

## Roach Sailing Association February 1998 Newsletter

### In this issue

**A note from the Chairman**  
A plea for peace  
Round And Round We Go, Up And Down We Go

**Secretaries note**  
To Shotley & Ipswich (and back)  
Racing Officer's Diary

### A note from the Chairman

#### **Norman Bishop retires as Chairman of the RSA.**

After many years of devoted duty to the Roach Sailing Association, Norman Bishop has resigned his post as both Chairman and Treasurer of the Roach Sailing Association. Norman remains on the committee of the RSA.

Members presented a half model of Pisces to Norman and Edna at the RSA Laying up dinner October 1997.



Rodney Choppin also presented Norman with a water-colour of his sons Nigel and Paul sailing Memory and Samphire in one of the RSA races.

I am sure you all will join me in thanking Norman for his many years of leadership and

wish both Edna and Norman good winds and fair tides for many years to come.

In conclusion I would like to wish you all good sailing in 1998 and to thank you for a very enjoyable evening at the Laying-up Supper, (despite some local difficulties, out of our control.) - See you at the AGM

**Dai Williams**

### A note from the Secretary

#### **AGM**

The AGM will be held at the Alexandra Yacht Club on 22 March 1998. We would like to see as many of you there as possible. Issues to be discussed will include nomination and election of the committee,

#### **The current members are:**

Dai Williams - Chairman  
John Martin - President  
Caroline Gibb - Racing Officer  
John Langrick - Secretary & Treasurer

#### **Other members of the committee on your behalf are:**

Norman Bishop	Richard Bessey
Richard Kirton	Mike Dallimore
Michael Figg	Rodney Choppin

If you are interested in joining the committee please contact myself or any other current member of the committee.

### ***1998 Subscriptions now due***

I have attached a form for you to send your 1998 RSA Subscription to myself. This remains £3 per year. I have the new CHA disks also, these also remain the same at £9.50. If you want me to post this to you, please send me an SAE. Payment slips are included in this newsletter.

### ***Overdue Subs***

We have a number of members who have not paid subscriptions for over 2 years. The committee feels that this will be the last newsletter they should receive and it will be assumed that after this time they no longer wish to be a member of the RSA.

### ***Thanks for the articles***

Tony Hudson, Alan Holland, Dai and Caroline for the Sailing Programme and race detail.

## **A Plea for Peace**

*First printed in Yachting Monthly 1930 - how true today!* (Thanks to Tony Hudson)

Sir - Now that many of us are either fitting out or seriously thinking of so doing in the near future, it may be a propitious time to voice a complaint I have been urged to make by many cruising people.

There are two types of motor boat owners: the considerate or otherwise. The considerate owner is often an ex-sailing man and always a gentleman, and knows how to handle his vessel well, and with no inconvenience and steerage to others; the "otherwise" (and they are in the majority) are either extremely ignorant of ships and how to handle them, and may be, but are probably not, gentlefolk; or do they know how to handle their ships but most certainly are not even temporary gentlemen, for if they were, they would know that to go full speed past an anchored vessel in a narrow waterway is only done by the "bounder" of a particularly unpleasant type! And yet those bounders seem to be on the increase.

I have had endless complaints about damage to dinghies and of the upsetting of vessels caused by the wash of vessels owned by these water-hogs. In several cases I personally have seen the owner and guests turn round and laugh loudly at the wretched owner trying to hold his dinghy away from his topsides. This type abounds in the Beaulieu River, flies the flag of some motorboat club and flaunts the most impossible ladies of the chorus variety on deck. When spoken to the only answer is a chorus of abuse.

But, Sir, what can one expect? I always understood that it took years to know the sea in all

its moods and how to handle a yacht; yet one advertiser states that "if you can drive a car you can a motor boat." I suppose you can, but what a nuisance to everyone else!

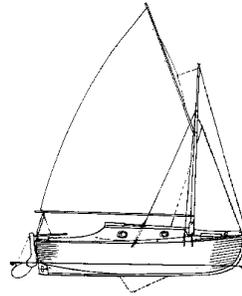
To conclude. May I beg all of the above disturbers of our more peaceful rivers and harbours:

1. To slow down when passing an anchored vessel.
2. To silence the electric light engine and remember that the noise of the exhaust does annoy others.
3. Not to bring gramophones and loud speakers on deck.

Donald C. L. Cree

## **TO SHOTLEY & IPSWICH (AND BACK)**

*by Alan Holland*



RUTH, my 20-foot bermudan-rigged Dauntless, missed the '96 Shotley rally, due to some badly timed but essential repair work. Things looked more promising for 1997 except that the Festival was scheduled to start on Thursday 19 June, and this new mid-week arrangement prevented my son from crewing with me. So the passage from Paglesham was to be solo, and in order to allow for a leisurely trip, and a night in Pyefleet, I was on board at 0945 on the preceding Tuesday.

At HW (1100) we (RUTH and I) were underway sloop-rigged in overcast conditions with the wind rising 4 Easterly. Good progress was made down to the Branklet, at the confluence of the Roach and Crouch rivers in sheltered water, then a couple of long and short legs got us out to Shore Ends. Here the seas were beginning to come lumpy, not to RUTH's liking, and less to mine, the wind having gone slightly north of east. Both sky and sea were slate-grey, except for the white horses, and there was not another craft in sight.

It was just half-ebb, theoretically at least in our favour, but the wind over tide conditions were steadily knocking the way off RUTH's shoal-draft hull. I was reluctant to rely on the engine for my

passage, as I had recently carried out some repairs which had yet to be fully proven. Having barely sighted the Rays'n buoy, I ran back from the Outer Crouch and anchored under the slight lee of the north shore at the "Holliwel" racing buoy, consoling myself with the thought of a day in hand, and a couple of mugs of tea. It proved to be an uncomfortable berth however, and RUTH chucked herself about in a most disorderly manner, presumably due to the ebb out of the Roach. A shift across the river to Clark's Corner cured the problem, and a rather disappointing day was finally brightened by the sight of the Mistley barge REMINDER coming up under tops'l and fores'l, to disappear round to Paglesham on the early flood. Later, her former Horlock stablemate XYLONITE motored down from Burnham way and anchored less than a cable below RUTH.

Wed 18 June. Forecast S going SW 3-4 possibly 5 later. A calm night was followed by a good breakfast. The sun glittered on the "Big H" on Foulness, accompanied by a steady southerly breeze. I paced the deck impatiently until 0930, two hours before HW, then got the chain up-and-down. Main, staysail and jib were hoisted, the anchor broken out, and bobstay set up. As RUTH settled on her inshore course, the clinking of XYLONITE's windlass pawls could just be heard across the water, and her tops'l started to creep up. She crossed the tideway to the north shore, then to my surprise and delight RUTH overhauled one of the fastest barges in the current fleet. Then she sheeted in her main... but we stayed within shouting distance until the first of the Dengie target beacons, having both cut well inside the Rays'n buoy (I did not see it).

At 1230 RUTH brought the NW Knoll abeam, shortly after which the slightly confused seas of the converging ebbs were encountered. With a brilliant sun and quartering breeze, Clacton Pier was passed at 1330 (no thoughts of Pyefleet now), and Walton Pier at 1445, where we sheered out to avoid a large rectangular area marked out with lobster pots, which was certainly different to the usual apparently random scattering. A little later we were overhauled by the big bawley GOOD INTENT out of St Osyth. Shaping for Harwich brought the strengthening wind dead aft, and this partly influenced my decision not to enter Shotley lock that evening, preferring the idea of a quiet anchorage somewhere in the Stour.

On a run, RUTH's masthead-to-bowspritend jib is her best sail, but with the wind anywhere forward of the beam it can be a liability in a strong breeze and restricted waters. I held on to it past the Pye End, then reluctantly hove to just before Dovercourt Breakwater, and got it down. I noticed that GOOD INTENT had held the wind

well on her starboard quarter right out beyond the Landguard, then made one gybe straight into the harbour.

Feeling slightly more comfortable under reduced sail, but still on a dead run, my intention was to get up past Parkeston in the lee of the S shore, and avoid crossing the deep channel at all if there was nothing on the move at Parkeston Quays. Crossing the Shelf, I passed outside a yacht and a fishing-boat on permanent moorings just off the old Navy Yard, and prepared to gybe and alter course to the east. There was a grinding and bumping sound from astern and the tiller jumped in my hand as the rudder-plate bounced and hinged up. Not sand, not shingle, but rocks, less than 2 feet below! It was 1715, just about low water... so be warned! This was in the area known as the Guard, well north of the Cliff Foot rocks.

Having cleared this hazard more by luck than judgment, I gybed and headed east, still south of the dredged channel. Shotley did not look particularly inviting, but I spotted some moored yachts close inshore in the bight just past Harwich town. Dropping the plate and hauling sheets, I decided to have a look, as it would be ideal for popping across to Shotley in the morning. As I closed, however, the local boats did not look at all comfortable, sheering and jumping about in a surprising manner for the prevailing state of wind and tide.

I bore away and passed Parkeston, where all was quiet. Just before Wrabness, as the first of a line of heavy mooring buoys is reached, there is another bight called Copperas Bay, a tree-lined bird sanctuary. Once again RUTH nosed shorewards until the wind was completely masked, the plate came up, and the anchor went down in two feet of unruffled water a few yards from a miniature sand-spit that was just about to disappear beneath the early flood. Here indeed was Dauntless country, and complete peace and solitude. It was 1800.

Thu 19 June - S4 - rain.

Departed Copperas Bay 0800 under power in steady rain. Alvin (the Albin) slowly made progress over the flood past the beacon marking the nasty-looking remains of the wharf at Erwarton Ness, and the equally depressing (at that hour) front window of the Bristol Arms (I had somehow got on the lee shore while sorting out warps and fenders). I had already convinced myself that there would be the usual delays locking into the marina, so when passing the entrance beacons, I was surprised to see the light change from red to green. I started the run in, and with a fresh following breeze, I was concentrating on the pontoon when looking up, I then realised

that the lock gates were open, which only proves that sometimes the eyes don't see what they would like to see.

Now... Ease revs .. and blow sideways? Into reverse...stern goes out... well just sheer in, bung her into neutral, and jump for it with both warps in hand and hang on to the old girl. At least the lock's empty. It works.

0930 moored up at far end with two or three other early arrivals - no other Dauntlesses yet.  
1400 SWANTI arrived from Walton.

Fri 20 June FC SE 5  
Crewed on SWANTI to Pin Mill. Lunch at Butt.  
PM S6 & rain - a very uncomfortable trip back. Dick took tumble in cockpit and bruised ribs.  
PM Supper on SWANTI

Sat 21 June FC S/SW 5-6  
Heavy showers - listened to cricket - PM Bristol Arms with SWANTI's crew for a good supper.

Sun 22 June FC SW/NW 4-5-6  
Thunder - rain - very breezy outside.  
1100 family arrived from Woking and Wickford - sunny. Took three-year-old grandson round marina in borrowed inflatable and borrowed lifejacket.

Mon 23 June FC W 4-5  
Shifted RUTH to Dauntless corner. Lazy day.  
Robert and William arrived by car, CHRISTABEL having been deterred by foul weather at Queenborough.  
PM informal Dauntless get-together in bar - Peter and Nick crew of DORMOUSE, John Langrick of SWANTI and CHRISTABEL's crew. Lena Reekie sent apologies as LINNEA aground in Walton Backwaters. Nightcaps on board RUTH

Tue 24 June FC NW 5-6 later 3-4  
1130 RUTH locked out - William crew. Robert crewed on SWANTI. DORMOUSE and Crabber MOULIN VERT in company. M/sailed to Pin Mill 1230 arr Pin Mill - Lunch at B&O.  
Sailed back - strong S breeze. Alongside pontoon - then caught stern warp round screw in lock - red face! Heaved her through, borrowed dinghy and cleared it without wetting elbows. Not many yachts are so forgiving.

Wed 25 June FC SW/SE 3-7  
1100 RUTH locked out - JL crew. Sailed sloop-rigged to Mistle, arr 1300 - rain, followed by rain. Lunch at Thorn - very jolly. Dep Mistle 1615 HW - rain. Sailed to Shotley - very lumpy below Wrabness - got set onto rusty buoy. Picked up pink buoy off Shotley 1830 - very windy.  
1900 locked in and moored a/s SWANTI.

PM - roast beef etc with DORMOUSE crew.

Thu 26 June FC NE 5-6 rain. The end of Shotley for RUTH - a wet and windy week, but not yet quite finished, as we now look forward to Sail Ipswich 97!.

1100 RUTH locked out - destination Ipswich Dock - John L crew. Close reaching breeze - sloop-rig. Barges at Woolverstone incl Lady DAPHNE, HYDROGEN etc

1230 sailed under Orwell Bridge with dredger SAMUEL ARMSTRONG close astern.

1300 picked up mooring off Fox's Marina - waited for tide.

1600 Locked in Ipswich Wet Dock - moored alongside Cranfields'.

with CENTAUR, WYVENHOE, MARJORIE, IRONSIDES. Met Jimmmy Lawrence and Gary Butler - no berths available on MARJORIE or CENTAUR for Pin Mill Barge Match.

PM - discharged crew - beer at dockside bar - taxi to Shotley - roast beef and more beer. Joined SWANTI as mate.

Fri 27 June - No FC S5 wet, wet, wet. Rain swept horizontally across the top of Shotley lock.

1200 lunchtime beer with JL, Lena and Hans (Heybridge Crabber)

1400 SWANTI dep Shotley - Two reefs to Ipswich - nonstop rain.

1615 locked into Ipswich Dock - moored on smack tier - seventeen bottoms out! Was keen to check RUTH so went straight ashore - over sixteen reefed bowsprits - soaked but happy.

PM locked into Lord Nelson - Buckshee jazz - JL & AMY bawley crew.

Sat 28 June - Warm & sunny.

0630 SWANTI dep Ipswich for Paglesham. Barges locked out for Pin Mill Match.

Festival day in Ipswich Dock - toured Polish & French square-riggers, listened to band, occasionally stood-by RUTH (now the only Dauntless present) and entertained visitors. Attended Lady Mayoress' function at the Corn Exchange in company with crew of Crabber MOULIN VERT - fireworks - late night. Congratulations to the city of Ipswich for a well organised and enjoyable event.

Sun 29 June - Festival Day 2 - RAINBOW's 100th birthday. PM - MOULIN VERT, RAINBOW, HAZEL MAY etc departed. I needed to be home by Tuesday AM and had decided to go by train so I could enjoy the sail back later. Fish and chip supper. Overcast, and dock looked empty and quite desolate. Met Lena who had come to Ipswich by car. She had put out from Shotley on Sat AM but turned back at the Medusa due to heavy weather. LINNEA was booked into Shotley for a week.

Mon 30 June FC N/NW 4-5-6 Rain  
FC NW/SW 4-5-6  
Cabin heater on - rain

FC W/S 4-5-6 Rain  
A very wet and dismal day in Ipswich - free night in Dock.

Tue 1 July FC SW 4-5  
0730 underway from Cranfields' wharf - berthed at Neptune Marina. Booked in for seven days.  
1000 dep Ipswich by train.  
1200 arr home - windy but dry at last.

Six days at home...

Mon 7 July FC NW 3 - sunny  
0845 dep Wickford by train  
1112 arr Ipswich - checked out RUTH and lock procedure - OK.  
1400 RUTH underway - locked out of Ipswich Dock. Made sail off Cliff Quay by ENA - Wind SE 2 - so much for forecast!  
M/sailed down Orwell & across Harwich Harbour. Crossed channel from Shotley Spit to Guard buoy, passing ahead of outgoing ferry from Parkeston on increased revs. ENA motored down astern and brought up inside Guard buoy, then made sail and headed back up Orwell.

RUTH steered for Walton Backwaters entrance, passing DORMOUSE outward bound. Anchored in two feet on port side of Red No 6 buoy at 1900 (low water). Good supper (curry and water melon) and a very quiet night.

Tue 8 July FC Var 2-3  
0815 up anchor and sailed towards Pye End on last of ebb.  
0845 shaped out to Naze with Alvin as wind Southerly 2.  
1030 Walton Pier - tacked ship & Alvin off.  
1045 progress very slow - Alvin on!  
1200 Clacton Pier  
1300 three-quarter mile N of Bench Head. Wind S freshening - Alvin off. Course 270.  
1400 half-mile S of Nass beacon. Sailing fast on broad reach - course 255.  
1445 HW - off Pewit Island hove to and handed all canvas. Started Alvin and entered Bradwell Creek from West end. Passed marina entrance and exited creek.  
1525 anchored just outside channel close in to sea-wall under power-station. Large fry-up for lunch/tea. Had promised to phone wife so radioed Marina on 37 for berth, acknowledged with Echo 29.  
1800 entered marina - berth E29 at far end otherwise marina appeared to be full. Berthing a set-piece including three-point turn but no witnesses. Checked in at office (£9 per night),

phoned Cordelia, visited club bar (exceedingly quiet) and Green Man (very quiet). Hungry again so curry on board - quite a quiet night.

Wed 9 July FC E/NE 3-4 - bright and sunny  
0900 LW - dep Bradwell Marina under power. Kept to channel but rudder-plate touched several times in the Creek. Passed inside Training Wall and kept as close as possible to mud, as tide now flooding. Wind Easterly 3, & thick fog blowing in. Power station lost to sight although still close astern. Stayed within sight of cant edge & withies - less than 50 metres. Encountered yacht anchored close in to first of wave-break lighters - owner ashore presumably after winks.

1015 off Sales Pt fog cleared - sunny - headed for outer wreck beacon. Wind E by S 3 veering slightly.

1145 Alvin off - she sailed herself on a broad reach from the Bachelor down past Holliwell Pt, while I sat on the foredeck - the sweetest few hours of the entire trip.

1615 anchored Quay Reach on Foulness side - HW.

1800 fry-up and Romanian red. A quiet night. Nearly home.

Thur 10 July FC NE 3-4  
1030 overcast. Set staysail only, for a very leisurely sail up to Paglesham on first of flood. Followed S side of Wallasea about six feet from mud edge. Overtaken by family of curlew traveling on foot. RUTH was back in home waters after three weeks.  
1140 Picked up mooring where dinghy was still made fast, tidied ship, and rowed ashore, wondering if car was still there...

## **Round And Round We Go, Up And Down We Go**

*The first part of Caroline and Dai's voyage around the UK, Summer 1997*

### **Wed 14 May**

2150 Leave Paglesham after numerous loading trips in the dinghy.

2235 On hook Branklet

### **Thurs 15 May**

0400 Alarm

0425 Weigh anchor

1140 Enter Ramsgate

1300 Royal Temple Yacht Club. Missed Bubble and Squeak offering but excellent beef sandwiches at £2 each.

1900 Nok Noi (Thai for Little Bird)  
Excellent meal: Steamed Dimsung, Golden Parcels, Yum Nuea ( warm Thai beef salad), Sea Bass with yellow bean sauce, Rice and Rombout coffee and Red House Wine. Total £30.50.

### **Fri 16 May**

1120 Leave Ramsgate - take inshore route  
1226 Deal Pier  
1338 Enter Dover eastern entrance. See Danish liner "Saga Rose"  
1350 Leaks from water pump unions (dezincd). Renew from Ardee Hose located in caves deep in the cliffs.  
2030 Royal Cinque Ports YC - Shepherd Neame £1.45. Jacket potato £1.

#### **Sat 17 May**

1045 Leave Dover Western Exit - no wind  
1550 Off Hastings  
1800 Water filling up the bilge - engine water hose to exhaust elbow detached. Caroline completes heroic effort (elbow almost inaccessible) and mobile again by 1900.  
1920 Moored up in Sovereign Marina, Eastbourne.

#### **Sun 18 May**

1109 Leave Sovereign lock  
1440 Enter Brighton Marina after 1-2 hours drifting with very little wind  
1830 MAJOR EVENT - for 3-4 days I had a sprained big toe! which steadily got more painful so Dr Gibb was called in and she quickly extracted a metal splinter!! What a relief.

#### **Mon 19 May**

0820 Leave Brighton. Wind E 6-10 Kn and cloudy  
1218 Street buoy red can marking western exit from Looe channel (short cut off Selsey Bill)  
1535 In Cowes Yacht Haven  
1600 In Gallerias cafe - excellent tea, coffee. Jacket potato with tuna & cheese, 1 crepe - cherry & Kirsch. £6.20 total  
1730-2030 CMG removes water pump and reverses worn end cover and cures blockage in inlet pipe.

#### **Tues 20 May**

Pleasant sail down to Yarmouth, one of our favourite haunts.

#### **Wed 21 May**

1115 Leave Yarmouth  
1125 Hurst Castle  
1340 Poole Fairway spar buoy  
1455 Enter Poole YC marina - never again - receptionist insulting and ordered us not to sign visitors' book and most expensive of the trip - £18 per night and although a modern building everything was out of order - the telephones and the showers!  
2000 Had good Adnams at £1.40 per pint but lounge overrun with screaming children and rude parents.

#### **Thurs 22 May**

1000 Relieved to leave PYC  
1130 Anvil Point - diverted by patrol vessel out of firing range off Lulworth  
1440 Tied up in Weymouth - 220 NM run to date on log

1900 Kings Head on Cove side near bridge - wonderful Plaice - fresh fresh fresh with chips £3.85

2030 Meet Germans in 25 footer sailed from East Germany east of Rostock. Gave us Apfel and Schnapps both miniatures and declared the war was now over!

#### **Fri 23 May**

1050 Leave Weymouth  
1200 Portland lighthouse abeam with smooth passage around the Bill (inshore route)  
1530 Crossing Lyme Bay 20 Nm from Berry Head.  
1818 Berry Head  
1835 Tied up in Brixham marina  
1930 MR PICKWICK Restaurant near William of Orange statue. Fried plaice and chips £4.30 the best I've ever tasted! Spaghetti Bolognese £4.50; Treacle Pudding and cream £2 - excellent - don't miss it, especially the fish.

#### **Sat 24 May**

1000 Very lumpy sea - pump up fenders and tend warps ad nauseum £14.55 per night  
1230 Brixham YC (up the hill) - excellent view of Tor Bay and good draught Bass at £1.60 per pint. Jacket potato with prawns and cheese in massive quantity - great value at £3.95. Fascinating to look down at gulls whizzing past the club windows.  
1430 Rotten, rotten swell - grind, grind, grind on pontoon.  
3 Contessa 38s arrive from Dartmouth Naval College. Mer of Faversham near us - a real old timer.

#### **Sun 25 May**

1115 Relieved to leave. Wind NE 3-4 gusting 5  
1340 Tied up in Darthaven marina at Kingswear  
1900 Royal Dart YC Bass £1.60; scampi £3.95; and very good. Met ex Benfleet skipper with Super Sovereign designed by Holman but bows to acknowledge the Contessa 32.

#### **Mon 26 May**

Shopping and lunch at Royal Castle at Dartmouth  
1320 Exit Dart River. Sunny and wind E2 or less  
1720 On mooring Salcombe £9.70. 14' YW Dayboats having their Nationals - approx 20 boats

#### **Tues 27 May**

1145 Exit Salcombe. Wind E 4 gusting top of 5  
1720 Off Fowey  
1740 Rafted up with Contessa 32 Flyanna ex Bristol with (literally) coffin handles on companionway.  
1930 Ship Hotel (near church) excellent scallops, salad, garlic butter and bread rolls £5.95  
Mooring fee £7.40 but water taxi £2 return

### Wed 28 May

Inshore forecast E 4/5 occasionally 7

1115 Exit Fowey

1415 St Anthony's Head

1445 In Falmouth marina (Penryn) - too rough on Royal Cornwall YC moorings for comfort. (easterly wind). The actual wind recorded was F6 frequently F7 and gusting F8! Maximum boat speed 8.13 Kn through the water on 40 percent genoa.

Trip log now showing 348.8 NM

### Thurs 29 May & Fri 30 May

Heavy weather but Esther at Royal Cornwall YC produced wonderful grub - Avocado with Crab and cheese sauce £4.25; Dover sole £4.50

New York - Lizard race competitors expected Saturday including 185' Adela but due to easterlies will not beat 12 days record established in early 1900s. Taxi man quote "The sea kicks up at the Lizard if it only thinks it's easterly"

### Saturday 31 May

1330 Eddie arrives and so directly to RCYC for Whitebait, Kidneys with rice and Avocado again

1545 Exit Falmouth, second reef in main

1625 On hook St Mawes

1900 St Mawes SC. See Adela arrives off Falmouth - fantastic sight - dwarfing every other craft

### Sunday 1 June

1045 Weigh anchor

1215 On mooring at Malpas up the Fal river

1300 Sunday lunch for 3 £14.40 Roast pork and stuffing, roast potatoes, carrots and Garlic and King Prawns etc

1810 Slip mooring

1935 On hook St Mawes - still blowing.

Trip log 364.4

### Mon 2 June

St Mawes in the rain

### Tues 3 June

0820 Weigh anchor, 3rd reef in main and half genoa. Wind ESE up to 28 Knots

1450 Around Lizard and Lands End and at Longships

1840 Little or no wind. Engine on

2130 Sun sets at 330deg mag

### Weds 4 June

0530 Sun rises at 060 deg mag

1040 Sighted Old Head of Kinsale (we think)

1420 Roche point - entrance to Cork Estuary exactly 30 hours from St Mawes (184 NM)

1500 Royal Cork YC marina at Crosshaven

Trip log 544

1530 In Schooner Inn with excellent cheese salad sandwiches in soda bread - a great new taste for us.

1630 Siesta

1930 RCYC for very good value meals (scampi etc)

### Thurs 5 June

1230 Catch bus to Cork City £2.80 return 40 mins. Go in Danners and Roches in Merchants Quay a massive shopping centre. Crowds, crowds, crowds but made up for by the numerous beautiful Irish colleens!

1930 RCYC for dinner - seafood bake, prawns haddock cod in white sauce and cheese topping, mixed grill (Eddie) and boiled ham, new potatoes and parsley sauce - total £15. Lots of sailors having what they call a sailing supper after their racing. (their latest class is 1720 - RCYC was established in 1720 - the oldest in the World)

### Fri 6 Jun

1100 Eddie leaves to ring Garda! for a taxi. £12 to Cork Airport

### Sat 7 Jun

Get "spin" (new word to us for a lift in a vehicle) from Clare who we met 10 minutes earlier! Her race in a Ruffian had been postponed for four hours and she took us to an excellent supermarket four miles away, insisted on waiting for an hour and to run us back. Such is the hospitality of the Irish. This was just one example of many on the trip.

Met local yachtsman who, describing the deep water inshore on the South Irish coast said "you can pick daisies as you sail along" More education - Clare tells us ladies' hurling is called CAMOGIE!

### Sun 8 Jun

Another Irish statement "the seas were so long you go downhill for half an hour and then uphill for half an hour"

Late breakfast

1130 RCYC for coffees

1450 Late lunch

2100 Late dinner - chicken, rice and Szechuan spice sauce and crunchy vegetables

### Mon 9 Jun

1155 Leave Salve Engineering fuel berth after £6.50 refund of error in charge

1505 Entering Kinsale Estuary

1530 On marina near Yacht Club

1630 Find Gourmet Shop-excellent seafood-buy crabs (2 for £1.85) and Fisherman's Pie £3

1730 Kinsale YC - very welcoming and interesting people - overlooks marina

2000 Demolish delicious Fisherman's Pie

2100 HORRENDOUS wash from speedboat - heavy clash of masts with Sadler ranked inside us - for awesome moments we thought the Sadler would land on our deck!! Moved to another berth

### Tues 10 June

0830 Move to accommodate 'Blue Leopard' 112 ft overall, 100 tons gross, 11ft draft. Built 1963 to Laurent Giles design. Skipper said he called us "Little Blue Leopard" when he saw us near the Smugglers in the Fal river - a great compliment!

1130 Coffees in Kinsale YC. Rain. First two coffees 1.20 punts, 2nd two cost 1 punt. Irish law of diminishing cost  
1530 Finish navigation homework  
1645 Heavy weather clothing to trudge to shops. Gubbeen cheese, mussels and pate 8.90 punts  
1800 Party on "Blue Leopard" now flying Blue Ensign

### **Wed 11 Jun**

0810 Leave Kinsale  
0840 Bulman buoy (at shore ends) - nice breeze but died after 20 mins  
0850 Encountered salmon net fishermen and diverted around inshore end of net as requested and thanked profusely by the crew  
1035 Decide (independently) to go to Crosshaven in view of Youghal ETA at near LW dropping and Dunmor ETA after dark

### **Thurs 12 Jun**

0525 Leave RCYC  
0600 Shore Ends. RAIN RAIN RAIN. Log 545.0  
0750 Ballycotton  
1000 51 53 86N 07 42 65E Log 568.2  
1500 Off Dunmore East  
1530 On hook amongst moorings and umpteen "storage" pots  
1700 Ocean Hotel 2.40 punts for half Guinness and a coke! - beat hasty retreat  
1830 Watch 5 Cruisers race (in the rain of course)  
2100 Josef Locke recital. Don't wish to return to Dunmore East - would try Kilmore Quay next time (due to lack of moorings and prices)

### **Fri 13 Jun**

0920 Weigh anchor  
0955 Rounding Hook Head  
1135 Coningbeg lighthouse abeam. Coning beg rock bearing 081 at 1.4 NM. Log 606.3  
1530 On hook north of Rosslare Harbour  
1530-0930 Saturday ROLL ROLL ROLL ROLL

### **Sat 14 Jun**

0930 Weigh anchor  
1223 No 2 Rush Channel Buoy  
1515 Entering Arklow Harbour and tie up at pontoon near Arklow SC (pontoon owned by Arklow Shipping Co)  
1645 Cross near bridge and find Kitty's pub and restaurant in bustling street. Half Guinness and a coke 1.25 punts (half that in Dunmore East!)  
Excellent meal - smoked trout with curried egg, pineapple, strawberries, cherries, apples, pears, peppers, coleslaw and star fruit; tiger prawns with cherries, Marie-rose sauce and salad all with soda bread for 9.20 punts.  
1820 Back on board for Rombout Colombian

2200 onwards - BLISS -quiet, quiet night with no rolling

### **Sun 15 Jun - Father's Day**

1100 Leave Arklow  
1159 Mizen head  
Spectacular sail with Wicklow mountains including Sugar Loaf a la Abergavenny for 15 miles, Blackstairs mountains and Caroline's great, great grandfather's Croghan mountain near Greenhall  
1318 Wicklow head  
1715 Off Patch Rocks (nose of Howth) Rescue operation - tow LM 33Vilesse "Pip B" who had lost his propeller? 7-8 lovely young ladies made it worth while  
1745 In Howth marina  
1830 In local pub club

### **Mon 16 Jun**

1130 Get "spin" to Windmill Chandler by Irish ex-RAF flying officer and yacht delivery ferryman  
1300 Lunch at "La Pizza" in O'Connell Street 3.50 punts each for lasagne and baked potatoes with umpteen salad items. Massive ice cream dishes for 2.49 punts  
1700 DART back to Howth after City Tour including University, National Gallery, Guinness Brewery, wonderful regency houses and especially Phoenix Park - it's massive.  
2038 Decision to go North and around UK

### **Tues 17 Jun**

0735 Under way - inside Ireland's Eye and Lambay (latter privately owned and a bird sanctuary) islands.  
0850 Lamvay to Rockabilly - absolute delight - profusion of shearwaters with their chicks having baths, divers, cormorants and a few gannets  
0950 Rockabilly to port Log 720.0  
1505 N54 04 00; W05 43 17. Isle of Man including Calf of Man visible due E at 32 NM  
1515 Shere Donard (2781 ft high) with his feet in the sea abeam  
1710 Enter Ardglass. Magnificent golf house on port hand. Earl of Kildare's family lived there 13-19th centuries. Log 764.1.  
Very pleasant small marina - gives you a snug feeling

### **Wed 18 Jun**

0930 Leave Ardglass  
1040 Strangford RW buoy  
1245 Skulmarkin buoy  
1349 Turn to port into Belfast Lough around Meir Islands  
1530 Enter Bangor marina  
1615 Tied up next to lifeboat. Log 800.3  
1730 Charts and pilot from Todd's Admiralty Chart Agency  
1930 Dinner at Royal Hotel overlooking Belfast Lough. Plaice, seafood. chips, fudge

cake, coffees and bottle of Frascati £19.85 sterling

2100 Talk to policeman in armour and told "expecting big trouble within the week" What a tragedy for such a lovely country.

#### **Thurs 19 Jun**

1000 34 litres of diesel at 25p/ltr

1035 Leave Bangor

1125 Cross Belfast Lough seeing Sea Cat en route Belfast

1135 Black head Pt and lighthouse

1230 N 54 51 75, W 05 44 30 off Larne and inside Hunter's Rock. Compass anomalies on chart and George starts erratic behaviour Log 811.8

1315 Sighted Scotland - Mull of Kintyre

1530 Anchored by white arch in SE corner of Red Sand Bay after visit to Cushendall. 2 cables from Waterfoot village with Carn Neill towering 1302 feet above us. Wonderful.

Curiosity item - for approx 15-20 miles from Larne to Red Bay the road runs along the coast (under the Antrim Hills) and the only vehicles we saw were white vans and buses. Whilst off Waterfoot all the vehicles were white including the cars! Could there be any connection with the major Ross (fishery) at Larne? Log 828.4

#### **Fri 20 June**

1000 Weigh anchor

1130 Fair Head (or Ben More Head) bearing 280deg mag. Log 837.9, COG 003 and 4.9 Kn

1200 N 55 17 34; W 06 03 18 Depth 490 ft

1230 534 feet; Destination Port Ellen on Isle of Islay bearing 352 deg mag and 18.34 NM

1520 On HIE mooring Port Ellen next to Distillery - gorgeous smells Log 861.0

#### **Sat 21 Jun**

1025 Leave Port Ellen. Keep well off shore from frequent rocks.

1307 N 55 41 86; W 05 59 39

1515 HIE mooring at Craighouse (Isle of Jura) next to Jura Distillery! Log 885.6

1540 Watch Wedding procession for about 1 mile from church along the shore to Hotel next to distillery - bride and groom and approx 50 people. Unfortunately too rough and windy to come back if we went ashore.

Listen to Lions v South Africa - half time Lions lead 9-8 and eventually win 25-16 - and so to bed very happy

#### **Sun 22 Jun**

Still blowing hard from North but need at least NW to proceed past notorious Gulf of Corryvreckan where extreme turbulence from very uneven bottom and the full force of the Atlantic comes in - the Great Race with overfalls can extend 5M to the West. (8.5 Kn on Springs) On the north side keep from the whirlpool known as the Hag which is caused by

depths of 29m at the sides with 100m in the fairway! I'm writing this while we have F 9 outside here at Southend (Jan 3 1998) and F11 Biscay and Shannon! Help! Start Chores, Tighten sea cocks, add engine oil and fuel to tank. Thankfully a sunny day but windy - watch campers play football in front of Jura Hotel. Ben an Oiv (2564 feet) hovers over us - it has white scree all over - suddenly it and two other peaks above us are enveloped in cloud which descends from the summits to the feet but retains the exact shape of the mountains right down - this is followed by 29 Knot gusts. I think it was related and probably the Katabatic wind down current following the mountain slope. THINK OF EMIGRATING. Later the process is reversed and the clouds recede up the slopes as if peeling off a blanket and the peaks are clear again.

#### **Mon 23 Jun**

1145 At last leave Craighouse. Head north up Sound of Jura.

Gulf of Corryvreckan - overfalls but not bad at all (wind force 3-4)

Head up Sound of Luing towards Fladda to pass west of Dubh Sgeir lighthouse - here navigable water is about 1-2 cables wide but it feels much narrower especially as whirlpools make a lot of rapid rudder action necessary. I was too busy to record depth and SOG but I recall the latter as 11 Knots and sometimes nearly broadside to the course.

1613 Bogo Rock on port beam. Unable to distinguish Easdale entrance. Log 912.7NM

1620 Having difficulty in identifying Easdale Island and Insh Island - eventually find passage between them.

1730 In Kerrera Sound north of Gallanch ferry there are Ferry Rocks in mid stream with about 1 cable of safe water either side but the buoyage showed a green buoy to our port side and a red to our starboard which if buoyage was on basis of southward flood would suggest passage between them and in to real trouble. A quick look at the pilot however reassured us but still have not to this day found if flood is in fact northerly ( a bit like Elmley Ferry)

1800 Alongside pontoon Ardantrive Bay (opposite Oban) Log 924.0

1900 Go walkies to Ardantrive Farm but shut for food on Mondays - see pheasants, lots of ducks and pet ewe and lamb ( black face) in boatyard. Wonderful views to the west to Mull, Sound of Mull and south tip of Lismore, Lunn of Morvern.

## **Dai & Caroline**

## **Race Officer's Warning Signal**

*Caroline Gibb*

The Summer days are drawing near  
And sailing days have come  
It's time to rake out all your gear  
And sail for the sun.

It's time to pull your anchor up  
And set your sails for Spring  
Forget your doubts and dream about  
The fun that it will bring.

It's time to throw your cares away  
And sail the seven seas  
To dream of all the better things  
While riding on the breeze.

And when the gloomy Winter days  
Return again once more  
These dreams you'll still remember  
While you're sitting on the shore.

## **Handicaps for First Race of 1998**

<b>Boat</b>	<b>Handicap</b>	<b>Start Time</b>	<b>Boat</b>	<b>Handicap</b>	<b>Start Time</b>
Lady Hamilton	107	1030	Memory	159	1000
Tess	116	1030	Samphire	160	1000
Halloween	120	1030	Stravaig	162	1000
Blue Bird	124	1000	Francesca	170	1000
Inca	125	1000	Pint Pot	171	1000
Paisana	129	1000	Haze	194	1000
Stortebecker	135	1000	Pudmuddle	198	1000
Stormfageln	145	1000	Swanti	225	1000
Meris	146	1000			
Marshmallow	146	1000			

Any new boats most welcome. Come and enjoy yourselves this season.

# ***Caroline***

## Income and Expenditure Account for Year ending 31st Dec 1994

<u>Income</u>	1997 £	1996 £
Annual Subscription	299	380
CHA Plaques	361	361
Bank Interest	8	7
Donations	0	3
Excess Inc/Exp for dinner (inc flowers)	68	45
	736	796
<u>Expenditure</u>		
RYA Subscription	57	57
CAYFE Subscription	0	6
Printing and Stationery	3	0
Postage	32	32
Cup Insurance	51	51
Cup Engraving	38	14
Crouch Harbour Authority (disks)	361	361
Flowers	40	0
Research (Caroline Gibb)	31	0
Written Off Burgees	32	0
Testimonial	0	25
Presentation to Chairman	60	0
	705	546
Excess of Expenditure over Income		250
Excess of Income over Expenditure	31	
<u>Balance sheet as at 31st December 1997</u>		
<u>Assets</u>		
Balance at Bank 31st Dec	830	767
Stock of Burgees	0      830	32      799
	830	799
<u>Accumulation</u>		
Balance 1.1.97	799	549
Excess Exp/Inc	31      830	250      799
	830	799

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Hon Treasurer**

## Roach Sailing Association 1998 Sailing Programme

**Start times: Boats with handicap 124 and above 1000hrs**

**Boats with handicap 123 and below 1030hrs**

**Course for Dinghy races to be decided on the day, meet on the slip at 1030**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Tide (Burnham)</b>
22 Mar	AGM at the Alexandra Yacht Club 7:30pm start	
17 May	Paglesham Pot	HW 1702
23-25 May	OGA Crouch Rally	
31 May	Whitaker Cup	HW 1717
6/7 Jun	Pyefleet Weekend	HW 1051
14 Jun	Blue Shoal Trophy (Jack H Coote)	HW 1606
20 Jun	Lowestoft Festival of the Sea & Ipswich 98	
27 Jun-5 Jul	Shotley Classic Boat Festival	
11 July	Cruise to Fambridge	HW 1436
12 July	Race Fambridge to Branklet Spit	HW 1515
18 July	OGA East Coast Race	
26 July	Paglesham Yacht Race - Dinghies	HW 1519
9 Aug	Frank Shuttlewood Cup	HQ 1419
23 Aug	Lifeboat Cup (Dinghies)	HW 1425
29-30 Aug	Weekend Cruise to Pyefleet	HW 1735
29 Aug - 5 Sep	Burnham Week	
13 Sep	Gracilda Cup (Ladies' Race)	HW 1824
20 Sep	RNLI Race	HW 1322
25 Sep	OGA Maldon Town Regatta	
4 Oct	Roach Plate	HW 1841
10 Oct	Laying-up Supper (RCYC)	

# Caroline