



OUR CONTACT DETAILS

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Weymouth Marina, Berth B34 - 'TIMBO'
If you're visiting, do let us know.

For details of the rally to

St Peter Port

7th-8th July 2007

please see separate sheet

COMMODORE'S JOTTINGS

Hi Everybody,

Unlike the last newsletter, this one is going out a bit later than expected, apologies.

It has been a funny year so far, good weather when we weren't ready to take advantage of it, and so changeable now that we are! Fingers crossed that we will be able to assemble in St Peter Port for the Rally 7th/ 8th July. There are 11 boats signed up so far, including two locals who will join in with the social events, so do have second thoughts if you were wavering whether to join in or not.

Last time we reported that Mark Greenwood, our founding Commodore, was looking to sell his boat Salamander of Chambord. She has been sold and has made passage to her new home in Northern Ireland. We will be keeping in touch with Kay and Mark, and you may see them back on the water again as Mark is evaluating various options.

Although we do not operate a brokerage service through the owners club, we do believe it is worthwhile to let fellow members know when boats come up for sale. We get many admirers asking about our boat, both strangers and acquaintances, some genuinely interested in finding a good second hand boat, and are sure other owners get similar approaches. It seems to us a sensible idea to put people together if we can, particularly since many of the vendors really do not want to give up boating, but health is not on their side.

Do let us know of your adventures and exploits this summer, and we will try to include them in the newsletters - as you can see we can go to more than 2 sides!

Finally if you see us, do come and talk to us - we are doing well in Weymouth with Fastflow and Aquilla having visited already. Happy cruising,

Nichola and Ron

Factory News

The factory must be jolly full at the moment as in build there are the 57', two 48's and a 38' due to be launched on 26th June. Also in the vicinity is a second hand 74' at St Peter Port, and a 65' in Beaucette Marina. We are sure that out of all those, there will be some interesting boats to look around on the rally. Hopefully we may be able to see the drawings for the new 80' model, which really is putting Aqua-Star on the map with other superyacht builders.

In the next newsletter, before the Southampton Boat Show, we hope to report what you will be able to see on the Aqua-Star berths. Timbo will be in Ocean Village for the duration, so maybe we will see you there.

ARE WE ADDRESSING YOU CORRECTLY?

Please let us know if any of your details contain any errors or need any changes. We sometimes get forgotten when members change address. Also some more **mobile phone numbers** would be welcomed as this could easily be the first line of contact when somebody spots you.

Thank you for the corrections sent after the last sheets went out. As you can see, the list is getting more comprehensive.

2007 Rally to Guernsey

For those who might be interested in the rally, we have sent out the following to people who have said they are coming. We have been in contact with the marina in St Peter Port, and as expected they do not take bookings for July and August, but assured us that they will fit us in. We did ask whether we could be accommodated in QEII Marina and, rather than receive a straight no, we were told to check on the day. If any locals can pull a few strings to help here, we would all be very grateful.

High water, BST, at St Peter Port for the 6th, 7th and 8th July is 1123, 1211 and 1306 (sensible hours) or 2341, (8th) 0033 and (9th) 0133 (I don't do nights). We allow 2½ hours each side of high water for the Victoria Marina sill, so that with an 8.2 metre tide on the 6th, this gives 1.83 metres over the sill at 0853. We aim to get away first light on the 6th and therefore should be at St Peter Port about 1030. Hopefully the weekenders from the UK will not have arrived by then. If anyone can arrive earlier and stake our claim, this would be most useful. When we did a cruise in company, it seemed best for the first arrival to act on everybody's behalf, so if anyone is happy to this, it will be very helpful.

We have copied this message to local members in the hope that some might be able to join us for drinks, dinner even a cup of tea or coffee! My plan is very much along the same lines as the last time - dinner in Valentinos (by the Tourist Information building) on Friday night, then dinner in Moores Hotel in Le Pollet on Saturday night.

Nichola needs to call the restaurants and get tables booked, so needs to know how many people to book for. Valentinos is a casual restaurant - steaks, burgers, Mexican, pizzas, chicken and a renowned lasagne - good value and relaxed. For Moores, although a bit smarter - remember the Aqua-Star Owners Club is a no tie club. Last time we had a table d'hote menu which was very good, and we were accommodated in the Conservatory Restaurant. We opted for table d'hote so you would know the price beforehand - we think it was £20-ish a head 2 years ago.

Other than these arrangements, we do not intend to make other formal arrangements. Ed Duncan came up trumps on our previous visit and we had pre-dinner drinks at the Royal Channel Island Yacht Club. Obviously if such facilities could be available this time we would be most grateful.

Geoff very kindly showed us around "the Works" and the superyacht of the day in QEII on Saturday morning, and we have every reason to believe this will be possible this year.

We will provide you with information on the buses and things on over that weekend, and will hand these out on our or your arrival, whichever is the later! If we want to arrange a mass fuelling session from the bowser at St Sampsons, we could co-ordinate this if required.

We would expect to stay at least Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights, mainly because, at this time, we don't know what to do next.

A reminder from Nichola to those who do hope to come (except Ted who has replied). I would be very grateful if you could forward **numbers for dinner** to me, and I will book the tables accordingly.

We are looking forward to seeing you this summer, and if it only partly as good as last time, we should have a great rally. May we suggest to email recipients that you print the Owners Contact Details sheet on the back of this page and take it with you to save playing the guessing game!

Boats, including the two local ones, which we know are hoping to join in are: Moonspinner, Lynne IV of St Peter Port, Fastflow, Sanjika, Wind Cheater, Aqua Santa, Kayber Star, Fleur d'Ecosse, Lady Daphne, Glory B and lastly Timbo.

Red Diesel – from Scuttlebut dated 30 March 2007

According to the Chancellor's budget statement last week, duty on fuel used for private pleasure boating or private pleasure flying will, from November 1, 2008, 'no longer benefit from the reduced and exempt rates of duty currently in effect'.

The statement went on to say 'there will be formal consultation on the implementation of the new regime later this year. I am pleased that the government has listened to our case for a lengthy transitional period in order for industry to manage the infrastructure changes that will be required,' said Howard Pridding, executive director of the British Marine Federation (BMF). 'The implementation date of November 1, 2008 will give marine businesses the time to plan and budget for that change. We will continue to work with government over the coming months as they develop the detail of the new legislation.'

From Boating Business,
http://www.boatingbusiness.com/archive/2007/april2/news/brown_to_add_red_diesel_duty_from_november_2008

We know this is quite old news but some may not have seen it. We also saw an article recently while at the Cruising Association in London recently which suggested even the dates given above would not give long enough to change between red and white diesel. Then someone said something about putting wholemeal bread in your tanks – must play havoc with the fuel filters!

NOT AN APRIL FOOL'S DAY JOKE. I WISH!

From Elaine Bunting's blog:

http://www.ybw.com/yw/blog/elaine_bunting

“In a ruling that will affect thousands of boatowners the European Commission has decided that any aftersales modifications to any part of a boat after manufacture, such as fitting an autopilot or self-steering gear, will invalidate the yacht's RCD code. This is a massive blow to owners of new yachts who choose to have extras fitted at a later date and is effectively a licence to print money for manufacturers supplying all those pricey extras.

And what about the rest of us with older boats we are continually pampering and upgrading? Where does that leave us? The ruling came about because of the case of Megawat, the Irish Hanse 371 that lost her rudder and quickly sank in the Irish Sea in 2005 after the incorrect retrofitting of an autopilot ram to the alloy rudder stock. As a result of the same case, the European Commission is also advising against using copper antifouling anywhere near an alloy rudder stock.

The Commission has penalised many owners and marine trades by drawing sweeping conclusions from one case. If they had wanted to be helpful, why did they not point out that perhaps alloy is not the best material from which to make a rudder stock and/or that standards for the design and manufacture of rudders should ensure that if they do fail they do not rip out completely and lead to a sinking? Answers on a postcard, please. I'll be investigating this in the June issue of Yachting World.”

Members might like to look out for the article.

Hints, Tips and Info

RYA subscribers may have seen in the magazine an advert/article about Brintons Patio Magic. This is sold as a cleaner for patios – funnily enough – the claim being that it removes algae and mould without the need to scrub. We are always on the look out for something to clean our “undressed” teak decks and combing without having to scrub, as, looking at the amount of grey scum we wash off, scrubbing surely cannot be good for the wood. We purchased 5 litres of Patio Magic from our local garden centre for £17.99 (smaller volumes are available – read on). Ron has cleaned all the decks, bar half the afterdeck which he left as a control test, diluting the cleaner for normal use 1 part to 19, which made hardly a dent in the 5 litres! Within a couple of days, all the mould and green algae had gone, and when the deck is wet it is very obvious where he did not clean. Especially good is the end grain of the combing which has always been difficult to clean. Nice to find something which is dual purpose – home and boat.

We live in a very hard water area, and although our toilets are salt water flushing their bowls still get easily scaled up. Having talked to the nice man at Lee Sanitation because water was running back into the bowl after flushing, he recommended SeaLand Toilet Bowl Cleaner (£3.50 in 2006). Like the above, this is very easy to use, just squirt it in and leave it to do the rest. I do have a scrub around with a bent baby's bottle brush before flushing it through, but even without that, it does an amazing cleaning job. As it is specially made for marine toilets it will not damage the seals.

DON'T FORGET THE DISCOUNTS!!

Benefits to members are available from:

<u>Supplier</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Aqua-Star	Geoff	Spares & construction parts at cost + 10% to Club members
GJW Direct	Jo Griffiths 0151 236 6848	10% additional discount from boat insurance
Euronav	Mark Day 01705 373855	20% off chart systems
Reed's Bookshop	Roger Hunter 0181 941 7878	Discuss direct
Marine Electronic	Nicholas Heyes 01179 830770	Various
Marlin Marine	Alan Soper 01703 231306 27.	5% off Iveco engine sales
Toomer & Hayter	Vivien West 01202 515789	Discounts on upholstery
Vetus Southern	Richard Yates 01703 672277	10% off Vetus equipment
Halyard	James Grazebrook 01722 710922	7.5% off exhausts etc.
Greenham Marine	Andy Haynes 01590 671144	Call for prices on autopilots etc.
CJR	Mark Russell 01703 639366	Call for special prices on props/sterngear
Liquid Engineering	Gerry Yeatman 01794 884963	15% off diesel bug treatment
Galleyslave	Birgit Morris 01527 592089	10% off unbreakable glasses and dinnerware

Sadly, Richard Merson has to put "Sanjika" on the market. She is a 38ft aft cabin boat, with stairs down to bathing platform. Since owning her, Richard has spent much time and effort bringing her up to tip-top condition and adding many extras. She is ready for sea passage and will be on the rally in July, when we know he will be more than willing to show her off. Sanjika has been wintered ashore, and serviced annually.

Her particulars are:

2x260 hp Volvo Penta KAMD41a EDC, engine hours 300.

Bow Thruster

Generator

Hull Copper Coated,

Awl Grip new 2007,

Raymarine 10 inch LCD Colour Radar/Chart Plotter with 7" colour repeaters on fly bridge.

Fridge, Freezer, M/wave etc.

The asking price is £200,000, which we believe is VAT paid.

This is the basic information, for more details contact Richard on 01491 837284 or 07831 286666

Email richardmerson@btinternet.com

New Members

We welcome the following new members to the Club, and look forward to meeting some of you at the rally or the Boat Show:

Chris & Angie Driscoll	Kayber Star	Sparks Marina, Hayling Island
Paul & Annie Watson	Nicara	Marina Bonaire, Mallorca
Glyn & Julia Wright	Phaeacian	Fleetwood/Glasson Marinas
John Langdon & Julia Falle	Aconit	St Helier, Jersey

Channel 32 for sale – La Meuse

Channel Islands 32 1988, located at Hayling Island. Twin Volvo Tamd41 Diesel. Two owners since new. New Upholstery & sprung mattresses. Whole boat recently refurbished including galley and heads with electric loo. Colour Chart plotter/Radar, GPS, Auto Pilot, DSC Radio, Hot Water System, Navtex, Electric Winch. Price £75,000 VAT paid. This boat is being advertised by Angie Driscoll, now the owner of Kayber Star. For further details and pictures, phone 023 9246 5646, or see it on website: <http://apolloduck.net/48482>