



## Season's Greetings 2022

### Commodore's Comments

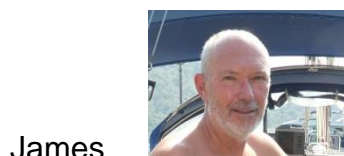
It's wonderful to say Happy Christmas without any reservations. This year has been a spectacular success for the club and next year is looking good too. The AGM heard of record usage by both boats and we have gone a long way to restore the club's financial reserves from 2 disastrous covid years. Next year Ploes has 14 weeks already provisionally booked and a season starting in March. Membership is up with 14 new applications in the last 3 months alone.

But it is not all plain sailing. We are not immune to the global financial headwinds. Inflation is up (Turkish inflation is 80%) and that is bound to have an effect. Not for the first time I am relieved that the club does not have the liability of premises. Nonetheless, the increases in membership fees and contributions for boat usage agreed at the AGM should see us through.

The big news is that the AGM approved plans for the replacement of Explorer. I won't repeat the arguments for and against here, but the next steps are to seek member loans to fund part of the purchase of a new boat. This type of crowd funding is increasingly popular, and I am grateful to the boat replacement Sub-committee, led by Paul Newman for their work on this. By now you will have received a request to consider making such a loan.

This will be my last year as Commodore, and I will stand down at the next AGM. However, there is a lot I wish to accomplish in that time and I am grateful to the committee for their support and hard work.

Next year will be an exciting one and I very much look forward to it. It is with much more confidence than in previous years that I can wish you a very happy sailing New Year.



James



## Explorer

Explorer has had a very busy year, in fact so busy it has been a record year. With so many bookings, and increase in maintenance activity, it's become unmanageable for a single individual to complete both bookings and maintenance. Ian will continue with Explorer bookings, whilst Paul will lead on Explorer maintenance.

Explorer has travelled far and wide. In addition to numerous day trips on the local rivers and the usual haunts along the Suffolk and Essex coasts, she has also travelled to The Scillies as part of the summer cruise, and a hop across to Ostende for a couple of days.

A rigging survey, in February, recommended replacement of the standing rigging. This was completed at the start of the season, but unfortunately this subsequently revealed a fatigue in one of the chainplates, so all chainplates were changed before the summer cruise. Additionally we have had a couple of niggly issues that have caused a small number of days to be cancelled at short notice and we thank the affected crews for their tolerance whilst the issues have been sorted as quickly as possible.

For the frost bite sailors amongst, us Explorer will remain in the water through the winter and will be available for use at the discounted winter rate.

The AGM voted in support of the committee's proposal to replace Explorer. To execute a replacement programme we need 8 members to offer a loan of £2500. An invitation to register an interest in offering a loan has been emailed to all members, with a closing date of 1st January, but if anyone has not received this invitation please email [paul.j.newman@btinternet.com](mailto:paul.j.newman@btinternet.com) to request a copy.

Given the strategy is to replace Explorer the maintenance this winter will focus on the annual engine and safety items servicing, and cosmetic improvements to increase her saleability. To support this we plan to hold maintenance days on

- 9th, 13th Jan,
- 1st, 13th, 25th, 26th Feb,
- 3rd, 4th March

Please let Paul know if you can make any of these dates. Additional dates can be arranged. If anyone wishes to request specific dates, then please let Paul know.



Paul Newman



## Ploes

Ploes has had a record year in 2022 with 16 weeks booked! Next year we already have a potential 14 weeks reserved. These bookings will be confirmed on New Years day provided that the skippers pay their membership fee and the 10% deposit for each booking.

This year we sailed in the first week of November. It was warm and very good for swimming and cruising. The main reason we did not go for the half term week at the end of October was that flights were expensive. They were much cheaper in the first week of November. Everywhere in the Fethiye area was open, but they did say that by the third week in November some things were shutting down, like the marina fuel berth for example.



*Ploes anchored at Tomb Bay on 3rd Nov; Ploes overtaken by a fast yacht in light winds; Sarsala, a swim adventure on the 5th Nov*

Next year we are getting Ploes commissioned the week commencing the 11<sup>th</sup> March, and the following 2 weeks are already booked for Ploes Experience (See following article by Paul.). Ploes will then be available for booking across the Easter period for 3 weeks, from the 1<sup>st</sup> April to the 22<sup>nd</sup> April. She will also be available for the 3 weeks from the 29<sup>th</sup> April through to the 20<sup>th</sup> May. There are also many weeks available later in the year, please look at the calendar on the website "Go Sailing" page, the website address is [www.kssc.uk](http://www.kssc.uk)





Two recent improvements this autumn to Ploes have been that we discovered that she did not have a thermostat fitted and this was stopping the engine reaching a proper running temperature of 70 degrees. The engine is now running much cleaner and more efficiently. We also discovered that the two bow thruster propellers were encrusted with barnacles, which reduces their efficiency. The new bow thruster had been fitted in August 2021. The bow thruster propellers were then not cleaned in April or in August 2022. We will go back to normal routine and scrape them every 6 months in the future.

We are now also offering a new service of Ploes being supplied with laundry. Each of the 3 cabins will be supplied with a fitted sheet, a duvet cover and towels plus tea towels. There will be two sets to allow for back to back bookings. This laundry service reduces the amount of luggage that you need to take out to Fethiye and that could save you money on your airline baggage? The cleaning cost in 2022 is 400TL for 3 cabins of laundry per week. This is £20 and it is expected to be the same next year, a small cost. It is an optional service. Assuming that you use it we propose that you leave the laundry bag in the cockpit and notify Erdal that it is there, more information about this next year.

We look forward to 2023. With the potential bookings already being pencilled in it looks like it will be a long and very successful year.



Peter Girven

## **Ploes Experience**

We introduced a new “Ploes Experience” opportunity in 2022. The principal aims being to increase usage post COVID and widen the number of existing and new members that use Ploes. The initial idea was that 3 skippers who were already booking private weeks would add an additional week pre or post their own booking and offer to skipper trips for other members on a shared cost basis. Initial plans were for weeks in May, June and September. One skipper’s private week couldn’t take place so this was added as a further week in May. Places were soon agreed for all weeks and subsequently there was sufficient interest to support adding extra weeks in both September and November.

At the end of the season there had been 6 Ploes Experience weeks. These weeks had 15 participants (excluding skippers), of which 13 were Ploes first timers, and accounted for 129 people nights on board. Additionally following an early season Experience week one participant gained sufficient confidence to return later in the season for a private week. All of these weeks have contributed to Ploes having a record number of bookings and income.





Having had such great success we are looking to run Ploes Experience weeks again in 2023. Following interest generated from the last newsletter the two weeks immediately after commissioning in March have already been fully booked as Ploes Experience weeks. If there is demand we will look to do something along similar lines for other weeks once we have an idea about private bookings in January, so to register your interest please contact Peter or myself.

Paul Newman

## **Membership and Social**

### Annual Subs

The Annual membership subs are due on the 1<sup>st</sup> January. The new rates are £175 for single membership and £225 for Family Membership. I will send out a renewal notice later this month.

### Recruitment

This year we recruited 17 new members, bringing our total number of memberships at the year end to 72 – a record as far as I can recall.

### Social Events for 2022

Our social year kicks off with a visit to Sutton Hoo on 11 February, followed by lunch in Woodbridge – see email from Gill Green on 11 December for full details.

We hope to hold our Fitting Out Supper on 16 April.

The AGM and Laying Up Supper will be Saturday, 11 November.



## Bookings 2023

- 1) No bookings will be confirmed until subs are paid – i.e. from 1-1-23.
- 2) A 10% deposit should be paid at the time of booking, with the balance paid at least 1 month prior to departure.
- 3) If in the event of illness or other exceptional reasons the trip cannot go ahead the committee will consider allowing the booking to take place at a later date.
- 4) Please do not book flights to Turkey until your booking has been confirmed.



Rose Parnell

## Memories

### Introduction

*As we have started to feature experiences from some newer members we thought it would also be interesting to share some thoughts and memories of our more long-standing members. Paul Noton, member since the early 1970's has provided us with some of his memories....*

A long time ago, 1964, when the sea almost reached the promenade near the Wave Crest Café and Sailors Home pub in Lowestoft, a dinghy club was formed. Soon after that, land was acquired together with an old fishermen's hut as clubhouse. Many beach barbeques and events were arranged to help fund a new clubhouse which officially opened in 1974. The last remaining landmark of where it was is the foundation of a WW2 pill box, not far from Denes, which became the base of the Starters Hut.

We always took part in the Kessingland Carnival Parade with boats on the back of a decorated lorry. Racing was mostly Fireballs, 505's and Javelins plus various Mirrors. Races were usually arranged around buoys laid by the rescue dory together and often included the Barnard and Newcombe navigation buoys as well as a passage race to Southwold for lunch then back again. We also hosted Mirror and Topper national championships which raised a lot of cash.

I joined in the early 70's together with John Knight who owned a holiday chalet in Kessingland. We had no sailing experience so bought a Graduate then progressed to a Fireball, 16ft long, main, jib and spinny. It was called Odin.



I'd like to mention here the members then who made us Southerners very welcome to the club. Some are still with us now, so in no particular order: Sid & Pam Pretty, Harry & Pat King-Gardiner, Peter Colby, Stan & Joan Becket, Barry Naylor, Peter and Diane Taylor, Billy Nicholls, Mike Bowler, Alan Brown, Eric & Muriel Garrett & sons Ian & John, Peter Hogg, Chris Addison, Dick & Olive Coleman, Billy Killett, Graham Ling & son John, Brian Whitlow, George Trotter, Brian Burleigh, Hugh & Lyn Blowers, Brian Howes, Chris Jeckells, Paul & Sharon Parravani, Terry Crump, Dr Nicol, Les Leach.

These names were garnered from a few very old yearbooks, and I can put faces to them all. I'm sure there were others and I'd like to thank them all for running a very successful dinghy club for many years.

We learned quickly and had a great time after mastering the landing technique for wavy weather:

- 1, Sail at speed straight for the beach.
- 2, At the last second raise the centre board and rudder and free the sails.
- 3, Crew stands on foredeck.
- 4, Boat goes up the beach, stops and the crew jumps off grabbing the mast to hold the boat.

Simples!!!

Of course, there were times when it went wrong resulting with insurance claims. These events were always appreciated by holidaymakers and others on the beach! Great days which nature took away. We tried old conveyor belting across the shingle, then bought a tractor but the massive beach finished us off in the eighties and we sold up, remaining in limbo for many years.

I stayed on the committee which met once or twice a year to deliberate what to do, and eventually Explorer was bought followed by Edna May (not so good). I became Commodore and we bought Deuxieme Amour, a 34ft Bavaria in Majorca which got Harry, Sid and myself into the Med for some good warm sailing, plus occasional gales! The club decided 34ft was not big enough and Ploes was bought in Greece, and she has proved to be very suitable for us. I must mention now that John Bird has been invaluable to the club for finding boats for us and arranging the buying and selling them as well as getting us into Ece Saray Marina, Turkey.

A few things now from my big boat sailing....

With Explorer in Holland we were in the canals and stopped at a small marina for the night. We asked if we could get a beer nearby and he said it was DIY and pointed to a mat on the floor. He told us, lift the mat and open the box in the floor, and there was all we needed together with a price list and honesty box, brilliant. We paid for the mooring and he left us to it!

Coming back from Ostende we started and ended in no wind but in the middle, wind, more wind, gale force. We had shortened sail to furled foresail then got knocked flat by a giant rogue wave. No damage to Explorer but crew badly hurt and chaos inside!! Again, in Holland on another trip we had a way to go on a long straight canal so, as there was a gentle breeze we put the foresail up and stopped the very noisy engine. Great until a local told us it was forbidden so it was back to the engine!



On another trip back from Holland, motoring in dead calm we spotted a football and spent a long time trying to pick it up, but however slowly we approached it the bow wave always moved it out of reach.

I've also had and enjoyed more sailing in Turkey than anywhere and hope to be there in late April with Harry and John. I tried August once but never again, toooo hot!

Paul Noton  
Ex Commodore

