



## Coming Up!

*Jackie Smith*

### Commodore's Dinner

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September –  
7.30 p.m. for 8 p.m. dinner

### Laying-Up Supper

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October –  
7.30 p.m. for 8 p.m. dinner

Please ring Jackie or Paul on  
01634 711971 to book your  
places. Please book early to  
avoid disappointment.

## Caption Competition



Thanks to Ian Campbell for this  
suggested caption:-  
'Sulk all you like, there's still no  
room under this umbrella!'

## Thank You

*Jackie Smith*

Jackie would like to extend a  
very heartfelt and personal  
thank you to Paul Ledsham.  
He kindly offered the use of  
Genevieve II on 6<sup>th</sup> August so  
that Jackie's uncle's ashes  
could be scattered on the River  
Medway. Thank you Paul.

## This is NOT a Boating Story!

*Kathryn & Reinhard Wendt*

### Our Wedding Day 24<sup>th</sup> April 2009

Sorry, this is not a boating  
story, but we did get married in  
a castle surrounded by **water**,  
the hotel over-looked the **Baltic  
Sea** and I ate **fish** at the  
wedding meal!



On a brilliant sunny day in April,  
Reinhard and I got married at  
Wasserschloß Glücksburg near  
Flensburg in Germany at 10  
a.m.

We had immediate family join  
us at the castle, which included  
12 who travelled from England  
and 2 from America. I had  
three flower girls: Reinhard's  
daughter Heidi, and my sons'  
girlfriends, Anna and

Samantha. Witnesses were  
Reinhard's son Steven and my  
son Jeffrey. My other son  
Richard was the Ring Bearer.  
The ceremony was spoken in  
German, but we had an  
interpreter on hand (I thought  
this was advisable, so that I  
knew what I was signing up  
for!!). However, I did say "ja" at  
the appropriate time in the  
proceedings and so we were  
pronounced 'trouble and strife'!  
Following the 'serious bit' we all  
went to the Schloßkeller,  
where some excellent cold  
beer/champagne was served.  
Since it was such a sunny day  
we all moved to the sun  
terrace. Soon no-one could  
tell where the red faces came  
from, the sun or ...???

During the day guests  
wandered around the castle  
and then joined us at the  
Intermar Hotel in Glücksburg  
(overlooking the Baltic) for  
coffee and cake at 3 p.m. The  
hotel was also a 2 minute  
walk to the Flensburg  
Segelclub, and we tested their  
coffee in the clubhouse some  
days later.

The evening commenced at 6  
p.m. for a five course meal,  
with plenty of wines, German  
beer, champagne and  
schnapps (mainly Ouzo and  
Grappa). The music continued  
until 3 a.m. with dancing and  
fun supplied by Reinhard's  
family who did a 'Mr and Mrs'  
game, plus musical chairs and  
other party games, which most  
people joined in. (I think a few  
drinks helped!) Our last guests  
finally went to bed at 5 a.m.  
Many of our close family stayed  
at the Intermar Hotel with us,  
and lots decided to extend their

stay – so we ended up having one day of our honeymoon on our own! But it was lovely to get our families together to share in our special day. Reinhard and I are off on a cruise in November for our ‘proper honeymoon’. We join the ship in Marseille – country ports of call: Malta, Italy, Greece, Cyprus, Turkey and Egypt where we take a trip to the Pyramids. Photos and article for the Mainsheet on our return.....

## Can You Help?

*Ambrus Janko*

There are four pictures of my boat, Arrabona, ‘hung out to dry’, on the Notice Board at the top of the stairs in the Club House. Would the Member who took them please send a copy of them to me as an email.

[ambrusjanko@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:ambrusjanko@tiscali.co.uk)

This is the documentation of a once-in-a-lifetime event of the ship, I would love to have it as a happy ‘memento mori’.

## Photo Competition

*Sylvia Adshead*

A reminder about the competition – the winning photograph will be on the front of next year’s Members Handbook. Full details were in the Mainsheet for April, they can also be found on the Club website.

## Expect the Unexpected

*Alexandra Calver and Neil Freeman*

We’re currently running our sailing business in the South of France, and thought this might

be of interest to Mainsheet readers:-

Whilst crossing the shipping lane in the Rade of Toulon, we were keeping our usual look-out for ships, and all appeared well. Then from no-where an object appeared next door to our boat, we were really surprised (to say the least). It turned out to be a large military submarine, which had decided to surface – think our large radar reflector may have saved the day, so much for looking out for ships!

## Cruise to South Deep or ‘The Cruise That Never Was’

*John Walrond*

Our ‘Cruise Hub’ leader for the event, Mike Jenkins, after choosing a date when the tides were suitable, organised the cruise to South Deep. This entailed mooring there on Saturday afternoon and then, in our dinghies, under escort of the Swale Marine RIB, being herded to the new Conyer Cruising Club Clubhouse about 2 hours before high water. Supper was laid on, and at the conclusion of the festivities we were to crawl back into our dinghies in the fast ebbing tide and fading daylight, to make our merry way back to our boats, avoiding the mud banks. The Sunday tides were ideal to leave for Columbine on a falling tide then ride the rising tide around the north coast of Sheppey and up the Medway to Upnor.

## Everything went without a hitch, apart from the weather.

To have the option of either sailing around Sheppey of ducking under the Kingsferry Bridge, Ingrid and I decided we needed to be much closer to Sheerness than Chatham on

the Friday night because of the tides. What we had not reckoned on was that the Met Office forecasters would be absolutely right in their predictions! We set off in the dark in a westerly force 4 to 5 to 6, with the tide under us, making very rapid progress to Stangate Creek. On the way it was very hard to see the various flashing cardinal marks against a horizon of bright lights from Sheerness and Thamesport. After some consideration of lee shores, tidal rip, and unlit moored yachts we laid the anchor in about 4 metres of water with 40 metres of chain, then we hoisted the riding light and anchor ball. The wind speed continued to rise and by the time we made for our bunks it was already about force 7. As sleep tried to elude me I told myself that we had held in worse, but my subconscious was awaiting that dreaded noise of the anchor dragging. I learned afterwards that the wind increased to force 8 during the night but mercifully by then I had gone to sleep or I might have risked life and limb in lifejacket and pyjamas by going on deck to throw out a second anchor!

The boat danced around all night, and come daylight I listened to the forecast, which was not at all encouraging. A little later, Bonny Girl called us on the radio from Sharfleet Creek to say he was letting everybody know that it would not be sensible to continue to South Deep as more of the same weather was expected. However, the rest of the arrangements would stay in place and all we would have to forego was mooring in a shallow narrow creek in high winds, getting wet and having our dinghies driven onto the mud. Following that decision the wind started to abate and the sun came out to deliberately challenge our

leader's judgement. Then on cue the Thames Coastguard notified everybody that winds of gale force 8 were imminent. So having had a leisurely lunch dancing at anchor we hoisted the iron topsail and set forth into the teeth of the wind to our car and mooring. Along the way we dived with a smattering of intrepid yachtsmen still participating in the Medway Regatta, and the Kingswear Castle also bound for the same destination as ourselves.

So, by the overland passage, the Masters and Crews of: Bonny Girls, Emily, First Draft, Khamsin of Hamble, Magna Carter, Muritai & Renata all made their way to Conyer Cruising Club for the celebration 'South Deep Cruise' Supper.

We all had a splendid time, the natives were friendly, the food was good and individually cooked, but took a little time in coming, the beer and wine flowed, and our Vice Commodore and his Lady set out to show the local members how to excel at bar billiards.

Towards the end of the evening it was realised that whilst our host's new Clubhouse had many other visiting club burgees it did not sport an Upnor Burgee. It was then suggested that it would be fun to hold an evening 'Burgess Exchange' ceremony at Upnor with Conyer Cruising Club as our guests. This would need to be planned by both clubs into their 2010 programmes with suitable tides for the Conyer members to get out of, and return to, their moorings over a weekend.

Everyone enjoyed the outing despite not being able to arrive and depart by boat and dinghy as originally planned, so many thanks to Mike Jenkins for all the work he put into organising it for us.

## Thank You Volunteers

*Jackie and Paul Smith*

Paul and Jackie would like to thank all the volunteers who helped on the night of 16<sup>th</sup> July for the Medway Regatta BBQ. It was a very busy night which was made much easier by the hard work that was put in by all of the helpers. A special mention to Rita Stone and Anne Davies who helped with the food preparation and then had their hands in the sink all night doing the washing up. Also to Catherine Jones who thought she was going to be selling tickets but ended up cooking the food with new member Richard Durling. What a Baptism of Fire!! Also many thanks to Tristan Lewis who cleaned the dirty BBQs a few days later. There were many, many helpers who know who they were and we are grateful to all of you. Thank you.

## The Tale of the Brightlingsea Squirrel

*Ian Tredwen*

Ian writes that the following article came to him from the local Old Gaffers Branch, but he is sure they would not mind if it was shared further. He also says that perhaps our members should check their crosstrees (boom boom!) if they go to B'Sea.

'As lightning flashed and thunder roared we sat below tucking into a gourmet meal of local plaice, prawns and samphire cooked in our new square frying pan! We were safely moored in one of our favourite places, next to one of the smacks on the first pontoon in Brightlingsea Harbour.

Alerted by a loud banging we looked through the open hatch where we could see one of the wind farm support vessels

through the torrential downpour. A man in T shirt and shorts was banging the iron mast with a broom. Mystified we waited for a break in the downpour and went out to investigate. Two drenched men in an inflatable (the rescue boat for the local dinghy sailors who obviously thought going out in the storm was a lark!) informed us that he was after the squirrel that he claimed was eating his GPS aerial. This seemed highly unlikely as the pontoon is not connected to the land. How did the squirrel get there? Should we contact the RSPCA? Was the man's English not good? The next day we made further enquiries. An elderly couple with a dog, on an old Hilliard further along the pontoon, said there was definitely a squirrel as it had come through their open porthole and stolen a plum! The skipper of one of the smacks was not surprised by the presence of the squirrel. He said it regularly swam out to the pontoon and had done a lot of damage to the boats. So BEWARE!

## Boat Launching Procedures

*Rebecca & Chris Callow*

Here's one of those great ones that comes occasionally via the internet – enjoy!

'I just bought a new boat and decided to take 'er for the maiden voyage at the weekend. This is my first boat and I wasn't quite sure of the exact Standard Operating Procedures for launching it off a ramp, but I figured it couldn't be too hard. I consulted my local boat dealers for advice, but they just said "Don't let the trailer get too deep when you are trying to launch the boat".

What am I doing wrong? Well, I don't know what they meant by that as I could barely get the trailer in the water at all!

Anyhow, here's the picture below. See for yourself. What AM I doing wrong?



## One Giant Leap for Mankind

*Lindsay Chivers*

While Lindsay was in Patman's yard he spotted this strange creature. In fact it was Chris Moore who was helping John Webster with one of his 'little projects'!



## From the Editor

*Sue Lucas*

I should like to thank all our contributors to this issue – I know it's August which is typically the 'silly season' but I really enjoyed all the stories etc. that have been sent in. Please carry on! All articles to [suejlucas@btinternet.com](mailto:suejlucas@btinternet.com)  
Many thanks.

## What a Wreck!

*Martin Males*

Martin saw this houseboat on the Canal de Midi during a holiday in France.



Unfortunately Martin had a bad accident on his bicycle during the holiday, resulting in a broken wrist and 40 stitches in his head. We wish him well and believe he is now well on the way to a full recovery.

## Sadler 26 "Rosmarinus" For Sale – £19,500



*Lindsay Chivers*

Lindsay is selling his Sadler 26 – Built in 1988 it has LOA 25' 9", BEAM 9' 5", DRAUGHT 3' 10" – Shallow Fin Keel.

For full details of the yacht see the Club Notice Board or contact Lindsay on 01634 727611 or [Lcchiv@aol.com](mailto:Lcchiv@aol.com)

## Future Cruises

*Sue Lucas*

**Cruise to Brightlingsea with return Passage  
Race to Upnor**  
29<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> August

**Cruise to Ray Gut**  
26<sup>th</sup> September

**Laying-Up Cruise to Faversham**  
3<sup>rd</sup> October

For details of these cruises please contact a member of the 'Cruising Hub'.