

# COMMODORE'S LETTER



## ROYAL CHANNEL ISLANDS YACHT CLUB (GUERNSEY) LBG

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19 January 2018

Dear Member,



1. It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of the former Commodore **John Button** on the 14th January. **John** was Commodore of the Club from 1985 to 1987. **John** was an extremely accomplished sailor and I can remember him racing his J24, **Guffin** (we have a great photograph of it in the Club on the plane with the spinnaker up during a Cowes Week) and being very excited about taking delivery of his Project 762, **Crumpet**. Comparing the technical specifications of the two boats he was looking forward to enjoying the enhanced performance. Although competitive **John Button** was always friendly and had time for a chat and to give the benefit of his very considerable knowledge and experience. **John** also cruised extensively in **Rapscallion** a custom built boat which he commissioned. I also understand from **John Rowe** that he remained the point of contact for the annual Morlaix Cruise long after his 'formal' involvement in the Club had finished. Our sincere condolences go out to his family and friends.

2. **The Christmas Party** which took place on the evening of Friday 22nd December was superbly well attended although I have still not quite forgiven **Vanessa Mahy** for being slopy-shouldered on the **Best Christmas Jumper/Fancy Dress Competition** judging front. It was always going to be a thankless task which is why I had reported in the last newsletter that **Vanessa Mahy** was going to judge it. In the end she dodged that particular poisoned chalice and rather sneakily gave me the job when I was in a slightly off my guard. It was never going to be an easy decision or universally popular or even agreed with. **Stuart Crisp** deserves a special mention for turning up in a Christmas Onesie which left very little to the imagination. But in runner up spot was **Andy Stoealing** in what can only be described as a frankly distasteful festive tee shirt and cardigan combination but the winner on the night was **Jon Chandler** for his finely tailored Christmas two-piece suit. But what really put him head and shoulders above the competition was that he still had his paper crown on from lunchtime! That's the sort of attention to detail that we are expecting from the new treasurer.
3. The following day, Saturday 23rd at lunchtime we held the traditional **Christmas Draw**. Thank you very much for all of the members who donated prizes and congratulations to all of the winners. Particular thanks to **Dino and Celeste Castro** for donating the top prize of a stay in their **La Michele Hotel** and well done to **Mark & Jan Huntley** for winning it.
4. The inaugural **New Year's Eve Party** was more of a success than we had anticipated. We had 10 booked in for dinner but once word got out that the Club was open we had a much larger number than that in for pre-dinner drinks. It made for a great evening and even if it did slightly delay the serving of the food – nobody seemed to mind. Thank you very much to **Matt and Ellie Knowles** for working their socks off with the food and the bar.
5. The traditional **Ladies Day** celebration was really well attended (even if some of the ladies were a little late on parade, no names, no pack drill, and some of the gentleman may have been a little premature, no, stop it). And another unexpected delight was that **Matt and Ellie Knowles** had in fact done such a fantastic job with the food for New Year's Eve there was enough left over for an impromptu lunch which was very well received.
6. We have had the first two races in the Frostbite Series which is being sponsored for the first time by [Estera](#). 15 yachts took part in both races but there are boats which

have entered and not been out yet and similarly there are some of the usual suspects who have not entered yet so I am optimistic that we could see even higher numbers before the end of the series. So if you fall in to either of the above categories please come along for the next race which is at 1300 hrs on Saturday the 27th January. Thanks very much to **Vanessa Mahy** for organising the complimentary hot dogs, and **David Raines, Jon Chandler** and **Matt Knowles** for doing stirling work behind the bar. Thanks also to **John Lee** and **Jules Schaefer** for the race administration.

7. Thank you very much to the sponsors and new members who braved the bad weather on the evening of the 16th January to attend the New Members and Sponsors Cocktail Party. I know a number of you couldn't make it for various reasons so I would like to offer an invitation to all of the members who joined in 2017 to contact us to arrange to meet, possibly have a drink, and an introduction to the Club at a time which is more convenient to you later on this month.
8. **Vanessa Mahy** started to do 'in-house' lunches on Monday the 15th January. whilst The Catch is closed and for those looking for express service **Vanessa** is providing hot food between 1200 and 1400 hrs daily Monday to Saturday inclusive. And the reports so far are that it is very good. So if you need lunch but haven't got time to hang around...
9. Finally, a message from Vanessa and details of 2 social events early next month:

### Vanessa



Vanessa would like to thank all those members who so generously contributed towards her Christmas Box and also wish all members a Happy New Year.

## The 2WarPoets - Saturday 3 February



Nick Windsor and Jim Delbridge will be performing as the 2WarPoets on Saturday 3rd February.

The lead singer and the lead guitarist of 2WarPoets team up for stripped versions of their many country and blues songs. Look out for favourite's from the americana songbook and lots of originals too from two of Guernsey's most experienced and well-known musicians.

Relax & enjoy this easy listening evening with good food and good company.

And at only £10.00, you cannot miss this one! Bar open from 7.00 p.m.

Please click [HERE](#) to book or, alternatively, please add your names to the list on the Notice Board.

**'The Loneliest Island in the World', a talk by John Lee - Wednesday 7 February**



John Lee has kindly agreed to do a talk and PowerPoint presentation entitled 'The Loneliest Island in the World' in the Clubhouse on the evening of the 7th February.

The Bar will be open at 7.00 p.m. with the talk starting at 7.30 p.m.

Please click [HERE](#) to book or, alternatively, please add your names to the list on the Notice Board.

**Regalia**



Please click [HERE](#) to view the full range and for details of how to order.

Samples of the Regalia are on display in the Club.

## Regalia Sale



The following items are heavily discounted and can be found on display in the Club:

Claret Fleeces £10

Wool V Neck Jumpers £10

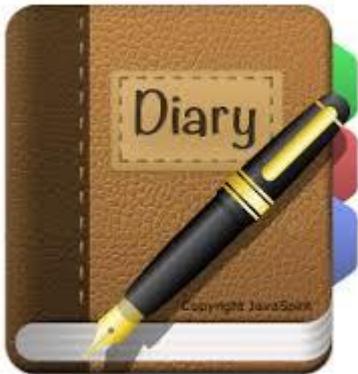
Acrylic V Neck Jumpers £10

White RCIYC Baseball Caps £5

Blazer Badges £10

Green Scarfs £5

## Dates for your Diary



AGM – Tuesday 13 March

**David Aslett**

**Commodore**

[club@rciyc.com](mailto:club@rciyc.com)