



### Annual Luncheon and General Meeting



Linden House on the Middlesex shore and upstream of Hammersmith Bridge is the home of "London Corinthian Sailing Club" and "Sons of the Thames Rowing Club" as well as being where The Victoria Shadow Association has always held its Annual Luncheon and General Meeting.

The 27<sup>th</sup> November 2016 started rather overcast and dull but soon brightened up when our members started gathering in the bar. Twenty-two of us were present; not our largest ever attendance but a goodly number, nevertheless. Time passed quickly as we exchanged news and we were soon asked to take our places in the Commodore's Room for lunch.



Bennie Mallett had travelled from Plymouth to be with us. To her right are Peter and Carol Hunt and on her left David Macgregor.



Also up from the West Country were Amanda and Victor Tettmar, who we were delighted to meet.



Jenny Cosker, Patsy and Paul Townsend (our Website Editor).



Angie and Dave Probert (past Chairman Motor-Boats)



'Top Table' with Kate facing the camera

One year we managed to seat 32 for the luncheon but it was a bit of a squeeze. After a leisurely three course lunch, we adjourned downstairs to the Captain's Room for coffee followed by the business of the day.

No trophies were presented at the meeting. There had been no Victoria Cup entries in the Round the Island Race so the Victoria Cup was not presented. Jonathan Hopper was the winner of the Best Log Cup but could not be present. We hope the trophy may be presented to him at the East Coast Social on Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> March at Wivenhoe.

continued overleaf ...

Most Committee Members kept their existing jobs but it won't hurt to mention that the association still needs an Honorary Secretary and a Journal Editor to produce an annual edition of Waterlines. The best photograph has been saved to last:



Jon Spencer, Chairman Yachts & Ian Rycroft, Chairman Motor-Boats

### New Members

Please welcome the following new members into The Victoria Shadow Association:

**James and Heather Melville** who live in West London and base their Shadow 26, COSWECAN, at Windsor Racecourse. James and Heather have already attended a Thames Rally at Henley.

**Charles Savage** lives in Winchester and bases his Frances 26, GRACE DARLING, at Trafalgar Wharf in Portsmouth Harbour.

**Roger King and Peter Matlon** live in Leverett, Massachusetts, U.S.A. and sail their Victoria 34, IONA, out of Rockland, Maine.

**Tom Bryant** lives in Bartow, West Virginia, U.S.A. and has a Victoria 26, ENDLESS.

**Murray Fraser** lives at Portesham, Dorset.

**Keith Walker** lives in Glasgow and sails his Frances 34, WREN, out of Rhu Marina on the Clyde.

**Hugo Mota e Melo** lives in Lisbon and sails his Frances 26 Sloop, BOREAS K, from Lisbon. A photograph of his yacht flying the Portugese Ensign appears on the back cover of the Handbook 2017.

### A reminder about Subscriptions

Our Constitution paragraph 4 a says, "... Subscriptions are payable on the 1<sup>st</sup> February in each calendar year."

The annual subscription for an Ordinary Member is just £15 p.a., a modest sum that has remained unchanged for many, many years. Most of you pay by standing order and the job will be done. For those of you who cannot use that facility, please send your remittance to John Cade, our Honorary Treasurer, before he has to chase you for non-payment.

### An apology to Nicholas Hillier from the editor

In the September Newsletter, I failed to mention that you had sailed GRACIOUS LADY, your Victoria 30, to the Chichester Rally despite talking to you that evening. I do not know where you moored the boat but do apologise sincerely for the omission.

### News from Bennie Mallett

Bennie wrote, "I sailed back from the London Boat Show on Cornish Cruising's Bavaria 37, DONNA LOUISE, to Falmouth. Please see picture of SUASA, a Victoria 30 spotted at Queenborough a week ago (17<sup>th</sup> January.)"



I commented, "A cruise from the Thames to Falmouth in mid-January would not be to everyone's liking but not a problem for a proper sailor." That prompted Bennie to continue:

"It was freezing! I can no longer legitimately hold adverse opinions regarding Muslim niqabs and burqas!!! It was difficult to tell each other apart with eyes alone visible. We shared Extremities mittens for the helm, from one of the team who is used to working on big ships at 78 degree latitudes!"

### Forthcoming South Coast Social at Warsash

The South Coast Spring Social will again take place at Warsash Sailing Club (SO31 9FS) overlooking the entrance to the River Hamble, on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2017, starting at about noon.

The Social will be preceded by a Victoria Shadow Association Committee Meeting. Coffee will be available from 11:00.

The format for the day will be:

- 11:00 Committee Meeting in the River Room  
and coffee in upstairs bar
- 12:00 Members and their guests gather in the upstairs bar
- 13:00 Lunch
- 14:00 Association raffle and prize draw
- 14:30 An illustrated presentation
- 16:00 Members and their guests disperse

If you wish to attend I would be grateful if you would let Lynda or I know so that we can ensure that the necessary arrangements can be put in hand. Our contacts are:

[jon.fairwinds@btinternet.com](mailto:jon.fairwinds@btinternet.com) or  
[spencer.fairwinds@btinternet.com](mailto:spencer.fairwinds@btinternet.com) or 01489 581622.

Lunch will be ordered and taken from the Club's lunch menu which covers a range of snacks and light meals at reasonable prices.

The Raffle will be organised and members are invited to bring a prize, usually in the hope that they will not win it back themselves, and purchase raffle tickets, which helps offset the limited costs of the event.

Jon Spencer

## News from Norbert Schmit

When Norbert joined the association in 2010 he based his Frances 26 Sloop, PUFFIN, on the Lac du Der in France. Norbert lives in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

“... Also the boat moves and is not anymore in France but now is berthing in Italy on Arno River in Tuscany and sails during the season in the Tuscan Archipelago. I add you a few recent photographs ...” Norbert



Thank you for the pictures. Happy sailing in 2017.

## Forthcoming East Coast Social at Wivenhoe

Reverting to our more usual date after last year's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we have planned this year's social for Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

We will follow the usual format of meeting for lunch at the Rose and Crown on the quay before adjourning to the Nottage Maritime Institute just a few yards away along the quay. For anyone who has not previously visited the Nottage their website is worth a look.

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

Parking on the quay is very limited but the station car park is just a short walk away. As usual the pub is happy to accommodate us but as it is often busy at weekends we suggest arriving around noon to place orders for food as early as possible. Shortly after 2pm we will move to the Institute for our meeting.

Instead of finding a single speaker we would like to try something a bit different with some “audience participation.” The idea is to get several members to give a short – circa 15mins – talk on any aspect of their past or planned sailing. We already have at least one offer from outside the east coast and we will add something on our Mediterranean experiences. Please let me know if you are willing to participate.

We will round the afternoon off with tea and cakes. Please bring a small prize for the raffle, which will be held to defer the cost of the event.

It would be very helpful to have an idea of numbers attending, please email/phone:

[macgregor.farleigh@btinternet.com](mailto:macgregor.farleigh@btinternet.com) or 01622 729507.

We look forward to seeing you at Wivenhoe.

David and Susan Macgregor

## Sailing the Wild Atlantic Way - editorial

You will last have read about Norman and Christine aboard their Frances 26, MALLARD, in Waterlines, where in 2015 they had set off to go around Ireland in an anti-clockwise direction, had a technical problem and then sailed the other way down to Crosshaven. In 2016, they completed the circumnavigation when they reached Ballycastle.



Their voyage can be divided into three legs:

Crosshaven to Fenit in this Newsletter

Fenit to Sligo will appear in the April Newsletter

Sligo to Bangor will follow in a later Newsletter.

The line on the map DOES NOT indicate the track that MALLARD actually followed; a bit of mouse wobble, I fear.

## Sailing the 'Wild Atlantic Way' Leg 1 – Crosshaven to Fenit



Mallard in Crosshaven

Christine and I had some trepidation about embarking on the 'Wild Atlantic Way' leg of our clockwise circumnavigation of Ireland. Wet and blustery conditions welcomed us to Cork on the evening of the 25<sup>th</sup> May. We slept with images of spectacular cliff scenery and the Atlantic being wild but on the morning of the 26<sup>th</sup> May we awoke to glorious sunshine and light winds. After victualing and sea checks we set sail on the 27<sup>th</sup> in cloudless skies more like the Med' than Ireland. Gliding in calm seas and E 3/4 winds towards Glandore we saw Basking Sharks which seem prevalent on the SW Coast. At Glandore we picked up a yellow visitor's buoy installed by the Council, which we were to find at several locations on our cruise and went ashore by tender to join friends who have recently moved to the area from Derbyshire.



Glandore

On the 28<sup>th</sup> the fine weather continued, as it would for the next ten days. We passed between Clear Island and Shirkin Island and then across Long Island Bay in sight of the famous Fastnet Rock. We tucked into the long secure inlet of Crookhaven, sighting more Basking Sharks and Dolphins en route. In the morning we made a brief excursion ashore to visit O'Sullivan's Pub for early morning coffee and to pay for a visitor's mooring. The payment was refused and this was to set the trend whereby we were not once charged for a mooring.

From Crookhaven we were able to ignore the North Cardinal and cut the corner on the inside of Alderman Rocks (calm sea and sunshine). Mizzen Head came and went in close up and the spectacular scenery of Dunmannus bay opened up.

Dunmanus and Bantry bays could take a week to explore, but we did not have that luxury and made glorious progress past Sheeps Head to the fishing port of Castletownbere. You can anchor in the harbour but the port operates 24/7 and it would have been a noisy night. We opted for one of three 'visitors' moorings in a bay outside the harbour about half a mile from the town. We were beginning to realize that visitor's moorings could be better named as 'passage moorings', strategically placed and well maintained for yachts up to 15 tons but not very handy for doing any visiting, as they are sometimes remote. As you would expect in a fishing harbour we had one of the best fish meals ever at Lynch's on the pier; simple, inexpensive, straight off the boat and memorably delicious.



Towards Crookhaven



Crookhaven



Leaving Crookhaven

From Castletownbere we had the somewhat nerve wracking passage through Dursey Sound. Going in it looks like a dead end and you really need to trust the charts as the exit only appears at the last minute. It is quite narrow (more so than Kyle Rhea by Skye) with a strong tidal flow and you pass

under a cable car that takes visitors from the mainland to Dursey Island. By going through the sound you save some distance and once through you can admire the Bull, The Cow, The Calf and the Heifer (great names for a family of rocks) from astern.



Dursey Sound

We had good reports of Derrynane just North of Lamb's Head at the entrance to Kenmare River. Although this little harbour has a very challenging entrance, inside it is one of the most idyllic anchorages in Ireland with beautiful sandy beaches and mountains towering above. We spent the night in the company of two other yachts, a large French Ovni and a British wooden classic. The coast between Lamb's Head and Valentia with craggy islands and towering cliffs is magnificent and the most recognised of the craggy islands are the Skelligs. Famous for the stone beehive huts where monks used to live. Little Skellig has the second largest colony of Gannets in the world with 30,000 pairs in the summer. Although our boat is named Mallard I must confess that the Gannet is my favourite bird and watching them fish is great sport in itself.



Derrynane



Derrynane again



Great Skellig

The bright lights of Dingle beckoned and with continuing light winds and blue skies we motored or motor sailed across Bantry Bay. As we approached, we were a little confused by what looked like an uncharted lighthouse but, as we closed the distance, evolved into the comms tower of the superyacht 'Air' anchored by the entrance to Dingle harbour. At 81 metres and with her own white helicopter she can be chartered in summer for 825,000 euro per week. As we approached the entrance we noticed a flotilla of motor cruisers approaching at speed and then making sudden turns. At first we thought they had come to see 'Air' but in fact they had brought tourists to see Fungi the famous dolphin; 7.50 euro to see him or your money back. We didn't have to pay anything as he came alongside to greet us. He is a big dolphin and thought to be at least 40 years old and is a major tourist attraction in Dingle. Dingle has a fine marina and the town was buzzing with fine food and music at every turn. It has become a centre for Star Wars fans who have come to see where the scenes for the 2017 Star Wars movie are being filmed. Local entrepreneurs were selling 'Skellig Wars' t-shirts as some scenes were being filmed there. We spent two nights in Dingle and on the second night a Sigma 38 'Festina Lente' arrived. We left next morning but our courses would cross again.

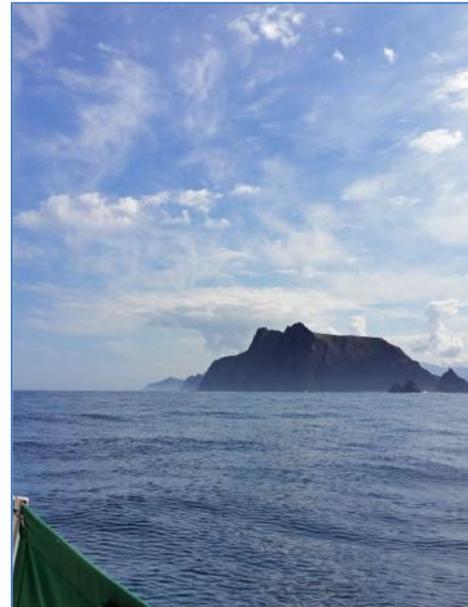


Dingle

After negotiating Blasket Sound on a misty morning we were thinking that the scenery couldn't get any more dramatic, the sheer cliffs of the Three Sisters and Sybil Point and Brandon Mountain (950m) towered above us. Once through the Blaskets we saw a noticeable difference in the swell now



Approaching Blasket Sound



Kerry Coastline



Blasket Sound, Skellig in the mist



Fenit

much larger though still calm. We passed among the Seven Hogs and rounded the appropriately named Rough Point to Fenit in Tralee Bay arriving on Friday afternoon. On Saturday the fine weather allowed me to rough sand and varnish the bowsprit and on Saturday evening we enjoyed an evening at the National Folk Theatre of Ireland (Siamsa Tire) where we were treated to a performance of traditional music and dance. A fine ending to leg one of our cruise. As we headed for the airport on Sunday we were grateful to have sailed one of the world's classic cruising grounds in the finest weather imaginable. Surely we couldn't be so lucky on leg two.

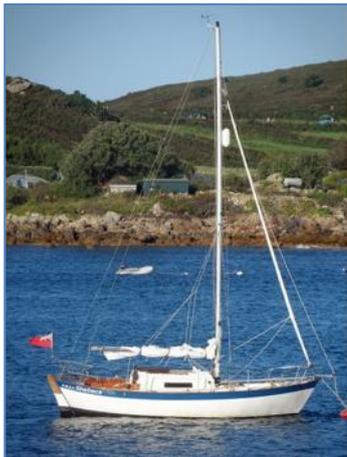
*by*

**Norman Crawford and Christine Adamson  
'Mallard'**



Mallard in Fenit

## Frances 26 SHEBECA is For Sale



Simon Fayers, a member of our association since 2002, is putting his Frances 26, Shebeca on the market. He is only the second owner of the yacht since new. She will be advertised through Boat Shed and the Barbican Yacht Agency with an asking price of £21,500. However, Simon would be prepared to accept a sensible offer below that figure if selling direct to an association member or potential member. Although Shebeca has just been lifted out of the water for the winter, Simon is willing to deliver her by sea to any South or East Coast harbour once a deal is done or organise transport by lorry, when the costs would be borne by the purchaser.

If anyone would like to strike a private deal with Simon then they should contact him by e-mail at [s.fayers1@btinternet.com](mailto:s.fayers1@btinternet.com) and not contact or register with either of the brokerages mentioned above.

### Shebeca

Frances 26 Built 1981. GRP long keel construction. L.O.A. 26' Beam 8' 2" Draft 4'. Head room 6'.

Displacement 6800lbs. Ballast, lead encapsulated 3500lbs. Hull speed 6.5 knots. SSR 10362.

Latest survey October 2010.

Hull Epoxied 1997. Rudder re-sheaved and epoxied 2011.

Rigging etc Standing rigging 2014. Plastimo roller furling system 2014. Lazy jacks 2013. Spinnaker pole telescopic.

Sails 3reef mainsail 2011. Working jib, genoa, ghoster, cruising chute, storm jib, spare main. All in excellent condition. Plus original self tacking jib and boom if required.

Covers Sail covers, pram hood and canvas winter cover plus dodgers.

Engine Yanmar 1GM, new 1995 plus 40ltr stainless steel fuel tank 1995. New wiring 2010. Two 85Ahr batteries new 2015. New engine mounts 2012.

Anchors CQR 25lbs with 35 metres of 5/16ths chain. Bruce kedge 15lbs with chain and warp

Tenders 2 man plastimo, new 2014. Dinghy RYDS 235 with 2.2hp Suzuki available separately.

Navigation Lowrance HDS 5m chartplotter GPS, Link 8 AIS, VHF, 2013. Log and echosounder raytheon 2000. Plastimo steering compass. Marine FM/AM radio 2013. Barometer, hydrometer and clock.

Steering tiller autopilot Simrad, new 2015. Plus, Windvane self steering trimtab clearway.

Safety equipment 4 man valise rorc liferaft in service 2017. Plastimo lifebuoy and line, lifeline, jackstays, offshore flare pack, 2x whale bilge pumps, dry powder fire extinguishers x2 2015, fire blanket, blipper radar reflector, 2x hydrostatic lifejackets. Wooden seacock bungs, bolt croppers. Bosuns chair.

Galley Stove, Origo 3000 2 burner spirit stove on gimbals 2010. Whale fresh water pump, flexible water tank approx. 50 ltr, full set of cutlery etc. Stainless steel sink. Cool box.

Heads Jabsco new 2001, seacocks new 2001.

Miscellaneous equipment 8 fenders, warps, paraffin lamps, 6 internal DC lights, table and half size chart table, ensign with staff, plenty of lines, anchor ball and cone, new seat covers and curtains and lots more.

Tax status tax paid.

Shebeca is set up for single handed or short handed off shore sailing and in excellent condition afloat for 5 months of the year.

---

### Articles and Photographs for the April Newsletter

Peter Cosker is the Editor. Please contact him or send material to: [news@victoriashadow.co.uk](mailto:news@victoriashadow.co.uk) or [peter@the2coskers.com](mailto:peter@the2coskers.com)  
The Victoria Shadow Association, 4 The Grove, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 3SJ, England. - Tel: +44 (0)1444 414162