

# TEMPLE NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ROYAL TEMPLE YACHT CLUB

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## COMMODORE'S BLOG

March already!

Our Members seem to have made the Hold bar feel like home from home. Must say the atmosphere in our basement is really good so do come and check it out for yourself this month.

Still no sign of any activity in the boat park, myself included. It's just been too cold for any of this painting and scraping stuff.

Congratulations to John Barrett and his team on the new Beneteau 35 "*Stiletto*". Understand they have even been out sailing this year already and good luck in the Warsash Spring Series.

### Update on the building works:

Our builders are making great progress despite the best endeavours of the weather. Completion of Phase One of the bar looks to be pretty much on track for an early April reopening and everyone is working towards the first week in April. Works on the first floor to deliver Phase Two will carry over on after the bar reopens and we have all agreed that the main focus is to get our new bar area completed.

Hope to see you all in the boat park sometime this month.

**Mike Brand**

## NEWS FROM THE HON SEC

With the new season about to begin, I'd like to remind sailing and cruising members of the existence of the Guest Book on our website. It is a useful way of advertising for crew, or boat, etc.

For example, this was posted recently:

**Date:** 2/22/2010, 2:17 pm, GMT  
**Name:** robin robertson  
**Email:** [robinrobertson@metronet.co.uk](mailto:robinrobertson@metronet.co.uk)  
**Number:** 60

I am looking to do some weekend sailing as a crew member.  
I am experienced upto competent crew/ day skipper standard.  
Looking for some weekend sailing. I have done some yacht racing in the solent, across to France, cruising along the south coast and skippering with the family in the Med.  
My telephone number is 07779 355 267

Robin Robertson

Anybody may post a notice. Please take time out to check it out.

**John Barrett**

## CRUISING BULLETIN & INFORMATION SHEET N<sup>o</sup> 2/2010

### New date for your diary: 10 April - Cruising/ Fitting Out Supper

We have set a new date for the above function, hopefully everything will be up and running at the Club by then.

Please can all members who have been undertaking interesting voyages over the last year or if you know of someone who is undertaking an interesting trip, please submit an entry in to me by the end of March.

RAF Cup	Most Meritorious under sail	Performance
Fred Randell Plate	Most Meritorious under power	Performance
Variety Cup	Best kept log or article written on a sailing voyage.	

I look forward in anticipation at receiving your entry.

We have made a few changes this year; the first is we have a fully functioning cruising committee to help run the cruising section of the club.

Secondly, we would like to involve more members in the cruising activities, so far any member without yachts who would like to join in we will organise shore parties. To join us over the cruises please contact Cruising Committee member Derek Mallet [dojomallet@btinternet.com](mailto:dojomallet@btinternet.com) or Tel 07764 472201.

Thirdly, we will also be starting a crew registry for members who would like to join in a cruise who at present do not own a yacht. To register your interest please contact Stan Jacob, Cruising Committee Member, [stan.jacob@btinternet.com](mailto:stan.jacob@btinternet.com) or Tel 07773 969265.

**Nigel Collingwood**  
**Rear Commodore Cruising**

## IMPORTANT CRUISING INFORMATION

This is for all our boat owners who may be visiting the inland waterways of France, Belgium, Holland or Germany.

Firstly, **Black Water Tanks** (Holding Tanks for human waste):

These are now obligatory on inland waterways in Europe, and up to 12 miles offshore in Holland. HOWEVER! In France, Belgium and Germany, it is only obligatory for boats built after 2004. All boats built before that date are exempt.

BUT! In Holland it is obligatory for all boats, not only on the inland waterways, but up to 12 miles offshore as well! This rule came in on 1st January 2009.

HOWEVER! Because Holland does not have enough 'Pump-Out' Stations, the rule cannot, at this stage, be enforced. Therefore you can ignore it and carry on as usual.

Secondly, the use of **VHF Radios**. Most of Europe has signed the 'Basel Agreement'. The UK has not. If you want to know exactly what this means and exactly

what you have to do, the following 'Idiot's Guide' should help.

HOWEVER! On the inland waterways in France, Holland, Belgium & Germany, it is obligatory to have a VHF/DSC set that also operates on the ATIS Channel. BUT! It is NOT OBLIGATORY to have a VHF!

Therefore, if you have a perfectly good VHF aboard but it is too old to be up-graded to ATIS, simply switch it off and unplug it when on the inland waterways in Europe!

### Your VHF Radio (and what you need to do if you want to use it on the Continent)

#### 1. Glossary of new acronyms explained:

**RAINWAT:** Regional Arrangement concerning the Radiotelephone Service on INland WATERways.

This is the 'Basel Agreement' to which virtually the whole of Europe has signed up for, except Britain, and which governs the use of VHF Radios in European Inland waterways.

**BIPT:** Belgian Institute of Postal Services and Telecommunications

This is the Administration Centre for new VHF ATIS system.

**NOV:** Notice Of Variation

This is your ATIS number that you will be given by the BIPT and which must be programmed into your VHF/DSC Radio.

**ATIS:** Automatic Transmitter Identification System.

This is the new system that the 'Basel Agreement' has brought in and is a legal requirement in French, Belgian, Dutch and German Inland waterways.

The system transmits a unique data signal (called an FFSK), which is heard as a scratchy noise at the end of every transmission and it contains your unique ATIS Call Sign which in turn identifies you to coastal and inland stations.

**OFCOM:** Office for Radio Communications

This is the UK centre, which issues radio licences, call signs and MMSI numbers.

**GMDSS:** Global Maritime Distress and Safety System.

This is the new digital system that was brought in five or six years ago in the UK, and any new VHF radios bought now will be GMDSS sets or, as they are now known, VHF/DSC sets.

**DSC:** Digital Subscriber Calling.

This is how the new GMDSS sets operate, which is just like a mobile telephone. You can store numbers and make individual calls to other boats digitally, just like texting someone on your mobile phone.

**MMSI:** Maritime Mobile Service Identity

This is your personal unique DSC user number, rather like a mobile telephone number, that identifies you to Coastguard Stations.

## 2. What do you have to do to programme your VHF radio to comply with ATIS?

**Stage 1** The first requirement is to make sure your VHF radio is a 'DSC' set. If it is, the chances are that it can be programmed to the ATIS Channel group. If it is not a DSC set, then it will mean purchasing a new radio.

**Stage 2** Contact OFCOM by E-Mail and give them the following information:

Your name  
Your vessel's name  
Your Call Sign  
Your MMSI number.

If you do not have an MMSI number, you can request one from OFCOM at this stage.

E-Mail Address:  
[licensingcentre@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:licensingcentre@ofcom.org.uk)

**Stage 3** OFCOM will then send this information to BIPT who will then issue you with a NOV (ATIS Number), which you will receive electronically.

**Stage 4** Once you have your ATIS Number, you can contact the supplier of your radio who will re-programme your set to operate on the ATIS Channel.

**Stage 5** Once you have done all that and your radio is 'ATIS Operational', you must then print off a copy of the 'Basel Agreement', which must be kept, along with your NOV, aboard your boat with your Radio Licence.

The Basel Agreement' can be found at:

[www.rainwat.bipt.be/rainboat.html](http://www.rainwat.bipt.be/rainboat.html)

SIMPLES !!!

Hope this is useful to all our boat owners.

**Dick Smith**  
**Rear Commodore Sail**

### ENTERTAINMENT DIARY 2010

10 April	Cruising & Fitting-Out Supper
24 April	RNLI Supper / St George's Night
14 May	Michel Jonette Party Night
11 June	Scalextric Racing & Supper
16-21 August	Ramsgate Week, Entertainment TBA
4 September	Inter Club Quiz Night
25 September	Rifleman's / Officers Reunion Supper
24 October	Racing Crews' Lunch
6 November	Prize Giving
27 November	Club Dinner & Party Night
5 December	AGM
12 December	Children's Christmas Party, 3:15 start
18 December	Christmas Dinner
31 December	New Year Eve Dinner

## SOUTHERN IONIAN FLOTILLA

### Update/Reminder

Jo and Martin Ross (yacht *Magnum*), Sue and Tommy Foster and Davena and Roger Green have booked their yachts for the week starting 20 June. Last year we had six boats on flotilla (see account in September's newsletter). Should you wish to join us please contact Joanne Ross for details at:

[joanne.wall@complinet.com](mailto:joanne.wall@complinet.com)

or

07880 796963

(or Sue – details at the end of this newsletter)

### 300 CLUB – MONTHLY DRAW February 2010

No draw took place in February – next draw Sunday 28 March.

### TEMPLERS GOLF SOCIETY Match played 17 February 2010

#### Winners:

Peter Jackson	37 points (Cut 2)
Theresa Hack	30 points (Cut 1) on count back
Bill Crawford	30 points
Nearest the pin:	nobody

#### Players:

Eddie Beale  
Bill Crawford  
Douglas Hack  
Theresa Hack  
Peter Jackson  
Rod Oates  
Carol Say  
Florence Sparrow  
Richard Sparrow  
Ron Vaughan

#### Commentary:

The weather was fantastic for February, clear blue skies, sunshine, very little wind and temperatures reaching 16°C (if Ron's temperature gauge on his trolley is accurate....) A great day for golf enjoyed by everyone who played.

Under the new revised handicap rule for low handicap players Eddy Beal and Ron Vaughan both get one shot back going up to 7 and 8 respectively.

We also had two visiting players from Chart Hills Golf Club, John Stubbs who scored 34 points and his wife Pauline. They were guests of Richard and Florence Sparrow.

**Next Templers Meeting**  
**Wednesday 17 March 2010 @ 09.30**  
Anyone wishing to play please ring  
**Douglas Hack**  
**01843 582297**

Please send any contributions for compilation into the next issue or comments, etc to Sue Foster at  
[sueandtommyfoster@googlemail.com](mailto:sueandtommyfoster@googlemail.com)