



Newsletter Autumn 2019

Commodore's Comments.

What a year! The season started with Explorer back in Suffolk Yacht Harbour and immediately used for a series of trial sails. With Cliff as skipper we partnered the Pin Mill Sailing Club in their RYA "Pushing the Boat out" day. We had several people new to sailing out on the water, plus a dramatic rescue when Cliff towed a disabled boat to safety. Soon Explorer was off on her summer cruise, nearly 8 weeks, 1200 miles from Harwich to the Scilly Islands and back. Explorer has since been in demand since her return and we exceeded 70 days use this year.

Ploes was successfully launched after her osmosis treatment. The improvements that Peter had commissioned over recent years mean that she is even better. She has been booked for 11 weeks and was in high demand all season.

Recruitment is up. The letter in Yachting Monthly produced a wide interest and Arthur took our stand to the Woodbridge Regatta and got a good response resulting in new members. This year we have signed up 17 new members of which 4 are already approved skippers.

Our finances have improved. Explorer broke even for the first time in many years and we have sufficient to put aside the £3000pa depreciation costs on Ploes.

It's been a good year but now we are looking ahead. The committee will be sharing some of those ideas with members at the AGM on 9th November. The Laying Up Supper will follow on at 8pm. I hope to see you there. My thanks goes to all those whose hard work has made this year such a success.



James



Explorer

Explorer has had a very successful season so far. Days booked currently stand at 72 which must be a record. I'm pleased to report that there hasn't been any damage to the boat so far this year, although unfortunately we did suffer the loss of the dinghy. Last winter Rollie Beamish fitted a new coolant drain tap to the engine as the original had become completely blocked. The new tap was fitted to the end of a short pipe which came forward of the engine making the tap easier to access. Unfortunately, engine vibration caused the pipe to fracture. Luckily Cliff and crew were able to plug the hole and refill the coolant. There was a problem with the engine overheat alarm coming on when the boat was in Falmouth. This was traced to moisture in an electrical connection which was again fixed by Cliff and crew.

The cockpit bilge pump diaphragm developed a leak despite having been replaced last winter. The pump is still working but at slightly reduced efficiency. We will replace the diaphragm over the winter. Both the mushroom vent and window over the chart table have been found to leak in prolonged heavy rain. To be resealed over the winter.

A replacement anemometer was recently purchased at the very reasonable price of £220 from Fox's chandlery. The sensor still needs to be fixed to the mast head and Arthur is making a suitable bracket out of aluminium. We will need to feed the cable round the saloon and fit the new display unit.

Ian Winters



Explorer Summer Cruise 2019

It's great to be writing to you telling you what a success the cruise this year has been. In previous years we have had two skippers and managed to schedule up to four weeks. This year we had seven skippers and their crews taking her out for 8 weeks, starting from almost the most eastern port in England to the most western in the Isles of Scilly and back. But it's not really about the stats, those of you following on social media would have seen pictures of charming west country harbours, clear waters, and more than a few pubs.

- June 22nd - Colin, Jeremy, Nick, Julian and I kicked the trip off with thrash from Suffolk to the Solent and on to Poole
- June 25th – Colin took her on from Poole to Brixham.
- June 30th – Club stalwarts Ian, Arthur, Helen, and Joe sail on to Falmouth.
- July 7th - Sarah, Robin and I (yes I got two goes!) carry on west and visit the Scilly Isles. The following week Kay joins us and we explore some Cornish mainland ports (big rocks!)
- July 21st – Richard Oliver and crew start the journey back east ending up at Plymouth.
- July 28th – Catherine Andrews continues east visiting classic Devon & Dorset harbours.
- August 4th – Peter Girven starts off with a motley crew who desert him on the way (not his fault).
- August 14th – Ian Walker picks her up in Eastbourne for a lively trip past Dover and across the Thames estuary back to Suffolk.

That's the facts but not the story. We are planning that our skippers will be telling their own (tall) tales of this summer's trip at the Laying Up Supper next month. Turn up to see the pictures and hear the story from the horse's (or should that be dolphin's) mouth.

I can't finish the report without extending a big thank you to all those who expressed an interest, all the skippers who took charge and for all the crew who sailed with them. THANK YOU.

Best wishes, see you in November, and mine's an Adnams....



Cliff



Ploes

We have had an excellent year with Ploes having confirmed bookings for 79 days, or 11 weeks and 2 days. We have now paid for all expected expenditure for this financial year and we are not that far from breaking even.

The Winter Osmosis repairs were expensive but were done to the agreed budget and we managed to offset some of the cost into the budget for last year. Ploes went back into the water in late May and she is now looking very smart, she has had a relatively trouble free summer. Recent expenditure on Ploes has been new diesel injectors at 700 Euros.

The mainsail is also now causing more issues when furling and we will need to replace it next year. The existing mainsail was fitted in about 2008 and is now 10 years old, it has stretched and it is baggy. Trimming the leach on this mainsail two years ago helped but the sail is again likely to jam when unfurling, this is unless it is done with a lot of care. The sailmakers recommend a more modern cloth than the standard Dacron, we will decide on soon what sort of sail cloth to go for.

In the last few years on our personal sailing trips on Ploes we have been branching out from the Fethiye area exploring the Turkish Coast to the West and up to the Dodecanese Greek Islands, we have done the same again on our two trips this year. This year we have changed for both trips onto Greek paperwork in Simi and then been as far as Leros on our first trip and then up to Samos on our latest trip



Ploes in Tersanne

Greek cruising is more expensive than Turkish waters but with a two week trip and more expense we have scope to go a long way, albeit that it tends to involve a lot of

motoring. In previous years we have explored the Datca Coast and Bodrum, venturing as far as English Harbour to the right of Bodrum in the Gorkova Korvezi.

The Greek Government this year has a new TEEPA tax and Ploes is unfortunately 12.13 metres long so just over the 12 metre limit. It now costs 98 Euros a month to be in Greek waters, this adds to the expense of the holiday. You have to make the decision for your trip on whether to stay in Turkish waters or to go Greek and switch to Greek paperwork. This is relatively easy to do in Simi but it does add over £200 to the cost of the trip.



Turtle Feeding in ECE Saray Marina

I have numerous photos of our trips this year and I will upload them to our website on the Photo's 1 page on the menu bar. <https://kessingland-seasailingclub.uk/ploes-2019-photos>



Peter.



Membership

Annual Subs

At last the annual subs are all in! It's taken some effort and a lot of chasing. Next year we will send out a renewal notice as usual in early January, then a reminder in February and one final reminder in March. At that point we will only include in the year book those members who have paid their subs (see below). Of course that does not stop people from paying later in the year but their names may not appear in the year book.

Year Book and list of members

This year we took the decision not to put the list of members and their contact details in the year book, reflecting greater concerns about data security. The feedback is that people have missed the list of members so next year we will reintroduce these details, subject to consent. The annual renewal form will ask members for their consent to publish their address, telephone and email address.

Recruitment

This year we recruited 17 new members. That is a considerable achievement. Whilst some (approx. 5) have joined as a cheaper alternative to temporary membership, they are full members and welcome to our club. The committee will be looking again at the issue of membership and bringing forward suggestions to the AGM.

Some of our new members have already been accredited as skippers which will hopefully result in increased usage next year.

Arthur coordinated our stand at the Woodbridge regatta, thanks to those who helped on the day. We always get a good response at Woodbridge and this year this led to 2 new members.

We have been offered a place at the RYA event at Holbrook in November and we will be having a stall and may be asked to do a talk. This is particularly generous as we are not affiliated to the RYA.

The new publicity materials are available so if you would like a supply of leaflets posters or business cards then let me know. Word of mouth continues to be the best form of recruitment so if you know anyone who would like to find out more about the club please do give them some of our publicity.



Rose



AGM and LUS
9th November 2019

The 2019 KSSC AGM will take place on the 9th November at 6pm in the committee room of the RNSYC. An agenda will be sent out at least 14 days prior to the meeting.

Members are reminded any item to be added to the agenda must be sent to me in writing at least 21 days prior to the meeting.

The Laying Up Supper will follow the AGM, 7-30 for 8pm. Our guest speakers will be some, perhaps all, of the skippers of the various legs of the Summer Cruise.

The menu and options for payment will be circulated soon. If you intend to stay overnight at the RNSYC and enjoy their brilliant breakfast the next day, then you need to book your room with them as soon as possible.

Rose

