



C
L
O
S
E

Q
U
A
R
T
E
R
S

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



Contents	
Page 2	Commodore's Comments - Dee Orme
Page 3	Forthcoming events
Page 4	Hampshire Police Marine Unit
Page 5	Rogues' Galery Bob Upton Editorial
Page 6	Feature on Carentan Editor
Page 7	News & Photos from Social Administrator Sally Brennan

To contact the editor
please e-mail
publicity@fsmbcnet.org.uk

Please try to get your
articles, pictures, adverts
etc. to the editor by the
20th of the month to
ensure their inclusion in
the following month's
edition.

Commodore's Comments

So that was January, gone in a flash but what an entertaining month at the Club!

The Vannes Talk got proceedings for the French visit in 2017 off to a great start with a good turn out by Club members to support. Thanks go to Gaynor for both the excellent presentation and food ably assisted by Margaret Pryde – thank you both. Champagne in the raffle was won by Debra Willis and the bottle of Rose wine won by Marion Harris-Dean. £45.00 was raised, a fine amount on the first Vannes evening. There will be more to follow so watch out for news of them.

Burns night was a very special evening with superb contributions from Alistair, Marion, Kev, John Whalley and Corky along with Annie, Sue and Pam. We have some extremely talented people in the Club who rise to the occasion and deliver absolutely fantastic results – thank you all for one of the best Burns evenings in recent times – you're all hired for next year – please!

Renewals have gone well and our new Membership Sec Lin Anderson has been kept busy throughout January tallying all the Banking and updating Club records – well done Lin and thanks to Chris Anderson for supporting so well.

Club handbooks are being despatched in the near future for your perusal so be sure to look through and book dates into your new diaries. Thank you Phil & Marion for getting the handbook together!

On the 5th February there is a Club talk by the local Hampshire Police Marine Unit who are based at Hamble Point Marina and they will be giving helpful hints and tips on how to stay secure both afloat and ashore. Talk begins at 8pm, bar will be open and nibbles provided so come on down to hear how HMU support the sailing fraternity and enjoy a relaxed evening in FSMBC.

I'm continually amazed at the stamina of our Lugger fleet turning out in all weathers, quite remarkable! Keep going Guys!

Hope you're managing to stay warm and dry this winter, soon be Spring and time to get back on board – hooray!

See you soon in the bar or on the water

Dee

Forthcoming Events



Cruisers Dinner
Saturday March 5th

7pm Lysses House Hotel
Fareham

robin@culverhouse.info
01329 832500

Clubhouse Talk
Hampshire Police Marine Unit
Friday 5th Feb at 8 pm



How to stay safe and secure
both ashore and afloat.
An informative and entertaining talk.
Bar open. Nibbles provided.
See page 4 for further details



Note: Bar open as normal for those not participating in refreshments

Bar Refurb

Grand Opening

Saturday 13th February



From 19:30

NOW FREE

**Cheese,
Biscuits &
Nibbles plus a
glass of
Bubbly**



*Because nothing says celebrate like a nice glass of bubbly.
...glamorous girl bubbly*

We would prefer tickets to be purchased in advance so we have an idea of numbers, but they can be bought on the night.



Club Games Night **at the clubhouse**

Join in the fun with board games, card games and much more

Friday 26th February

AT 19.45HRS

Further details from

John Fagot

Come and join the fun

Look out for other events in March:

Clubhouse Talk on 11th March - Terry & Nicola Flinn

Roughay Bowl: March 12th Sailing + Phil Harris-Deans & the Ukulele Band in the afternoon.

March 13th. Sailing + Jazz with Cuff Billet in the afternoon.

March 19th St Patrick's Day at the Club with music by the Creekers

Any items for inclusion in the March edition to be emailed to publicity@fsmbcnet.org.uk by 20th of February

February Clubhouse Talk

Friday 5th February @ 8 o'clock

Hampshire Police Marine Unit

As a department of Special Branch, the Marine Unit is heavily involved in daily tasks relating to the security of our coastal borders.

This involves many elements of work from patrolling important commercial and naval sites to maintaining close links with the marine community to obtain information and intelligence regarding any suspicious activity taking place.

The unit regularly visits clubs, marinas and maritime community meetings to give talks and presentations to raise public awareness on issues surrounding crime and national security.

A lot of the unit's work in this area is completed as part of Project Kraken. The unit monitors all marine occurrences reported to the constabulary and, where appropriate, uses Project Kraken bulletins and the stolen boats website to circulate marine property and crime trends to the wider marine community.

In addition to these responsibilities, the unit is involved in a large amount of collaborative work with partner agencies on the water, including the UK Border Agency (formerly Immigration and Customs departments), the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, the Fisheries Agency, harbourmasters, port authorities and the naval military police to name but a few.

Many of these bodies operate in areas of civil enforcement and the Marine Unit is often required to assist and, in some cases, intervene when matters become criminal.

This will be an interesting evening with hints and tips on how to stay safe and secure both ashore and afloat so be sure to come along to meet Damon and the rest of the team.



An occasional feature to introduce our committee members so that you know who they are when you see them around.

Bob is an elected member and sits on the Secretariat Committee.

He gives a brief resume of his involvement in sailing.

I was born in Cosham 1941 and now live in Surrey. A retired Electrical Engineer, my sailing career began in dinghies in 1960 at the Desborough Sailing Club. In 1968 I became a qualified Board of Trade Yacht Master and for over 50 years have been involved with the sport, enjoying the sailing and the associated social activities mainly in and around the east and south coasts.

I have had experience of owning a number of assorted sailing boats during that time, culminating in and eventually parting with, (after 24 years), 'Amaryllis' a Mirage 29. She has now been replaced since joining the club by 'White Satin' a Hardy 21 Motor Sailor bought to "potter about" in and I look forward to enjoying further involvement with the club.

Editorial

February! Spring is on the way. However, everyone I seem to talk to at the moment has this horrible cold, cough and sore throat. Me? I'm busy sipping the lemon juice and honey whilst moaning, groaning and coughing. Someone has just told me it lasts 7 weeks. That was something I most definitely did not want to know.

Even the news has been depressing so far this year. Every time I check the news on line, newspapers or television some famous singer or television personality has died. All this and friends being ill makes for a sorry start to the year and I haven't even started complaining about the weather yet. The lack of frost and snow made the daffodils and other spring plants spurt into growth. Now they don't know what to do.

We, sailors, on the other hand need to be planning ahead. Where to sail to this year is a question that most of us will be pondering at the moment. Many of you, me included, have been making noises about visiting Carentan at the end of May / beginning of June. If you are interested look out for a list in the bar and put your name and contact details on it or let me or Les Knowles know.

Carentan marina sits at the head of a tree and reed-lined canal within the historical Normandy port of Carentan. It lies on the east side of the Cherbourg peninsula about 20 miles south of St Vaast la Hougue. The canal leads into it from a lock at the junction of the rivers Douve and Taute. The town has an unique sleepy charm so if your idea of a holiday is carousing into the early hours of the morning or buckets and spades then Carentan is not for you. However, if the thought of an historic French market town with it's 14th century arcades and a French welcome from it's sailors appeals then join us in cruising there.



If you coincide your visit with its renowned D-Day anniversaries then there will be lots of free entertainment. A few of us enjoyed the wonderful festivities there in 2014. David Ardron had a brilliant view of all the waterborne activities from his boat 'White Satin' berthed here.

If your interest is WWII history or you are fans of the television series Band of Brothers then the various museums and beaches are within reach as is the famous village of Sainte-Mère-Église if you hire a car. The train service will take you to Bayeux if your fancy is ancient tapestry or to Paris for a bit of romance.

The ancient harbour at Carentan was destroyed in the 4th century during the barbarian invasions. In the middle ages another harbour was built near the city walls. In the 1700's draining of the marshes began and, under the leadership of Napoleon 1st in 1805 canals were dug, locks were installed and a new harbour was developed.

In June 1944 serious damage was suffered during liberation by the Allies after the landings. The Locks were destroyed and the harbour silted and was not restored until 1981. This port was for recreational activity and the marina was opened in 1983. One of the first British sailors to visit this new sailing ground was the now deceased FSMBC member Eddie Miller. Over the following 20 years Ed introduced many of us to this town and the sailors from Carentan were welcomed to Fareham. The latest change to the canal was the redirecting of the N13 trunk road under the canal thus forming an aqueduct with minimal visual damage to the surrounding countryside. This was carried out between 1992 and 1994 and is worth the walk to look at it for those with an interest in engineering or design.

Medieval Arcades are a feature of the town as is the church of the Notre-Dame, a listed historical monument built in the 11th Century. It fell into ruins in 1443 when the English occupied the country. Its area was doubled when it was reconstructed around 1466 after which it was consecrated in 1470 with further additions in 1517 including the rosary chapel and fifteen windows. The Great Organ of Notre Dame, a listed historical monument, was restored in the traditional spirit of the late 17th Century.



There are also interesting canal and riverside walks for the energetic and bars for the less energetic.

The down side to visiting Carentan is the tidal restrictions; 5 miles up a river and canal starting from the safe water mark 2-2¹/₂ before high water. Of course, that should be second nature to us on tidal berths/moorings at Fareham. Deep draught boats will need to take care at neaps. Buoyage in the river tends to change as sandbanks move.

Other ports you may like to visit along the Normandy coast are St Vaast, Grandcamp, Ouistreham, Caen, Deauville/Trouville and, if you have the time, Honfleur and Fécamp.

What a wonderful evening we had with good food supplied by Corky and ably assisted by Sue and Annie.

Pam and Dave kept the liquid refreshment flowing.

Kev Abbott piped in the Haggis wonderfully

Alistair addressed the Haggis in true Scottish manner.

Later he addressed the Lassies with humorous observation.

Marion Harris Deans counter balanced this with her amusing address to the Laddies.

John Whalley then put one of Robbie Burns' poems to a lovely Scottish folk tune.

Kev then played some more Scottish tunes on the bagpipes, (which we all attempted to sing along to with varied degree of success!!!)

All in all it was a really super evening as you can see from the images below.

