



# CONTESSA 32 NEWS LETTER

## Christmas 2012



### A REVIEW OF ASSOCIATION AFFAIRS BY OUR CLASS CAPTAIN

Dear All,

*I hope you have all enjoyed the sailing season despite the less than ideal conditions.*

*I thought it was timely to provide you with an update of Association matters and once again I have a lot to tell you, so in no particular order:*

#### **YOUR COMMITTEE - THERE IS VERY GOOD NEWS TO REPORT:**

##### ***Cruising Representative***

*Holly Peters-Wright who regularly crews on "Corafin" has bravely come forward and has been appointed by the committee as our new cruising representative and to quote Holly she is "very excited and can't wait to get stuck-in" which I have taken as a positive sign. The 2013 Cruising Programme has already been established and bookings have been made, I have included the full itinerary at the end of this newsletter. Please support Holly's efforts as much as you can.*

*The big event is planned to be a cruise in company to Paimpol via Channel Island harbours as appropriate but probably Alderney or St Peter Port. Francois Mousset (GIGI) has kindly offered to host us in Paimpol and organise hospitality and local sailing. We are currently trying to set dates so if you are interested, please let Holly know when you would be available in July, we will then organise to ensure that as many can make the event as possible. We currently have 6 boats who are wanting to take part. This can of course be treated as a standalone event with a return cruise back home or the start of a longer summer cruise further afield.*

##### ***New Association Secretary***

*I am particularly pleased that we are attracting younger members to the Committee team and just like buses they come along together. Lisette Dupre who regularly graces Equator's foredeck has accepted an invitation to join the Committee and initially support Guy Darby in his secretarial role, but importantly contribute to wider committee matters along with Holly. I would like to welcome them both to the committee and thank them again for stepping forward.*

##### ***Scottish Representative***

*It is with great pleasure that I can confirm Alastair Pugh has accepted the role of Scottish Representative taking over from Liz Wisdich. Alistair is a very keen and successful Contessa 32 sailor regularly winning events in Scotland. I would like to formally welcome Alastair to the committee.*

## THE 2012 NATIONALS – WEREN'T THEY BRILLIANT!!

*Congratulations to Ray Rouse and Blanco for winning the 2012 National Championships after 3 days of close racing in very varied conditions; I think they are extremely brave and slightly unhinged. I witnessed them launching a spinnaker on rounding a mark when I was looking at 35 knots on my instruments! The other incredible effort was made by Francois Mousset who brought GIGI over from Paimpol to take part, it is a long way and he doesn't race at all but came over and took part. I was fortunate enough to sail GIGI home with Francois and it was a great pleasure to do so, a very nice man indeed.*

## CLASS CAPTAIN

*Good news and more good news! The next good news is that the committee has asked me to continue for another year, the even better news is that we have found a brilliant "younger" successor who will become a Vice Captain in 2013 and will take on Captaincy at the 2014 AGM. All appointments are of course subject to your voting at the AGM, we will make a formal announcement very shortly.*

## 2013 RACING PROGRAMME

*Mark Oliver has once again worked wonders and confirmed the 2013 race programme well ahead of schedule, it can be found on the website at:*

*[http://www.co32.org/SECTION\\_Racing/RACING\\_Solent\\_programme.aspx](http://www.co32.org/SECTION_Racing/RACING_Solent_programme.aspx)*

*Mark has continued with the theme of a traditional 'round the cans' weekends with some short passage events for added spice, but which have also proven to be of interest to those boats who like to dip their toes in the racing water from time to time or even for the first time. Last year's Cowes-Poole-Cowes saw the largest fleet of the year take part with, fully crewed, two-handed and families taking part. Mike Sellers and family even raced with their dog on board! Congratulations to George Isted (Concerto) for winning this inaugural event.*

*So ... put Cowes-Poole-Cowes 6th/7th July in your diary and come out in whatever format you like, race, cruise, fully crewed, 2-handed, family or even bring your dog.*

*Mark will shortly be updating the 2013 racing handbook which as usual will include a description of each event.*

*Its early days but Anthony Churchill has been in touch with me as my boat "Carolina" was originally owned by Winston Churchill MP (the main man's Grandson), Anthony is organising an event from 12th-14th August celebrating the Churchill family links with the Isle of Wight and particularly Cowes and yachting. With Anthony's permission I have attached some initial information he has prepared including a schedule of events. I mention it here as he has proposed that they provide a Churchill Cup for the winning Contessa racing in Cowes week on the last day Saturday 10th August to be presented to the winning owner and crew at the Royal Yacht Squadron, which would be nice! Randolph Churchill will be present and it seems to me that as he and his father were keen Contessa 32 sailors, it might be a good excuse for a Contessa gathering/Cruising event in Cowes that weekend- what do you think Holly?*

*The "Chaos Trophy" off-shore programme will continue again in 2013 based on two-handed events. In 2012 Corrie McQueen won the series with her new Contessa 32 "Tehani", congratulations Corrie and I look forward to presenting the Trophy at the Prize Giving!*

*Entries for the 2013 FASTNET opened on the 7th January, at the time of writing Concerto and Carolina are entering. Can we get a few more Contessas?*

*This year's National Championships are being hosted by the COWES CORINTHIAN YC who have been very kind to us over the last few years. On Sunday 8th September the last race will be the annual Round Forts Race which will also be part of the Chaos Trophy 2-Handed Series. It would be great we could just get a good number of entries for the last race of the year, please put in your diary and "come as you are". Even better come and "raft-up" the night before and join everybody for supper at the Cowes Corinthian it is always a good evening.*

### **THE NEXT EVENT - Winter Social, AGM and Prize Giving Luncheon**

*I am pleased to say we are once again holding our winter social event, AGM and Prize Giving Luncheon on the 23rd February at the Royal Thames Yacht Club, Knightsbridge, London, SW1.*

*This has been a very enjoyable and well supported event for the last couple of years and provides an excellent opportunity to meet fellow members, discuss all things Contessa and particularly committee matters. It looks like the formal AGM meeting will be a very short affair allowing more time for an open forum discussion and a significant opportunity to have your say and influence the direction of the Association, I hope as many of you as possible will join us. The prize giving is for cruising, writing, sporting, crewing and of course racing achievements including the famous wooden spoon. Booking details can be found on the website at:*

[http://www.co32.org/SECTION\\_Association/BOOKING/MENU\\_BUTTON.html](http://www.co32.org/SECTION_Association/BOOKING/MENU_BUTTON.html)

***Please book NOW!***

*The formal notice of AGM was sent out a few weeks ago but we now expect the meeting to start at 11am, discussion forum 11:30 -12:30 and then a splendid Lunch and prize giving. The afternoon is left free for more socialising, shopping in London and maybe to take in a show in the evening. Why not make a day or even a weekend of it?*

*Whilst on the subject could all those lucky people who have annual Trophies/awards please make arrangements for their return asap to Will Stevens whose contact details are:*

*01491 574804 OR willstevens(at)academy.uk.net*

*Or even better bring them along personally to the event on the 23rd February!*

### **LONDON BOAT SHOW**

*Very kindly we have once again been offered a "free" stand by the organisers at the London Boat Show from the 12th-20th January at the Excel. We now have at least 2 volunteers for each day to help but we can always do with more willing hands, so please feel free to come forward. The stand is located at G190 along with other associations and we will make every effort to represent the Association and continue to promote the Contessa 32. If you are visiting the show do come along and say hello. Thank you to all of you who have given up your time to work on the stand, it is much appreciated.*

### **ASSOCIATION HANDBOOK AND MAGAZINE**

*Huge thanks must go to Alex McKee, Guy and Zoe Darby for producing the wonderful new 2012 Association Handbook, this team are now working on publishing the next magazine in the Spring. We didn't get a huge rush of volunteers to replace Annie's position and so Alex, Guy and Zoe have kindly stepped into the breach. I know they are on the look-out for more content and so once again feel free to contribute.*

## FACEBOOK

*I know, I know but we have to move with the times....*

*We now have an increasing number of members (and many other interested people) communicating freely with each other via a Contessa FACEBOOK "Group" in can be found here:*

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/6563335678/>

*Remember, you don't have to have friends on FACEBOOK, do what I did and just sign-up for a FACEBOOK account and you can then contribute to the group. It is proving a really effective way to communicate, share photo's, news, ask for help or opinions, crew etc. It doesn't in anyway replace our forum just another easy way to communicate. Go on join the group today and say hello.*

## WHAT HELP DO WE NEED?

*Magazine: Guy and Zoe will always welcome content for the magazine and we really do need somebody to replace Annie in the long term.*

*Cruising: olly would like some help from people who are willing to organise regional cruising events, please contact her if you would like to get involved.*

*AGM and Prize Giving: Try and make it to the AGM and Awards Luncheon on 23rd February 2013, book early so we have a good idea of numbers.*

## ASSOCIATION ARCHIVE - KEEPING OR TREASURES!

*David Richards erstwhile previous Class Captain and all round good eg,g has kindly volunteered to create an Association Archive. We possess an interesting history which is already of great interest and will become increasingly so as the years go by. David will "collect and organise" then together with Robin Holland will eventually make the documents, Photos etc available online to all members. We also plan to record / video interviews with characters associated with the Contessa 32 and the Associations history. In the first instance David has prepared a brief questionnaire (which is attached to this email) to ask for your help. This is an ambitious project and I hope as many of you as possible will be able to help.*

*Thank you for taking time to read this far, I hope to see you soon either at the Boat Show or the AGM and Awards Lunch. As usual if you should wish to contact me on any matter please do not hesitate to do so.*

Regards

*Richard Clark  
Class Captain*