

COMMODORE'S BLOG

2018 – 2019 COMMITTEE

As we move into March I'm sure, like me, you had plans of getting down to the boat and starting to act on that jobs list you created at the end of last season with the greatest intention of making a huge hole in the list before Christmas. But no, as every year the only occurrence so far has been for the list to grow.

Now pushed into action by the onset of Spring and the first cruise and race of the season here we are hampered by one of the coldest Marchs on record. And it's only the second as I write this.

What a bit of luck we managed to get the AGM in before the snow. Rather than the full house of attendees, it could have been a very different story. Thank you all for attending, and I hope those of you who stayed for the roast enjoyed it as much as we did.

The decorating is all finish in the clubhouse and ready for the new season. If you are popping down to your boat to check your heater or make a start on that list and haven't been into the club for a while please call in to say hello and have a look at the freshened-up club.

So glad the snow's cleared by the time you read this.

Andy Beaumont-Hope
Commodore

Officers

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Commodore | Andrew Beaumont Hope |
| Vice Commodore | Richard Smith |
| Rear Commodore Sail | Matthew Green |
| Rear Commodore Cruisers | Stan Jacob |
| Hon Secretary | Elizabeth Anderson |
| Hon Treasurer | John Adkin |
| Hon House Officer | Judy Pearson |

General Committee

- Stuart Carter
- Karen Cox
- Andrew Ketteringham
- David Parish
- Anne Peers

Non-Executive

- John Barrett
- Mike Brand
- Frank Martin

Principal of the Navigation School

- Richard Smith

**250 CLUB DRAW
JANUARY 2018**

- | | | |
|------|--------|-------------------|
| £25 | Nº 24 | Mr & Mrs B Martin |
| £50 | Nº 135 | Mr M Wallis |
| £100 | Nº 48 | Mr P Gooding |
| £200 | Nº 23 | Mr G Lewis |

2017 ROLLOVER

- | | | |
|------|-------|-------------|
| £275 | Nº 44 | Mr J S Hurn |
|------|-------|-------------|

THE 2017-18 BIG DRAW

- | | | |
|-------|--------|--------------------|
| £250 | Nº 182 | Mr & Mrs P Holland |
| £500 | Nº 115 | Miss A Barrett |
| £1000 | Nº 33 | Ms B Rich |
| £2000 | Nº 176 | Mr B Chapman |

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**FEBRUARY & MARCH DRAWS
SUNDAY 25 MARCH 2018**

NB – The discount applies to non-sale items only

During the Summer, many people have said to me that after Ramsgate Week, it seems that Christmas soon follows, but the converse is also true, that after Christmas, Ramsgate Week will suddenly be upon us. So, now that Christmas is in the dim and distant past, January and February have disappeared before we have had time to think, a record-breaking AGM - 8 minutes – has come and gone and our bitter winter spell has at last given way to Spring, the Sailing Season is just round the corner, but just as important, so is Ramsgate Week.

Your Ramsgate Week Committee have been working hard throughout the winter months, but have now upped the tempo in an effort to get a really good entry for 2018. Our regular sponsors are on board, we have adverts in our Yachting press, and we are also targeting the Dutch market to attract some of the RORC Fleet who will be on their way from their Championship in Holland to Cowes Week. We are arranging a Feeder Race for the EAORA Fleet from Harwich and, of course, we have the IRC East Coast Nationals. We have also sent our mobile display to North Fambridge on the River Crouch, where a fleet of seven Robbers are lurking and hopefully will come and join us.

Our Monthly 'Entry Competition' is now under way and **Icom** have kindly donated a VHF Radio which will be on offer in the first Monthly Draw which will take place at the end of March. Any boat entering in March will also be able to take advantage of our 'Early Bird' entry Discount.

Hardly a day goes by without a member of my Ramsgate Week Committee coming to me with a new idea or a report of another important job done. So, many thanks to all my committee members for all their hard work, but it still needs all our Club Members to pass the word and keep the momentum going.

Dick Smith
Vice Commodore



Chris and I have just returned from Antigua where it was gloriously warm, and the shock of this snow and cold has made my hard earned suntan retract into my skin. We were out there for Chris to partake in the RORC Caribbean 600 race but more on that later.

Looking back over the past couple of months our social media has been very quiet. It has mainly been used to advertise various events in the club but our members have been fairly quiet recently, not unusual in the winter months.

One thing that I promoted was the Grand 250 Draw which took place in early February. We still have spaces available if any new or current members would like to buy a number, it is restricted to 250 spaces. Please speak to John Barrett if you wish to sign up. As I was present at the draw (sadly I didn't win!) I took the opportunity to take a photograph of Jean Beale who has been officiating at the draw for more years than we could work out.



We also held our AGM later than usual at the end of February and Stan Jacobs has kindly sent me some photos of the meeting.



I have also been asked by Bob Knight to extend an invitation for you all to help him celebrate his 70th Birthday at the club on Saturday 17th March. Dancing will be to *Helluvaday* and there will be a small buffet.

Back to Antigua; as I said before we went there for Chris to take part in the RORC Caribbean 600 race. He was racing on yacht *Panther* a Gran Soleil 43 owned by David Hall and with three professional crew on board and a crew totalling 10. Honorary member Alex Alley was one of the professionals along with Ash Harris and well known solo female sailor Pip Hare.

With recommendations from other club members for restaurants and bars we sampled the local area, in particular the Espresso Martinis in "Cloggys" (thanks Mike Brand, great tip!)

At the pre-race party I was wearing my Ramsgate Week T-shirt and RORC Commodore Andrew McIrvine came over to say hello, and pass his best wishes onto the club. He opened the new bar back in 2010, and there is a plaque with his name on it commemorating it. Apologies for the rather shiny photograph of me.



So that really wraps my report up. As always if you have something you would like to share or any photographs from any events then please send them to me. Hopefully March will get warmer so we may get some more sailing pictures.

All the best,
Karen



The race started off well but, as you may have read, the winds this year were harsh and out of a record 84 entrants only 41 managed to finish. Sadly *Panther* had to retire after only 90 miles with a ripped mainsail. So a very wet and frustrated crew had to return early to English Harbour where they proceeded to drown their sorrows with other crews.



However there is talk of *Panther* doing it again next year so fingers crossed for kinder winds.

2018 DIARY DATES

22nd March Walking Group



17th March Bob's 70th Birthday Party

7th April Frostbite Cup Prize-giving and Fitting-Out Curry Evening

14th April Murder Mystery (Details to follow)

19th May Royal Wedding Celebration (Details to follow)

**MORE EVENTS WILL BE ADDED AS
DETAILS BECOME AVAILABLE**

CLUB BAR REDECORATION

Annie Peers has sent us some photos which will remind members of the bar and TV lounge as was.....



You will see the door behind the bar which led down the winding steps to the cellar



.....and the doors to the cupboard in the TV room which no longer exist.

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TEMPLE TEASER



from Stuart Carter

Solution on Page 7

NAUTICAL ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

Give the correct meanings of the following:

1. AIS
2. DSC
3. EP
4. EPIRB
5. GMDSS
6. HAT
7. IRPCS
8. MLWN
9. WGS84
10. XTE

SAILING

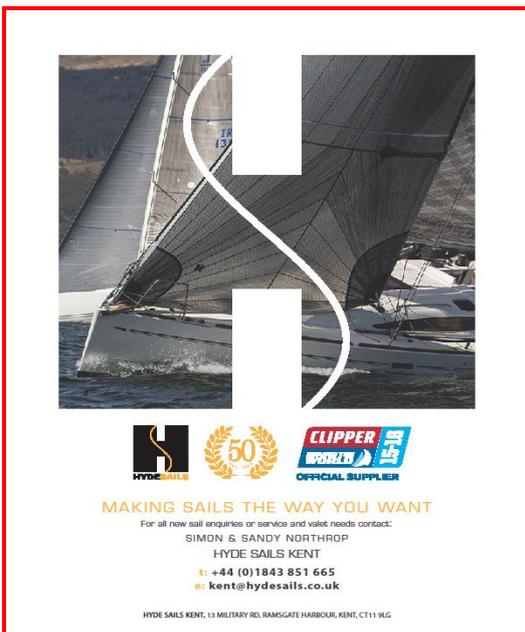
THE NEW
RAMSGATE
WEEK 2018
22-27 JULY
ramsgateweek.com



Enter Ramsgate Week in the month of March and you will be entered into a draw to win an ICOM radio, as well as taking advantage of the Early Bird Discount which is valid on all entries that pay in full by end of May.

The IRC Regional Championships will be held from the 25th – 27th July 2018. The illustrious Gold Cup will take place on Friday 27th July 2018.

Also please be advised that the Notice of Race is now on the website www.ramsgateweek.com



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CRUISING



Don't forget to come along for the
Cruising Social
2nd Thursday every month

THE FOLLOWING IS AN EXTRACT FROM THE LOG OF THE ROUND-BRITAIN CRUISE WHICH LUNAR SEA COMMENCED LAST SUMMER. JULIA AND JOSH GIVE BOTH SIDES OF THE STORY.....

Julia's Version
Peterhead to Fraserbrough
7 June 2017



Goodbye Peterhead



It was another wet and foggy day here in the North East of Scotland. They say that while you are doing your weekly supermarket shop you miss Summer up here, I can believe that. We decided to make a dash for Fraserbrough, round the

corner, before the forecast storm comes in. So we left at 2pm in rain and fog and as soon as we were out of the entrance we hit a big sea. I wanted to go back in but Josh in his usual style said "It'll be alright, it's just the swell round the entrance." Of course it wasn't alright, not by my standards. The horizon kept disappearing as huge waves (I am told by the captain this is swell not waves) kept approaching the boat. For the first time this trip I simply couldn't stay on deck and look at them, I had to go below. I hunkered down on the sofa and closed my eyes and hoped it would all go away, which of course it didn't. Every now and then the boat would shudder from stem to stern as it was hit by the large "swell." Also we were rocking and rolling violently and the boom was loudly banging from side to side at an alarming rate...no chance of putting the kettle on or going to the loo, however it was only a short trip of some 3 hours! I spent the whole time closing my eyes and hoping it wasn't real!

We arrived Fraserbrough in fog and got directed by the HM into one of the sheltered fishing docks. A bit grim and no facilities as there is no marina here, but we do have electric and there are pontoons, so no wall to climb; at this stage I am thankful for small mercies.

Josh's Version

Day 37 - Peterhead to Fraserburgh - 6th June, 2017

It looked like we had a small weather window with nearly all the right conditions to transit the notorious, horrible Rattray Head; ideally you need both tide and wind in the direction you're going. We had the right tide but the wind of 10 knots was ESE not exactly ideal but do-able. We were told by 'Flying Pig' that a lot of boats end up in Peterhead for days waiting for the right conditions, so we wanted to leave.

We left at 14:00 with slack tide around 14:30 and 7 miles to the Head. It was foggy (vis. 3/4 mile), drizzling and at Peterhead entrance swell about a metre. Not pleasant but I could see that the sea wasn't so bad where we were going. The 'chop' left us, although the swell stayed with us.

Julia decided to hide her head under the Duvet.



Rattray Head about a mile off

At 15:20 we were abeam of Rattray Head. We still had about a mile viz. in the fog and drizzle and the swell had increased to 2m but not entirely unpleasant. The worse part was trying to sight all the partly submerged fishing pots in the swell so that we could avoid them. At least the bulk of them were a bright orange, except that you couldn't see them when they were submerged due to the tide, until you were right upon them.

Once past the Head the swell went back to its gentle one metre, which never really abated. We continued our progress at over 6 knots thanks mainly to the tide.

We got into Fraserburgh at 17:00 and found our way through the labyrinth of small harbours onto a nice pontoon in the South Inner Harbour.

Julia was not a happy bunny because of the conditions and so it feels very guilty to say that I thoroughly enjoyed our short exhilarating trip up from Peterhead. What's more I think even *Lunar Sea* had enjoyed the challenging sea. It's a pity the sun hadn't been out or we could have seen something other than the swell.

We shall be here for at least 2 days because of the forecast of stormy winds but at least we were further North now and past what is potentially the worst part of our journey.

Inverness is now less than 80 miles away, just 2 or 3 days, so let's hope for some "Julia type conditions".

Josh & Julia Lidstone



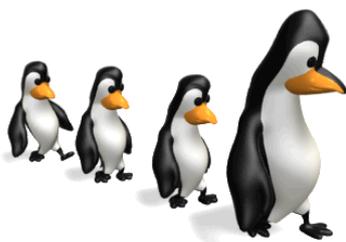
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THE WALKING GROUP



**Next outing
Thursday 22 March, 11:00 am**



Eleven of us turned out for the walk to Richborough Fort, it was a little windy but mostly very pleasant. We all enjoyed lunch afterwards in Charlie's Bistro on Sandwich Quay.

The next walk is on Thursday 22nd March and will be organised by Rosemary Thornily and Anne Peers as I will be away. Hopefully this will be in the St Nicholas At Wade area. More information via Email, club screen and the Walking Group WhatsApp

Davena

TEMPLERS GOLF SOCIETY

Nothing from the golfers, but hardly surprising given the wonderful weather we have been enjoying!



TEMPLE TEASER SOLUTION

From page 4

NAUTICAL ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

1. AIS
Automatic Identification System
2. DSC
Digital Selective Calling
3. EP
Estimated Position
4. EPIRB
Emergency Position Indication Radio Beacon
5. GMDSS
Global Maritime Distress and Safety System.
6. HAT
Highest Astronomical Tide.
7. IRPCS
International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea.
8. MLWN
Mean Low Water Neaps
9. WGS84
World Geodetic Survey of 1984 (most common chart datum).
10. XTE
Cross Track Error. Perpendicular distance off track between two waypoints.