



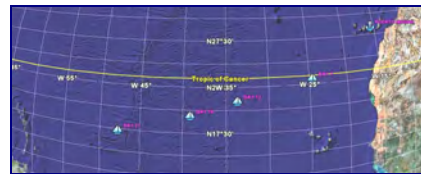
**Editorial** – How did you receive your copy of this Newsletter? Following our recent survey of e-mail addresses and Internet connections, thirteen of our members have specifically asked to receive their copy electronically. Besides being good for the environment, it will arrive sooner and save the Association postage. Please advise the Website Editor if you would prefer this method of distribution for yourself. The larger margins, top and bottom, allow the page to be printed on 'Legal' as well as 'A4' size paper; more common in the U.S.A.

**'Grace'** and **'Grace of Montrose'** – We sadly say goodbye to Mervyn and Jan De'ath, who had been members since 1998. They owned and sailed the Victoria 34, 'Grace' out of the Queen Elizabeth II Marina in St Peter Port before selling her towards the end of last year. However, we are pleased to welcome Chris Nicholls and Maureen Culver into the Association with their Victoria 34, 'Grace of Montrose', now moored in Beauvette Marina, Guernsey. The vessel is the same, of course, the change in name being necessary to obtain Part 1 registration.



**'Frances Josephine'** is the cutter-rigged Frances 26 belonging to Wilhelm Steitz, our first member to fly the German flag! Although registered in Dortmund, it would only be possible to take 'Frances Josephine' there by unstepping the mast, so she is moored closer to the coast. Wilhelm hopes to sail his boat to England one day soon.

**'Simoon III of London'** – Simon Fraser gave us a splendid talk at the Annual Luncheon and General Meeting entitled 'Falmouth to the Canaries'. A fuller account of that talk is to be found on the website. What he didn't say too much about, at the time, were his and Janet's future plans. With a third crew member, Julian, they departed Puerto de Mogán on the 15<sup>th</sup> December bound for Barbados.



'Simoon III' arrived safely on the 12<sup>th</sup> January. Simon and Janet were kind enough to send regular reports to the Association and we were able to plot their position on Google (see above). They have since visited St Vincent and St Lucia and been spotted in Martinique!

The **South Coast Regional Organizer** is



John Tyer, pictured on the left at the Annual Luncheon in 2006. John offered his services at the very beginning of the year and is already planning events for 2009. He may be contacted by e-mail at [jittyer2000@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jttyer2000@yahoo.co.uk).

**'Jill'** – Phil and Diane Rowcliffe are having their Frances 26, 'Jill' shipped to Singapore, so they can cruise and explore the Malaysian Coast in her. Amazing! We look forward to receiving some pictures.

**'Margo'** is the name of Chas Argent's Frances 26, based in Maldon. Welcome to the Association, Chas.

Also welcome Dr Nigel Rigby, another new member who keeps his Victoria 26, **'Maude'** at Upnor on the River Medway.

We are sorry to lose Derek and Susan Smith, who have now sold their Frances 26, **'Chantal'** and have resigned.

#### London Boat Show Dinner



Only eight of us went on to the Tai Pan Chinese Restaurant this year for our, now traditional, Boat Show Dinner. We expect to do better next year when Simon and Janet may be back home and organising the event again.

**'Cathexis II'** was previously reported as being in Malta but has sailed from the Mediterranean now and is presently in Portosin in Galicia. You may remember that she is a Shearwater 39 sailed by Eric and Ravi Karas. Future plans include bringing her back to the East Coast for some work to be done and then basing her on the South Coast. She is likely to sail for home in May, when the weather improves.

**Jack Nesbitt** – Sally and Alan Smith's Victoria 34 has remained on the Pacific Coast of Mexico. A family bereavement, an orphaned boy, an estate to be settled and a surgical procedure have delayed plans. Sally and Alan say, "So we feel that 2009 should see us departing Mexico for points west and south. By the way, 'Jack Nesbitt' has proved to be a reliable and tough boat during the 12 years we lived on board and we look forward to the chance to extend our time afloat a little further. Best regards to all at the Association."

#### 'Symphony'



Mark and Sheesh Bloomfield had a rough ride when they sailed 'Symphony' from the Solent to the River Medway, where this splendid picture was taken.

Frances 26 **'Friska'** has been bought by Jerry Croft, who we welcome to the Association. 'Friska' is now based at Tollesbury in Essex.

Peter and Jenny Cosker have moved **'Jenter'**, their Frances 26 to Burnham-on-Crouch to join the East Coast section.

The **East Coast Social** was held on a beautiful, but cold, day in February. Luncheon was taken at the Rose and Crown public house on the quayside at Wivenhoe.



Olive Hathaway put in a brief appearance and we were very pleased to see that new members, Chas Argent and Jerry Croft were both there. Once properly fed and watered, we moved just a few steps along the quayside to The Nottage Maritime Institute, where traditional boat building is still practised.



Our speaker for the afternoon was Professor Noel Dilly talking on 'Heavy Weather Sailing in Small Cruising Yachts'. Prof Dilly was an extremely enthusiastic and lively speaker, bringing with him a visual presentation of slides, models and many items of equipment to make sailing in extreme conditions that bit more comfortable.



This collapsible drogue has the advantage that it can be stowed flat. The afternoon would not have been complete without Anne Grubb's tea and cakes, which were absolutely splendid. Thank you to Anne and to all those members that came out on a cold day to make the occasion so memorable.

'Widgeon' is the name of a somewhat neglected Victoria 30 bought recently by Tim and Dee Clarke. They have joined our Association and intend to return 'Widgeon' to pristine condition. Tim is presently dealing with some osmosis on the hull by himself but taking advice from experts. Tim and Dee will keep 'Widgeon' at Marchwood, Southampton Water.

James and Stephanie Powell have sold 'Speedwell', a Victoria 34 and have resigned from the Association. They had been members since 1997.

'Westering Home' was not the first Victoria 34 that Euan Haig had ever purchased. In a letter of resignation from Euan and Catherine, there was also an account of Euan's purchase of 15 Victoria 34's for the Ministry of Defence. This story will be published in full in the next edition of 'Waterlines' and makes fascinating reading. As for Euan and Catherine, they have now sold 'Westering Home', which Euan described as a noble vessel.

'Verity' is the name chosen by two of our members for their boats. The larger of the two, a Victoria 34 cutter, was one of the last boats built by Victoria Yachts and has been based for many years in Alcudia, Mallorca by David Suttle and Pam Cherry. David is planning to cruise the Western Mediterranean this summer; Sardinia, Corsica, Elba and the Tuscany coast before leaving 'Verity' at the end of the Rhône, ready to bring her home in 2009.

Welcome new members, Richard and Angela Jones who have a Frances 26, 'Grace Darling', which they keep at Southsea.

'Calva' is another Frances 26 that has been owned for many years by Dave Woodhouse. Dave has now resigned after selling the boat to new members, John and Janet Williams. They will be moving 'Calva' from the East Coast and plan to keep her at Emsworth in Chichester Harbour. Welcome John and Janet.

The **South Coast Social at Sarisbury** – This event appeared to be in some jeopardy for a while, as we had been without a South Coast Regional Organiser since the Annual General Meeting. It was saved by both Brian and Dawn Smith taking responsibility for organizing different aspects of the

social. Dawn liaised with the Sarisbury and District Community centre and took on the huge task of supervising the luncheon, while Brian enlisted the services of Peter Bruce to give us a talk on 'Heavy Weather Sailing'.



A good turn out by our own members, including new members Tim and Dee Clarke and Richard and Angela Jones, was supplemented by a contingent from the Newbury Yacht Club. Peter Bruce's talk was extremely interesting and gave us much to ponder.



Thank you to all the members and guests who supported the social with a special thank you to Brian and Dawn for all of their work.

Our newest members are Pieter Muggleton and Carol Mills, whose Shadow 26, 'Aquarius' is based on the Great Ouse at St. Ives.



Pieter and Carol are most welcome, especially since 'Aquarius' brings the number of Shadow motor-cruisers in the Association to ten! Just one more picture, then – others are available on the website.

