



COMMODORE'S BLOG

Things are a little quieter in the club during November as the end of season events draw to a close and before they ramp up again for Christmas. However, with the very well attended Navigation School Classes on Monday through Wednesday and a number of other events it is still quite lively, especially with the Snooker competitors popping in regularly to practice as the 2017 tournament gets under way. I need much more practice than most as I've yet to get passed the first round. Good luck to all competitors.

It was a pleasure to attend the first, at least for a long time, Cruising Supper and Prize giving. A very pleasant evening was had by all with some very well deserved prizes awarded. We look forward to seeing this event grow and hearing more of our cruisers' many adventures.

I thought it was early to be attending our first Christmas party before the end of November, let alone switching on the lights in the harbour, although it was certainly cold enough. Looking around the harbour on that Sunday evening from the Club balcony it was certainly looking a lot like Christmas.

If you've decorated your boat, well done, if not don't be a Bah Humbug; it's great for the harbour, looks amazing and brings out the festive cheer. You never know, your little ship may be on the telly or you could even win a prize! Go on get involved.

As we all start filling our diaries for the festive season don't forget to support the up and coming club events. I know many of you have supported these events for many years, but if you've not been for a while come along and say hello.

Don't forget on the 20th December the Christmas Service in the Sailors Church followed closely on the 21st by Christmas Drinks at the RTYC hosted by the Club Officers.

Merry Christmas

Andy Beaumont-Hope
Commodore



250 CLUB DRAW NOVEMBER 2017

£25	Nº124	Mrs C Richardson
£50	Nº 72	Mrs J Koumbas
£100	Nº150	Mr E Ball
£200	Nº 17	Mrs P Walkling
SNOWBALL		
£225	Nº 13	Mr S Flegg (A)

NEXT DRAW SUNDAY 7 JANUARY 2018

NB: The draw will be held in the Hold Bar if the Main Bar redecoration has commenced

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Kym Leatt	Upgrade to joint
Paul Sayers	Probationary
Adem Akyol	Probationary

We look forward to seeing you in the Club, enjoying the facilities and attending events.

Royal Temple Yacht Club



Christmas Opening Hours

The Clubhouse will be open to members during the following hours.

Christmas Eve Sunday	12.00 noon to 10.00 p.m.
Christmas Day Monday	12.00 noon to 3.00 p.m.
Boxing Day Tuesday	12.00 noon to 3.00 p.m.
Wednesday, Thursday Friday, Saturday	Normal Hours until
New Year's Eve Saturday	12 noon to 1.00 a.m.
New Year's Day Sunday	12 noon to 3.30 p.m.

The Club will close earlier if there are no members present.

**WE ARE PLEASED TO BRING TO YOUR
ATTENTION A GREAT NEW OFFER FOR
MEMBERS**

AMBER ROSE
Exclusive Ladies Wear
beautiful, elegant fashions including the
ever-popular Joules brand

NOW OPEN AT
55c Queen Street, Ramsgate

****RTYC Gold Card holders will receive 10% discount****

www.amber-rose.space – Tel: 01843 580548

SOCIAL MEDIA

Our Facebook pages this month has been mainly dominated by coverage of the ARC and the progress of club member Nick Rawbone's yacht *NoStress*. If ever a yacht was misnamed it's this as they seem to have had a series of minor problems. If you would like to follow their progress you can on this website <https://www.wo.rldcruising.com/arc/eventfleetviewer.aspx> or their personal blog on yacht pornostress.com but below is a selection from their daily blog.



Day 4 - Dolphins not Gremlins

Touch wood, this is the first day so far we haven't had to open the tool chest - affectionately known as Pandora's Tool Box. "Jennie" (the neurotic generator) and (most) PC issues, like the sight of dry land,

are currently things of the past.

The crew busied themselves with other daily chores then there was time for a full English breakfast for lunch - those that know the crew won't be surprised at the menu when they hear that it's Des on galley duty today.

The daily weather report suggests that our chosen course looks favourable at the moment. We're making good progress west and the wind has been steady - which is a welcome change from the headwinds of the early hours of the morning.

Highlights of the day have included: Jake almost landing a dorado for dinner; the skipper getting woken from his siesta by a rogue wave that came over the foredeck and straight through the hatch above his bunk (the crew were most sympathetic and nobody laughed at all); and our first visit from a pod of dolphins - a family of around 25 that played alongside us for 10 minutes or so.

We're all settling into the shift patterns now and as we write this, things are slowing down for the night watches. It's been a really good day today and spirits are high - though we miss you all.

Hoping all's well with everyone back home. Take care & thanks for checking in on us.

Day 6 - Vodka Martini, shaken - not stirred

No mile munching today. Although we started the night by making good headway, an unexpected local weather system saw us much closer to the edge of the storm than we'd like to be.

We turned south to escape the adverse conditions but the low pressure system and 45 mph headwinds had other the weather. The climate was remarkable. Being on the edge of a mid-Atlantic storm system in a small boat is not for the faint-hearted. Sitting in the cockpit, rain lashing, wind howling and the sea tumbling and confused. Looking out to the horizon miles away over the rolling watery mountains one could see nature's finest firework display. Sheets and bolts of lightning that illuminate the whole sky casting strange shadows in the gloom. Thunderclaps that start with an earth-splitting crack and rumble on and on like some malevolent mythical creature that's been unwelcomely roused from slumber. As your thoughts wander it's easy to imagine why ancient mariners might have thought the world ended over a horizon - I didn't want to be anywhere nearer to this storm than we already were. And you're five days away from home. You can't stop the ride to get off, or refuge in a nearby shelter until it blows over. Then you realise why people love their boats. *NoStress* is our shelter, she carried us through the challenging conditions with aplomb, protected us and saw us safely through to the next part of our journey. Thank you *NoStress*, we owe you!

By early afternoon the worst of the weather had abated. We'd ran south with our tail between our legs but now we could tack west again and get back on track. The team spent the rest of the day doing minor tasks, recovering from the tough night we'd had and reviewing weather information to see if we missed anything in previous reports, and how the recent changes might affect our strategy moving forward.

After green chicken curry and getting ready for night shifts a call is taken to tack south again. The foreboding clouds to our north might be responsible for some of the wind we're chasing but nobody's ready for a repeat of yesterday's thrills.

So the crew signs off, tired but happy and hoping for a smooth night's sailing with fair winds and weather. Thinking of you all.

Day 7 - Due South

Lightning does strike twice it seems.

The storm to our north came further south than was forecast and chased us throughout another long night, surrounding us with flashes on the horizon as we continued our escape, eagerly watching the barometer finally starting to climb.

Reading the fleet updates from the ARC Comms this morning it appears that this has been a far from ideal start for many. Of those that went North some, like us, have turned away from the weather, others have tried to go through or above it and several have returned to the mainland with damage. For those that went South they found little wind and some have motored to Cape Verde to pick up more fuel and supplies. For us conditions have gradually improved through the day and we expect to clear the weather system tomorrow morning.

We then have some things to think about. We're behind schedule compared to a typical ARC and the boat has a few minor bumps and bruises after her hard few days (Archie the autopilot isn't working at the moment due to a technical fault and he's missed). We need to take time to make some minor repairs, but we desperately need to make time up if we're to make it to Saint Lucia. "Sign up for the ARC", they said, "boredom is usually the biggest problem", they said. Nobody's bored. Tired but positive is the way I'd describe the crew's spirits today - which rose

as the day progressed, almost in time with the previously mentioned barometer's needle.

With the wind speed finally dropping below 20 knots and no longer being on our nose we're hopeful that tonight we can get some of the sleep that's been so elusive over the past 48 hours. Hoping that normal service will be resumed tomorrow.

Day 11 - False Alarm

Pandora's box is the alarm in question - she was reached for, but thankfully wasn't needed. Disappointed not to be doing regular maintenance Jake was happy to go up the mast and make some minor tweaks to the gear. After a quick rig check we dropped the main and are now running with a double head-sail set with the wind right behind us. We're on a heading of about 235 as we try to sniff out the stronger breezes that are supposed to be a little further South.

We're now less than 2,000 miles from our destination. Unsurprisingly this news didn't bring the cheers from the crew one might have originally expected. Maybe if it had been on day 5 or 6, but after 11 days of sailing it can't help but trigger the mathematician in people's psyche. At that rate we'd just about make St. Lucia in time for New Year! We've logged over 1,000 miles on the trip so far, but we had to retrace our steps more than we'd have liked (private joke for the team of Playing Around: "You've got to go up to come down"). The simple maths is:

- The ARC finish line shuts in 15 days.
- We have 2,000 miles to do.
- $2,000/15 = 133$ miles per day.
- $133/24 = 5.5$ knots (nautical mph)

So, we need to be cruising at 6 knots or more 24/7 for the next two weeks - assuming we took the shortest route - which we can't, but we might get close. It'll be tight. All the crew are hoping for firm and steady trade winds so we can soak up the miles on this main part of the journey.

Away from the charts and the plotting table and life continues as normal for an Atlantic crossing. We saw our first flying fish. The sun has been uninterrupted by clouds for the whole day and Jake beat the skipper twice at chess (not sure how wise that was). Dinner was spaghetti bolognese with freshly grated Parmesan, and as a special treat, Fanta - don't laugh it's in limited supply - and remember, there's no beer on board! The team are settled in for the night watch routine again - I'm sure there'll be dreams of downwind cruising at 11 knots and early arrivals in the Caribbean onboard tonight. Wishing you all well, and thanks again for reading.

As you can see from these few extracts they are not having the easiest of times, so follow their blog or watch our Facebook page to see how they fare.

Somebody else who has not had an easy time are club members Claire Thomas and Peter Binskin-Barnes. Poor Claire has managed to get ringworm as this extract details:

Not all sunshine and sailing, woken by the Spanish fishing fleet, who for some reason think it is a good idea to come in at 5.30am at warp factor 50, and it is chilly so have had to dig out woolly tights!!

Back home I shared pictures of our first Little Boats outing on 5th November at Anorak Cove. It was a very chilly morning, and I only lasted half an hour on the pontoon but Paul Woodward, David and Adrian Tomlinson braved the cold to engage in battle on the water. I was greeted by sounds of laughter so it appears they were having fun, and informed that it's completely ok to hit the mark when rounding it and also to crash into each other's boats! Prize

giving for Little Boats will be Sunday 17th December at 2pm in the club.

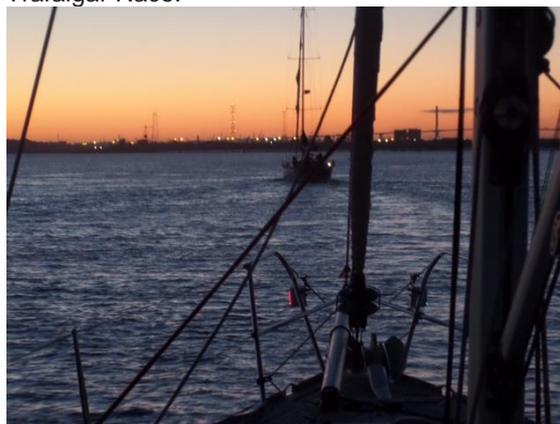


Our most popular article which was viewed by 2190 people was an article on Ramsgate Illuminations that was written by Stan Jacobs. We would like to encourage everyone to light up their boats and make this year an even bigger success. The picture below is by a local photographer John Smiddy Smith of last year.



On 19th November we celebrated the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh's 70th Wedding Anniversary which is an incredible achievement. To mark the event in the club we raised a glass of bubbly to them.

And last but no means least, we had the photographic competition winner. We were a bit thin on the ground this month, so please can I encourage you to send your entries in. There is a prize each month to be won of £20 on your Gold Card. This month's winner was Don Gray with this picture below taken whilst sailing back to Ramsgate from the Trafalgar Race.



I'm looking forward to receiving some photos of the Ramsgate Illuminations for December's competition so get your cameras out! That's all from me this month.

Happy Christmas,



Karen

DIARY DATES

December

Sun	3	Carvery / 250 Club Draw /RNLI Shop
Thurs	7	Decorating the Christmas Tree
Sun	10	Children's Christmas Party
Thurs	14	Cruising Social
Fri	15	Illuminations Presentation
Sat	16	Christmas Dinner
Sun	17	Little Boats Prizegiving – 2pm
Wed	20	Carol Service – Sailors Church 7.30pm
Thurs	21	Officers' Drinks
Sun	31	New Year's Eve Party

2018

Sunday 25 February

11.30am Annual General Meeting



• The most effective brokerage service in Kent
• Established for over 45 years
• Free hardstanding while your boat sells
• Full boatyard facilities at the best price in Kent

TESTIMONIALS:

"In 2014 and 2015, I had a great time in Kent thanks to being through the purchase of the yacht 'Mistral' with the maximum amount of tax. Thanks also to James for the excellent delivery service of the boat from Ramsgate to Othman. The boat was delivered safely on the ice. Good doing business with Highway Marine - highly recommended!" - Mike Nicholson, Chichester

"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 look many brokers around Kent at your operation. I have always bought privately in the past" - Neil Hutchinson, Dover

"I bought a boat from England to Sweden through Highway Marine Group. When handling so much time and money in your chain, you don't want anything to go wrong - especially when it then comes to the boat in the water. I had a great time and the boat was delivered safely on the ice. Good doing business with Highway Marine - highly recommended!" - James G. King, Ramsgate. I bought people that care about their customers and reputation. I would definitely buy another boat from Highway Marine Group without hesitation." - Andrew Staines, Canterbury, Kent




Pillory Gate Wharf, Sandwich

www.highwaymarinegroup.co.uk 01304 613925

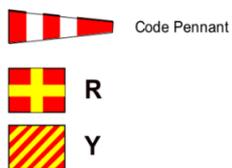
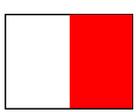


TEMPLE TEASER

from Stuart Carter

Solution on Page 8

FLAGS AND SIGNALS

- Which is the only one of the letter flags not to have a single flag meaning?
- What is the meaning of this flag? 
- What is the meaning of this commonly used 2 flag signal? 
- Where would you see this version of the same signal? 
- What time should the ensign be raised and lowered?
- Who is alleged to have started this practice and why?
- Which two essential documents are needed before you can fly the club ensign?
- Can you fly the club ensign on a boat you have chartered?
- What does this single flag mean? 
- And this single flag 

Children's Christmas Party
 Sunday 10th December 3pm - 5pm
 Open to Members Children and Grand-Children



RTYC Presents
CHRISTMAS DINNER
 Saturday 16th December 2017
 6.45pm Cocktail Reception - 7.30pm Dinner (Black Tie)

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Menu</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Prawn & Crayfish Salad Turkey and all the Trimmings Christmas Pudding Mince Pies Coffee</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Ticket Price: £35.00</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Phone the club to book your place or ask at the bar</p>
---	--

Traditional Christmas Singalong

NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER

Black Tie
 7pm for 7.30pm
 Tickets: £45.00

Shimmer & Shine
 Theme

MENU
 FISH CHOWDER
 Amuse-Bouche
 ROAST BEEF & TRIMMINGS
 PROFITEROLES with WARM CHOCOLATE SAUCE
 COFFEE

ROYAL TEMPLE YACHT CLUB

NAVIGATION & SAIL TRAINING SCHOOL VHF DSC Course

Saturday 27th January 2018
09.30-16.00

Notes:

1 Friday 26th

- Student Packs should be collected on Friday 26th from 12.00 and Students are expected to do 2-3 hours of Private Study, either in the Hold Bar or at Home, before the commencement of the course on Saturday.
- Two VHF Radios will be set up in the Hold Bar and will be available for practice from 12.00 - 22.00
- Your Instructor will be available in the Club for assistance from 12.00 -15.00.

2 The Practical Exams

- Practical Exams will be conducted on Saturday 27th from 16.00 - 18.00 and on Sunday 28th from 09.30.
- The Exams will be conducted individually or in pairs, with a duration of approximately 45 minutes.
- Students will be allocated a time/day for their Exam. (please ask if you have a preference for Saturday or Sunday)

Course Fee - £80.00

which includes

All RYA Course Materials,
Examination Fees and RYA VHF Licence

Application Forms available on the Table in the Main Bar or on request from the Club Office.

OVER 150 VARIETIES OF FLOORING

Riga Bros (UK) Ltd are a local flooring supplier located on Ramsgate Harbour.

We supply engineered wood, marble, porcelain, luxury vinyl and safety flooring.

We obtain a large proportion of our stock directly from the manufacturers, enabling us to pass on trade prices to our customers.

Visit our showroom today!

Riga Bros (UK) Ltd - Flooring Supplies
10 Military Road, Ramsgate, CT11 9LG www.rigabros.com
Tue - Fri: 9:00 - 17:00, Sat: 9:00 - 13:00 01843 446640

What do you do when the Racing Season ends?

RTYC members Paula (Race Hut team) and Andrew (*Entropy* crew) Walking spent Sunday 5th November competing in the London to Brighton Vintage Car Rally.

Fortunately, the weather was bright and sunny when they set off in their friends', Suzie and Paul's, 1904 Cadillac affectionately known as *Cuddy*.



They finally reached Brighton with no mishaps just before 3pm, having made a couple

of stops en route for 'refuelling', to meet up with their support team Julie and Chris Rook



The photographs show them in their colourful vintage outfits.

Chris did wonder "Is there a Chelsea Pensioner wandering around London in just his vest and pants"?



Well done team.

CRUISING



Social Drinks at the Club 2nd Thursday every month

We may not have had many cruises during the last month but the Cruising Section has been busy during the month.

The Club has started to make preparations for the Ramsgate Illuminations event, and many of our boats lit up on the 26th November to support the Christmas Lights switch on in Ramsgate. As always, it was a stunning spectacle, and by Christmas we hope to have a record number of boats lit up. If you look on Facebook, you can see a huge number of photographs and videos of our boats. It has attracted a great deal of interest and the visitors have started to make tracks to Ramsgate already.



We held a Cruising Supper on the 9th November, the first in a number of years. It was a highly enjoyable event, and attracted a large number of members and guests. Josh and Julia Lidstone gave a fascinating talk on their trip around the UK on *Lunar Sea*. They had a number of challenging events, but thanks to Josh's great seamanship they overcame these. Many people commented on the lovely photographs Julia produced, to thanks so thanks to Josh and Julia for that.



This was also the night when we awarded the Cruising trophies. They were:

RAF Cup: Most meritorious cruising performance under Sail. – **Tony Nicholson**

Stuart MacKenzie Cup: For the most meritorious contribution to cruising in the last year- **Tony Peers**

Fred Randell Plate: Most meritorious cruising performance under power - **Dom Watson**

Variety Club Cup 'Best Kept Log or Article –
Josh Lidstone



A total of eight members of the RTYC attended the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve Yacht Club's annual dinner on the 17th at the invitation of their Commodore, Peter Costalas. This was a very enjoyable event held at The Little Ship Club in London.

Don't forget our last Cruising Social for the year will be held on the 7th December when we will also be helping Karen Cox to decorate the Christmas tree

Stan Jacob
RCC

HYDE SAILS **50** **CLIPPER**
WORLD **OFFICIAL SUPPLIER**

MAKING SAILS THE WAY YOU WANT

For all new sail enquiries or service and visit needs contact:
SIMON & SANDY NORTHRUP
HYDE SAILS KENT
+44 (0)1843 851 665
kent@hydesails.co.uk

HYDE SAILS KENT, 13 MILITARY RD, RAMSGATE HARBOUR, KENT, CT11 9EG

VICE COMMODORE'S SUMMER HOLIDAY ABOARD *MUSCATEER*

Episode I

Now winter is with us and with Christmas approaching, it's nice to look back and reflect on last summer's holiday before we start planning for next year.

After being unexpectedly elevated to the dizzy heights of a Flag Officer, just days before I departed for one of the longest summer holidays Bev and I have ever had, I feel a report of said holiday is obligatory. It was definitely a holiday of 'Parts'!

Part 1

For the first ten days we had the pleasure of the company of our 10-year-old Grand Daughter, Poppy. It would have been really good if we could have gone sailing, but day after day the temperature rose to 37° + and the wind never quite reached 3 knots. So, even pumping up a rubber ring for swimming created puddles of sweat and required a quiet sit down in an air-conditioned bar! But 10 year olds are lively and things had to be done, so 'Grand Dad' loaded Poppy onto the rear carrier of the bike and rode off to the safe and shallow swimming area, leaving Nanny by herself on the boat to relax under the bimini with a glass of wine! The phrase 'short straw' came to mind! Each day the routine was the same; a few odd jobs on the boat in the morning before the temperature reached 30+ and work proved impossible, a visit to the Bar, purely as a safety factor to keep Poppy out of the dangerous UV rays of the midday sun, a bike ride to the beach for an afternoon swim and then a shower on the pontoon when we returned. Then as the sun finally dipped below the Pyramids (the local name given to the holiday apartments), we would light the Barbeque.

After ten days, 'Daddy' flew into Nimes to collect Poppy. We had a family BBQ and the next morning we drove Rob and Poppy back to Nimes for their return flight. It was really lovely to have had her onboard and we really enjoyed it, but it was really lovely to have the boat to ourselves, again. We were knackered!



Bev and Poppy under the Bimini plus an ex RTYC Parasol, waiting for Granddad to fire up the Bar-B-Q.'



'Captain Poppy ready for action'

Part 2.

This part of the holiday was a week's recovery. The daily routine was the same as the previous week, except the 'odd jobs in the morning' and the 'afternoon swim' were cancelled. It was during this rest period that I did something really stupid, I signed up as a volunteer at La Grand Motte Yacht Club to assist with the 'NACRA 17' World Championship during the first week of September. The 'NACRA 17' is a Dutch designed Olympic Class 17ft Foil Catamaran. I expected to be asked to assist with the language difficulties as crews signed in because very few people in Grande Motte speak English and I guessed that many of the crews probably wouldn't speak French but might speak English. So, during the two weeks leading up to the event, sailing was still out of the question for a number of reasons, the daily temperature was still up in the top 30's and there was still little or no wind. Added to that, our part of the Med was extremely busy and every Marina within 20 miles was full, so we couldn't actually go anywhere by boat and in our Marina, there was a World Championship Tuna Fishing Competition which meant not only extra boats but a huge Marquee in the car park so even a trip out in the car was impossible as we would never have got back in. So, we settled down to completing the odd jobs aboard that we had previously neglected and then as the NACRA Crews started arriving I cycled round to welcome them, and indeed to let them into the boat park as I seemed to be the only person around with a key. The first arrivals were the South Americans, Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay and the Rio 2016 Olympic Gold Medallists, the lovely Cecelia and her Helm from Argentina. None of them spoke French but they were all very fluent in English, so I was able to be of some use to them.

Then two unfortunate things happened: I went down with the dreaded 'Coughing Bug', which we discovered on our return had also affected half of Thanet, and our son phoned to say he had come off his motorbike, but was OK and we needn't rush home. He lied! He was quite badly hurt and is lucky to be alive, but thankfully is now making a slow but hopefully complete recovery.

The following week was spent phoning Rob daily to check on progress, coughing all night culminating in a visit to a French Doctor, which cost 'an arm' and then the Chemist with my prescription, which cost 'a leg', and then visiting all my new NACRA friends in the boat park with a cheery 'Hi Dick' every morning from the lovely Cecelia.

See NEXT MONTH'S edition for Dick's account of the 'NACRA 17' World Championship and their journey home via Switzerland



TEMPLERS GOLF SOCIETY

This was the final match of the 2016 - 2017 season held at the Westgate and Birchington Golf Club on 22nd November. Things were very tight at the top of the leaderboard with a number of golfers in contention for the magnificent winners shield.

On the day it was a close fought game with Colin Chapman coming in with a winning score of 35 points closely followed by Dave Allen and Ronnie Vaughan with 34 but with Dave winning second place on countback.

Once again the nearest the pin winner on the 11th was Piers Hodges.

All winners received vouchers for the W&B pro shop and once again have had their handicaps cut, giving the rest of us hope for the next year.

So, the final result for the year was as follows:

1 st Reg Collins	55 points
2 nd Dave Allen	53 points
3 rd Don Cross & Mark Andrews	52 points

The Presentation Dinner was held that night at the RTYC with 29 golfers and partners attending a fine meal prepared by the Immediate Past Captain, Dave Comiskey, who also presented the winner's shield and other prizes.



Very many thanks to Dave for his generosity this year and we hope to see him back playing shortly.

David Say



TEMPLE TEASER SOLUTION

From page 4

1. R
2. I have a Diver down
3. Please Pass Slowly
4. On a warship. The code pennant indicates that it is an international code signal and not a naval signal
5. Sunrise or 8am, whichever is later. Sunset or 9pm, whichever is earlier.
6. Samuel Pepys in order to save money on flags for the navy
7. Admiralty Warrant and Certificate of British Registry
8. No, the warrant is specific to the combination of boat and its owner.
9. Carrying Dangerous Cargo
10. I have a pilot on board