

Storrar Marine Newsletter

August 2009

Well this one will be a hard one to write, why? As I now move slowly away from the big 60 to just a little bit more, the medical practice that I belong to decided that I needed another MOT, so off I trotted. 'Tell me about your lifestyle; do you smoke? No? Good. Chase wild women? Yes? Oh that's dodgy! Drink alcohol? Yes? Ooh how much? Well after a cross examination, the young lady ticking the boxes seemed pleased that my booze consumption had gone down from the last time I had an MOT, or perhaps I was just being a little economical with the truth? However I realised that I was in deep trouble when she took her glasses off, looked me in the eye & said, "Mr Storrar I think you should perhaps watch your weight". Well we Storrars are renowned trencherman & we also like the occasional tippie! So tonight I have been fed (but am still hungry) no cheese & biscuits nor glass of port to close the meal & what is worse no drink nor nibbles tonight whilst writing, I am convinced they help the creative juices flow.

When we moved to 181-183 Coast Road all those years ago we thought we had at last found premises that were easily accessible by road from all points of the compass, we are right next to a bus stop & are only seven minutes brisk walk from the Metro. The ferry terminal is ten minutes by taxi & the airport ain't that far away, however a main line train station well that's a different ball game. Imagine our delight the other day when I



glanced up & saw a railway carriage crawling up the slip road. Sadly it was only passing by, folks, despite intense lobbying there is still no train station on the A1058! However it's fascinating to watch the 'trains' go round the corner & carry on down Benfield Road, marvellous these back steering wheels.



Well Andy's stag weekend passed without him getting arrested (mustn't have been trying hard enough, however I gather shares in the local brewery have soared following the weekend.) I could not resist publishing this picture of the bride groom to be, look closely its written on his shirt THE STAG, looks more like the sugar plum fairy to me! Rumour has it he quite likes dressing up in ladies clothing but that's another story! Andy's wedding is late August, however he has not asked for that Saturday off yet, hope it does not clash with my rest & recreation.

ROUND PEG IN A SQUARE HOLE? NO ITS A BOATIES FRY PAN (designed to fit your stove)

Nothing beats the smell of frying bacon whilst sitting in the cockpit of your boat. However so often cooking on your typical galley stove can be a juggling act. Frustrated trying to fit a round frying pan onto a square stove? Help is at hand, the only chandlery in the North East stocking the Boaties Fry Pan is yes you have guessed it.... Storrar Marine Store.

So why are Boaties Fry Pans so good?

The design; the pan's rectangular shape gives maximum cooking area for minimum stove area. It measures 25cm x 20cm with deep 4.5cm vertical sides creating a pan with a cooking area greater than a 25.5cm round pan.

The handle; this is strongly riveted and fits over most retaining rails. It is compact to minimise the overhang from the stove and has an ovenproof Bakelite grip.

The material; the pan is made from heavy gauge aluminium, to give good heat transfer and even cooking temperature right into the corners. The inside of the pan is finished with two layers of high quality non stick coating to directive 2005/618/EC. The exterior is a cheerful red silicon paint.

Sloping front and Rounded Corners; the front edge is sloped so that food can be dispensed with ease. Rounded corners make it easy to pour hot liquids and the rigid handle allows the pan to be held firmly and safely when tilted.

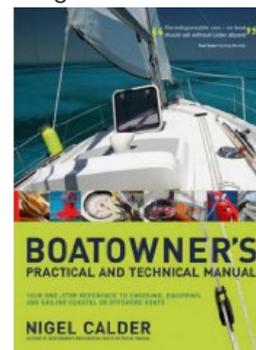
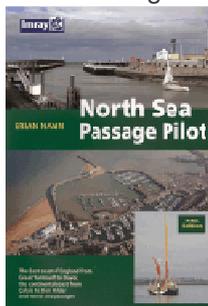
Storage: storage of the pan is simple, it can stand on its side, on end or flat. The shape and compact handle make it more efficient in locker space.

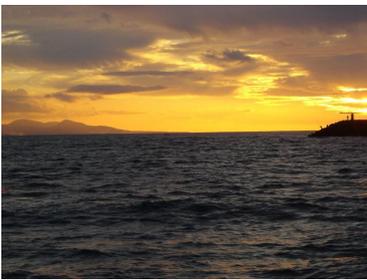
Special August price of only £14.95



BOOK CORNER

For the cruising person a new edition of the North Sea Passage pilot has just been published. The author's well established guide to the East Coast of England from Great Yarmouth to Dover and corresponding continental coasts between Calais and Den Helder has undergone major revision for this fifth edition. Throughout the text and charts have been fully updated. Since the fourth edition there has been a continued growth in maritime commercial traffic and in the associated dangers of collision. The major event in the southern North Sea was the initiation in July 2007 of a new traffic system for the Sunk area of the Thames Estuary which includes three Traffic Separation Schemes, two Precautionary Areas, two ship anchorage areas, a 'Two way route' for local traffic and a recommended route for North Sea ferries. Similarly important changes have been made to the traffic schemes in the approaches to Hoek van Holland during 2008. In stock and priced at £29.95. Nigel Calder the author of Boatowner's Mechanical & Electrical manual has just had published his latest book Boatowner's Practical and Technical Cruising Manual. "This is the one book you would choose for your desert island shipwreck scenario – it would solve all your problems!" The book includes information on choosing the right boat, rig and mast options, cockpit and deck layouts, cruising accommodations and comfort, engine and propeller maintenance, fuel and water tanks, boat handling and much more. In store now priced at £29.99





HOLIDAY SNAPS!

Well as I wrote earlier, it's a change of tack for our monthly competition (yes I managed to spell the word competition correctly this time) First prize is a superb Musto Mid Layer Windstopper Salopettes worth £130-00, for the runner up a Musto Thermal Zip Neck base layer top retailing at £35-00. All you have to do is submit no more than three 'marine related' holiday snaps by e-mail, small file size JPEG would be great. So get snapping & e mail me those pics. Sunset over a Scottish Loch, cruising in Croatia, flotilla party, big game fishing, dolphins playing in the bow wave, let your imagination do the talking. Sunset over Graciosa (small island off Northern tip of Lanzarote) snapped by your editor who had just finished downing a couple of stiff g & t's is one of my favourite holiday pics. To view the complete range of Musto gear or your potential prize log onto www.musto.com Closing date for the competition is 5pm Saturday the 22nd of August.

SALTY OLD SAILORS SHOP

Yes I know I keep harping on about buying local however don't forget the dangers of internet or e bay shopping. Last week we had a customer bring in a nice looking 15hp outboard which he had bought over the internet, wanted us to give it a service. A quick examination revealed that the bottom end had had a recent respray & that once the prop had been removed extreme corrosion of the bearing carrier had occurred. Our mechanic loosened the 'sump plug' on the gearbox to drain the oil out before dropping the bottom end to change the impeller, noticed clean oil in the gearbox, seemed strange so he investigated further, discovered a bolt held in place with mastic and then it got worse. Perhaps the moral of the story is don't buy till you have seen it.

Every so often we get a phonecall, letter or e mail that really makes it all worthwhile. One of our customers took the trouble to contact us last week & after contacting him he gave his permission to quote;

"Thank you for being so honest, a rare commodity in business these days it seems. That's the bonus of shopping locally, rather than just cyber shopping, the personal touch, goes a long long way.

In fact I would just like to say, Joanne found the whole shopping experience at the chandlery a breeze and did comment that she found the staff extremely helpful and friendly. Which was great, as she was a bit apprehensive before hand, of going to a "salty old sailors shop" especially with her having little knowledge of what she was trying to buy for me. (I had told her that you were a friendly bunch).

So it was a win-win situation for us both, as I scored for some surprise Musto fleeces and shorts plus my original shopping list and you gained extra trade. The personal touch goes a long way.

I am not back again on leave from this god forsaken place till September, so will pop down when I am back, if Joanne doesn't manage to call down in the interim. (if she does pop down, point her towards the clothing section while she is in the shop ha-ha)."

Aunty Foulin's problem corner

Dear Aunty Foulin,

I was out fishing the other day when to my dismay I noticed water lapping over the floorboards. I started the engine, switched on the bilge pump & fortunately after ten minutes of running the bilge pump (whilst motoring slowly back to the marina) discovered that the depth transducer had cracked & was letting in water. I made it back to the marina & just as I was tying up & wondering what to do (Sunday & the travel hoist silent) that nice hunky Phil from the Marine Store walked by with his tools at the ready. Well, was I pleased to see him & I think he was pleased to see me. Yes I am past the first flush of youth but real men still find me desirable. I explained my predicament & Phil, never being short of the right bit of equipment, jumped onto the boat with his epoxy repair stick at the ready & in two minutes had solved my problem. Before I could thank him he beat a hasty retreat; however I am intrigued to learn more about his magic.

Dear Linda Lapping,

Looks like last Sunday was your lucky day, not only did you get to see your favourite Marine Store man but he certainly had the right gear to sort you out. The Magic Bond Epoxy Putty is an



emergency repair kit which can be used in dry & wet conditions, even under water. Keep it on board for the unforeseen. The Putty can be used on fibre-glass, epoxy, metal, wood, concrete, ceramics and glass. It mixes in one minute to provide permanent repairs. It can be applied under water and you can even drill, saw, sand or paint over it. **August offer £8.75 RRP £9.45**

KILL CORDS CAN KILL



The other day our regional RYA assessor called in to buy some kit, after purchasing various items he asked us to take a look at a plastic kill cord he had just condemned.

As can be seen from the image this kill cord has failed where the flexible plastic cord enters the metal clamp. If your cord is fabric or has a rope centre there is little to worry about however it's still worth examining on a regular basis. If your cord is of the plastic variety give it a hard tug (which is what David did and it snapped!) **Imagine the scenario: you fall out of your boat the cord snaps, engine keeps running the boat circles round & runs you over!**

Contact us at 181 – 183 Coast Road, Cochrane Park, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE7 7RR
Telephone : 0191 2661037

e-mail : robbie@storrarmarine.co.uk Visit : www.storrarmarine.co.uk