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*The official newsletter of the
Fareham Sailing & Motor Boat Club
January 2016*

**Happy New Year
to all our readers.
May all your winds be
moderate and always
favourable.**

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To contact the editor
please email
publicity@fsmbcnet.org.uk

by 20th of the month for
Inclusion in the following
month's issue

Commodore's Comments

Hello All

Happy New Year to all Club members!!

Hope you've all had a wonderful time over the festivities and enjoyed time out with family and friends.

Did you make New Year resolutions – more sailing time top of the list for John and I! Good luck with yours!



Although water activities are quiet at the moment the Club remains vibrant and we kick things off with a Club talk on 22nd January – Vannes trip 2015 presentation. Come along for a flavour of events in France last year and enjoy some typical French hospitality, more details to follow!

January is the time to celebrate Burns Night which is on the 23rd, tickets are £18.00 and available now from Dee. Please put your names on the list in the bar if you'd like to attend. Spaces are limited to 48 so be sure to sign up sooner than later!

Keep Lin busy with your renewal paperwork, you're doing a grand job Lin!

See you in the bar soon
Dee

Editorial

Yet another New Year! They do seem to come around much faster these days. Someone is speeding things up behind my back. It must be the same guy who is making hills steeper and journeys longer. If you catch him do stop him!

With this in mind we had better start thinking about our 2016 cruising calendar.

I had a Christmas greeting from our friends in Carentan inviting us to pay them a visit.

Here it is in both French and English:

'Nous souhaitons d'agréables fêtes de fin d'année à tous les membres du club de FAREHAM et tous nos vœux pour l'année 2016.

Nous serions ravis de vous recevoir à Carentan

Bien Cordialement

Michel Fourmentin Croiseurs Côtiers de Carentan

We wish a pleasant end of year celebrations to all members of the club FAREHAM and all our wishes for 2016.

We would be happy to receive you in Carentan.

Best regards

Michel Fourmentin Coastal Cruisers Carentan'

About half a dozen boat owners have approached me showing interest in a 'Common Target Cruise' to Carentan at the Spring Bank Holiday at the end of May, some planning to take extra days and thus extending it to a week cruising that Normandy coast.

We, in Macavity, have received great hospitality for many years from this small club in Carentan and in 2014 four FSMBC boats skippered by Les Knowls, David Ardron, Jim Beckwith and David Parker were welcomed with open arms. Ask us about it and watch this space for further details.

I lift my glass to good sailing winds for 2016. **Cheers!**

Forthcoming Events

Club Talk
Fereham Vannes Rally
 Audio - Visual Presentation
 of our participants' adventures
 and the hospitality in Vannes.



Date: Friday 22nd January
Time: 20.00hrs (Bar open 19.30hrs)
£3.00 each
Includes substantial French Supper

**If you are interested in attending
 the above event email me on
publicity@fsmbcnet.org.uk**

Burns Night
Dinner at the Club
 Food by our very own
 Corky May
Saturday 23rd January
7.30 pm for 8.00 pm
£18.00
Tickets from Dee Orme

St Valentine's Night
A night of Delight
Saturday Feb 13th
 Official opening of the
 Refurbished Bar
Cheese, Nibbles
& a Glass of
Bubbly
£3.00

Club Talk - Friday 5th February
 Presentation by
Hampshire Police Marine Unit
 at the Clubhouse 20.00 hrs

Cruiser Dinner
Lysses Hotel on 5th March
 Further details - watch this space
 or email robin@culverhouse.info

2016 Paying In Days At the Club
Sun. 10th January 11.30 - 13-00 hrs
 and
Sun. 24th January 11.30 - 13-00 hrs

Club Games Night
 at the clubhouse
 Friday 29th Jan
 Further details from John Fagot
 Come and join the fun

Do patronise the bar. Opening times are:
 Thursday evening..... 19.30 to 23.00 hours
 Friday evening..... 19.30 to 23.00 hours
 Saturday lunchtime..... 12.30 to 16.00 hours
 Saturday evening..... 19.30 to 23.00 hours
 Sunday lunchtime.....12.30 to 16.00 hours
 Do keep a lookout for guest beers and special offers

Club Improvements

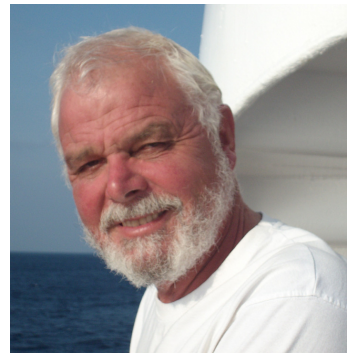
At the start the New Year perhaps we can have a think about what the club has achieved in the way of refurbishments since we bought the premises in 2010. 'Just a few things here and there' you might think. However, at a meeting in December, our Commodore presented these achievements set out on paper. What we saw made incredulous reading. As you can see below various projects have been thought up, planned and executed with so little disruption that we hardly notice. These are all jobs that are necessary to keep the club up to scratch. Well done those who have been involved. (The name of Robin Wren seems to crop up very frequently! 'Who?' you might ask. See page 5.)

FAREHAM SAILING & MOTOR BOAT CLUB IMPROVEMENT WORKS

<u>WHAT</u>	<u>HOW</u>	<u>START DATE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>DATE COMPLETED</u>
Refurb toilets	Bosun Comm	2009	Completed	2009
Refurb Galley	“ “	2009	Completed	2009
Club purchase	Council/Finance Comm	2010	Completed	2011
Patio	Build Comm	2012	Completed	2013
Downstairs reconfiguration	Build Comm	2012	Completed	2012
Salterns Gangway	Build Comm	2013	Completed	2013
Salterns extension	Build Comm	2013	Completed	2013
Club House rewire	Build Comm	2013	Completed	2014
Remove extras in saloon	Bosun Comm	2014	Completed	Jan 2014
Decorate Club House	Bosuns Comm	2014	ongoing	
Gangway to pontoon at Club House		2014	TBA	
Improve Lobby entrance	Bosuns Comm/Build Comm	2015	ongoing	
Refurb Bar area	Dave Branscombe with Pam	2015	ongoing	
New doors across back	Robin Wren	Feb 2015	completed	Feb 2015
Balcony improvements	Robin Wren	TBA	TBA	
Disabled Access	Robin Wren	September 2015	Completed	September 2015
Disabled toilet	Robin Wren	TBA	TBA	
Club House furniture		TBA	TBA	
Patio furniture		TBA	TBA	
Secretariats room decorate & equip		TBA	TBA	
Loft room & gallery decorate & flooring req'd		TBA	TBA	
Repairs to roof of Club House/Workshop	Bosuns/Contractors	TBA		
Sea wall – monitor – possible funding req'd	Robin Wren		Ongoing	

Rogues' Gallery

After the surprise of being made an Honorary Lifetime member, I was asked to put together a background note, so here goes.



It all began with Mary. In the 1950's her father, Jack Huggett, kept his boat at FSMBC. Mary and her father would cycle from Hilsea to Fareham with the centre board and rudder tied to his cross bar and Mary with the sails tied on the back of her bike. Jack then moved to Locks Sailing Club when he bought a Langstone One Design. It was then that I met Mary through our swimming club and she introduced me to sailing.

I became hooked, both to sailing and to Mary. Racing dinghies became part of my life from then on. I soon realised that to do well you had to be able to afford a good boat, and also be a good helmsman. I had no money and was not a good helm, so I crewed and learnt a lot in the process.

In the sixties and seventies I came across David Hardy quite a lot as he was racing Finns and I was racing a Flying Dutchmen. The two classes were often together at open meetings both in UK and on the Continent. We both attended Olympic Trials, he with some hope of being selected, us with no hope as we were against Musto, Oakley and Patterson. I did however sail round from Langstone Harbour to take part in the Fareham Regatta.

In 1966 Mary and I were at the European FD Championships in Norway when we got engaged, and we got married later that year.

Barry Fordham was another member I have known well for a long time. Not for sailing but for rugby as we both played for Havant in our youth.

In the early '70's I built my first boat, an 18 ft Unicorn cat that went like

After a period of working in Africa We returned to UK and I started crewing on a Sigma 33 in a lot of offshore work including the 1981 Fastnet, the one after the disastrous 1979 race. In the race, after five and a half days of hardly seeing another boat, five Sigma's finished within 10 minutes of each other. We were the fifth!

Our first cruising boat was a 22 ft Pandora. The only one of the family who had standing headroom was our 4 year old daughter. This was followed by a Moody 33, a Contest 30 and then a project building a Countess 33 called "Skybird 111". After a two year build period, we raced in the Spring and Autumn series at the Royal Albert Yacht Club. The crew was made up mainly from two families; Phil Walden and his daughter and son-in-law, my daughter, another son-in-law and me. We were often at the back of the fleet, but had a lot of fun.

Then followed a short, unsuccessful, time with a motor boat and then back to sailing with a Legend 33, "Wombat". We had her for ten years up to last year when we swopped it for a Legend 36, "Wombat2".

In our cruising years, we have sailed from the Cotentin Peninsula in the West to the north of Holland in the east, and from Plymouth to Felixstow. Sometimes with just the two of us, but very often with our family, including grandsons. There have been the occasional charter holidays in Greece with the family.

Mary and I have been members of FSMBC for nearly 20 years now. During that time I have been fortunate enough to be involved with the extension to Salterns, (with enormous help from Sid Phillimore and Pat Kinchin) the renovation of the ramp at Salterns, the renovation of the downstairs of the clubhouse, the electrical re-wiring, the installation of the sliding doors to the club room and, more recently, the installation of the stair lift. All of these have could not have been accomplished without the help given by so many members of the club. This has given me a great amount of satisfaction and, I hope, to those others involved. Current projects include a toilet for the disabled and renovation of the balcony.

Thank you to the Committee and members for giving me the honour of a life time membership. It is something I will cherish.

Robin Wren

Our Westerly Konsort, "Satin", is currently over-wintering ashore in Wicor, and getting some much needed home-based TLC after 6 years away from the UK. It's not that we've ignored her needs entirely during that time, but some things are easier to do when we're not trying to live on her at the same time!

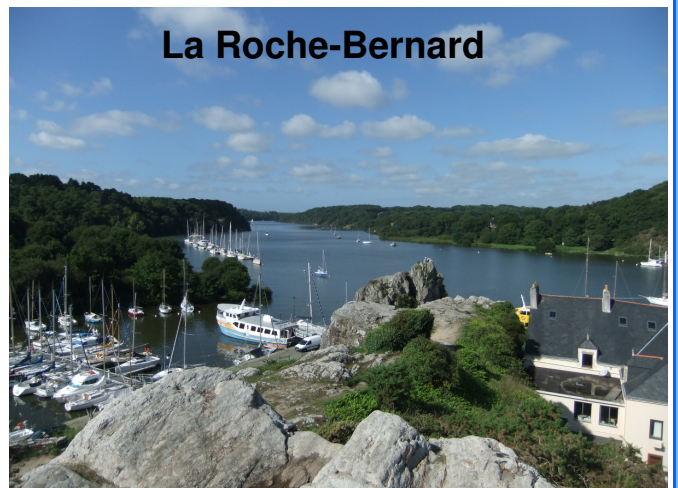
We have been lucky enough to live on Satin for about 5 months each year for the past 7 years, roughly May to September, funded partly by working through the winter months. Satin has spent her winters in La Roche-Bernard in Southern Brittany or in Punta Lagoa near Vigo in Northern Spain.

The down side of leaving a boat abroad for the winter is not being able to nip down and check things and potter about (Phil says it's *not* pottering...) and not having her available for that spontaneous winter weekend away. But the up side is that whenever we get to Satin, we are *already* away in foreign climes and our trip has already started. Both La Roche-Bernard and Punta Lagoa have proved to be great cruising bases and we have thoroughly enjoyed exploring Atlantic ports in France, Northern Spain and Portugal.

But this article is not really about the cruising, it's about the practical aspects of keeping our boat overseas. As ever, it's all about organisation. The answer to everything is lists (don't yawn!). We keep lists of what's been left on the boat (food, clothing, bathroom stuff, boat spares), of what we take home, of what we need to buy and bring for next time (especially teabags) and (of course) of jobs to be done when we're next back. It's amazing what the brain forgets between October and April so we have a rule that we always believe the lists – otherwise in April you look at a 6 month old list and wonder quite why you wanted a 3 inch widget. Hopefully it's obvious when you return to the boat....

La Roche-Bernard, Brittany, France

When Satin is in La Roche-Bernard (LRB) she usually winters in the water (it's fresh water, not seawater). LRB is a pretty village (classified by the French as a "*petite cité de caractère*") on the Vilaine river. It's less than an hour downriver to the lock at the Arzal dam and thence into the estuary. Then it's left to the Vendee and points South; right to the Morbihan, Vannes and the Southern Breton ports. Our contract with La Roche-Bernard includes a "*passepport*" which allows us free nights in lots of ports (mainly French ports but now including some in Spain and England) and an annual lift out for maintenance. The port office staff are very



friendly and approachable, but there is no physical security in the marina. The French regard walking up and down marina pontoons staring at boats as a leisure pastime.

If we're planning to start and finish our cruising season in LRB we catch the ferry and drive down with a heavily laden car which stays parked up somewhere until we return (which is why we don't have a flash car). But if we're planning to leave LRB to winter elsewhere, as we did sailed down to Spain, we get to LRB by public transport, leaving the car at home. It's either ferry/bus/train/lift from kind LRB friends or flight to Rennes/bus/train/lift from same kind friends.

Continued on page 7

Punta Lagoa, Vigo, Spain

We also left Satin for two winters in Punta Lagoa, having checked out various marinas in the stunning Rias Baixas (Galician for "Lower Rivers") before choosing to over-winter there. Satin had company during our second winter there as Robin & Hilary Culverhouse joined us with "Signet". Punta Lagoa marina is in a lovely protected setting but it's a (very) stiff uphill walk past a very run-down dockyard to any civilisation (shops, bars, etc.). The facilities for humans at the marina are very limited – Portakabin showers (the ladies' one blew away during gales in winter 2013/14!) and nowhere close by to buy bread or a beer. However, facilities for the boats are excellent – 24 hour security and great *marineros* (sailors - marina staff).

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We kept Satin ashore there each winter but she would probably have been fine in the water. The charge was the same either way (except, of course, that we had to pay for the lift out and in). A bonus was that whenever we popped in for the odd night during the summer sailing season, we were charged at the winter rate – so at a time when other marinas were on their summer rates, we were paying less than 7 Euros a night.



We flew each way between Spain and the UK at each end of our two winters. That was easy during the first year when Vueling, the Spanish low-cost airline, flew between Heathrow and Vigo. But when they pulled out of that route we had to fly between Heathrow and Santiago de Compostella – meaning a journey from Fareham of coach/plane/bus/train/taxi to Vigo. However, we've taken a leaf out of Robin & Hilary's book and thoroughly enjoy trains and buses overseas; it's a great way to "go local."

All in all, keeping Satin overseas has been a great adventure for us; we've visited some lovely places, made new friends and attempted to improve our language skills. Of course we miss Club sailing, the Solent and the South Coast, but hopefully they will still be there when we eventually bring Satin back to the UK permanently.

Do you or anyone you know have an article to contribute this newsletter.

Have you kept your boat somewhere interesting?

Have you cruised unusual or interesting areas?

What did you have for Christmas?

Send articles, however long or short, to publicity@fsmbcnet.org.uk

WHO'S WHO AT THE CLUB

<p>FLAG OFFICERS</p> <p>Commodore Dee Orme Vice Commodore Alan Labrum Rear Commodore George Thomson</p> <p>OFFICERS OF THE CLUB</p> <p>Hon. Secretary Terry Flinn Hon. Treasurer Sue May Hon. Sailing Secretary Chris Hare Hon. Boatswain Stuart Pavey Hon. House Secretary Bob Brennan</p> <p style="text-align: center;">STANDING COMMITTEES</p> <p>SECRETARIAT</p> <p>Hon. Secretary Terry Flinn Membership Administrator Lin Anderson New Member Co-Ord. Lyse Lemieux Webmaster Steve Capel Health & Safety Admin. Kim Hurst Elected Member Bob Upton</p> <p>SAILING COMMITTEE</p> <p>Hon. Sailing Secretary Chris Hare Cruiser Captain Vacant Cruiser Events Co-ordinator Vacant Dinghy Captain Dave Hill Lugger Captain Tony Cleal Workscheme Administrator Alan Labrum Junior Representative Vacant Elected Member Lyse Lemieux</p>	<p>HOUSE COMMITTEE</p> <p>Hon. House Secretary Bob Brennan Hon. Bar Manager Pam Carr Workscheme Administrator Alan Labrum Social Events Admin Sally Brennan Elected Member Dave Millard</p> <p>BOATSWAIN'S COMMITTEE</p> <p>Hon. Boatswain Stuart Pavey Elected Member Tony Blair Hon. Moorings Master Sid Phillimore Pontoon Master Ian Saxil-Nielsen Workshop Foreman Dennis Keefe Longshoreman Dick Kipps Locks Yard Administrator Vacant Workscheme Administrator Alan Labrum</p> <p>FINANCE COMMITTEE</p> <p>Hon. Treasurer Sue May Commodore Dee Orme Elected Member Liz Thomson Trustee Representative Nick How</p> <p>TRUSTEES</p> <p>Martin Duffus John Herbert Barry Fordham Nick How</p> <p>ELECTED MEMBERS</p> <p>Tony Blair Lyse Lemieux Liz Thomson Dave Millard Bob Upton</p>
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MESSAGE FROM OUR HON. SECRETARY

A reminder to all FSMBC members that they should check their personal details on the DutyMan Directory and to ensure their address, telephone number and, most important of all, that their e-mail address is up to date with the club.

News from the Social Administrator. -Sally Brennan.

We are up and running with the first social function of the new calendar year - The

Christmas Jolly - and a jolly good time was had by all hope. (See photo collage. Ed.)

The committee members - some new and some 'old'- put on a sumptuous buffet, with Laurie's mulled wine -which must have gone down well, as there was very little left over at the end of the evening. The entertainment by LE-SAX was great and no one wanted to stop dancing and singing.

Many thanks to Terri for her hard work behind the bar making sure no one died of thirst!

By the time this report goes out we will have had our Grand Christmas Raffle.

Thanks to everyone who helped to 'fill the board' the prizes (£500 worth) were carefully chosen and we hope that they will have been gratefully received by the lucky winners. May just have a few evenings at home for a while!

The next social committee meeting is on Jan 7th 2016. We will be discussing Burns night, Paddy's night (19th March) St. Georges day (April 23rd) and a few other issues like what we had for Christmas!!!!

Wishing you all a very happy new year

Images of the Christmas Jolly

Were the red eyes due to the camera or to the amount of wine consumed? I'll let you decide! Ed)



And finally, a New Year message
from the marina at Vannes

