

“The Crow’s Nest”



An all round up to date view of the MYC June 2011 Edition Issue 12

Officers:- **President:-** Wendy Ponsford, **Commodore:-** Arthur Williams,
Vice-Commodore:- Nina Huntley, **Rear-Commodore:-** Bill Taylor
Secretary:- Salmon Williams, **Treasurer:-** John Puddle, **Membership Secretary:-**
Kate Allcott, **Rowing:-** Dave Bott, **Power Boats:-** Russ Handy, **Junior Sailing:-**
Denis Howell, **Bosun:-** John Smith, **R.Y.A. Principal:-** Gordon Parker

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Bill the Boot

How did he get that Name?

Graham Holder

Bill joined the club after moving from Barmouth from Shell Island and buying Mariner’s Cottage. This is where Barmouth’s Trainee Mariners were taught, unfortunately the school had closed down before Bill arrived! His prime passion apart from his boat was acquiring goods at a very cheap price and re-selling them at a profit, of course.

Friday night was selling night at the Club and Bill arrived to a packed house with large bags of “goodies”, which he emptied on the floor. Everybody dived in with shoes, waterproofs, tops, and weatherproof jackets flying in all directions. The main theme however was shoes of all

types, odd ones, faded ones, multi-coloured ones, damaged ones, worn out ones, large and small ones, he had something for everyone.

So one night when he was out of the room, we took all his shoes, laced them all together and strung them across the room like bunting. From then on he became known as, “Bill the Boot”

Bill’s Likes and Dislikes

1. Bill likes going to Pwllheli as the skips there have good quality rubbish.
2. Likes Portmadog as “The Ship” pub serves 2 meals for the price of 1 and he can share a meal with anyone who comes in.
3. He loves “Children in Need” shops and completely dressed

himself once from one of these shops. He looked so good that they now sponsor him to model their clothes.

4. Loves people who leave excess anti-fouling and he is quite content in using it on his boat even though they are different colours.
5. He adores the makers of chilli pepper and he adds it to his paint to keep barnacles off especially when sailing abroad.
6. He can't do without empty plastic bottles, as he is the foremost exponent in the development of the "Comfort Bottle", the mobile marine toilet!
7. Loves tins of corn beef from World War 1 and special offer Hula Hoops, (he found them on one of the boats he bought)
8. Adores supermarket trolleys, as he uses the wheels for his tender trailer.
9. Shopping at supermarkets at 6.50pm when it closes at 7.00pm. He can make great savings in the last 10 minutes of shopping.
10. Buying boats with diesel in the bilges as he feels he gets good value by not having to pay for the fuel there. It also waterproofs and when the floorboards are ripped out in order to get at the diesel the boards make good paddles. But he has to put raw onions in the boat to get rid of the diesel smell.

Bill is also a "string hoarder", you must never leave a bit of string or rope around as he will have it and put it to innumerable uses. These include, repairing sandals, self-steering, tying up boom sheets, sails, painters, shoe laces, binnacles, hat tie-ons, toilet door

retainers, and trailer wheel tie-ons just to mention a few uses.

Bill motto is, "Never waste anything" and I feel that from what we have just learnt about him he really takes his motto to heart.

Cadet Summer Sailing Camp with The Severn Sailing Club

Denis Howell



MYC and SSC have twinned and would like to offer to all MYC Cadets (under parental control) a week of race training and general sailing, ending in a Junior Regatta on Saturday 30th July 2011 at The Severn Sailing Club, Bredon's Norton, Worcestershire, (17 miles from Worcester and 5 miles from Pershore).

Sailing will not be happening every day and will allow parents and cadets plenty of free time to explore the local area.

Free camping and free use of the Club's facilities, including showers are offered.

All sailing will be under the control of SSC Senior Instructors and Dinghy Instructors, but parents/ guardians will need to be in attendance.

If you are interested let Denis Howell 01341 247553 know. There will be a meeting at the MYC about a month before the camp to go through arrangements.

The Barmouth Perch

There has been much concern from the sailing fraternity of the Club regarding the loss of the Perch marker and it's replacement by a temporary buoy and many



Temporary buoy Qk, Fl, R
052° 42, 768N
004° 03, 676W

members have contacted Trinity House to express their misgivings. Barry Davies, Maritime Officer, has also been contacted and has indicated that a permanent marker may be placed after consultation with Trinity House. We wait with baited breath.

The Hundred Club

John Puddle
Treasurer

The the April winner of the Hundred Club was Arthur Williams and the May winner was Carey Cartwright they have each received a cheque for £75. Congratulations to them both. The 100 Club has stalled at the moment regarding membership at 43 and in order to increase the number of monthly prizes more members are needed. If you like a little “flutter” with great odds and help the club financially at the same time, why not join. Anyone wishing to join please contact John Puddle, on 01341 280 602 units are £5.

Cruise in Company

Dave Holbourn

See the Tall ship Racing.

Dublin is hosting the final port for this event. (Ships from as far away as Chile, Mexico, Argentina, USA and European and Baltic countries including Italy and Norway will chart their course to Dublin) Saturday 18th to Mon 27th Aug. 2012

Suggested itinerary;-

- Leave Barmouth Sat 18th
- Arrive Ireland Sun 19th
- Move into Dublin City Mon 20th
- Move back to Poolbeg Wed 22nd
- Racing starts Thurs 23rd until 26th

This is a loose Cruise in company, everyone can set off in company or when they like, decide their own itinerary, but for trying to get into City Centre it needs to be a block booking.

If you wish to take part in this flotilla please contact Dave Holbourn, (Dancing Demon).

Three Peaks Yacht Race

Denis Howell

The race started in 1977 following a discussion between two local GP's, Rob Haworth and



Major HW (Bill) Tilman

Mervyn Jones who were considering a sailing trip up the west coast with occasional stops for walking. The inspiration for this sort of trip was Major Bill Tilman, who had spent his retirement in Barmouth and had organized trips in a Bristol Pilot Cutter to the Polar Regions for various climbing expeditions.

The race is now in it's 34th year (with one race cancelled due to foot and mouth). It is organized by a local committee and is hosted by the Yacht Club.

There are 32 entries this year with two Barmouth based teams. Dave Holbourn is taking his Hanse 301, Dancing Demon, with a crew from Worcester whilst Denis Howell and Dave Bird



will be taking a Beneteau 35, First Love along with one time MYC

Dancing Demon aka Pears 'n Peaks

member

Jean-Louis. Teams are encouraged to raise money for charities. Pears 'n Peaks are supporting their local air ambulance at www.justgiving.com/threepeaksyachtrace2011/ and First Love are supporting British



First Love

Kidney Patient Association and the RNLi at www.charitygiving.co.uk/firstlove3pyr2011

The entire race involves a total of 389 miles of difficult coastal sailing, 26 miles of cycling and 72 miles of running, with approximately 14,000 feet of ascent, including 2000 feet between Ennerdale and Scafell Pike, to reach the highest points in Wales, England and Scotland.



Boats will be gathering in the harbour ready for the race start on Saturday

25th June.

If the weather is suitable, going out to the start line (boats leave harbour at 15.00) provides quite a spectacle or you can watch the departure from Ynys y Brwd. During the week you will be able to follow the progress at www.threepeaksyachtrace.co.uk

Membership

Katie Alcott

Membership Secretary

The Club is pleased to welcome recent new members, Mr Mrs Arran Beards, Mr M. Kelly, Mr Dylan Barker and family, Mr Doug Davies and family, Mr Kevin Blackhall and family, Mr Rod Duffield and family, Mr Christopher Carter and family and Mr P. Kyriakou and family.

We trust that they will enjoy their time with the club and avail themselves to all the facilities it has to offer.

Power Boat

Russ Handy

Senior Power Boat Instructor

A number of power boating club members have been seen leaving the confines of Barmouth in recent weeks.

Myself and Dave Bott assisted by Katie and Martin, of Shamal and Llew have been practicing "Man overboard". We acted as safety boat just in case anything went wrong. I have to say I was very impressed with how the equipment worked and how successful the actual retrieval of a MOB was using the recovery method. Something a few more sailors should practice. I believe Gordon Parker has resolved how we get powerboat certificates authorised following RYA changes. I am aware that there are a number of other members who are interested in participating in Powerboat Level 2, which I will try and arrange in the near future.

M.O.B.

Martyn & Katie Allcott

Photo's Dave Bott

On a fresh May morning, 5 members set out on a challenge!

Could the onboard equipment on Shamal (Westerly Merlin) be sufficient to enable recovery of a conscious person from the water onto the vessel?

The exercise was conducted at slack water whilst tethered to the mooring, acting as if the vessel had located the MOB and being in close enough proximity to enable a life sling to be deployed.

Those taking part were Martyn, skipper of Shamal and his wife Katie as crew. Llew Griffin, Russ Handy and Dave Bott.

Shamals equipment included an adjustable buoyant life sling with 30m floating line attached and a 'handy billy' block and tackle 6:1 purchase. Llew provided 'Dead Fred', the 40kgs.RNLI MOB dummy, which was patiently waiting on the bench outside the yacht club for us when we turning



Ready to Go

up for our safety briefing and risk assessment on the morning of the exercise. .

A further onboard briefing took place to show how things would work and it was decided to use 'Dead Fred' for the first attempts, which were surprisingly successful.

With this success and being given some confidence with the result, Llew, (suitably attired in his dry suit) volunteered to be our 'live' MOB. The safety boat took Llew out a short distance from Shamal and he went over the side.



What a Catch!

The life sling with a floating line attached was thrown to Llew which he put over his head and under his arms, Martyn then slowly hauled him to the side of Shamal and made fast the line to the amidships cleat, the MOB now being tethered to the boat but still in the water. Llew was now able to brace himself by holding on to the short line and placing his feet against the side of the hull akin to a person who abseiled would adopt.

To quote Llew "a very comfortable position".

Using the 'handy billy'

Llew was hoisted up with moderate effort.



Nearly There

Due to the close proximity of the shrouds they provided a welcomed handhold and then he was finally hoisted over the guard wires and on to the deck. This was repeated successfully several times by both Martyn and Katie.

Bacon sandwiches and hot cups of tea followed a de-brief on-board. Martyn and Katie would like to thank Llew, Russ and Dave for their time and enthusiasm and making the exercise possible, Llew for providing our RNLI

MOB dummy and for braving the cold water, Russ who skippered the safety boat, 'Stormbreaker' and to his crew and cameraman Dave.

We hope this will encourage other skippers to think about their MOB system whether on a yacht, cabin cruiser or powerboat/rib and the possibility of testing them out under controlled conditions.



Safely aboard

If anyone is interested in knowing the technical specification of the equipment used or would be interested in carrying out a similar exercise, please have a chat to Martyn Allcott or Llew Griffin.

Trip to Kafalonia

Graham the Voice

We went on a holiday last autumn to Kafalonia and decided to take an all day boat trip to some nearby small islands, namely Ichia and Kona. No cars are allowed and there is only a small harbour with half a dozen restaurants and accommodation with showers for flotilla sailors, 3 euros for 3 hours absolutely idyllic.

On the return journey I chatted with the captain and discussed various things ie draught, engines, radar, GPS and local islands conditions. The captain then realised I had sailed with "Bill the Boot" (or in Greek Wilhelm de Sandal) and knew very little about sailing. Anyway he decided to entrust his superb boat (licensed and duty free available) with huge twin double engines and side thrusters to---"**The Voice**"

I climbed into the seat on the bridge and took over the controls, the captain then gave me his hat and retired and went to sleep, entrusting his boat, his crew and 100 passengers in my capable hands.

Ann, my wife who was unaware of this until a member of the crew informed her of my predicament and came to check out where I was, (somewhere amid the Greek islands).

Never the less we completed a successful cruise back passing various islands, coastal caverns and reefs along the way with the aid of a very good GPS. System and experience gained from Wilhelm de Sandal (ex captain of the Titanic and yacht, Aunt Bil.

We ultimately landed and handed over the boat to the captain who applauded all my efforts and thanked me for a successful restful trip home as he had slept all the way.

Which only goes to prove a point, **“You are never too old to sail a boat”**.

Compound Interest 4

John Smith
Bosun

After the winter period most boats are out on their moorings. The compound is now given over to member's car parking, launch and retrieve boats and trailer storage. After the last committee it was agreed that summer excess charges would run from the second week of May.

As usual we will try to organise one (or possibly two) clean up day(s) during the summer to tidy up and carry out maintenance on the yard and



boathouse. We will post dates in the club and notify members by email when we have sorted them. There will be plenty to do so please come along if you can.

Could I remind members that if they have wheel clamps they must leave a key so that we can move boats around to optimise space or gain access?

Nautical Dictionary

Henry Beard & Rory McKie

A lexicon bringing new meanings to things said at sea i.e.:-

Sailing: *the fine art of getting wet and becoming ill while slowly going nowhere at great expense.*

If any members have their own alternative meanings, funny or irreverent on nautical terms, please share them with us.

There now follows, over the next few issues, samples from the, “New Nautical Dictionary”.

There is also a diagram with simple terms for yachting, ideal for those just taking up the sport.

Abandon: *the wild state in which a sailor buys a boat, or a wild state in which a sailor relinquishes a boat.*

Anchorage: *1) Destination at day's end. Always found at the junction of two charts, in the gutter of a chart book, or on a chart not aboard. 2)Any location on the water where at least twenty boats may be accommodated in proximity to one another so that a sound of 10 decibels (roughly equal to the noise produced by folding a paper towel in half) made by a member of the crew of any one boat may be heard clearly by a person of average hearing on any of the other boats.*

Anchoring: *a process in which the anchor is lowered, and rancour is heightened.*

Aneroid Barometer: *metrological instrument which sailors often use to confirm foul weather. It's readings, together with heavy rain, severe rolling, high winds, dark skies and a deep cloud cover; indicate the presence of a storm.*

Aye-Aye: *some what-some what redundant-redundant nautical-nautical method-method of-of saying-saying “Yes”*

Bar: long, low-lying navigational hazard, usually awash, found at river mouths and harbour entrances, where it is composed of sand, or mud, and ashore, where it is made of mahogany or some other dark wood. Sailors can be found in large numbers around both.

Basic boat: a term commonly used by boat builders and salesmen to describe what is specifically covered in the advertised price of a boat. The basic boat normally consists of several hundred gallons of fibre-glass resins and glue, a hundred or so sheets of marine plywood, a ton or more of lead and steel, a sewing kit, and instruction book. By contrast, the basic boat with options and in "sailaway condition"-a somewhat more expensive proposition-boasts a host of convenient extras, such as a deck, cabin, an engine, a galley, an anchor, a tiller or wheel, a rudder, a cockpit, and sails, spars, rigging, fittings and portholes.

Beam sea: a situation in which waves strike a boat from the side, causing it to roll unpleasantly This is one of the four directions from which wave actions tends to produce extreme discomfort. The other three are, bow sea (waves striking from the front), following sea (waves striking from the back), and quarter sea (waves striking from any other direction).

Berth: Any horizontal surface whose total area does not exceed one half of the area of an average man at rest, onto which at least one litre of liquid seeps during any 12 hour period and above which there are no less than 10 kilos of improperly secured objects.

Bilge: the lowest spaces inside the hull where poorly understood chemical reactions among the liquids which collect there create a slow moving, viscous substance which some scientists believe is a primitive form of life, and from where it is believed sailors spring from.

Boom: 1) laterally mounted pole to which a sail is fastened. Often used during a jibing to shift crew members to a fixed horizontal position. 2) The sound produced when a gas stove is used to convert a boat into a liquid asset.

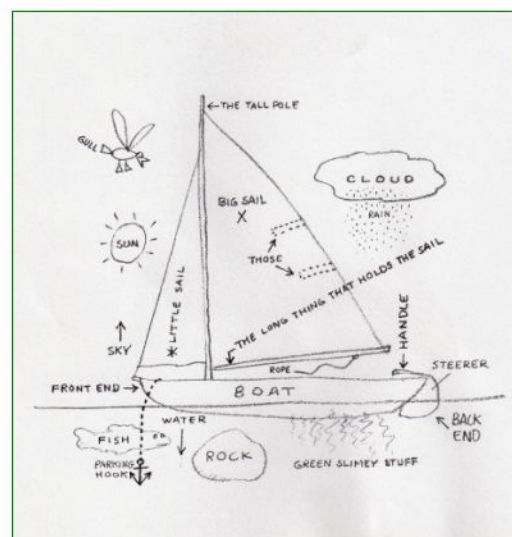
Bottom: the land under the water. It's characteristics are indicated on nautical charts to assist sailors in anchoring. Some common types of bottom sailors are likely to encounter are, ick, ycch, ugh, crddy, crppy, ftd, rtnn, nsty, awfl, hrrbl, dsngng, and unblvbl.

Bulkhead: Discomfort suffered by sailors who drink too much.

Buoy: Navigational aid. There are several types and colours of which the most numerous are: red or green cans,(seen as a fuzzy black spot on the horizon), black and yellow cardinal buoys, (seen as a fuzzy black spot on the horizon), black and red danger marks, (seen as a fuzzy black spot on the horizon), red and white safe water marks, (seen as a fuzzy black spot on the horizon),and yellow special marks, (seen as a fuzzy black spot on the horizon).

More next issue

We hope this diagram will be of assistance to budding sailors.



Help

Wendy Ponsford
President

Can any one help – one of the hand held radios belonging to the club has vanished from the boat shed. Has anyone seen it or maybe borrowed it? They are expensive and we just cannot afford to loose one. The radio is an icom. Thanks

WEATHER FAILS TO DAMPEN MAWDDACH PADDLESPORT FESTIVAL SPIRIT

By Jon Swain

Battling through High Winds and Rough Seas,” Idris Flooring” stormed past “LL DIY” in the closing furlongs of the very exciting 10 km Mawddach Rotary Club Rafted Canoe Race, between Barmouth & Penmaenpool, to win by the narrowest of margins – a boat length!

The mostly Novice Paddlers, weren't deterred by the conditions. Phil Edwards of Alcantra Signs said “Knowing we were accompanied by The British Canoe Union Lifeguards was a great confidence booster. They were on hand when I fell overboard in the early stages of the race even though I was able to quickly get myself back in our canoe as the water was only waist deep at the time.

The 10km Rafted Canoe Challenge - in aid of Hope House, Ty Gobaith –was the Highlight of this year's Inaugural 2- Day Mawddach Paddlesport Festival.

In the Mawddach Rowing Clubs 20km Invitation Event, the Celtic Longboats were able to complete the return passage to Barmouth powering against the Elements. Oarsman Arthur Williams said. “We have never rowed in conditions like that- even in the Irish Sea Race – and it gave us great confidence in both ourselves and our Boats – We had a great Row.”

In Barmouth Harbour, “Canoe Wales” &” Paddleworks –Courses” ran a programme of displays and “Have a Go” Sessions which were hugely popular with the many youngsters – ranging from 5yrs and upwards- who enjoyed their first taste of Canoeing on the Sea.

Event Organiser Jon Swain said “Inspite of the Weather, the Festival was a great success, and thanks has to go to all the Competitors and Sponsors who supported the Festival which overall raised around £3,500 for Charity as well as putting Barmouth firmly on the Canoeing Map. We look forward to seeing everyone again next year - when the sun will surely shine!”

10 km Mawddach Rotary Club Rafted Open Canoe Race Results:

- 1st Idris
Idris Flooring, Dolgellau
- 2nd The Kitchen Sink
LL DIY, Barmouth
- 3rd The Billies
Meirioneth Running Club
- 4th Milliput
Milliput, Dolgellau
- 5th Shark Attack
Bargain Books, Dolgellau
- 6th Up The Creek
Dolgellau Fire Station
- 7th Barclays Bounty
Barclays Bank, Dolgellau
- 8th Flossy 3SDL, Malvern
- 9th SMI Conkers
Sianpontbach
- 10th The Nannies
Meirioneth Running Club
- 11th Grwp Awyr Agored
Coleg Meirion-Dwyfor, Dolgellau
- 12th Crazy Mixed Up Goats
Meirioneth Running Club
- 13th PopeyePhil at Alcantra Signs

Thanks

The Social Committee wish to thank all those who helped in providing sustenance to all the participants and organisers over the weekend. If the

weather had been better the club would have fared better financially during this time but at least some good came out of it with a great cheque being presented to Hope House to help them in giving care and comfort to all those children and families in their care. It is thought the following photograph says it all!!



Pwllhelli
Graham Parker
RYA Pricipal

Nothing of any great significance to report, I am spending endless time at Partingtons Pwllhelli refitting Prairie Oyster , a frustrated scribe. It is worth mentioning that there is a restricted gate at the entrance to Havan Pwllhelli and in the channel of same due to ongoing silting , the bottleneck creating a 6 knot ebb on springs making it hard going if not impossible to punch the tide at full flow for vessels with small engines , I believe dredging is in operation to resolve this, however the depths in the channel limit the movement of vessels depending on draught , the depths shown on the pilings should have half a meter deducted to calculate depth in those positions .It is advisable to consult the harbour master Trefor on 01758704081 for updated info. on direction of the channel .It may be of interest to note that visiting vessels from MYC are permitted to tie to the pilings for approx . £5.00 per overnight stay perhaps in preference to a considerably more expensive stop in the marina!.....a dinghy would be

required for a trip ashore, and it would be advisable to check with the harbour master as to vacant pilings. Should one become storm bound it could represent a significant financial saving staying on the pilings. Skippers would need to provide their own lines, these are passed through the iron-sliding ring and made fast to the boat, these pilings I am informed are robust and provide secure berthing.

Diary

Thursday June 23rd

Three Peaks Supper

Friday June 24th

Three Peaks Supper

Saturday June 24th

Club Supper

Thursday July 7th

Bingo & Sandwiches

Thursday July 14th

Quiz & Supper

Friday July 15th

Open Mike

Musical Evening

Thursday July 21st

Bingo & Sandwiches

Thursday July 28th

Quiz & Supper

Friday July 29th

Open Mike Musical Evening

Thursday August 4th

Bingo & Sandwiches

Thursday 11th August

Quiz & Supper

Friday 12th August

Open Mike Musical Evening

Thursday 18th August

Bingo & Sandwiches

Thursday 25th August

Quiz & Supper

Friday 26th August

Open Mike Musical Evening



There will also be some Saturday evening suppers, yet to be arranged, so please keep an eye on you e-mails.



A Bevy of Easter Bunnies!

Bingo Competitors in the Easter Bonnet competition held during the Easter Bingo Evening.
What ever next ladies!

For Sale

Hunter 27. Excellent throughout. On the water in Barmouth.
Anyone interested please contact Wendy Ponsford 01341 281262.

Gull Dinghy Needs a little attention and some TLC.

It has sails, tiller, rudder and launching trailer but no road trailer. A shore in the compound. £250.

Anyone interested please contact Arthur Williams, Commodore.

Member's Note

The club has for member's use a "Wayfarer", if you fancy trying to sail then this is for you. Informal help and advice is available, again from the Commodore.

Next Edition

The Mystery of the Perch Stones and "Chef at Sea".

If you have any favourite recipes that you enjoy whilst afloat please share them with other members. Send them to the Bulletin Editor, e-mail below or leave them at the club. If we get enough we could possibly produce our own recipe book for sailors.

For articles or sales please contact Barry Rampton 01341 280 398 email:-
barb.barry@btopenworld.com
bulletin editor with any news for the August newssheet

**THE CLUB NEEDS TO BE USED
please support it when you can.**

There is no charge for inclusion here but if you are successful selling your item through the Newsletter a small donation to the Club would be very welcome.
