



LYDNEY YACHT CLUB

SIGNAL MAGAZINE 7

DECEMBER 2023

Commodore's Report

Well it's been an exciting start to the new committee year - we've got some great new people on board now, Fee and Will, and had an unexpected visit from Mike Morris at our last meeting! Ade is working hard with Steve Cullis to put together the sailing programme, and as you see there is some progress with the Sea Cadets and the EA, who have now got the harbour working, only to upset everyone by putting up the pier head fence.

However, I have to let you know that sadly for us, John Fright wishes to step down as bar manager - he is taking on Membership and now feels two roles is too much which of course is true. If you feel able to either take on the bar manager role or work with others as a team running the bar please shout. The bar is such a great place on a Friday night.

And now for my EA health and safety quiz question:

The EA state the following:

We use the following approach to managing risk:-

- ELIMINATE – eliminate the risk as far as reasonably practicable. For example, work with Contractors to design out risk.
- REDUCE - reduce risk by for example minimising bank gradients and cutting off excess rebar.
- INFORM - provide information and education through signs, information boards and the use of social media.
- CONTROL – define where people go for example through physical barriers including traditional fencing and/or planting schemes

Without the fencing, or additional measures being in place, it has been assessed that the chances of a life ending / changing safety incident affecting a member of the public is an expected eventuality on the quays without these actions.

Question: Which of the LYC former commodores personifies and stands for this policy most accurately?

Answers on a postcard please!

Annabel



Sent in by Peter Lockwood

Forester

INCORPORATING
Dean Forest Guardian
Established 1874
Dean Forest Mercury
Established 1881
The Lydney Observer
Established (New Version) 1915

Michael Tuck

SOLD

IT!

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FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 1998. Price 27p.



Pic. H. J. Roberts

Great War survivor dies at 101

Archie, of the Forest's oldest soldier last week marked the end of an era.

A few surviving Great War soldiers, Archie Freeman who, recently, continued to live in the house where he was born, died last week in Gloucestershire Royal

Archie's wife, Winifred, (whom he married at the Baptist Chapel in June 1925) died in 1987 at the age of 82. He is survived by his daughter, also named Winifred, who lives in South Wales.

Forest man assaulted his girlfriend

A Blakeney man became violent towards his girlfriend when she ended their three year relationship, magistrates at Coleford were told last week.

Steve Alexander Burr, of Soudley Road, Blakeney, repeatedly followed Amanda O'Leary around, prosecutor Malcolm Hayes told the court.

Burr pleaded guilty to one

New hope for Lydney docks?

WHILE the future of the historic Lydney Docks remains in limbo, efforts can now be stepped up to seek lottery funding for its repair.

The long-running controversy over proposals to turn the crumbling harbour into a mini-village has been resolved now that property speculators James Hampden have finally withdrawn their option on the site.

There has been considerable pressure on the dock owners, the Environment Agency (who inherited the asset from the National Rivers Authority) to put in hand urgent repairs, but the Agency has no budget provision for such refurbishment.

The Agency has, however, finally terminated the James Hampden option by paying back to the company not only the deposit for the site (originally paid to Severn Trent Water Authority) but also buying back the access road.

When the company first sought planning permission for the up-market village in the late 1980s, the property boom was at its height and there were hopes that the listed ancient monument could be refurbished as part of a new leisure complex.

Even in 1993, several years after

the slump, Hampdens were still insisting they intended to go ahead with the development claiming they could not reach final agreement with the planning authority.

At that time, the company denied a withdrawal from the scheme, claiming there was too much of a financial stake in the site.

CONCERN

All the while there has been a mounting concern over the deterioration of the dock. Matters came to a head last October when the floodgates collapsed under a tidal bore and the Environment Agency was obliged to build an emergency dam to prevent flooding in Lydney.

This week, the Agency's Lower Severn area manager Bill Forbes confirmed that the agreement with

Hampdens had been terminated and that the way is clear for refurbishment—if the cash is forthcoming from another source.

A partnership bid for heritage lottery funding is expected to be submitted with backing from interested parties such as the local authorities and English Heritage.

OUTRAGE

There was outrage back in the summer of 1994 when the then owners of the dock, the National Rivers Authority, were not prosecuted for demolishing the Harbour Masters Office.

A Government quango was given immunity from prosecution, it was claimed, from removing part of Lydney's maritime heritage with the excuse that it was insecure and dangerous because of vandalism.



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Arson attack on Lydney pub

Police are appealing for witnesses to an arson attack on a Lydney public house.

It is believed that this latest incident is connected to a series of fires at the pub, and also to fires started deliberately at Park Farm in Alvington.

Lydney High Street was closed off last Friday (April 10) whilst fire crews dealt with the blaze at the Feather's Hotel.

A member of the public raised the alarm at around 3.30 p.m., when smoke was seen rising from the chimney of the building.

BEECHES AUTO SERVICES



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LYC AGM 2023

Minutes of the AGM of the Lydney Yacht Club on October 7th 2023

Apologies received by: Roger Bamford, Mike Woodward, Terry Tomlin, Kirsty Abraham, Brian Mannion, Ian Bentley, Tim Nutting. There were 16 members present, making the necessary quorum which is 15 voting members.

The minutes of AGM 2022 were approved by the meeting.

Commodore's Report

Eric talked about the difficulties in the harbour, the lock gates have been refurbished and replaced, and the sluice gates are being repaired. He thanked Phil Davies who built and commissioned the dinghy winch, and Dave Phillips who ensured the safety boat was serviced. There have been many great social events during the year: Jim cooked a great meal for the commodore's lunch, and Jo has organised lots of good events. Eric thanked Ade for organising a successful summer cruise, although Peter Lockwood was missed.

The Sea Cadets application for their shed in the corner of the compound has gone for planning permission.

Eric thanked the committee, especially John Fright as bar manager and membership secretary, Jo, Gill, and Maddie have done a great job doing social, Ade on sailing and Annabel for keeping him under strict control.

Election of Officers and Committee:

The following officers were elected by the meeting:

- Dave Philips – President
- Annabel Dance - Commodore
- Ade Borrelli – Vice Commodore
- Phil Davies – Rear Comm
- Jim Robinson – Treasurer
- Hon. Secretary – Fiona Gissing

General committee:

- John Fright – Bar manager
- Sailing Secretary – NO NOMINATIONS
- Eric Witheridge – General Committee and retiring commodore
- Membership Secretary – John Fright/Dave Phillips
- Jo Phillips – Social Secretary
- Gill Mellor
- Tim Nutting
- Mike Morris
- Will Gissing

(AGM Continued)

It was noted that there is no nomination for sailing secretary, Ade will be organising club sailing but particularly asks for help with organising dinghy sailing.

Treasurer's Report:

The accounts were prepared on 31st July, the balance in the main account was £39230, and the social account £1326. The treasurer (Jim) circulated the accounts to members present, they will be going to Wildin's for review and approval, Jim will circulate them to all members.

General discussion:

We are hoping to start the balcony project this year, replacing the existing balcony with one a bit larger. This is important as the balcony is rusting away and it will soon be unsafe. Alan Keef has safety glass which he offered for use as a rail. John Christie feels we've been talking about it for years, and should just get on with it. Dave Fruin felt we should spend our money just getting a new balcony done professionally and not messing around. Ade felt we should put a more welcoming sign at the gates, Eric that we should get a company to look after the website, John Christie felt there are a lot of free websites available. Dave Philips will contact someone to render the end of the building. Annabel felt that we need to do more publicity – on community facebook pages, and next to the café there are notice boards, we should advertise there. Close of meeting and retire to bar.

Hi all,

We have been allowed by the EA to circulate the code to the pier head: it is 1961. This is because we have raised all the concerns about the need for access for safety of sailors.

The EA have told us that we can leave the gate unlocked (or more exactly unlocked but looking like it is locked) during sailing events so that someone can 'run up to the pier head' unimpeded to help.

They have said that when boats are coming into the harbour, there should be 2 people from the EA, one of whom can be on the pier head to help. So, if the second person isn't there, it's very reasonable for a club member to be there to help, we have made the case and I think they have accepted it.

The EA really don't want the public to gain access through our compound. So, I would like to ask that if you leave the pier head gate unlocked to make sure our compound gate is shut on the rope (no need to lock).

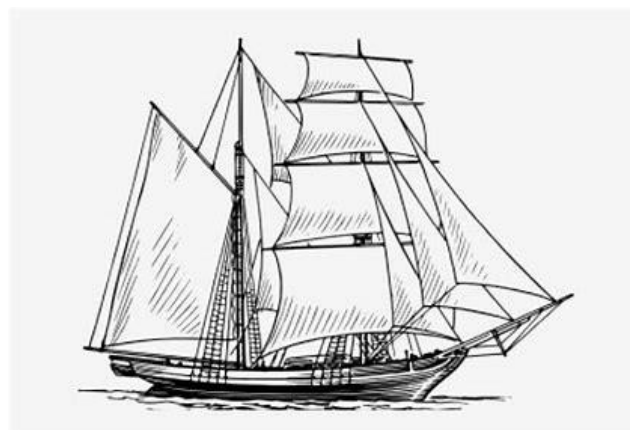
Finally, we are all bound to want to sneak up there and wander round, but please be mindful on the possible negative effect that can have on the EA - please do it when there aren't people around, and anyway, you're probably just checking it out so you can use it in emergency.

Thanks! Annabel

LYC Quiz (Answers page 15)



1. Which singer joined Mel Gibson in the movie Mad Max: Beyond The Thunderdome?
2. Vodka, Galliano and orange juice are used to make which classic cocktail?
3. Which American state is nearest to the former Soviet Union?
4. In which year did Foinavon win the Grand National?
5. At which battle of 1314 did Robert The Bruce defeat the English forces?
6. Consecrated in 1962, where is the Cathedral Church of St Michael?
7. On TV, who did the character Lurch work for?
8. Which children's classic book was written by Anna Sewell?
9. How many arms/tentacles/limbs does a squid have?
10. Which reggae singing star died 11th May 1981?
11. Characters Charlie Allnut and Rosie Sayer appeared in which classic 1951 movie?
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13. Which river forms the eastern section of the border between England and Scotland?
14. Which Briton won an ice-skating Gold at the Lake Placid Olympics?
15. In what year was Prince Andrew born?
16. What is the national game of the Basques?
17. TV commercials for Campari launched the career of which actress?
18. Name the two families in Romeo and Juliet?
19. If cats are feline, what are sheep?
20. In the song, Heartbreak Hotel is on which street?
21. For his part in which 1953 film did Frank Sinatra receive a Best Supporting Actor Oscar?
22. For which fruit is the US state of Georgia famous?
23. Which is the financial centre and main city of Switzerland?
24. Who is the only man (at 2009) to have won motorbike and F1 car World Championships?
25. In which city was Martin Luther King assassinated in 1968?
26. In which county is the UK prime minister's official country residence Chequers?
27. Who created the UK TV spoof 007 character Basildon Bond?
28. What is the policeman's name in Noddy stories?
29. What is the word used to describe an animal/plant that is both male and female?
30. Which TV programme's theme tune was called Hit and Miss?



PIER HEAD FENCING: QUESTIONS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP OF LYDNEY YACHT CLUB

- 1 The pier was designed, with bollards and capstans, to allow personnel on the pier head to take or throw a line to boats struggling to enter the harbour, perhaps due to engine failure, and this is particularly true at Lydney where the tides are very strong. How can the EA ensure continued unimpeded access to all our members and those that help from the shore to ensure that this assistance can be offered very rapidly to prevent damage to boats and/or injury?
- 2 If a yacht requires engine repair, this may need to be carried out on the club slipway. Can the EA ensure that members can 'walk' their boat from the harbour, around the pier head using ropes, to the slipway and that proper unimpeded access to the pier head is available to do this?
- 3 Dinghies sailing from Lydney slipway sometimes get swept round the pier head on their return, on an outgoing tide. A person onshore, running up to the pier head in the nick of time can call for rescue if needed or make contact with the boat and offer support such as throwing a line. Can the EA assure members of Lydney Yacht Club that our members can continue to have this unimpeded access to the pier head to ensure that our dinghy sailors can receive this vital support?
- 4 Yachts dried out on the club slipway, against the leaning posts, currently fix one line from the mast to a bollard on the pier head to prevent the boat from falling sideways. Can the EA assure club members that this vital facility can be maintained by all club members after the fencing has been erected?
- 5 The pier was provided to ensure the safety of vessels and their crew. The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 states that it is an offense to interfere with or remove anything provided to ensure the health and safety of yourself or others. By interfering with the pier and removing access does this not leave the EA at risk of legal action in the event of a sailor being injured as a result of being unable to access the pier?
- 6 Does this plan have the support of English Heritage? How have they responded?
- 7 Can we see a drawing of the proposed fencing and its location?
- 8 In the extract from the Inland Waterways website, para. 1.15, item C is absolutely explicit:
 9. To our knowledge, while there have been suicides at Lydney and elsewhere in the estuary, no one has ever accidentally fallen off the harbour wall. Whilst that may be not be true everywhere, there are many piers around the country that have free access, such as Minehead, Watchet, Ilfracombe and Lynmouth to name but a few, and an example can be seen in the picture below of the 3m high harbour wall, in Solva, Pembrokeshire. So, what is the justification for the fencing – is it evidence based?

Can the EA please publish the risk assessment justifying the fencing?

(please see extract and link below)

<https://waterways.org.uk/about-us/library/locks-and-moveable-bridges-policy>



Stephen Cullis 18th November 2023

We had a really positive meeting last night with 13 dinghy / canoe sailors making plans for the coming season.

Plans are afoot, dates firmed up and volunteers lined up to make it all happen.

Ade and Annabel will soon have the programme ready for print once they've finished the yacht dates too. Some old favourite dinghy events will be brought back, such as the Newnham Tea Clipper and maybe the Bullo Banger and the season will kick off with an up-river sail and a social night at the club.

Some traditional racing is planned and

Down channel sailing with camping is also planned for the summer.

We aim to include some practice capsizes in the outer basin (subject to the EA granting permission) otherwise we'll find somewhere else to do it.

Ade will also be offering some passage planning sessions over the winter at the club.

We also have rescue boat volunteers which is fantastic.

All in all a great result and I'd like to thank everyone for their input.

It's up to us as members of our club to make this happen but I know we can do it easily. Just need to all get involved and enjoy a fun and hopefully rewarding 2024 season.

See you all very soon. Steve.



This is what it may be like this summer outside our harbour



Contact the Editor

Firstly may I wish a merry Christmas and a happy sailing new year to all our members.

I would like to thank Eric for all the support he gave me with this Signal Magazine whilst he was Commodore and wish him a happy retirement from the job.

The next Signal Magazine will be going out at the beginning of March 2024.

I need your support to make this interesting so please keep sending me anything interesting or funny and I will try and fit it in somewhere.

My thanks to all who have supported me with this Signal Magazine. Also thanks to all who send me articles so keep them coming.

We are going to have 'Member of the Month' soon so I will be picking on someone soon to tell me about what made them want to mess about in boats and keep on doing it. If anyone would like to nominate anyone for this that would be great. If no one comes forward I shall have to do myself. Your articles can be anything to do with boating like near misses, funny stories or jokes, or trips you would like to do and invite discussion on.

Some of you must have things you want to sell or get rid of so give me the details and I will put it in the next issue. This also applies to me when I can get into the darkest reaches of my garage. I have quite a lot of nautical stuff.

Would anybody be interested in a car boot or a car boot added on to our regatta?

Thanks Norman Price So please write, email, text or whatsapp me

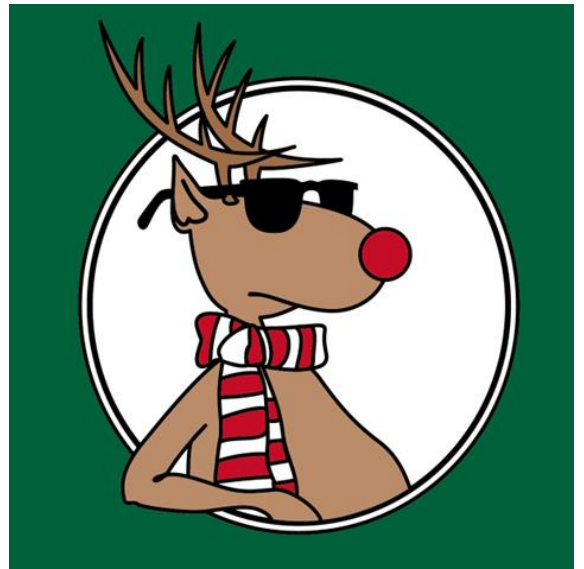
[Emails to normanp.price@live.co.uk](mailto:normanp.price@live.co.uk)

[Ring or text to 07836560511](tel:07836560511)

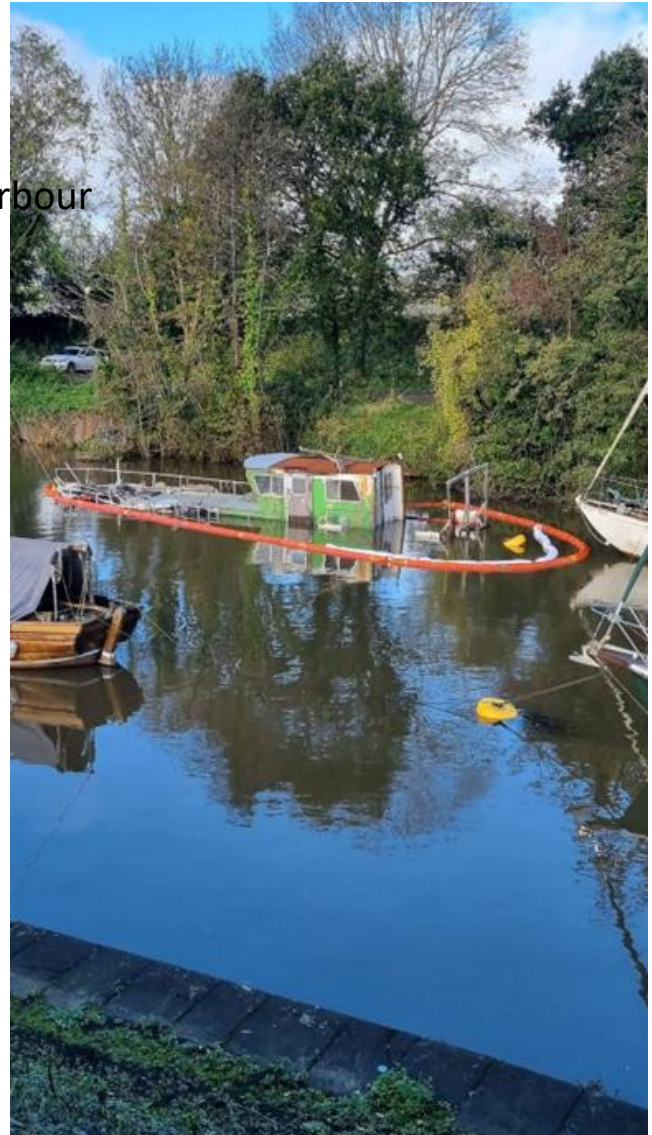
[Write to Norman, Price Flat 31, Kyrle Pope Court,](#)

[Sudbury Avenue, Hereford HR11XZ](#)

Please visit the club, there's plenty going on and we can take cashless payment at the bar! If you want to hire any of the club boats and go sailing please speak to Paul Hayes or Annabel or any committee member. You can either come down to the clubhouse or visit our facebook page 'Lydney Sailors';



-
A victim of the heavy rain in the harbour



The lock is operational and serviceable following repairs. Please contact the harbour master during working hours to arrange arrivals and departures.

Be safe when using the **vertical ladders** for access and egress at vessels moored in the outer harbour. At a similar harbour recently, a fall from such a ladder had near-fatal consequences when two crew members were returning to their vessel after a “run ashore” and one fell from the ladder on to the vessel and then into the water and had to be rescued.

Do please ask if you need further advice on how to safely use vertical ladders and do ensure you know how to contact the emergency services in the event of an incident or accident.

For Sale

Rudder and tiller from a 19ft Prelude yacht Transom hung and good condition Can bring to the club meeting if anyone interested £80.00 O.N.O. Battery change over switch and isolator good condition £20.00 O.N.O. I have lots of sailing bits and pieces which I will be putting on here and if I’ve got stuff there must be others out there who have stuff they no longer need so we all need to get it on here and let other people get some use out of it and and get ourselves a few bob to spend in the clubhouse. I will co ordinate the buying and selling if you want **Contact Norman**

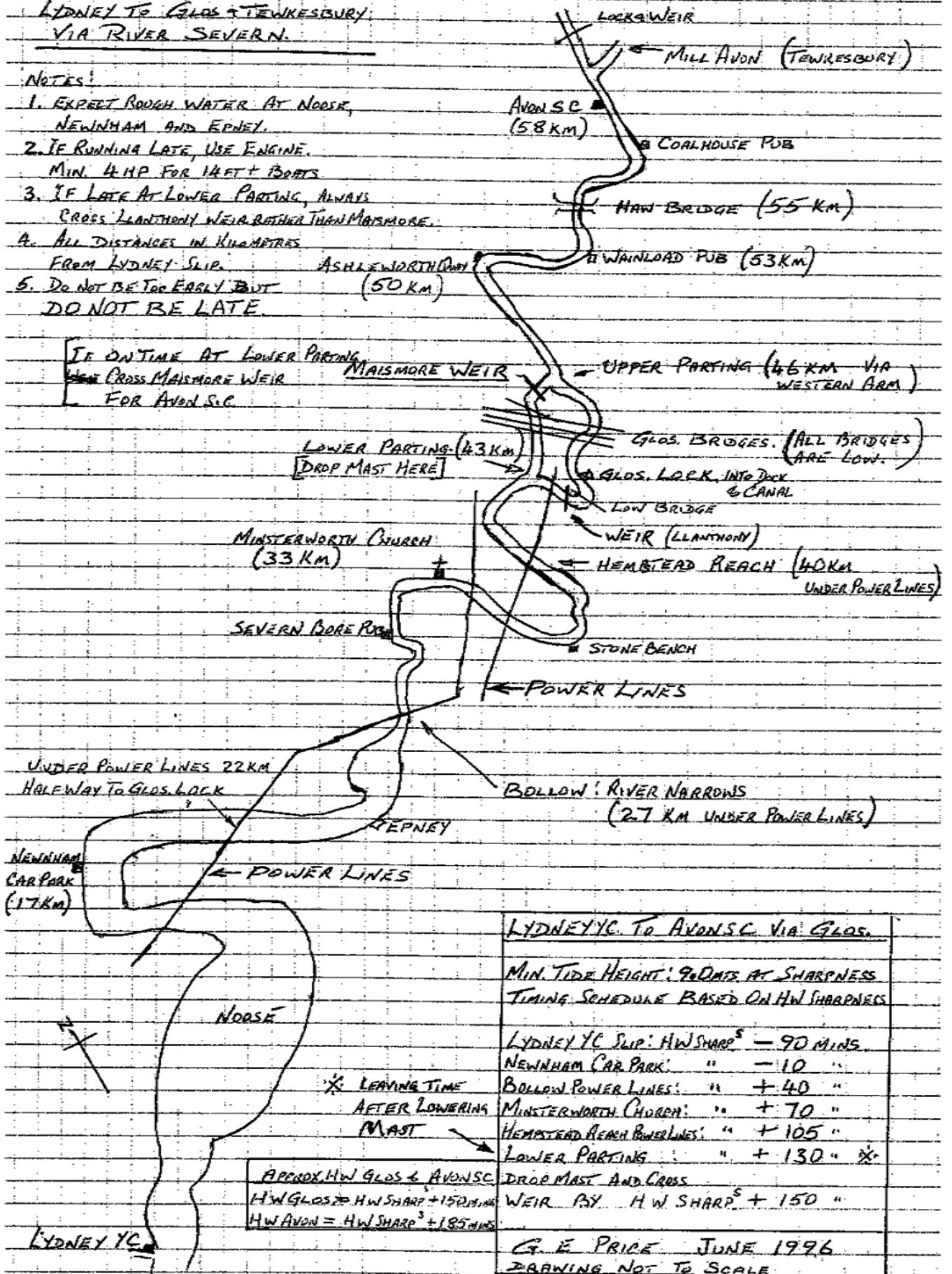
Courtesy of George Price. Note the plan is for small craft with the ability to lower the mast. Lydney yacht club make this trip occasionally. I thought this may be of interest. It was circulating around CDYC. I don't know how accurate it is and can take no responsibility for the accuracy of the navigation

LYDNEY TO GLOS & TEWKESBURY VIA RIVER SEVERN.

NOTES:

1. EXPECT ROUGH WATER AT NOOSE, NEWNHAM AND EDNEY.
2. IF RUNNING LATE, USE ENGINE. MIN. 4 HP FOR 14 FT + BOATS
3. IF LATE AT LOWER PARTING, ALWAYS CROSS LLANTHONY WEIR RATHER THAN MAISMORE.
4. ALL DISTANCES IN KILOMETRES FROM LYDNEY SLIP.
5. DO NOT BE TOO EARLY BUT DO NOT BE LATE.

IF ON TIME AT LOWER PARTING, CROSS MAISMORE WEIR FOR AVON S.C.



LYDNEY YC. TO AVON S.C. VIA GLOS.	
MIN. TIDE HEIGHT: 90 DAYS AT SHARPNESS	
TIMING SCHEDULE BASED ON HW SHARPNESS	
LYDNEY YC SLIP: HW SHARP ^S	- 90 MINS
NEWNHAM CAR PARK:	" - 10 "
BOLLOW POWER LINES:	" + 40 "
MINSTERWORTH CHURCH:	" + 70 "
HEMSTEAD REACH POWER LINES:	" + 105 "
LOWER PARTING:	" + 130 " *
DROP MAST AND CROSS WEIR BY HW SHARP ^S + 150 "	
G. E. PRICE JUNE 1996	
DRAWING NOT TO SCALE	

APPROX. HW GLOS & AVON S.C.
 HW GLOS = HW SHARP + 150 MINS
 HW AVON = HW SHARP + 185 MINS

* LEAVING TIME AFTER LOWERING MAST

SEVERN AREA RESCUE ASSOCIATION – SHARPNESS ILB

SARA is the largest independent search-and-rescue organisation in the UK, second only to the RNLI. We operate marine and river lifeboats along the River Severn and Severn Estuary, as well as teams of mud, flood and cliff-rescue specialists. We have seven rescue stations in total, six with lifeboats and a station dedicated to land searches.

Sharpness is the nearest lifeboat station to Lydney Dock, located just across the Severn at the entrance to Sharpness old dock. Our local patch is a very dangerous place to be, with fast-flowing tides, as well as extensive mud and sandbanks. The crew at Sharpness are all water specialists: lifeboats, flood-rescues and swift-water environments, occasionally applying our skills a long way from our base.

In a typical year, our volunteer crew at Sharpness get called out about once every ten days. Over the past few weeks, we've been called out

two separate incidents where people had been washed away at low tide on the sandbanks upriver from the lifeboat station. Thankfully, the people concerned found their own way back as the incoming tide



· assist the crew of an upturned dinghy after reports of a man overboard at Oldbury power station and the crew were sitting on the upturned hull. The crew managed to right their vessel and safely returned to their sailing club

· assist with the search for a young man who had gone missing whilst swimming in the River Thames at Lechlade. After the deceased was located by police divers, Sharpness crew recovered the body to the river bank and handed over to the coroner.

Every single crew member at SARA is a volunteer, willingly giving their time to help those in need – and occasionally having to deal with tragic incidents. Please support them.



Lydney Harbour



The Estuary



NOTICE TO MARINERS NO. 13/23

Chart BA 1166 Avonmouth to Hock Cliff

West Coast, River Severn

Haywards Beacon/Light 51°41'.26N / 002°31'.11W

Further to Local Notice to Mariners No. 10/23, Mariners are advised that the Haywards Beacon temporary buoy and light have been removed to allow reinstatement of the beacon.

Mariners should therefore navigate with caution in the area of Haywards Rock.

A further update will be issued once the beacon is reinstated.

Notices to Mariners may be viewed on the Trustees' website:

www.gloucesterharbourtrustees.org.uk

Owners, Agents and Charterers should ensure that the contents of this Notice are made known to the Masters or persons in charge of their vessels or craft.

S Henderson
Harbourmaster

29th November 2023



NOTICE TO MARINERS NO. 14/23

Chart BA 1166 Avonmouth to Hock Cliff

West Coast, River Severn

Lower Shoots Light 51°33'.85N / 002°42'.05W

Mariners are advised that the Lower Shoots Light (Q(9)15s) is reported as unlit.

Mariners should therefore navigate with caution in the area of the Shoots Channel.

A further update will be issued once the light is re-lit.

Notices to Mariners may be viewed on the Trustees' website:

www.gloucesterharbourtrustees.org.uk

Owners, Agents and Charterers should ensure that the contents of this Notice are made known to the Masters or persons in charge of their vessels or craft.

S Henderson
Harbourmaster

29th November 2023

LYC Signal Magazine Quiz ANSWERS



1. Which singer joined Mel Gibson in the movie Mad Max: Beyond The Thunderdome? **TINA TURNER**
2. Vodka, Galliano and orange juice are used to make which classic cocktail? **HARVEY WALLBANGER**
3. Which American state is nearest to the former Soviet Union? **ALASKA**
4. In which year did Foinavon win the Grand National? **1967**
5. At which battle of 1314 did Robert The Bruce defeat the English forces? **BANNOCKBURN**
6. Consecrated in 1962, where is the Cathedral Church of St Michael? **COVENTRY**
7. On TV, who did the character Lurch work for? **ADDAMS FAMILY**
8. Which children's classic book was written by Anna Sewell? **BLACK BEAUTY**
9. How many arms/tentacles/limbs does a squid have? **TEN** (there are varying definitions of tentacles/arms for squids - generally a squid is considered to have two tentacles and eight arms - whatever, there are ten of them in total)
10. Which reggae singing star died 11th May 1981? **BOB MARLEY**
11. Characters Charlie Allnut and Rosie Sayer appeared in which classic 1951 movie? **THE AFRICAN QUEEN** (Humphrey Bogart & Katherine Hepburn)
12. What is converted into alcohol during brewing? **SUGAR**
13. Which river forms the eastern section of the border between England and Scotland? **TWEED**
14. Which Briton won an ice-skating Gold at the Lake Placid Olympics? **ROBIN COUSINS**
15. In what year was Prince Andrew born? **1960** (19th February)
16. What is the national game of the Basques? **PELOTA** (a form of tennis using racket or hand with a net or against a wall)
17. TV commercials for Campari launched the career of which actress? **LORRAINE CHASE**
18. Name the two families in Romeo and Juliet? **MONTAGUE & CAPULET**
19. If cats are feline, what are sheep? **OVINE**
20. In the song, Heartbreak Hotel is on which street? **LONELY STREET**
21. For his part in which 1953 film did Frank Sinatra receive a Best Supporting Actor Oscar? **FROM HERE TO ETERNITY**
22. For which fruit is the US state of Georgia famous? **PEACH**
23. Which is the financial centre and main city of Switzerland? **ZURICH**
24. Who is the only man (at 2009) to have won motorbike and F1 car World Championships? **JOHN SURTEES**
25. In which city was Martin Luther King assassinated in 1968? **MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE**
26. In which county is the UK prime minister's official country residence Chequers? **BUCKINGHAMSHIRE**
27. Who created the UK TV spoof 007 character Basildon Bond? **RUSS ABBOTT**
28. What is the policeman's name in Noddy stories? **PC PLOD**
29. What is the word used to describe an animal/plant that is both male and female? **HERMAPHRODITE**
30. Which TV programme's theme tune was called Hit and Miss? **JUKE BOX JURY1**

