

MAINSHEET



ROYAL CHANNEL ISLANDS YACHT CLUB (GUERNSEY)

December 2010

Dates for your Diary

Fri 17th December: RCIYC Christmas Party 1830 hours

Fri 24th December: Christmas Draw 1230 hours

Sat 1st January: Ladies' Day 1130 hours

Sat 15th January: Heritage Frostbite Series starts

Sat 29th January: Dinner Dance and Prizegiving 1900 for 1930 hrs
At The Farmhouse Hotel

Thu 3rd March: AGM 1800 hours at The Duke Of Richmond Hotel

(See below for the 'Tuesday Lunches' programme)

Commodore's Log

Dear Member

Winter is upon us with a vengeance! Since my last Newsletter we have had the "New Members' Cocktail Party" on 6th October. It went extremely well. One could say we had a full house. I should like to thank Anne Marie Mitchison, Christine Lewis, Carolyn Clark, Julie Ball and Becky Diacono for providing such excellent canapés.

The "Laying-up Supper" on 23rd October was also fully subscribed. The Hotel Hougue du Pommier provided a very good meal that everybody thoroughly enjoyed. It was great to see so many of you having a lovely time.

My thanks to John Frankland for organising a very successful "Jazz Evening" on 3rd November. The John Spencer Set, consisting of a

drummer, two guitarists and a saxophonist, entertained the guests from 7.30pm to 11.30pm. During the interval Christine and Anne Marie offered a delicious Chili con Carne that everyone very much enjoyed.

The "Tuesday Lunches" are still very popular in spite of the fact that I cook the pasta. I am pleased to report that, to date, nobody has suffered any ill effects! Normally the Taj Mahal Restaurant has provided the curries, but soon you will be treated to David Mitchison's home made curries that, I am sure, will be even better than the Taj Mahal's.

I am looking forward to seeing you at the RNLI and CIAS cocktail party on 24th November at 18.30 when, once again, our catering team will be providing canapés and nibbles to their usual high standard.

I shall not be able to attend all the other events organised by the Club because I shall be away from our lovely island from the first week in December to the 26th January 2011. (I am visiting my family in New Zealand).

I should like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support in making our Club so special and would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Very Happy and Prosperous 2011.

Enzo Diacono
(Commodore)

Welcome to New Members

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

John Razzak & Anne Wildeman

Communications



We can now be found on both Twitter and Facebook. This will assist in notifying members of any new events. We also envisage that it could be used by members to advertise crew availability or need. Please click the "like" button on Facebook after you have clicked on the link below:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Royal-Channel-Islands-Yacht-Club-Guernsey-LBG/110840218982984>. We can also be found on Twitter - search for "@RCIYC"

Ultimately both these forums will be incorporated on our website (which is also due to be renewed in the near future).

Social Scene

Forthcoming Events

Fri 17th December: RCIYC Christmas Party 1830 hours

Please bring a present under £10 for the tombola, if you wish to take part, and Christmas goodies (sausage rolls, mince pies, etc.) to share.

Sat 1st January 2011: Ladies' Day 1130 hours

All lady members invited to join David Mitchison, Vice Commodore, for a glass or two of bubbly at the Clubhouse.

Sat 29th January: Dinner Dance and Prizegiving 1900 for 1930 hrs At The Farmhouse Hotel - Details to follow.

'Tuesday Lunches':

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 30 th November | Pasta Lunch (£10) |
| 7 th December | Curry Lunch (£11) |
| 14 th December | Bangers & Mash Lunch (£5) |

Bookings: Please sign the list on the Notice board or contact Carolyn.

Winter Talks

We are planning a series of evening talks starting in the New Year - details to follow.

Reports

Jazz Evening, Wednesday November 3rd 2010

Jazz at the Royal - what a fantastic evening of live music it was. In the company of Louis Armstrong, Ella Fitzgerald and King Oliver - albeit in poster form - the RCIYC was changed from Yacht Club to Jazz Club where a large gathering of members and friends enjoyed the experience and atmosphere.



The 'John Spencer Set', a quartet not unknown to many of our members, provided the music and played almost non-stop, many of the old jazz favourites as well as the early dance band tunes. It all sounded great - live music that was entertaining and not ear shattering! Bryn Timms played tenor sax and clarinet, Dave Parfitt guitar and vocals, Richard Keyho on bass and John Spencer himself on drums. What a great line-up and with so much experience - Bryn has been in the Big Band scene for years and has played alongside many of the big names in jazz, Dave and Richard are great favourites in local jazz and John, an ex trombonist turned drummer, also a Big Band stalwart.

And that's not all! The three jazzy ladies of the Committee, namely Christine, Anne-Marie and Julie, provided a wonderful Chilli and Rice supper which seemed to add to the whole atmosphere - it was hot jazz and hot food - and lots of it! There was even an impromptu prize draw - just for being there!

Many thanks to the organisers and, of course, to everyone who turned out on a damp November evening to chill out with some easy listening jazz. We have to do it again!

Cruising

Cruising Roundup

As we all start to plan the winter maintenance on our boats after a good summer season, I would like to reflect on the RCIYC cruising year. Over all it has been an interesting year with some disappointments, some interesting challenges and some good fun.

The season kicked off with a huge disappointment as force 7 northerly winds wrecked the cruise to Le Légué over the May Day bank holiday. At the traditional Thursday night briefing skippers and crew stood around in a circle, heads bowed willing the weather to change, but I had to make the hardest decision of the year by calling off the event. Nos amis a L'Association Nautique Du Légué were saddened by not being able to meet up with their old friends. We were under the misapprehension that L'Association Nautique Du Légué would call off the celebrations but in true French style they decided to call in their friends and family to swell the numbers. However a few of us did make it; Ian and Barbara McEwen were already safely moored up in Le Légué aboard Lily before the tempest. Pat and David Evans travelled by Ferry and car. Martin and Christine Lewis were in France somewhere trying to find the party! While I, in a mad fit of guilt and Spring fever, decided at the last minute to catch the ferry and cycle the 60 miles from St Malo to St Brieuc. The club turned out into the street to welcome me like the winner of the final stage of the Tour de France.



While we were there they treated us like royalty. They gave us 'Pierre'



'Pierre'

who now graces a corner of our club house. I know we are all looking forward to welcoming the ANL back to Guernsey next year.

Next was a visit to our sister Island and sister club over 18/19/20 June. I chose a neap tide for a weekend cruise to St Aubins. This made travel on the Friday a bit difficult for those who were working. So I booked a large space on the layby pontoon, enough space for 10 boats on 10 to 12 metres. Sarah and I arrived on the Friday evening and moored up in this huge space in 6.7 metres of Bilbo, while other visiting boats were 5 and 6 deep at the far end of the pontoon, only to discover that the rest of the cruise had either arrived early and caught the sill to the marina or were already at St Aubin, like Carol and Roland Guille in Cygonie, or were travelling the next day. As St Aubin is a drying harbour only boats that can take the bottom could stay, but I am pleased to report that 6 boats made it, even if Jean-Pierre was legless for a while! The remaining boats remained in St Helier, which is not problematic with a good, regular, and most importantly a late bus service. We all had an excellent meal at the RCIYC Club House restaurant with some good company, ex and present Commodores.



After this success, on the 9/10 July, we followed up with a magical round the Island cruise with an exotic over night stay at Beaucette Marina - if you haven't done it don't knock it. The skippers and crews, of Cygonie, Jean-Pierre, Altar, Greta, Siesta, and Eclipse all clubbed together to provide food and drink for a pontoon party that lasted till the early hours. Thanks to Ricky for the extra bottles.



Even so we were up bright and early to set off. We called into Albecq, anchoring off to enjoy lunch and to celebrate Jane Smithies' Birthday. Sarah Crisp and Roland Guille were the only swimmers. John Frankland then led us duckling like round Lihou past L'Eree and nipple rock, which was hard to find on such a warm day, to Portlet for coffee then to the Hanois Lighthouse - as close as I had ever been. Finally along the south coast and a cold beer anchored in the familiar waters of Fermain, then home.



'Eclipse' & 'Altair'

Then the big one, the Diéllette Rally with nearly 40 skippers and crew, all vying for the glass trophies provided by Clegg Gifford, sponsors of the weekend. The quiz was the usual challenge. I am always convinced I have full marks but never seem to win a trophy, still family hold back! As usual the meal at Le Phare was a very Breton affair with the mid meal large glass of calvados. This year instead of drinks at Le Raz Blanchard we held a garden party with boules - which was a great success.

And to the last voyage of the year - the Beaucette cruise which this year was not as long as usual, due to the weather! At the briefing with our heads bowed willing for good weather we decided to stay on our berths and hold the planned barbeque in the club house. So we ended the cruising year as we began it, being blown away but like Le Légue we had a good party with some good company and good friends.



Le Calvados



Le Phare

I have to end this piece in the traditional way by thanking those who have helped to put the cruises together, to John Frankland for his navigational skills and boating knowledge, every year I learn more, to Sarah who does more than just support each event, to Carol and Rol for the lamb at Beaucette, Jane Smithies for the Round the Island write up and finally for the enthusiasm of the skippers and crews of all the boats, both sail and motor, that have taken part in the cruises of 2010.

I hope you are looking forward to the next cruising season. I know I am. We have more cruises planned including one to Les Écréhous so if you weren't there this year be there next year.

Stuart Crisp
Rear Commodore

Sailing



The 2010 sailing season is drawing to a close and the Club racing season has finished. The past season has again been well supported despite a broad range of weather conditions ranging from gales, rain and fog to flat calm waters.

Planning for the 2011 racing season has already started and particular attention is being given to identifying ways of improving the racing experience of boats and crews.

First on the calendar is the Frostbite Series. The Heritage Group has again kindly agreed to sponsor the event. The Notice of Race and Entrance form are available at the Club or can be downloaded from the website at www.rciyc.com

Format of the series is similar to years gone past. The 6 races are scheduled over neap tides to allow boats to both exit and re-enter the marinas before and after a race. Complimentary hotdogs will be followed by a prize giving after each race. The dates for the races are as follows:

| <u>Race</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Start time</u> | <u>High Water</u> | | |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|--|
| | | | <u>Time</u> | <u>Height</u> | |
| 1 | Saturday 15 th January | 13.00 | 14.28 | 6.8 | <u>Please Note:</u> Starts will not be delayed for boats which are late due to tidal conditions. |
| 2 | Saturday 29 th January | 13.00 | 14.47 | 6.9 | |
| 3 | Saturday 12 th February | 10.30 | 11.59 | 6.7 | |
| 4 | Saturday 26 th February | 11.00 | 12.39 | 6.7 | |
| 5 | Saturday 12 th March | 10.00 | 10.26 | 7.3 | |
| 6 | Saturday 26 th March | 10.00 | 11.00 | 7.3 | |

If there are any skippers out there, without any racing experience, that would like to participate in this series (or indeed any of the other series hosted by the Club), daunted by the term "racing", please do contact me

to allow me the opportunity to clear any misgivings about racing you may have.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Sir Fabian Malbon, on the recent relaunch of his boat, "Maddie", after an extensive refit, completed by Boatworks+



Ray Redelinghuys
Rear Commodore (Sail)
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Christmas Shopping (!)



A few ideas for presents:

RCIYC Regalia

| | |
|---|--|
|  |  |
| Cufflinks £15.00 | Ladies Brooch £6.50 |
|  |  |
| Sweat Shirt £31.50 | Polo Shirt £25.00 |

Also Blazer Badges & Buttons, Bow Ties (Made-up & Self Tie), Cumberbunds, Club Ties, Burgees & Ensigns, Rugby Shirts, Sweaters etc. are available from the Club.

RNLI (www.rnli.org.gg)

The RNLI is the charity that saves lives at sea



The Lifeboat Shop is in the Clocktower at St. Sampson and is open on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10am to noon, selling lifeboat souvenirs, Christmas cards, calendars, diaries etc. and some second-hand books.

"Mostly Books", supporting the Lifeboat, Samaritans and Actionaid, also has Christmas cards for the 3 charities but is Guernsey's only second-hand bookshop. Situated at 24 Fountain Street, it is open from 11.30 to 1.30 Mondays to Fridays and from 10am to 1.30 pm on Saturdays.

Brian Green, Tony Rive and Paul Wiggins have produced another fantastic Guernsey Lifeboat calendar, available from the shops mentioned above and, together with Christmas cards, from the Harbour Office, Seafresh and Quayside Marine.

[A small selection of RNLI Christmas Cards are available from the Club](#)

'Mainsheet'

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

Julie Ball - please contact me via Club email/telephone.

Hopefully your experiences are nothing like this:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aBsA3wa50GE&feature=related>

(Thanks to John Frankland for the contribution)

Club Opening Hours (Winter Season)

Weekdays: 1130 - 1400

Fridays only: 1130 - 1400 & 1800 - 2200

Saturdays: 1130 - 1430

Sundays: CLOSED

Club Contact Details

Secretary: Carolyn Clark

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