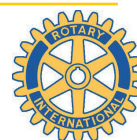




# ROTAFLEET NEWS



The International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians is a group of Rotarians dedicated to promoting yachting as an opportunity for fellowship and service. This Fellowship operates in accordance with Rotary International policy, but is not an agency of, or controlled by Rotary International.

## Autumn 2008

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## Birmingham and Firth of Clyde Set to Welcome IYFR Boaters

There are 35 miles (60 km) of canals within the Birmingham city boundaries, of which most are navigable to explore at your leisure. Although Birmingham covers a far greater area than Venice a commonly quoted (and true) fact is that Birmingham has more canals than Venice

Extensive regeneration of the city's canals has taken place over recent years from dredging the waterways to enable the busy stream of narrowboats to the massive investment and construction of high quality city living accommodation. Standing in Centenary Square you are almost on an island. There are canals within about a mile in all directions and there are also many new wine bars and eateries that thrive along the central canal network.

So, in spite of being almost 50 miles from the sea IYFR visitors to the Rotary International Convention in June 2009 will never be very far from the water.

Even closer to the water will be those hardy souls who embark on 4 days cruising after the Convention in the splendid sailing waters of the Firth of Clyde in West Scotland. (see box alongside) The scenery in the area the Post Convention Cruise (PCC) will cover, known locally as the Kyles of Bute, can only be described as "breathtaking"

In 2009, Scotland will be celebrating the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its national poet and Inverkip, the marina where the cruise starts from is in Ayrshire, known all over the world as Burns Country.



## Post Convention Cruise June 2009 Scotland

The Post Convention Cruise will be held on the west coast of Scotland from 25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> June 2009. Accommodation for the duration of the cruise will be aboard yachts. Continental luggage will be stored in secure storage at Greenock throughout. Such that only clothing required for the cruise will be taken aboard the boats.

The cruise begins at Kip Marina on the River Clyde, about 30 miles west of Glasgow. Transport from Birmingham, will be available for those requiring it, at extra cost. On arrival at Kip, you will be introduced to your hosts and taken aboard the boat on which you will spend the four days. There will be an evening meal at the Chartroom Restaurant in the Marina, during which you will get to know your hosts.

Friday we will sail via the Kyles of Bute to Loch Fyne, en route at lunchtime boats will raft up for some good Rotary Fellowship. It is hoped the evening meal will take the form of BBQ. Saturday will involve transport by coach and ferry to visit a distillery and sample some of the produce. You will be moored in the village of Tarbert, East Loch Fyne and will travel about two miles by coach for your evening meal.

On Sunday you will sail back around the bottom of the Isle of Bute to Largs Marina, on the River Clyde, where you will have a drink at the Largs Sailing club before going to your meal at an old Country House, which has been converted into a sports training centre, the National Centre for Sports Scotland. It is hoped that the evening meals will give you a taste of Scotland and along with the three days sailing, weather and midges willing, you should leave with a short insight into the beauty of the Scottish hills and lochs.

On Monday morning you will be reunited with your luggage for onward journey to your next destination.

## FLEETS IN THE NEWS

### Thames Fleet Summer Cruise

In 2007 the boating aspect of the annual cruise was curtailed by the great summer flood, and this year it came close to being cancelled due to the Spring flood!

In the week before departure, red or yellow boards warning of a strong flow were in evidence on the Thames. The Commodore (and resident meteorologist) was 'cautiously optimistic' about the following week, so it was decided to proceed. Even so, the start of the week for a barbecue at the RAF Watersports Centre was reached by road, but we rallied with our boats the next day at Cookham. This year we were few in number with only 4 boats participating.

The Commodore's party arrived late on Saturday, having had to pick up a hire boat at Windsor. (Lady Natalia). It should have been a straightforward process but the kit and stores for four people were initially loaded on to the wrong boat!

On Sunday we went down river and moored for the night near Egham. Space was at a premium but fortunately Neil (Zoetermeer) was already moored there and helped us squeeze in. He joined us for a long happy hour followed by barbecued steaks. We carried on downstream to Shepperton Marina on Monday where Nigel (Lizbie B) had arranged overnight moorings. The attractions here were hot showers and reduced prices on a meal at the nearby Holiday Inn.

We turned to starboard out of the marina on Tuesday and motored upstream for a repeat visit to an overnight mooring at Egham. Colin (Bonhomie) joined us for afternoon tea and he supplied champagne – followed by an extended happy hour.

A short journey was made to Windsor on Wednesday. An early meal at Browns followed by a visit to the theatre to see "Happy Jack" – allegedly a comedy. This was not to everyone's taste but thought-provoking nonetheless.

The final day saw us return to Cookham – moored outside the

old people's home! Happy hour was prepared and presented by the Commodore and past Commodore John. We enjoyed our evening meal at the Kings Arms in Cookham, and the next day the boats dispersed for home moorings.

The cruise was voted a great success with thanks to Vice Commodore Brian and his lady Vanessa. The weather was good with very little rain and some warm sunshine, and the laughter, fun and fellowship exceeded expectations. The participants agreed that Cruise 2008 broke a number of records. It was the first time that:

- the Commodore led the fleet in a hire boat
- the whole fleet fitted into a lock
- there were no games or quizzes (probably because GB & I Secy. was not present!)
- the cruise was confined to a very short stretch of the river.
- mooring marshals were not appointed

#### Alan Dawe, Commodore

Commodores raise the flag at Egham



### East Coast Fleet

It's always such a delight to meet up with our Dutch IYFR friends and this year was no exception. Two motorboats and two yachts braved the crossing, despite rough weather, and were joined by various other boats in Holland. Some parts of the visit were sad – we helped Anne Hemmingway scatter Mike's ashes on an island they had loved – other parts were quite hilarious, like eating far too many starters at their Club Handover Night (because we didn't know there were two more courses to follow).

Despite the weather, we all had an enjoyable and memorable holiday.

Chris Nelson, East Coast Fleet

From l. to r. : Rosemary Sudlow, P. Commodore Peter Carter, Eileen Carter, Commodore Robin Sudlow, Margaret Mellard, Bill Nelson and John Mellard



## Clyde Fleet

We held a treasure hunt on the weekend of 16/17<sup>th</sup> August. The forecast for the weekend was particularly bad – anything up to force 8 with rain or squally showers – so it was perhaps not surprising that there was limited interest on Saturday morning. Indeed it was postponed on the basis of the forecast but by 10.30 it was clear that reality was nothing like as bad. There were five boats present including Bloo Hoolit and it was decided to “go for it”. Jonathan Ayre provided an excellent set of clues and the rest of us had a pleasant trip down to Largs with light winds (sailing was eventually abandoned by all in favour of engines due to lack of wind!). However, on arrival in the Largs channel, it looked like it still might blow up so the fleet turned for home on completion of the clues. A further good sail was enjoyed on Sunday in HOT SUNSHINE (your correspondent even got burned) and force 2 – 3 wind!

On Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September we held our “Barrhead Cruise” ending in Rothesay. We enjoyed another dry weekend with fresh winds resulting in almost perfect sailing conditions. Three boats were involved Roy D'Silva in Canna of Clyde won the event which was followed by an excellent dinner in the newly refurbished Victoria Hotel in Rothesay.

**Peter Ayre**

## Suffolk Fleet

On the 20<sup>th</sup> Sept the Suffolk fleet held a safari supper in Shotley Marina in The River Stour. Eight boats were rafted up included a boat from the East Coast fleet with IYFR members from River Crouch and West Mersea. The E C commodore and his lady also came by car as did Annette and Brian Lewis from the Fenland Fleet. 8 boats and 25 people enjoyed strawberry punch on board Nejmah also Pimms supplied by Sunaviva. This was followed by various dishes on several of the fleet's boats. We then moved to different boats for deserts and again on to Lollipop for cheese and port. A substantial dinner was thus enjoyed by all, with very enjoyable and warm fellowship. Next morning our visitors from the east coast left after breakfast to take the tide home. Our Commodore Tony Burrows thanked them all for their support and expressed the hope that more of these events can be enjoyed.

One of our previous reports told of a gift of a damaged Firefly dinghy, a 12 foot boat designed by Uffa Fox. This type was the single handed boat of the 1948 Olympics held in Britain. The dinghy had been restored by a very old shipwright, who subsequently took our commodore for a sail and capsized it. We decided that a combined age of 141 years and 26 stone wouldn't let us win any medals! We received – surprisingly - not a lot of interest from the rest of the Fleet to sail this lovely little boat. We have therefore decided to pass it on to the Harwich Sea Scouts. This will happen on the 4<sup>th</sup> October and we hope to have a small ceremony with local press coverage.

Our laying up supper will be held in the Cliff Hotel in Dovercourt on the 15<sup>th</sup> November. We would be pleased to welcome visitors.

**John Negus Suffolk Fleet Sec.**

## FLEET OFFICERS 2008 – 09

Broads	Commodore Secretary	Judy Tony	BARFIELD RUSHTON
Clyde	Commodore Secretary	Peter Bill	EYRE KENNEDY
East Coast	Commodore Secretary	Robin A. John	SUDLOW MELLARD
East of Scotland	Commodore Secretary	Philip Duncan	HIGGINSON MEEK
Fenland	Commodore Secretary	Jill Philip C.	SALLIS BELL
Great Britain	Commodore Secretary	Michael Rodney	POOLEY DAVIS
Humber	Commodore/Secretary	Les	DICKINSON
Medway	Commodore Secretary	Derek Joan	LAVERICK VAUGHAN
Poole	Commodore Secretary	Mike Brian	EDWARDS RICHARDSON
Solent	Commodore Secretary	Colin David	BROOKES ROBERTSON
Suffolk	Commodore Secretary	Tony John	BURROWS NEGUS
Sussex	Commodore Secretary	Nick Harriet	Mason COLEMAN
Thames	Commodore Secretary	Alan Leslie	DAWE WILKINSON

## Humber Club Anniversary

It is not everyday that a sailing club celebrates its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary but John & Pat May, members of the Humber Fleet, took part in the celebration of their sailing club, the Humber Yawl Club, 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. They asked Christopher & Jane Bishop, past National Commodore, to join them.

The event started with a briefing at 8.00.a.m. There was going to be a sail past the Humber Sloop 'Phyllis', which was built in 1906 and is on the Historic Ships' Register. The yachts assembled in a holding area until 'Phyllis' was able to get into her position as she had to come out of the lock which was tide dependent. Soon she came into view and the sail past started. On 'Phyllis' were the Lord Mayor of Hull and Admiral of the Humber, Cllr Elaine Garland together with the Humber Harbour Master, Captain Philip Cowing. They were joined by all the Past Club Captains able to be present with John May being the senior one as he was Captain in 1978-1980. They were also joined by the present Captain, Mrs Philomena Smith.

The Fleet was led by Leona, John and Pat May's boat, which is an Albert Strange yawl built in 1906 and carefully restored by John. Having led the sixty plus boats Leona then went to the back and brought up the rear of the Fleet, adding a new meaning to the phrase, 'the First and Last'. This was followed by a champagne reception and lunch in the clubhouse and in the evening a ball was held to round off the celebrations.



## Message from Commodore Mike Pooley

I am delighted with the honour of being your GB & I Commodore for the next 2 years.

The Handover went very well with 87 people sitting down at the Leander club in late July.

As I said at the Handover, getting new members is very important if we are to survive as the largest (and best) Rotary Fellowship. New fleets are being formed in Europe, but in the UK, our fellowship is one of the best kept secrets. We have a very good information leaflet, if you require some copies to 'Spread the word', let me know.

We are a fellowship and enjoy meeting with other likeminded people so, if you haven't already, invite another fleet for the day or weekend. Here at Thames fleet, we have invited the Gulf of St. Tropez fleet next year. See page 8 for a report of a very successful fleet visit.

Being a Rotary Fellowship, what about doing something for others not so fortunate?

Take some kids out or old folk or raise some money for a charity? See the article below on the Rivertime Trust.

We did raise £350 for the speaker's favourite charity, the RNLI, at the Handover.

One of my most enjoyable jobs as your Commodore is to visit all the fleets, so I look forward to invites to Jackie I to one of your functions. We shall certainly come.

If you are planning to attend RI Convention at Birmingham next year, do not forget to visit our IYFR stand in the House of Friendship. Have a great fellowship year.

Best regards

Michael

## Rivertime Dream Becomes A Reality

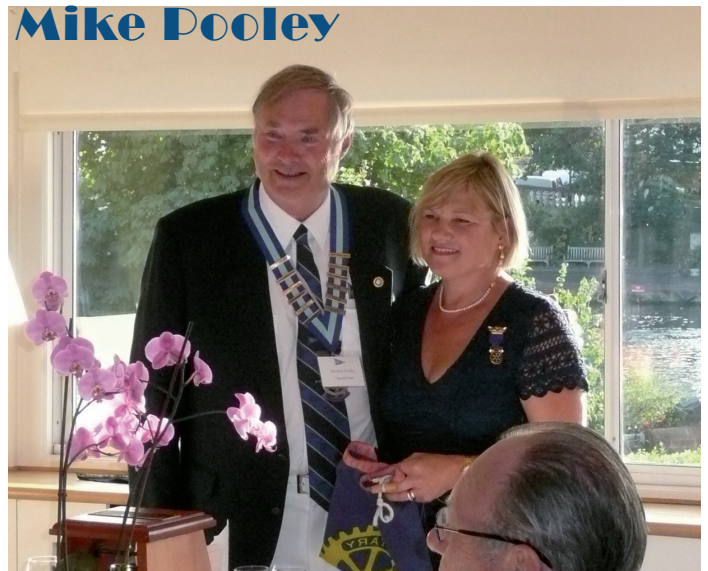
Little more than a year ago "Rivertime" was just the dream of Pat & Simon Davis, founders of the Rivertime Boat Trust, who live at Bray and who sold their own boating business almost two years ago. That dream became a reality when "Rivertime" was launched on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June (!!) at Wargrave following a road journey from the Norfolk yard of Alpha Craft.

Misbourne Matins adopted the Rivertime Boat Trust as one of its projects in the Spring of 2007 following a presentation by Simon at one of the club's meetings. Since that time, in addition to supporting the fundraising effort, Misbourne Matins have been helping to promote the Trust throughout D1090 and Simon has already made presentations to over 20 clubs. He also gave a presentation to the Community and Vocational Service session at this year's District 1090 Assembly. Many clubs have already pledged their support and the bookings are starting to roll in.

"Rivertime" is a new 42ft Broads cruiser which has been equipped with a ramp, wheelchair lift and disabled toilet facilities. It is able to take a maximum of 12 passengers, including carers, who are accommodated in a spacious open plan main cabin which has two large sliding roof sections. Experience so far shows that up to 4 wheelchairs can be accommodated very comfortably, leaving plenty of room for the other members of the group. "Rivertime" operates from the River and Rowing Museum at Henley although there are plans to operate occasionally from other points between Windsor and Oxford.

A Rotary "launch event" is planned for the evening of 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2008 on the waterfront at Windsor, organised by the Windsor St George club and attended by DG Malcolm Boddington.

"Rivertime" is available for half day trips at a cost of £120 or full day trips for £200 representing excellent value for groups of up to 12 people. Bookings can be made through the River and Rowing Museum at Henley on 01491 415605 or via [bookings@rrm.co.uk](mailto:bookings@rrm.co.uk)



## Summer Fun on the Kennet & Avon Canal

Keilah is a 25 year old graduate of the University of North Texas currently studying for a Post graduate Diploma in Social Work and Public Health at Oxford Brookes University. She was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Garland, Texas and passed the rigorous selection process with flying colours to become a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar.

Keilah was one of a number of ambassadorial scholars who helped out for a day on one of the four week series of barge trips on the Kennet and Avon canal organized by The Rotary Club of Abingdon Vesper for local groups of disabled or disadvantaged people. This has been an annual event since 1995 and, in that time, has given many hundreds of people, aged from 3 to 90+, the opportunity to have a wonderful day out on a canal barge – something that otherwise would be impossible for the majority.

The Hannah, pictured above, is one of a number of specially-designed boats built to accommodate people with physical disabilities, and is hired from The Bruce Trust, a charity based in Hungerford. The Hannah has a lift, shower, specially adapted toilets, cooking facilities and a large lounge. It has also been fitted with a remote steering device, funded by the Rotary Club, which enables someone with less upper body mobility to steer the barge from their wheelchair, using a sensitive joystick. Passengers who are more mobile are encouraged to help with the locks which they do with great enthusiasm. It is this involvement which makes the trip such an enjoyable and confidence-building experience for the passengers.

Keilah really enjoyed the experience too and says "As someone here to experience the British way of life, it was a double pleasure. I was able to see the world around me and also individuals with special needs with a different eye.



Texan student, Keilah Jacques, helping at a lock near Newbury.



## Red Diesel: Keeping It Simple

It has been an epic saga, but eighteen months after the EU decreed that recreational boaters in the UK were no longer entitled to buy red diesel for propelling private pleasure craft at a reduced rate of duty, Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) has revealed how the new system will work.

The loss of the derogation\* was formally announced in March, and will be fully introduced this November. The outstanding issue was that, whilst boaters will continue to be able to use red diesel, they will have to pay full duty on diesel for propulsion but are entitled to pay the reduced duty rate on diesel for domestic purposes, such as heating.

At current rates of duty, fuel for propulsion will be charged duty at around 50 pence per litre, whilst the remainder will stay at the nine pence per litre rebated rate. "The question is, how you can establish how much you have used for propulsion and how much for domestic use? Many recreational boats use diesel for non-propulsion purposes, such as heating, lighting, electricity generation, refrigeration, air-conditioning or providing domestic hot water.

"The proportion of fuel used for non-propulsion purposes will vary from boat to boat and also depends on the usage the owner makes of their boat. If a boat only has one fuel tank then it can be difficult for the boater to provide any more than a rough estimate of the amount of fuel used solely for propulsion."

### HMRC Guidelines

With this in mind, HMRC has delivered a statement aimed at providing some guidance on this issue, which reads thus: "It is for the purchaser to declare the percentage of fuel used for propulsion. However, analysis by both the industry and HMRC suggests that a split of 60% for propulsion and 40% for domestic use (heating, cooking etc) probably reflects most people's use and it is therefore likely that many users will declare such an apportionment." HMRC has also said that, while the new regime beds in, its emphasis will be to help and advise suppliers and users to get things right.

### Common Sense

"However the success of the system will depend on boaters also applying common sense and the regime may change if HMRC finds that the system is being abused." Howard Pridding, Executive Director of the BMF, summed up the feelings of many boaters: "This was a change that was welcomed by no-one, not even HMRC. "This is the end of the saga and we have a pragmatic decision from HMRC, so I think the important thing is just to get out there and enjoy our boating."

\* Editor's Note. Yes, I didn't know what it meant either. According to Chambers Dictionary it is "the allowed breaking of a rule"

## Past Commodore's Report: Sailing Away

The two years have passed quickly and it has been a pleasure to have taken office and met so many fleet members all over the UK and at our Fellowship Weekends. We all have very happy memories I am sure. Wherever I have visited I have encountered excellent hospitality and fellowship and it is good that some fleets are now interacting by arranging weekends with one another and increasing the fellowship. It is great that we have the common interest in boating so that the Fellowship goes on from strength to strength.

The Handover Meeting at the Leander Club at Henley on Thames was a superb event and I was delighted to pass over the Commodore's Jewel to Michael Pooley - he is well known to everyone and will I hope get as much enjoyment and support as me. Please invite him to your meetings so that he can get to know even more of your membership. I would like to thank all Fleets for contributing to my end of term gift - it is a superb cartoon which includes John and myself, our boat "Petits Pois", Chichester Cathedral and my collection of chamber pots!! A great memory.

Having just returned from a wonderful family trip on the QE2 which happened to be a "Farewell Cruise" it all seemed very befitting to finish my two years in office on the high seas (although the Bay of Biscay was a bit lumpy - Force 9/10!!). "Petits Pois" is not quite so big but will still welcome IYFR members on board whatever the weather.

Happy sailing!

In IYFR friendship

Jenie





# From Your Own

## Sussex Fleet Not Visited!!!! Weather of Not

Alan Dawe, Commodore laments to me that members of the Thames Fleet had been invited to visit the Sussex Fleet over the weekend of 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> September 2008. Our hosts had arranged a variable programme to include a Barbecue, a Dinner and of course some sailing in the Solent area.

As early as the 2<sup>nd</sup> September, the weather forecast for the weekend was not looking favourable. By the morning of the 5<sup>th</sup> it was clear that a deep depression was set to cross Southern

England during the weekend, with heavy rain or squally showers and winds of Force 5 to 7 for much of the time. Reluctantly, Nick Mason, Commodore of the Sussex Fleet called me Friday morning to postpone our visit, with a view to re-arranging for Spring 2009.

The weather made the national news that weekend with flooding and strong winds reported across many parts of the Country. Our only consolation for the lost weekend of Rotary fellowship and fun was that the decision to postpone turned out to be the right one when the weather forecast for the weekend proved to be spot on.

## The London Boat Show (9<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2009)

IYFR in GB&I are members of the RYA and the GB&I Bridge meeting will be held in their meeting room at the Show on Wednesday, the 14<sup>th</sup> January at 2.00 p.m. Michael Pooley, the GB&I Commodore, would be pleased beforehand to meet any members attending the Show on that date at about 1.00 p.m. in the RYA Members' Lounge. If you are planning to attend on the 14<sup>th</sup> January, please advise Rodney Davis, the Hon. Secretary, and he will let you have a suitable document to confirm your IYFR membership to enable you to gain admission to the Lounge (unless of course, you are an RYA member anyway).

Sunborn Yacht Hotel offers good accommodation very close to Excel. If you are interested, try [www.sunbornhotels.com](http://www.sunbornhotels.com)

## Till we meet again

One of your editor's worst sailing experiences was a crossing of the English Channel in a Force 8 gale on the cruise ship Canberra some 20 years ago. In fact it cured me of ever wanting to cruise on a big ship again, a promise I maintained till only a few years ago.

So it was with some surprise that I found myself chatting to the Captain of the Canberra on that occasion, Capt Ian Gibb, at the Commodores Handover event at Henley in July. He remembered the night well - although he was in the bridge and I was in the bar. Needless to say, 95% of the passengers were in their cabins weathering the storm!

## Ancestral Home?

No, this is not a picture of the editor's Scottish pile. It is Stonefield Castle Hotel one of the stops on the PCC cruise next June. Described on its website thus:

Built in 1837, the Castle stands high on the famous Kintyre peninsula commanding quite spectacular panoramic views over Loch Fyne. There can be no more breathtaking sight than the mist lift off the loch to mark the dawning of a new day. In keeping with its unique situation and character, many of the original period furnishings have been retained to complement the timeless ambience that is Stonefield Castle. Guests can relax in the traditional elegance of wood panelled lounges

## International Fellowship Enjoyed

*While attending the PCC in Sweden in 2006, we gave a general invitation to anyone present to come visit us on the Chesapeake Bay in Maryland, USA. Six months later an e-mail arrived which resulted in a wonderful visit in June 2007 with Christopher and Jane Bishop from Britain. We spent five days touring the upper bay on our MV Joint Venture.*

*During our time together on the Chesapeake we gathered our family together for a BBQ, as well as a shared dinner in St. Michael's with several fleet couples.*

*We also enjoyed time together at the 2007 PCC in the Seattle area and celebrated our anniversaries with dinner in the Space Needle restaurant—we discovered we were married the same year, 1964 one week apart—June 27 and July 4, of course on different continents!*

*In May 2008 we enjoyed a delightful 2 week visit to the UK hosted by Christopher and Jane. Enjoying their careful planning, we visited Oxford and were hosted overnight by their friends, John and Pam Patrick. In our spare moments we were treated to a Royal Marine Band Concert and a "quiz night" at a nearby church—both a first for us.*

*A full week was enjoyed on a yacht hired by Christopher. What a treat—for motor boaters—as we sailed on the Norfolk Broads, visiting churches, various points of interest, including walking to the North Sea and carefully selected Pubs! Christopher, having learned to sail there at age 12, was the superbly skilled Captain. Jane, having been married "many" years to the Captain, was the consummate mate, cook, guide, and served as 'Adult Leadership' for the rest of us.*

*One highlight was a meeting with the Broads Fleet and being one of six boats rafted together for lunch on the South Walsham Broad. Fleet Commodore Judy Barfield was a wonderful hostess, and meeting the members of her fleet, a treat. Glasses were never empty and the food, including delectable oysters, shrimp, and other goodies, was exquisitely prepared.*

*Amazing what an open invitation to visit the Chesapeake Bay has led to! Truly International Fellowship at a most enjoyable level. We are looking forward to the 2009 PCC and anticipate meeting some old friends and making new ones as well!*

**Lenora and Ronald Stern. Chesapeake Bay Fleet, Maryland USA**



# Correspondent

The editor is hoping that, in subsequent editions, he will be thanking correspondents for ALL the contents of this section. Thanks to individual IYFORians who have sent him items. Copy to [ainb1090@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ainb1090@yahoo.co.uk)



with fine corniced ceilings, unwind on leisurely walks through the 60 acres of woodland grounds, or simply enjoy a leisurely pace of life far removed from the stress of city living. Situated above the picturesque fishing village of Tarbert, the castle was once the family home of the Campbells

Can't wait to meet you all there!

## Attention Narrow Boaters



What do you think of a fleet of Rotarian Narrow Boaters?

Extension Officer Bob Burns would like to get in touch with Rotarians who have narrowboats or other canal craft (There are 2 in my fleet!)

Don't know about getting them all together (it might take several weeks) but we might have a page in the Rotafleet News in the future dedicated to the canal and river fraternity.

Anyway, Bob gives me another opportunity to print a picture of the Merry Mallard where your editor is oft to be found.....

Bob can be contacted on: [Robert.Burns1@tesco.net](mailto:Robert.Burns1@tesco.net)

## LOOKING FORWARD TO: (Dates for your Diary)

### 2008 Fellowship and Executive Committee Weekend, Keswick

7th - 9th November, 2008: Lodore Falls Hotel, Keswick

### GB & I Bridge Meeting

14th January 2009: The London Boat Show (RYA Members Lounge)

### 100th Rotary International Convention, Birmingham

21st - 24th June 2009: Birmingham Convention Centre

### Post Convention Cruise, Clyde Estuary

25th - 28th June 2009: Kip Marina, Strathclyde, Scotland

### 2009 Fellowship Weekend and AGM, Woodhall Spa

13th - 15th March, 2009: Petwood Hotel, Woodhall Spa.

### 2009 Fellowship and Executive Committee Weekend, Gloucester

6th - 8th November, 2009: Hatherley Manor Hotel, Gloucester.

### 2010 Fellowship Weekend and AGM, Scarborough

19th - 21st March, 2010: Palm Court Hotel, Scarborough

## Rotafleet In The News

Henley Standard, Friday, August 1, 2008

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### Rotary Club leader elected commodore



Commodore Mike Pooley with Captain Ian Gibb.

Henley Bridge Rotarian Michael Pooley has been elected Commodore of The Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians Great Britain & Ireland for two years. The handover took place at a ceremony at Leander Club after members enjoyed a cruise on the *Waterman* paddle steamer.

Eighty-seven members from throughout the UK attended the ceremony where their newly elected commodore encouraged them to increase membership, proposing that each of the Rotary Club's 13 fleets in the UK plan a small service to help raise funds for charity or those in need. He praised the Sussex fleet for organising a day out for 70 disabled children on boats in Chichester Harbour. Mr. Pooley also plans to organise Interfleet visits including the club's European fleets.

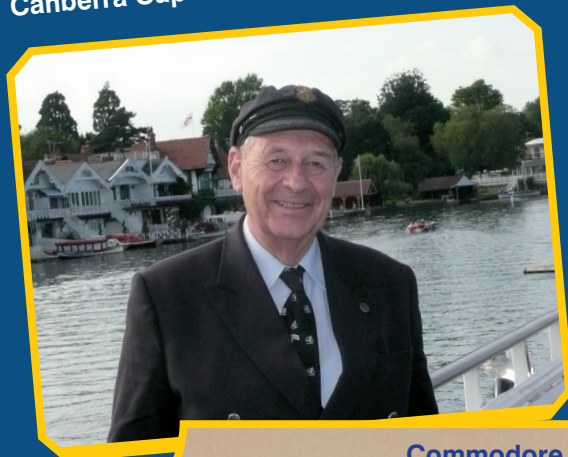
Guest speaker was Captain Ian Gibb who spoke of his years with P&O and the Princess Shipping Line, where he worked his way up from the bottom to commodore. He told members about his time as captain of the cruise liner *Canberra* and his duties as an Elder Brother of Trinity House, the General Lighthouse Authority for England.

Rotarian Ian Black rounded off the evening by amusingly recalling his first and last trips on the *Canberra*.

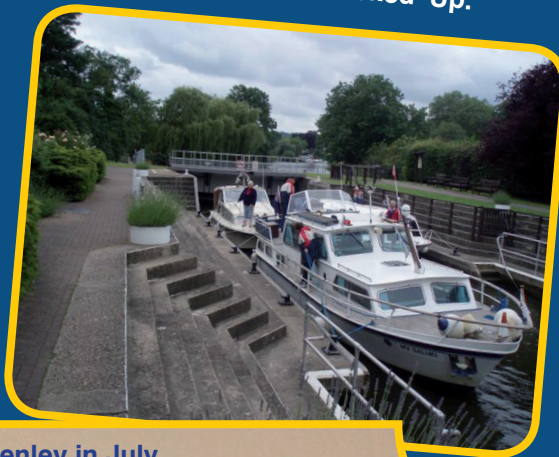


# Around The Fleets In Pictures

Canberra Captrain addresses Handover.



Thames Fleet 'Locked' Up.



Commodore change at Henley in July.



PCC 2008 on the Queen Mary.



Dutch Moorings for East Coast Fleet.