

MAINSHEET



ROYAL CHANNEL ISLANDS YACHT CLUB (GUERNSEY) LBG

February 2014

Dates for your Diary

Sat 22 Feb	Heritage Frostbite Series Race
Sat 22 Feb	RBS Six Nations
Wed 26 Feb	Pasta Lunch
Tues 4 Mar	ARC Presentation
Thurs 6 Mar	AGM in the Club
Thurs 6 Mar	AGM Dinner
Sat 8 Mar	Heritage Frostbite Series Race
Sat 15 Mar	Fitting Out Supper
Tue 18 Mar	Film Night

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

Commodore's Log

Dear Member

The New Year has started with an interesting 'bang' for me! For those of you who have not heard, I fell off my bicycle on 20th January and broke my collarbone and cracked my pelvis, so I am out of action for a while. It is really frustrating as I have things to do!

Apart from that, I hope that you all had a brilliant Christmas and a better start to the New Year than me.

The Christmas party went particularly well thanks to Dave Herschel, who organised it, and all the volunteers who pitched in by bringing and/or making food, and generally helping out. I really enjoyed Dave's Christmas Lunch bruschetta - turkey with all the trimmings, very original. The Grand Christmas Draw was very good this year thanks to the generosity of members and M&G and Boat Works +. We raised £212 which has been given to CIAS.

Ladies Day, according to Carolyn, was the best attended for a number of years. About 30 or so female members enjoyed the gender advantage to sup free fizz. However, one or two males did try to muscle in early - apparently there was some confusion over times!

Congratulations go to David Mitchison, Phil Ball, Dino Castro, and John Frankland in "Calypso" who along with other RCIYC members Alan Richards in "Far Fetched" and Nick and Carol Renny aboard "Jambo" completed the ARC just before Christmas. David and his crew will be giving a talk about their voyage at the Club on 4 March, definitely one not to miss.

Towards the end of last year Carolyn Stolling gave the Club a special gift of a RCIYC sampler, which had taken her hours and hours of work. It is now on display in the Club - Thank you, Carolyn.



The 2014 sailing season is underway with the fantastic Heritage Frostbite series setting the standard of how things can really buzz in the Club and out on the water. The Rear Commodore (Sail) will say more in the Racing section but thanks must go to Louise Parkin,

and Carolyn Aylmer who sorted out the sausages this last weekend; and to Jane Kinley who has offered to help in the future.

We have already had an interesting and special social event this year, a Sea Shanties evening. More later in **Mainsheet**.

2014 marks Carolyn's 20 years at the Club as Hon Sec. I am sure you will join me in congratulating and thanking her for her dedication. During that time she has worked for 11 Commodores, which must have been a real challenge. It is a busy time of year for Carolyn, with the collection of subs, organising the Dinner Dance, and the AGM. I cannot believe that I have been in post for nearly a year already. This year we will be looking to replace three board members, Dino Castro, Julie Ball and John Lee. All three will be a great loss, however I am confident that we can find good quality replacements. I would like to thank them all for the hard work and passion they have given to the Club over the years. They will be missed.

2014 will also have its challenges, including ensuring that we maintain/improve our income; finding a suitable replacement for Michael; developing our relationship with the new Harbour Management and continuing the search for replacement premises. So not much to do really!

Looking forward to the new season.

Stuart Crisp
Commodore
MV Strider
crispscrisp[at]aol.com

Welcome to New Members

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

Charles Swift
Dawn Tindall
André Swift
Adrain Harris
Mark and Jan Huntley

Social Scene - Forthcoming Events

Saturday 22 February - 6 Nations Rugby



Come and watch the match on the big screen and enjoy a drink at the same time.

Italy v Scotland KO 13:30

England v Ireland KO 16:00

BBC TV coverage starts 30 minutes before kick-off.

Wednesday 26 Feb - Pasta Lunch



Another chance to enjoy Enzo's famous pasta! The lunch will include salad followed by a selection of cheeses. 12.30 p.m. for 1.00 p.m. £10.00

If you would like to come please add your name to the list on the Notice Board, 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.

Tuesday 4 March - Winter Talk: The ARC



An illustrated talk lead by past Commodore and skipper of 'Calypso' David Mitchison covering the preparations for the ARC & the ARC itself.

The Bar will be open from 7.30 p.m. with the talk 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.

Thursday 6 March - AGM followed by AGM Dinner



AGM Papers were posted to members on Monday 17 March. The AGM will start at 6.30 p.m. with the Dinner following. The Menu for the AGM Dinner can be found on the final page of **Mainsheet**. Please make your choice for all 3 courses and then email Carolyn at rciyc@cwgsy.net, or telephone Carolyn on 723154 or Michael on 725500, by noon on Monday 3rd March.

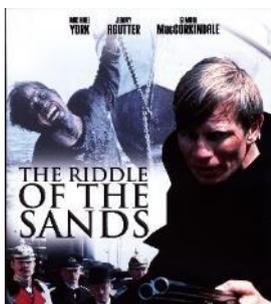
Saturday 15 March - Fitting Out Supper



The Menu should be available shortly and will be emailed to members and posted on the website.

Tuesday 18 March - Film Night

The first of what we hope will become a regular event.



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.

One of the earliest English spy novels, **The Riddle of the Sands** by Erskine Childers, is the basis for this movie. In the story, it is 1901, and England is at the height of its power and influence in the world. Arthur Davies (Simon MacCorkindale) is out sailing in his yacht in the North Sea. Off the coast of Germany, he has a set-to with a local sea-captain, Dollmann (Alan Badel). The encounter itself was odd enough, but adding to its strangeness is Arthur's nagging sense that the German captain was known to him, somehow. He discovers that Dollmann is actually a British naval officer who has gone bad and calls on his old college friend, Charles Carruthers (Michael York) to help him investigate this phenomenon. Eventually, the two men discover that the Kaiser Wilhelm has planned to secretly invade and conquer Britain, and they are the only ones who can prevent it.

Social Scene - Past Events

Ladies' Day - Wednesday 1 January



Ladies' Day 2014 was one of the most successful ever.

Some 30 ladies enjoyed a drink and approximately 10 menfolk joined them after 1.30 p.m.

Sea Shanty Evening - Friday 17 January

January in Guernsey is pretty dire, even more so this year - when will it ever stop raining? It was disappointing that the Sea Shanty evening was postponed just before Christmas so this event was a bright spot in a dark month.



The Sea Shanty evening kicked off after the weekly meat draw with the arrival of pizza from Da Bruno downstairs.

Ken Wheeler produced some song sheets containing a number of sea shanties some well known, some known but not recognised until the tune began, and some new songs.

The newest was a song recently written by local folk singer Rob McGhee, and not yet recorded. Dave Herschel got out his guitar and we were away.



It was fun! Come and join us for the next sea-shanty session sometime soon - date to be announced.

Stuart

Marine & General Engineers Limited - Tuesday 28 January



On the last Tuesday in January, the weather was abysmal, with torrential rain and severe gales clearly putting many people off from venturing out in the evening. However, those who did make it to the club were treated to another very informative evening thanks largely to David Norman, or Marine and General.

Once again, David brought with him two of his specialist technicians, but this time the central theme of the talk was not engines and propulsion, as last time, but hulls. John and Steve offered all sorts of gems of wisdom from their many years of experience, and their professionalism and expertise was obvious throughout. The small crowd made for an intimate presentation, during which many of the assembled members chimed in with some interesting questions, often specific to their own boats or experiences. David entertained with his wry sense of humour, as well as his pictures and samples displaying what happens when people get things wrong, which was also useful.

Having worked our way through anodes, gelcoat repairs, epoxy coating and various types of antifouling, the discussion inevitably settled on more serious matters such as delamination and osmosis. It was generally very reassuring to hear what the guys had to say.



By the time the presentation was complete, and all the members' questions had been addressed, time was marching on, and the fish and chips were waiting. By this time our speaker for the second presentation of the evening had also been waiting patiently for some time. Ben Meader is a specialist marine insurance broker from Cherry Godfrey, and it was very good of him to talk to us while we all ate. Again it was really interesting to hear from a completely different point of view about marine accidents and safety, including such quandaries as rescuing other boaters and salvage rights*.

As always, all those who attended agreed that the evening had been most educational, but it would be much easier for the club to put on these types of event if more members

were to support them, so do please keep an eye out for messages about the next talk, and sign up or contact the secretary.

**Ben left us with copies of his talk notes which are available in the Club and are also on the website. See: <http://www.rciyc.com/social/event-reports-2014/>. The notes are well worth reviewing if only to ensure that you are fully covered.*

Sailing



Heritage Frostbite Series

Race 1 - Saturday 11th January

The weather played its part when the first race of the Heritage Frostbite Series took place in near perfect conditions.

A total of 22 boats braved the January chill to take part in the event, which was divided into two classes (racers and cruisers). The racers' class started at 2pm and followed a course from Castle Cornet to the north end of Belle Greve Bay then back down the Little Russel to the Ozanne Steps (north of Fermain Bay), onwards to the Brehon Tower before heading to the finish line at Castle Cornet.

This was followed shortly after by the hotly contested cruiser class whose 14 participants had to be recalled for a second start, when a number of the boats were 'course side' when the starter's hooter sounded.

In the racers' class, BlackJack was victorious, successfully changing strategy from last year's event by using a larger headsail than she had last season, which obviously suited the lighter conditions. She was followed home by Kaya.

Heritage's own Gordon Wilson in Tomahawk took the honours in the cruiser class beating David Herschel in Bunbury by a clear two and a half minutes.

Director of Heritage, Gordon Wilson welcomed the participants to the après Sail event in the Club which was crammed to capacity for the prize giving. He thanked all

organisers and officials for creating such a great start to the series and encouraged boat owners to participate in the upcoming races.

Race 2 - Saturday 25th January



A strong westerly 27-knot breeze greeted the 19 boats that took part in the second race of the series and the competition is already hotting up - even if the weather isn't.

The racer class followed a triangular course from Castle Cornet to Anfré at Ozanne steps, then on to Lower heads and the nine participating boats made quite a sight with spinnakers raised. This time Blackjack had to settle for second place when she was narrowly beaten by Kaya by a mere 35 seconds after an hour and a half of hard racing.

© Sam Field Photography www.samfieldphotography.com

With these two vessels having been placed first and second in the first two races, they seem to be the boats to beat but it's early days in the series yet.

Results were not so predictable in the cruiser class. Challenging conditions meant the field was pretty spread out by the time the 10 boats were on the home straight from Castle Cornet back to the Ozanne Steps. Victory went to a first timer in the race series Matt Knowles in Alectrona who beat series veteran Ian Le Maitre in Panthalassa by only 11 seconds. Overall leader in this class after the two races is David Herschel in Bunbury.

Yachtsmen were welcomed to the prize giving by RCIYC Vice Commodore Ray Redelinghuys. Heritage's Mark Huntley, who hadn't had a bad day himself placing third in the cruiser class, presented the prizes to the successful sailors:

"We have had another great day of racing and the series is again promising to be an exciting event. Let's see what challenges the weather can throw at us at the next race."

Race 3 - Saturday 8th February

The race was cancelled in view of.....

Forecast from 7pm Friday until 7pm Saturday (February 2014)

- Wind:** South 5 to 6, increasing 7 to gale 8 this evening, veering southwest 6 after midnight, increasing 7 to gale 8 by mid-morning, locally severe gale 9 in the north by midday, with gusts to 65kt around showers.
- Sea state:** Moderate to rather rough increasing rough to very rough overnight and very rough to high by afternoon.
- Weather:** Rain spreading from the west this evening clearing before dawn. Scattered squally rain and hail showers with the risk of thunder.
- Visibility:** Good becoming moderate to poor overnight.
- Swell:** Becoming confused with total waves 18 to 28 feet in the afternoon.

The next event in the seven race series is on 22nd February 2014. For anyone still wishing to take part please go to <http://www.rciyc.com/racing/race-instructions/>

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

Finally, to view photographs of Race 1 & 2 go to <http://frostbite.gg/gallery>

David Aslett
Rear Commodore (Sail)

Our Own Cape Horner

The first Whitbread Round the World Race took place 1973-74. Seventeen boats of varying sizes, 80' to 32', set off from Portsmouth on 08 September 1973. One of the yachts was British Soldier, a 59' steel Ketch formerly called British Steel. British Steel was the boat Sir Chay Blyth circumnavigated the world the 'wrong way' in 1970/1.



British Steel (British Soldier)

The first Whitbread race consisted of four legs, Portsmouth to Cape Town; Cape Town to Sydney; Sydney to Rio De Janeiro; Rio to Portsmouth; a race covering 27,500 nm. The race was the first to take place across the Southern Atlantic. This leg of the race claimed three lives, Paul Waterhouse, Dominique Guillet, and Bernie Hosking. The course was designed to follow the route of the square riggers that carried cargo round the world in the 19th century.

Nowadays the race is sponsored by Volvo, has nine or ten legs and the 2014/15 race will start from Alicante in October and end in Gothenburg in June.

British Soldier was owned and crewed by the British Army and each leg had a different crew. Our own John Le Maitre was a member of the 9 man crew that sailed from Sydney to Rio de Janeiro. This leg started on the 29 December 1973 and covered 8,370nm, the longest of the four legs. The route took them through the deep southern ocean below the ice line, in sight of large icebergs and eventually round the infamous Cape Horn and on to sunny Rio de Janeiro. In Rio another crew took over the last leg of the race. British Soldier came ninth out of the 14 finishing boats and took 156 days and 21 hours to complete the race. Sir Chay Blyth and his crew came sixth in Great Britain II. Chay

stated at the time, "We knew before the voyage began that the experience would change us all and I believe this has proved to be the case."



John Le Maitre (left) aboard the British Soldier during the race

As the crew had sailed round Cape Horn, each person qualified to become a member of the International Association of Cape Horners. If you look in the corner of the Club House, on the left by the window, you will see a copy of a telegram and burgee celebrating John's jaunt round Cape Horn.



According to the IACH "Cape Horn is sometimes called the Mount Everest of sailing. Mount Everest was first climbed on 29th May, 1953. We believe that, since that date, fewer people have qualified for full membership of the IACH than have climbed to the summit of Mount Everest."



Cape Horn on a calm day!

On the 24 November 2013 John attended a reunion of the crew (all Cape Horners) that completed the third leg of the 1973/4 Whitbread Round the Race to celebrate 40 years since that momentous occasion. The celebration took place on HMS Warrior in Portsmouth.



Crew of British Soldier - John is fourth from the right

There is a very interesting film of the 1973/4 Whitbread race on YouTube. Follow this link <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6X3X8qYIqIo>. We may show this 30 minute film at our up and coming film show on the 18 March.

Stuart

Regalia

Just a selection of the items we have available in the club.



P.S. The Club has a number of 2014 Diaries looking for a home - just ask Michael if you would like one.

'Mainsheet'

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

Julie Ball

Rear Commodore

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

Club Opening Hours

	High Season	Low Season
	6 May - 8 Sept	9 Sept - 4 April
Weekdays - Lunch	1030 - 1400	1130 - 1400
Weekdays - Evening	1800 - 2200	CLOSED
Fridays - Lunch	1030 - 1400	1130 - 1400
Fridays - Evening	1800 - 2200	1800 - 2200
Saturdays - Lunch	1030 - 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@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"

Registered Office: 57 Lower Pollet, St Peter Port, Guernsey, GY1 1WL

Company Number: 48365

DISCLAIMER

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



Royal Channel Islands Yacht Club AGM

Dinner Menu

Da Bruno Restaurant

Cream of Cauliflower Soup (A)
Large Mushroom (B)
(filled with Spinach, Garlic & Mozzarella)
Seafood Salad (C)



Chicken Breast with Mushroom Sauce (A)
Grilled Salmon with Tarragon Sauce (B)
Sirloin Steak with Garlic Butter (C)
Tortellini, Spinach & Ricotta (D)
(with Mushroom & Cream)



Tiramisu (A)
Profiteroles (B)
Lemon Tart with Vanilla Ice Cream (C)



Thursday, 6 March 2013

(£21 per person)

Please provide Carolyn with your choices by noon Monday 3 March