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**RYA-South East
Newsletter**

Winter 2010 Issue

Please forward this 12-page issue to your members, customers and friends (It is an Adobe PDF file, so safe to send)

Print out the pages and feature them on your Notice Board



RYA South East Cruising Conference

Full Report from January 31 at Chipstead SC
>> **GoTo page**



RYA-SE Hire Fleets now include Teras and Fevas

Reserve your fleet NOW at special rates
Find out more >> **Click**



Sailability Conference: February

Amazing feats of disabled sailors

>> **Details here**



Cruising News

Nick Jordan's report **& RYA**
>> **Read it here**



RYA Awards presented by Ben Ainslie & HRH Princess Royal

South East Winners
>> **Click Here**



Race Officer Courses & Safety

South East Region courses
RNLi tests new Man Over Board Guardian
>> **See More . . .**

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RYA-SE Cruising Conference "Cruising Into The Future" Jan 31st 2010 Chipstead SC

The proceedings were kicked off by Rod Carr, the outgoing RYA CEO. Rod gave a fascinating insight of his personal views and of how things had changed over 40 years.

Current Issues in Cruising

Following Rod Carr were Stuart Carruthers

(RYA Cruising Manager) and Gus Lewis (RYA Legal and Government Affairs Manager). They covered some of the relevant current cruising issues.

- UKBA – Stop and Search.**

Significant numbers of RYA members on coastal passage being stopped - 50% had had bad experiences and 50% good. The RYA had met with UKBA and it soon became evident that the reasons behind their tactics were multiple:

- o Firstly, the UKBA reports that 80% of drugs seized by the UKBA Cutter fleet in the UK come from yachts. Smugglers often transfer drugs from a Mother Ship offshore, on to a yacht to complete the shipment; hence the searching of coastal cruisers.

- o Secondly, the UKBA crews have been the victim in the past of 'booby trapped' boats, which destroy the drugs by blowing them up and sinking the evidence. This means that the UKBA crews are always in a hurry to get down in to the saloon and ensure the boat is safe, before they do anything else!

- o UKBA staff are not 'dressed militarily' but wear the same kit as the RNLI - except it is black.

- o Within 12 miles documents are required for the vessel, but not for the people.

- o The RYA now has regular meetings with UKBA. If members have any cause for concern following being stopped please report it to Hamble



Rod Carr

- o UKBA vessels are all clearly marked and there is usually a mother ship nearby - they are not armed and will leave a boarding card behind.

- **E-Borders Programme**

- o This is to monitor passenger travellers carried by commercial carriers. Currently 99% of travellers are monitored.

- o There is a strong political agenda, and RYA is working with UKBA on how it might be implemented for the recreational sector, but the timescale - currently 2014 - is likely to slip.

- **2010 Aids to Navigation Review**

- o How dependent are we on lights and marks? A major review of Navigation Aids is scheduled for 2010, which could result in a change of charging regime

- o The key question is what representation should the RYA/recreational boaters make?

- o Most harbour/river light and marks are funded by local authorities, not the General Lighthouse Fund.

- **Wind Farms - Round 3**

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• **Out of Date Flares (TEPs)**

These should be taken to nominated MRCC site. Big questions - yet to be decided - are: How many and what type of flares do we need in the future? Why we carry them?

• **Alcohol & Boating**

The Railways and Transport Safety Act 2003 does not apply to leisure boaters which is the subject of the current proposals and consultation.

• **Red Diesel and Belgium**

Belgium still does not accept that Red Diesel in UK vessels is legal and that duty has been paid! So report all incidents and /or fines to the RYA. (The recent press article saying that carrying red diesel in cans in the UK was incorrect, though it is advisable to carry white diesel in cans if visiting the continent)

'Zen and the Art of Collision Avoidance'

Kaimes Beasley (*Channel Navigation and Information Manager at Dover MRCC*) gave this presentation. The role of CNIS is as follows: -

- Surveillance of the Dover Strait.

o The majority are outside the 12 mile limit (in aggregated) but a few are within, and within current busy cruising areas

o There is significant political pressure to meet 'green energy' targets.

o The maintenance of pylons well offshore could result in exclusion zones, especially if maintenance staff have to be housed on offshore platforms.



Kaimes Beasley

- Provide information to the mariner.
- Report contravening vessels.
- Encourage compliance with COLREG's.
- Contribute to the safety of navigation.

In particular, it is to advise the Mariner of incidents and situations in the Dover Strait with hourly broadcasts:

- General Information.
- Ship Movements.
- Waymark Information.
- Special Operations.
- Rule 10 Contraventions.
- Unorthodox Crossings.

• **SUNK VTS**

Set up with wind farms in mind. There are 50-60 movements per 24 hours, and some very large vessels!

Going the wrong way in a TSS is the most serious contravention, along with failing to cross at right angles.

Inshore zone contraventions are referred to as **ROGUES** and vessels failing to mandatory report, are referred to a **ZOMBIES**. Any engine failure in a TSS must be reported.

AIS & Plotters

A presentation by David Holden covered the differences between Class A and Class B AIS, including the advantages of passive and active devices. In the future it may be

more over ...

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Conference

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functioning correctly, as a result of being regularly checked and serviced.

RYE Harbour

Richard Hopper and Capt. Carl Bagwell gave a fascinating presentation on the merits of visiting Rye, and how to arrive safely i.e. -2hrs HW, watch the traffic signals and report to the Harbour Master upon arrival!

RYA Benefits

Steve Gray for the RYA gave a brief talk on the benefits of being an RYA member. Most of the audience were RYA members and presumably recognized the

... continued

possible to receive continuous weather information broadcast by AIS as well.

RNLI Demo

Following lunch, a demo involving role play was given by Ian Dunkley (Gravesend RNLI) assisted by David Holden (RYA Sea Safety Officer) illustrating how quickly things can go wrong and how being prepared can save lives. The role play only lasted for just over four minutes, and at the end various lifejacket faults were illustrated, ranging from no gas bottle to a hole in the bladder. The point of the exercise was to show that a life jacket is of very little use unless it is worn, and is

benefits. Much of the work of the RYA also assists thousands of boaters who are not members, and a challenge is to encourage them to join to help fund campaigns which benefit everyone.

Marine Conservation Zones (MCZ)

This was a presentation given by Sue Wells (Project manager of SE England's Balanced Seas Project). The area covered is from Felixstowe to Christchurch and involves all users and agencies. Both economic and social uses are taken into consideration. The consultation process during the autumn (with RYA input) has been to determine the overall structure and steering of the project. In the spring 2010 there will be interviews and questionnaires with the wide range of interested parties who have been identified 2010 followed in the summer by a web based consultation.

The project will end in 2011 with it finalized recommendations and will report to Natural England for implementation. MCZs should not affect the leisure cruisers very much at all. Read more at www.balancedseas.org

Medway to Tower Bridge

Dick Holness (East Coast Pilot) gave a very interesting presentation on the delights of traveling up the Thames from the Medway to St Katherine's. Dick encouraged one to take time over the trip and not just do the whole journey in one tide, but to stop on route and enjoy the sights.

One point that Dick emphasised was that you must pre-book your berth at St Kats or Limehouse prior to arriving!

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RYA-SE New Hire Fleets include Teras and Fevas

We have updated the South East Region hire fleets courtesy of the funding from Maidstone and the Youth Training Fund. This will see one Optimist fleet replaced by 6 Teras, which are more 'sea capable', and suitable for coastal clubs. The Region has also added 3 Feva's, to be based in East Kent, in order to encourage youth double-handed sailing.

New for 2010 are individual boat hire rates for Teras and Fevas by the day or weekend

Rates for all the hire fleets are highly competitive, and offer excellent value, so get your reservation in now . **Click here** to email Julian Irons, Hire Fleet Manager or phone him on 01304 241631



Tera



Feva



Optimist



Topper



Julian Irons

RYA South East Hire Fleet Charges: 2010

Season	High	Low	High	Low
	£	£	£	£
Optimist Fleet - days				
2	120	80		
5	240	160		
7	330	220		
Topper & Tera Fleet - days			Individual Tera hire (if fleet not hired)	
2	180	120	Day	15
5	360	240	Weekend	25
7	495	330		
Feva Fleet - days			Individual Feva hire (if fleet not hired)	
1	75	50	Day	25
2	150	100	Weekend	40
5	300	200		
7	413	275		

Fleet consists of 6 boats (Feva = 3), sails and all gear on trailer

High Season is from June to September inc

Low Season is other months

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RYA Sailability Conference A Huge Success

Over 100 delegates from Sailability groups from across the country - as far afield as Scotland to Cornwall - attended the annual RYA Sailability Conference at Wyboston Lake over the weekend 20-21 Feb

Kick starting the day was RYA CEO Rod Carr who, at his last conference

before his retirement at the end of February, told delegates how Sailability groups could be proud of their achievements. "The penny is dropping in the right circles that sailing is good for people with a wide range of disabilities. Disabled people realise they can do it and benefit from it. A lot of the success of sailing for disabled is down to the enthusiasm and commitment of volunteers who run groups. Without them it doesn't work."

Rod was followed by a host of speakers talking on a range of issues including; Matt Grier, *RYA Disability Racing Development Coach* speaking about the Beginner to Winner programme and the plans for 2010; an update on activities being undertaken by the Sailability Trust by John Crosbie *Sailability Trustee* and Lucy Hodges, a visually impaired sailor herself. how to on how to open up Sailability groups with opportunities for blind and visually impaired sailors After lunch, delegates took part in four interactive workshops - *Finding the Funds, Competitive Sailing, How to maximise publicity for your club or group and Child Protection and Vetting and Barring System.*

Victoria Millar from Hillingdon Outdoor Activity Centre said: "This is our first time at the conference and we wanted to see what it was all about and get more information about Sailability and it hasn't failed to deliver. It's been a great networking opportunity, meeting other people running Sailability groups and sharing best practise. The day has been fantastic and we definitely got lots out of it, especially the workshops which were really hands on."

Later in the evening, the RYA Sailability Awards were presented which recognise the priceless contribution given by volunteers - the MBE's of Sailability! Finally, it was over to a sailing legend



Geoff Holt on board *Impossible Dream*

- Geoff Holt - who treated everyone to the first airing of his new presentation '*Atlantic Challenge 2009/10*'. This was an emotional, heartfelt and inspiring talk in which he shared details of the challenges he faced, what he achieved and exactly how he did it.

Debbie Blachford, *RYA Sailability manager* said: "This has been our most successful conference to date, with over 100 attendees. We run the conference to give all the people involved in the programme and who run Sailability clubs and groups around the country the opportunity to get together and get all the latest news and information from a variety of stakeholders all under the one roof but also the opportunity to network and share best practice with like minded people."

For more information about RYA Sailability visit the RYA website www.rya.org.uk click on the Sailability link at the bottom of the home page.

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Cruising News

The CEO of the MCA is leaving the post, but as yet the job has not been advertised and the industrial action is still on going.

Thanet Wind Farm -

The first wind turbine generator was erected just before Christmas, leaving another 99 to go by October 2010 and when completed it will be the largest wind

farm in the world.

There have been 2 accidents recently on the site

- one involving a 23 year old Dutchman off Ramsgate who had both legs crushed

Dates for RYA Sail Cruise 2010 announced

The Cruise takes place from Sunday 6 - 12 June and provides participants with the support of an experienced Yachtmaster Instructor from Hamble School of Yachting throughout the week who will brief and advise you along the way.

Heading off from the Solent the cruise will visit Cherbourg, St Peter Port, Guernsey and Braye, Alderney before the fleet disperses and heads to home ports.

This leisurely week includes time for you to explore the various ports and opportunities to socialise with the other participants.

- the Polar Prince had its ROV sucked into its props.

In the light of these incidents there will be a joint RNLi/MCA/Wind farm exercise in June 2010

Manchex 2009 - took place in November and was very successful with lifeboats from Ramsgate, Walmer, Dover and France. The exercise simulated an incident in the Dover Straits and involved all the emergency services.

Kent Police - are basing a RIB permanently in Dover Harbour.

RNLi - now have flood rescue kits and have gone through DEFRA training in flood rescues.

Coast Guard - have now been issued with water entry life jackets that are front release.

The RYA Sail Cruise is open to sailing yachts from 9 -12 metres, although vessels outside these sizes may be accepted on an individual basis, with costs from approximately £450 for boat and two people.

To find out more about the cruise please register your interest by email cruising.events@rya.org.uk or telephone 023 8060 4233. Sufficient applications have now been received to fill the 2010 Cruise, however you are still welcome to apply and once the cruise is full, there will be a waiting list, to re-allocate a place in the case of a cancellation.



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RYA News

RYA TO LAUNCH NEW DEDICATED INSTRUCTOR MEMBERSHIP

Going live in February, the RYA Instructor membership will reward and recognise the good work done by RYA instructors with unique offers only made avail-

able to Instructor members, including exclusive discounts on an instructors' range of Musto clothing and a special price on the custom designed and branded Spinlock Deck Vest and the complete Deckware Series range (<http://rya.spinlock.co.uk/>). There will also be offers on a custom buoyancy aid in the future, along with other periodic one-off deals and discounts.

There are no extra costs associated with having Instructor membership, you just need to be an RYA member and an RYA Instructor. Existing RYA member/instructors, will automatically receive their new instructor membership card at their next renewal and will receive automatic notification of their exclusive benefits which will be accessible via the RYA website.

As an added incentive of the membership, RYA Instructor members will receive commission on any new RYA members they sign up. For each new

full member that joins, as recommended by the RYA Instructor member, the instructor will receive £7.50 commission, so by signing up just six new members each year your annual subs are more than covered. New members can join quickly and easily via the online 'joining point'.

Portsmouth Number List to be issued at RYA Volvo Dinghy Show

Over the past couple of months, the RYA Technical department have been collating and analysing the data submitted from clubs. In a new twist to the scheme, data from the RYA's Portsmouth Yardstick Race results website is being incorporated into the data that the Portsmouth Yardstick Advisory Group use to consider the Portsmouth Number list.

Bas Edmonds, RYA Technical Manager said: "This year's data is showing some very interesting trends in the returns, especially when we start to look at the data from the website. "That data has very much justified the processes we have gone through with the website and that it is definitely worth the wait in validating the coding behind it".

Both Bas Edmonds and Leah Brooks will be at the RYA Volvo Dinghy Show to answer your questions on the Portsmouth Yardstick and other aspects of the Technical Departments work.

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Cruising News

This is the RYA members' only Cruising e-newsletter for sail and power cruisers. www.rya.org.uk/newsevents/ newsletters/Cruising news/Pages/default.aspx contains articles from the last eight editions of *Cruising News*. For older articles, go to the archive at the bottom of the page. If you wish to receive the newsletter

content by email fresh in your inbox each month, you will need to [register](#) to receive email newsletters.

news that John Derbyshire, one of the unsung heroes of the RYA, has picked up an OBE in the New Year Honours list. In addition to this, we have a roundup of all the most important RYA events and offers from the London International Boat Show. Elsewhere, we look back on another excellent year for the Skandia Team GBR sailors and look ahead to the latest Commodores' Cup plans for the summer.

See InBrief by clicking [here](#) or email RYA at enewseditor@rya.org.uk.

InBrief

This is a quick roundup of RYA key stories and events. The New Year kicks off with the welcome



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Awards

BEN AINSLIE PRESENTS INSPIRATIONAL YOUNG SAILOR WITH PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

Thomas Lambert, aged 18, from Rochester in Kent was presented with the prestigious RYA South East Young Sailor of the Year Award 2009 at the Tullet Prebon London International Boat Show. The awards were present-

ed by sailing legend Ben Ainslie, a previous winner himself, and recognise the outstanding achievements of youth sailors across the country.

Tom was voted RYA South East Regional Young Sailor of the Year 2009 last autumn. He is not only a keen competitive sailor at Wilsonian Sailing Club, based at Rochester, but has also made major contributions to his club and the local community. In particular, he has:

- Organised sponsored sailings, which have raised close to £2000 for **Children in Need**.
- Gained a Youth Opportunity grant for his club worth £10000 for the purchase of 4 new club training boats for Junior and Adult training. Tom put together presentations to Medway Council to apply for the grant, and has given updates on the use of the money.
- Obtained his Sports Leader Award and become a qualified dinghy instructor
- Played a major part in the Thomas Aveling school/club link to set up the link and the regular

training sessions, as well as instructing at after school sessions.

Tom was amongst thirteen RYA Regional Young Sailor of the Year winners who are voted for by RYA affiliated sailing clubs. These young sailors have made a significant impact on youth sailing, ranging from gold medal winning achievements and overcoming adversity, to the



huge amount of hard work and effort they give back to their clubs.

As Ann Heather, Kent Schools Youth Coordinator at Wilsonian says "Tom is not only a keen competitive sailor who has taken sailing achievements to new heights in 2008, but he has also made major contributions to his club and the local community".

SOUTH EAST VOLUNTEERS OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS

HRH the Princess Royal, President of the RYA, presented the annual RYA Community and RYA Awards at the RYA AGM across three categories recognising Lifetime Commitment, Outstanding Contribution and Youth.

South East awards for **Lifetime Commitment** included:

- **Roy Colver** is a member of Blue Circle Sailing Club, based at a 140 acre

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lake at Cliffe in North Kent. Michael Kent from the club states that "Roy Colver has been 'the hand on the tiller' at the Blue Circle Sailing

Club for the past 23 years. Without his efforts Blue Circle SC would probably not exist now." He has helped drive the club forward from its beginnings in 1956 to the active sports centre it is today

John and Helen Lawley run the bar at Newhaven and Seaford Sailing Club. As any sailor will tell you, that is a vital function in any club, particularly on the exposed coastline where its members sail. As Jim Skinner, club secretary remarks "They are both superb people who have given much to the club since 1985, and continue to do so, and there can be no other couple that is more deserving of recognition."



Ron and Shirley Sinclair from Chipstead Sailing Club at Longford Lake near Sevenoaks have been welcoming members and visitors for many years, organising the catering and bar. As secretary Mark Ashford says "The majority of our members cannot remember a time when Ron and Shirley were not performing these vital roles and many wonder how we will continue when the time comes for them to stand back enjoy a very well earned retirement. They will certainly be a hard act to follow".



The South East award for **Outstanding Contribution** went to Julian Irons of RYA South Eastern Region. Julian is in charge of the region's training fleets. Tony Rowe, RYA SE chairman stated "Without the dedication and commitment of Julian, the Region would not have been able to support the activity that has been beneficial to so many youngsters"



The RYA Awards and Community Awards acknowledge the importance of volunteers within the sailing and boating communities. They recognise the outstanding contributions, time, effort and experience individuals have made to making it possible for others to enjoy boating and sailing, from establishing clubs, committee participation, to boat maintenance and training.

The winners enjoyed a celebratory lunch and were presented with a commemorative medallion and certificate by HRH, The Princess Royal.

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South East Region Race Officer Courses

Club Race Officer courses are available to clubs who wish to improve the standard of their race management. Normally the club would arrange a suitable date and venue. A one day course can also be split into two evenings, assuming the instructor does not have too far to travel.

years there has been insufficient support to hold these. However, if we can get enough support then we can organise one.

Mark Laying Courses have just been introduced, and are run at on a similar basis to Race management, with the levels of Club, Regional and National. The entry level is Club, and normally a club would organize a date and instructor would be booked for training.

For further details on any of the above, please contact Richard Kingsnorth, South East Regional Race Management Co-ordinator Tel 01622 862254 email: richard@zwailing.co.uk

Regional Race Officer courses are usually held in the winter. Two days at a venue need to be notified, but over the last couple of

RNLI Cloud Computing saves Man Overboard

RNLI is testing a man overboard system that could make a radical improvement to safety at sea. The Man Overboard Guardian system consists of a personal alarm worn by the sailor, and an alert is triggered as soon as the person goes under water. The alarm is raised by satellite and tracked by GPS so that rescue crews not only know of the incident but also where to find the sailor. The personal alarm pendant is Bluetooth enabled, and is in wireless contact with a sensor on the boat, which is only activated when the boat leaves port. The system is targeted at boats shorter than 15m - primarily fishermen at present - and can handle up to four

crew per boat. It not only flags man overboard, but also regularly sends back data on the boat's position, and if the regular update is not received, and alarm is raised for the boat itself. In addition to the automatic warning, there is also an emergency button by which crew can alert RNLI.

So where does the cloud come in? Cloud computing is a new way of using computers, where the programs and processing are over the internet, not by an on-board computer. This enables a central land-based server to handle thousands of boats and their crews, and capacity can be increased at relatively low cost.

Will this system be available to leisure boaters? We must await the result of the RNLI trials and see what the costs are.