
Flotsam

Club Newsletter Autumn 2018



Editors words

Where on earth has this year gone already? The year has flown by and now the nights are drawing in earlier each day, but fear not there is still plenty of time left to get out on the water. I've done a fair bit of sailing this year (more than recent years) and my kids are enthusiastic still although for opposing sailing rather than with dad. As always I am always looking for material for Flotsam to try and make it a worthwhile and enjoyed newsletter, so please if you

have anything interesting you could add to Flotsam I would really appreciate it. Hope you enjoy.

Sail fast live slow
Marcus

In The News

The Regatta, Family weekend and also Barts Bash were a great success.

Commodore gets a dressing down!

North West Norfolk Week Success!

Penny retains Ladies Lightning 368 National title.

URYC retain Eyott Plate.





Meet a Member.

Club Member and Boats:

Alan Park Club Treasurer / Westerly Centaur Tripper

What's your profession? Now Retired . Previously worked in the city as a Business Analyst for a Merchant Bank.

When did you start sailing? Learnt to sail at the age of 22 in Poole Park Dorset.

How long have you been a member of URYC? 38 Years. Previous clubs Alexandra YC and Leigh SC. Sailed GP14s, and Enterprises . Joined Up River with a GP14 then progressed to a Leisure 17 through to a Invader 22 and now my present boat Tripper a Westerly Centaur.

Biggest achievement on the water? Winning some races from Adrian and being able to navigate out of the Crouch for the first time on the Summer cruise – avoiding the sandbanks!

Most embarrassing moment on the water? Leaving Pagelsham jetty in the pitch black following the bank to pick up a buoy for the night and finished up in a backwater near Bamburgers Wallersea.

Why does URYC appeal to you? Apart from my wife and family, Up River has always been a very friendly and enjoyable place to relax with some great memories on the water and the many social functions. Up River is a down to earth self help club where sailing can be enjoyed at a very reasonable cost.

What do you see yourself doing in 2019? Continue being the Treasurer and being involved with the club's activities and give my support where needed.

Events coming up

Eat in evenings, Friday 5th October and Friday 2nd November 1900 for 1930, come and enjoy a takeaway and a drink with good company.

Saturday 6th October Launch & Rovery Work Party 2 followed by **Cruiser AGM** start from 0900.

Saturday 13th/14th October Bradwell cruiser rally an excellent end of season rally. Contact Graham Lazell for further details. grahamlazell@hotmail.com

Cruiser recovery, various dates, please see notice board for details or contact Launch & Recovery for further information.

Saturday 27th URYC Dinner and Dance at the Chichester Hotel. It's a 7pm for 7:30pm sit down for a three course meal and disco. Let Liz Green know you are coming / have paid / your choice of food by contacting her on e-mail at: elizabethhj.green@talktalk.net or by phone IN THE EVENING on 01702 203549.

Dinghy racing various dates. Please see dinghy calendar for dates and start times

Saturday 10th November Quiz Night from 2000.

Saturday 24th November Prize giving from 2000.

Sunday 25th Dinghy AGM at 1000 followed by racing.

Sunday 2nd December URYC club AGM at 1400.

Saturday 15th December URYC Children's Xmas Party from 1100. Please add children's name to the list pinned to notice board to avoid disappointment.

Saturday 15th December URYC Adult Xmas Party from 2000. Please add names to list on notice board.

Monday 31st December URYC New Years Eve Party from 2000. Please add names to list on notice board.



Pioneer Sailing Trust Trip July 2018 by Lawrence Payne.

I was very lucky to go on a 5 day residential trip with the Royal Association for Deaf People (R.A.D) in the summer holidays. The boat is a 70 foot Essex Smack boat that used to dredge oysters in the North Sea and is now used as a training boat.



I travelled to Brightlingsea to meet the boat, crew and other children. There were six children, three crew and two people from R.A.D. I was a bit nervous at first but everyone was very friendly. I was shown to my bunk and was given a lifejacket and then I was ready to go!



Monday – We travelled up the east coast past Clacton and Walton where I saw the pier and beach huts. We moored up near Felixstowe Port for the night. We were split into two teams to cook the meals. My team had to cook dinner that night and we made nachos and chicken wraps - It was delicious!



Tuesday – We woke up early to catch the tide and set off for Hemley. It wasn't very windy but I had a chance to helm. Later we jumped in the tender and had some fun on the beach.



Wednesday – We headed up to Ipswich Marina today. There were lots of interesting things to see including the Orwell bridge, locks (we went through one!) and many cargo ships. In the evenings we played board games and drank hot chocolate.

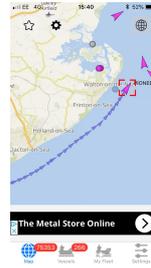


Thursday – Exciting day! Our boat became involved in an R.N.L.I rescue. We saw a large lifeboat from Walton speeding towards us when we were moored in the Walton Backwaters. We found out that a seal spotting vessel had become

stranded in the mud. When we tuned into the lifeboat radio we discovered that there were 30 people on board. The crew decided to send someone in the tender to go and help with the rescue. Soon another smaller lifeboat came to help. Eventually the smaller boats emerged from around the bend and transferred the people onto the large lifeboat. Thankfully everyone was safe.



Friday – In the morning we went seal spotting and were lucky to see so many of them. Then we headed off to Harwich where our journey ended. On the way we had to scrub the decks and clean



the boat. Although I was nervous at the start of the

week, I had a great time, made new friends, learnt new skills and I am looking forward to going to the Isle of Wight on Pioneer next year.

East Coast Summer Cruise

by Dennis Haggerty.

Plan or just happy coincidences?

The majority of members commenced the Club Summer Cruise together dropping down from Up River on the evening of Friday 6 July for a 6.30 – 7.00am start the next day. Warm, and the little wind there had been during the day, faded to nothing, becoming a perfectly still and calm night. In fact it was so calm we thought we were aground.

Saturday 7 July – very little wind at first which slowly filled in from the Southeast eventually allowing 'the fleet' to slow their engines and let the breeze fill our sails instead. Smooth water, warm, sunny. A fine reach all the way to Harwich Harbour under a cloudless blue sky. Choc Orange, departing from Brandy Hole that morning, caught up with the Club flotilla at Harwich. Permata got in touch by radio from Half Penny Pier at Harwich and Eric's Beagle arrived there shortly after.



Idleflite II, Tripper, Mirari, Miss Clare, Tonto, Bacchante and Choc Orange continued up the River Orwell to Woolverstone Marina as planned. Finding somewhere to watch the England game proved easy when we were directed to a visitors lounge which is immediately below the marina office. Something none of us knew existed. More members turned up as the game progressed. Some went

to the Butt and Oyster for a pint or evening meal, 9 members went to the **Riverside Restaurant**. Lovely location, sweeping views of the river, and even the pub fare food was pretty good.

However, we learned first hand why everyone you meet recommends walking to the Butt and Oyster for a meal instead! The Riverside Bar and Restaurant was chronically under staffed and plain daft management practice insisted our group sat 20 feet apart on two different tables so we

could be served separately. Could we push the tables together = no, we booked a table for 8, but we wanted 9 = no flexibility.

Sensibly Gerry and Elizabeth booked a table at the Butt and Oyster and met up with Beagle's crew there who had picked up a buoy and rowed ashore to the hard, no namby-pamby marina for these smack sailors!

Sunday 8 July – the plan was to go Ipswich. Tripper, Choc Orange stuck to the programme. Idleflite II, Mirari, Miss Clare, Tonto and Bacchante decided the ideal conditions were simply to good to stay in port and headed for the River Deben instead. Having motored clear of Harwich this flotilla enjoyed champagne sailing to the Deben entrance. Fortunately because the weather was so nice with a calm sea, when Idleflite's engine stopped just prior to crossing the bar it was a bit of fun and opportunity for banter when Mirari offered a tow in. This was gratefully accepted. Even in good conditions crossing the bar of the Deben between the large shingle banks, is not to be trifled with. Testing showed the weed that had choked Idleflite's engine water inlet had fried the



water pump, so Mirari continued the tow all the way to Woodbridge Tidemill Marina.

We entered the marina at about 18.00 in sublime warm and calm conditions. The group met up at the splendid Anchor Pub for celebratory drinks.

Monday 9 July – a day in Woodbridge. See picture at the top of the page. Idleflite's crew were very impressed with the service from the marina's mechanic Henry who stripped down and examined the overheating Honda immediately. We then chased around for parts.

The crew of Choc Orange and Tripper joined the Woodbridge contingent by bus. Later, we visited the Kings Head a highly atmospheric historic coaching inn in the heart of Woodbridge. For our evening meal following some



'team building' drinks in the Anchor, we spent the evening in the Cumberland Fish Restaurant. Highly recommended and the Turkish owner knew how to keep his customers happy with a complimentary dish full of 'wallies' and free beer!

Tuesday 10 July – Mirari, Miss Clare, Tonto and Bacchante depart Woodbridge enjoying some fine sailing all the way to the Walton Backwaters where they stayed at Titchmarsh Marina, meeting up with Tripper. Idleflite's crew were bashing the phones tracking down a Honda water pump housing.

Wednesday 11 July – Day in Titchmarsh with an expedition to a pub to watch the Croatians knock England out of the world cup. Idleflite's engine repairs were completed that afternoon and following a BBQ at the marina we headed to a lively pub to watch the match.

Thursday 12 July – we are back on track! With most of the flotilla meeting up at Shotley Marina. Very easy locking in and out, plus it's like a lake inside. We found the staff very convivial and the discounted price for our group booking made this marina much cheaper for the smaller boats compared to Woodbridge who charge £25 a night for the berth (ie irrespective of the size of the boat).





made for a memorable and enjoyable week. Some of us will need to 'go on the wagon' to recover from, shall we say, the social side of the cruise.

Friday 13 July – Most boats head back to the Crouch for a final night on the razzle at Burnham. Idlelite II remained err... idle at Shotley. Her crew took bus and train back home for prior commitments.

Saturday 14 July – the flotilla make the final trip back to Up River. Choc Orange sailed back from Halfpenny Pier Harwich to Brandy Hole.

Sunday 15 July – Idlelite II, with some determined passage making, motor-sailed back from Shotley to Hullbridge. Taking full advantage of an increasingly strong easterly to push over the fierce ebb arriving at URYC two hours after high water.

Post script – fantastic weather and consistently light winds, smooth seas and blissful blue sky

Mid-week Sailing.

There is a small but active group of club members who enjoy meeting during the week and going for a sail in their dinghies. Sometimes with the odd yacht joining them. Dates are varied throughout the year so please keep a eye on the Facebook pages as it is usually published when they are meeting on there.

Regatta 2018 Report by Dennis Haggerty

A breezy day with spells of bright warm sunshine certainly helped draw the crowds to Hullbridge Regatta. Everyone could watch up close the thrills and spills of dinghy racing.

Gusty conditions

The river was filled with sails. You could see some expert helms showing off their skills. Recovery from a spectacular capsized was the highlight for many onlookers and even drew applause from the audience at one point.. With several boats blown over because of the gusty



winds, there was plenty of action for visitors to watch.

Consequently Up River Yacht Club's safety boat was certainly kept busy. Later they were standing by to recover model yachts following a display of racing by Southend Model Boat Club.



Racing

Close up racing. The helms ranged from age 9 to over 69. There was some fast and furious racing to watch as 23 boats jostled for position in windy conditions. Well done to Ian and Alex Gore (N12) for coming 1st, with Simon Hopkins (Lightning) 2nd and Marcus Ingram 3rd (Solo).



Lots to see

A great range of attractions. There were stalls to see on the club lawn and inside the club house. As an added attraction this year there was a 3d printing demonstration. This stand was busy all afternoon and created a great deal of interest with visitors asking lots of questions.



Visitors could check out the crafts and cards inside the club conservatory or enjoy a drink on the club deck that offers a fine view of the river.

Live music

The bands played for over 3 hours creating a great atmosphere for everyone to just sit back and relax. The sun broke through the clouds in the afternoon to make the day complete.



Rochford Hundred vintage engine and tractor club

The club brought their impressive range of vintage engines that are always of interest to visitors. In addition to their 1922 Ford Model T there was a new addition for this year; a rather special 1934 two seater tourer complete with bear.

The Crew

Members at Up River Yacht Club volunteered to help and make it a special day for people to attend. With record numbers of visitors there wasn't a parking space left in the large village car park. This is because the regatta is now drawing lots of visitors to Hullbridge from Southend, Hockley, Rayleigh and Benfleet.

All proceeds raised are donated to charity. This year the club supported Fairhavens and the RNLI.



New Capstan Winch.

By Gerry Ledger.



The club are investing in a Capstan Winch to pull tenders and dinghies up the slipway and it will be installed over winter months. It will be installed next to the pub fence on the edge of the path

where you can see down the slip. It works like a sheet winch so the drum not in the photos turns as long as you have your foot on the switch put a couple of turns on and apply tension and up comes the boat members to supply own rope final installation details to be decided. There will

likely be a core working group who may need help in fitting this and making the base, so please if you can your help would be welcome.



Watching the Commodore Shrink!



We were very privileged to get the chance to have a look around and a chat with the pilot of one of the Essex and Herts Air Ambulance one Sunday afternoon who were attending an emergency in the village (thankfully not as serious as first thought). It is a really impressive outfit who rely solely on donations to keep two Helicopters airborne and serving Essex and Hertfordshire. The pilot was an interesting fellow who had spent time in the Royal Air Force or R.A.F. Cue our commodore to put his foot in it (unintentionally) asking him a question about his time in the RAF?

The pilot looked moderately irritated and made a few twitches before he replied to our illustrious Commodore that its not the RAF its the Royal Air Force or at the worst the R.A.F but never the RAF as that implies RiffRaf. I thought this was hilarious which is why I'm sharing it with you. Anyhow he forgave Ian and we had a very inciteful chat and look around the helicopter and watched it take off and disappear into the sunset.





Meet a Member.

Club Member and Boats:

Rob Bodman, British Moth BM813

What's your profession?

Photo Editor at an international News and Sports agency.

When did you start sailing?

When I was about 17. Crewed for a mate on his Hunter 19 (a Squib with a lid), moored in Maldon. Occasionally we'd bunk off off college and sail up the Blackwater out into the North Sea, stay in its cramped cabin at Bradwell or Maylandsea, and spend days just mucking about on it on the water. I loved it. I stopped sailing about 2 years later, and only got back into it after attending a Push the Boat out event with my kids at URYC around 4 years ago.

Biggest achievement on the water?

Pretty certain this is still yet to happen. But, as I'm currently more of a recreational sailor, the first time I just went out for a sail on my own felt like quite an achievement.

Most embarrassing moment on the water?

Years ago in the Hunter 19, we missed the tide getting into Bradwell and had to sleep (as best as possible) in the boat with it laying on its side in the mud (they're fin keel boats), until the tide lifted her afloat again (around 3 in the morning), so we could finally get to the visitor's pontoon. Pretty sure there's been a few other moments where I've fallen out of a dinghy at URYC too.

Why does URYC appeal to you?

Mainly as it's right on my doorstep. But that aside, I have found the club to be full of nice, friendly people, always willing to help you out and share advice.

What do you see yourself doing in 2019?

Hopefully being able to attend more of the club races, and get to some Class open meetings in my Moth.

Slipped Up Trophy Nominations



After a well received and worthy winner of the first even presentation of the 'Slipped Up Trophy' we will be wanting to re-award it again this year. Can anybody beat Alan's faux pas from last year (sanding the gunnel of somebody else's yacht!) ??? So do you have a nomination you would like to submit? Let the executive committee know or alternatively email me at marcus_ingram@hotmail.co.uk

Brightlingsea Cruise 2018.



Sadly I wasn't able to attend this year but upon speaking with people who were lucky enough to be able to go said they had a wonderful time, the weather was good that weekend (fortunately as I was camping in Suffolk that weekend) and I

understand the 11 yachts that went enjoyed good winds and safe passage. Friday night plentiful amounts of drink was taken collectively between the boats in various locations on the Crouch and River Blackwater. Then on Saturday all meeting up on the pontoon in Brightlingsea. Dinner in the Colne Yacht Club, with plenty of good company and laughs then no doubt back for nightcaps on the Yachts.

Hopefully I can have a more detailed report for next flotsam.

God I wish I could of gone!



Open Meeting Highs!

Team Up River who retained the **Eyott plate** with **Gerry Ledger**, **Jamie Stevens** and **Andrew Ince** scoring the points and team members **Pat Harris**, **Mike Pickett** and **Ian Dawson** in participating and slowing the other teams down.

Penny Yarwood 3rd and 1st Lady in the 2018 Lightning 368 National Championship.

Marcus Ingram 5th and 1st Giles boat (original mk1) in the 2018 Lightning 368 National Championship.

Simon Hopkins 6th and 1st Master (over ahem' 50) in the 2018 Lightning 368 National Championships.

Ian and **Alex Gore** 2nd overall and Race winners North West Norfolk Week.

Gerry Ledger and **Jack Gore** 5th overall and Race winners North West Norfolk Week.

Ian and **Alex Gore** 1st in the National 12 open at Ripon Sailin Club.



If you have had open success please let us know so we can all celebrate achievements.

Cruiser Class Captains Mutterings

by Graham Lazell.

As the season draws to a close and those long hot summer days afloat of 2018 become nothing more than a memory, thoughts turn to hauling out for the winter and all those jobs on the 'to do list' that never seem to end. For something so small I can't believe how much time and effort us practical boat owners put into our little ships to keep them in tip top seaworthy condition.

The key to keeping your boat in full working order is maintenance! as I always say 'if you look after your boat your boat will look after you'. I thought I would share with you what I do with 'Dreamcatcher' when laying up for the whole winter.



Engine, This is always partly serviced before coming out the water. Engine is run up to temperature under load, engine flush additive added, oil drained then flushed with fresh engine oil, drained again (you will be surprised how black the oil on the second flush comes out) before changing the oil filter and refilling with fresh oil. It is important to change oil before laying up for winter as there are harmful acidic deposits that form in the old oil, that if left in an engine for 5 or 6 months can corrode bearing surfaces, cylinder bores, etc and also degrade seals in the engine.

Once out of the water antifreeze in the primary cooling system is checked / topped up and raw water side flushed with fresh water and filled with antifreeze. Rest of service completed in the spring.

Sails, They are all removed from boat and if not going back to the sailmaker for servicing are laid out at home, this usually means commandeering the dining room for a week, thoroughly aired before being stored in the loft.

Covers, Sail covers, sprayhood etc. These are removed, taken home and cleaned before being thoroughly dried and stored away. To clean I lay covers out flat on the ground usually on a clean tarpaulin then use a sail and canvas cleaner worked into the material with a soft brush. To rinse I give them a gentle pressure wash using a variable pressure lance on low setting.



Running Rigging, I remove all running rigging using light mousing lines for halyards. These are taken home and put through a cool wash in the washing machine. This not only keeps them clean but in removing dirt and salt keeps the ropes soft and supple helping them run freely through blocks.

Batteries, Whether you take them home or leave them on the boat, put them on charge every couple of months to keep them topped up. Lead acid batteries do not like being left discharged.



Inside the boat all books charts and personal gear are removed, berth cushions stood up on their sides and a few floor boards raised to allow air to circulate through the boat. This helps reduce damp and keeps things smelling a little sweeter. We also cover the boat over to keep the worst of the winter weather out.

Last but not least don't forget to lock up your shore ladder when leaving the boat to keep unwanted visitors out. Before we know it we will be putting all this stuff back onboard in anticipation of another summer aloft.

I look forward to having a few jars with you at the club bar between all those fitting out jobs.

Cheers everyone,

Graham.

Cruiser Owners

Please lock up your ladders! An unsecured ladder poses a security threat to other people's boats as well as your own. Please secure your halyards, So that the noise they can make against a mast does not disturb our neighbours. Thank for your cooperation.

Social Media

If you use social media please follow our social media pages. Facebook is particularly good for up to date gossip, photos, and there are a handful of videos on the YouTube channel.

Facebook:- [Up River Yacht Club](#) Twitter:- [@UpRiverYC](#) YouTube:- [Up River Yacht Club](#)
Club website:- <http://upriver.org.uk/>

