

Storrar Marine Newsletter

June 2009

There I was pounding away on the typewriter fag in mouth, whisky in the tumbler & half way thru the first page. Jenny came into the room & said 'you have remembered that I am off to the boat on Thursday & won't be back till after you have gone to print'. **No dear, had not forgotten** & then the realisation, who was going to check the copy ooh SxxT! So if the June 'issue' makes even less sense than previous ones blame it on Jen's well earned holiday!

One feature of the recession has been that as the Chinese economy stutters & their manufacturing capacity falters the supply of an awful lot of marine equipment and clothing starts to dry up. Fortunately for us we have never taken the advice of accountants or bank managers so we carry larger than normal stocks. The effect is twofold; we carry good in depth stocks of most popular items & because we buy in large quantities we can more often than not beat the mail order & internet guys at their own game, for example, Plastimo Neptune 2500 Hob & Grill, average mail order price £220.98 ex carriage. OUR PRICE £209.95. Standard Horizon GX1500E VHF, average mail order price £128.71 ex carriage. OUR PRICE £109.95. Jabsco Manual Compact Bowl Toilet, average mail order price £98.21 ex carriage, OUR PRICE £94.95. Prices correct of 30/05/09. Remember: **BUY LOCAL, BUY SMART** and put a smile on our face and yours!

This month Ritchie the demon rigger has flown out to Turkey for some well earned R & R which includes working on his own boat! Whilst industrial work has taken a tumble due to the recession the Kilmarnock rail project (similar in concept to the Berwick on Tweed rail bridge, using low maintenance 316 stainless steel wire balustrading to stop people falling from the bridge) did keep us out of mischief for some time.

The demand for marine rigging has however remained steady, helped no doubt by the 'ten year rule' If it's around, or over, ten years of age even if your insurance company have not said anything, consider replacing.

However 'what recession, what downturn?' say the sail loft staff. To cope with demand we have even persuaded Anne our charming 'retired', skilled machinist to lend a hand & as for me, well its back to my grass roots as a sailmaker to try & help get our delivery dates down.

JUNE'S COMPETITION

This month's competition has as its prize a superb Spinlock Deckvest lifejacket worth £200.00, unlike most jackets on the market its available in three different sizes, its built to a very high spec, spray hood, light & thigh straps come as standard.

To win a Spinlock lifejacket answer these three questions:

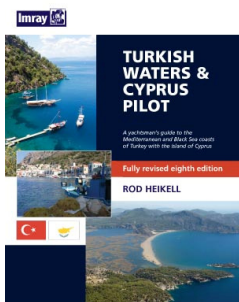
1. Spinlock is most famous for
 - A) Its award winning throttle cables
 - B) Its bonnet lift mechanisms
 - C) Its range of clutches
2. Name two other 'soft goods' products that Spinlock have designed & marketed?
3. How many size options are available on the Spinlock Deckvest?



First correct answer out of Andy's lucky hat on Saturday 13th June wins a Spinlock Lifejacket.

Turkish Pilot

Just arrived in the Marine Store is the new edition of Turkish Waters & Cyprus Pilot. This 8th edition of Rod Heikell's guide to the coast of Turkey from the Bosphorus to the Syrian border and Cyprus has been revised following the author's visits to the coasts. Details of new yacht harbours have been collected and the data on the existing entries has been updated and improved throughout. In store now priced at £34.50. For those



of you that cruise locally, as well as the excellent RNYC sailing directions (Humber to Rattray Head) we also stock 'Forth, Tyne, Dogger, Humber' by Henri Irving & 'The Yachtsman's Pilot North & East Scotland' (The Farne Islands to Cape Wrath) by Martin Lawrence. Should you wish to sail or motor further afield (or just dream) the selection of pilots we carry is very comprehensive including Atlantic Islands, Cuba, The Virgin Islands and a whole lot more!

Proving very popular in May & ongoing during the summer season. Our 7-30am 'early bird' start Monday till Friday (Saturday 8-30) & our late night closing Tuesday at 8pm PS Don't forget we do not close early on Saturday's it's all hands to the pumps till 5pm.

CREATURE COMFORTS

Stocked at the Marine Store is a range of creature comforts including 12volt kettles, vacuum cleaners & for the skipper or crew who wants to look their best, a superb 12 volt hair dryer.

The kettle is ideal for boat, car or caravan. It plugs into a cigarette lighter socket and has an on/off indication light. It takes approx 20minutes heating time, has a 2.2 metre cable & a 1 litre capacity. Cost of this little beauty is £10.45

The vacuum cleaner has a powerful rotating beater bar which handles the most difficult clean up jobs, a heavy duty fabric bag that never needs replacing & its attachments include a 3 foot hose, carpet brush & crevice tool. Finally it's compact for easy storage & can be purchased for just £25.95. The hair dryer has a 180 watt output; it folds up for easy storage & I speak from personal experience, it helps to keep my daughters happy when they 'come out' for a week's holiday on our boat! Priced at £14.99



See page 2 Aunty Foulin's problem corner.

WIND WITHOUT WIRES

Precision wireless wind systems that are a breeze to install. Whether you're replacing an existing system or considering installing one for the first time, Tacktick's wireless wind instruments are the perfect solution: easy to use and easy to install. Unlike other wind systems, your masthead wind transmitter will talk to your display wirelessly via Tacktick's unique Micronet technology. That means no wires running down your mast and no risk of electrical faults caused by wiring. Tacktick systems are at the forefront of performance and precision. The displays are easy to read and understand. Installation is quick and simple so you can save considerable cost by installing the system yourself.

On display & working well in the Marine Store is the mn30 entry-level wind system. The brand new wind system is the ideal solution for cruising yachts 35ft or under. Wind Speed and direction information is delivered wirelessly from the wind transmitter, whilst the display itself is powered by your boat's 12-volt battery.

Summary of features: *True and apparent wind speed and direction (true wind requires boat speed). Large clear analogue display. Display backlighting for night sailing. Completely waterproof to 10 metres. Simple installation. Easy Calibration*

Also on display is the award winning mn100 multi-wind display. This system contains a more advanced multi-functional display typically suited for cruising or racing boats up to 60ft that require more from their wind. You have all the functionality of the mn30 system, as well as offering;

Close-hauled wind information and Beaufort scale.

Compass with steer lock, velocity made good (VMG), course over ground (COG) and turn to waypoint can also be displayed.

The display is powered by its own solar battery (or 12 volt input if preferred). That means no wires to fit and no holes to drill in your boat. The proven technology is so power-efficient that the internal batteries drive the backlight night after night. Can also be fitted in the clubhouse or at home. If you require wind speed and direction to hand.



FRESH IN

New to the Marine Store this spring & already selling very well is the CTEK range of compact battery chargers. CTEK chargers are the 21st Century answer to battery charging. They use the same switch mode technology as PCs to revive and maintain sensitive batteries. This means you do not have to disconnect the power pack from the boat before charging. There's no sparks and if you get them the wrong way round the only result is a tiny warning light goes on. All CTEK chargers are approved IP65 or IP44 so you can charge outdoors. All come with leads which can be bolted to batteries. As CTEK chargers work intelligently they can be connected for months only charging the battery when necessary. All CTEK units start with a desulphation mode to kick start the drained power back into life which is part of an eight-step programme to revive and maintain the battery at its optimum level. Why choose CTEK? Lets explain:

Safety: it produces no harmful galvanic current, it's spark free and short circuit proof as well as reverse polarity protected. **Protection:** It regulates mains voltage to protect sensitive electronics. **Fully Automatic:** Multi-step intelligence process for perfect charging, as well as assuring maximum performance and battery life. **Set & Forget:** Charges only when necessary, you can leave for months without boiling the battery, it also preserves the battery with pulse maintenance.



Aunty Foulin's problem corner

Dear Aunty Foulin,

Last week I was sailing off Seahouses & somehow I managed to get a riding turn round the genoa sheet winch, could I get it free? Eventually in desperation I went below found a bread knife in the galley & managed to hack through it. The experience didn't half scare the pants off me as I was on a lee shore so can you advise me where I could get a good quality sailing knife at a sensible price?

Dear Becky Blade,

Sounds like you want to go down to the Marine Store and ask that rather dishy Phil to get his large selection out. He prides himself on his range; however you must handle with care as you could get a little prick. Phil has over 10 different knives, some with shackle keys, some have safety locks, big ones, small ones, black ones, red ones, yellow ones, some just plain old polished stainless steel and ones that glow in the dark! (Last time I saw a selection like this I was in a high class area of Amsterdam!!) A selection of different blades with some that cut high tech ropes, others that have blunt ends for safety some even have a hooked end for cutting nets. As well as knives they also stock a great selection of Leatherman multi tools. **PS** Stow on deck for safety!



STAFF WANTED

Wanted for the summer season (maybe longer) bright young/old heterosexual/ gay/bisexual female/male white/black or any shade or colour in-between, who has an interest in boating & marine clothing. Must have a warped sense of humour (bit like the bosses). Duties include building Rob's floating duck island and cleaning out Andy's moat! We can promise the successful applicant never a dull moment, hard work, a half decent wage & the opportunity to sample Phil's famous coffee (better late than never is his motto) Interested? Then e-mail: gizajob@storrarmarine.co.uk

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