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# The Shorebase Foghorm

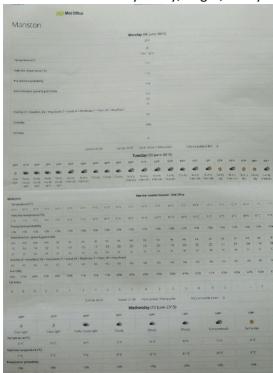
Sandwich Bay Sailing & Water Ski Club Magazine July 2015



#### What about the weather.....

When on earth, will this incessant cold wind stop? A question we're all asking.

We've had some really lovely, bright, sunny days but that wind has been



unseasonably cold. The temperature will be 20C but feels like 14C, a phrase we've come used to hearing from our weather forecasters throughout May and June.

Opposite is a MET OFFICE weather forecast for 5 days which can be downloaded from our website. This forecast prints on A4 paper in landscape and gives all the information you'll need for a good guess as to what the weather might be. You can change the location, so it's good if you going to another area to use your boats. (sorry the picture isn't great!)

#### **Editorial**

As you will have gathered, I have taken on the task of producing our in house newsletter, "The Shorebase Foghorn". Finding enough articles to fill the newsletter each month, will prove challenging. May I therefore ask, that if you have any, news, jokes, stories, articles, pictures, hints and tips or anything relevant to our Club or maritime matters, please drop me an email at <a href="lesspig1946@hotmail.com">lesspig1946@hotmail.com</a>. In the meantime I'll do my best to fill the pages.



Those of you who came to the Hog Roast (27<sup>th</sup> June), had a really great time, as I did.

Campers started to arrive on the Friday, sorting out their pitches and boats, making them ready for use.

First to take to the water on Saturday was

Brian Smith with his catamaran, he heading off towards Ramsgate and was soon out of sight. Being very experienced, this was a walk in the park for Brian.

During the rest of the day, most got their boats on the water, the weather being ideal for launching and retrieving. However, Wayne Smith and Jim Chaston had a problem with their craft which meant they had more time to concentrate on the excellent cooking of the Hog. Thanks to Wayne and Jim, the Hog Roast was superb, with plenty of meat for second helpings. A very successful "Roast Hog Day!" Many thanks to all concerned.





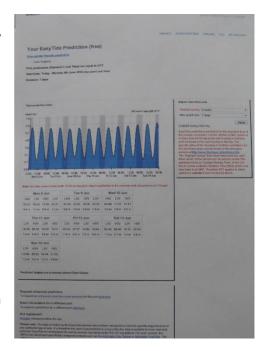
#### Need to know.....

The Clubs website is a great place to check out the tides for the Bay. Just click on the button and you see a page showing a Tidal Prediction Chart for Deal which shows the height of high and low water for 7 days.

Below the Tidal Prediction Chart, is a 7 day group of tables indicating the High and Low Tide times with the predicted heights in meters above the Chart Datum.

It is possible to change the location you want to check.

Give it a look!



# 77-31

# A very busy weekend.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> June 2015 the Ramsgate Lifeboat was called out to a boat that had run aground in the mouth of the River Stour. As it was early evening and the boat was well and truly stuck, it was decided to leave the Skipper on board and the RNLI crew would take his wife, 4 children and a greyhound to

Ramsgate Harbour, from where they could find their way home. Meanwhile, the RNLI crew returned to the boat and in the early hours, were able to tow the boat off and re-float the craft. The craft continued to Ramsgate under its own power but when the engine began to over-heat it was decided that it should be towed into Ramsgate, by the RNLI crew.

This was just one of 6 shouts the Ramsgate Lifeboat attended that weekend and proves their worth. Donate, please! (photo:Wikipedia/Story:RNLI LIFE)

# Let Me Tell You a Story

Once upon a time, in a Clubhouse known to us all, there stood a Mono-Ski with a "for sale" sign on it. Bob Griffin said, "I'd like to have a go at that"!

Unbeknown to him, it was purchased and given to him as a present. A few weeks



after this, once again in the Clubhouse, he happened to say, "I'm going to try my Mono-Ski out when the weather improves". Then, Amanda



Drake said, "I didn't know you was a skier, Bob". To which, Bob replied," I'm not!" With a wry-smile on her face, Amanda said," I think you should try 2 skies, first!"

## The Dry Run.....

Pictured above is the 'Theory' lesson that

Bob and Jamie Kember arranged at 'Action Watersports', Lydd. All went well, while on dry land, then came........

#### The Wet Run.....



Last minute instruction, not long now, and they'll be off.

Jamie went first, because he was told to by Diane their instructor, and his skies fell off! Whilst, he has long arms, he has extremely long legs, which made putting the skies back on really difficult, in the water.

I must at this point say, Jamie is rather tall and Bob is a little shorter, but in the photo, Bob really IS, standing on the bottom step.

## Up, Up and Away.....



They're off! Both Jamie and Bob, after a couple of 'bum runs', were up, out of the water and skiing on the bar.

They both tried to ski on the rope, however with only a very limited time in training, couldn't do that for long and tumbled with a splash,

into the lake. Nevertheless, they both agreed it was well worth having the lessons and feel sure it taught them enough to have a go, at our club, themselves.

It might be that, another session of training would be a good idea as the training was given on a very sheltered gravel-pit and not the open sea. We'll see!

It must be said that they certainly enjoyed the day at 'Action Watersports', as did the eight guests that went along to watch



them struggle with the skies. All had a really good day out, only the trainees had to pay, the rest of us took a picnic and had a very pleasant day by the water, sunning ourselves, sheltered from the wind.



#### About The Venue......

Action Watersports, sits on the side of a worked-out gravel-pit, sheltered from the wind by trees and bushes. Allowing, use in all weather. It is a no-frills, well

equipped site, consisting of a number of steel containers, forming an

office/shop that stocks all sorts of wet-gear. Tea, coffee and soft drinks are available. There are other containers housing, showers, changing rooms, toilets.

There are picnic areas, both open and covered.

Sports supported are, kayaking, paddle-boarding, wake-boarding, water-skiing, both dual and mono, jet-skies, fly-boarding and the usual inflatable toys. Check it out at www.actionwatersports.co.uk.











# Wednesday Sailing Club

by Francesca Pierson



The 17<sup>th</sup> June saw 4 competitors on the water. A south westerly wind and the sun made ideal conditions, the best yet, this year.

Brian Smith had been out on the water, enjoying a pre-race sail.

Jonathan Drake, just back from Le Mans, (arrived at Dover by ferry an

hour before the race), Amanda Drake, (first race of the season) and Rob Pierson joined Brian on the water for the race. The race went off well with a perfect start from Amanda, applauded by the support boat, however, thinking she had been over the line, completed a full turn before resuming the race!

Rob led the fleet all the way, knowing his handicap would not help him, he had no room for mistakes. Catching Jonathan on his 4<sup>th</sup> lap, Jonathan took his eye off the game and ended up capsizing, going for a somewhat, chilly swim. Brian was close behind Rob's rudders throughout, but it wasn't enough to steal the race.

1<sup>st</sup> place went to Rob, 2<sup>nd</sup> to Jonathan (with only 1 second of corrected time preventing him from winning), 3<sup>rd</sup> to Brian and 4<sup>th</sup> to Amanda.

An excellent race provided by the highly experienced Tony Drake and Mick Gambrill, on the support boat, Rubber Duck. Well done everyone!

After the race, yummy pasty, beans and jacket potatoes with apple crumble and ice cream, for the small charge of £3.50.

Have you got a sailing boat and would like to join us, for a fun evening? Nothing to serious! Race starts, 19.30hrs. throughout



July, 19.00hrs. throughout August. A great way to break up the week!

If you would just like to spectate and socialise, then you won't be alone. Join our regular spectators, Kim, Richard, Jade and Daisy Jeffery, Jo Gambrill, Danny Carswell, John Piggott (when he's not on holiday) and yours truly, Ed.









The 24<sup>th</sup> June saw just 3 competitors taking up the challenge of the race, Brian Smith, Rob Pierson and Jonathan Drake. Mick Gambrill had charge of the support boat, as Tony Drake and Amanda were on holiday. A second boat, manned by Richard and Jade Jeffery, offered support during the race.

The off-shore wind dropped towards the end of the race. This meant a close finish between Rob and Jonathan and although, Rob finished in front, after the handicap was applied, Jonathan was declared the winner with Brian finishing third.

All our sailors enjoy and have such great fun on these race evenings that, although they would love to be the winner, they really don't mind

as long as the weather has been good to them and allowed the race to take place. After the race over their meal, they can be heard engaging in light hearted banter.

Francesca would have written this piece for the 24<sup>th</sup> June race but was unavailable and so I've tried my best to make up for that but as that was the last race of the first series, I'll ask Francesca to bring us up to date next month (August 2015).

#### Sailing Wednesdays throughout the season, weather permitting!













# Canocing on the Cheap









There are those days when we set out to launch our boats and find that when we arrive at the Club the sea is just too rough to use the slipway. Impossible to launch from the beach, this makes it a very disappointing day, to say the least. You just want to get on the water!

Well, why not go canoeing, a great fun sport and allowing access to the sea through larger waves but be careful! Pictured above are two types of canoe that were bought cheaply on Ebay.

The top photos, left and right is of a new inflatable canoe, bought for £80. Comes complete with foot pump two inflatable seats, paddle and carry bag system, so it goes over the shoulders, like a rucksack.

The lower left photo is of a new "sit-on" Fishing Kayak, cost £350, and comes with two seats, two paddles, two buoyancy jackets and three fishing rod holders. Delivery is an extra £40 or collect it yourself. Great value!

The third canoe is second-hand, in good condition, from Ebay, for £250, collected! It included two seats, two paddles and buoyancy jacket.

It's always a good idea to check out the Internet, as you can save yourself hundreds of pounds!

# Coming soon.....

August Bank Holiday Camping Weekend (29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup>). *Take advantage of what your club has to offer!* 

September 20<sup>th</sup> Barts Bash. *A charity event, raising money for the Andrew Simpson Sailing Foundation.* 

October 24<sup>th</sup> AGM and Laying Up Supper. *Stow your boat away for the winter and find out what the Committee has been up to!* 

October/November Quiz Night (Jim to give date). A Club event with the proceeds going to the Club, helping with the running costs!

November 14<sup>th</sup> Firework Night, Food and drink. *Bring along your family and friends for all those, oooohs and aaaarhs!* 

December 13<sup>th</sup> Christmas Party. *Bring a gift for your children and have Father Christmas give them to your kids!* 

NB. More about these events as they get closer!