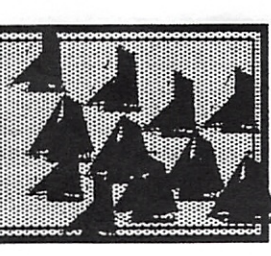


EASTCOASTER

ISSUE 13 JULY 1995



STRESS EDITION!

Due to the editorial team taking part in the North Sea Classic Passage Race, with the stress of Shotley and the East Coast Race, and having to keep my clients happy, this has to be a reduced edition. The next issue will contain reports on Shotley, E C Race, NSPR etc.

Jon Wainwright



IN BRIEF

● *Open Boats blown out!*

Foul weather and the attractions of the Rugby World Cup forced winkle brigs to flee to the shelter of Dabchicks SC. See over for details of re-scheduled event

● *Double-Ton at Shotley!*

211 boats entered our Classic Boat Festival, and superb cruising and racing was had by all. ECOD CHITTABOB IV won the Victor Ludorum. Other ECOD NANCY won the points series for Racers, (and a Green Tigger for most improved behaviour) Police-boat VICTORIA won the gaff points, FORELLE won the bermudan points.

● *New Course, New Winner at the East Coast Race*

1897 CB Racer RAINBOW won the East Coast Old Gaffers trophy on a 30 mile course with reaching legs up to Inner Bench and back, in a fleet consisting almost entirely of late entries! Late entries to race off THCF of 1.5 next year!!!! Secretarial apologies for prize mix ups.

OGA GETS 3 GUN SALUTE ON THE RIVER CROUCH

10 years ago I organised the first ever rally on the River Crouch over the Spring Bank Holiday weekend. The date has stayed the same though the format has changed considerably over the years. This year the OGA were invited to hold their rally as part of the Royal Burnham Yacht Club's Centenary Regatta.

The Committee arranged a new type of Passage Race for the Saturday to test the navigation skills of competitors, and the thirteen boats who participated enjoyed the challenge. Best average speed on corrected time on passage was made by MARY RITCHIE (Don Garman), whose course was Buxey Beacon and return to Burnham. Mike Peyton's TOUCHSTONE from Maldon came second, with third place going to the classic Bermudan Vertue MAID OF TESA, sailed single handed from West Mersea by Elder Gaffer Rob Williamson.

Over forty members and crew sat down to supper at the RBYC on Saturday evening, including two latecomers who had been delayed on the mud at Shore Ends! We were welcomed by the Commodore, Nick Holland-Brown.

The main race was to start in two groups with the smaller boats going off at 11.00 hrs and the larger ones at 11.10. As we had only two open boats, it was agreed that they would race with the Scows at 11.30hrs. In spite of the forecast of SW5-6 gusting 7, 22 boats turned up to race. The Met.Office got the strength right, but the wind was actually from the South, which gave the boats a good reach up to the first mark at Cliff. The two Cornish Shrimpers AUSSIE II and COTEHELE, with ADELLE, DEVA and PELICAN all got off to a good start, but on the beat up to Canewdon Buoy ADELLE pulled well ahead. On the run back to Cliff Reach the bigger boats began to catch up and overtake and it was anybody's race as we did a triangle across to Cliff and up to Canewdon again before running all the way down past Burnham to Fairway No 1, and then finishing E - W across the RBYC line, a

course distance of 13 miles.

The first two boats to finish were CHITTABOB and BARBARA AGNES, with only 5 seconds separating them. MARY RITCHIE and SAUNTRESS were very close behind. Some 17 boats completed the course, with three boats retiring. Prizes were presented by the Commodore of the Royal Burnham YC on Sunday evening, results being based on the modified THCF. It was MARY RITCHIE's weekend as she took the Ind Coope and Allsopp Old Gaffers Trophy for the first boat on corrected time in the race. We were delighted that the second prize and the Skua Shield went to Vice Commodore Johnny James, our newest member, in his first OGA Race with his Cornish Shrimper COTEHELE. The Teal Tankard for third place went to Godfather Ray Austen in ADELLE. In the Open Boats Race, all four of the Scows retired in the strong winds. MEMORY did not complete the correct course, so the Peeler Pot therefor went to stalwarts Phil and Jo in AILSA.

Every boat participating in the weekend's events received a commemorative plate from the Royal Burnham Yacht Club. Our OGA Area Vice President Brian Hammett then presented the Club with a framed original Mike Peyton cartoon to mark their centenary. However, this was not the end of the celebrations because at midday on Monday, fourteen OGA boats led by ELLEN and BONA, did a Sail Past in honour of the RBYC centenary and were very impressed to receive a three gun salute.

Brenda Jago

SOUTH EAST BOATSHOW - BURNHAM 31 MAY /4 JUNE 1995

Once again the public showed great interest in the OGA display afloat and ashore. The OGA stand featured two 1870 charts of the East Coast and Solent areas, and continuously running videos showing Shotley Classic Boat Festival and the East Coast Old Gaffers Race from 1991- 1994. Sales of regalia reached £330, and books fetched nearly £50, from which the OGA gratefully receives a percentage from the author Frank Mulville. There was also interest from potential new members.

Down in the marina, most of the visitors were drawn to the eight OGA boats on display. Jane on smack ELLEN did her usual excellent PR job, while Ian on bawley BONA took part in the "Try a Boat" event. They also tried to execute our Area VP's phantom parrot on AVOLA, the J Francis Jones gaff cutter. Also there was the lovely Dunkirk Little Ship CACHALOT (for sale), Deben 4 tonner JANTY, and from the racing scene, the French 7.5 Metre SHEENA and the ECOD CHITTABOB IV. Everyone took a turn pumping out last but by no means least ship's lifeboat SHEBA.

Our thanks go to the Cruising Association for the stand, to Harwich Radio for the video, to Jon & Margaret, Martin & Julia, Ray, Dick, Dougal, Mike, Don & Eddie for taking turns on the stand, and to George for all his help in setting it up. *Brenda Jago*

WALTON & STOUR RALLY

The OGA is again celebrating August Bank Holiday with the Walton Stour Rally. Those who attended Shotley know just how delightful the Walton Backwaters and the River Stour can be. To start the weekend, there will be a passage race on Saturday 26 August from all parts to finish up at Island Point at the entrance to the Backwaters. We meet up at Stone Point for an informal gathering on Saturday night, and on Sunday morning we have a race which takes us into the Stour, then up to Wrabness and ashore for a barbeque. Course details will be issued Saturday night. Please let me have entries for the passage race ASAP. Entry fee £7.00 + £3.00 for the passage race. Bring your own grub to cook on the barbeque, the OGA will set up the beers, although there will be the usual bucket for the kitty!

OPEN BOATS

Because of bad weather, the open boats rally at West Mersea had to be cancelled. A new date has been set as 23 September 1995. If you entered (and paid) previously, there will be no further fee, but please still send the entry form to Sue. If you are a new entry, the fee is £5.00.

TO Sue Taylor, 10 Brickhouse Close, West Mersea, Essex (By 10/9/95)

Please enter my boat _____ for the Open Boats Rally at West Mersea.

Sail No _____ Sail Area _____ LOA _____

Address _____

Tel. _____

MALDON ANNIVERSARY RALLY

To celebrate the founding of the OGA back in 1963, there will be a rally at Maldon Little Ship Club on Friday 29 September. Moorings can be had on the council pontoon on Hythe Quay. There will be an anniversary supper at 2000hrs, meals at £10.00 per head, but they must be booked in advance. On Sunday there will be a race from Osca to Brightlingsea, entry fee £7.00. It is appreciated that these days there are many clubs and organisations who lay on very appealing events for traditional and classic craft, particularly on the Blackwater. But this event is of significance to the founding of today's popularity of gaff rig, and could each and every one of the 400 plus membership on the East Coast give some thought on how they are going to support the OGA!

To Jon Wainwright, Portview, New Road, Mistley, Essex, CO11 2AE (by 14/8/95)

Please enter my boat _____ in the Walton/ Stour Rally. (£7.00)

Sail No _____ Type _____

Sail Area _____ LOA _____

THCF _____ Rig _____

Passage Race ? (£3.00) _____

Home Port _____

Skipper Address _____

To Brenda Jago Smugglers Cottage, Farnbridge Rd, North Farnbridge, Essex CM3 6NA (by 15/9/95)

Please enter my boat _____ in the Maldon Rally

Sail No _____ Type _____

Sail Area _____ THCF _____

LOA _____ Rig _____

Meals at £10 per head _____

Address _____