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# HOLLOWSHORE NEWS



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HCC 50th: 1959 - 2009

[www.hollowshorecc.co.uk](http://www.hollowshorecc.co.uk)

Spring 2009

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## FROM THE COMMODORE

It is now four months since I was elected to the office of Commodore of our Club and it has been a hectic but most enjoyable time.

At the AGM you elected a committee who have done a fantastic job in making my job really easy.



I thank them for their support and enthusiasm and for working so hard for the Club. This leaves me to enjoy chairing the meetings and meeting members at social events.

By making full use of our excellent new

facilities and holding a full programme of social events, we will put the club on a sound financial footing. Profit from these events and from the Bar goes towards paying our running costs and keeping down Fees. Participation in these events gives members an enjoyable time and fosters the already splendid spirit that exists in the Club, something envied by our neighbours.

All four events held in the Clubhouse so far have been outstanding, and those who attended will have happy memories. A major factor in this success is the excellent catering provided by the ladies. For this I give them a big 'thank you' on your behalf. Each event deserves a write-up of its own but the Editor will not allow me to drone on. So it leaves me to thank you for your support and to encourage you to participate in our future events, in our fiftieth year, both on and off the water.

By the way, if you have not yet done a spell behind the bar, then I encourage you to do so. It is great fun and you get to meet lots of new friends.

Finally, can I wish you all a good sailing season - we deserve one!

- Mike Perkins

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- May 8** St.Kats Cruise begins
  - May 23** Hills-Johnes Shield race to Ramsgate
  - May 24** Lawrie Tester lunch at Ramsgate
  - May 25** Cruise in company back home
  - June 10 (-ish)** Summer Cruise No.1 begins
  - June 26-28** Swale Regatta
  - July 3** Swale Regatta Prize-giving & BBQ
  - Aug 21 (-ish)** Summer Cruise No.2 begins
  - Aug 29** HCC Club BBQ
  - Sept 6** Inachus Trophy race
  - Sept 19-20** HCC 50th: Club Cruise Weekend
  - Oct 16** Chatham Bus-Pass Cruise begins
  - Oct 31** HCC 50th: Laying-Up Supper
  - Dec 5** AGM and Christmas Party
  - Dec 20** Christmas at the Bar
- Watch the club web site for changes and additions. See [www.hollowshorecc.co.uk](http://www.hollowshorecc.co.uk).*

## WELCOME ABOARD !

Welcome to new members who have joined HCC since the last newsletter back in November: *Stuart Burnell, Roger Gillett, Terry and Eileen Goddin, David Gwynn-Jones, John MacDonald-Spencer, Julian and Amanda Mannering, Tony and Valerie Smith, Ray and Sylvia Stanley, Stephen Taylor, John Gray and Stella Hewitt.* Welcome aboard, everyone, we do hope that you will enjoy your membership.

## 100 CLUB NEWS

The first year of our HCC 100 Club has proved to be very successful - with 80 members participating, we have been able to carpet the new club house and contribute towards building the new Bar.

Our second year started well with our first draw in March and a total of 91 members. The HCC 100 Club members have played an important part in helping to support our new club and it was felt that it was only fair to reward those participating

by increasing the monthly prize money to £10, £20, £30 & £50. This year it is hoped that the funds will help to replace some of the furniture and put a few finishing touches to the club.

Don't forget, our draw takes place on the last Sunday in the month at 13.45!

- Eric Spratling

## SOCIABLE REPORTS

This year's events have gone with a swing so far. The *Wine & Wisdom* (as usual, a lot of the former and not so much of the latter) was organised by Andy and Sue Jackson and proved to be a well-supported and entertaining evening. Next came the *Sausage & Mash Supper*, commanded by Brian and Lorraine, yummy, and after the food Andy came up with another quick quiz which certainly flummoxed me.

The *Fitting-Out Supper* came next, organised for a capacity crowd by Angela Holness and her gang of many ladies, who pressed paté, coq-au-vin and orange boodle upon us in vast quantities. And the most recent was the *Fish & Chip Supper*, jolly good it was too, thanks to Mike Torode who did all the 'making it happen'.

We have also had the *Boat Jumble* which was a modest affair compared with Detling or Beaulieu, but we had quite a few stalls and some satisfied buyers and sellers. It would be nice, though, to see some more support for this if we keep it going as an annual event.

## QUIZ TIME

Once again we have a quiz from Mike Torode:

1. The 'Titanic' was one of three sister ships. The other two were the 'Olympic' and the 'Britannic' but what was the original name given to the 'Britannic'?
2. Of which British territory was the buccaneer Captain Henry Morgan the Deputy Governor?
3. When a square rigged ship is caught accidentally with her sails aback, she is said to be 'what'?
4. 'Knocking the gilt off the gingerbread' is an expression of nautical origin. What is meant by the gingerbread?
5. In which British seaport will you find 'The Land of Green Ginger'?
6. The Battle of Sole Bay was fought between an Anglo-French fleet and a Dutch fleet in 1672 - where was Sole Bay?
7. In a sailing vessel, what are the 'hounds'?

8. The last liner to hold the Blue Riband was the US ship 'United States'. She took it from the RMS 'Queen Mary' in 1952. What was the name of the first ship to hold it?

9. What is the highest present day rank in the Royal Navy?

10. What was the name of the specially constructed ship used by the Norwegian F.Nansen during his Arctic explorations, now housed in its own museum in Oslo?

*No prizes I'm afraid, but the answers will appear on the club notice-board and web site at the end of May.*

## WHO WON WHAT

A round-up of the trophy winners for 2008...

**Lucent Pot** (best log) – Gill Turnnidge.

**Pysche Trophy** (most ports and anchorages) – Brian Chapman (too many to mention).

**Hollowshore Cup** (most miles logged) – Jack Daly, round Britain in 'Padiwak'.



*Carolyn Williams presents the pot to Jack Daly*

**Viking Cup** (Member of the Year) – Mike Perkins  
**Jack Allen Cup** (Race to Ramsgate) – Maurice Sundin.

**Madge Barker Cup** (best HCC boat in Swale Regatta not winning any other cup in the event) - John and Jennifer Elliott.

**Mary Legg Trophy** (best bilge-keeler in Swale Regatta) – Peter Fisher (QYC).

**Ron Lintott Trophy** (first Channel crossing as skipper) – shared between John & Jan Webb in 'Samora', and Mike & Chulee Smith in 'Trilogy'.

## WHERE IS THE JACK ALLEN CUP?

Maurice Sundin won this cup last year (being the owner of the only boat to get to Ramsgate in pretty dreadful conditions) but never received it because it has disappeared. A school of thought reckons it was behind the bar in the old clubhouse several months before we moved, but it has not been seen since.

If you know where it is, please let someone on the committee know, and perhaps a small beverage will be produced as a reward.

## RAMSGATE WEEKEND

This year the Ramsgate Weekend falls on May 23-25th, and once again we are going to *try* to sail there! The afore-mentioned Jack Allen Cup having gone walkies, the committee have now assigned the new Hills-Johnes Shield in its place, to be awarded to the best boat on handicap on the journey from the Swale to Ramsgate on the 19th. Details will be posted on the club notice-board, and will probably involve starting within a specific time window and taking your own times at two named points. Somebody will then fiddle the handicaps to produce a winner.

As usual, the Lawrie Tester Memorial Lunch will be held on the Sunday afternoon (May 24th) in the Royal Temple YC. Do support this very nice occasion, even if you have to drive there.

Brian Chapman will kindly be arranging the lunch again, and you must sign up on the notice board if you are planning to come. Having signed up, it is essential that you pay up, please, even if you don't make it!

## GOING DUTCH

Gill Turnnidge wrote the 2008 prize-winning log, her trip to Holland in 'Saxon'. Here it is, slightly abridged (sorry, Gill):

When: 6<sup>th</sup> June to 14<sup>th</sup> July 2008

Who went:

'Saxon' - *Rod and Gill*

'Kooringal' - *John (Jim, Steve, David, Reggie)*

'Cornsilks' - *Angela and Dick*

'Kalos' - *Bud and Margaret*

'Samorah' - *John and Janet*

'Oyster' - *Brian and Lorraine*

'Misty' - *Ed and Barbara (Nicola, Little Ed)*

Ports of call: Oare Creek, Ramsgate, Ostend, Middelburg, Veere, Goes, Stampersplaat Island, Port Zeeland, Herkingen, Ooltgenplaat, Middelharnis, Dordrecht, Oude Tonge, Delta Marine Kortgene, Deom Loop, Middelburg, Ostend, Nieuwpoort, Dunkirk, Ramsgate, Oare Creek.

We did not always stay together as a group.

'Oyster' left earlier and was at Ostend to meet us.

'Kalos' came over a day later, but Margaret was ill

at Goes and they went home. 'Samorah' stayed at Herkingen for a while because they wanted to see a bit more of the area. Barbara cut her knee badly and they stayed on 'Misty' in Middelburg until we rejoined them again. 'Oyster' left us at Dordrecht and went on to Sweden. 'Cornsilks' came back earlier than the group.

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June. Weather mild, grey, damp, turning wet, light wind. Left Oare for Ramsgate Marina. When Rod used VHF on High it affected the auto helm and we went round in circles!! Jim thought it was me helming!! Not this time. Arrived Ramsgate very wet, not a good start to a summer holiday. Hot dogs on Kooringal – good old John.

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June. 'Saxon', 'Kooringal', 'Samorah', 'Cornsilks' and 'Misty' all left Ramsgate at 0800hrs for Ostend. My first channel crossing, bit apprehensive. I was surprised how little shipping there was. Imagined the English Channel to be like M25. Arrived Ostend safely and Brian and Lorraine were there to meet us all.



After a day off, left Ostend for Middelburg. Sea state choppy (very choppy!) well I thought so. Scary at Zeebrugge when container ship appeared out of the harbour. Other shipping to look out for crossing to Vlissingen. (Stressful!) Hooray found entrance to canal about 19.20hrs. My first big Dutch lock! (Chains and bollards in holes). Middelburg is a lovely place, very pretty, canals and cobbled streets. On to Veere. Drinks on 'Oyster' for Lorraine's birthday then all to Yacht Club to celebrate.

Left Veere for Goes. RAIN, RAIN, RAIN and more RAIN. Two locks and bridges to wait for. Really enjoyed standing on the deck in the pouring rain trying to throw a rope over a bollard. Rod helming with his umbrella up. Arrived Goes VERY WET right through to our skin.

Goes is a pretty town, canal, cobbled streets, bikes everywhere, shops. Holland was playing France in the evening for the European Cup. Great excitement in town, went to pub to watch the match. Very lively. Holland won 4-1.

Off to the Island of Stampersplaat, a hot and sunny day, summer here at last. Time to relax for a couple of days. Lorraine and family and Rod all went swimming in the not too clear water. Perfect setting for the Kerr/Chapman famous BBQ.

Summer had gone by the time we got to Port Zeeland. Very windy and unpleasant. Never mind, Centre Parcs is next to the Marina so made good use of their café.

The next time Holland was playing in the European Cup, against Russia, we were in Ooltgensplaat. Most of the group went to local pub to watch the match wearing their orange hats (for Holland). Free drinks and peanuts etc were passed round. Rod got carried away watching the match and unbeknown to him one of our Dutch friends exchanged the peanut dish for the ashtray full of cigarette butts. Rod hastily spat that out much to amusement of the jokers. Holland lost but they all enjoyed the evening and Dutch hospitality.



*Burning sausages at Stampersplaat*

At Middelharnis Brian had another birthday and Rod, John, Reggie and I helped him celebrate on 'Oyster' and all enjoyed a meal cooked by Lorraine.

Up the Spui where a chain ferry suddenly appeared from the undergrowth, well if we had read the chart properly we would have seen the small symbol for a ferry. Then the pretty Oude Maas to Dordrecht. Lots of BIG BARGES to be aware of. Dordrecht was lovely, like a mini Amsterdam. The Sticky Ribs in the club house are to be recommended.

Had to say good bye to Lorraine and Brian as they left for Sweden. We missed their company and hospitality. Oude Tonge was a sweet little place with a working windmill. The sails were going round and we were surprised how noisy they were.

Cleanest and best kept toilet/shower facilities so far looked after by the female Harbour Master.

The island of Deom Loop very small but summer had come back at last. Another Kerr BBQ. Rod and I were going to have sausages but found they had furry bits on so I would not eat them, Rod was keen to scrape them clean.

Back to Middelburg where 'Misty' with Ed and Barbara waiting for us. So good to see them again

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and sorry that they had to miss part of the trip, but think they made good use of the local bar. Weather windy again, left Middelburg for Ostend. Goodbye to the lovely Dutch waterways and out to sea at busy Vlissingen. Outside Ostend Harbour entrance police boat chased us all (except 'Misty') because we were near cable-laying boats. They made 'Samorah' go out a long way around the yellow buoys and told them off for not displaying the Belgian courtesy flag! None of us had changed the flags because the sea had been too choppy.

Weather turning wet and windy, rest of group off to Dunkirk and Rod and I to Nieuwpoort, all keeping well clear of the Police boats outside Ostend. Very wet and windy weather. A baby buggy was left on pontoon over night and was found floating in the marina next day (no baby in it - the baby thought it was amusing but her parents did not.)

Rod and I down to Dunkirk to meet rest of group. Weather still awful but enjoyed the museum boat 'Duchesse Anne' and the maritime museum. Back to Ramsgate then Oare Creek, but first Rod made a detour outside Dunkirk Harbour to take photos of the topless female statue on the buoy. His camera stopped working, served him right!! A lovely, lovely holiday even though the weather was mostly unsettled with good days and bad. A lot of windy weather but not in the right direction for sailing much of the time.

Thanks to John Kerr for organising the trip!

- Gill Turnnidge

## WIND FARM NEWS

More of the things are springing up. As we go to press, the Gunfleet Sands wind farm off Clacton is nearing completion, with several turbines now in place. Work has just begun on the Thanet wind farm, which is being built in the area of the Drill Stone, about 8 miles NE of Ramsgate, where there will be 100 turbines. Ramsgate is the construction base.

Nearer to home, we thought that cables for the giant London Array wind farm would be laid in the East Swale this year, to feed the substation on

Cleve Marsh near Graveney, but it seems this will not happen now for another year or two. And finally, permission has been granted for a row of turbines to be erected on the east shore of the Swale, between Queenborough and Sheerness Docks. At least these aren't in the sea. I wonder what it will be like sailing past there in an easterly?

## RED DIESEL ABROAD

With our first summer under the new tax regime

on red diesel, we thought it would be worth running through the RYA advice before everyone heads off across the Channel. There may well be some sticky situations this year, basically because it seems that only Britain has dealt with the problem by allowing the continued use of red-dyed fuel, which not all officials over there may be expecting to see.

So: *You are allowed to*

*have red diesel in your tank, but NOT in another container.*

*And: You must have receipts to show that you paid for the fuel in UK.*

What may be handy if faced with an official over there who is not properly briefed, is that from the RYA website you can download a letter from the EC to the RYA stating that red is indeed legal on UK-flagged boats. It comes in English, German, French and Dutch as well. Worth carrying a copy of this on board, perhaps!

If you pay less than the full duty on the red because you use some for heating, that is between you and the UK taxman.

## DREDGING ?

Boat owners in the upper two-thirds of Oare Creek are noticing more and more how the depth is disappearing. The Editor (based by the Cylinder House) has sailed out of the creek for the last 12 years, and likes to squeeze as much sailing time across a HW as he can, and he reckons that just in the last couple of years the shallowing has got very much worse especially in the stretch between Ham Wharf and the Cylinder House.

The issue was discussed at a creek berth-holders' meeting recently which provoked some lively



*Be afraid, be very afraid...*

discussion. There are those who don't see a problem at all, there are some who say Oare Creek is nothing to do with Medway Ports (well, there's an Act of Parliament that says it is!), and there are some who fear that the rate of silting is now accelerating so quickly with the reducing water flow that there may not be many years left for boats other than those with true shoal draught. Whatever the truth of the matter, the harbour authority does have a duty to maintain the navigation in its entire area, and *seems* to be 'not unwilling' to act on it in the Creek. The MPA 'Conservancy Fee' has nothing to do with this and is a private matter for individual boat owners. If the harbour authority were to carry out dredging, it would only be to improve the main channel. There may be a possibility of berths themselves being dredged at the same time but berth-holders/owners would have to request and fund this themselves. Will anything be done? We wait with interest.

## LOCAL NAV NEWS

**Harwich** - serious dredging will be taking place all summer off Harwich, with draconian restrictions about where you can and cannot go as you enter and leave the Orwell.

**Brightlingsea** - the water taxi has changed hands and phone number - now 07986 122672.

**Princes Channel** - many buoyage changes have been made during the winter.

**East Last / Hook Spit** - after comments that the gutway seemed to be shallowing, Trinity House resurveyed it and found no change from depths shown on latest charts.

**Chatham** - Sun Pier is closed.

**Swale** - the North and South Ferry buoys are now lit Fl.G.2s and Fl.R.2s respectively.

*These are just a few of the many changes on the East Coast that are published on the web site [www.eastcoastpilot.com](http://www.eastcoastpilot.com), and which you will already know about if you are registered on their free 'email alert' service. (Sorry, small advert - Ed)*

## SMALL ADS

As well as the big advert earlier in this newsletter, which helped fund this issue, (Learn2Sail are **very** nice people and come highly recommended), we also have a few small ads:

**Boat Barbecue:** 'Magma' s/s barbecue, new and never used, with standard rail fixing. £55. Jonathan Rigden 01795 536465.

**Mooring for Hire:** 10-metre mud berth in Oare Creek. David Blackmore 01227 720249.

**ICS Nav4 Navtex:** Brand new and never installed, the variety that uses paper, complete with aerial and dual-frequency splitter. Lovely kit. £150. Dick Holness 01227 366831.

## PROJECT KRAKEN

**"You are our eyes and ears, because you know what is out of place".**

So say Kent Police Marine Unit, who are adopting a national strategy that seeks to improve the information on all aspects of the marine community.

This strategy is called Project KRAKEN.

They go on to say: "It is the marine community that are our eyes and ears.....sometimes the public are unaware of the key role that they can play in community intelligence gathering and the difference they can make to other people's quality of life."

You can call Kent Police on 01622-690690 (or obviously 999 in an emergency).

Having recently reported a dodgy looking trio in an old Ford Transit pick-up carrying scrap metal, hanging around the creek, the Ed can vouch for the fact that reports are taken seriously!

## SEPTEMBER CLUB CRUISE

In HCC's 50th year we are hoping to resurrect the old annual cruise to Stangate, where everyone rafted up to Lawrie's barge for the night. Obviously it can't involve Lawrie, or his barge, but the committee is hoping to find an affordable way of doing something very similar.

If we can pull this off it could be a great occasion. Please make sure that you keep the weekend of September 19-20th free.

Incidentally if you have a barge tucked away somewhere that we could use, or know a willing owner, do let us know!

## AND FINALLY

Thank you so much to all contributors! If you would like to contribute, or advertise, please get in touch.

As usual, this newsletter is available in full colour at [www.hollowshorecc.co.uk](http://www.hollowshorecc.co.uk).

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