

BEAR ESSENTIALS

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AGROUND As we were reminded by the Channel Pilots, talk in January, it's pretty easy to run aground in the Bristol Channel and the best way to get off again is to retrace your approach. I have touched bottom on a few occasions, leaving the barrage at low water making it very important to follow the buoyage system until out of the Wrack channel. A friend recently ignored this and promptly ran aground in a bilge keeler on a falling tide and remained stranded for a couple of hours before re-floating in settled conditions. There is also on record, 30 sailing vessels at anchor in the 19th Century, going aground in one night between Penarth Head and Lavernock Point, when the wind suddenly changed from S.W. to E. Another friend found a shingle bank on Sully Causeway and was neaped for 5 days in his long keeled boat. He held it up right by setting anchors from the masthead finally getting off by careening. There was an occasion when I set the legs on my Jaguar 30, Summerlove with a shark fin keel, in the outer harbour at Ilfracombe, only to have the Port tubular leg buckle under, due to soft sand. My solution on that occasion was to retire to the yacht club and observe the masthead through a pint beer glass until the tide came back. A few boats went over to Weston with me for the night and tied up to the club dolphins with Farrical, a fin keel on the inside. High water was at 11pm and we settled down O.K. after a little pounding. The next morning the rest of the boats departed, but I was still aground, neaped fortunately. With the aid of passers-by I was hauled astern into deeper water and away. On a trip to Ireland we had stopped off in Saundersfoot in a long keel boat of 13 tons and had been advised by the harbour master that there was a fresh hard sandy bottom. The boat was backed in and laid Port side to, to the harbour wall, the skipper said there was no need to set a mast preventer as she had a natural list to port. Unfortunately she settled by the head and the large fender forward pushed the boat over to starboard. Fortunately she came to rest clear of the other vessels in the harbour and came up on the next tide. On a trip from Uphill to Watchet in company with Indulgence, Farrical made a late entry into the old harbour and managed to get through the entrance before running aground some 15m from the harbour wall. To make sure the mast lay clear of the wall I managed to re align her and use my weight to lean her to port and thus avoid all obstructions, she came to rest on hard mud at 75 degrees and lifted gently on the returning tide. I didn't return until the marina was built.. I have used Jackson's Bay Barry on occasion to dry out but it is important to set anchors astern so that you can pull off in the rising tide and avoid being pushed up the beach. JOHN WOOD.

GAFFERS First, a small introduction. I joined CBYC last May, about the time I bought a seventeen foot lug sailed ketch which I keep on a trailer in the compound. So far, 'we' have not ventured out of the Bay but one day perhaps. I have not been particularly active in the club although I do keep meaning to get down to the cruising section on Thursday evenings, but have not so far been able to make it, for one reason or another.

About the same time, I also joined the Old Gaffers Association (OGA), which you may know, exists solely to promote traditional rigged sailing craft of any age. As such, it is not in competition with any other sailing clubs or associations. The OGA is quite strong on the south and east coasts but is much less so in the Bristol Channel Area. Members and activities here are both rather thin on the water.

However, there is currently a move to encourage and promote more traditional rigged sailing locally and I wonder whether the club would be interested in including a 'gaffer's' activity in an Open Day or Regatta this summer, or perhaps supporting or hosting a regatta for traditional boats. I know there are a few at the club having seen a Dauntless, Memory and Morecambe Bay Prawner sailing, amongst others. And others may come from further afield.

I should say that the intention is not to embark on a recruiting drive for OGA members, although they would always be welcome. It is simply to try to encourage it's main aim- and that is to promote traditionally rigged sailing boats. At the same time, if we were able to draw a few people and boats together I am sure it would certainly benefit the club too.

If it sounds like a good idea, I would be very happy to discuss it further with anyone interested. My home number is 029 2062 5985 and mobile 07713 322 404 or email: viv.head@talk21.com

Viv Head

CBYC Social Events **February & March**

Sat Feb 8th Quiz, Bingo & Disco.

Fri Feb 14th 3 Course Chinese meal £13.50 (order with caterers). Free Disco, Bar open to all.

Sat Feb 22nd UWIST Welsh open event. Disco night.

Sat Mar 1st CBYC Annual Dinner Dance. Meal, Band & Disco, Presentations & Raffle. Tickets £20.

Sat Mar 15th St Patrick's night. Band & Disco.

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Why not visit the **NEW** Club web site at www.cbyc.co.uk

CBYC Annual Dinner Dance Saturday 1 March 2003

FIRST AID R.Y.A. first aid courses are going to be held in the next few months at the club, dates yet to be determined. The standard course will be a day course held on a weekend (8 hours) and attendance and participation will result in award of an RYA certificate, valid for three years. If required, requalification courses for those with valid certificates, will also be on offer (2 hours). Costs, payable to the club, will be £40.00 plus the cost of the certificate for full courses and £10.00 plus certificate for re-qualification. I would be grateful for expressions of interest together with any suggested dates of availability / non availability in order to determine the number of courses required and to finalise the dates. Geoff Parr 17 Clos Gwy, Pontprennau, Cardiff CF23 8LH Tel. 02920 734803 or 07817 108168 e mail:

OUR VERY OWN HERO! During the Angling Section competition held on the 22nd December, Gareth Davies, skipper of the vessel "Mary H" overheard a MAYDAY Distress call from another fishing boat. Being unsure as to whether the Coastguard had heard it, he quite rightly undertook to broadcast a MAYDAY RELAY call to the Coastguard. They in turn responded and Gareth became the controlling station, co-ordinating the rescue. The boat in distress was the "Fleur de Lys", which had been taking in water and was almost completely sunk when Gareth arrived. There were four fishermen clinging to the upturned bow and two others, wearing flotation suits, were floating away on the tide. A further boat, the "Jo-Jo" had also arrived and undertook to rescue the four clinging to the hull, whilst Gareth sped after the two men floating away. Helped by his son Robert and his grandson Jason, with some difficulty, they eventually managed to pull them aboard. There is no doubt that if not for both Gareth's and "Jo-Jo"'s prompt action these men would probably have drowned, as the water was very cold. The casualties were taken to an ambulance waiting at the barrage and whisked off to the Heath Hospital where they were treated for hypothermia. I was fishing with John Gittins aboard Sanibel, a good few miles away and we heard the radio traffic between Gareth and the Coastguard and he is to be highly commended on his confident radio procedures. He never put a foot wrong! Very well done Gareth. B. Reels.
NB. Note the importance of wearing suitable "Clobber". Eg. Flotation Suits.

FOR SALE G.Map for Garmin plotter E. Scotland, Hydraulic pump/motor Sundstrand 18 series, tanded pump (c.p.v.pv) Pulsar v.e.5000 visual display echo sounder, Euromarine digital echo sounder new, Prop 14x10 r/h for enfield leg. Deep sea seal type em 35-41 new Tel02920 793151 or 07941203865

FOR SALE 'TOPSY 2' - 19ft, 4-berth, bilge-keeled sailing boat. Fully rigged, 4hp Mercury outboard, VHF, etc. View at CBYC, nearest mooring to clubhouse. £2500 or reasonable offer for quick sale. Contact Jeff Dyas 0777 5774418. - "Falstaff" Flying Fifteen, £500.00 o.n.o. Peter Pope/ Pat Tucker. on 02920 734803 or 07817108168, Peter on 01443 224507 or 0705 0035948, Pat on 02920 499611. PAGAN £25,000,

THE CONTINUING STORY OF THE PENARTH MOTORBOAT AND SAILING CLUB (DON'T FORGET, THIS WAS WRITTEN IN 1965 BY RON ALEXANDER) CHAPTER III.1. THE CLEBE STREET ERA

The Club Reconstituted. At the end of hostilities various domestic, recreational and social activities everywhere were stimulated, and following this urge, a number of old members decided to call a Meeting to reconstitute the Club. A meeting attended by 50 ex members and interested people was held at the Penarth Conservative Club on July 19th, 1945, when Bill Lewis was elected Commodore and Ray Hope Honorary Secretary. Members returned to the Royal Hotel, to an upstairs room which was in bad need of repair. It was not long before the Committee decided that they should make a move. In 1947 an advert appeared in the local paper that a house and shop at 81 Clebe Street was available at a price of £500. Resources totalled about £20, and in the commencement it could not see the way clear of purchasing. Everyone realised that its location was not very satisfactory for a yacht club but at least we could meet when we pleased and eventually could have a bar. The late Harold Dunleavie, who was a member and close friend of Walter Oestroicher, offered to lend us £500 free of interest, providing we renewed the lease, that had about 15 years to run. The Committee gratefully accepted this offer and it was confirmed at an E.G.M. held at the Queens Cafe, Penarth, on October 8th, 1947, Len Walker paying a deposit of £5. to retain the premises in the meantime. We proceeded to repair the premises that were in a ropery state. We built a bar, but it was a year or so before we were able to use it in the way which had been intended. The Clubhouse was the contact point and members used to retire to the Albion Hotel, ably let by Bill Lewis. Beer was in short supply and for a time Breweries would not open new accounts. At times, flagons were brought in and sold over the bar plus a few coppers. Crosswells of Cardiff, was the first firm to supply us and we also used to obtain about 2 Firkins per week of Whitbread's Dark that was sent by rail. Negotiations were started for the acquisition of moorings at Ely Harbour and Ferry Road and were successfully concluded in July 1946. The work in this connection was carried out by E. N. Coward and H. Waller. Our membership was increasing and the old Club, with its limited capacity was often full up. The bar was run at this time by the Committee and our percentage was not very good, but we managed to repay the loan in just over two years. Quote from Club Minutes, 1948 - "It was agreed that Committee Members on bar duties should refrain from the act of smoking whilst serving drinks: There was perfect harmony in the Club, its tightness in space was a contributory factor. To be continued...

FLYING FIFTEENS Sailing in 2003 started on Sunday 19th Jan with 4 fifteens competing in ideal Force 2 winds and sunny weather. Racing will now take place each Sunday at 10am start. Some dates for the diary, in addition to the Cardiff Classic on 28/29 June are; Sailboat, Alexandra Palace - 1-2 March Dovestone Classic - 26/27 April Llangorse Open - 17/18 May Chew Valley - 7/8 June Llyn Clywedog - 2/3 August Cotswold Classic - 20/21 September At Sailboat, it is planned that Jenn Jones (FF 1155) will be awarded a prize for the best placed female at the Classic Nationals 2002. This will then become an annual prize, presented by the class association. Also at Sailboat, I will attend the Fleet Captain's meeting, so, if you have any issues that you wish to raise, then please let me know before the event. In addition, should you have any ideas for getting more fifteens out on the water at Cardiff, then please let me know. Regards, Stuart Jones. Fleet Captain.

ANGLING SECTION Unfortunately, the weather yet again forced the cancellation of the last Comp. on the 26th February. Quite a few boats did go out, as the weather improved slightly, but the fishing results were not very good at all. Previous Comps. yielded better some better fishing. The 22nd December Comp. was won by Robert Davies, [Mary 'H'], with a Cod of 10lbs 2oz, and 2nd was Craig Jenkins with a Cod of 8lbs 4oz. The 12th January Comp. was won by Clive Jones, [Lady in Red], with a Cod &lbs and 2nd was Craig Jenkins, (AGAIN), with a Cod of 6lbs. The Comp. on the 9th January was cancelled!
The Angling Section Annual General Meeting will be held in the C.B.Y.C. Clubhouse ON WEDNESDAY 26TH FEBRUARY at 2030hrs.
It is imperative that all members attend and that any nominations or proposals are submitted by the times/dates indicated on the Notice of A.G.M. on the Section notice board.

The deadline for Bear Essentials is the last day of the month, please e-mail your copy to:- enq@natures-table.co.uk