

MAINSHEET



ROYAL CHANNEL ISLANDS YACHT CLUB (GUERNSEY) LBG

April 2014

Dates for your Diary

Fri 4 Apr	Sea Shanty Night
Sat 5 Apr	Heritage Frostbite Series Race (Race 7)
Sat 5 Apr	Grand National Sweepstake
Sun 6 Apr	Oxford & Cambridge Boat Race
Wed 9 Apr	Winter Talk: Rigging
Wed 16 Apr	Curry Lunch
Sun 27 Apr	"Sunday Lunch"
Tue 29 Apr	Film Night

Please check the website (www.rciyc.com) and Notice Board for details of these events.

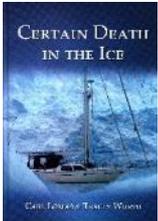
Commodore's Log

Dear Member

We have, at last, experienced a touch of spring; the boats are up and the yards are a hive of activity with everyone dreaming of cruising afar in summer climes.

Since I last wrote in February the Club has also been very busy. We held a successful Dinner Dance at the Cobo Bay Hotel. While we were looked after very well, it is not the best venue for such an event as the room has too many pillars making it impossible for everyone to see. Still, we are planning to return to the Farmhouse next year. It was a great pleasure to welcome RCIYC members, Carl Lomas, Tracey Worth and their children, Caitland and Morgause, to talk about their horrendous ordeal in the South

Atlantic after their boat hit ice 'growlers' and sank in the South Atlantic. Tracey presented the trophies which celebrated skipper and crew successes, and failure (Guffin Rock), in 2013. The evening ended with me falling into bad company and missing breakfast the next morning!



Carl, Tracey and their daughters gave a superb talk the following Tuesday, (see Dave Herschel's report). They were incredibly lucky to survive their experience in the South Atlantic. They left us some copies of their book 'Certain Death in the Ice' which recounts their experiences, and which are on sale in the Club house.

David Mitchison and the crew of *Calypso* gave a well-attended talk, at the beginning of March, concerning their experience preparing for, and taking part in, the Atlantic Rally for Cruisers. It really whetted the appetite for long distance cruising. I cannot believe that Dino cut his finger on a flying fish!



The Fitting Out Supper was another success, although we could have done with greater numbers. All those who attended enjoyed a well prepared 3 course meal of delicious French onion soup, duck, and lemon tart cooked by Andrew Taylor (Tailor Made Catering).

On the 18 March we had a new experience at the Club - a film night with a showing of 'The Riddle of the Sands', starring Michael York, Jenny Agutter and Simon McCorkindale. The film, made in 1979, was set in the Frisian Islands, North Germany before WW1 - excellent plot with beautiful old boats although Jenny Agutter's German accent left a bit to be desired. Also I cannot imagine my crew dressing for dinner aboard.



This year, like last, the AGM was well supported with 44 members attending and the reports from the year were well received. A number of the members also enjoyed a good meal at Da Bruno's downstairs.

The Heritage Frostbite series of races continue. We have just completed race six, although one race was lost to the weather. It continues to be an exciting event with lots of buzz afterwards at the Club with real ale, salty chat and super hotdogs.

Although we showed the six nations rugby competition at the Club it was not well supported, but that will not put us off as we have the Grand National and the Boat Race to look forward to! We will be holding a sweepstake in the bar on 5th April before the race then we will watch the race on the big screen and hand out the winnings before everyone goes home. We will also be open for the Boat race on Sunday 6th April - details are on the website.



Come and sing your heart out on Friday 4th April, with David Herschel, guitar and vocals, and Ken Wheeler, vocals, and guests. The evening will take the usual format, song sheets, and pizzas (£6 per head). We will start straight after the Meat Draw at 1930 hours.

I would like to thank all those who work hard to make these events possible.

I hope the next time I write this log we will be back in the water.

Stuart Crisp
Commodore
MV Strider
crispscrisp@aol.com

Welcome to New Members

We look forward to meeting the following new members who have joined the club. Our congratulations go to:

Chris Gamble
Caitlin Perrett

Lunch at the Club

Lunch is available at the Club every day except Sunday.

Please go to <http://www.rciyc.com/about-us/lunch/> for details.

Social Scene - Forthcoming Events

Friday 4 April - Sea Shanty Night



There will be musicians, including Gerry Cobb who used to sing with Jenkin's Ear, and song sheets. We will be singing old familiar songs and learning some new ones.

The idea is that everyone can join in and it is not important to be able to sing - just enthusiastic!

We will start at 20:00 hours after the Meat Draw.

Pizza is available at £6 per head. In order that we know how many to cater for please add your name to the list on the Notice Board, email Carolyn at rciyc@cwgsy.net, or telephone Carolyn on 723154 or Michael on 725500 so that you can be added to the list.

Saturday 5 April - Grand National Sweepstake



We will be holding a sweepstake in the bar before the race and will then watch the race on the big screen. The winnings will be handed out before everyone goes home. The bar will be open all afternoon and the race starts at 4.15 p.m.

For full details go to: <http://www.rciyc.com/news/grand-national-draw-saturday-5-april/>

Sunday 6 April - Oxford & Cambridge Boat Race



Come and watch the Boat Race on the big screen. The Oxford and Cambridge Society are also going to be in the club watching the boat race which should make for a lively atmosphere!

The Bar will be open from 4.00 p.m. with jugs of Pimm's available.

BBC Race coverage starts at 4.30 p.m. with the actual race at 5.55 p.m.

Wednesday 9 April - Winter Talk: Rigging



Simon Hall, who has recently been appointed as the Rigging Administrator at Boatworks+, will be giving an illustrated talk covering all things rigging, what to look out for, and improvements that can be made. This has to be of interest to any yacht owner whether cruiser or racer.

The bar will open at 7.30 p.m. with the talk commencing at 8.00 p.m.

Wednesday 16 April - Curry Lunch



Curry Lunch provided by the "Taj Mahal". 12.30 p.m. for 1.00 p.m. £11.00. In order that we know how many to cater for please add your name to the list on the Notice Board or email Carolyn at rciyc@cwgsy.net, or telephone Carolyn on 723154 or Michael on 725500.

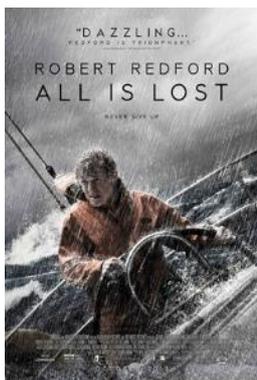
Sunday 27 April - "Sunday Lunch"



A date for your diary - details to follow.

Tuesday 29 April - Film Night

Come & enjoy a film and a drink. The Bar will be open from 7.30 p.m. with the film starting at 8.00 p.m. There is no charge but it would be appreciated if you would add your name to the list on the Notice Board to ensure that everybody can be seated properly. Alternatively please e mail Carolyn at rciyc@cwgsy.net, or telephone Carolyn on 723154 or Michael on 725500 so that you can be added to the list.



All is Lost.....

Deep into a solo voyage in the Indian Ocean, an unnamed man wakes to find his 39-foot yacht taking on water after a collision with a shipping container left floating on the high seas.

With his navigation equipment and radio disabled, the man sails unknowingly into the path of a violent storm. Despite his success in patching the breached hull, his mariner's intuition, and a strength that belies his age, the man barely survives the tempest.

Using only a sextant and nautical maps to chart his progress, he is forced to rely on ocean currents to carry him into a shipping lane in hopes of hailing a passing vessel. But with the sun unrelenting, sharks circling and his meagre supplies dwindling, the ever-resourceful sailor soon finds himself staring his mortality in the face.

Social Scene - Past Events

Saturday 8 February - 59th Annual Dinner, Dance & Prize giving

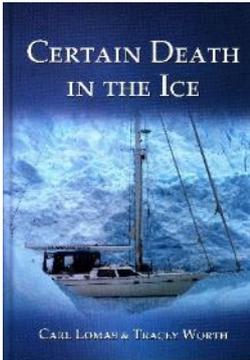


120 Members and Guests enjoyed a successful Dinner at the Cobo Bay Hotel.

For photos of the event please go to:

<http://www.rciyc.com/social/event-reports-2014/>

Tuesday 11 February - Winter Talk: The loss of an Oyster 51



In May 2010 Carl Lomas MBE and Professor Tracey Worth and their teenage daughters Caitland and Morgause were sailing their Oyster 51 "Hollinsclough Oyster" 300 miles north-east of South Georgia when they struck a low-lying iceberg.

Approximately 20 members and guests were privileged to listen to RCIYC Guernsey member Carl's talk, supported by Tracey and Caitland & Morgause, detailing how they struggled to keep their yacht afloat until HMS Clyde steamed into view.

Carl & Tracey's book "Certain Death in the Ice" is on sale in the Club and is well worth a read.

For a full report on the talk go to the following page.

Saturday 15 Feb - Fitting Out Supper



For more photos of the event please go to:
<http://www.rciyc.com/social/event-reports-2014/>

Wednesday 26 Feb - Pasta Lunch



21 members enjoyed Enzo's famous pasta lunch (with cheese & biscuits) and all for only £10.

If you have not experienced one of these excellent lunches you are really missing something. Hopefully there will be another in the not too distant future.

Tuesday 4 March - Winter Talk: The ARC



30+ members and guests attended an illustrated talk lead by past Commodore and skipper of 'Calypso' David Mitchison covering the preparations for the ARC & the ARC itself. John Frankland supported David with Phil Ball and Dino Castro chipping in on occasion.

The talk was scheduled to last 1 hour but such was the interest and the number of questions at the end it took almost 2 hours.

Winter Talk: The loss of an Oyster 51

Like most of the evening events that the Club has put on over the winter, the weather on the night of the Lomas family's presentation was shocking, so the number of members in attendance was perhaps understandably a little disappointing, but all those who did attend were treated to a remarkable hour and a half which felt like a roller coaster ride. Between them Carl and Tracey, and their young daughters Caitland and Morgause, told the story of their incredible voyages together, and of the ultimate demise of their beloved yacht, in such a way that we were all captivated.

Carl Lomas MBE and Professor Tracey Worth have been RCIYC members for many years, although they live on the mainland, and had not visited Guernsey since the beginning of their epic journey. They were delighted to be asked to come over to speak at the annual dinner, and very generously refused to allow the club to pay for any of their expenses. Whilst on the island they also did a presentation evening for the Girl Guides, an organisation with which Tracey and her daughters have been involved for many years, and caught up with old friends. They were also very pleased to be able to do the "technical" version of their talk, which they reserve for audiences who have a reasonable knowledge of sailing and yachts.

The first part of the talk was all very jolly, with all the family taking it in turns to recall details and anecdotes of the years they spent living aboard their Oyster yacht, exploring all over the Atlantic Ocean, and spending lots of time in South America. There were plenty of interesting and amusing photographs depicting everything from shipwrecks to penguin encounters, repairing a church steeple using their tools and spares, and attending school and parties in some of the remotest places on Earth, to name but a few. The most striking aspect of this section was the emphasis they placed on the people they met along the way, and the fondness with which they remembered them. Little did we know at this stage how many of these seemingly random people had played a crucial role in saving the Lomas family's lives later on.

The yacht was lost when she struck a small chunk of iceberg at night in the South Atlantic, far to the North of where the ice was expected to extend. Most of us had learnt this much and more when we listened to Carl's speech at the dinner. What was fascinating about the more detailed account was the way in which the family and their supporters around the world worked together. At first this meant taking measurements inside the breeched hull, to ascertain how quickly the yacht was taking on water. Carl was in constant contact by email via satellite with the Oyster yard back in the UK. The engineers there were able to calculate with incredible accuracy what time the yacht would sink, and what the family could do to try to extend this. However, the news was not good. They were given less than 24 hours, with the nearest ships on the AIS system several days away. Of course they had liferafts, but they had been told that they could only survive for a matter of a few hours in such low temperatures. Therefore the family faced what they considered to be a certainty: that they would die together in the freezing waters of the South Atlantic.

Whilst it was fascinating to hear more about the actions they took during this dark period of the story, we knew that the story had a happy ending. Essentially the Lomas family were then given the news that HMS Clyde was in the area on manoeuvres, and was proceeding towards their position at full speed, with an ETA just a few hours after the yacht was expected to sink. So it was that hope sprang from hopelessness, and the family sprang into action to maximise their chances of survival. They cut the intake pipes to the two sea toilets, which were by now completely submerged. This allowed the flush pumps to become back-up pumps to the boat's main bilge pump system, which was fighting a losing battle despite pumping at maximum rate. Whilst taking it in turns to man the toilet pumps, they ran around down below, packing a few essential items to take with them, and ditching much of the rest overboard in an attempt to reduce the weight of the stricken vessel.

Thanks to this incredible effort, Carl and his family were able to prolong inevitable foundering of their treasured yacht until HMS Clyde was on the scene. The tale of the rescue itself was pretty thought-provoking for any of us who sail more than a few miles from our home port, and the emotional journey from certain death to eventual rescue that was woven together for us was very moving. The yacht sank just a few minutes after the family abandoned her to the ocean, and their last action was to take down the blue ensign of the RCIYC.

We are very grateful to Lomas family for coming over to the island to share their amazing story with us. For any members interested in reading more, several copies of their incredible book, "Certain Death in the Ice", are available to buy in the Clubhouse.



After the talk Carl and Tracey, and Caitland and Morgause, presented the Club with a framed picture of "Oyster Hollingsclough". The ensign pictured is the one taken off the yacht just before it sank.



Also after the talk Caitland and Morgause were presented with their Junior powerboat level 2 and ICC certificates by the Commodore.

Sailing



Heritage Frostbite Series

Race 4 - Saturday 22nd February

Conditions were calm with a 10 to 15 knot breeze - a marked improvement on the previous race day on which appalling conditions forced organisers to cancel the event. The flood tide later in the day created some interesting challenges for the crews, particularly around Brehon Tower, which only added to the excitement of some closely fought battles for position.

Seven yachts took part in the racer class and the two-lap course took them from the QE II Marina to Brehon Tower with the finish line just off Castle Cornet. Kaya continued her dominance of the series taking first place in the class ahead of Mustard Mitt with only two minutes separating them once the handicap and correction factors had been applied. Kaya now enjoys a 10-point lead in the series.



Enigma

Heritage's Mark Huntley had a good day, taking the honours in the cruiser class in his Mystery 35 Enigma by a margin of a mere 30 seconds over David Herschel's Bunbury. However, Bunbury still sits in first place, three points ahead of Enigma in the overall results table.

The prize giving took place in the Club following the race.

Race 5 - Saturday 8th March

Weather conditions set certain challenges for the fifth race in the Heritage Frostbite race series last Saturday.

The race courses set for this race were fairly long with the racer class following a route that took the boats south of Jethou and the cruisers (unusually) having three downwind legs. These caused certain difficulties in the strong winds and several crews who opted to raise spinnakers had some trouble controlling them.

Competition in the cruiser class is certainly hotting up. Enigma, skippered by Heritage's Mark Huntley, has now taken the overall lead following what was described as a flawless race on Saturday beating Dave Aslett's Carpe Diem by just a few seconds. The fight for top spot is between these two and last year's winner Dave Herschel who had a strong start on Saturday in Bunbury, but lost valuable time with a mis-rounding of the Vivian mark.

The racer class still seems to be a 'two horse race' between Blackjack and Kaya who are now tied in first spot after Blackjack's success on Saturday. They enjoy a comfortable lead over others in this class on the overall results tables. Blue J'Ade (Aden Clark) and Banjaard (John Falla) also had a good day on Saturday coming third and fourth respectively and zooming up the table.

Heritage's Gordon Wilson - who took fourth in the cruiser class - is delighted with how the series is panning out:

'The results of The Heritage Frostbite series to date ably demonstrate that consistency of results is key to winning overall. Competition amongst skippers and crew is keen. This coupled with experience and teamwork aboard the yachts will differentiate the winners. It has been a very enjoyable and successful series so far.'

The next and final race in this seven race series is on 5th April.

For full Race Results & Overall Positions to date please go to <http://www.rciyc.com/racing/results-reports-2014/>

Finally, to view photographs of all Races to date go to <http://frostbite.gg/gallery>



Nashcopy Passage Race Series

Male Uprising Guernsey Shorthanded Sub Class Series

Clive Le Tissier from Nashcopy have kindly agreed that Male Uprising Guernsey (MUG) can sponsor a sub class for short handed sailors in the upcoming Nashcopy Passage Race Series.

This serves to develop the Short handed Class introduced by the Club last year where boats with two or less crew can compete for the main prizes within the traditional Passage Race Series and against other short handed boats for the MUG Sub Class.

Members may recall that the Short Handed Class allow for boats with 2 or less crew per boat and children under the age of 11 do not count as crew members. This class was introduced to encourage the Husband and Wife teams out there, along with their children, to race with the Club in the ever popular Nashcopy Passage Race series and it also opens up the opportunity for the racing boats that are short of crew on the day, and which would otherwise stay ashore, to still compete. Boats can migrate between the fully crewed and short handed classes and only need to declare their short handed status with their text time declaration.

Each winner of the MUG Short Handed Class will receive a ceramic Mug and the overall winner will win a MUG Hoodie and Shirt.

The inclusion of the sponsorship by MUG will also create the opportunity to raise awareness of male cancers and the need for men to check out concerns they may have.

Cruising sailors are all welcome to join this fantastic series with courses set amongst our beautiful Islands. The "racing" element is less intense if your approach allows it to be and you can treat it as a passage sail against the clock. It also allows you to sail in the company of other members with great joviality and cocktail snacks in the Clubhouse afterwards.

David Aslett

Rear Commodore (Sail)



ADVERT!



Boatworks+ Ltd have recently employed a new Rigging Administrator to deal with rigging, sailing and technical enquiries.

We would like to introduce him to you and invite you to direct your enquiries about upgrades or replacements to him.

My name is Simon Hall and I have recently moved back to the island after spending the last 3 years away working in the UK. My time away was spent working and training at North Sails UK Ltd, gaining the necessary experience to become a sailmaker.

During my time at North Sails UK I gained a vast amount of experience in the technical elements of sail performance. This included rig tuning, sail modification and sail shape, and the correct choice of deck and sail hardware to maximise the performance of the sail plan. This also involved working on many big campaign projects such as RAN Racing with their TP 52 in the Med Cup, a Judel Vrolijk designed 72 foot Mini Maxi for offshore trophies and the Volvo Open 70 campaign of Abu Dhabi Ocean Racing through to solo projects such as Alex Thompson with Hugo Boss Ocean Racing in the 2012/13 Vendee Globe, solo non-stop round the world boat experience I worked on the Quarter Tonne circuit and

Previous to this role at North Sails and spent many years teaching sailing Sailing Trust and the Guernsey Yacht and keelboats. I also spent many around the Channel Islands and in the mid range yachts.



As well as this big everything right down to keelboat racing scene.

UK, I was locally based through the Guernsey Club, in both dinghies years yacht racing Solent on a vast range of

In my new role as Rigging Sales Administrator at Boatworks+ Ltd, I can offer the knowledge of my past experience and advise you on your rigging requirements with upgrades you may wish to purchase for your yacht in order to make things simpler if short-handed, or faster and lighter with less friction if performance and racing is key

to your needs, or simply more modern if you wish to upgrade and replace your old equipment onboard.

As the Selden Regional Centre for the Channel Islands, Boatworks+ Ltd. stocks and can provide technical support for the Selden range of rigging products. This includes upgrades to existing systems or new product fittings. Selden products provide a quality, cost effective and time proven range of equipment which led to Selden becoming the top rigging and deck hardware manufacturer in the UK market in 2013. The vast range includes masts, rigging systems, booms, spinnaker poles, gennaker bowsprits, pole storage, rodkickers, headsail and spinnaker furling systems, blocks, hydraulics, winches, travellers, self-tackers, mainsheet systems and organisers. These products are available for dinghies, keelboats and yachts in aluminium and carbon fibre.

Any questions or queries please do not hesitate to get in contact with me, either by coming by the chandlery on the Castle Emplacement, or by emailing me at info@boatworksquernsey.com.

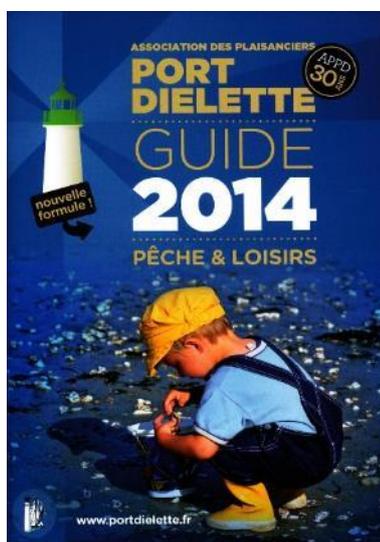


Like us on facebook "Boatworks+ Ltd"

See you on the water!

Dielette Guide

Thanks to overseas member Adrian Pogson, who berths his yacht "Ban Druidh" in Dielette, there is a small stock of Guides available in the Club. First come.....



Jubilee Sailing Trust



JUBILEE SAILING TRUST
changing lives

ADVERT!

Dear Sir/Madam,

I hope you don't mind the direct approach, but I am writing to you on behalf of a charity called The Jubilee Sailing Trust (JST) (www.jst.org.uk). We are a UK-based organisation that owns and operates the only two tall ships in the world that were designed and built to enable all physical abilities to go sailing.

Both of our ships, Tenacious and Lord Nelson, sail all around the world, and on board our magnificent, fully accessible tall ships, everybody gets the chance to participate in all aspects of running the ship - from setting the sails and helming the ship to climbing aloft and taking a watch. Since the charity's inception 35 years ago our philosophy has been that life should be about equality, sharing and celebrating our individual differences and working together to achieve greater things.

Currently, Lord Nelson - who has just sailed around Cape Horn, and is the first fully accessible vessel to accomplish this - is in Argentina. Her sister Tenacious is sunning herself in the Mediterranean and will be heading home in the spring to get ready to take part in the fantastic Tall Ships Races in July. Please click [here](#) to see more details about their upcoming voyages.

We would be most grateful if you could promote our voyages to your yacht club members and have 3 requests:-

1. Please could you put these details in your newsletter and forward this email on to your members with the link to our flyer. We're offering a fantastic **10% discount** on all of our voyages to all yacht club members - all they need to do is quote code **YC10** when booking
2. Please also click [here](#) to find a downloadable version of our yacht clubs poster for you to put up on your noticeboard
3. We'd also love to come and present to your members personally so if this is a possibility, please let me know

If you have any further questions please email me benedict.placidi@jst.org.uk or call me on 023 8042 6841.

Many thanks for your help,

Best regards,

Ben

Benedict Placidi | Sales Executive

Jubilee Sailing Trust, Hazel Road, Southampton, SO19 7GA

Tel: 023 8042 6849 | Email: benedict.placidi@jst.org.uk | Web: www.jst.org.uk

Please help support our '**Your Ships Need You**' online appeal. Please click [here](#)

The Jubilee Sailing Trust promotes the integration of physically disabled and able-bodied people through the medium of tall ship sailing.

Winner of the MCA/ASTO Sail Training Vessel of the Year 2013/14

Winner of the International Sail Training Organisation of the Year 2009

'Mainsheet'

Contributions from members are very welcome so please share your sailing experiences and exploits with us.

Phil Ball

Committee Member

Please contact me via Club email rciyc[at]cwgsy.net or telephone 723154.

Club Opening Hours

	High Season (2014) 5 May - 7 Sept	Low Season (2013/14) 9 Sept - 4 May
Weekdays - Lunch	1100 - 1400	1130 - 1400
Weekdays - Evening	1800 - 2200	CLOSED
Fridays - Lunch	1100 - 1400	1130 - 1400
Fridays - Evening	1800 - 2200	1800 - 2200
Saturdays - Lunch	1100 - 1430	1130 - 1430
Saturdays - Evening	1800 - 2200	CLOSED
Sundays - Lunch	1200 - 1400	CLOSED
Sundays - Evening	1800 - 2200	CLOSED

Any changes to these hours will be advised by email and updated on the website and Club Notices

Club Contact Details

Secretary: Carolyn Clark

Tel: (01481) 723154

Email: rciyc[at]cwgsy.net

Steward: Mike Blaney

Tel: (01481) 725500

Website: www.rciyc.com

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Royal-Channel-Islands-Yacht-Club-Guernsey-LBG/110840218982984>

We can also be found on Twitter - search for "@RCIYC"

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Company Number: 48365

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the views of RCIYC