

COMMODORE'S BLOG

What a busy time we've been having at the club. Work has commenced in the hold bar to update the section used by the Navigation School to bring it up to date with the bar area which was completed last year. Our thanks go to the Navigation School who are covering the cost of this works. We look forward to using this great area for more events.

Saturday, it was a pleasure to host the Ramsgate Lifeboat Coxswain, his crew and their partners. These guys and girls put themselves on the line time and again in aide of all seafarers. It is an honour to say a small thank you.



Enjoying the evening with our RNLI Crew

April Fools' Day sees the start to our sailing season. I'm sure you will all be out, hopefully not shivering, getting boats prepared for the first weekend regatta.

With all the chores done please pop into the yacht club for a warm up and sample the new coffee machine, a number of the bar staff will shortly be being trained up as Baristas. The new machine should be up and running by the middle of March, so look out for our coffee morning event and offers.

Andy Beaumont-Hope
Commodore

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Access to the front door of the Royal Temple Yacht Club

Recently a number of undesirable people have gained access to the club as the front door is left on the latch for ease of access for members. This has left staff and some members in a vulnerable position of having to deal with drunk and disorderly people who want to use the club facilities and bar. Once they have gained access it is very difficult to get rid of them.

I am afraid that a decision has had to be made that the club front door must be kept permanently locked for the security of not only the staff and members but the building itself. To assist with this would members please use their Gold Membership Card at all times to gain access to the club or alternatively use the Terrace entrance.

Elizabeth Anderson
Honorary Secretary

250 CLUB DRAW JANUARY 2017

£25	Nº 63	Mrs S Foster
£50	Nº 32	Mrs L Hatley
£100	Nº 116	Mr J Poupard
£200	Nº 15	Mr T Drummond
SNOWBALL (2016 accrued rollover)		
£300	Nº 134	Mr N Baggott (Absent)

**The February and March 2017 Draws will be held
on Sunday 26 March at 15:00**

THE BIG DRAW 2017

£250	Nº 64	Mr R Creighton
£50	Nº 3160	Mr C Nicholls
£1000	Nº 38	Mr Derek Smith
£200	Nº 193	Mr S Carter



**Congratulations to Stuart for scooping the
BIG prize and a big thank you for ringing the
Bar Bell to celebrate!**

SOCIAL MEDIA

Our Karen has been a veritable whirlwind of activity this month.....

Just to let everyone know that each month we are running a photography competition on our club's RTYC Ramsgate Facebook page. The subject is nautical, and the current month.....i.e this month is March. Up for grabs each month is a £20 top up on your gold card. Don't worry if you haven't got a Facebook account, just email your photograph to me at coxinthebox63@gmail.com, and I will enter it for you. The winner is chosen by the amount of likes on Facebook that the picture gets. Non- members can also enter and they will be invited into the club, preferably on a cruising social evening and given £20 credit towards drinks. So please share this email with any amateur photographer friends you have. Last month the winner was a non-member Brian Whitehead, who is however familiar with the club as he is the Secretary for Probus. His picture is below. Hopefully if we can get enough pictures we can look towards printing a calendar for next year. Good luck everyone!



Brian Whitehead being congratulated on winning January photo comp



On Wednesday 22nd February I was invited, by the EKYA Chairman Helen Hofmann, to do a short talk on social media and how the RTYC make use of it, to be held at Margate SC. When I agreed I hadn't realised that it was their actual AGM and I would be presenting to a room full of Commodores and RCS's as well as the RYA's Regional Chairman Bill Shepherd. Thankfully there was no time for nerves and I was well prepared so was able to talk coherently on the subject.

Please send any contributions for compilation into the next issue or comments, etc to Sue Foster at sueandtommyfoster@gmail.com

It soon became apparent that although some clubs including Broadstairs embrace it as a way of interacting with their members some clubs still view it with suspicion. Hopefully I was able to calm their fears and help them to realise that used sensibly and with control it is a useful tool. And also that if they are after sponsorship, as in the case of Ramsgate Week, then it's an invaluable way of proving your worth to sponsors.

The meeting went on for over 3 hours, and time again they came back to me with questions which led to further discussions. All in all I felt it was a mutually beneficial evening, and I felt extremely honoured to be invited and be able to showcase our club and Ramsgate Week.

Below is a rather grainy photo, as the lighting was awful, of the evening.



Don't forget we have on Facebook the RTYC Ramsgate, Ramsgate Week and also the Ramsgate Illuminations pages and on twitter we have @RamsgateWeek page.

Any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

All the best

Karen
Social Media Coordinator

CARVERY
SUNDAY 5 MARCH 2017
COMMENCING 12.30



Please book your table
01843591766

WALKING GROUP

RTYC Walking Group is building nicely, February saw 20 members walk along a slightly rocky damp beach towards Pegwell Bay before enjoying lunch in the Sunny Belle Vue Garden



The next outing for the walking group will be

Thursday 16th March

Minster Marshes 3.5 mile Circular Walk - Lunch at the New Inn. Meet at 11am Minster Train Station.

We are heading to Minster. Meeting at Minster train station car park for 11am - the 3.5 mile circular walk takes you down country lanes and along the river Stour. A well-earned lunch will follow at the New Inn. Please put your name down if you are coming, thanks Carol. info@rtyc.com 01843591766

QUIZ NIGHT



3 MARCH 2017 AT 1930

Tables of up to 6 - only £5.00 per person includes a

Cheese Platter per table and a Glass of Wine

Quiz Master, Karen Cox provides a great fun and ever so slightly competitive evening! A great way to catch up with old friends and make some new ones. You can either book a table or individually, just call or email

me carol@rtyc.com

DIARY DATES

Fri	03.03.2017	Quiz Night with Cheese and Wine £5 per head. Starting at 7.30pm
Thurs	09.03.2017	Cruising & New Members Social
Sun	12.03.2017	Remote control Little Boats in Royal Outer Marina East side
Thurs	16.03.2017	NEW - RTYC Walking Group - Walk & Lunch
Sat	18.03.17	Murder Mystery SOLD OUT
Sat	25.03.2017	Boat Owners /Fitting Out/ Buffet Curry
Sun	26.03.17	Mothering Sunday Carvery
Sun	26.03.2017	Remote control Little Boats in Royal Outer Marina East side

APRIL

Thurs	13.04.2017	Cruising & New Members Social
Easter	14 to 17 April	
Sat	15.04.2017	Clive's Birthday Party - The Moments playing in the Bar
Sat	22.04.17	St George's Night

More information on all the events will be posted nearer the time.

Boat Owners Meeting 6pm
Fitting Out Curry Supper
7.30pm 25th March 2017
Curry Buffet £10
choice of 2 Curry's with all the trimmings
Put your name down – Pay on the day!
To book call the club or email info@rtyc.com
or book at bar!

Mothers' Day Carvery

3 COURSES £22.50

SUNDAY 26TH MARCH 2017 - 12.30 - 4pm

Pre Bookings Only!

Please call 01843 591766 or email carol@rtyc.com



SAVE THE DATES

RAMSGATE WEEK 2017

23-28 JULY

ramsgateweek.com



TEMPLE TEASER

Total Trivia
from Stuart Carter

Answers on Page 8

1. Name the Scottish poem that features the witch Cutty Sark
2. When was the first functioning Navstar GPS satellite launched: 1978, 1988, or 1998?
3. What is "going over the hump" in a hovercraft?
4. Which English actor is described as the patron saint of "talk like a pirate days"?
5. What sort of weather can you expect if you see a lunar halo?
6. Five British ships have had the name "Ark Royal". What famous naval engagement did the first one take part in?
7. Patented in 1821, what piece of equipment had a better holding-power-to-weight-ratio than what it replaced?
8. On a steamship what is a mack: a combined smokestack and mast; a short mast; a type of anchor?
9. What is the name of the optical instrument that creates an exact line of sight to a distant object: an Adelaide; an alidade or an alignaid?
10. In heraldry what does an anchor represent: salvation, hope and religious steadfastness; the power of the sea; faith, hope and charity?



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"I would like to say how enjoyable it has been dealing with yourself and your company. You are not only knowledgeable but incredibly helpful. I think many brokers should look at your operation. I have always bought privately in the past." - Neil Duffinford, Chichester

"I happened to find your company on Cruise through 'Highway Marine Group'... When handling so much time and money in your domain, you don't want anything to go wrong... especially when it's been done. Richard and the team did a great job. They are very service oriented and helped me with every matter along the way, including paperwork, transport etc. Above all, they are honest. Great people that care about their customers and reputation. Please address me another boat from 'Highway Marine Group' without hesitation." - Michael Rowland, Colchester, Ipswich



Pillory Gate Wharf, Sandwich
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Cruising, Racing & Social Calendars for 2017

The Club's Sailing and Entertainment calendars are now available on the Club's website, however if you would like more information on any of the events, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Thanks
Carol

Ramsgate Sea Cadets Prize Giving

Thank you to the Sea Cadets for inviting officers from the RTYC to attend their ceremony on Friday 17 February. Stan took this splendid photograph commemorating the event.



SAILING



Club Racing 2017

I am pleased to say that the 2017 Racing Programme is now available on the club's website and the number of potential boats racing this year will make this a very exciting and competitive season ahead of us all!

By way of an informal introduction to the 2017 racing programme and to talk through some changes to the race management, an owner/skippers/representative briefing evening is scheduled for **Saturday 25th March**. The briefing will commence at **18:00** and will be followed by a buffet curry. Please make a note in your dairies now and more info will follow in due course.

However prior to this briefing, please note the date of the **Frostbite Cup** which will kick-off the season on **Saturday 1st April** (no joke!). This standalone trophy race will be followed by a prize giving, entertainment and refreshments in the club in the evening to welcome the start of the first Spring Series race on the 2nd April in style. So, to give yourself the chance for early season silverware and a competitive shake-down before the start of the spring series, factor this event in to your boat preparations!

Finally, when possible, please complete the RTYC race series entry on the website.

Matthew Green

Rear Commodore Sail

Please send any contributions for compilation into the next issue or comments, etc to Sue Foster at sueandtommyfoster@gmail.com



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ROUND THE ISLAND RACE 2017

Entropy (Martin Ross) is taking part this year – are any other Club boats planning to compete?

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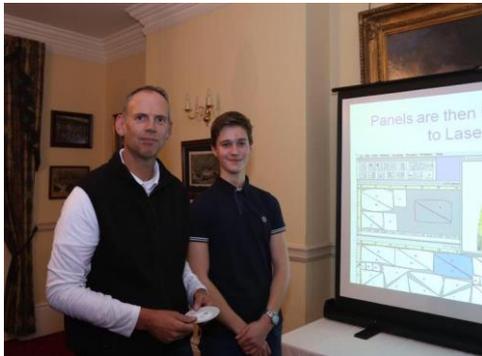
8-12 Harold Road, Margate, Kent, CT9 2HT

CRUISING

Social Drinks at the Club 2nd Thursday every month

The Cruising section was quiet for the month of February and the only trips were those of our members who are abroad. Our cruising programme for 2017 follows, and as you can see the two main cruises are to Holland in June, and the east Coast in August. If you are interested in either of these trips, please let me know. We have also pencilled in a number of other trips, but as always these will depend on availability of crew, school holidays and of course the weather. Consequently the programme may change slightly during the year, but we will keep you updated.

The highlight of our month was a talk given by Simon Northrop. Simon spoke about **The Sail Making Process** and **Sail Control** and **Sail Care**. This was probably the most interesting and enjoyable talk we have had at the Club for some time. It was very well attended and we owe Simon a great debt of gratitude for his efforts.



Stan Jacob
RCC

Cruising Calendar

14 April	Easter Cruise	Dover/Boulogne
26 May	Cruise	Brightlingsea
3 June	Cruise	Chatham
24 June-8July	Summer Cruise	Holland
8-9 July	With the Race Fleet	Dover
23-28 July	Ramsgate Week	
15-27 August	East Coast Cruise	Orwell/Lowestoft
September TBA	Cruise	Brightlingsea
30 September	Thames Trafalgar Race	
24-24 Nov	Beaujolais Nouveau Weekend	Boulogne/RCPYC

Cruising Trophies

Please present Log Books to either the Honorary Secretary or the Rear Commodore Cruising by the end of October for the previous year's cruising.

RAF Cup: Most meritorious cruising performance under Sail.
Stuart MacKenzie Cup: For the most meritorious contribution to cruising in the last year.

Fred Randell Plate: Most meritorious cruising performance under power. The above trophies are open to any member owning a sail or power boat who can demonstrate that his or her cruise was well planned and executed. The trophies will be awarded to the most interesting cruises not necessarily the longest.

Variety Club Cup 'Best Kept Log or Article'

Open to any RTYC boat, sail or power. Log to be kept in narrative form, noting relevant navigational information as well as interesting shore side activities.

RAMSGATE TO CALAFELL, SPAIN Dom Watson

Part 2

The next day was a short 6 ½ hour day to Nouvelle Marina Port St Louis at Pk 81 (there are signs every kilometre along the canals so that you know where you are and the books are also printed in this way. The Pk means Point Kilométrique).

Do not be fooled, this harbour is not new! The pontoons have seen better days, as has the shower (yes I did say THE), there is only one loo. The fuel pontoon is virtually aground and by the owners own admission they do not sell much diesel – so I passed on filling up!!!! We were now on the run in to my birthplace- Paris.

I cannot describe the funny feeling inside as I realised that this was the bucket list entry that would now be ticked off. My childhood dream realised, all the places I went through first as a child and then as a teenager, where my grandfather lived all seen from the river.



We could only spend 1 night in Paris Arsenal as unfortunately it was full for the winter, so we had to

go on to Nogent sur Marne – also owned by the same company as Arsenal, where we would leave the boat for two weeks. The next day we departed after a good lifelong friend had paid us a quick visit.

The voyage continued down the Seine, following a barge into a lock, the first of many barges we were to see and talk to as well as the first and shortest of three tunnels we would go through.

So to Nogent sur Marne, where we left the boat.



We returned after two weeks on 30th October. This time it was just Hazel and I. Our friends had helped with the first part, now the two of us would take Grand Slam down through the canals, with the destination in mind of Lyon, where Hazel would return and my cousin would join me to continue the trip to Spain.

So we fuelled up and went on our merry way. The sun was shining, it was fresh and we now relied upon our Briel books to help us.

We had left the Seine and were now on the Marne.

Due to air draught and canal depths we had no



option but to go via the Marne and Canal de Champagne a Bourgogne, then the Saone and Rhone.

The

countryside was pretty, there was no wind, the only problem was the 3 knot speed limit!! So I was at tick over doing 4 ½ to 5kts.

The locks got narrower, the canal got shallower with 0.40 on the depth sounder, we soon began to see that as the norm, only getting worried when it went down to 0.1 yes it did reach 0 a few times so it was engines to neutral and hope it was either some weeds or a nice soft bottom. We also met a peniche or two coming the other way. As you can see they were very tight in the locks and we only had 18” either side at best.



The lock system is very interesting. Some are manned, some actioned by a pole suspended across the canal, some are worked by

remote to open and prepare the lock 200m before you get there and then a pole on the lock wall to activate

once inside, others the remote does everything, others you are escorted by a VNF lady in her car who goes along and prepares then you help open the sluices and the gates.

No two locks are the same. The bollards are in different places, the mooring rings may or may not exist, the poles can be on port or starboard and every entrance is different as is every exit. The bow thruster cannot always be used because of the amount of leaves, twigs and branches in the lock.

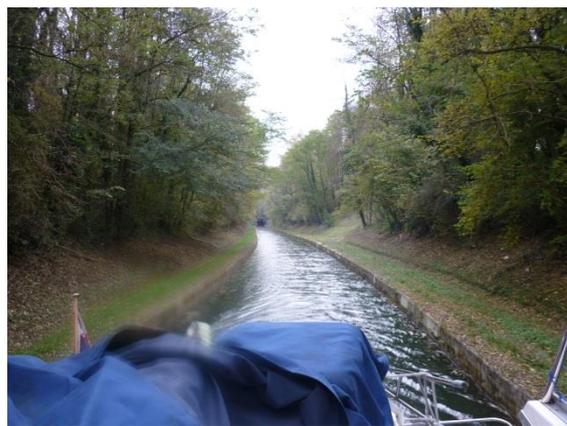
So we continued in and out of locks, we had fitted a midships cleat on the flybridge rail which

proved invaluable,

so it was bow and centre mooring rope and nothing more. The entry and exit being an exercise with Hazel



keeping an eye on the stern whilst I tried to keep the bows in the centre. One little addition was that a number of locks have a mini bridge either before or after . At the the very start the height is 3.40 metres, if you get under that then you can get under all of them. We had 20cm to spare – loads of room, but had to duck for each one. Not easy to duck and steer your way out of a lock at the same time. Practice makes perfect and we certainly had a lot of practice.



The

choices of where to stop are quite difficult with a sea boat. The canal boats just drive up the bank or pull over to the side as they only draw a maximum of 90cm and are flat bottomed. No such choice for us. At Conde sur Marne we found one mooring spot with a baker nearby. The harbour master came out by car specially to turn the power and water on for us late

that night. Just as well as it froze so we were glad of the heating.

Once or twice as we bumbled on down we were told that we had arrived rather quickly – speed limit of 2.5 knots and I was doing twice that! Once they saw the boat, heard the engines and saw us manoeuvring they quickly understood why we were going a little quicker than they were accustomed.

St. Dizier was a lovely stop over as the mooring is free, with free power and water. Tokens are collected from the swimming baths opposite, just after the lock. I also filled up from a tanker here.

There are no showers though, so we were advised to buy two tickets to the pool, have a swim, a jacuzzi and a shower. So that is what we did. So refreshing and aided aching tired muscles and joints.

Here we saw the way barges enter locks. A barge came down and crashed his way into the lock, using the concrete sides to slide his barge in. I could have sworn I saw the barge bend as he hit the side.

On we went, watching the local wildlife, coypu, egrets, buzzards and herons. The herons are fascinating. Each has its patch and they only go as far as their boundary before another takes over. They fly just ahead of the boat, land, watch and then fly on again doing this in several stages. Then we discovered why. The boats disturb the fish, the fish go to the side and then, I had never seen it before, the heron dives bodily in to catch the fish. During all of our canal trip we had herons with us all the way, but only two ever caught a fish.



The weather stayed clear, though cold – it was November – and then came the tunnel!! It is 5km long, has an approach canal either side which is about 1.5km

long, a speed limit of 3kph and it is lit.

We had less than 18" either side, there is a walkway on the starboard side and fans that hang down giving 3.4m headroom. As we went along, we were about halfway in when all the lights went out and stayed out for about 10 minutes. A scramble for the searchlight, cannot afford to stop, using the nav lights to gauge the distance from the side. Heart in mouth is an understatement!

Finally the lights came back on. Apparently if one goes too fast the sensors don't pick up the movement, they think there is nothing and the lights go out. NOT FUNNY!!



...To be continued next month

TEMPLE TEASER SOLUTION

From page 4

1. Robert Burns "Tam O Shanter"
2. 1978
3. When starting off the craft must ride over the bow wave that forms in front of it
4. Robert Newton who played Long John Silver on film
5. The halo is caused by a refraction through ice crystals and is often a sign of wet weather
6. The defeat of the Spanish Armada
7. The stockless anchor
8. A combined smokestack and mast
9. An Alidade
10. Salvation, hope and religious steadfastness.

TEMPLERS GOLF SOCIETY

While Captain Dave Comiskey was sunning himself in Tenerife, once again the more hardy Templers golfers took on the might of the Westgate and Birchington golf course. As a trolley ban was in force for the week, our happy band of golfers were restricted to carrying their clubs.

Our winner this month was new member Steve King with a very impressive 38 points which included a "blob" on the 17th due to a slightly misdirected drive towards the Ursuline Convent. Well done Steve with only 7 clubs. Second place went to another new member Colin Chapman and nearest the pin on the 5th was Mark Andrews. A special prize of a fine bottle of claret was presented to Sam Matsubara for being nearest the pin in two on the 18th.

It was good to see Rod Oates back playing after hand surgery earlier last year. Welcome back Rod.

The eclectic will now be entering its fourth month with the top three positions as follows:

John Barrett 43 points
Mark Andrews 41 points
David Say 40 points



Next game is on
Wednesday 15th March.
Tee off 10.15 sharp!!

*David Say
Vice Captain*



TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT

The Table Tennis Competition in the hold bar on the 19th February bought out the competitive side in all of us! The eventual winner was also the organiser, Club Manager Carol Stokes, with the runner up Dorota.



Our Hon Sec Elizabeth presented the cup. Thank you to everyone that took part, and also helped arrange it.



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