**President’s Forward Cruiser Spring 2022**

As I write this we are looking forward to a normal summer on the water with Covid restrictions, hopefully, a thing of the past. The Club put on a brave face during the last couple of years and we managed to keep things going with limited sailing and activities. That, thankfully, is all in the past and excitement is building for the coming season.

Now we have a boat again and my back is improving daily we are looking forward to lots of the time on the water. Our brilliant Cruising Officer, Chris, has put out a great programme for the summer and hopefully lots of you will support him. Not everyone wants to be away for long trips but there are plenty of day trips on offer and these are always good fun especially if we can get ashore for lunch. As we have a swim platform on Iona, something we didn’t have on Cornish Lady, I might even be brave enough to swim this summer.

It is fantastic to have three new members on the Committee, Nick Critchell, Rikk Butler and Liz Helmsley, and already they are bringing new ideas and suggestions. To ensure the Club moves forward and provides the best possible experiences for members I believe it is important to bring new people on board who nudge us into trying something different. I am starting my fourth year as President and next year I will definitely hand over to someone new so don’t be shy in coming forward if you think you would like to take it on. Unlike the Commodores of the other Weymouth sailing clubs President of the WPCA is not particularly onerous as we don’t own any property, other than the moorings, which are ably managed by Michael Gregory, we don’t run a race programme or need a duty roster for activities and the various Officers do a splendid job keeping me up to date on various aspects of the Club.

Over the winter we have had a good programme of talks and the Tuesday evenings at Castle Cove continue during the summer when we can have a social drink and chat or compare notes on all aspects of boating. If you are not a “regular” on Tuesday evenings why not come along – it is a great way to get to know fellow members better and Grahame in the bar likes to be kept busy.

We have lost a few members at renewal this year all for good reasons (giving up sailing, health problems etc) but I am pleased to say that we also have some new people joining so if you come across them at the Club or on the water please make them welcome. We are always looking for new members and Chris Reid has produced some flyers which can be handed out to potential members so if you would like some please ask him.

Finally my thanks again go to John Atkinson for putting together the Cruiser magazine and also you, the members, with supplying him with articles. Keep them coming in for the Autumn issue please.

With a wish for fair winds and sunshine I look forward to seeing lots of you on the water this summer.

Sara Lloyd, President