

COMMODORE'S LETTER



ROYAL CHANNEL ISLANDS YACHT CLUB (GUERNSEY) LBG

14 September 2018

Dear Member,

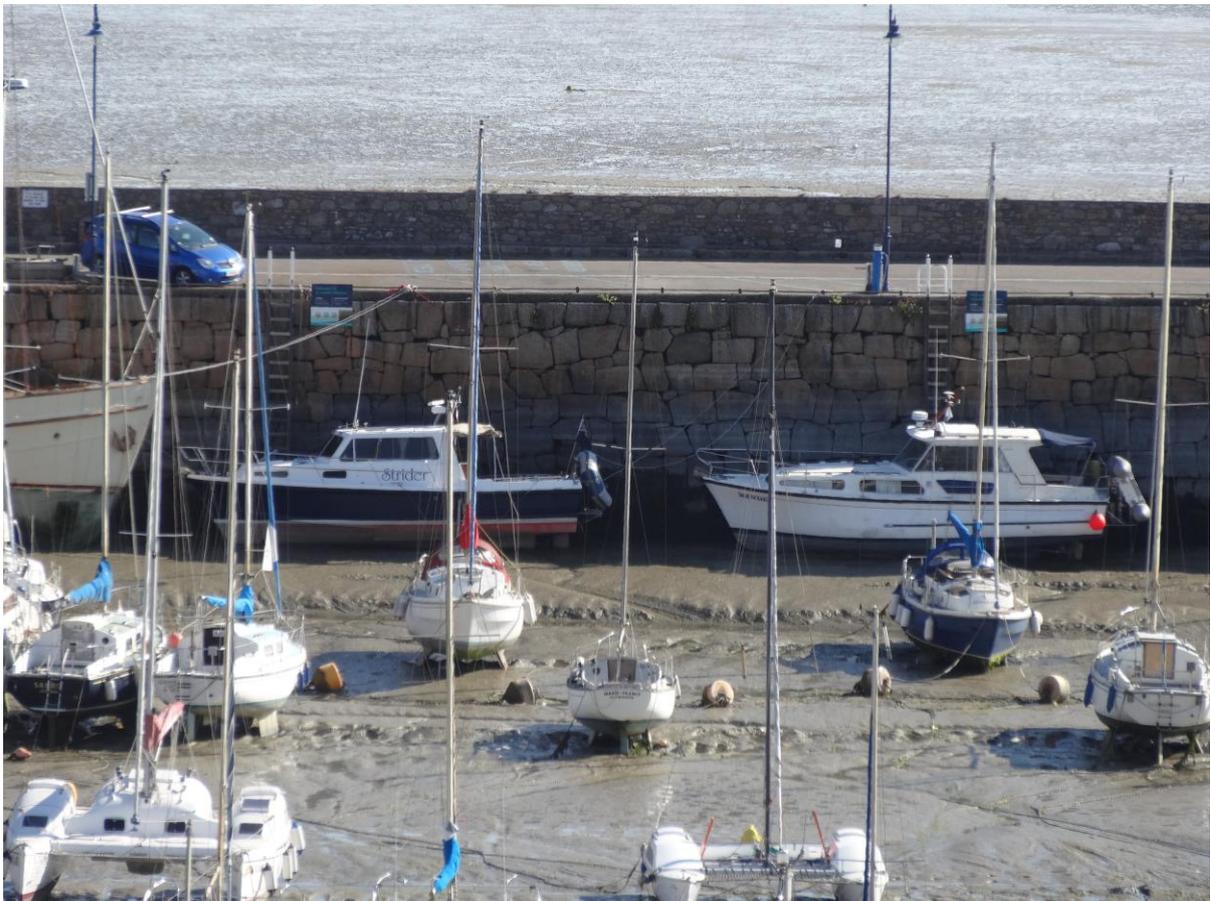
Commodore's Letter



The social season is upon us and details of the Richard Corcoran Memorial Supper, this year at Pier 17, and the Annual Dinner & Dance can be found below.

First of all an apology. In the last Commodore's Newsletter I suggested that the first Le Légué Cruise took place in 1998. Thank you very much former Commodore **Roger Perrot** for putting me straight on that score. He so rightly pointed out that the cruise to the mouth of the Le Gouet was actually resurrected during his time as Commodore which was between 1992 and 1994. Roger recollects making a speech in the village hall and the crews singing on the stage there. He also remembers reciprocating in Guernsey and providing the visitors with an island tour. Sincere apologies for that Roger and you will never know how gratifying it is to find out that someone actually reads this stuff.

Dinard Race – Well I feel redundant, **Glory Days**, without me, went and smashed it. Well done to **Matt Knowles, Derek Knowles, David Raines** and **Lucy Gosselin** for making me feel completely unrequired and left out, I was the only flag officer not on board. And well done to **Busker, Mahna Mahna** and **Penguin** for making sure that this very longstanding race continues. Apparently a great time was had by all and the cruisers joined in the Bastille Day festivities including **Craig Shorto, Jeremy Smithies, Stuart Crisp**, even **Richard and Gill Evans** and their daughter made a long overdue return to the fold. Thanks also to the new sponsors this year for this event **New Dawn Consultancy** and **Pharos**. We hope that this is the first of many?



As you know the Club has a robust Diversity and Inclusion Policy and nowhere has this been more successfully demonstrated than at this year's St. Aubin Cruise. We had the fine JPK 1080 **Majic** (formerly Yes and overall winner of Cowes Week last year), not the first thing that springs to mind when you think about a cruising boat, but according to **Mick Holland** it does the job perfectly well. We had the equally fine but 50 years older McGruer yawl, **Rinamara**, ably crewed by 2 former commodores **Roger Perrot** and **Gordon Wilson** (the other club). And we had **Stuart Crisp** singlehandedly navigating his purposeful motor cruiser **Strider** skilfully into a tight berth alongside the wall in St. Aubin's harbour where he

showed me a technique (quite late at night after the meal) which I had not come across before called 'one-legged drying out'. The next day I felt like I needed it myself. We were delighted to have **Des and Karen Fletcher** along with the fast fly bridge cruiser **Aloonie**, **John and Alison Frankland** in **Spindrift** who were meeting up with family and taking the grandchildren off cruising afterwards. Thanks to **Matt and Ellie Knowles** for taking **Liz Aslett** and I with them on **Alectrona**. **David and Caroline Raines** came on their way to holidaying in France in their car on the ferry as did **Phil and Julie Ball** but going in the opposite direction. **Breton Girl**, a motor sailor, came all the way from St. Helier to moor in St. Aubin's overnight a trip possibly in excess of 2 nautical miles, crewed by our old neighbours **David and Angie Jeffs** who I now understand are Jersey Residents. You can't get any more diverse than that.

It was thrilling to see the splendid new classic Spirit of Tradition 63 yawl **Gwenhyfar** wearing her Club ensign during the parade for the concourse d' elegance preceding this year's Panerai British Classis Week in Cowes. The link to the largest ensign we've ever sold can be found by clicking [HERE](#). Well done to **Peter Lloyd** and his illustrious crew for flying the flag literally and metaphorically. If you are going to the Southampton Boat Show don't miss a chance to see her up close. Click [HERE](#) for more stunning photos of her in local waters.

From the sublime to the mundane. The old dishwasher had now been taken to the Longue Hougue reclamation site and the 'new' one from **Elizabeth College** installed. The Commodore thanked the Vice Commodore **David Raines** for facilitating this new dishwasher and The Rear Commodore **Matt Knowles** and **Craig Shorto** for all of their work in getting the new one into the building and installed.

We are delighted to announce that, although they are out of the Island and will not be able to attend the dinner and dance this year, **His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and Lady Corder** have 'provisionally' accepted the invitation to our RNLI/CIAS cocktail party to be held on the 20th November.

It was with great sadness that we were informed by **John Lee** of the passing of his close friend, crew member and former member of the Club **Lt Cdr Ian Clive Macintyre**. **Lt Cdr Ian Macintyre** served on the Arctic Convoys which transported four million tons of supplies and munitions to Russia between 1941 and 1945. A total of 78 convoys braved sub-zero temperatures and the German armed forces to get war supplies to the Soviet Union. The British Merchant Navy along with Russian, US, Canadian, Norwegian and Dutch merchant

fleets were involved. By May 1945, the Arctic route had claimed 104 merchant and 16 military vessels. More than 3,000 Allied seamen lost their lives to the freezing conditions and attacks during the trips to ports in the Arctic Circle. In 2015 five World War Two veterans were honoured by Russia for their part in transporting these crucial supplies. **Lt Cdr Ian Clive Macintyre**, then 97, was among the five to be presented with the Ushakov medal "for personal courage and valour shown". **Lt Cdr Ian Clive Macintyre** was quoted as saying that he was "obviously very honoured" but that he was "just one of thousands... I did my job just like everyone else did". **Lt Cdr Macintyre** added: "The Russians have always been appreciative." "[This medal] is not really for me it's for the work that was actually done by everybody on the convoys." **Lt Cdr Macintyre**, who served on **HMS Nigeria**, said the cold was the worst part: "It was a bit primitive early on because in the first convoys we had no clothing that was really suitable - a duffel coat, sea boots and what the dear ladies at home had knitted for us - woollen balaclavas." This is a brief tribute to this obviously great man but I would recommended that you read the superb obituary that appeared in the Guernsey Press.



Ian Clive Macintyre said clothes to keep out the cold were at first primitive, but later improved.



Ice on a British cruiser during escort duty on the northern convoy route to Russia

Xavier Saux



It is with great sadness that we learnt that Xavier died on 9th August after bravely fighting cancer for over three years.

Xavier will be known to many members as a French Breton with a dry sense of humour

and a great deal of warmth. He was a staunch member of the Association Nautique Du Légué and played a lead role in the ANL's relationship with the RCIYC. As most members know the RCIYC has had a close friendship with the ANL going back for almost 30 years and each spring we hold a 'twinning' event either in the port of Légué or in Guernsey.

Sarah and I have been friends with Xavier and his wife **Marie-José** since we met on our first trip to Légué in 2008. Since then we have seen each other two or three times a year. **Xavier** spoke English fluently but always made me practise my French and gave me gentle guidance in improving my language.

He was a gentle man and will be greatly missed by all those who knew him, particularly **Marie-José** and his two children, **Agathe** and **Anaïs**.

Stuart Crisp

They say bad news comes in threes and it was with great sadness that we also learned of the passing of **Michael O'Flaherty** this last month. Essentially a highly intelligent and very private man. He was very warm and generous, and enjoyed a full and varied life. He began sailing in Ireland as a young man, has sailed across the Atlantic and even in his latter years still enjoyed the thrill of being at sea. He was a great supporter of the Club and will be very much missed by those who knew him for his amusing and entertaining stories and for just being himself, a unique and interesting gentleman.

Richard Corcoran Memorial Supper - Saturday 6 October

Unfortunately we were very recently informed that the restaurant at Beaucette Marina has ceased to operate with immediate effect.

This left us in something of a quandary as to what to do for the Richard Corcoran Memorial Cruise & Supper, one of the most popular fixtures in the cruising calendar. After some discussion of golf clubs and St. Sampson's we hit on the plan to hold it somewhere much closer to home. So on Saturday 6th October 2018 the Richard Corcoran Memorial Supper will take place in the Pier 17 restaurant at 1930hrs. You are more than welcome to bring your boats in to the Victoria Marina on either the Friday or the Saturday. The opening times are approx' 1315 to 1915hrs on the Friday. Weather dependent there might be some pre-dinner hospitality on the pontoon.

If you are in anyway unsure of how to get to the Victoria Marina from wherever it is you happen to be or indeed the Pier 17 restaurant we will be holding a comprehensive briefing on Wednesday evening the 3rd of October 2018 at 1800hrs in the Clubhouse. This will also be the deadline for booking, menu choices, berthing locations etc. Does that sound like a thinly veiled excuse to you?



For those not aware Richard Corcoran, a past Vice Commodore of RCIYC, died on 20th November 2009, aged 64. Richard loved the sea and during his tenure he worked tirelessly for the Club. He will be remembered by all those members who had the privilege to know him.

Please click [HERE](#) for the Menu.

Individual Menu choices and payment in full must be with Fionola by **Wednesday 3 October.**

If you are having steak please clearly indicate how you would like it cooked.

Please click [HERE](#) to book.

Annual Dinner & Dance - Saturday 20 October



Please click [HERE](#) for the Menu.

Please N.B. that individual choices and payment must be received by Fionola **no later than Thursday 27 September.**

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.

Dates for your Diary



Laying Up Supper – Saturday 10 November

"Smiles" from Down Under (and elsewhere)



David Aslett
Commodore
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