

ROYAL THAMES YACHT CLUB SYNDICATE

To members of Syndicate who had subscribed

As you have already so kindly contributed to the latest appeal for funds for the 6 Metre "Royal Thames" we are enclosing copies of two letters, which have today been despatched, in order to keep you fully informed regarding the current developments.

H. Neville Blair.

SECRETARY FOR
R.T.Y.C. SYNDICATE 6 METRE SUP-COMMITTEE.

12th January, 1959.

ROYAL THAMES YACHT CLUB

SYNDICATE 6 METRE

To members of Syndicate, who had not subscribed

In the Report on "Royal Thames" for the 1958 season, Syndicate Members were asked to complete a Form by the 4th December, 1958 indicating whether they wished to find the money to fit out "Royal Thames" in 1959 or whether they preferred to sell the boat.

It was estimated that £1,250 should cover her fitting out and racing expenses in 1959 and in addition there was a debit balance of £500 so that in all £1,750 is required if the boat is to continue in 1959.

By the 4th December less than one third of the Members had replied and, therefore, in response to a request from several Members, a further circular was sent out in mid December announcing that, as less than 33% of the 234 Members of the Syndicate had replied, a decision would be postponed until the 31st December to enable Members who had not yet replied to have an opportunity of expressing their views.

A Meeting of The Syndicate Committee was held on the 5th January, 1959 when the following information was made available.

Out of a total of 234 Members, 80 had replied in favour of carrying on and had subscribed an additional total amount of £1,004; two members have offered to subscribe but have not yet intimated the amounts and 20 Members were in favour of selling the boat. It would have helped the Committee immeasurably in making a decision if the remaining 132 Members had indicated in one way or another their views on the future for "Royal Thames" especially as it is evident that by far the greater majority of those that have replied want the boat to continue.

With a fund of only £1,004 the Committee cannot commission "Royal Thames" in 1959 and it has therefore been decided that an up-to-date report of the position, with a final appeal for subscriptions, should be despatched to Syndicate Members and the date for replies extended until the 31st January, 1959.

The Royal Thames Yacht Club has received a Challenge from Norway to sail for The One Ton Cup in 1959 and further Challenges are expected. Whether or not "Royal Thames" is fitted out the Club will be responsible for staging this series of races and although, if sufficient funds become available, it is decided to fit out "Royal Thames", there is of course no guarantee that she will be chosen to defend the Cup.

However, it does not appear likely that any other 6 Metre will be available and the Committee have great confidence in "Royal Thames", with Lt. Col. R S G. Perry at the helm, winning any eliminating trials should this eventually prove necessary.

In the circumstances your Committee feel that it would be a very sad state of affairs if the One Ton Cup was staged in this country without a British entrant. These feelings urge them to make this final appeal for your support to enable them to fit out "Royal Thames" and to facilitate matters we trust you will complete and return the form attached to the foot of this letter.

If sufficient funds are not forthcoming to fit out "Royal Thames" for the summer of 1959 it is proposed to offer the boat for sale immediately. On the other hand if "Royal Thames" is fitted out the Committee would recommend that she is sold on the conclusion of the One Ton Cup races.

H. Neville Blair.
SECRETARY FOR

R.T.Y.C. SYNDICATE 6 METRE SUB-COMMITTEE

12th January, 1959.

To the Secretary of The Royal Thames Yacht Club.

I am. I am not in favour of fitting out "Royal Thames" in 1959.
I enclose cheque for.....

Signed.....

ROYAL THAMES YACHT CLUB

SYNDICATE 6 METRE

To members of Club other than Syndicate

The Syndicate Committee are finding it extremely difficult to raise sufficient funds to fit out "Royal Thames" for the summer of 1959.

Since this Syndicate was formed in 1955 the number of subscribers has steadily increased and now numbers 234 Members of the Royal Thames Yacht Club. Last year this Yacht, steered by Lt.Col.R.S.G. Perry, won the One Ton Cup at Le Havre winning three out of 5 races against the best 6 Metres from Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and France. A Challenge for 1959 has been received from Norway and further Challenges are expected from other countries, so that the Club will be required to stage this series of races on the South Coast at the latter part of the season.

It was estimated that £1,250 should cover her fitting out and racing expenses in 1959 and in addition there was a debit balance of £500 so that in all £1,750 is required if the boat is to continue in 1959. At this date approximately £1,100 has been subscribed.

The Syndicate Committee understandably feels that it would be a very sad state of affairs if the One Ton Cup was raced for in this country without a British Entrant. There is of course no guarantee that "Royal Thames" would be chosen to defend, but it does not appear likely that any other 6 Metre will be available and the Committee have great confidence in "Royal Thames", with Lt.Col.R.S.G. Perry at the helm, winning any eliminating trials should this eventually prove necessary.

If sufficient funds are not forthcoming to fit out "Royal Thames" for the summer of 1959 it is proposed to offer the boat for sale immediately. Furthermore if "Royal Thames" is fitted out the Committee would recommend that she is sold at the conclusion of the One Ton Cup Races.

The Committee send this letter in the hope that you may wish to subscribe a small amount to this fund to enable them to fit out "Royal Thames" and have her ready to meet the challengers.

A donation of £5 from approximately 100 members would provide the necessary funds - but smaller donations would naturally be welcome.

H. Neville Blair
SECRETARY FOR
R.T.Y.C. Syndicate 6 Metre Sub-Committee

12th January, 1959