

KESSINGLAND SEA SAILING CLUB

NEWSLETTER – Christmas 2018



COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

First may I wish you a very happy Christmas and a great New Year!

2018 had some notable highs and lows. The extensive repairs to Explorer's rudder stretched through the winter and into the spring. This together with the usual winter maintenance put a great load on "the few" who work so hard on her over the winter. The club owes a huge debt of gratitude to them. Ploes has osmosis, not badly but she will be treated over this winter. This means that club funds have taken a knock and the same time as memberships have decreased.

On the plus side the club cruise to the Channel Islands was a success, although light winds made progress slow without engine power. Both boats had similar use to previous years and had some improvements too. Explorer had an AIS receiver installed and Ploes a new dinghy.

Looking forward, our challenge (again) will be to recruit new members and get more usage of the boats. This will provide some welcome income. Whilst the club remains financially strong we are not creating sufficient surplus each year to fund the replacement of the boats should we need or want to.

We need to keep a careful eye on costs. For this reason we have asked the RNSYC to review our affiliation. I am pleased to say that with the help of John Bird we have secured a very positive response. We are still in discussion so the details will be in the next newsletter.

I have written to the editor of Yachting Monthly extolling the benefits of our club. I am told that the letter will be published in the March edition so look out for it.

James Parnell
Commodore KSSC



Explorer

Maintenance

After another successful season, Explorer was delivered back to RN&SYC by Arthur and me in time for lift out on 26th October. As soon as she was lowered onto her cradle, yours truly got to work with a pressure washer and cleaned the small amount of growth and slime off her hull.

Since then Arthur and I have been working on the boat one day a week. Amongst other things, we have:

- removed everything from the boat and put into storage in John Bird's shed
- changed the engine oil and air, oil and fuel filters
- filled the fuel tank and added a shot of fuel cleaner
- renewed the galley sink pump
- dismantled the cockpit bilge pump and found the diaphragm was split. Spares have been purchased.
- removed the old chart table light. A replacement has been purchased
- removed the now redundant stern gland grease pump
- washed the top sides
- sanded and applied boiled linseed oil to the cockpit woodwork
- commenced sanding the interior woodwork prior to varnishing
- Cliff, Robin, Colin and myself have locker doors, tiller and wash boards at home to re varnish.

- Cliff has volunteered to make a new stanchion to replace one that was bent during the summer.
- Cliff and Robin produced two prototype saloon tables. We are taking Robin's design forward and producing a mk 2 prototype.
- Rollie Beamish is replacing the blocked coolant drain plug with a more robust metal type. He is also checking the alignment of the engine and prop shaft after a season of running with the new shaft. Under his direction we are also removing the heat exchanger and replacing if necessary.

We still have a sizeable list of jobs to do so please volunteer your services if you can spare some time mid-week or weekends. Arthur and / or myself can arrange to fit in with a day / days that suit you. Our thanks go to those who are working on projects at home and to Cliff and Alexander Walker who have worked on the boat since lift out.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Ian Winters





Ploes

Ploes has had another successful year, this year we have had 10 weeks booked and an income of £12,500, this is similar to the previous years. She was lifted out of the water in early October, this is to repair the mild osmosis we discovered in late April. The mild autumn weather will allow the osmosis to try out naturally and more quickly. The repair is expected to take 3 to 4 months, we expect her to be back in the water in February but we are happy to delay this into spring as it saves the club money in marina fees.

The effective osmosis repair cost is expected to be about £3000, this is after our normal spring commissioning costs are removed. All anti-fouling will be stripped off and once the gel coat has been repaired, primer and several coats of modern high quality antifoul will be applied. The keel will also be stripped as it is rusty in patches, it will then be fibre glassed and antifouled, Ploes will be better than new when this is finished.

We had a discussion before the AGM about moving Ploes from Fethiye and it was decided to keep her in Turkey for next year but there are options. For the last two years on our cruises we have visited the Greek islands of Simi and other islands in the Dodecanese chain, these are not that far away from Fethiye and are excellent sailing. Next year if people would like to do back to back cruises it opens up a lot of opportunities. Leros is an excellent location near the island of Kos and Leros is the Art Deco Italian jewel in the Dodecanese, we will promote these ideas further in the New Year.

Ploes will also requires her normal expenditure for repairs in the spring, this year these include the bow thruster, the headsail furler and the autohelm display. We have managed to absorb the mooring damage cost earlier this summer and the initial osmosis repair into the 2018 year budget, this will be useful in minimising the extra cost next year. 2019 will be an expensive year for Ploes but she is 14 years old now and this is the first expensive year we have had for her. After her Gelcoat repairs she will be in better condition than when she was new, modern gelcoats are superior quality.

Peter



AGM and Laying Up Supper



This year's AGM and Laying Up Supper was very well attended. The AGM received reports on the boats, finance and resolutions from the management committee. We agreed to change temporary membership to reflect our membership structure so there will be new category of Temporary family membership. The cost of Temp membership will also be capped at 5 days in any 7 day period. Membership fees will remain the same as 2018 but the contribution for boat usage will rise by £5 per day for Explorer and £50pw for Ploes. The Committee was re-elected with the addition of Cliff Pountney.

The Laying Up Supper was a great success. The food again was complimented on and a very good time was had. Our speaker Sara Hopkinson gave a brilliant talk about some aspects of safety at sea, which whilst amusing in places gave plenty food for thought!



Social Diary



The Fitting Out Supper will be on the 13th April 2019. The Royal Norfolk & Suffolk Yacht Club has 9 letting bedrooms. If you are interested to book one for the night after the supper, then contact the RN&SYC office, during office hours 01502 566726.

We will again team up with other sailing clubs for social events. Val Theodom at APSC is hoping to get Tom Cunliffe to give a talk. No date or venue set but I expect it will be Ipswich. If you interested then let me know or contact Val if you have her details. One of our benefits of affiliation to the RNSYC is attendance at their social events – so check out their website but I would like to draw your attention to this event which should be brilliant!

TALK BY JULIA JONES Friday 18th January 2019

The first of our talks by visiting Authors “The Cruise of Naromis” Julia Jones has visited the club before both as a speaker and aboard her boat “Peter Duck” which was previously owned by Arthur Ransome.

Supper will be available from 18:30 hrs talk will commence from 20:00 hrs

Ideas for social events and visits very welcome

James

Explorer Extended Cruise 2019

I have written to all skippers asking for expressions of interest in a cruise to the Baltic. This is a huge undertaking and only viable if sufficient Skippers are willing to commit. The Baltic is a wonderful cruising ground (once you are there)- no tides and innumerable harbours all within an easy days sailing. Weather in summer is good and even the water is swimmable.

If there is not sufficient interest then we will look at other options, perhaps the West Coast or Brittany.

James



Ploes Cruise Sept 2018

Fergal O'Driscoll and Julie Styles headed out with their crew beyond Fethiye Bay and turned left to follow the Turkish coast past Kas and ultimately to Kalekoy before returning to revisit the delights of the bay. For formatting reasons the article could not be inserted into the body of the Newsletter it is however attached to the email as a separate item.

“Once again my partner and fellow member of KSSC Julie Styles and I invited our Adelaide friends Joe and June Griffin to join us on Ploes for our sailing holiday for 2018. We had in previous years enjoyed easy going, line of sight, day sailing in Fethiye Koyu (Bay) and the more protected Gocek Bay for week long holidays. The highlight of the previous outings were the glorious weather, swimming off the back of the boat in azure seas, our lunch breaks of mainly salad, cheese and wine on board, often drifting in open water, sometimes a lively afternoon sail and evening meals in the isolated restaurants on the otherwise unpopulated Gocek peninsula. This year we decided to be more adventurous by going further afield and by spending two weeks on board.”

For more see accompanying article

Log and Photo competition

Our competition is a bit of fun and a good excuse to look back over the previous year. Last year John Davie made a clean sweep but this year some great photos have come in. The closing date is 31 January 2019.

The judging will happen during February and the results announced at the Fitting Out Supper in April. Logs already submitted for the newsletter will be automatically entered. However if you would like to email your photos for consideration please email them to admin@kessingland-seasailingclub.uk.

The categories are as follows:

1. Best Photograph of Explorer or Ploes Under sail
2. Best Photograph
3. Best kept log book – this will be easier to judge for Explorer but Ploes logs will be considered if you can get a digital record
4. Best Log/blog of a sailing trip – a narrative with pictures and text submitted in whatever format inspires you.

Finally, Happy Christmas to all and great sailing in 2019!

