

# **THE COMMODORE'S FAREWELL**

I am on my way out with my successor appointed and my time as Commodore coming to an end. I have really enjoyed myself visiting the various Fleets and the hospitality and fellowship have been outstanding!

What have I learnt as I have gone round? Some Fleets are very active and some not so. It is the usual problem in any organisation, a lack of people who are willing to put themselves forward to be on a committee, either as Commodore, Secretary or Treasurer.

It is very difficult for the same people to come up with new ideas, just look at your own Rotary Clubs. What can we do about it? First of all remember that the



Commodore in Thames lock keeping a 'Drascombe' at bay

members of the National Bridge are there to help you. A lot of us have been out of our way to visit other Fleets, as well as meeting people at the Fellowship weekends. There is a lot of knowledge there, make use of it. Some Fleets have lunchtime meetings, such as the AGM, Fitting Out Supper and the Laying Up Supper. The advantage of these for those who travel a long distance is that they can normally get home in daylight. The Thames Fleet is well known for its Summer Cruise. If you can get your boat to the Thames join them, if you cannot, you can always hire a boat. A week of Fellowship, relaxation and a happy hour every night, what more can you want! If you think a week is a long time just try it over three or four days, and let people join you when they want.

INTERNATIONAL YACHTING FELLOWSHIP OF ROTARIANS

Our time in Paisley was great fun, even though the snow on Saturday night/



Sunday morning did upset one or two travel plans. Twelve inches in twelve hours was quite something to see, but by Monday morning everything was back to normal. The projected tour around Scotland on the Sunday to be led by me mbers of the Clyde Fleet was abandoned so we all made our own amusements. For some this was going to the airport and trying to rebook the tickets for the following day.

Looking forward to meeting you, either when I am with our International Commodore Bill Robinson and his wife Katia, at the handover in July, or at one of our Fellowship weekends.

Commodore at play!

Christopher Bishop

## Visit of International Commodore Bill Robinson and his wife Katia.

We are very pleased to welcome the International Commodore with his wife on his official visit to these shores. The programme is outlined below and everyone is welcome to attend. **Would you please contact the organiser for details of the event, any food requirements, dress, cost etc.** 

**Friday June 2<sup>nd</sup>** Evening Barbeque 5.30 pm for 6 pm at International Vice Commodore Bryan Skinner's house at Ware, **Tel 01920 487425.** He will stay overnight there.

**Saturday June 3<sup>rd</sup>** Travel to The Swan Hotel, Streatley to be hosted by the Thames Fleet **Contact Rodney Davis Tel 01491 651215.** Meet Commodore Christopher & Jane Bishop, who will host them overnight.



Sunday June 4<sup>th</sup> Travel to Solent Fleet, meet up for a day's sail and then dinner at Royal Southern YC, The Hamble. Contact Frank Chalstrey, 01428 652500

Monday June 5<sup>th</sup> Lunch with Medway Fleet at Gravesend Rotary Club, Masonic Hall, 25 Wrotham Road, Gravesend at 12.00 noon for lunch at 12.30 Contact Joan Vaughan, Tel 01634 220917 Christopher Bishop

EDITORIAL	CONTENTS
We are now 'paying off' after four years and numerous editions. We have, with you our readers, been transported by words and pictures around the World, from the frozen north to Cape Horn, The Americas, Australasia, Europe, the Mediterranean and all points of the compass of our homeland. Our magazine would not exist if we had no cor- respondents and photographers keeping us sup- plied with copy. It is to them that we give our sincere thanks for the interesting articles they have supplied over the years. We are sure that whosoever takes over as Editor will receive, as we have had, help and support from the GB&I Bridge. It goes without saying that any tips needed will be passed on.	GB&I Commodore's Farewell 1   Visit of International Commodore 2   GB&I Web Site and Pink Book 3   Minutes of AGM 4   Int. Vice Commodore's Report 8   GB&I Vice Commodore's Report 8   GB&I Vice Commodore's Report 9   Bob Burn's Report on Renfrew 10   Bryan Skinner's Appreciation 12   Venue for next Fellowship Weekend 13   Fleets' Activities 2006 14   News from the Fleets: 17   Humber 18   Broads 19   Rodney Davis re Fellowship Hotels 20   John May's diary Falmouth to Gib 21   Suzanne Gill 'Down Under' 24   New Members 26   Ocean World Clothing Supplier 27   Douglas Steedman Insurance 28
Looking forward to meeting up with some of	

Looking forward to meeting up with some of you in Copenhagen. Ian and Norma

Editors Ian & Norma Hornsby

## IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM JOHN BARNSLEY WEB AND DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR

## THE GB&I WEB SITE AND THE PINK BOOK

GB&I Bridge has acquired a Web Site **http://www.iyfrgbandi.co.uk** It will be a few weeks before the site is up and running but the space has been used to hold a revised copy of the membership Pink Book. This may be seen by entering **http://www.iyfrgbandi.co.uk/PinkBook.pdf** in your internet browser.

It is intended to update this file at frequent intervals, (monthly). For the benefit of members who do not have internet access the normal bi-annual printed copy will shortly be distributed to members.

Members will be aware that the IYFR International site **http://www.iyfr.net** is now up and running. Members may update their own personal IYFR record on that site, but it is important to note that IYFR records are **completely independent** of those held by GB&I. Until this situation is resolved please continue to notify changes in your personal details (addresses) to Rodney Davis or myself for them to be entered into GB&I records. John Barnsley

## MINUTES OF THE A.G.M. HELD AT THE GLYNHILL HOTEL, RENFREW ON 11/03/06

#### **Present:**

Commodore Christopher Bishop welcomed Vice Commodore Jenie Pressdee, Rear Commodore Michael Pooley, IVC Bryan Skinner, Bob Burns, Extension Officer, Annette Lewis, Treasurer, John Barnsley, Database Manager and Rodney Davis, Secretary and (from the Attendance Book) the following members of Fleets:

**Broads:** George & Mary Blake, Doreen Brown, Tony & Mavis Rushton, Chris Skinner, Ian & Pat Thomson; **Clyde:** Bill & Myra Kennedy, Ann Lockhart, Eddie & Ilene Redman, Barclay Smith; **East of Scotland:** Ian Cowie; **Fenland:** Nigel & Audrey Kember, Brian Lewis (also Suffolk); **G.B.:** Paul Quaile; **Solent:** Geoff & Mollie Shaw; **Suffolk:** Brian & Ianet Slater; **Sussex:** Beryl Barnsley, John & Marilyn Blake, Nick & Sue Mason, Doug & Beryl Minto, John Pressdee; **Thames:** Jeanne Davis.

#### 1. Apologies:

Apologies for absence were received from Sandy Angus, Hilary Bastone, Jane Bishop, Chris Buckingham, Frank Chalstrey, Ian and Norma Hornsby, *Rotafleet News* Editors, Hamish Law, John & Pat May, Humphrey Platts, Ted & Joyce Purbrick, Tony Randall and Betty Woodcock.

#### 2. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2005 were approved and were signed by the Commodore.

#### 3. Matters Arising:

None.

#### 4. International Report:

Bryan Skinner reported that there was a very good response from IYFR - GB&I to attendance at the R.I. Convention in Copenhagen. There are about 20 couples in one hotel and the International Commodore has another booked for other IYFR members. The IYFR stand in the Hall of Fellowship is No. B4 036/B4 037. The Post Convention Cruise is fully booked with a waiting list. If anyone wis hes to attend the RIBI breakfast (cost £20 per person), they should contact Noel Tatt (Tel: 01303 862460, e-mail: noeltatt@aol.com).

Bryan hopes that there will be support at future R.I. Conventions when he becomes World Commodore. He would welcome some more volunteers to join his team. Thanks to some help from John Barnsley, the IYFR web-site and database is much improved.

#### 5. Commodore's Report:

Commodore Christopher Bishop said that he had really enjoyed his time as Commodore and thanked his Bridge for all the hard work that they had put in to make matters run smoothly. He was sorry that Jane could not be present but she has only recently returned home from hospital having had a hip operation.

Christopher congratulated Bryan Skinner on the award to him of a Paul Harris Fellowship. He also mentioned that John Butterfield, who regularly attended Fellowship week-ends, had died earlier in the year.

Christopher finally asked members to consider joining the GB&I Bridge as he felt it is a way of enjoying the Fellowship even further.

#### 6. Vice-Commodore's Report:

Vice- Commodore Jenie said that she was looking forward to receiving invitations to visit Fleets.

#### 7. Treasurer's Report:

Annette reminded the meeting that the 2004/2005 accounts, which had been distributed at the Executive Committee Meeting in Ripon, showed a deficit of  $\pounds 237.00$ .

#### Adoption of Accounts for the year ended 30th June, 2005

Proposed by Annette and seconded by Bryan Skinner that the accounts be approved - agreed unanimously.

Annette advised that she was now, with approval from the Bridge, downloading *Rotafloat* and distributing it to Fleet Secretaries. The cost of doing this was reflected in the Budget for 2006/2007 which showed a deficit of £340.00 The recommendation from the Bridge was that the subscription remain unchanged. This was agreed. It was pointed out that a relatively small increase in membership would eliminate the deficit. The Bridge can help with publicity material. Rodney mentioned that to keep G.B. Fleet members in the picture, he will be advising those with and without e-mail as and when new editions of *Rotafloat* are published; they do of course also receive *Rotafleet News* and are advised of all Fellowship week-ends.

Annette thanked Paul Quaile for his work as Independent Financial Examiner.

The account balances are:-

Current: £889.00 Deposit: £5104.00 Treasury Stock: £1000 (approx.).

#### 8. Appointment of Independent Financial Examiner:

It was agreed that Paul Quaile be re-appointed as Independent Financial Examiner.

#### 9. Rotafleet News Editors:

Rodney read a report from Ian and Norma Hornsby A plea was made for some action photographs and Fleet news to include in the next edition. Ian and Norma expressed their thanks to past contributors without whom there would have been no magazine.

#### **10. Extension Officer's report:**

Bob Burns gave a comprehensive report of his visits to existing and proposed marinas around the Welsh coast. His survey had revealed that there are now many thousands of berths available or under construction. Every marina had been willing to display a IYFR poster and only one had charged. In addition to the posters at the marinas, his plan was to include a news item in Rotary District magazines in Wales and the adjoining English counties as it seemed likely that these were the areas where boat owners lived.

He was also continuing to investigate the possibility of a narrow boat fleet. He had visited 4 marinas in close proximity, holding over 1000 boats and was hoping to get a letter published in *Waterways World* and in a free newspaper called *Towpath Talk*. It may be possible to arrange attendance at one of the narrow boat events.

#### **11. Public Relations:**

Michael Pooley advised that he had sent posters and letters to all Commodores suggesting ways in which further publicity could be given to the Fellowship.

#### 12. Database Manager:

John Barnsley advised that the Bridge had given approval to the establishment of a GB&I web-site. There was a possibility that each Fleet could have a page to promote their own activities. The "action" photographs requested by the *Rotafleet* editors could also be added. The web-site would not be private so that everyone would be able to access it.

It was confirmed that a new edition of the "Pink Book" will be published as soon as possible.

#### 13. Regalia

Jenie displayed samples of the polo shirts with the agreed logo embroidered on them. Copies of the Ocean World brochure will be circulated to all Fleets and it will then be possible for them to order exactly what they want direct from Ocean World. If possible, a link to Ocean World would be included in the new web-site.

#### 14. Officers of the GB&I Bridge for 2006/2007:

Rodney advised that the officers of the GB&I bridge for 2006/2008 are:

Commodore: Jenie Pressdee

Vice-Commodore: Michael Pooley

Rear Commodore: Bob Burns Extension Officer: Bob Burns Secretary: Rodney Davis Treasurer: Annette Lewis Database Manager: John Barnsley

Jenie hoped to be able to announce shortly the name(s) of the new editor(s) of *Ro-tafleet News*.

Rodney also advised that the Bridge would be proposing an amendment to the Rules to provide that any officer of the International Bridge would be an ex officio member of the GB&I Bridge.

### 15. Visit by the International Commodore:

Bryan Skinner advised that the International Commodore, Bill Robinson, will be arriving in the U.K. for a visit on the  $2^{nd}$  June. He will be visiting the Broads, Thames, Solent and Medway Fleets. There will be further details in the next edition of *Rotafleet News*.

#### 16. Handover: Chichester, 21st-23rd July 2006

John Pressdee gave further details of the Handover week-end. About 40 people had so far expressed interest and a follow-up letter will be sent shortly.

Michael Pooley mentioned that in view of the difficulties in finding accommodation in the Henley area in the month of July, the Thames Fleet had already set up a Committee to investigate possible venues, etc., for 2008.

#### 17. Fellowship weekend, Maidenhead, 3rd—5th November, 2006:

The Holiday Inn, Maidenhead has been booked. Through Bryan, an excellent speaker has been obtained

#### 18. AGM and Diamond Anniversary, 16th—18th March 2007:

The Mollington Banestre Hotel on the outskirts of Chester has been booked. Unfortunately, the RIBI President is unable to attend and the World Commodore cannot give a firm decision at present. It was confirmed that the Saturday evening dinner will be a "Black Tie" event.

#### **19. Future Venues for Fellowship Weekends:**

Rodney enquired whether there would be support for a week-end in Jersey. Most members present indicated their interest.

#### 20. Any Other Business:

There was discussion about the possibility of written reports being submitted in advance of Executive Committee and Annual General Meetings. It was also suggested that the format of week-ends could be changed so that the formal business took place on the Saturday morning, leaving the rest of the day free. It was agreed that these suggestions should be investigated.

#### **INTERNATIONAL VICE-COMMODORE'S REPORT**

I am very pleased indeed that so many of you are planning to attend the International Convention in Copenhagen. It is very convenient this year as it is more accessible than usual.

We have about twenty couples in one hotel and Bill Robinson has another one for other IYFR members, so we should have a good representation. Great work is being done by Arne Magnusson and the other Swedish and Danish organisation, and they have had a big response to the Post Convention Cruise.

The IYFR stand in the Hall of Fellowship, is number B4 036- B4 037 and is all organised, as is the AGM on the Tuesday. If you have not already booked for that, I advise you to do so, as most of the other meetings are becoming full, and it is after all the main part of the Convention. The PCC is now fully booked.

GB&I are holding their usual breakfast on the Monday morning, an early start at 7a.m. but worth attending as it is difficult to meet other people from GB&I. (Rotarian Noel Tatt, Nash House, Nash Hill Lyminge, Folkestone, Kent CT18 8ED. Tel 01303 862460 e-mail noeltatt@aol.com)

The website is now making great strides, I am in the process of trying to ensure that in the future, all handovers regarding the website, and membership, will be without the traumas we have had in the past. As regards Rotafloat, you may know that Annette Lewis has arranged to have one printed copy sent to each Fleet, so if you do not have internet access, please contact your Fleet secretary. Bryan Skinner International Vice Commodore I.Y.F.R.

## VICE COMMODORE GB&I'S REPORT

Ahoy there!

Just to let you know that I am looking forward to welcoming many of you to the Handover Meeting in Chichester over the weekend of 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2006. As usual there will be plenty of fellowship and enjoyment for everyone on and off the water!

The weekend will launch me into the role of UK Commodore which I am looking forward to immensely. I have already met a number of you at the various IYFR weekends and now look forward to visiting your fleets around the UK. Please send me a copy of your fleet programmes.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO REMIND YOU THAT WE STILL NEED AN EDI-TOR FOR OUR MAGAZINE ... Ian and Norma have done a fantastic job but we need to replace them before our next edition of "Rotafleet". Please get in touch with me on 01243-527237 if you are interested in this vital and worthwhile honorary position.

So until July ... happy sailing. Jenie Pressdee Vice-Commodore GB&I

## INVITATION TO THE HAND OVER WEEKEND FROM JOHN PRESSDEE - SUSSEX FLEET

Come and see Commodore Chris Bishop hand over to Vice Commodore Jenie Pressdee Friday 21 to Sunday 23 July 2006 At the Ramada Hotel Chichester



There will be trips around Chichester Harbour and a key speaker at the Hand-Over Dinner on the Saturday night.

Full details are being sent to all members. Please return the booking form and deposit cheque as soon as possible to secure a place at this historic weekend full of fun and fellowship.

John Pressdee

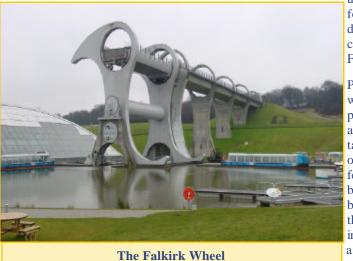
# FELLOWSHIP MEETING AND A.G.M. IN RENFREW, MARCH 2006

As this was to be the first AGM in Scotland, we wished to make the weekend slightly different, one with a Scottish flavour and one to be remembered.

The hotel, finally selected for the weekend, was close to the airports, motorway and railway, enabling members travelling north to select their preferred mode of transport. Thursday evening saw the first intrepid travellers arrive and enjoy a meal together in the hotel carvery. This set the high standard of food for the weekend.

Friday saw the remaining members arrive, while some of those already present ventured in the direction of nearby Glasgow, with its shops waiting for the unwary credit cards. The Bridge held their meeting in the afternoon, before predinner drinks and a meal in an area of the restaurant reserved for IYFR. The food was again excellent and, judging from the conviviality of the conversation, the evening was enjoyed by all,

Saturday sadly saw a grey day weather-wise, which was disappointing following the previous weeks of blue sky and sunshine (true and in Scotland!). However



undeterred, over forty Iyforians departed by coach for the Falkirk Wheel.

Plenty of time was allowed for people to look around the inevitable tourist shop, or to have a coffee before embarking on a barge for a trip on the Wheel. An informative and amusing commentary was lis-

tened to during the 45-minute trip between the Union and Forth & Clyde canals. Unfortunately, the weather limited the views over the surrounding countryside. However, everyone seemed to enjoy the experience, before heading for lunch in a local Beefeater, then returning by coach to the hotel.



At 4 p.m. some of Fleet Clyde our members joined us as we gathered for the AGM, the last for our present Commodore. Where is the time going? Then it was pre-dinner drinks and down for our evening meal, where we were very ably piped in by our Clyde Fleet Secretary/Treasurer, Bill Kennedy, to set the Scottish tone for the evening.

The meal was once

again appreciated by all, but to aid the digestion, after the main course four teenage girls from nearby Inverclyde entertained us with some Scottish songs. They returned after the sweet course with further songs and a recitation. The girls were to be given a £50 donation to aid their work with deprived children in Poland. However, they impressed everyone so much that an impromptu table collection was taken, which provided them with a further £150. A most impressive and generous spontaneous gesture by Iyforians and their guests.

After the meal we were all educated and entertained in the art of whis ky blending by one of Scotland's five Master Blenders (yes only five in Scotland for all that whisky!), as he provided more than adequate samples for nosing and tasting! He also donated any payment to charity but accepted a bottle of Rotary whisky, which just may be valuable one day.

Sunday certainly rang the changes. Some members were to return home, while others were to enjoy a further day taking in the sights of the West of Scotland. However, an overnight fall of one foot of snow closed Glasgow Airport and the Erskine Bridge over the Clyde. All plans, therefore, went out of the window and many of those intending to depart either suffered serious delays at the airport, or had to stay for another night getting a flight the next day. Time was passed using the hotel leisure facilities, throwing snowballs, watching the rugby, or visiting the shops, many of which were unable to open – at least that was sparing on the wallet.

However, Monday saw no further bad weather and everyone was finally able to

depart for home, after a Scottish weekend of canals, whisky, music and snow. Was it different and memorable? Let others be the judge of that!

Bob Burns IYFR GB&I Extension Officer, (Falkirk Wheel photographs taken by Michael Pooley)

## AN APPRECIATION OF THE RENFREW WEEKEND FROM INT. VICE COMMODORE BRYAN SKINNER

Each year as you know, the Rotary Yachting Fellowship GB&I has Fellowship week ends, open to members all over the country. The venue is changed each time, to give everyone an opportunity to attend. This month we visited Scotland at the invitation of the Clyde and East of Scotland Fleets. They were excellent hosts and everyone enjoyed it very much.

We spent the week end in Glasgow, meeting lots of friends, and holding our AGM on the Saturday. We had two most pleasant evenings, with a very good dinner followed by Scottish entertainment on the second one--- all I need say is that it involved whisky!!! The local Fleets had organised an outing for us to see the Falkirk Wheel. This is a Millennium project, built to open up the canals again, and

is a most impressive experience. We sat on a boat in the water, and were literally



lifted 120 feet by the wheel, to a level to join another canal. It is the equivalent of a most sophisticated lock, and the power required for the trip was only the same as boiling a kettle of water.

S u n d a y brought 12 to 15 inches of snowfall, very beautiful, but there were no

Cold people on Falkirk boat trip Photographed by Michael Pooley



flights in or out of Glasgow. Very inconvenient for most, but we were glad we only had to limp to Edinburgh in the car—a journey which took 3 times as long as usual. While in Edinburgh, we visited the Royal Yacht Britannia. It was a nostalgic visit, and such a beautiful vessel, it was quite depressing to think that Her Majesty has to hire a boat to cruise the islands for her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday trip. The tour of the boat was beautifully arranged, with a personal commentary, and I was able to purchase a DVD, which perhaps I will

show to you all one day. We went to St. Andrews the next day to meet some members of the East of Scotland Fleet, who showed us great hospitality. The weekend was another triumph for the Fellowship. We had a superb trip home over the Pennines in beautiful sunshine, with clear roads but lots of snow on the fields,

Bryan Skinner IYFR International Vice Commodore

# A PLEA FROM BRYAN

I have to give a report at the International AGM in Copenhagen covering the whole of Europe. I would appreciate receiving news items of importance at any of the Fleets to add to my report.



# DIARY OF G.B. & I. ACTIVITIES-2006

The entries are sufficient only to show Fleets planning an event on a specific date although this may have had to be changed. A telephone call to the Contact number given, or to a member of the Fleet's Bridge as shown in the current 'Pink Book', should suffice to inform in detail, or of any changes. This diary can only be a general guide to activities and should not be regarded as definitive.

APRIL 10/14th East of Scotland 14th Dart 15th Clyde 22/23rd Solent	Visit to Cologne Fitting Out supper at The Stoke Lode Hotel, Stoke Fleming Fitting Out Supper at the Tontine Hotel Rally to Gunwharf Quay, dinner at R.N. Club & Royal Albert Yacht Club - Mike Pinder 01489 573210
28th Sussex 28th Medway	Informal Fitting Out Meeting Chichester YC Dinner Medway Yacht Club
MAY 2nd/3rd Solent 5th Dart 6th Poole 6th Broads 7th Broads 12th Sussex	Midweek Rally to Bembridge Colin Brookes 01489 573444 A.G.M. at The Crabshell, Kingsbridge Wareham Meet, supper in the King's Arms Fish & Chip Supper at Womack Broad followed by Rally at Womack Water The Day of Kids Out—Children on the Water Annual dinner at Chichester YC of participating boat owners
13/14th Sussex	and their crews. <b>Rally to Cowes</b> , followed by Hand Over Meeting at the Island Sailing Club.
19th East of Scotland 20/21st Solent	Fitting Out Supper, Tipsy Nipper, Fife Airport Progressive Supper Marchwood Sailing Club, Julian Lloyd 01962 773337
20/21st Poole 27/28th Clyde 26/29th East 29th Thames	Poole Picnic John 01258 860657 Rotary Yacht Race Cruise to Bradwell Marina Short cruise or a meeting with local club
JUNE 2/4th Dart	The Salcombe Rally 2nd social drinking at Dartmouth YC
2/4th Poole	3rd Dinner at Carvery, Salcombe Y.C. Solent Cruise Weymouth, Poole, Cowes, Hamble, Beaulieu, Poole, Weymouth. Mike 01202 731089, Roger 01035 835767
3rdSussex4thSolent	Visit of International Commodore at Royal Southern YC Visit of International Commodore. Day sail in Solent, dinner Royal Southern YC. Frank Chalstrey 023 8040 3448
4thEast of Scotland5thMedway	Visit to Island & Castle, Loch Leven, Kinross—BBQ Visit of International Commodore, lunch at Gravesend Ro- tary Club
9th Broads 11/14th	Southern Rivers Cruise and Fleet Dinner Rotary Convention Copenhagen
13th Solent	Haskell-Turner-Ball Trophy Race, start at Coronation Bouy 10.30 am. Picnic lunch in the Medina Bob Turner 023 8040 4128
15/19th	Post Convention IYFR Cruise organised by Skaw Fleet

	UNE cont.					
16th	East	Cruise to St. Katherine's Dock for a week of activities and a Dinner to mark the Fleet's 30th Anniversary				
25th		AGM & BBQ at home of Commodore Tony Randall.				
T.B.A.		Forth Race Night				
T.B.A.	East of Scotland	Forth Muster—lunch at Aberdour				
JULY						
1st/2nd	Clyde & East of Scotland	Muster East Loch Tarbert, Party and Dinner ashore				
1st/2nd		Yarmouth Rally, berth at Hayles Yard, dinner Sat.pm Royal				
0	<b>D</b>	Solent Y.C. John Jarvis 023 8022 9297				
2nd 4th	Broads East of Scotland	Rally South Walsham Broad Tay Race Night (evening)				
7th	Dart	Evening sail on heritage sailing trawler 'Vigilance'				
7/9th	Poole	Poole Harbour Cruise overnights at South Deep, Wareham				
10th	Thames	Annual Summer Cruise down stream				
10th	Dart	Trip aboard the 'African Queen' to see the Tall Ships Race start from Tor Bay.				
12th	Broads	Rally Ranworth Broad				
12th 16th	East of Scotland	Tay Muster, meal at Royal Tay YC (provisional)				
16th	Medway	Boat trip and Lunch at The Flying Dutchman				
21/23rd	Solent	National Commodore's Handover, Chichester YC. Fleet members wishing to sail to Chichester contact Frank Chal				
		strey 023 8040 3448 or David Robertson 01794 513297.				
21/23	Sussex	<b>GB&amp;I Handover Meeting Chichester.</b> Guests staying at				
		Ramada Hotel Chichester				
26th	Solent East Coast	Fleet Rally to Cowes, John Robinson 023 8028 3000 Cruise to Rochester Music Festival				
		Cruise to Rochester Music Festival				
AUGUS 4/6th	T Poole	Waymouth Waskand BBO Lybuarth Cava avaraight Way				
4/011	FUUIe	Weymouth Weekend, BBQ Lulworth Cove, overnight Wey mouth Quay, supper Weymouth SC, Peter 01749 678897				
5th	Dart	Visit to the National Coastwatch Instit. 's Lookout Station				
		at Forw ard Point.				
5th 12th	Broads Fenland	Annual Barbecue at 'The Charters'				
16th		Woodbridge weekend BBQ with Suffolk Fleet Rally to Ranworth Broad				
17th	Solent	Midweek Rally to Newtown, supper at New Inn Shalfleet				
		Colin Brookes 01489 573444				
26/27th	Clyde & East of Scotland	Treasure Hunt & Muster, Rhu Marina, Dinner				
26th	Dart	Ardencaple Hotel Party aboard Dart Explorer at the Port of Dartmouth Royal				
2001	Dair	Regatta.				
End Aug	Thames	ATYC rally at Henley				
SEPTEN	<b>IBER</b>					
2nd	Dart	Visit to Start Point Lighthouse				
	Fenland	Cruising in Turkish waters with Tussocks				
9th 10th	Broads	Cruise to South Walsham Broad				
9th/10th		Rally on Black Horse Broad Rally to Poole, berthing & dinner at Parkstone YC				
011/1011	Colom	John Kernan 023 8081 3276				
21st	Sussex	The Rotary Club of Cowes 'Sail-Over' lunch at Royal Yacht				
		Squadron (see separate flyer in Rotafleet)				

SEPTEMBER cont.							
21st	Solent	Annual Lunchtime Visit to Rotary Club of Cowes, lunch at Royal Yacht Squadron.					
OCTOE	BER						
6th	Dart	'Sea Salts' Supper at the Paignton Club.					
7th	Broads	Laying-Up Lunch at Filby Bridge Restaurant					
8th	Solent	Lunch BBQ at Jonathan and Ann Appleby's at Botley Mill Access by dingy or road. Tel JA 01489 787605					
15th	Broads	Rally Ranworth Broad					
22nd	Medway	Up River Trip to Command Hse. Meet at MYC jetty 10.30 am					
27th	East of Scotland	Laying Up Supper, Hawes Inn, South Queensferry					
28th	Solent	Laying-Up Supper, Royal Southampton YC, Gins Farm, Beaulieu. Sid White 023 8084 9493					
T.B.A	Sussex	Laying Up Supper and AGM, Hayling Island SC					
NOVEN	NOVEMBER						
3/5th	All Fleets	IYFR GB&I Fellowship Meeting, Holiday Inn, Maidenhead					
10th		Laying-Up Supper at The Stoke Lodge Hotel, Stoke Fleming					
	Poole	Laying Up Supper, Crown Hotel, Blandford					
24th	Solent	A.G.M. and Dinner Royal Southern Yacht Club, Hamble Frank Chalstrey 023 8040 3448					
25th	Broads	A.G.M. and Dinner at The Old Rectory, Crostwick					
25th	Clyde	AGM and Laying up Supper location to be advised					
TBA	Medway	Slide Show and Talk at lain Crawford's house.					



Eddie Redman in his yacht '*Freedom*' on the Classic Cruise approaching the distillery called Lagavulin off the south coast of Islay

# NEWS FROM THE FLEETS

## **THAMES FLEET**

2005 commenced for Thames Fleet with the Fitting-Out Lunch at Shepperton. This was well attended by our members and we were joined by the GB&I Commodore Chris Bishop. We received an invitation from the Upper Thames Motor Yacht Club to join them at Henley for the Spring Bank Holiday Weekend and some of our members attended and enjoyed the festivities, but the weather was not great.

The annual summer cruise was a great success and was attended by fourteen boats of various sizes, including the Commodore GB&I, accompanied by his wife Jane, in his 21 foot sailing boat. They both enjoyed the cruise. It was well organised and included a plastic duck race which was very competitive but great fun. There was a theatre outing and a progressive supper, all greatly enjoyed. The cruise ended with a meal at the Bell & Dragon on the banks of the River Kennet. We also celebrated, in advance, the Golden Wedding of Tony and Barbara Slegg with a bit of a party in a gazebo on the banks of the Thames at Byron's mooring, he being a good friend of the club.

We invited the Sussex Fleet to join us for the last weekend in July. Five couples, including their Commodore Jeni, came and were hosted by some of our members. We entertained them to a lunch on the river bank at Childe Beal on Saturday and then in the evening to a dinner. This was well attended and we were honoured by the presence of Chris Bishop who presented a Past Commodore's jewel to Reuben Skipper. On Sunday we went to the River and Rowing Museum at Henley. After a light lunch the Sussex Fleet members returned to their homes having invited us to visit them in 2006.

We held our Laying-Up Lunch at the Sonning Golf Club, a well attended event. This occasion signifies to many of us the end of another summer boating season, however, there is always the next year's events to plan for. The last meeting was 20th November at York Gate when we held our A.G.M. and installed the new Commodore Rodney Davis after suitably thanking Mike Pooley for a wonderful year.

Les Wilkinson Hon. Secretary

AGM and Diamond Anniversary: 16th/18th March, 2007

The Mollington Banestre Hotel on the outskirts of Chester has been booked. Unfortunately, the R.I.B.I. President is unable to attend and the World Commodore cannot give a firm decision at present. The Saturday evening dinner will be a 'Black Tie' event

## **HUMBER FLEET**

The Humber Fleet was due to have its Laying-Up Supper/AGM on 27th November 2005. As Commodore/Secretary I had a very welcome offer from John & Pat May to have a Sunday lunch followed by the AGM at their delightful home at Brough overlooking the Humber. Everything was coming up roses, I could even smell the roast in the oven as I sent notification of the meeting to the Humber Fleet. We expected a 75% turnout for Pat's feast.

But things took a turn that Skipper John did not calculate in his passage planning! Pat, his head galley hand, took a dive the afternoon before the event and I'm afraid I have to report that she required hospital treatment which involved plaster from head to toe. Skipper John considered the action to be taken and like any good skipper 'pulled the plug'. At the time of writing the AGM has yet to take place. I understand that Pat is making a good recovery and that Skipper John is coping very well, but under instruction.

If I had been able to make my report to the AGM I would have said how much I have enjoyed the year as Commodore of the Humber Fleet. I have been able to cover four hundred and fifty sea miles in the Wash on '*Pride*' my 1920s Morecombe Bay Prawner I have also found where I can add a further tack line called a 'timminoggy' (This was to be a question at the AGM) It can be found near the throat halliard blocks when under sail.

On the Humber Fleet's 2005 agenda was the Wells Regatta. '*Pride*' arrived at midnight at the fairway of Wells and was escorted by the local fishing fleet into harbour for the Wells Regatta which was well worth attending. '*Pride*' was much admired.

Sailing in the Wash in 2005 was very enjoyable with many IYFR members sailing into Wainfleet Haven to meet at the S.Y.C annual BBQ. Some stayed over and Glenis, my Best Second Mate, fed and watered them before sending them home across the Humber.

Les Dickinson Commodore



5.37 a.m. 'Pride' at rest

Editors' note: There is an article from John May on page 21. This trip took place some years ago; however we learn from Pat that he is now sailing on a 70' KS from Malta to Brindisi—there may well be another report in a future edition.

## **BROADS FLEET**

The Broads Fleet has not had any especially memorable events this year—or maybe all of them have been. We have been able to welcome several new members and we now total forty four in the Fleet, including four Associate Member widows and one Honorary Member (a retired Chief River Inspector!).

Several extra Rallies have been put in the programme and we have met on no less than twenty-five days—could this be a Fellowship record? Lots of fun and fellowship has been had and we have been delighted, that despite his other more senior duties, Bryan and Chris Skinner have been with us on many occasions.

In June this year most of the Fleet journeyed from the Northern Rivers and Broads to the Southern Rivers, enjoying a cruise up the Chet to Chedgrave in inclement weather. We had a rain soaked barbecue on the Saturday evening to be joined by others who had "sailed the tarmac way" in their cars for dinner Sunday night. All in all we had fun and thoroughly enjoyed each others' company. On Monday the Fleet continued up the Yare in better weather to round off the Southern Rivers cruise before returning northward in small posses crossing Breydon Water west of Great Yarmouth and up the Bure without incident.

For many a year we have enjoyed the Annual Barbecue at the home of Commodore Peter Barfield and his wife Judy, this year in good weather was no exception. On this occasion we were joined by the National Commodore Christopher Bishop and his wife Jane; unfortunately it is likely to prove to be our last at this stunning location on the edge of South Walsham Broad, as they are planning to move house. To mark the Fleet's thanks to our hosts Peter was presented with a "Commodore's Chair" whilst on the next day after the team finished clearing up at lunch Judy was consoled with some boxes of chocolates.

One of our members Brian Ollington, also a member of the Suffolk Fleet, attended the Royal Naval Review by invitation in his own cruiser and took many photographs following his life's passion. Members may well have or should read his article in "Rotafloat".

A strong number of members continue to support the National Annual and Executive Meetings around the Country and we have recently been to Renfrew for another enjoyable weekend along with old friends in fellowship.

After several more rallies in the autumn, next it was the November AGM. The usual agenda followed the election of officers; we were however pleased to elect Arthur Hindley & Betty Woodcock as Honorary Members. Whilst the programme for 2006 follows a familiar pattern there are three winter get-togethers before the next year's sailing season is back with us. After dinner Christopher Dicker, the organising chairman of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Regatta of the International Dragon Association, gave details of the class and this event at Saint-Tropez. This included

280 starters from their fleets all over the world in the main race of the week, a world record for a one-design class. He then showed a DVD of the week's event with some stunning photographic scenes of the fleets sailing, some days in rough weather.

At the first weekend in December the newly elected Commodore George Blake & his wife Mary gave a couple of parties at their home. On St. Patrick's Day there was a dual event with a visit to the local award nominated "Time & Tide" Museum followed by a gournet dinner served by the students in the training restaurant of the Great Yarmouth College.

The barbecue in August is to be held at our Commodore's home to which we have invited Jenie Pressdee, the newly installed GB&I Commodore, and husband John. This will also give them an opportunity to join our members and explore some of the rivers & broads.

At the time of completing this report we are looking forward to the first cruise in April up the river Bure to Coltishall visiting the hostelry of the "Rising Sun", followed next day by a rally on Wroxham Broad. Although the winter may have been rather dry, may it not rain!

Tony Rushton Hon. Secretary

## **FELLOWSHIP WEEKENDS**

It is becoming increasingly necessary to book venues for Fellowship Week-ends well in advance as the more popular hotels tend to get very booked up with weddings and other similar functions. I am therefore always on the look-out for suitable new venues in various parts of the country so any suggestions would be welcome.

For our week-ends, any venue needs to satisfy certain basic criteria - a minimum of 40 en suite bedrooms of which at least 15 need to be twin bedded rooms and ideally about 6 single rooms, a room for our meeting on the Saturday seating about 60 people theatre style and a room for about 70 people for our private dinner on the Saturday evening and plenty of car parking.

The present policy is to find somewhere that will cost between £120 to £150 per person for the two nights for Dinner, Bed and Breakfast. I am finding that the further north we go, the more you get for your money!

# So please let me have your ideas!

Rodney Davis Hon. Secretary, IYFR - GB&I

# FALMOUTH TO GIBRALTAR EXPRESS LOG KEPT BY JOHN MAY, HUMBER FLEET AS A MEMBER OF THE HUMBER YAWL CLUB

**August 31st** 22.50 slipped moorings at Falmouth after travelling by train from Hull with Jack Caldwell. The yacht is a Tandem 30 owned and built by Mo and Barbara Codd. It has a very new design keel, two keels joined by a flat fin at the bottom. The hull was built by Tony Farrow, Mo assisted from the beginning to the end. The hull is three layers of timber held together by epoxy resin and 1,000s of small tacks, no screws. It is designed as a safe fast cruiser not to beat the I.O.R. rules, the water line is virtually the length of the boat, an easily driven hull, I have never seen a boat with so little wake, even at high speeds there is no quarter wave wasting time.

The mainsail is battened from leach to luff making a very tidy reef which is done from the cockpit by lowering halyard and taking in leach and luff line then tightening halyard. Lazy jacks (lines both sides of boom to crosstrees) contain the sail on the boom as the sail is lowered.

Course 185°M to clear Manacles, then 215°M to clear Cape Finnisterre, our next way point on the SAT NAV 485 miles hence (thinks that should last us a day or three). Wind S F3 increasing to SE F6, fine reach into a very rough sea which finally made us all ill making a mess of our watch system. We had a day and a night of this before it improved on Sunday. We had taken two reefs in the main and three in the genoa and were still hard pressed. Nobody ate anything during this period except a few cream crackers or Weetabix, that was all that would stay down. (Thinks, what am I doing here?). Run engine for one hour to keep batteries charged, speed so far 6 knots.

**Sunday** we run out of wind, can you believe it, had to put engine on, wind S F1 course 215°M.

0300 **Monday** light breeze from NW reduced revs, very little shipping, seen a few fishing boats and cargo vessels. Everybody is feeling much better, we all have showers and a change of clothes, we have slept in everything except oilies until now. Running the engine heats the water.

0930 Spinnaker up, engine off. Wind NW F2. We have been sixteen hours under engine, now the wind is behind us we are enjoying ourselves. Now that things are quieter the autohelm can handle the steering and we only need one person on deck during the night so we work three hour watches, one watch each, this is much less wearing, wind NNW F3 increasing 4. Lovely sunny day, speed six knots, goose-winged, genoa boomed out, able to eat and cook properly. Wind increased in night, had to double reef both sails.

**Tuesday** more wind F6 NNE, big swell feeling the effect of the Atlantic. Decided to run on genoa alone as this will make the boat easier to steer. We have a quartering sea which pushes the stern round on every wave making steering very hard work. We decide to work one hour watches. While reefing the main the lazy jacks caught behind one of the battens stopping the main coming down so that was a knife job. The remains of the lazy jacks are wrapped round the mast so we will not able to hoist the mainsail again until somebody goes up the mast to unravel the lines. There is also another job up there, the Radar reflector halyard broke causing this gadget to drop on the deck. Nobody is going up the mast in this weather. We are doing 7 knots with reefed genoa alone, up to 12 knots in surges, very exhilarating. If you look at the waves behind it looks like a wall of water. Fortunately we have not been pooped yet although occasionally a wave breaks under us or in front. (Blast! I spoke too soon, some of this one went into the cabin).

A Trintella 57 has just passed us with everything up, full main genoa and staysail, this is only the second yacht we have seen, the other going the other way, poor fellow. I would not like to have to beat into this.) The Trintella passed with fifty yards of us, too near for comfort as we are not terribly well in control. The skipper waves to us then goes below to speak to us on the radio. It appears he is single handed going to Minorca to meet the owner. The boat has a very strong auto helm with its own generator, he asks if we had had the local weather forecast or if we want to know our position, very helpful and laid back. His boat was gyrating about but we suppose he knows what he was doing. We are running down the coast of Portugal now but we are too far out to see any land, we have covered 520 miles in four days, nearly half way now.

The wind has eased a bit now so we can work two hour watches. Nobody has been able to sleep as you cannot keep still in the bunk and are bracing yourself all the time.

**Wednesday** the wind eases enabling us to put the mainsail up after breakfast, (first things first) corn flakes, poached egg, toast and coffee. The repairs have also to be done before hoisting mainsail. A beautiful day, everyone has an all over wash and change of clothes, when it is rough you have to sleep in whatever you are wearing. It is a shirt and shorts day today, altogether a most enjoyable relaxing day. A very tired pigeon called for a lift and sat in the cockpit for a while then was alarmed when we tried to feed it, so flew off and returned later to sit on the coach roof.

The wind blew up at night and we decided to take pole off genoa and drop mainsail altogether (we were doing 9 knots). This exercise made life more comfortable again and we are still doing 5-6 knots. While this was all happening the pigeon flew off but soon dropped into the sea exhausted. Mo's cap was also a casualty during this manoeuvre. Back to three hour watches. 2052 hours Berlenga Islands abeam, first landmark five days from Falmouth. The SAT NAV has done a good job although we do get some unreliable fixes at times, so it tells us. Then you have to wait until the satellite comes over again. We celebrated this landfall in RIBENA as there is no alcohol aboard except one bottle of champagne for arrival Gibraltar. With hind-sight we should have shortened sail before dark as it is impossible to change course with a preventer on the main and the genoa boomed out and only one person on deck (this was a personal experience). If a change of course has to take place it is for a ship. I do not worry about the ships behind, they seem to steer round us, but the ones coming towards us are a different matter.

**Thursday** sailing comfortably in Atlantic swell, wind N, course S, what else 5-6 knots genoa alone. 0600 Portuguese man o' war, Jack has to gybe to avoid, he gets all the fun. We dip ensign, rating runs along deck to reciprocate. I hardly see a ship on my watches. Pass Lisbon light, slight alteration of course to next waypoint. Water very deep 1500 metres. Everyone enjoying trip cuisine, exceptionally good salad and pate for lunch followed by fruit salad (partly fresh) and cream, more Ribena for happy hour and it works. My battery razor has packed up, I hope Jack can fix it, he is an electrician, I have quite a stubble. Eighty miles to Cape S. Vincent, not far now. Ha! The razor works, apparently Vaseline helped.

**Friday** 0127 St. Vincent light abeam we have been running on engine a while but a new wind has sprung up from NE, sails up, engine off. 0340 wind easing, it is very nice to see some land again, first since Falmouth and we are quite close in here with quite a lot of shipping around as you would expect at the Cape. 0400 no wind, engine on. Beautiful day today, sea calm, everybody abluted, (living in a house you would not believe how pleasant it is to do this). Lunch time wind increases, engine off, doing six knots. Reading in the sun, warmest weather yet. Next waypoint Gibraltar Strait, a naval boat came to look at us. Our skipper has been warning us about this stretch, if the wind is E strong, it is too difficult to sail through the straits, he had to wait ten days in Cadiz last time he came.

**Saturday** 0300 wind eased, engine on. 0500 Cape Trafalgar abeam, motoring through straits having breakfast, hot bread rolls, very good, lots of shipping around, a large yacht motored past us and crew waved, we are really looking forward to going ashore now. 1120 moored at Customs Quay, **Gibraltar seven days twelve and half hours from Falmouth**, 1,081 miles, average speed 5.98 knots. Took berth in marina and open bottle of wine (pause) our skipper and his wife always have bacon and egg on making a port so we have to keep the tradition.

An exceptionally good trip, everybody relaxed and in good shape, not much chance to buy presents as Jack and I fly to Manchester on **Sunday** at 0200 hours. We had allowed two weeks! Heres to sailing!

John May Humber Fleet

#### A DOWN UNDER SAILING EXPERIENCE WITH THE IYFR

Whilst staying with my daughter in Brisbane late last year I was fortunate enough to be invited to join Max Cribb, who was then the International Rear Commodore (2003-2005), and his crew for a day's sailing. His lovely wooden 40-foot yacht the '*Delphin*' was moored at a jetty in Manley Harbour next to the Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron. This harbour/marina, until very recently, had the biggest

number of moored yachts anywhere in the world but has since been overtaken by Auckland. The '*Delphin*' is 31 years old and is a Sailar 40-class yacht. She was lovingly kept and in beautiful condition. Part of the on board equipment was the largest icebox I have seen filled to the brim with 'stubbies' and wine! The Captain, it is fair to say, kept to the low alcohol Lager as the coastal waters in and around Moreton Bay are tricky to navigate. Large sandbanks and halfsubmerged shipwrecks are the hazards.

Moreton Island is the old penal colony for our less fortunate expats. They ended up on a very beautiful island with the largest sand dunes in the world, over 1000 metres, although not all of this is above sea level. It is now a conservation island and adventure



playground for young and old alike with sand boarding, snorkelling and dolphin watching as the favourite activities. The local delicacy is Moreton Bay Bugs,



which are a crab like crustacean, resembling lobster, and simply delicious to eat.

To my delight I was not the only visitor invited to sail the 'Delphin' that Wednesday. Three youngsters on a Rotary Youth exchange programme joined us. Brisbane's five Rotary Clubs had hosted twentytwo young people from all over the world that year. The students on the boat were all wonderful ambassadors for their country. Their time in Australia was nearing an end so the

Max and the youngsters day s saming was a treat for mem, which they much appreciated. In return we were treated to three extremely long National Anthems individually sung with great enthusiasm. Sibu was from Johannesburg and returning home to study Political Science. She said that her study leave in Australia had opened her eyes to the freedoms we all take so much for granted. The live wire was tiny Nosipho who most resembled a character from the musical 'Fame' and indeed she was going on to do media studies. Ligia from Sao Paulo had great interpersonal skills and her aim was to be president of Brazil one day! She was tired of the violence springing from corruption; she couldn't go out at night back home. All three girls were impressed with the standard of health, the safety and relative lack of poverty in Brisbane. They all loved Australia and wanted to return when they were qualified.

Before we left harbour we all had to daub ourselves with factor 30-sun screen and a hat was de rigeur. Max himself had over thirty skin cancers removed, the latest being half an eyebrow, so he was known on board as 'Captain Haaaf'. It is a major problem in Australia and there are skin cancer clinics everywhere, along with roadside warnings to stay out of the sun or cover up.

The wind was a brisk northerly. This is of course the Southern Hemisphere so northerly means warm air coming down from the tropics. After setting the sail on a broad reach we spent the time looking for the wildlife, which was there in abundance, dolphins, green backed turtles, Portuguese men of war, and the weird sea cow, the dugong. It is a relative of the manatees of Florida. We sailed to Peel Island, a leper colony previously, where we moored for a swim and lunch. I was a bit nervous of meeting a shark (with justification as four bull sharks took the life of a young girl just after Christmas) but I took a chance. It was so hot about 35 degrees with a high humidity and I just couldn't get cool. No sharks, just teaming

with fish. All was well. On returning to deck I was asked if I would like a shower to wash the salt off? Agreeing to this I was instantly rewarded with a large bucket of water being thrown over me!

The wind was fair the views stunning and the lunch delicious. A big thank you to Max and his crew who were very jolly, hospitable sailors. They gave their four guests a most marvellous day out experiencing the true fellowship of Rotary International through our shared passion of yachting.

Suzanne Gill Broads Fleet



Suzanne's cold shower

#### WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

We welcome all new members to our Fellowship and look forward to meeting you either on the water, or especially, at our regular Fellowship weekends. The next one will be: 3rd-5th November 2006

## The Holiday Inn, MAIDENHEAD

## Hon. Sec. Rodney Davis will be contacting you later

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