anchor.

I decided to go back to last summer (remember saying it was too hot) and the problem of warm beer. As we can't have cellar cooling another answer had to be found. In keeping with club protocols , I arranged a meeting with myself, and having proposed and seconded me I accepted the task of cooling beer. After literally minutes of thinking I came up with the idea for the G Allen Mk 1 cold water cir-

culating cooling system. After fitting the system I naturally had to sample a couple of pints. "Eureka Cool Beer!" Next day I ordered a pint—Shock Horror! It was warm. It had run dry and the pump was complaining loudly. The instructions say "Do not allow to run dry" luckily I never read them. After a couple of more pints to make sure it was really warm I set about redesigning and the catchy name Mk2. After trying a couple of pints the system was deemed a success. Things were looking good for a summer of cold beer. But if it fails there's always the MK3

"In keeping with club protocols I arranged a meeting with myself, proposed and seconded me, and then set about the task of cooling beer"

Bar Opening Times

The Eling Sailing Club bar is a vibrant and lively place where members can relax, swap stories and plan future trips.

Come and join us for a pint or two.

Opening Times:

Tuesday	20.00 - 23.00 hrs
Thursday	20.00 - 23.00 hrs
Friday	20.00 - 23.00 hrs
Saturday	13.00 - 16.00 hrs



Lizzy

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Contact Us

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Eling Sailing Club is situated at the head of Eling creek off the Test estuary at the head of Southampton Water. The Club House occupies half of the historic Eling Tide Mill where it has established a friendly club bar. The Club has moorings for sailing boats up to 30 ft in length on the wall at Eling, on laid moorings on the mud flats in Eling Creek and a limited number of deep water moorings situated downstream. Dinghies may be kept in the Club's compound, and members are encouraged to use the Club's dinghy fleet.

Knot of the week ?

The reef knot, or square knot, is an ancient and simple binding knot used to secure a rope or line around an object. It is sometimes also referred to as a Hercules knot. The knot is formed by tying a left-handed overhand knot and then a right-handed overhand knot, or vice versa.

How to tie the Square Knot. The Reef Knot or Square Knot is quick and easy to tie; it is a good knot for securing non-critical items. Not to be trusted to join two ropes together. This knot was used for centuries by sailors for reefing sails, hence the name Reef Knot, and tying things aboard ship. It is important that this knot should not be used as a bend (for tying two ropes together). It is unsafe and can come apart. Be sure to form the square knot and avoid tying a granny knot, by making sure that both parts of the rope, the standing line and the free end, exit the knot together.

