



Ocean Scout all dressed up in Waterford

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A Word from the Helm

Well what a year 2005 has been!

The number of young people sailing with us in 2005 was up on the previous year and Adventures Offshore has had a very successful season. As always, we rely on the many hours of time freely given by all our volunteers. There are literally too many to name, but we remain very grateful to you all.

Both boats were present at the Trafalgar bi-centenary celebrations and Fleet Review at Portsmouth in June and what an event that was. (see the article written by John Meggitt) The number of vessels of all sizes anchored in the Eastern Solent was huge and the concluding "battle" and fireworks were truly amazing.

This was followed by the Tall Ships Races which were races of two extremes. Race 1 from Waterford to Cherbourg had very little wind (but lots of dolphins. Editor) Race 2 from Newcastle to Norway had gale force winds on the nose with over half of the fleet retiring. I'm pleased to report that both our boats finished both races safely and achieved very creditable positions.

Both boats are now ashore at Fox's marina and the winter refit is going well. Hopefully the Ipswich weekend weather in the first three months of 2006 will be ideal for boat maintenance work!

Looking forward to the 2006 sailing season, our overall sailing plans are largely complete and bookings are coming in fast. As always, we try to be as flexible as possible and it's highly likely some fine tuning of the programme will take place to fit in with individual customer requirements. Full details are published on our website.

The Tall Ships Races next year mark the 50th Anniversary of the first race and are south to Portugal and Spain (lots of warm sunshine!). Berths are filling up, so if you want a berth, don't delay - call the office and book now!

The Royal Harwich Yacht Club has very kindly offered us the use of their facilities at Woolverstone for our annual get together on Saturday 25th February and I look forward to meeting up with as many of you as possible. **A very Happy New Year to you all.**

Bob Atkins

Bookings are now being taken for the 2006 Tall Ships Races. Delivery to St Malo...Race 1 St Malo to Lisbon....Cruise Lisbon to Cadiz...Cruise Cadiz to La Coruna...Race 2 La Coruna to Antwerp.....return to Ipswich.....all details and prices can be found on the website or contact

Winter Refit News by Pete Camper

Progress report

The refit continues to progress well. Both boats were removed from the water in early November and are now ashore at Fox's Marina at Ipswich, our usual winter home. All equipment has been removed for overhaul or storage, and all sails have gone for routine winter servicing. Several new sails have been ordered for the new season.

The boats have also had a complete internal clean, including the lockers, galley and bilges (who left the bolognaise behind the bin in the galley locker on OS2? A heater and dehumidifier has been installed on each boat to help keep them warm and free from condensation.

One of the big jobs this winter is to re-plumb the heads, so far several of the hoses have been found to be partially blocked, so a big improvement should be seen when operating the heads next season!

As this is being written, we are still awaiting our surveyors report, which will allow us to work out what other work is required to keep both boats in fine condition for the new season. However the following jobs are already planned:

- Small keel repair required on Ocean Scout
- Repair deck damage around guardrail stanchions
- Overhaul both cookers
- Ongoing rigging replacement & inspection
- Add third reef point to one mainsail
- New forward heads worktop on Ocean Scout
- The usual painting and refurbishing work
- Improve book storage on Offshore Scout

Extra help is always appreciated, especially as the new season approaches. Please contact the office if you can offer any time or expertise before the new season starts.

All refit weekends are lead by a one of the trustees, and can be viewed on the website



OS2 getting painted last winter



Mark hard at work



Masts ready for maintenance work



Repairing leaking skylight on OS1

New AO clothing available soon!

New rugby shirts, polo shirts and sweatshirts, featuring a woven emblem will be available soon. Details will follow shortly from the office, The option will exist to arrange special orders for Tall Ships crews etc.

Watch the website for details soon...

WANTED: Articles or photographs
for future editions of the "Logbook"
Please forward to the office - Ed.

From the archives.....Mac's memories of SALEX

Salex is the former Admirals cup racer "*Prospect of Whitby*" She was Owned by Scouts Offshore until 1997 when Offshore Scout arrived. Alistair Macfadyen reminisces...



"In her original trim she was flush-decked with a separate gorilla pit surrounded by winches somewhere in front of the steering cockpit. We ended up with a complete redecking at considerable expense, which is when the doghouse went on.

She was very quick as long as the hull was clean - at the beginning of the season she would do 9kts hard on the wind in a blow. There was an old Americas Cup boat in West Mersea and we were keeping in front of her going up the Blackwater hard on the wind with a reef in the main and a smallish Genoa in about F7, she only got past when we stopped to put the second reef in!

The accommodation was cramped. I skippered her for a Tall Ships race from Weymouth to La Coruna and we had the Foc's'le completely full of sails once on passage and had to hot bunk. The Skipper & Mate's bunks were right aft under the cockpit lockers, with a big storage area between them, normally used for fenders, but on this occasion full of tinned food as well as the fenders..... the two mates and myself had to hot bunk as well!

The aluminium hull was a problem, we had to take great care to avoid corrosion. Antifouling was also problem (it had to be a special type) and on this race there were great big barnacles all over the hull so she sailed like a sack of potatoes to put it mildly, I don't think we went much over 6kts during the race, despite having plenty of wind at times".

More photos from the 2005 Tall Ships Races



Derek & friends in Waterford



Becalmed in the Irish Sea Race 1 2005

Back to sea again & Trafalgar 200 by John Meggitt

As many of you will be aware I suffered a heart attack on board 'Ocean Scout', whilst moored in Brighton Marina in April 2004. It did mean that I missed a full breakfast – which I was in the middle of preparing. Judy ensures that I do not indulge in that type of meal these days!

My ever grateful thanks go to both Martyn Smith and Ted Thornton for their superb reactions and attention. Coupled with that the thanks of both Judy and I goes to all those who sent their well wishes.

Since then I can report I'm now fully recovered. So, in June 2005, it was back to sea again – onboard Ocean Scout. (Well I had rubbed her bottom and given her an affectionate pat whilst she was in her 2004-2005 winter refit!)

A trip was booked – from Eastbourne to Portsmouth, via the Solent. We anchored in a designated area in the Solent. In the company of Offshore Scout we were able to witness the parade and review of 'grey funnel' line ships, from many Navies, from around the world.

The late afternoon saw us approached by distinguished visitor. Alongside, well expertly just 'held-off' actually, was a splendid looking RNLI Lifeboat. Apart from the crew who should be on board but none other than Martyn Smith himself. (Some folk certainly do manage to arrange some interesting 'jollies').

During that evening the Trafalgar Fireworks were certainly a really spectacular and memorable sight – the likes of which I cannot recall seeing before.

The following morning, whilst having a modest breakfast, many 'grey funnel' line ships took their leave. Even saw 'my old friend' HMS submarine 'Trafalgar' slip away. (She's one of the many nuclear subs I'd worked on over the years).

The lady Radio Operator on a Japanese ship, when contacting Calshot, spoke impeccable English. It's things like that which so coloured the event.

I dare say that the whole event will probably never occur again. Once in a lifetime one might say.

Magic!



Firework display during the evening after the fleet review



DON'T FORGET OUR AGM & ANNUAL DINNER...SAT 25TH FEB 2006 AT THE ROYAL HARWICH YACHT CLUB - DETAILS AVAILABLE SOON FROM THE OFFICE OR WEBSITE

BSC Cadets' Cruising Adventures on 'Ocean Scout'
Article provided by John Clark

It was a (gale force) windy night in October, when all the intrepid explorers jumped upon a fine looking vessel named Ocean Scout in Ipswich Haven Marina.

Following a solid nights sleep (the last of the trip!) and a hearty breakfast, we set sail.

Oliver 'The Pro' set a course that was sure to test the nerve of all the sailors. Discretion taking the better part against the ferry approaching fast downriver near Woolverstone, saw us take temporary sanctuary on the mud (where did all the water go?).

The conditions seemed ideal, sunshine and wind! The crew hoisted sail, 'more sail' they demanded – the staysail was set, and we were flying. Past the 'giants of the ocean' in Felixstowe something was waiting beyond the breakwater.

The wind started to build and leaving Felixstowe waves were rolling the boat about. 'Man overboard' the skipper shouted, Ok it's only a drill! Just glad I wasn't that bucket Brrr!



There we had a beautiful meal cooked by Pippa 'Delia' and Mark 'The Naked Chef'. Once everyone had eaten like kings and queens the watches set about watching the perilous 'Backwaters' under anchor. Why did John have to be so mean!

The first watch was uneventful with night closing in, but in the second the Red Watch Pippa 'Delia' thought she saw a boat rowing toward them. Is that the pirates of the Backwaters? Mark 'The Naked Chef' and Chris 'The Tank' almost jumped in before realising it was a false alarm. Where was Yvonne 'Washing my Hair' ?

On the third watch the shooting stars fell and Green Watch gained a substantial 'moon tan'. What's that over there? One searchlight later and a seal rubbing its eyes answered that question!



On the fourth watch everyone chilled down ready for 'Up Anchor' at five am!

Green watch manned the boat up the Stour ready for a hearty breakfast at anchor cooked by Yvonne (and we didn't taste the shampoo!), then onward for elevenses at Ha'penny Quay.

Time for a sail! So Daniel and Jamie 'Team Hare' up front manned the sails, Naomi 'Shetland Pony' was lightening on the winch. Ben 'The Hen' was helping with ruthless efficiency with 'Jumpy' Julian whizzing about the boat.

As they sailed back into Ipswich the team thought it was a job well done, another epic voyage brought to a successful close.

The 2006 programme is now fully published on the website, and shows skipper & mate allocations as far as the Tall Ships Races. All skippers and mates please [let Bob know](#) if you cannot do one of your allocated trips

Gallery page
2005 Tall Ships Race One - Waterford to Cherbourg



An excellent range of Tall Ships photos can be bought from MAX www.tallshipstock.com