



Coming Up!

Laying-Up Supper

Saturday 24th October –
7.30 p.m. for 8 p.m. dinner

All places for this event are now booked, so unfortunately Paul and Jackie are unable to accept any more bookings.

Club Holiday Cruise to Holland

Travis Crossley with
photographs by Pep

Comet, Patanda, Vellamo, Genevieve II, John Hill and Melody Blue comprised the fleet to Holland, meeting with Moondancer in Middleberg.

Ramsgate to Dunkerque or onto Ostende meant that the fleet all had a fairly lumpy sail up the coast to Vlissingen – with a force 6 behind them. Once tucked up in Middleburg with an extra day stopover, the holiday began in earnest!
(BBQ on the Veersmeer)



A lovely BBQ on one of the islands in the Veersmeer for Patanda, Comet and Vellamo whilst the others headed for Goes, with Paul on Genevieve II opting to stay in Middleburg for some more R & R.

The following day saw a superb sail through the Veersmeer and then on to Sint Annaland where the restaurant is wonderful.....though not MacDonald's prices! Still the gambas cannot be bettered and you get to wear a very nice bib when you order them. Next on the schedule was Brouwershaven in the Gravelingenmeer where the Harbourmaster found us three spaces on the hammerhead and where we carried out vital maintenance to Patanda – changing the exhaust manifold injection point which had corroded. Fortunately Jerry carries a mobile workshop on board – including a full size

engineer's vice which was invaluable when bolted to the pontoon. Vellamo supplied a giant adjustable spanner and, with the help of a club hammer repairs were



(Comfort comes first on board at Willemstadt!)

soon under way! The spare was fitted in record breaking time and later we toasted our success in the comfortable Clubhouse.

Staying in the Gravelingenmeer we next visited Herkingen – a delightful marina though the diesel was rather overpriced at _1.50 per litre. From Herkingen Comet and Patanda departed to go to Colijnsplaat and meet the other boats whilst Vellamo stayed on in Holland for a further couple of weeks. During that time we visited Scharendijke, Bruinese, Numansdorp, Middleharnis, Willemstadt and Goes. In Goes ex club members Barry and Trish Mercer keep their boat Affaire of Upnor and we spent a couple of lovely days with them – catching up with their news and letting them know what's been happening at the Club. Vellamo's summer holiday was completed with a hop to Breskens, then Nieuwport and Calais before returning some six weeks after departure.

The cruise in company to Holland is always great fun and we hope to do something similar next year when, if the weather is kinder, hopefully more boats will get across the channel. Finally, a big thank you to all who took part for making it such an enjoyable summer break.

Thank You

Cliff Howell

A big thank you to Mike Jenkins for organising the trip to Brightlingsea, which was well supported despite the weather. A very successful evening, with good food at a new venue, for the Club. Another success for the Cruising Hub.

Another big thank you to Jackie Smith and Paul, together with all their helpers, for a great Commodore's Supper. All I spoke to were full of praise for the excellent meal served and had a great evening. Well done.

Cruise to Brightlingsea 29th – 31st August

Mike Jenkins

The last week in August was a very windy one with gales on most days. The forecast at 5.20 on Saturday morning was NE 4-5 becoming SW 5-7 later. We checked Reeds and found that "later" means more than 12 hours and so 13 boats set off from the Medway to brave the head winds in the Thames and the Swin. We hoped to arrive before the SW gale set in. We were fortunate as the wind was mainly 4 and nearer E than NE so that we could sail close hauled to the Spitway – with a little help from the engine for some, although some others including Muritai sailed all the way. The 13 boats included: White Spirit, Denebola, Muritai, Amarula, Bonny Girl, Last

Chance, Patanda, Valsa, Margaret Catchpole, Renata, Ma Pin Wa, Skybird and Serica. These 13 boats all anchored in the Pyefleet along with Emily and Yamkat who had come from Heybridge Basin. There was much movement in the Pyefleet with crews visiting the other yachts. On Sunday morning all the yachts in the Pyefleet joined Lytson, Moon Dancer and Stream II which were already moored on the pontoon in Brightlingsea. The harbour was crowded with other clubs visiting and we were rafted out three abreast, but the Harbour Master had reserved a part of the pontoon for us and most of us were close to each other.



On Sunday evening all the crews gathered for a gourmet dinner at "The Rosebud", forty of us sat down to the meal and little Rob, who was only 8 weeks old and crewing on Amarula, lay in his carry cot! "The Rosebud" is located facing the green on the NE side of the town and I think the exercise in walking there did all of us some good. We dined very well on a menu that included such specialities as oysters, wood pigeon and Zabaglioni. On Monday most of us returned to Upnor, although head winds had been forecast once again. In fact we were lucky because the SW wind we expected turned into a Southerly one and once again we could sail close on the wind in the Swin and the Thames. Some stayed in Brightlingsea and – due to the heavy weather I believe they had to delay their return to Upnor. Others broke the

voyage home by stopping at Queenborough, but I believe that everyone who wanted to do so had returned safely by the next weekend.

The race back was won by Amarula in 13 hours adjusted time (passage time plus twice the engine time) as no one else kept a proper record!

Special mention must be given to Denebola, Varna and Muritai who all made this cruise single handed.

Future Cruise

Mike Jenkins

The Cruising Hub is now looking forward to strong support on the cruise to the **Ray Gut** (at Leigh on Sea) which is on **26th/27th September** when the tides are neapish and should give us plenty of space for anchoring between the mud flats.

Next Issue

Editor

We only had a few items for this Mainsheet – therefore it was a Jibsheet! Please let me have any copy for the October Mainsheet by 12th of the month. suejucas@btinternet.com – 01986 798000

Fishing Competition

Editor

This will be on 14th November – more details in the next issue.

AGM

Editor

A reminder that our Treasurer and Mooring Master are standing down at the AGM, also we have not had a Race Captain this year. The Cruising Hub has done a fantastic job – well done to everyone. If **you** feel you are able to offer your services to the Club in any capacity please contact **Cliff Howell – Commodore – 01634 714895**