



SPARKMAN & STEPHENS ASSOCIATION

“Dolphins” 10 Passage Lane, Warsash, SO31 9FW. UK
Tel/fax + 44 (0)1489 572283 Mob:0788 75 46 515
E-mail: David.Olley@talktalk.net

From the UK Hon. Secretary David Olley

UK & IRELAND NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2009

We're just back from Gran Canaria and sitting down to write this Newsletter is real contest. Outside it is blowing a gale, at 1400hrs it's nearly dark and the rain on the conservatory roof makes it impossible to hear on the phone !! Rumour has it, that in a couple of weeks the days get longer, roll on summer. Thank goodness for the great 2009 highlights .

AGM 2009 June 12-14th in Edinburgh.

It is wonderful to be able to write up yet another magical event. It is astounding that members have organised 16 AGM regattas in different countries with incredible skill:

Our hosts were **The Royal Forth Yacht Club** and the organisers were **Chris & Karen Hames, “Tramp of Airlie”**. Chris & Karen had cleverly planned this AGM to coincide with the finish of the famous 420 mile **Helgoland-Edinburgh Race**. Three S&S yachts sailed from Germany **Sasha, Wervelwind, Rubicon**.

Sasha was overall winner, both first over the line and on corrected time. What a boost to start the AGM. It had been hoped that Jan de Vries **Tenacious** the 1979 Fastnet winner would join, but her re-fit has not been completed.



“Sasha” Skipper Albrecht Peters,

Programme:

Friday 12th June The S&S weekend was **hosted by The Royal Forth Yacht Club** who organised the afternoon racing on the Firth of Forth, this is always a wonderful opportunity to sail on

other lovely S&S yachts. Eight yachts entered, the results were:

- 1 *Rumbuster: George & Fiona Brown*
- 2 *Tramp of Airlie: Chris & Karen Hames*
- 3 *Sasha: Ali & Erica Peters*
- 4 *Sherpa: Robert Kirkby*
- 5 *Shenanigan of Hamble: Clive Williams.*
- 6 *Rubicon Jurgen & Susanna Mohrmann*
- 7 *Wervelwind: Rob Snoeks*
- 8 *Kara: Max & John Taylor*

A 19:30 hrs a Champagne reception was held on the Royal Yacht **Britannia**. It included an escorted tour of the Royal cabins and crew quarters, and a prize giving, and official welcome by Hamish McKay Chairman, RYA, Scotland

Saturday 13th The AGM dinner was held in The New Club (that's a euphemism, it was founded in 1787) on Edinburgh's Princes Street with spectacular views across the park to Edinburgh Castle.

We were piped into dinner by S&S member, George Brown in full Scottish Regalia. Rob Snoeks presented the Founders Cup fully charged with wine to Chris Hames to toast the formal opening of the annual dinner.

Following an excellent traditional meal, Jamie Matheson gave an after dinner talk with slide show on the restoration of “Opposition” in the yard she was built, Lallows (ex Sir Ted Heath's “Morning Cloud II”).

Then Judy Dennis (daughter of George & Fiona Brown) gave a moving recital on the Clarsach (Scottish harp). What a talented family, they also won the Friday race in “Rumbuster”.

Sunday 14th June.

The **AGM** was held in the Royal Forth Yacht Club, the minutes are available to all members but some of the main features are:

Bruno Taylor will remain as Hon. Treasurer and will produce one more Year Book. **Jim Koss** has agreed to take over **The Wave Newsletter**. It was unanimously agreed to make **Patrick Mathiesen** a life member in recognition of his hard work over the years.

At 12.00hrs all members were bussed to the Old Harbour, for a seafood lunch at Loch Fynne.



S&S AGM 2010

Many, many thanks to our hosts the Royal Forth Yacht Club and Fiona & George Brown for their hospitality and to Karen & Chris Hames and their team for a very memorable AGM

We then had another great event:

The Laying up Supper. Kerry, Steen and Anne-Marie for the second year running laid on another supper. On 14th November in **The Upton Grey Village Hall**. I know you were all invited, but for those who could not attend you missed a great evening. Over 27 attended and Alan & Shirley Blowers from Warsash joined us. We stayed in a classical 500 year old coaching Inn, The George Odiham.

We were greeted at the village hall with Steen and Kerry wearing miner's head lamps. Storms had caused a power cut in Upton Grey, just as Anne-Marie was cooking classical Danish dishes. Being undaunted sailors Steen collected his Barbeques from his home opposite the hall and they carried on cooking in the car park.

Spinnakers and sails covered the village hall ceiling, which was illuminated with dozens of tea candles. Wine flowed and sailors did what they do best, drank it and enjoyed a marvellous meal in a magic atmosphere.

Sadly, the main highlight was to be the launching of the UK & Ireland web site, which Steen had taken many hours of work to create. It was all set up with a power point presentation ready for launching, then bang! The classic unexpected, no electricity !

The UK & Ireland web site, Steen and Kerry has done a great job. To my inexperienced eyes most of the basic structure is in place. But the success of our site is totally in all your hands to contribute and keep the information and data updated. I understand there will be an exclusive members section, which will be **Password Protected**.

Initially Steen will require any advice and suggestions for the site and your contributions :-

- Your yacht, her history and a good story about your purchase and how you found her.
- Photos.
- Any re-fitting and sourcing of parts and material.
- Good stories of your annual sailing and events.

Visit our new website: www.sparkmanstephensuk.info Send your input, and call back regularly.

2010 S&S AGM. At the supper, we had distinguished overseas visitors Rob Snoeks Hon Sec. Netherlands and Albrecht Peters, Hon. Sec. Germany. Rob & Ali came to do a presentation for the 2010 AGM festivities which they are organising with Hans Kettering in **Barcelona**. Hans Ketterings sailed down to the Mediterranean in his lovely classic yacht "Baccarat" to Barcelona and arranged with the Commodore Senor Damian Ribas Malagrida to host our AGM at his famous yacht club: **Real Club Nautico de Barcelona** (www.rcnb.com) from 25th June until 27th June 2010 or even the 28th

The 2010 AGM team is hoping to arrange the accommodation at **The Peninsula Hotel**. All members will be kept informed via our international web site :

www.sparkmanstephens.info and our new UK web site www.sparkmanstephensuk.info This has all the hallmarks of another stunning AGM, this is only our second AGM in the Mediterranean and the first in Spain. Rumour has it that Matteo Salamon may persuade his fleet of S&S Swans to join the regatta. Don't miss this event it promises to be another spectacular AGM.

AGM 2011 At the Edinburgh AGM Geoff Trebilcock "Sundance" offered to organise the 2011 AGM in Falmouth, Cornwall that was seconded with alacrity. As we all know Falmouth is steeped in maritime history and is a very beautiful and hospitable venue for all yachting events. The S&S Assoc. receives annual invitations to join their Falmouth Classics. Geoff will provide full information to members through our websites.

Annual appeal, our Association is now 16 years old and thriving, but it depends solely on you and your input with interaction with new ideas and members. Also, over the last couple of years we have lost some precious friends that I will chase over this winter and persuade to rejoin.

But, we must not be insular. Interaction with other organisations is invaluable and enjoyable. In the UK we are maritime rich with a treasure trove of regattas, rallies, races and events in every harbour, river and lake. We don't need to wait for the AGM, lets enjoy more events in the UK & Ireland.

Steen & Kerry set a great precedent with their **Laying Up Supper**. I appeal to all UK & Ireland members to create events in their locality or bolt on to an existing event. Odd events throughout the year can be inexpensive and fun. From dinghy sailing on your local waters to great lectures in your club. We've had one meeting at the London Boat show but none at the Southampton show.

The Year Book, as Matteo said, it is the glue of our Assoc. Feed it, Bruno is desperate for articles, send a story today because as our own guru Olin said, "Use it or lose it". The Year Book provides not only a directory of members, phone, call & visit both your neighbours and those more distant. Use it to identify overseas members and invite them to your events.

2010 is nearly upon us and it is that time of year again. May I remind all our UK members that **Annual Subscriptions are due on 1st January 2010** :

£25.00 for one year or £68.00 for 3 years. As all members know I prefer subscriptions to be paid by Standing Order. A Standing Order form follows this Newsletter. Please make your Standing Order or cheque payable to:
" Sparkman and Stephens Association (AGM)"

Happy Christmas & Good Sailing New Year: Juliet & David