

MAINSHEET



ROYAL CHANNEL ISLANDS YACHT CLUB (GUERNSEY) LBG

November 2012

Dates for your Diary

Tues 13 Nov	Knots and Splicing Evening
Weds 21 Nov	RNLI and CIAS Cocktail Party
Fri 23 Nov	Regalia Sale
Tues 4 Dec	Curry Lunch (TBC)
Thurs 6 Dec	Mulled Wine & Mince Pies
Weds 12 Dec	Jazz Evening
Thurs 13 Dec	Mulled Wine & Mince Pies
Thurs 20 Dec	Mulled Wine & Mince Pies
Fri 21 Dec	Christmas Cocktail Party
Mon 24 Dec	Christmas Draw
Tues 1 Jan	Ladies' Day

Please check the website www.rciyc.com for details of these events.

Commodore's Log

As I write, the clocks have just turned back to GMT, racing and cruising has finished for the season, and most yachts (sail and motor) have been laid up for the winter. The Club, however, has continued to be active.

Instead of holding our usual laying up supper, more than 60 members attended a dinner, supported by Babbé & Nashcopy, at the Cobo Bay Hotel to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Club. At the same time RCIYC members in Jersey were also celebrating the occasion. As well as long serving members of the Guernsey Club (formed in 1954) Tattie Thompson & Paddy Randall there were 5 Past Commodores present at the

dinner (John Lee, Geoffrey Cullington, Aden Clark, John Frankland and Enzo Diacono).



L-R: Past Commodores Enzo Diacono, John Lee, John Frankland, Geoffrey Cullington & Aden Clark and present Commodore David Mitchison.

Greetings were also conveyed to the Jersey Club by Mike Tai and Julie Payne, representing Guernsey.

The dinner was a great success and thanks are due to the Cobo Bay Hotel and to guitarist John Byrne who entertained us. I would like to give special thanks to Julie & Phil Ball and John Frankland for their invaluable assistance in helping Ann Marie and I to organise such a memorable evening. This event marked the end of our 150th Anniversary celebrations which have included a sail-past the clubhouse in Jersey's St Aubin's bay and a special issue of stamps in Guernsey.

The annual Richard Corcoran Beaucette Cruise and Dinner was held on 22 September. Although we had a most enjoyable evening, the "Cruise" part did not proceed due to severe weather. I thank Stuart Crisp, Vice Commodore, for organising the event.

The New Members and Sponsors Cocktail party, held on 10 October, was well attended. I should like to thank Carolyn Clark, Julie Ball, Stuart and Sarah Crisp, Anne Marie, Jeremy Smithies, Becky Diacono, Dino Castro and Christine Lewis for preparing and serving the delicious food.

Committee Member, Jeremy Smithies, has been busy putting together a programme of social events. A report on the very successful talk is included under Social Scene together with details of future evenings.

Some members have been asking about progress on the installation of the Stairlift. An update, which also appears on the website, was emailed to members earlier in the month and is repeated below.

Your Committee discussed the level of subscriptions for the forthcoming year. The subscriptions have remained unchanged for several years despite inflation and, after considerable debate, it was decided to hold them at the same level for 2013. However, rent, salaries and other expenses are increasing and it is highly likely that we will have to increase subscriptions in 2014 in order to cover costs. We would also like to be able to refurbish the Clubhouse but have limited funds for this purpose. Our subscriptions are very low compared to other "Royal" yacht clubs and represent exceptional value for money.

At the last Committee meeting, Dave Aslett was co-opted in order to assist with organising our busy racing schedule. Dave is well known among the racing fraternity and I welcome him.

I look forward to seeing you at some of social events we have planned for the autumn and winter. Do refer to the website www.rciyc.com for details and other much useful information.

With best wishes,

David Mitchison
Commodore
(SY Calypso)

Stairlift Letter

Several members have questioned why the stairlift has not yet been installed. Enzo had obtained quotes and some members have kindly pledged money towards the cost of installation.

Under the terms of the lease, various consents are required and Martyn Baudains, a committee member and a Partner of law firm Babbé, has kindly been assisting with the legal issues.

The whole of the staircase is not within the demise of the club so we have had to involve the head landlord, our landlord and the other tenant.

The head landlord's agent told us the head landlord thought the works should be made subject of a licence (a written formal permission to carry

out works), but expressed doubts about the feasibility of the project. It was thought that issues over Building Control regulations, Health & Safety and insurance may mean the project is simply not viable. It has been decided to press on with the application to Building Control as that application can be made without incurring any costs. That application has now been submitted.

We would expect to hear from Building Control soon. After that we will decide what further action is required, and provide members with a further update.

Two lifts are required and the total cost, including the landlord's agent's fee, is expected to be in the region of £6,000.

5 October, 2012

David Aslett



David started sailing at an early age initially with his father. From the late 1970's whilst windsurfing, he continued to sail dinghies and yachts before getting a Laser in the 1990's. Windsurfing competitively, he competed in numerous local, national and European events and achieved third place at the nationals in 1985. In 1991 David won the Windsurfing Channel Island Championship.

David has competed in three Island Games regattas in the Laser Class placing 4th in Jersey in 1998 and acting as team captain for the 2010 and 2012 Games in Aland and the Isle of Wight respectively. In 2011 he was the winner of the St Helier Regatta dinghy class in the Laser and in 2012 placed 2nd overall in the inaugural Channel Island Dinghy Master Championship in Jersey in a Laser.

Over the years he has won a number of races in local series.

He has now moved on to a Jeanneau Sun 2000 which he is currently having a lot of fun with trying to bring the next generation of Asletts (and their mates) in to the sailing (and singing) game. His RYA qualifications include RYA level 2 sailing race instructor qualification, RYA Yachtmaster Theory qualification and RYA level 2 powerboat qualification.



Christmas Shopping

RCIYC Regalia



With Christmas rapidly approaching, why not purchase an item of regalia as an attractive gift?

We are holding a special sale event on the evening of Friday 23 November with reductions on everything (with the exception of Club Ensigns and Burgees) and some significant discounts on selected items.

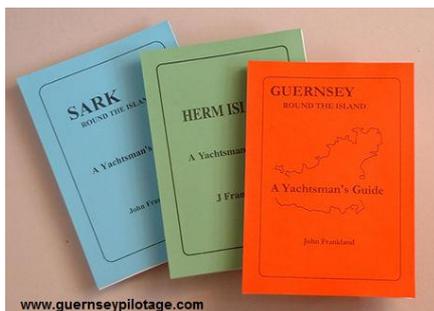
Don't miss this opportunity to pick up an early Christmas bargain!

RCIYC Bears



Another ideal Christmas gift is the new range of RCIYC Bears, competitively priced at £10. These cuddly offerings would make ideal presents or perhaps a lucky mascot for your boat. We shall be launching the bears at the Regalia sale on 23 November.

Pilotage Books



We are delighted to be able to offer for sale the excellent local pilotage books, written by our extremely knowledgeable ex Commodore John Frankland, which have now been updated/revised. These books offer a wealth of local information and are an essential guide for tackling some of the more tricky passages around our coast.

They can be purchased from the Club at a price of £6.00.

The Lifeboat Shop is in the Clocktower at St. Sampson and is open on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 10.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. selling lifeboat souvenirs, Christmas cards, calendars, diaries etc. and some second-hand books.

"Mostly Books", a charity cooperative supporting the Lifeboat, Guernsey Samaritans and Actionaid, also has Christmas cards for the 3 charities and is Guernsey's main second-hand bookshop. Situated at No. 2 The Arcade (top of the steps from Church Square), it is open from 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. Mondays to Fridays and from 10.00 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. on Saturdays.

Welcome to New Members

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

Sam Corbet

Do you want to crew or do you need crew?

John Frankland has suggested that it might be useful to have a list of people either wanting to crew or skippers needing crew. John is often asked if he can find a friendly skipper who will take fairly inexperienced crew. To this end, we are happy to display a list in the club. If you would like to be included please send the following details to Carolyn at rciyc@cwsy.net - Name, brief details of experience or crewing opportunities, telephone number and email.

Social Scene



On Tuesday 16th October over 30 Members and guests were treated to an informative and entertaining talk by John Frankland. John's topic was Pilotage on the West and South coasts of Sark. We were guided, helped by many photographs and charts, through the Parfonde and Gouliot Passages into Havre Gosselin. Rounding Pierre Norman we were then led through many rocks to Port Gorey and then to Rouge Terrier. Here John left us - which must mean that we will invite him back in the near future to help us to navigate our way back to Guernsey. The presentation was followed by ample quantities of bean jar and crusty bread. A thoroughly enjoyable evening.

**KNOTS AND SPLICING - Tuesday 13th November @ 7.00 pm
£10.00**

Richard 'Spike' Whitaker will give a talk about and a demonstration of knots and splicing. Come along and perfect your one-handed bowline technique and celebrate your success with a plate of lasagne and a glass (or two).



Our social programme will continue with a Jazz Evening and supper on Wednesday 12th December.

Notices will be placed on the Club Noticeboard (phone Carolyn or Mike to put your name on the list). Please make a note in your diaries and come along for some excellent company and entertainment.

Why not come up to the club on late night shopping evenings for mulled wine and mince pies - Thursday 6th, 13th and 20th December.

"Three ocean circuits completed, HURAH!"

On September 11th 2008, Angie and I set off from Guernsey aboard HURAH for what was intended to be a "*three oceans in three years*" blue water cruise. On September 19th 2012, as we closed Europe, we crossed our outward track off Cape St Vincent, thus technically completing our circuits of the North and South Atlantic, and Southern Indian Oceans.



In the process, we have sailed well over 40,000nm, equivalent to around one and a half global circumnavigations.

We have visited over 60 other islands in some 32 different jurisdictions. Coming from the Channel Islands, other island communities are always of particular interest, and we now have a colourful collection of courtesy ensigns to provide a visual synopsis of our travels.

We have also enjoyed three years of "perpetual summer" (rather better in the Southern than Northern hemisphere, it must be said), we have revisited some special places from our past sailing lives, caught up with old friends, and made many new ones.

We have also tried to send a "*news update*" to family and friends every few months detailing our progress. As we near the end of this stage of our travels, we thought we might share our reflections on the dream and the reality of blue water sailing?

The Dream

Our " three oceans " has really been a seven year project, - three years on agreeing the route, sourcing a suitable boat , choosing and fitting equipment and extras, best guessing the finances, and then four years of actually "*sailing the dream*".

When we set out, our hopes and expectations (in a somewhat modified "Maslow's hierarchy") included experiencing and enjoying:

- travel
- independence
- adventure
- an active and healthy lifestyle

- new friends and acquaintances
- self sufficiency
- self fulfilment

It is certainly true to say that over the past four years, we have enjoyed all of the above in greater or lesser measure.

And the reality

In the main, we have experienced blue seas and plentiful sunshine, new places and new people, an active lifestyle, and several "mini adventures". However, the idyll of blue water cruising is not without its downsides. These must include:

Poor communications : In theory, we live in the "information age", joined to the world wide web, instant communications at our fingertips. The reality in most of the places we have visited, Wifi communication is often poor, can be expensive, and even then may be unreliable. Even in the USA, AT&T refused to sell us a Sim card for the Ipad because we did not have an American Bank account, and when we tried to open one, we failed because we did not have a US Social Security number. Are they for real?

Friends and family : As a consequence , we do not remain in touch with family and friends nearly as much as we would wish and being on the far side of the world/in the middle of the ocean, we also miss out on those special events which help keep you connected.

Culture and leisure : We do download our e edition of "The Week" whenever communications allow, so try hard to keep in touch with "What's on". However , the occasional DVD on the ships cinema is no real substitute for being there and participating. We do miss live concerts, new films, the odd theatrical production, and we are probably the only couple in Britain who have not seen one single episode of "Downtown Abbey"?

National events : It is said that shared events is what gives you a sense of National identity. It seems very strange that apart from the occasional glimpse on an overseas bar or restaurant TV, we have missed out completely on the *Titanic* commemoration, the Diamond Jubilee, this year's Wimbledon, the Olympics, the Paralympics etc. It would have been great to have felt part of it.

Financial uncertainties : Really part of the poor communications scenario, but leaving just before the "global financial crises" was just not smart. As it was, we sailed on oblivious, "*What financial crises?*" we asked. It is

very difficult to manage your money, or even make sound financial decisions when you lack much necessary information.



Front row seats watching the Parade of Sail in Boston on July 4th

Sailing with a purpose? : Sailing in perpetual summer in a sound boat is wonderful. It is also a special privilege to be able to look at a chart and say "Let's go here" and to know that with the right weather window you really can, and that you can usually stay as long as you fancy. But perhaps too much quasi philosophical pondering on "the meaning of life" when young does get me questioning the real value of it all? It would be nice to feel that we really were "sailing with a purpose".

And now the good news

So there you have it, there are plenty of compensations for the "liveaboard life", but it is not without its downsides?

We now have four weeks in the Algarve, when various friends are coming out to join us, and then the boat will be put to bed in Gibraltar whilst we fly home to enjoy our first Channel Island winter since 2007, and to plan our first years cruising in the Mediterranean.

As always, we would love to hear your news, to arrange to catch up if we can, and to offer a taste of the sailing life to those who might be interested? All best wishes

David & Angie (Jeffs) aboard HURAH
The Algarve September 2012

Sailing

I tell you man, this year has gone too quickly! It is hard to believe I'm already thinking about the **Heritage Frostbite Series** for 2013, and I am still waiting for the decent summer weather, or Indian Summer, or anything really....

It was a tough season this year, with the weather being unkind for most of the races, especially the **Oak Trust Impi Shield** where we saw 38 knots! What has been kind this year has been the catering and post race functions. Whether it was the hotdogs provided by **Heritage** in the cold bite of the Winter, or welcome hot meal in Cherbourg provided by **St Peters Trust**, the banter and nibbles throughout the **Nashcopy Passage Race Series** (culminating in the end of season dinner at La Piette which I can't remember much of) or the fantastic hog roast in the marquee sponsored by **Oak Trust** - they have all added to a great season on balance. The generosity of all our sponsors is greatly appreciated as I think it assists the development of the camaraderie amongst the crews.

It is my great pleasure to announce that David Aslett has joined the sailing committee and he has already been invaluable in assisting with the preparation of next year's draft sailing calendar. David and I are also investigating possibilities of introducing a shorthanded class along with a White Sails class. Please contact us should this be of interest to you to assist us in determining an appetite for these 2 new classes.

Finally, as some of you are already aware, I will not be seeking re-election and the next **AGM** as I have recently started an **MBA** which is rather time hungry! I will still be involved in the organisation of the **Oak Trust Impi Shield**, and on an ad hoc basis should the committee need me.

We will circulate the Notice of Race and entry form for the **Heritage Frostbite Series** soon and I trust your support will exceed this year's incredible numbers on the water.

See you on the water

Ray Redelinghuys
Rear Commodore (Sail)

Tel: 07839 715 464
Email: [rheino\[at\]impi.gg](mailto:rheino[at]impi.gg)

Cruising

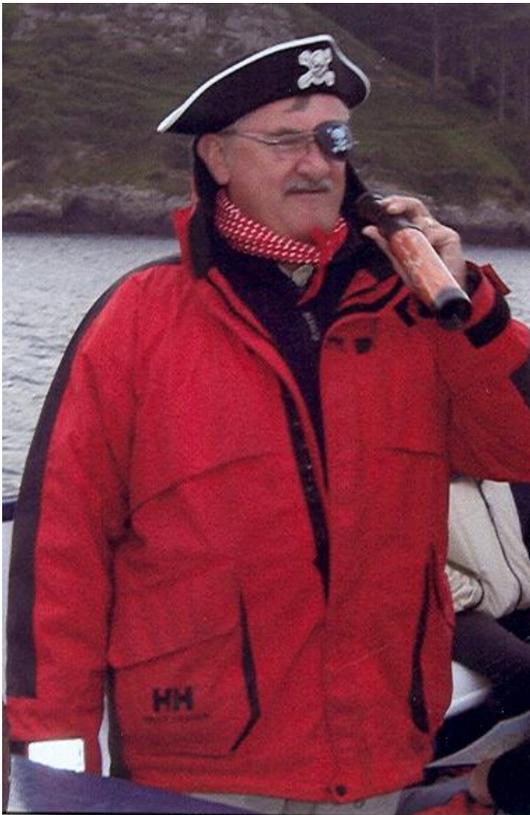
Well the weather has continued unabated and any hope of an Indian summer has evaporated. I haven't managed to see 'Strider' for at least a month. Now thoughts are turning to laying up the boat:



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Richard Corcoran Beaucette Cruise

It was pleasing to see that the members did not let us down like the weather.



For those of you who could not join us for the Richard Corcoran Cruise - there was a little less cruising than we would have preferred. Even so 42 people made it up to the Marina Restaurant at Beaucette on a foul night that would have had the most intrepid sailor roll over in his bunk and go back to sleep. Everyone was richly rewarded by a superb evening of good company and good food at reasonable prices. The restaurant is well worth a visit.

It was particularly pleasing that Richard's son Chris could join us for event.

After the loyal toast the Commodore proposed a toast to Richard. We had an interesting raffle with two £50 vouchers donated by Seaquest Marine Limited, the usual bottles of wine, and more unusually a jar of bottled pears from the Vice Commodore's garden.

It was an enjoyable evening spent with old friends and some new members of the club. It also enabled the people who knew Richard to take a moment to remember him. Cheers Richard.

Well that is it, the end of the 2012 cruising season. It certainly was a year of highs and lows. The highs included our visit to Le Légué and St Aubins,



the lows were the cancelling of Les Écréhous Cruise for the third or was it the fourth time, and the hassle of trying to arrange the Jubilee pontoon party, especially not being able to hold it in the Victoria marina as planned.



Still it was all fun and I thank all of you who took part, helped out and supported the cruises throughout the year.

Here's to 2013



And I hope all motor boaters have seas like this



And sailors have winds like this - always in the right direction!



Finally don't forget to hand in your cruising log. You might win a trophy!

Stuart Crisp
Vice Commodore
Crispscrisp[at]aol.com

'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 1 May - 14 Sept	Low Season 15 Sept - 30 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

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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"

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