

STORRAR MARINE Newsletter

March 2009

Sorry folks I've been cheating! Cos February is a 'short' month, away on our boat for a couple of weeks, I started working on the March newsletter in January (makes a change for me to plan ahead I hear Andy & the staff muttering in the background) Lots of news about so I will keep the ramblings to a minimum. This year I have decided to make an effort to get out on the water more, hope my knees, lower back & right shoulder etc etc will stand the strain, don't I just love growing old! The 'plan' is a bit of dinghy sailing late March & April followed by a trip thru the Crinan canal in the early part of the season with friends of ours, roll on spring & please some good weather for a change!

Come March, work officially stops on the Storrar house, now just the bathroom to tackle once we get this coming season over. January 2010 methinks, before there is some spare time & a little spare money! Speaking of saving up,



Andy is as you know a proud dad, by the time the March newsletter comes out Abi will be nearly five months old & already costing a fortune in clothes & things, which brings me to another subject close to his heart, his forthcoming wedding (not the cost of it I hasten to add!). Regular readers of our upmarket tabloid will recall that in August this year he finally ties the knot with his partner Jill. Persuaded by Jill to go to a wedding fair because it did not clash with the Sunday winter racing series, whilst wandering hand in hand down the aisles past the photographers, caterers etc he came across a stall with an owl as its centre piece. Yes folks an owl at a wedding fair, at first he thought it was plastic (like the ones we sell in the chandlery for scaring seagulls) but then it turned its head. For only £350.00 you too can have a real live furry owl at your wedding & the reason why? The first person to e mail me competition@storrarmarine.co.uk with the correct or almost correct answer wins a fabulous pair of Dubarry Newport boots worth £165.00. Don't forget to let me know your shoe size when e mailing me your answer. Once you have read the rest of our March newsletter 'news' why don't you check out the full Dubarry range at www.dubarry.com. We carry a good selection of styles & sizes. Non stock items we can usually get within a week.

* regret with 'readers' in China, Australia, New Zealand, Canada etc postage will be charged at cost if you are a 'non domicile' winner, or we can await with eager anticipation your next trip home.



REMEMBER SUMMER OPENING HOURS FROM MARCH 1ST Including late night Tuesday's till 8PM

BACK TO OUR ROOTS

This spring a GP 14 sailing dinghy to fit out & tune for a Cumbrian based customer, & closer to home a Flying 15 two 'man keelboat' destined for Derwent Reservoir Sailing Club.

Yes its back to the good old days. After all we made our name as racing dinghy sail makers & fitting out & supplying race tuned dinghies. Dinghies fitted out by Rob & the crew have, over the years, won major honours at regional, national & international level. During the last four years when we 'rebuilt' the premises I am ashamed to say we neglected 'our grass roots', the dinghy side of our business. Well it's all change, we now have on our Coast Road premises without a doubt the largest & most carefully selected collection of racing dinghy fittings & equipment including spars, covers, trailers & trolleys within a hundred mile radius. As 'premier stockists of Gill, Musto, Dubarry, Henri Lloyd not to forget Typhoon & Crewsaver kit as well as fittings by Harken, Ronstan, Seasure, Holt, RWO & Allen Bros, rope from English Braids & Marlow and a comprehensive range of boat repair & maintenance products we are truly a one stop dinghy shop. Our in house sail loft can manufacture race winning or cruising dinghy sails, bespoke covers, foil bags or should you rip a spinnaker or poke a batten end thru a main we can repair in double quick time to a very high standard. Our staff who have in the past won major honours at world, national & regional level are on hand to give advice to beginners, club sailors or those who aspire to compete at national & international level.

HARK WHAT HARKEN HAS TO OFFER

American company Harken has, over the last few years, brought a number of excellent complimentary products to the boating market. **USS Tef-Gel** is, in my humble opinion, a brilliant corrosion eliminator & anti seize lubricant. It stops corrosion, seizing & galling and is available in a variety of sizes from 1 oz/28g. Prices start at £13.95 for a handy tool kit size. **Mclube Sailkote** is a superb spray at £9.95 suitable for use on mainsail tracks, hatches, sliding doors, sails, battens, telltales, slider cars and tracks. **Harken Hullkote** speed polish is one of the easiest to apply & even easier to rub off. Priced at £24.99. Use it to improve your boat speed too. If applied above the waterline it can last a whole season, if used below you still get more than 20 days of hard sailing, its distinctive green colour makes it easy to see when applying, & finally if your balls have been neglected & need lubricating look no further than **Mclube One Drop Ball Bearing Conditioner** at £8.95. Just one drop of this new conditioner will repel salt, dirt and other deposits to protect, lubricate and condition the bearing surfaces. Reduced friction allows balls to roll freely and evenly, greatly improving traveller performance.



See page 2 Aunty Foulin's problem corner.

NICE LITTLE NUMBER

For a number of years Andy & I have been searching for a well built, safe inshore/coastal angling boat. At long last we have found one that we think fits the bill, the 'Predator 165'. This superb sea angler sets new standards of performance & safety, combined with a modern and stylish design. The Predator 165 was developed to be one of the safest boats in its class and, with that in mind 'unsinkable' just wasn't good enough. Swamped with water & with a larger than recommended engine on the transom & cast iron weights she floated level & had enough freeboard to enable her to be bailed out. Quotes from the experts include Mike Thrussell of Total Sea Fishing, "**Has the capability to be worked well offshore**". Dave Lewis of Sea Angler Magazine, "**This really is a good angling boat**" and Irving Stewart of Boatmart, "**For the serious angler. The hull deflected spray very efficiently. Indeed the cockpit floor remained absolutely dry!**"

To learn more about this great boat log on to www.douglas-marine.co.uk or ring/call in. By the end of March we hope to have our demonstrator on the water, moored initially at St Peters marina it will be fitted with one of the latest generation of Mercury four strokes. Whilst the boat is capable of taking an 80hp outboard, a 40 will still give a cracking performance. If you would like a demonstration give us a ring or if you just want to talk Predator we would love to see you.



CHAIN GANG

We sell chain for a variety of uses, as a security deterrent, for agricultural use, decorative in the garden & of course for anchoring boats. The introduction of 'A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO THE MOORING AND ANCHORING OF SMALL BOATS' from the Bradney Chain and engineering company's 25 page booklet states "It is all too common to find extremely expensive craft, the pride and joy of their owner, put at risk through ignorance of a few simple rules. Even worse, whole families can be put in danger through misguided economics by owners or contractors. Surely a classic case of 'spoiling the ship for a ha'porth of tar!' Yet all it needs is a little time spent understanding the principles and a little care in selecting equipment." The informative booklet has been produced to guide you through the various stages of design, selection, installation and maintenance. It is available to download from the company's website: www.bradneychain.com or alternatively collect a copy at the marine store.



Aunty Foulin's problem corner

Dear Aunty Foulin,
I have noticed an unpleasant smell 'down below'. Some sensitive sailors have begun to comment on this most unsavoury aroma & even my very loyal crew are balking at the thought!

Dear Niffy Nora,
What every sailor wants to smell are clean bilges & there is only one product that I can recommend with confidence & that's Bilgex. Available at the Marine Store in litre bottles at only £9.95 its guaranteed to make going down a pleasure, no more green faced sailors coming up for air. A litre goes a long way, as depending on its use you dilute to suit.



DUFF BY NAME BUT NOT BY NATURE

Here is a pre season anode check list brought to you by MGDuff:

- Check you are using genuine MGDuff anodes
- Check for any sign of corrosion to propellers, shafts, sterndrives and other hull fittings.
- Check that your anodes will last for the duration of the forthcoming season. Renew if more than 50% wasted.
- Check that the surfaces of your anodes are free of paint and chalky corrosion deposits.
- Check that your anodes are securely fastened, the fixing bolts, nuts and washers are tight.
- Check all internal bonding to ensure that the connections are clean and the cable is clipped up where necessary. If you have an MGDuff Electro Eliminator check that the springs are sound and it is positioned so the brushes are in contact with the shaft.
- Check that you are fitting the correct anode material for the waters you are in i.e. Salt Water = Zinc or Aluminium; Fresh Water = Magnesium.
- When fitting a new anode you should also replace the serrated fan disc washers under the nuts and change the backing sheet on wood and GRP hulls. Exposed fixing studs, nuts and washers should be well greased or painted after assembly.
- For further information visit MGDuff's website: www.mgduff.co.uk



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