

Storrar Marine Newsletter

August 2007

Almost August & yes, yesterday the 24th of July, working at Amble marina in the evening I got soaked (again). The only thing that kept me going thru the torrential rain was the thought of fish & chips from the corner 'chippy' in Amble. Here at the Marine Store it's been a funny month. Despite the atrocious weather, foul weather gear has not been flying out the door (except the stolen stuff) but shorts, both casual & technical, have been! Work that one out if you can!

The sail loft has been very busy & as I write we have just finished a spray hood; dodgers & sail cover for Jim Irvine who has sailed his 28 footer single handed down from Peterhead for some bespoke tailoring. Well done Norma, Dan & the sail loft boy for your sterling efforts this week.

On an industrial note after almost a year's work we finally left the Echo Building project in early July: 20,000 metres of wire, 3000 tensioners & almost 2000 hours of swaging and fitting. Thanks very much to Richie for postponing his long awaited move to the sun, however make sure you're back by mid September!! **Hurrah**, after some seven years (when the project was first mooted) we were awarded this month the contract to supply stainless steel stanchions & the appropriate wire work to the Royal Border railway bridge spanning the River Tweed. Over twenty two tons of stainless steel will be used in the manufacture of the stanchions let alone 3000 metres of 8mm wire & 400 toggled tensioners. Let's hope the weather improves when we have to measure up for the wirework during September!

Derek's labour of love - Que Sera

Imagine hiding yourself away in a shed in deepest Blyth almost every weekend for seven years, talk about dedication! The story starts back in the autumn of 1999 when Derek Howe bought an unfinished project. The 'project' was a classic long keeled Elizabethan 31 sailing boat. He dates the hull from the 80's, as found in the various boxes of bits he inherited with the hull, was an invoice for the Vetus engine. His first job that winter was to strip out the entire water damaged interior, put pen to paper & redraw, incorporating many of the features you would find on a modern cruiser.



A change of job meant that Derek ended up living in Manchester during the week & working on the project at weekends. Was it worth it? Judging by the smile on Derek's face when we switched off the engine in Blyth Bay & the sails 'took over' I would say most definitely yes! Storrar Marine is proud to have been a supplier of marine equipment to Derek over the years. We also supplied the spars & manufactured the rigging, designed & manufactured the sails & stack pack. **P.s.** She sails beautifully & if his good lady is looking for a job making boat upholstery the sail loft door is wide open!

Go West!

This July saw the release of the new West System DVD. For a lot of sailors the name West has been used in general terms to describe epoxy (bit like any make of vacuum cleaner being called a Hoover) West system epoxy was first developed in the USA by the Gougeon brothers in the sixties primarily for the manufacture of ice racing yachts. In the early seventies it 'arrived' on these shores. Since then epoxies have been used in the construction of racing cars, bikes, super yachts, racing dinghies, aircraft construction, blades for wind farms etc. The beauty of using the West system for manufacture, repair or perhaps osmosis protection is that you do not have to be a highly skilled boat builder.

By modifying the basic epoxy with filler powders you can produce for example a tremendously strong gap filling adhesive. It can be used as a fairing compound with the addition of say micro balloons. You can laminate or repair your tiller, perhaps mend your broken carbon spinnaker pole Granted the finished product may not look professional but from a strength point of view, no problem.

Restoring an old house? I have used it with success on our last three houses! At the Marine Store, to celebrate the release of this DVD, **we are giving away four free copies** to the first four e-mails received by Sat 4th August saying in no more than 35 words how you think we could improve our store. Naturally we stock the West system epoxy range in great depth & should you need advice we are always willing to help. This autumn we have arranged for Dave Johnson technical operations manager of West Systems UK to give a talk on the use of epoxy in the building of, repair & maintenance of small craft. We will keep you posted.



Click the icons above to access their website. See page 2 for August's special offers as well as Auntie Foulin's problem corner.

Sunshine, you must be joking!

Just in case the sun does get out, maybe sick of our English weather you are about to take a flotilla holiday in the Ionian or perhaps a bareboat charter in the Caribbean? Don't forget that once you are out on the water the reflection from the sun can very quickly give you that Lobster look!



Here at the Marine Store we carry an excellent range of hats (some with clever little clips to stop them being blown away) to protect you from the sun. We stock sunglasses from Gill, Bolle, Musto & Typhoon (some on special offer). We have Hands Free sunscreen, various factor sunblocks & lipbalm from Panama Jack.

Should you decide to show off those pins our 'sailin' shorts from Musto are stocked in ladies sizes also. Don't forget even though it may not be sunny, dehydration can be a problem. Remember to take some refreshments with you & don't wait till you feel thirsty before taking that alcohol free drink.

Before & After.



Before

With all the flood water coming down the local rivers over the last few weeks there has been an awful lot of waterborne debris. If you have been unfortunate enough to bounce your prop(s) on a half submerged log or bash the bottom, help is at hand. **Before going out to buy a new set of props** check with us first. We may be able to save you up to 70% of the cost of a new prop; other repairs carried out include skegs, cavitation plates, gearbox housings etc.

Speaking of waterborne debris, Mike Farmer who runs our subsidiary Stephenson Marine has this month supplied two sets of the excellent **Stripper** rope cutters & come mid August is booked up to fit two more.



After

Mike is travelling south early August to compete at Cowes week in his new acquisition, a Melges 24, however he will be back by the 13th of August to service your engine. If your engine is ready to 'push the daisies up' why not call in to the store and see the cracking little Nanni diesel we have on display, its been attracting a lot of admiring glances, and from the already converted some excellent feedback!

Meet the boss man (well one of them)

Andy Burgess. Admits to being over 35 possibly closer to the big 40? Star sign Pisces, his element water. Most Pisces are extremely talented, but even though they are gifted in many ways, they still manage to spend most of their lives battling 'confusing' conditions. Who wrote that c--p, not me, it was pulled off the internet!



Started at the Marine Store as the Saturday lad whilst studying for his degree. After graduating with a first class honours degree in mathematics returned to work for Rob.

Followed by a 'sabbatical' at Sowester looking after all the chandlers North of Birmingham. Mileage per year 78000! Rejoined the Marine Store April 01, became partner in Dec 02. Talented sailor, prefers crewing to helming, has experienced championship success in a variety of dinghies.

Since rejoining the Marine Store Andy has been responsible for dramatically expanding the electronics section and continued expansion of our Mercury outboard sales & servicing. In his 'spare time' he is our hot wire work man, overseeing the industrial rigging division.

Aunty Foulin's problem corner

Dear Aunty F,

Please help me I am having trouble getting my mainsail up &, come the end of the day, down!

Dear Jambin Jackie

Here at the Marine Store we stock Mclube Sailkote. Its just what you need, in fact any boat I am sailing on I coat the sliding hatches, mainsail slider tracks, spinnakers, telltales & deck hardware.

Do you have a boating related problem?

E-mail me, Aunty Foulin and I'll do my best to solve it: auntyfoulin@storrarmarine.co.uk

www.greatcirclerigging.co.uk

www.storrarmarine.co.uk

www.stephenson-marine.co.uk

Alas it's almost autumn. August's appealing atonements are astounding.

Musto T Shirts (Ideal for last minute holiday in the sun) up to 50% off!

Navman 5380 Colour Plotter £399.95 inc Free Chart of UK & Ireland (worth £245)
Navman 5430 B&W Plotter £199.95

Factory reworked **Fishfinders** with full 12 month warranty from only £59.95

Augusts' title winner was William Flushing. Who wins £50.00 of Storrar Marine vouchers! Don't forget to email your September suggestions to: septembercomp@storrarmarine.co.uk

Summer opening hours. Late Night Tuesday till 8.00pm **Open from 7.30am Mon-Fri (Sat from 8.30am)**