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More information at www.hoeoca.org.uk

Newsletter: June 2016

Committee 2016-17

Following the AGM in May, your committee for the coming year is

Commodore	Judy Lambourne	commodore@hoeoca.org.uk
Vice Commodore	Mike Veal	hoeoca@hoeoca.org.uk
Rear Commodore Cruising	Roger Shintom	rc.cruising@hoeoca.org.uk
Rear Commodore Racing	Chris Blackburn	rc.racing@hoeoca.org.uk
Rear Commodore Training	Nina Wilson	rc.training@hoeoca.org.uk
Honorary Secretary	Peter Smerdon	secretary@hoeoca.org.uk
Honorary Treasurer	Stephen Power	stephen.power@hoeoca.org.uk
Committee Member - Newsletter	Mary Coles	newsletter@hoeoca.org.uk
Committee Member - Social	Maureen Highfield-Sykes	social@hoeoca.org.uk
Committee Member - Speakers	Stuart Jones	hoeoca@hoeoca.org.uk
Committee Member - Supplies	Graham Fisher	Supplies@hoeoca.org.uk
Committee Member - Website	Peter Dunn	webmaster@hoeoca.org.uk

JP Morgan Round The Island Race 2016

Thursday 1 - Sunday 3 July 2016

A last minute place has become available. Please contact Chris Blackburn at rc.racing@hoeoca.org.uk or on 07799 343984 for more details/booking. Details are available from the website [here](#).

2016-17 Membership Fees

As voted at the AGM in May, the annual membership for 2016/17 is **£32.50**

Payment is now due. To avoid the cost of chasing late payment, subscriptions paid after 31 July 2016 are subject to a late payment levy of £2.50 and will be £35.

If you joined the Association after 1 January 2016, the subscription you paid then takes you to 31 May 2017, so no payment is due from you at this time.

How to Pay

- By bill payment directly into the HOEOCA bank account. Please make payment to HOEOCA Limited, ensure "Payment Description" is your name, bank sort code 20 77 62, account number 50460699.
- If you are making payment for more than one person, ensure the Payment Description includes all names.
- By cheque in the amount of £32.50 payable to HOEOCA Limited, sent to Peter Smerdon, 40 Stoneton Crescent, Balsall Common, Coventry, CV7 7QG.

Yachtmaster & Coastal Skipper Success

Congratulations to Michael Skinner on becoming HOEOCA's latest Yachtmaster and to Stephanie Williams on attaining Coastal Skipper in May following a week's practical preparation with Keith Harding on *Reach4theWind*.

New HOEOCA Kit

Whilst we continue to provide shirts etc for specific events, there's also a demand for gear that doesn't carry a specific event or date on it and can therefore be worn whenever and forever! You can now order from our new range, in both men's and women's sizes:

- Dark blue fleece with the HOEOCA logo on the chest.
- Dark blue polo shirt with the HOEOCA logo on the chest and the code flags on the sleeve
- Sky blue T shirt with the HOEOCA logo on the chest and the code flags on the sleeve



Polo Shirt

Place your order with Graham Fisher [here](#).

Skipper Training Report by Mark Parker

We recently received a grant from the RYA to assist HOEOCA in developing Skippering skills and expertise on the water. We put together a comprehensive training package with RYA Yachtmaster Instructor **Keith Harding** starting with a Shorebased evening looking at team dynamics, legal responsibilities and leadership styles. This was followed by two practical weekends.

Mark Parker, writes:

‘Not content with numerous Fastnet campaigns Keith Harding allowed HOEOCA ‘would be skippers’ onto his boat *Reach4theWind* for two weekends of practical skills training.

You can read about his experience on the website [here](#).

Many thanks to Mark for the article - ED

Reflections on Shared Cost Cruising Friday 6 - Sunday 8 May 2016

Following the recent Members Survey we re-introduced *Shared Cost Cruising* in May. This is a scheme whereby a number of HOEOCA boat owners agree to make their boats available to Club Members who would like to enjoy cruising in the company of other club members for a small daily cost.

To kick us off Paul Rivers-Latham and Bernie Blower kindly offered their boats for the weekend of 6-8 May.



Sunset off Yarmouth

Blue Wolf, Paul's Moody, left Poole around 5pm on Friday and motored into the Solent to spend the night in Yarmouth. After eating on board the crew (Paul, Mary Coles, Martin Hemming, Judy Lambourne and Mike Veal) made it ashore just in time for a last drink and to discover that Yarmouth shuts at 11pm. The next day the crew enjoyed a gentle sail towards Cowes, against the tide as they were a bit slow to surface in the morning, but eventually had to resort to the engine to get anywhere. After lunch underway and some more sailing around Cowes in glorious sunshine, *Blue Wolf* put into Shepard's Wharf having discovered that the new Eastern Small Boat Channel does not do what it says on the tin and cannot be dredged to a minimum of 2m. She didn't touch, but there was just 0.1m under the keel at one point. After watching a master-class in boat parking from some single-handed French racers, *Blue Wolf* met up with Bernie and the crew of his Westerly Fulmar, *Fulmarks of Hamble*, for dinner at *The Union* and welcomed Keith Harding and the crew of *Reach4theWind*, yet more HOEOCA Members this time on the Practical Boat Handling weekend, for pre-dinner drinks. Sunday was another glorious day and provided perfect conditions for popping out Paul's newly acquired cruising chute for the first time. Sadly the wind died just after The Needles and *Blue Wolf* reluctantly motored home on the hottest day of the year to date.



Both boats rafted outside Shepard's in Cowes

Bernie and crew came out of Gosport and another good time was had by all. You can read about their exploits [here](#).

A big thank you to Paul and Bernie for making the weekend possible.

If any other boat owners would like to make their boats available please contact Jude Lambourne at commodore@hoeoca.org.uk

Many thanks to Bernie for the article - ED

Our Commodore looks back on the Spring Rally

We were 45 for dinner, 2 of whom came via the Condor. We had 4 owners' boats and 5 charter boats. Our channel crossings across were benign but we were not expecting such good conditions on the return journey but in the end were better than expected. *SkyLou* sailed virtually all the way back to Fowey and the Solent boats did a lot of motoring.

What struck was how welcome we were made. It appeared that the residents of Alderney had been told to be on their best behaviour and we were treated exceptionally well by harbour masters, those in shops and restaurants and the yacht club even let us leave our shower stuff there for the day. The communication systems in Alderney worked well too as we knew about the problem that *Vis a Vis* had had with the net wrapped around their prop from the water taxi driver who informed us that the diver would be going down that afternoon!

Two particular incidents – our boat, *Par Excellence* was hanging around the bike hire place which was closed (being Sunday!) and asked a man working on a nearby roof if he knew if the suggestion to call a mobile number was likely to be successful. He told us to leave a note but then offered to drive us up to St Anne's in his very old lorry. 4 in the back, standing up! *SkyLou* experienced much the same kindness in Trebeurden when a Frenchman drove the crew 2km each way to an ATM, agreed to come for a drink as a thank you, and then paid for his own drink!

It was John Kissack's first channel crossing as skipper and a first crossing for 8 other members. We also welcomed 6 people on their first HOEOCA rally.



Trebeurden, North Brittany, visited by *SkyLou*

So, where did the boats go?

First to arrive in St Peter Port was *Blue Wolf* who had attended the Moody Owners rally in Portland on the Saturday night and then crossed direct to St Peter Port on the Sunday. They then popped out again and anchored off on the Monday before returning to join us all the following day. *Reach4theWind* first crossed to Cherbourg and left at 3am on the Monday morning and flew their spinnaker down to Sark where they caught up with some sleep before crossing to the outside pontoons.

3 charter boats, *Par Excellence*, *D'Artagnan* and *Vis a Vis*, crossed to Alderney and spent a lovely Sunday there (if not *Vis a Vis* original plan!) before having a very good sail down the race where they met *Reach4theWind* off Sark. Some of the crew rowed across to the island and enjoyed the lovely views. Again, St Peter Port was the destination for the next 3 nights together with the joys of the 91/92 buses.

SkyLou probably had the kindest wind direction, coming from Falmouth, and enjoyed the North Brittany coast before arriving after a cracking sail on Tuesday. Then a big welcome to *In the Mood*, on her maiden cross channel trip. She visited Cherbourg and Carteret on the way there.

Protégé – Chris and his crew were always determined to get to St Malo so left Braye in the small hours of Sunday and went to Jersey for a night and then enjoyed 2 nights in St Malo before leaving at midnight to make a very uncomfortable passage back. *Faux Pas* crossed to Cherbourg then spent a night in Braye before leaving for St Helier on Monday morning and managed a 5 hour sail on the day of the dinner.

Lastly, *White Mistral* sadly did not make it. Their desire to pack a lot into the week and visit St Vaast to start with played against them when they became storm bound in Cherbourg.



Rally Dinner, Old Government Hotel

At the excellent dinner at the Old Government Hotel we toasted Absent Friends – the crew of *White Mistral*, our absent Rear Commodore Cruising and all other members of HOEOCA.

Many thanks to Judy Lambourne for article - ED

Future Social Nights

See you all at the next Social Nights of the year on **Tuesday 5 July** and **Tuesday 2 August** at the Berkswell & Balsall Common Sports Association Clubhouse, Meeting House Lane, Balsall Common from 8.30pm.

Newsletter Ideas

Your Editor would like to encourage Ideas and articles from Club members. Please send your submissions to newsletter@hoeoca.org.uk marked HOEOCA Newsletter Item.

Please note that HOEOCA reserves the right to edit articles submitted.

Newsletter compiled by Mary Coles - submissions to newsletter@hoeoca.org.uk