

COMMODORE'S BLOG

What a busy and exciting first year as Commodore; amazing how quickly a year passes.

As the club slows down for winter our dedicated band of volunteers who work behind the scenes to keep the clubhouse a vibrant place ramp up their efforts, making sure we have a full social calendar with something for everyone, a full Cruising and Racing calendars for next season that tie in with many events around the coast and across the channel.

It's also this time of year the Ramsgate Week Team are up to full speed making sure our event is marketed in all the annual magazines and lodged firmly in the minds of the cruisers and racers looking for a week of competitive racing with exciting shore-side entertainment.

Each Committee relies on finding volunteers to give their time and knowledge to keep everything running smoothly. We are always looking for new volunteers to get involved and bring new ideas to the table. So if you have an interest in assisting to keep the RTYC the success it is please get in touch with me or any of the committee.

To keep the clubhouse looking good we are in the process of having the TV Room redecorated followed by the Main Bar. Whilst the main bar is being freshened-up we will be opening the refurbished Hold Bar. If you have not seen the new Hold Bar pop along and have a look and enjoy a drink.

Happy New Year

Andy Beaumont-Hope
Commodore



250 CLUB DRAW DECEMBER 2017

£25	Nº 178	M T Peacock
£50	Nº 160	Mr C Nichols
£100	Nº 22	Mrs E M Barrett
£200	Nº 23	Mrs F Tomlinson

ROLLOVER

£250	Nº 38	Mr D Smith (A)
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THE JANUARY 2018

+

THE **BIG** DRAW

**WILL TAKE PLACE ON
SATURDAY 3 FEBRUARY 2018**

ATTENTION GOLD CARD HOLDERS!

AMBER ROSE
Exclusive Ladies Wear
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ever-popular Joules brand

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55c Queen Street, Ramsgate

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

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SOCIAL MEDIA

December's Social Media was dominated by the Ramsgate Illuminations which I expect will be covered in greater detail by Stan Jacobs but I couldn't let it go without mentioning some of the local photographers who have supported us throughout the year during our sailing and festive season by sending me their pictures which have been shared on the Ramsgate Illuminations Facebook and twitter pages.

Brian Whitehead sent me some beautiful pictures, but a particular favourite is the one below.



And another photographer, Malcolm Kirkaldie, sent me lots, but again I had to choose one:



The BBC also got involved, sending down their reporter to interview our Commodore and, representing the RNLI, Clive Nichols (autographs can be arranged!)

And before I end the section on the Illuminations, Chris Cox also won the prize for the best photograph in December with his entry below. Great picture, but then I am biased!



Yacht *NoStress* owned by club members Nick and Fiona Rawbone continued the ARC crossing and we shared their blog daily. They got no prizes for speed but their diary did win the best blog award. It took them 27 days in total; they had provisioned for 21 so things got a bit experimental in the food department by the end. If you are thinking of trying it yourself, and I know quite a few of our club members have already done so, then take the time to look at their blog either on Facebook *YachtNoStress* or www.yachtnostress.com. Here is their final blog.....

Day 27 - Saint Lucia

How do I start? Anyone watching the Facebook page will have noticed that we saw land at a little after midday UK time today. The gamut of emotions that unfolded afterwards was something that we all "expected" - but it's one of those truisms: you don't understand it until you've done it. We crossed the finish line with a siren from the Committee Boat and the crew hugged one another. Elation was the emotion most felt - it overcame and surprised us, we actually did it! Fittingly, the weather delivered a squall for the exact time we crossed the line where the photographer had us framed - fresh, smart crew t-shirts for the photo show - us all looking like we've been dragged out of the water. The Atlantic was definitely still in charge. Our welcome was truly remarkable. We know we were late to arrive, but cheers and whoops greeted us as we made our way to our berth. Dozens of sailors waved, clapped, shook our hands, and offered congratulations. We really had done it. At last. The crew have been awesome. As one spoke looking at the rest of the wheel I can honestly say I've been lucky. Everyone showed resolve, tenacity and, above all, spirit. We weren't perfect - far from it. But the resilience and the character of all on board made sure that we finished happy, and in one piece. It's been a remarkable experience.

*We thank you for sharing it with us,
Alex, Claire, Nick, Des, Jake, & Paul*

The club was busy as expected with Festive parties and gatherings. We decorated the club on 7th December, the usual mulled wine and mince pies helping us keep our strength up! I asked the Commodore and RCS to re-enact the placing of balls on the tree as I had been down stairs whilst it was being done by them, for some reason this seemed to make them giggle!?



The Gentleman's Lunch on the 8th was arranged by Roger Green and I managed to sneak into the room to take pictures! A great time was had by all and money was raised for the local school Royal Harbour Academy to support deprived pupils.



The "Gentlemen's Lunch"

The Children's Christmas Party was well attended as usual, with all the food being donated by Dave Comiskey and the much anticipated arrival of Father Christmas caused much excitement.

This lovely picture of Harrison Vass is published with permission of her parents and doting grandparents, Andrew and Angie Ketteringham.



Some of you may be aware that I am taking on the role of Local Press Officer for Ramsgate's RNLI this January and because of our continued support of them I shared on social media this lovely story. Rebecca Cannon, daughter of Ian Cannon, was selected from 105 Royal Naval Sea Scouting groups to be one of a four young person honour guard for HM Queen as she attended the Commissioning Ceremony for the new aircraft carrier HMS Queen Elizabeth. She was selected for her commitment and personal achievements in Sea Scouting and her services with the RNLI. The Cannon family have had an amazing 2017 with Ron also being awarded the MBE in June for his services to the RNLI, they must be one very proud family.

Wearing my Ramsgate Week hat, just to let you all know that the new Ramsgate Week website is up to date www.ramsgateweek.com and shows all the bands that are booked and the format for the week. It is still being updated so keep visiting it and if any of you are visiting other clubs we would love you to spread the word that we are now taking entries.

Back to the final few days of December!

We celebrated Christmas as a club with a well-attended Christmas Party. The theme of the entertainment this year was Pantomime written as usual by my faithful servant Mustafa Pint (Dick Smith) with myself as Prince Epesa, Frank Martin as Baron Beaumont-Hope, Dave Parish and John Barrett as ugly sisters, Bev as a witch and a cast of millions! Christmas Carols, solos being sung, lovely food by Dave Comiskey and his staff and a custard pie being thrown all made for a fabulous evening. I'm sure the Commodore thought the pie was going in his face! Thank you to Chris Cox for some great photos.



And then to bring the year to a close we had our ever popular New Year's Eve party. A great evening, with some people sitting down to a formal 4 course dinner upstairs, others dining elsewhere but everyone coming together to dance to the ever popular Moments Sixties Duo and drink a glass of bubbly to toast the New Year in.

Thank you to Jo Brand for the photos below.



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.

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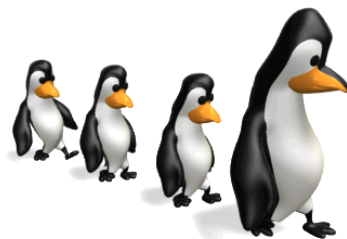
Est. 2003

THE LAST TURKEY FOR CHRISTMAS

A bottle of wine for whoever
guesses who is the fool below?



THE WALKING GROUP



Thursday 11 January, 11:00 am

Meet at the Club for a walk along the beach to
Broadstairs, a coffee and either walk back or
return by bus.

Davena is setting up a *WhatsApp* group for
the Temple Walkers to keep in touch.
Please contact her on 07760 402479 if you
would like to be included

CRUISING

December was a quiet month for the cruising community and I don't think that anyone ventured out. However the RTYC social calendar was full and we all enjoyed the events and festivities.

The Ramsgate Illuminations event this year was our best ever; a record eighty three boats lit up. This is now an established event in Ramsgate's social calendar. It attracts visitors from far and wide and the local restaurants and bars benefit greatly. The prize giving was held on the 15th December in the Club, and Councillor Trevor Shonk, Mayor of Ramsgate presented prizes to the winning boat owners.



We normally have a Cruising Social on the second Thursday of each month. This month it has been changed to Friday 12th when Frank Martin give us a brief talk on The Dover Western Docks Revival. Frank is on the Dover Harbour Board, and his talk promises to be of great interest to all sailors who use the marina.

We have put together the cruising programme for 2018 and this will be published shortly. The main event will be the summer cruise to the Channel Islands, from the 9th to 23rd June.

RAMSGATE ILLUMINATIONS WINNERS

SAILING YACHTS

1	Avventura	Mark Andrews
2	Blown Away	Don Gray
3	Oyster	Brian Chapman
4	Sajé + Tubsey	Alan Lucas

BARGES

1	Serendipity	Jennie Freeman
2	Fryslan	Sophie Rouget

MOTOR CRUISERS

1.	Stormalong	Mr. Wise
2.	M + N's	Nicholas Cole
3.	Waverider	Roger

HIGHLY COMMENDED

LeDaneka & Sheemaun	Dr & Mrs R. Pell
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ARCHES

Something Fishy	Susanne Curtis
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**Stan Jacob
RCC**



VICE COMMODORE'S SUMMER HOLIDAY ABOARD MUSCATEER

Episode2

Part 3

Then came the start of the 'NACRA 17' World Championship. The volunteers had to attend a meeting at 08.00. I wasn't sure exactly what sort of jobs I would have to do but I told Bev that the Practice Race was at 11.00 (which was a joke because there was never any wind at 11.00!) and therefore whatever I was asked to do, it would be finished before the fleet put to sea, so I would be back on the boat at about 10.30 and perhaps we could go to sea and follow the race. I was wrong! When I arrived at the 08.00 briefing I was surprised to see that an entire English Race Organisation Team had been imported, from Principal Race Officer to Chief Judge and Protest Committee. I also felt that there was something I should know but didn't. I was right. I discovered that all the organisation had been done by E-Mail. That was all very well but we could only get a WiFi signal in our local bar, but having got a signal and opened my E-Mails, because of the bright sunlight, reading them was very difficult, answering them was even more difficult because I couldn't see the function keys and down loading any attachments was out of the question as Bev's little Ipad wasn't man enough for the job. So, I was aware that E-Mails with attachments had been sent to volunteers but I was unable to download them. I did go to the yacht Club and explain my problem and asked for a printout, which I received, but it turned out to be the wrong one!

So, what was it that I didn't know? It was the E-Mail attachment sent a week prior to the meeting, the one I couldn't download, that gave all the volunteers jobs. I therefore arrived at the 08.00 briefing blissfully unaware of my job. I was soon to find out as the PRO, David Campbell-James grabbed my arm and said "Ah you must be Dick Smith. You are on Committee Boat One with me. You need to be aboard in about 15 minutes" I quickly cycled back to the boat and told Bev there was a change of plan! Needless to say, she was none too pleased!

The PRO, David Campbell-James, was a 'clone' of our own Peter Rumbelow. He was meticulous in his preparation and organisation and did not suffer fools gladly. The French Committee Boat Team thought they had everything finely tuned and ready to go. They were wrong. David tore their preparations to shreds. It started before he even set foot aboard the Committee Boat when he saw the shore-based flags. The twin flag poles had the class flags flying plus code flags 'N' and 'Y'.

David rounded on the poor man who was in charge of them and barked "You can get those flags down now" Not being able to understand English, the poor chap looked stupefied and did nothing. David tried again "That 'Y' Flag, get it down now, I just want the Class Flags, nothing else." When we next looked, the flag operative had taken down the white class flag but the 'Y' flag was still fluttering gently.

"Take the 'Y' Flag down, not the White Flag" barked David again. He turned to me and said "I think we are going to have trouble here Dick, will you be in charge of Flags?" Then it was the turn of the Committee Boat,

Support Boat and the RIB. None of the Halliards on the Committee Boat were in the right place, the flag pole on the RIB wasn't high enough and the Support boat required a Tear-Drop Fender to mark its anchor when it moved from Start line to finish line to save time hauling the anchor up after each race. The French Team scuttled around like naughty boys working feverishly until David was happy.

But it didn't even stop there. The day before, the NACRA Association had held a meeting to decide whether or not they would allow the large Genoas to be used up wind. It was agreed by a vote of 39 to 41 in favour. David wasn't happy and contacted the NACRA construction company in Holland who told him that they could not guarantee that using the large Genoas up wind would not cause structural damage to the mast or hull fittings, so an amendment went up banning them on the up wind legs.

Once out on the water, it was the beginning of the long wait for the wind. The fleet were kept ashore until David was happy that there was enough of a steady breeze to set a course. During that time the French team aboard made the mistake of telling him that what he was planning was not the way they usually do things. At that point David sat them round the saloon table and explained that he always liked to run a happy and efficient race team and if they did everything the way he had planned then we would achieve a happy and efficient race team. From that moment on the French realised who was in charge. We did a few practice starts before the fleet were released from ashore and once the racing started we were a very efficient and I would say happy team. The organisation was slick, the racing was exciting and even more enjoyable because a British team, Ben Saxton and Katie Dabson, finished as World Champions ahead of Spain and Italy, and a second British team, John Gimson and Anna Burnett, finished 6th. Well done guys. It was a pleasure working with David Campbell James and apart from the enjoyment, I also learned a lot about running top class regattas.



One minute to the start and you can almost feel the concentration from the crews



Ben & Katie and John & Anna finish race 4 together on their way to 1st & 6th places respectively overall

Part 4

We were now into the second week of September and it was time go home, but not quite! We had planned to travel via Switzerland and spend a week with fellow RTYC Members Heinz and Lilianne at their home near Bern. A fantastic week followed. First we were taken to an asphalt mine and put to work shifting 11 tons of rock in a one-day shift. It was hard work. I must admit I didn't even realise that asphalt had to be mined, I thought it was a derivative of heavy oil.



That's another hard Day's work completed!

Then it was a scary train ride to the top of one of the many mountains in the area. Heinz told me take my clarinet because there would be a Jazz band waiting for us at the top.



That's not a Clarinet, how do you expect me to play that?!

Following that we had a tour of the lakes which included a visit to Interlaken. On the way into town we saw a dozen or more people jumping of the top of the mountain and hang-gliding down to the small village green with pin-point accuracy. At the advertising booth the organiser was trying to sell me a jump. It's quite simple he said, you go up in the minibus and you end up back here in about an hour. "Is it safe?" I asked. "Oh yes" he said, "The only dangerous bit is landing, but we've only lost three so far today" When he told me it only cost 90 Swiss Franks, I politely declined, not that I had the slightest intention of doing it anyway! Finally as the end of the week drew near, it was the obligatory visit to the Swiss Chocolate factory. It proved an expensive day, not necessarily for the pocket, more for the Diet!

Many thanks to Heinz and Lilianne for their hospitality, and I hope that our next meeting will either be at the RTYC or back aboard 'Muscateer'.

And so back to the UK and reality, with Navigation School and Vice Commodore work to get stuck into.

Dick

TEMPLERS GOLF SOCIETY

On a fairly damp and miserable day this was the pre-Christmas and first match of the 2017 - 2018 season held at the Westgate and Birchington Golf Club on the 20th December. Unfortunately only four brave souls were able to find time to take on the testing conditions.

On the day it was a close fought game with Don Cross pipping the Captain with 34 points on countback. Nearest the pin was a bit of a disaster as the chosen hole (14th) was out of play, so it was decided to make it the 15th in two if nobody was on the green in one. Anyway your Captain won the prize but the old rule that you can only win one prize prevailed so no prize was awarded. The winners received vouchers for the W&B pro shop and once again have had their handicaps cut and, in addition, John Barrett won a fine bottle of Macon and together with Dave Allen had a handicap enhancement.

A hasty retreat to the clubhouse was made where sarnies and drinks were consumed and peculiar golfing head gear was worn.



David Say



TEMPLE TEASER SOLUTION

From page 4

The London Boat Show

1. 1955 (in Olympia before moving to Earls Court in 1960)
2. The Daily Express
3. 2004
4. 131ft (40 metres The Sunseeker 131 at the 2016 Show)
5. The Beatles
6. 39ft
7. Gipsy Moth IV
8. The 2017 show took place over 10 days the 2018 show will be only 5
9. The Genoa International Boat Show (it is also the largest in terms of area at 311,000 sq mtrs)
10. Bespoke London (to attract the high rollers) and the Boating & Watersports Holiday Show.

**Just before going to press, we received
the following very sad news**

OBITUARY

**It is with deepest regret we learn of the
passing of Ronnie Cannon MBE, past
coxswain of the Ramsgate Lifeboat and
friend of The Royal Temple Yacht Club.**

**No details are available at present but
these will be advised to members at
the appropriate time.**

**Our thoughts and condolences are
with the Cannon family at this very sad
time.**

**Unhappily, we also have to make this
announcement received from Robert Smith**

KAREN SMITH

Sadly Karen lost her battle with cancer after a very long fight - having first been diagnosed in 2006. She passed away peacefully early on Sunday morning. She was 55 years old and we are all absolutely devastated to lose such a wonderful person at such an early age.

Our daughters Zoe and Lucy are running The London Marathon in aid of 'Breast Cancer Now' which is obviously a charity very close to our hearts. We were all hoping Karen would make it to see the girls complete but sadly not to be.

Karen's funeral will be held at Barham Crematorium at 10am on Monday 29th January and all members are welcome to attend.

We will not be having flowers at the funeral and will be asking for donations to Zoe and Lucy's Just Giving Page for which I am not embarrassed to ask. The more money raised to fight this dreadful and cruel disease the better.
<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/zoe-smith1990>

Robert Smith



Karen sailing on *Slingshot*