

YBDSA Celebrates Centenary Year

We're extremely proud to be celebrating our Centenary Year throughout 2012. It's incredible to imagine a group of like-minded individuals getting together in 1912 to form an association to set standards for buying and selling vessels for both racing and leisure – yet here we are 100 years on!

1912 was a landmark year for many reasons. Not only did it see the ill-fated maiden voyage



of the Titanic, but also the launch of Hamburg Amera Lines *SS Imperator*, the world's largest ship. Yacht racing was attracting the public's attention, from the beautiful J class yachts to dinghy racing during the 1912 Olympics in Stockholm, and famous designers such as Charles Nicholson were in their heyday. Today,

our associations are still relied upon to maintain the highest professional standards through training, support, interpreting and implementing legislation and ensuring anyone involved in owning, using, buying, selling, maintaining and repairing a vessel receives the highest standards of professional care.

We look forward to welcoming you all at a number of celebratory events planned throughout this special Centenary year.

Wednesday 28th March – Reception at the Glass Works

The first event is open to all current and past members, and will see Tiff Needell unveiling the new President's Board. Many of you will have seen Tiff on the Channel 5 motoring show, Fifth Gear, but won't be aware that his father was Anthony Needell, President of the YBDSA from 1975 -77. Tiff lives near Petersfield and is delighted to be asked to join us for the unveiling! The event will take place from 3 – 6pm, so make sure you save the date in your diary. If you know of any retired members who may like to attend, please let them know the date too. We will be asking you to RSVP before Friday 23rd March, to Kay Greenwood kay@ybdsa.co.uk so we can buy enough bubbly to toast the unveiling!

Saturday 2nd June – Centenary Gala Dinner

The Centenary Gala Dinner will be held at the Royal Thames Yacht Club in Knightsbridge, and promises to be a wonderful evening, open to all members and their partners. The date has been specifically chosen to coincide with the weekend of the Queen's Jubilee Pageant on the Thames. We are also delighted that Ted Spears has been chosen as the Project Manager for the Queen's unique Rowing Barge, and I'm sure we're all looking forward to seeing the completed boat! YDSA member, Ron Heasell, has also been involved in the project, and we hope you have an enjoyable weekend in London (you may want to book accommodation very soon!). We will be sending out a booking form shortly, so make sure you save the date in your diary.

Members' fun day at Goodwood Races

We will be organising a Members fun day at Goodwood Races after the Olympics. This will provide an opportunity for members to get together and enjoy some time in a non-marine arena!

History of the YBDSA

Please let us have any stories or pictures that you may have of YBDSA members and their activities in previous years. Needless to say older material is hard to come by, so if you have any dusty boxes in the attic please spend a Sunday afternoon rummaging through to see what you can find for us! Please send your emails and stories to Jane Gentry, or bring them along on the 28th March.