

MAINSHEET



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL YACHT CLUB

Issue No.23

May, 1999



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On target for an early June finish

from the Commodore

It is hard to believe that another sailing season has started, with the first evening races well over by the time you read this article. The immovable date of launching from the Carlisle Pier meant even more frenzied activity than usual in the weeks leading up to lift-in and there will be very few owners sorry to be off the pier with its restrictions and shortcomings.

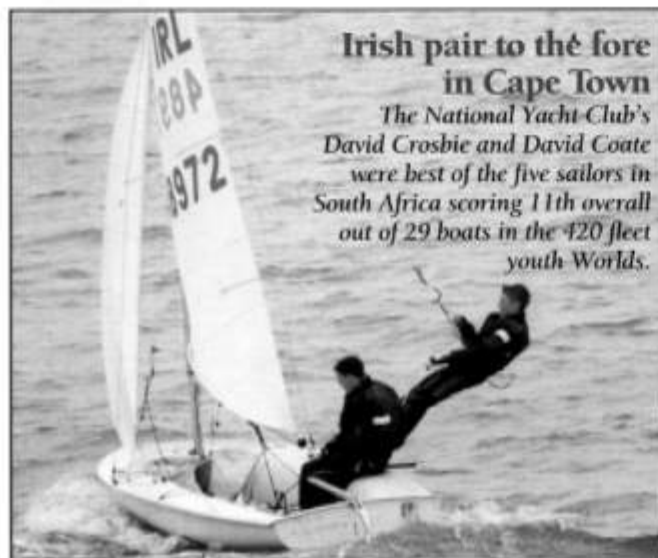
Nevertheless, we in the NYC should be grateful that the facility was available and I would like to thank the Harbour Police especially, for their help, patience and forbearance during the winter months. The comfort of our own platform will however, be very much more appreciated next year.

Those new members who have not received a card for entry to the Club, despair not. The old system had reached capacity and the new door fittings and fobs are being tested and will be available as you read this. From the end of April the old card system will be obsolete. However sailing members may wish to

keep their old cards for presenting to the cashier at the new car park and availing of a reduced rate for Saturday parking. Please note that the new fobs will only be issued to paid up members who are not in arrears with either their subscription or capital contribution and then for security reasons they must call and sign for the fob in person.

Our Mirror sailors performed magnificently at the Worlds in South Africa held in April. The Irish were 1st overall, 1st female (NYC's Rebecca Killian) 1st team (five in the first ten) and to put

—CONTINUED ON PAGE 2—



Irish pair to the fore in Cape Town

The National Yacht Club's David Crosbie and David Coate were best of the five sailors in South Africa scoring 11th overall out of 29 boats in the 420 fleet youth Worlds.

HUGE EFFORT REFLECTED IN MIRROR WORLDS

Easter 1999 will be remembered by the members of the Irish Mirror team as a special occasion in their sailing careers. The Mirror World championships were held in South Africa where 20 boats represented Ireland and 87 Irish people travelled to the event. The Irish Mirror Committee had put a lot of preparation into this event and the National Yacht Club played their part in assisting the Class by sending a Club RIB as the main support boat.

Three families from the club, the Collins, Murrays and Killians and their 2 mirror dinghies along with a National rescue boat headed off to the event at the end of March and didn't show up

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ON TARGET FOR AN EARLY JUNE FINISH

the icing on the cake Donal Killian was elected president of the World Mirror Association. Well done to all involved including the many parents who made the trip to support the youngsters. Brian Collins reported that after two spectacular parties hosted by the Irish, the local South African brewery went on short time when they heard the team were heading home.

A hectic round of social activities marked the end of winter pursuits; with the final of the inter-club bridge competition, well won by the Royal Irish; the quiz final won by Flintstones; the Preston Ball snooker competition won in a nail biting match by a crafty Kevin Blake from a most self assured Franz Rothschild; a blind tasting wine supper which showed how little I know about wine, but which gives me the excuse to practise really hard next year! Well done to Joan Mc Lysaght who got all the wines correct; and this list is only the tip of the entertainment iceberg which has kept the Club buzzing during the off season. Thanks to all who use the Club and to those who, perhaps, don't use it as much as they could, make a resolution to attend just one extra event or function before the end of this year.

For those who are being discommoded by the work on the

platform - have patience. The result will be well worth the few weeks inconvenience and your Committee have not been idle. We have been seeking out any and every spare inch of space to facilitate boat owners but inevitably someone will be disappointed. The latest projections are that the contractors are on target for completion by the first weekend in June, as scheduled.

In conclusion, I wish you all fair winds and successful sailing for summer, 1999. Ω



The President and Martin McAleese with the Commodore and his wife Carole at the recent presentation of the PEN award to John B. Keane in the NYC.

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EFFORT REFLECTED IN MIRROR WORLDS

again in the club until the end of April at the Sailing Secretaries meeting telling incredible stories! It's hard to believe the weather was so good - 35 degrees, the Beer so cheap 20p a bottle and the fun so GOOD! You'd think they were on holiday!



Rebecca Killian, Louise Foley, Ladies World Champions

The sailing was held 80 miles north of Capetown in Saldanha Bay where a fleet of 75 boats from six countries competed. The National RIB acted as the main support boat for the Irish team, although it wasn't on the water all the time. The call sign for all three Irish support boats was National Rescue 1, National Rescue 2 and National Rescue 3. This sounded a little uncanny on the VHF, considering we were so far from Dublin Bay.

The Irish results were the best yet at a Mirror Worlds, having

come so close in 1997 when our own Ross Killian came second, three points behind the winner. This time it was delightful to see an Irish boat helmed by Marty Maloney win the event. The two National boats performed exceptionally well and the NYC team consisted of Cian Murray and John Collins, Rebecca Killian and Louise Foley. Robert Collins crewed in another boat.

The battle for the women's title went right to the last day with Rebecca and Louise scoring a 5th in the first race of the last day to edge one place overall ahead of GBR's Melissa Heppell and BT Young Yachtsperson of the year, Hanna Stodel to take the ladies title, with the 20 strong Irish team taking 1st place in the team event. Our sailors had put in a gruelling five months coaching and training effort in preparation for the Worlds and this was reflected on the water. The boat handling skills were awesome and Olympic Champions will come directly from this fleet for Athens.

The next World Championships will be held in Ireland in 2001 and the National Yacht Club fully intend to play their part again in the Mirror Associations preparations for this event. Ω



Well signalled National RIB which was the main support boat for the Irish team

FLYING FIFTEEN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

AUSTRALIA – FEBRUARY 8-20, 1999

Esperance Bay Yacht club in Western Australia was the venue for the 1999 World Championships. John Lavery and Gerry Donleavy were the sole NYC entrants at the event having qualified top of the Irish fleet in 1998 with a National Championship victory in Dunmore East and a second place in the East Coast Championships.

Along with Shane Statham of WHSC, these two boats were the only Irish contenders at this event. Ian Richardson and I thought it would be a great idea (it was) to take break from the dark winter evenings and to travel as supporters to the event. We had been told that the location for the event was one of the most impressive places in the world for sailors. And so it turned out to be.



Ken Dumbleton, John Lavery, Ger Dunleavy and Ian Richardson at the Flying Fifteens Worlds

After a long flight and hilarious 10 hour drive through Western Australia, we arrived in sunny Esperance. Average daytime temperatures 85-95 degrees. Constant 15-20 knot breezes, a swell of 1-1.5 metres, sandy beaches, dolphins, no tide, – need I say more?

Esperance is a small town with a population of 5,000 hard-working, hard-playing souls, although trapped in a 70's time warp:- Non-stop Abba and James Taylor on FM Radio. Facilities provided by the Boat Club were the finest I have ever experienced and the local reception was outstanding.

It was a matter of great joy to see the tricolour fluttering for all to see in pride of place beside the Australian Flag. Yours truly even managed to scrounge a local boat (no point in going all that way and not sailing!) and with the assistance of a local tug boat engineer and adopted Irishman, proceeded to sail backwards through the fleet of International Hot Shots.

Regrettably, the other Irish Entrants were off the pace, although acquitting themselves in two or three races. The overall winners – Steve Goacher and Phil Evans, lake sailors from Windermere – were unstoppable. Their championship was wrapped up on the penultimate day of the event. However all hope is not lost. The next Worlds are to be held in South Africa in 2001, and the NYC is on the shortlist to host the Worlds in 2003.

Overall it was a great experience. Unfortunately, twelve days did not give us time to travel a lot, but I for definite have plans to return to Esperance and Western Australia. Ω

MARINA UPDATE

The Flag Officers and Committee are most concerned about recent developments in the awarding of a contract to operate Dun Laoghaire Harbour to a consortium which, it is rumoured, will charge in excess of £250 per metre per annum for a berth.

If this figure is correct, it will put marina berths out of the reach of many of our members, and as the Harbour Co. have refused to increase the number of swinging moorings to replace those lost by the marina, this raises serious questions for the future of yachting in Dun Laoghaire.

Whilst both the DLCC and your Commodore have written expressing these misgivings to the Harbour Co. Board and the Dept. of the Marine, it is up to each member to approach their local representatives, appraise them of the situation and make sure that the interests of the yacht owners and sailors are protected. It is worth pointing out that many of the local councillors are also members of the Harbour Co. Board.

Ironically, the Harbour Company, which insisted on the Marina being a public facility, is by its pricing policy excluding a great many of the people for whom it was intended. We do not have time on our side so must lobby strongly for the right to enjoy our sport of sailing at a reasonable cost. Ω

Commodore.

FLAG OFFICERS

The following Flag Officers, Officers and committee were elected at the AGM of the National Yacht Club held at the end of March. Their specific responsibilities have been noted after their names and members with problems or queries should firstly approach the Committee member looking after that area of concern.

<i>Commodore:</i>	Barry Mac Neaney	
<i>Vice Commodore:</i>	Ida Kiernan	<i>Sailing</i>
<i>Rear Commodore:</i>	Chris Moore	<i>New Platform</i>
<i>Hon Secretary:</i>	Ken Slattery	
<i>Hon Treasurer:</i>	Paul Fallon	
<i>Sailing Secretary:</i>	Noel Casey	
<i>Boathouse Captain:</i>	Ronal Beirne	
<i>Committee:</i>		
Brian Blaney	Computer Systems	
Michael Bolger	Membership	
Anne Brady	Dining	
Kevin Dillon	Premises	
Alan Dooley	Entertainment	
David Gorman	Dinghies	
Mal Nowlan	Junior Affairs	
Tom Wood	Boathouse/Platform	

Arrangements are well under way for the 1999 junior training season. Outgoing organisers, John and Mary Murray, have ably set things up for the incoming organisers, Brian Collins and myself. You might be tempted to think that running the training courses is a well-oiled procedure, which falls into place by itself after all the years. Nothing could be further from the truth – as I am discovering!

That it has run smoothly in the past is a tribute to those who have run it, particularly John and Mary and their committee of Mary Stuart, Jack Owens, Jim Dolan and Gerry Pinloster. My theories of a well-oiled and self-running machine came to an abrupt end when John gave me a schedule setting out what needed to be done each month; the only relief being that Brian and I could have a Kit-Kat in November!

By the time of the parents advisory meeting held on April 24 1999, when John and Mary handed over to us, almost all of the instructors had been employed, dates of courses set and application forms issued. In particular, we are lucky to have an experienced "head A" instructor in Anna Lane from Malahide. Anna will head up a team of about twelve instructors in total, seven for each of the three three-week courses. We expect to have up to sixty participants on each course.

The season will start off with the swimming test for beginners in Sandycove Harbour at 18:00 on Friday June 18. The first course will kick off on June 28. This is later than usual as, at the time instructors were being employed, it was felt that we had to be sure the platform extension was complete. It now looks like we are going to have a super facility, not just for boats! We hope to use it for barbecues for juniors, parents and friends on Friday evenings after racing.



There will be lots of opportunity for involvement as Brian and I want feedback from both juniors and parents to help ensure that the courses are fun, and the sailing enjoyable. Let's hope the weather shines and makes it a good season and experience for us all!

Some information:

Application forms are available in the hall or by post from the Club secretary. They must be returned fully completed, with cheque, but May 28. These forms give quite a bit of information about the courses, boats, safety requirements, insurance etc. Shortly after May 28, we will be writing to each applicant offering a place on the course and asking that he or she and a parent sign a "responsibility code" which will set out some basic rules (and rights) to help the course run smoothly. Swimming test for beginners will be held in Sandycove harbour at 18:00 on Friday June 18.

Dates

There are three courses, each for three weeks: June 28-July 16; July 19-August 6 and August 9-27. The courses are run with a view to children progressing through the ISA training program.

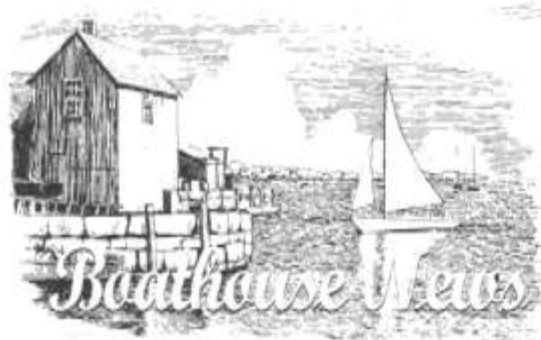
Beginners – we really want to see that newcomers get off to a good start and enjoy their first experience. To ease them in, we will have special introductory meetings and an instructor will be allocated to get things going smoothly. More on this after May 28.

Contact points:

Mal Nowlan
Office: 6199000
Home: 2858472
e-mail: fn@mop.ie

Brian Collins
Office: 8747810
Home: 2856139
e-mail: bcanda@indigo.ie

Mal Nowlan



At time of writing, we are endeavouring to arrange facilities at the other clubs for dinghies and flying fifteens. Accommodation can only be considered for those that have made application on the form which is available in the hall. Members should refer to the notice boards in the hall and at the Boathouse office for the latest information on all aspects of curtailed facilities for the duration of the building work.

The launching of yachts from the Carlisle Pier is now complete and the efforts and hard work of our staff and cadet members ensured the launching was completed successfully and safely.

Adverse weather in the days after the launch delayed the mast-stepping schedule, however, every effort is being made to step the

masts at the club. On completion of masting the crane will be out of operation for a short time as a comprehensive overhaul is required.

Ferry service in our launches which are looking excellent will operate, from the depot (beside the Royal Irish Y.C.) on race days for the middle harbour, commencing 1700hrs weekdays and noon Saturday. Ferry service on non-racing days for the entire harbour will run from the Royal St. George breakwater on the hour, by kind permission.

When the new platform is ready to accept boats, only those with a current season sticker will be permitted access. Delivery trailers must be removed immediately and members are requested to ensure their trolley is marked. As usual, car parking will not be permitted on the platform.

A Boathouse working party has been formed to assist with the many aspects of the boathouse and development. This Subcommittee comprises of the following members: David Gorman, Tom Wood, Neil O'Donovan, Brian Blaney

At this time of considerable disruption, members are advised to check the notice board in the hall and outside the Boathouse office for arrangements. Greatly enhanced facilities on completion of the construction project will more than compensate for short-term disruption which is experienced by all sailing members. Patience and co-operation is appreciated.

Roman Beirne, Boathouse Captain

Ω

NEWSROUND



SNOOKER SCENE



Left to right: John Maguire, Franz Rothschild (runner-up Preston Ball Cup) Hubie Kearns, Kevin Blake (winner Preston Ball Cup), with the Commodore.

Other results: The Elgan Cup was presented this year by Gerry Nagle in memory of his late father who was a country member for many years. The winner was Michael Creedon and the runner up was Frank Cassidy. The Craig Hickey Cup (billiards) was won by Dermot Baker and the runner up was John Duff. The final of the Johnson Memorial Trophy (doubles) will be held at 8 p.m. on Friday, May 21.

OLYMPIC CHALLENGE

by Jon Lasenby

Back in Ireland, enjoying the mild 5 degree temperature and characteristically overcast skies, it is kind of nice to have the opportunity to put your favourite sweaters and jackets back on ... all at the same time of course.

Now is a time for reflection on the past couple of months of sailing down under and for planning the European season which is just about upon us.

Australian Leg

This consisted of three regattas, the first a warm up in Melbourne, the second the Sydney International regatta, and then the World Championships back in Melbourne.

In Melbourne, on the final day, I was right at the front of a very competitive fleet, fighting with the Olympic and World champions and coming out of the confrontations in good shape. However, I discovered when I came ashore that I had been disqualified from both the days' races for premature starts, ruining any chances of a top ten finish overall.

Going into the Sydney regatta, I was able to do well enough to secure the first of the two qualifications standards required to finalise my selection for the Sydney Olympic Panel.

At the World Championships in the beginning of January, I found out that I had tremendous speed around the course, partic-

ularly on the downwind legs. However, I was making poor starts.

This was the toughest World Championships the Laser class has ever seen, and although I was sailing with excellent speed and solid tactics, I wasn't able to make my goal of another qualifying result at this regatta.

New Zealand

The Sail Auckland regatta was sailed last February in fresh-to-strong to bloody windy conditions in the Hauraki Gulf within site of the countrys largest city.

Unfortunately this regatta did not attract enough international support to rank as a grade one regatta, so did not provide me any opportunity to finalise my Olympic selection. However, the front end of the fleet was as sharp as most with three of the best Australian sailors, the best of the Americans, a previous world champion Kiwi, and the two best Dutch sailors of the moment, to name but a few.

So, whilst I didn't manage to fulfill all my goals on this trip to the deep south, I have sailed exceptionally well in all the areas of the race at one time or another. Now I am looking forward to putting all these elements together at the same time in the European regattas and putting Ireland right at the front of the International Laser fleet. At the end of January, my World ranking had reached a new all-time height of 18th, now it is on the move again, it won't be long until I get this into single figures.



Ida Kiernan, Bridge Co-Ordinator

The NYC Bridge Season came to a close with two most enjoyable evenings. The first of these being the inter-club Annual bridge competition, which is a team-of-four event.

This year the National Yacht Club played host to the Royal St. George and the Royal Irish Yacht clubs. It was a very closely fought competition. However, the Royal Irish proved to be the victors at the end of the evening with the National a very close second, and the Royal St. George a close third.

Thursday, April 22 was the final evening of the Bridge season. We had a very excellent meal, followed by the presentation of prizes for the Franz Rothschild Memorial Trophy. This competition is an individual event. I would like to congratulate the winner, Rosalie Cassidy, runner-up Jackie Flynn, and second runner-up, Oonagh McGuire.

I wish to thank all members of the NYC Bridge Section for supporting the club throughout the Winter evenings and I look forward to welcoming all our members next season commencing Thursday, September 23, 1999.

Happy Summer holidays - Happy Sailing.

NYC ON LINE!

We are pleased to announce we have now joined the "Media Multitude" and are now on-line! The NYC e-mail address is: nationalyachtclub@tinet.ie

A POUNDING OF SERIOUS PROPORTIONS

St. Jean-le-Thomas is a picturesque, typically French village on the Cherbourg peninsula. And it is where the NYC walking group spent the last three days of their week-long stay in that area.



Mont St. Michel was a popular attraction.

The group (of 20) led by Barry and Carol McNeaney, went on cliff walks, coastline walks and woodland walks every day, but not too strenuously. We had plenty of time and energy to dine and wine each evening in various local auberges and restaurants. And if you had had "enough of bluebell woods and wanted some more tarmacadam" you could take off and sight-see. Mont St. Michel was especially popular but so also was St. Malo, Avaranche and Granville, not to mention the Normandy beaches.

Spring in Normandy this year was like an Irish May/June in a good year. Only one of our al-fresco meals turned up a rather too fresh breeze.



Plenty of time and energy to wine and dine

And of course the memory lingers on – plenty of French wine, cheap and otherwise, tested the springs of many cars, on the road home, and fortunately survived a pounding of serious proportions on the other Normandy – operated by Irish Ferries. Ω

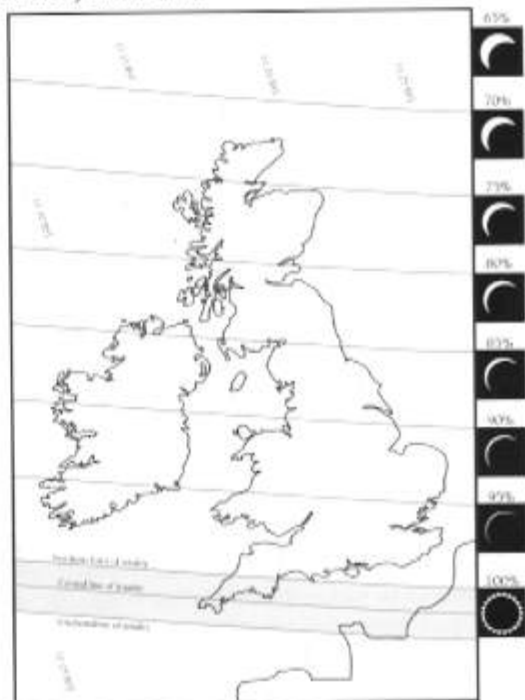
THE 1999 TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE SUN

by Noel Casey, Sailing Secretary

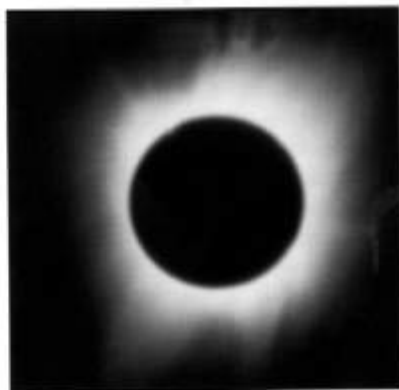
The total eclipse of the Sun on 11th August 1999 is the last total eclipse of the millennium. More than ninety years will pass before the next total eclipse will be seen from these islands.

It will be a total eclipse in Cornwall from an area from Plymouth to the Scilly Isles and in the greater part of the English channel. Some 95% totality will be observed from Cork and it will be 90% total in Dublin. It will be all over in minutes and lets all hope that it will be a clear day.

There may be traffic congestion in the English Channel on that day! This diagram courtesy of Royal Greenwich Observatory shows it all.



What it should look like



REGATTA DATES 1999-2003

1999	June 5	DMYC
	June 12/13	HYC
	June 19	NYC
	June 26	RIYC
	July 3	RSTGYC
2000	June 3	DMYC
	June 10/11	HYC
	June 17	NYC
	June 24	RIYC
	July 1	RSTGYC
2001	June 2	DMYC
	June 9/10	HYC
	June 23	NYC
	June 30	RIYC
	July 7	RSTGYC
2002	June 1	SMYC
	June 8/9	HYC
	June 22	NYC
	June 29	RIYC
	July 6	RSTGYC
2003	May 31	DMYC
	June 7/8	HYC
	June 21	NYC
	June 28	RIYC
	July 5	RSTGYC

ISA, Howth and Dun Laoghaire Clubs

To avoid confusion and enable diarists and planning freaks enjoy life, the following fixtures have been agreed by the Irish Sailing Association, The Dun Laoghaire Clubs and Howth Yacht Club.

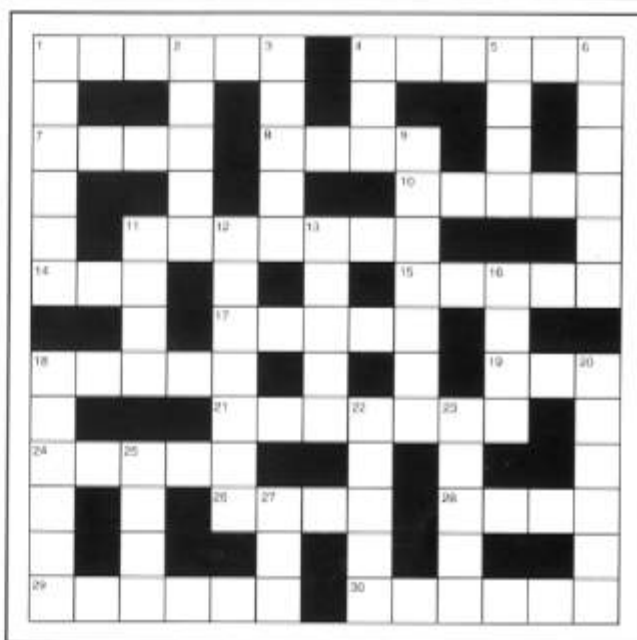
New Year's Eve



DINNER CABARET DANCING

£80 per person.
Booking essential.
Applications
together with cheque
for the appropriate
amount must reach
Club Manager not
later than Friday,
June 12, 1999.

NAVIGATOR NO. 17



Across

- Not 1 Down (6)
- Room for movement, often sideways at sea (6)
- Pull or catch (4)
- Does not stop (4)
- Condition, dress peer to north (5)
- Reaps back the teetotlar for the lookout (7)
- First lady (3)
- Not 30 across (5)
- Mistake (5)
- To confuse (5)
- Cry (3)
- Day off (4,3)
- On time in the theatre (2,3)
- Dull bard (4)
- Mate to 1+ across (4)
- Getting less wet
- The flower to the North gives sailing direction.
Not 15 across. (6)

Down

- Not 18 down (6)
- Lowest deck (5)
- Not loose (5)
- Position, sounds untrue (3)
- Body of water (4)
- Gaped (6)
- Drenched finely (7)
- Transmit (4)
- Tendered (7)
- Rings (5)
- Not hard (4)
- Not 1 down (6)
- Helps to quench a thirst (6)
- Shinbone (5)
- Not 15 across (5)
- A pigeon? (4)
- Distinctive arrangement of masts, sails, etc. (3)

There was no correct solution to Navigator No. 16. For Navigator 17, as usual, the prize is dinner for two with a bottle of house wine for the first correct solution opened. If there is no correct solution the prize will be awarded to the most nearly correct solution. Entries for Navigator No. 17 to reach the editor before close of business on Monday, June 7, 1999.

Dates

Catering and Entertainment

Highlights

MAY

- Sat 1 First DBSC Saturday Race
 Sun 2 Family Luncheon
 Thur 6 Sailing Suppers
 Sat 8 Club Dinner with Piano Music
 Tue 11 Ladies Day Luncheon
 Thur 13 Sailing Suppers
 Sat 15 Club Dinner
 Sun 16 Family Luncheon
 Thur 20 Sailing Suppers
 Sat 22 Club Dinner with Piano Music
 Sun 23 Family Luncheon
 Thur 27 Sailing Suppers
 Sat 29 D'n'D Night
 Sun 30 Family Luncheon

JUNE

- Thur 3 Sailing Suppers
 Fri 4 Indian Night - See Highlights
 Sat 5 Club Dinner with Piano Music
 Thur 10 Sailing Suppers
 Sat 12 Club Dinner
 Sun 13 Family Luncheon
 Thur 17 Sailing Suppers
 Sat 19 NYC Regatta
 Sun 20 Bar Facilities Only
 Thur 24 Sailing Suppers
 Sat 26 Club Dinner with Piano Music
 Sun 27 Family Luncheon

JULY

- Thur 1 Sailing Suppers
 Sat 3 Club Dinner with Piano Music
 Sun 4 Family Luncheon
 Tue 6 Dun Laoghaire to Dingle race start
 Thur 8 Sailing Suppers
 Sat 10 1720s East Coast Championships -
 Championship Dinner
 Sun 11 Family Luncheon
 1720s East Coast Championships
 Thur 15 Sailing Suppers
 Sat 17 Club Dinner with Piano Music
 Sun 18 Family Luncheon
 Thur 22 Sailing Suppers
 Sat 24 Club Dinner
 Sun 25 Family Luncheon
 Thur 29 Sailing Suppers

Ladies Day Luncheon



Tuesday, May 11, 1999.
 Speaker: Lilian Roberts Finlay

D'n'D Night



May 29, 1999
 Fun, Dinner and Dance Night
 £25.00 per couple

Indian Night



Head Chef, Cormac Healy will present an exotic menu of authentic Indian Cuisine. Early booking advisable.
 £22.00 per person.

Sailing Suppers



Thursdays, during the sailing season are Sailing Suppers nights. Come and enjoy the apres sailing atmosphere. Booking for suppers can be made on the night.

Bar & Dining Room



Bar Lunches
 - served Tuesday to Friday
 Dining Room Lunches
 - served Tuesday to Friday
 Dinners and Club Suppers
 - served Tuesday to Friday
 (except Thursdays during sailing season)
 Club Dinner - served Saturdays
 (tie rule in operation in Bar and Dining Room from 8 p.m.)
 Sundays: Family Luncheon

Further Information regarding
 Club House activities from the Manager
 or Esther at 2801198 or 2805725