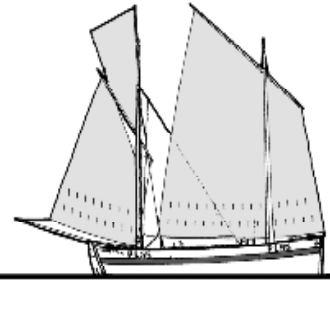


# The Nickey



The Newsletter of Peel Sailing and Cruising Club

March 2007

## Craning-In

As reported in the last newsletter, the club craning in is scheduled for Monday 16th April. This is strictly for paid-up members. Anyone else, without exception, will be politely turned away. This is to prevent the confusion and hold-ups caused in previous years when non-members have turned up willy-nilly.

Please note that due to insurance considerations, the DoT cranemen will not lift vessels without a completed indemnity form allowing them to smash your boat against the quayside willy-nilly (which we've already established is a Very Bad Thing). The craning contract is between the signatory and the DoT. Craning fees are calculated pro-rata for the time actually being craned.

Members wishing to use the craning should contact Andrew Hall for further information and to go on the official lift list. Andrew can be contacted on 844386; by email to: [enquiries@hallsremovals.com](mailto:enquiries@hallsremovals.com); or by calling at Hall's Marine Supplies in Mill Road, Peel, on Saturdays.

## Sailing Meeting

A well-attended sailing meeting on 19 February decided to keep the race format pretty similar to last year. Minor changes included the addition of a 'B' buoy (designated the yellow visitors buoy nearest to the groyne) and a special 'Bilge Cup' - to be awarded to the bilge keeler with the lowest score from its best five races over all four series. Mark Gosden will be circulating the 2007 programme and race rules in the near future.

## Inter Club Darts

The first round of the inter-club darts series was held on Friday 23rd February and attended by all the Island's clubs except Ramsey (who had a prior curry engagement). It was, by all accounts, "a good do", with the food and beer going down particularly well, as did the raffle for a bottle of whisky (amongst other things). The winning club was DBYC, followed by Laxey, Peel and then finally IOMYC.

## Clubhouse Refurbishment

The clubhouse toilet refurbishment is due to commence within the next couple of weeks. Mark Kermode reports that during this work, the gentlemen's toilet will be out of commission for a short period and normal shower access will not be available. Thus the ladies will have to become a shared facility for a short time. Before all you alleged 'gentlemen' become over-excited, that should probably have read 'ladies' toilet', but you never know in Peel. We apologise in advance for the...er, inconvenience.

## Training

A **Race Officer training** course will be run by DBYC on Saturday 17 March, 9am to 4pm. Any members wishing to attend should contact Mark Gosden on 433376 or via [Mark.Gosden@gov.im](mailto:Mark.Gosden@gov.im) by 14 March.

**Diesel Maintenance:** Iain Dunnett has completed an RYA Instructors course on diesel engine maintenance and it's hoped that he can institute training for members in the near future. He needs a small diesel engine (not necessarily a runner) for demonstration purposes. If anyone knows where such a unit might be sourced, please contact him on 467094 or via [iaindunnett@manx.net](mailto:iaindunnett@manx.net).

**GMDSS (VHF) training:** Interest in the club running such a course has been too poor to make it worthwhile. However, it may be possible for members to join a course elsewhere on the Island. Should anyone wish to do so, contact Mark Gosden, as above.

## PL07: Trad Boat Weekend

After the huge success of last year's Trad Boat event, this year's woodie festival will be held on 20-22nd July. As ever, it will require a considerable input of effort from the club and its members, so if you are able to offer any of your time, either in preparation or during the weekend, it would be hugely appreciated. Please contact Mark Kermode on 484410 or via [macdhiarmuid@manx.net](mailto:macdhiarmuid@manx.net) if you are able to help the running of what is already the finest classic event around the Irish Sea.

## Harbour Matters

A copy of the latest Harbour Dues (Pleasure Vessels and House Boats) Regulations 2007, which come into effect on 1 April, is now on display on the club notice board. Amongst its contents are the new rates of harbour dues:

Harbour Dues: £10.21 + VAT per metre overall length per year.

Slipway Dues will be £5.74 + VAT per metre overall length per year.

Also, in a masterpiece of timing, you may have noticed that the red diesel berth on the harbour tongue is now operational. Despite the EC ruling described in the last Nickey, leisure craft may still use red diesel until the UK exchequer works out the precise arrangements for the changeover. The fuel pump is operated by a dedicated purchase card. These, and details about their use and cost, can be obtained from the Fisherman's Association adjacent to the boat park.

IoM harbours boss Mike Brew has indicated that plans are afoot for having the harbour cleared of boats and the ripping up of all moorings "at the back end of 2007", in preparation for the proposed installation of pontoons. As ever, this is a matter awash with Okells-induced rumour and misinformation, so watch this space.

However, we do have official word that Peel Inner Harbour is definitely not silting up. This will no doubt be of immense reassurance to those of you who still believe the earth to be flat and at the centre of the Universe.