



### Another New Year for Our Association

It is the 1<sup>st</sup> February, as I write this, and the first day of our Association's 25<sup>th</sup> Year. What does this mean? Well, at a purely practical level, those of you that have not been able to set up a standing order to pay the subs' automatically, need to be sending your annual subscriptions to our Honorary Treasurer; the time has come! At a somewhat higher level, I wonder how many of the original members could have dreamt that the Association might survive 25 years. Not just to survive, but to prosper and now be bigger and more popular than at any time in its history.

When I produced the Handbook 2016 we had 140 memberships, more than ever before and requiring an extra four pages in the book. In the short time since then, the membership has climbed further to 144. These are basic memberships and do not include any of the Additional Members. Of course, each new Ordinary Member has the right to include an Additional Member in that membership. This leads nicely to welcoming some of those new members and their boats into the Association.

### New Members since the October 2015 Newsletter

Daniel Maher joined with his Frances 26, MATTY, which is based at the Rice and Coles boatyard in Burnham on Crouch, Essex.

Chris and Lisa Lott joined with their Frances 26 Cutter, LOUISE, based at Sovereign Harbour Marina, Eastbourne, East Sussex.

John and Barbara Jones joined with their Frances 26 Cutter, ERICA, based on the Helford River, Cornwall.

Peter and Marie Roberts joined with their Frances 26 Sloop, OWLER, based at Kip Marina on the Clyde.

Peter Helmetag joined with his Victoria 34, WISPER, based at Essex on the western shore of Lake Champlain in New York State, U.S.A.

Ray and Terri Cox have joined with their Golden Hind 26, KINVARA, based at Marchwood, Southampton Water.

Thomas White has joined but with no mention of a boat. He gives his address just as Kochi, Kerala. Kochi is a major port on the south-west coast of India in the state of Kerala and Thomas could well be our first member to live in India!

Bob Prichard has joined with his Frances 26 Cutter, JENTER, based at Conyer on the Swale, Kent.

David Wood and Catriona Jennings have joined with Frances 26, AMORELLE, based on the River Hamble.

### East Coast Social at Wivenhoe

The first event in 2016 is quite soon, less than three weeks away, on Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> February. You do not have to be an East Coast member to attend. All members and any of their guests are welcome.



There is limited parking on the quayside itself. Better by far to make a right turn after crossing the railway-bridge and park in the station car park; not too expensive and only a 10 minute walk.

We start at The Rose and Crown public house, which is on the quayside overlooking the River Colne. It is a good idea to be there promptly at 12 noon and get your meal ordered early to dine inside or out, subject to weather. In due course, we move a few steps along the quayside to The Nottage Maritime Institute and climb the stairs to the lecture room.

The talk will be by Joe Macgregor and concerns a 13,000 mile delivery trip he made from St. Lucia to Freemantle aboard a Hanse 495.

Tea and cakes, made by Susan Macgregor, will follow.

There will be a raffle so please bring a raffle prize, buy some tickets from our Hon. Treasurer, John Cade and win a prize yourself. It is all in a good cause.

The meeting usually closes about 4pm and should allow homeward journeys to be started in daylight, at least.

David Macgregor is our East Coast Regional Organiser and he would like to know your name and number of guests in your party, if you plan to attend. Contact David or Susan by telephone on 01622 729507 or by e-mail:

[macgregor.farleigh@btinternet.com](mailto:macgregor.farleigh@btinternet.com)



## 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon and Reunion

Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> March is the day for this most important celebration. The venue is the Warsash Sailing Club, the same club that hosted the inaugural meeting of the Association those many years ago. It is just a short walk from Stone Pier Yard, where many of our craft were fitted out at Victoria Marine and subsequently Victoria Yachts Ltd.



The full details of the luncheon, including the menu, have already been circulated and a good number of members will be attending with some coming considerable distances and so I will not repeat all the details here. However, I understand there may still be just a few places available.

Principal guests will be Chuck Paine, designer of the Victoria Yachts and Peter Gregory, founder of Victoria Marine along with Olive Hathaway and John Cade, all now Honorary Members of our Association.

After the luncheon, a fine model of a Frances 26 Cutter, CHANTAL, is to be auctioned.



If you would like to be present at the luncheon or would like to make a 'sealed bid' for the model, please contact our Chairman Yachts, Jon Spencer, urgently by telephone on 01489581622 or by e-mail: [jon.fairwinds@btinternet.com](mailto:jon.fairwinds@btinternet.com)

## Shadow Spring Rally to Cookham

The Shadow Motor Boats are leading the way this year with the first of the Association's rallies over the weekend of the 30<sup>th</sup> April and 1<sup>st</sup> May. The venue is Cookham, which is a lovely town, barely more than a village really, in the Berkshire countryside.

Although primarily a rally for Shadows and their crews, yachtsmen are always welcome to visit the boats and enjoy a pre-dinner party on the tow-path.



JOLLY OLLY flies the Association burgee on a rally to Cookham in 2014.

This year's rally will be rather special as it will be the last one that John Walker, Chairman Motor-Boats, will organise. John has held the office for six years now and in that time organised two challenging rallies down to the tidal Thames, where Shadows were able to mingle with Victoria Yachts at Limehouse Marina and at St. Katharine Haven, next to Tower Bridge.

For more details of the rally, including the restaurant for the evening meal, and to book your place, please contact John Walker by telephone on 01189 782317 or by e-mail:

[johnwalker@talktalk.net](mailto:johnwalker@talktalk.net)



## 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Special Edition of Waterlines

Articles and photographs suitable for inclusion in Waterlines are wanted. These can be recent or recollections from the past and should be illustrated with photographs or drawings wherever possible.

If you have anything, or are prepared to write something, then please contact the editor by telephone on 01444 414162 and send items as attachments to:

[news@victoriashadow.co.uk](mailto:news@victoriashadow.co.uk) or by post to:

The Victoria Shadow Association, 4 The Grove, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 3SJ.

## **Boat For Sale**

Details of the following boat arrived just a little too late for our last Newsletter but she still appears to be For Sale. The following link should take you to the broker's website:

<http://www.boatshedbristol.com>

### **Frances 26 – GRAYLING**

For those aficionados of classic boats who are looking to make a first class purchase of a Frances 26, built by Victoria Marine, they need to look no further than GRAYLING which is for sale by John Champion [john@boatshedbristol.com](mailto:john@boatshedbristol.com).

GRAYLING is owned by Clare Raby, and is berthed near Bristol. When purchased by her husband Mike in 2012 she was sound and clearly had potential, but would need an awful lot of work to bring her back to a condition which would meet his requirements. The story of that transformation was included in the April 2015 edition of Practical Boat Owner. Mike's article followed one by David Harding, in the March edition which discusses, and illustrates, the long keel, appealing lines, big boat feel, and surprisingly roomy interior incorporated within the Frances 26, which makes her such a sought-after second hand buy.

It is a testament to this design that originally Chuck Paine drew the Frances 26 double ender for his own use as a small ocean voyager, a task which they have shown themselves adept at including current participation in the Jester Challenges.

### **Victoria Early Summer Rally to West Cowes**

Jerry Bottrill, the organiser of this rally, has kindly produced his own detailed information sheet, which you will find overleaf on the last page of this Newsletter.

# VICTORIA SHADOW

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ASSOCIATION



## Victoria Early Summer Rally West Cowes IOW Saturday May 21 and Sunday May 22

### Berthing arrangements

Cowes Yacht Haven, Vectis Yard, High Street, Cowes PO31 7BD

Telephone: +44 (0)1983 299975

[www.cowesyachthaven.com](http://www.cowesyachthaven.com)

There are arrangements for us to be berthed together so look out for other Victoria boats.  
Please settle your bills directly with the Marina office.

### High Water times Portsmouth

Saturday 21 May

HW 1116 4.4 / LW 1625 1.1

Sunday 22 May

HW 1155 4.5 / LW 1701 1.1

### Evening Dinner

The Island Sailing Club, 70 High Street, Cowes, PO31 7RE

01983 296621 Office 01983 249433 Restaurant

[www.islandsc.org.uk](http://www.islandsc.org.uk)

### Pre-Dinner Drinks

Drinks will be held on one of the boats more details on the day.

### The Food

There will be a menu available for our event and as soon as this is available I will circulate details so that food can be pre-ordered.

### Finally

With your attendance we can make this one of the biggest and best Victoria meetings ever.

### What I now need from you

Name of boat -

Size of boat -

Number of people for evening meal -

### Information and Reservations

Best for me is email please - or mobile after business hours 07760453671

Contact – Jerry Bottrill

Email – [jerrybottrill@waitrose.com](mailto:jerrybottrill@waitrose.com)

Phone – 07760453671

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