



Watermouth Yacht Club

Berrynarbor, Ilfracombe, North Devon, EX34 9SJ

51° 13' N 004° 05' W



AHOY

Newsletter January 2018

Vice Commodore's Column

On behalf of WYC Committee, can I wish all members a very Happy, (if belated), New Year. Winter is flying by and it won't be long before there is plenty of activity at the Harbour with members getting boats ready for launching. As ever, we can only hope for a good season this year whether fishing, sailing or just pottering about.

The Club will be opening again on Saturday evenings after Easter. The Committee is concerned that we seem to have lost the social aspect that was once a hallmark of WYC. The Carveries and Barbecues are well attended but otherwise the clubhouse gets little use. It would be good this year if more members were able to come and socialise on Saturdays throughout the season.

Membership Renewal

Please note that membership fees are due on the **1st March**.

It would be very much appreciated if you could make your payment as early as possible. The membership renewal forms have emailed to you and payment can be made, preferably by bank transfer, (details on the renewal form), cheque or even cash !

Carol Gell

Treasurers Report

Club financial activity during winter months is minimal with usually little more than utility bills to interrupt the peace. This year has been no exception and an end of year cash at bank figure of £19,796.32 was achieved, just shy of the figure reported in the last Ahoy.

Those who have visited the harbour recently may have noticed that works to renew fascia boards and guttering etc have already started. Further works to partially clad the building will also take place in the near future, subject to planning consent. It is comforting to be able to embark upon a programme of improvements without the financial fears of just a few years ago. I would therefore thank all members for their support which has made this possible and my job much easier.

The days are getting longer and 'to do' lists are probably on many of our minds. A little dry weather to make a start would be welcome now but that is something money can't buy! Otherwise, I look forward to seeing you all at the harbour in the coming weeks and at the Annual General Meeting which will soon be upon us.

Steve Barron

WYC Dinner & Dance

We had a very good evening, (as usual), at Ilfracombe Golf Club who provided a delicious 3 course meal, (as usual), and Troy played music more suited to our age group, so thanks to Moira for that idea.

I was very pleased to present two Trophies this year

The first one to Robert Johnson for 2017's Most Improved Boat. This was in recognition of the incredible amount of work Robert has done on Wisper, his Tyrell Young Smack Yacht, to make her the best looking yacht at Watermouth - alright, I'll admit to being biased but there is something special about an old Gaffer and Wisper ticks all the boxes !



The second Trophy was presented to Rob Lake for winning our annual Pool Competition.

Rob must have forgotten he'd won it, (or didn't know there was a trophy), as he was a bit stunned when I called his name. He rushed up to take the trophy and dashed back to his table before Moira could get a photo !

However, he did get up again so Moira could record this momentous occasion.



Social Events *Please add these dates to your calendar*

WYC Annual General Meeting

31st March 8 pm - Easter Saturday

Further notice and Proposal Forms for Committee Members will be sent in February
Contact Committee via watermouthyachtclub@gmail.com

Boat Race + Hot Dogs! Bring out the child in you!!

31st March - Easter Saturday

Hot Dogs will be served at 1.00 pm Race starts at 2.00 pm

The Rules

- 1: Maximum overall length of the vessel must not exceed 25 cm (10 ins).
- 2: No mechanical power is permitted.
- 3: All entrants must sign in at the clubhouse.
- 4: All adults must be accompanied by a responsible child.

Prizes for winners and runners up and for the best dressed vessel.

Contact Moira for details watermouthyachtclub@gmail.com

Sunday Carveries at the Clubhouse - 12.45 p.m. -ish, two courses of genuinely home cooked food

Please call Moira for bookings 01271 865001 (answer phone) / 07870 229886

Sunday 1st April (Easter)

Sunday 15th April

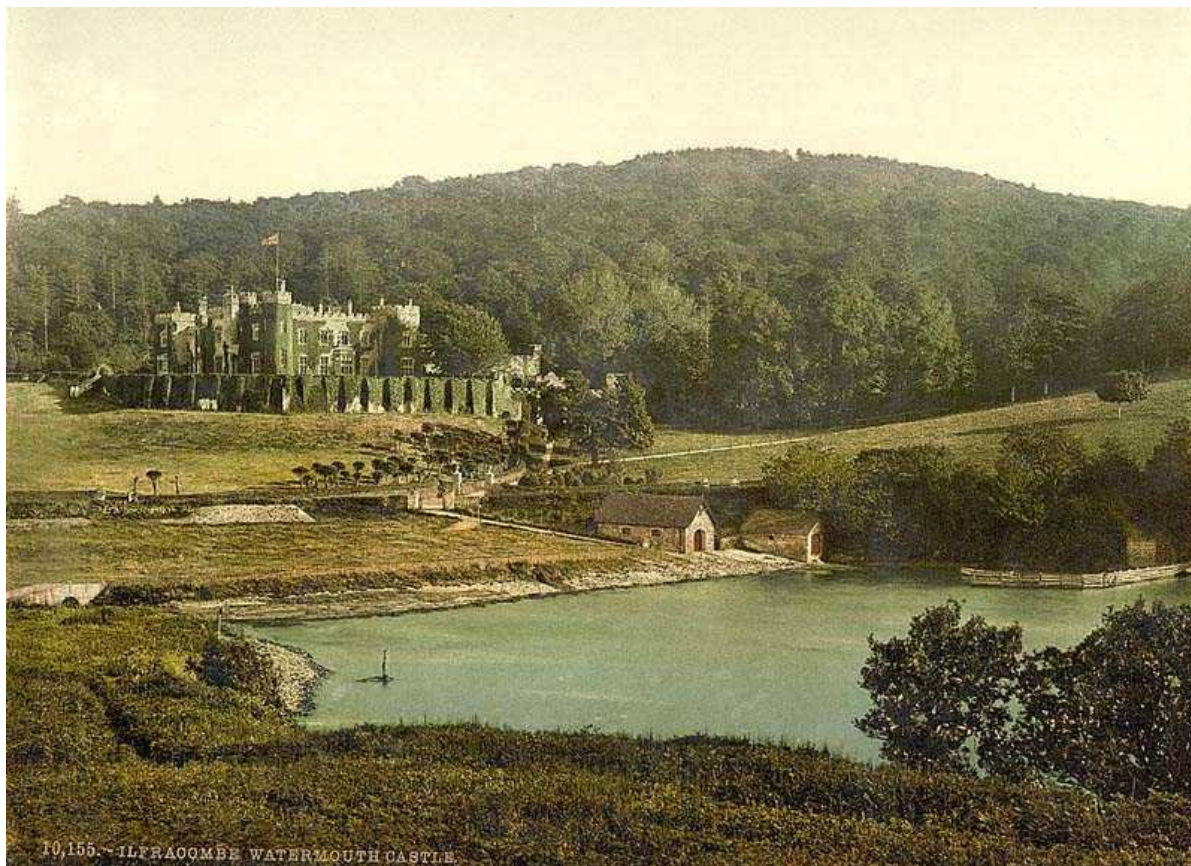
Sunday 29th April

Sunday 13th May

Moira

Old Watermouth

I can't remember if I found this lovely picture of Watermouth in times gone by, or if Moira sent it to me, (or even if I've posted it before), no matter, it is well worth sharing with you. Keith's office and the workshop (old boathouse), are instantly recognisable.



New Members

Welcome to new members Tony and Helen Lovett with their boat "Navnet" which is a Jenneau Motor Merry Fisher 895 Offshore, we look forward to seeing you in the club and on the water.

Club Maintenance

The Facias, Soffits, Gutters & Downpipes have been replaced in the last couple of weeks which has improved the exterior appearance of the clubhouse. Unfortunately we still have to get Planning Permission if we are to proceed with cladding the front wall of the clubhouse, so this is a work in progress at this time.

Geof Pierce

Harbour News

Keith & Lizzie trying to put the water back where it belongs - the stream was flowing across the entire width of the Harbour after the recent torrential rain. I had walked down to my mooring which is on the land side of the harbour and the water was halfway up my boots - but the tide was out !
I've seen Keith mixing concrete and poring it into large containers so it looks like there will be some new 'sinkers' for the ground chains.



Rob and Laura have moved the old steel boat, (which was on the driveway), onto the sea wall by the slipway and are busy converting it into a Boat Café. 'Storm in a Tea Cup' will be opening around Easter, if Laura can keep Rob going !



Caption Competition No 14

I hope Keith won't be offended if anyone dares to mention the antifoul he sells

Captions to watermouthyachtclub@gmail.com



Caption Competition No 13

Anyone who has seen John & Wendy Culley's Facebook will know John has a 'thing' about Rupert Bear as Rupert accompanies them everywhere.

This pic is from their recent sailing holiday with Trevor & Jane and Keith & Moira. I don't know what Rupert did to upset Trevor but there just has to be a caption

There was only one caption this time so Philip Langford is the winner with "One last go for that shark"



Greetings from Brillig, Wishing you a Peaceful New Year 2018

2017, another busy year we were living on Brillig full time. Andrew and I were back in home relaxed between 2 villages on Rio Guadiana with people relating to water and boats – suit us. Also Andrew had a studio in Tony and Clare's house in Alcoutim for a few months. Life was better.

Early June, Brillig set sail for the Azores; expecting 10+day's trip in Azores High northerly wind but the westerly force 6 blew her in wrong way, we spent lovely summer in Galicia instead.



There, we were welcomed by friends in Rias, would like to return next summer. Our 20th anniversary came on July 5th; we enjoyed seafood fresh from Ria to celebrate.

21st August was Andrew's 65th birthday. Just 2 of us, we celebrated significant age of his day at Rika's restaurant in a calm anchorage. He said that nothing to retire from, his material life was completed since age 29, when he purchased Brillig.



Brillig would return to Rio Guadiana for the winter. It was a quick downwind sailing in 3 days in northerly wind with poled out Working Jib and Spitfire Jib (only small head sails) from Ria de Vigo in September.

This return was important for Rika to make a concert in late October with her Japanese girlfriend Sawa, International Music Festival in Alcoutim in 2017 included Sawa and Rika's performance.

HIBIKI (sounds) was a good concert; we played worldwide movie's themes and traditional Japanese songs with 2 pianos. We made an interesting variety of music, 5 years old Susana (Sawa's daughter) played 1 tune, too. We received a lot of compliments.



Soon after the concert, Andrew and I flew back to Ilfracombe for sorting out the house as this summer Andrew and I became the owners of "Rosemary" (Auntie's house in the UK), Brillig is safe with 2 trusted anchors in the river and all good friends keeping eye on her until our return in January

2018 A new studio waits for Andrew; Suzie who visits Tanzania every winter offered him a space in her large house in Alcoutim. He can't wait for producing paintings of Galicia, making exhibitions. Brillig takes us up north again coming spring.



Look forward to hearing from you. Very best wishes, Andrew and Rika on Brillig

Contact us; sybrillig@gmail.com or andrewshortland@gmail.com