



**THE ELECTRONIC NEWS LETTER**  
of  
**HAVEN PORTS YACHT CLUB**



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## FORTH COMING EVENTS

- Sun. 22<sup>nd</sup>. Nov.** Frostbite 2
- Sun. 29<sup>th</sup>. Nov.** Frostbite 3
- Sat. 5<sup>th</sup> Dec.** Yachtsman's Lunch and Annual General Meeting
- Sun. 6<sup>th</sup>. Dec** Frostbite 4
- Sat 12<sup>th</sup> Dec** Christmas Dinner
- Sat 26<sup>th</sup> Dec** Pete's Pot Club handicap racing to blow away the Christmas blues
- Thur 31<sup>st</sup> Dec** New Year's Eve celebrations

## FROM THE BRIDGE

I apologise for a rather short edition of the e-beacon, but the team are all very busy organising various events. I would draw your attention to the social section, which highlights all the forth coming events.

With the sailing season drawing to a close and many of you already out of the water, it is time to reflect on the past season.

The good news is the racing fleet are almost back to past years with a fleet of twenty five entering the Autumn Series, and a club handicap fleet also competing in the autumn. We of course offer our congratulations to Nigel Theadom and the crew from *Double Jeopardy* for becoming our club champions for 2009, Nigel has had an outstanding season not only winning the Spring and Autumn series overall and class 2 but also winning the Haven Series.

Bill Rees has also had another successful season winning the class 1 club championship with the crew on *Hysterix*. This all goes to prove that Haven Ports has the largest and most competitive fleets on the east coast. I would like to thank all those who have helped make our racing a success.

Our boats have also had a good season while sailing away from the Club, with *Red Macaw*, *Cosmic Dancer* and *Oz Privateer* all having success in the EAORA series, and Graham Peck also had his first major victory on board *Ocean Cloud II* in the Mercator race. *Kiss* sailed all the way to the British Kiel Yacht Club in Northern Germany to take part in the X yacht international championship.

Back on the home front Des Cowan, had two victories in one race, by winning the two handed race and the passage race on board *Eclipse*, and *Fatjax* also had two successes, with Iain Kirkpatrick winning the David Lewis race while Dougal Kirkpatrick won the junior helm race.

One of the most important features of our sailing this year has been the success of our cruises in company. Our cruising captain, Mike Perkins has achieved great things, with more than forty



club boats taking part in a number of cruises up and down the coast. Next year Mike is intending to organise events that go a little further afield with provisional plans to visit France, Belgium and Holland.

All those who attended the prize giving and dinner dance had a most enjoyable evening, in the



beautiful surroundings of Seckford Hall. Our Rear Commodore House and owner of Seckford Hall Mike Bunn and his wife Christine really did us proud, the food was excellent and well served, and all the other arrangements just fell into place. Thanks Mike, for a job well done. The evening was further enhanced when our Sailing Secretary told us a couple of stories before giving out the prizes, but I think it was his version of Haven Ports 'Strictly Come Dancing' panel that created the loudest laughter. Ask him to tell you some time.

David Taylor, the Rear Commodore Social did a splendid job of making all the arrangements, and even after a worrying moment concerning the band, the whole evening was a great success. Thank you David for yours and your team's efforts in creating an evening to remember.

As you know the Commodore gets to present five trophies each year, but as all the motor boaters were too busy running the Club the Mallison trophy was not presented this year. However the Crescendo Trophy for services to

the Club was presented to Mike Perkins for his exceptional efforts in getting our cruising back on track. The Sheffield trophy for seamanship was presented to Chas and Angela Pugh for their extraordinary rescue of a fellow sea fairer in the middle of the English Channel. The Globetrotter trophy was awarded to Cathy Brown for here simply brilliant record of the Brave anti clockwise circumnavigation of the UK and Ireland.

The Andy Burnell trophy for meritorious achievement was awarded to Brian Tuckwood, in his absence, for his outstanding achievement in racing his brand new Fast 40 across the southern Atlantic Ocean. I very much hope I will have the pleasure of handing the trophy to Brian at the AGM.

Which brings me very conveniently to the AGM, which this year will be on 5<sup>th</sup> December, and I very much hope you will be able to come along to vote on the future of your Club, please remember it is your Club, and we can only implement your wishes if we know about them. It is now too late for any further proposals for this year, but it is never too late to talk to a committee member about the running of the Club.

Bob Browne  
Commodore



## FROM THE MESS DECK

Laying-up time is now truly upon us but we must be thankful for the gloriously warm and dry spells of weather we had in October. I gather it was one of the driest Octobers on record. It is just a pity that we held our Autumn Fair, to raise funds for the local RNLI, outside one of these dry spells. Still, despite the inclement weather we managed to raise over £1100 on the day and money is still coming in from the associated Raffle. My thanks to all those who assisted, in whatever capacity, on and before the day.

Also, in the previous month we had a number of speakers - local Police, John White the Harbour Master at Felixstowe Ferry and practically a full house for Cathy Brown who entertained us describing, with splendid photos, her and Richard's recent voyage around the British Isles. The Sunday Ramble was enjoyed by those who took part but numbers were slightly down on the Ramble held in the early spring. Lesson - hold the next Ramble outside of the Racing Season. Finally the Laying-Up Supper was extremely well attended by just under ninety members who partook of a menu which was somewhat different from normal.

Coming up in November/December, don't miss:-

- Chris Opperman, Radio Suffolk presenter, author and raconteur. Chris will give an after-dinner talk on the "The Finest and Funniest of Boating Literature". There will be a two course meal and coffee, at a cost of £12, before the talk.
- Reminder - the dates for the Cevni course and test are now the 27<sup>th</sup> November and 4<sup>th</sup> December.
- In December, on the Saturday of the Club AGM, there will be a Yachtsman's Lunch. It is this occasion which gives an opportunity for members to moan, groan or make suggestions about any of the Club's activities. Don't be backward in stating how YOU would like to see things changed or improved.
- On the 12<sup>th</sup> December we shall be holding the ever-popular "Christmas Dinner". Three courses - Turkey, Christmas Pud and all the trimmings. Cost, £17, 7.30 p.m.
- Finally, we shall be celebrating the incoming New Year with a party - bring a contribution of food - on LV87.

NOTE:- I have been asked to ascertain whether there is sufficient interest amongst Club members to run a Bridge evening, say, on a Friday evening, once a month during the winter. I am told that the Bridge would be at a "chatty" level and not formal. Please let me know if you would be interested.

Dave Taylor *Rear Commodore (Social)*  
(01394 448218)



## HPYC Ionian Sea Laying-up Supper

The Remezzo Taverna in Vonitsa, near Preveza in Greece, was the setting for HPYC's Ionian Sea section laying-up supper, on Saturday October 18.

Eight club members, representing four boats, shared this convivial, if rather unexpected celebration, which began with drinks aboard Trevor Wright's *Spectre II*.

Trevor invited Richard and me to help deliver *Spectre II*, his Bavaria 44, from Kalamata, on the Peloponnese, to Vonitsa, the base of his company, Spectre Charters, after her final charter of the season.

We knew Doug Ellis and Sylvia Jones, of *Sugar 'n' Spice* fame, were cruising in Greece, but held little hope of meeting up with them, when we sent a "Where are you?" text as we landed in Athens. To our amazement, they replied "Vonitsa."

Their boat would be out of the water at Preveza by the time we reached this delightful harbour, but they were planning to stay for a few days to work on the boat before returning to Britain for the winter, so we arranged to meet them – plus of course Trevor's partner Pam Rees, who would also be waiting for us, having stayed in Vonitsa taking care of *Spectre I*.

And then, when we reached Vonitsa on the appointed Saturday, we were surprised and delighted to find *Optima Navis* moored on the quayside, and Colin and Margaret Wheatley were quickly invited to join the party.

*Optima Navis* and *Sugar'n'Spice* were laid up close to each other in Malta last winter, and both boats have cruised more or less the same waters all summer, without meeting up, so it was an unexpected coincidence that both chose Vonitsa and Preveza to lay up for the winter. Also, independently, both teams have made plans to cruise Croatia next summer, so they had lots to talk about during the evening.

We were heading home the following day, having enjoyed a week of rather mixed weather, by Mediterranean standards, for the 190-mile, almost exclusively upwind trip from Kalamata to Vonitsa, with plenty of adventures along the way.

We took the sails off *Spectre II* when we arrived, so that was the end of her season, and Trevor's two charter boats will also shortly be laid up for the winter at Preveza, so there will probably be more Haven Ports meets once fitting out gets under way in the spring.

The Ionian Sea is a wonderful sailing area, with generally reliable weather, almost no tides, and lots of picturesque harbours, many with ancient ruins and historic sites to visit. We'd been there before, on a Greek flotilla, our first experience of yacht sailing 30 years ago, and were delighted to return.

Trevor offers both bare-boat and skippered charters from Vonitsa, which is strategically placed close to the Levkas canal and such honey-pot destinations as Ithaca and Cephalonia. If you can't take your own boat there, as *Optima Navis* and *Sugar'n'Spice* have done, he would be delighted to show you around.

And we can thoroughly recommend the hospitality you'll find at Remezzo!

**Cathy Brown**



# LONDON BOAT SHOW PREVIEW DAY

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2010

Coach leaves SYH at 08:00

Returns approx 19:00?

£18

Boat Show tickets available at discounted  
prices for HPYC members

Contact Dot Marsden for details.

Tel 01359 241012

E-mail [dot.marsden@btinternet.com](mailto:dot.marsden@btinternet.com)

Last day for booking 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2010