

# Storrar Marine Newsletter

May 2008

## SMASH AND GRAB.

As we start to emerge from our winter hibernation, customers who have not crossed the threshold recently may find our new door entry system in use. If the system is switched on you will be 'buzzed' thru & then later back out. Sadly it is a sign of the times when we have to refuse entry to the crack heads that come 'shopping' for their free clothing. Our apologies for any inconvenience it may cause, however we must protect our staff & of course our stock by, at times, refusing entry.

On a happier note we like to pride ourselves on being a child friendly chandlery. If you have young children & are worried about bringing them along, our activity centre should keep them amused & their parents stress free. However the kids may have to join the Q as the other day I saw Andy trying to do the jigsaw puzzle, perhaps getting in a little practice for the forthcoming arrival? Incidentally the chandlery shop 'jigsaw record' is four & a half mins, currently held by the Bridge 'crew' from Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire.

Both Andy & I get a lot of pleasure in sending satisfied customers away, we do actively encourage our staff to learn as much about the products they are selling by offering good sound advice & keen prices, so well done to young Phil, who recently completed & passed the RYA radar course held on Cool Breeze at Royal Quays [www.coolbreeze.co.uk](http://www.coolbreeze.co.uk).

Followed by his VHF/DSC course at Deep Vee powerboat training [www.deepvee.com](http://www.deepvee.com). In the past month past both Musto & Henri Lloyd have been up North to the Marine Store for further staff training. At the end of the season we hope to see at least two of the younger staff attending Day Skipper night classes. Clare leaves us shortly (early May) on maternity leave, if she is as good at being a mum as she is looking after the clothing side of the business her baby will be a very lucky sprog indeed! Best wishes to Clare & Mark on their new adventure. However, please remember Clare, the activity centre is for exclusive use of customers' children & of course Andy!



## HEART(S) OF GOLD

You need to carry out major surgery to your high performance racing dinghy during the winter months, you need warm & dry conditions (so the epoxy will cure fast) Which area of your parents' house do you think you will be able to use, the cold garage, damp cellar perhaps or the dusty outhouse?



Looks like Neal who helps run our sail loft has got the perfect parents & thus the perfect solution. First they introduced him to boating at the age of nine months, and then twenty four years on his mum did not take too much persuading that this winter past she would not mind sharing the lounge with a boat! Dad had then to be encouraged to remove the patio doors to get the boat in. His condition: for removing the patio doors, helping with the antifouling of the family boat. Neal's modified racing Cherub dinghy finally hit the water for the first time two weeks ago.

Both Neal & his crew were taken aback five mins after leaving the shore. With its new found acceleration both helm & crew suddenly found themselves hurtling at high speed thru the leech of the

Kevlar/Carbon composite mainsail! Good job the boy works in a sail loft!

## FIT, FORGET AND RELAX

Some three months ago we wrote about the excellent Stripper, in our opinion the Rolls Royce of rope cutters, not cheap and needing skill & a set of taps to get it secured to fit. This month we have taken stock of the PROP PROTECTOR quite a bit cheaper just as good for cutting rope but not quite so effective when dealing with waterborne plastic sacks. Prices start at around £100 to suit a 25mm shaft. Of particular interest to skippers will be the fact that it can only take ½ an hour to fit. We have DVD's & informative literature to give away showing the PROTECTOR in' action.

- Easily installed in minutes
- Over 10,000 fitted worldwide
- Awarded 'best budget buy' by *Sailing Today*
- Slide-On and Clamp-On versions available
- No moving parts to service or fail
- Cutting action avoids vibrations / shocks
- Versions available for underwater fitting!



See page 2 for Auntie Foulins' problem corner.

The Polar Front will be running an 'Emergency at sea' rescue simulation onboard 'Polar Bear' on Sunday May 11<sup>th</sup> 2008 from Royal Quays Marina.  
 Vist: [www.thepolarfront.com](http://www.thepolarfront.com) or call Mark on 07703 323 086 for more information.

### ECO BLAST

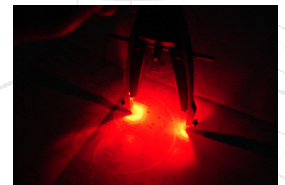
For almost two years we have been trying to do our tiny bit for the environment, recycling carrier & other bags made from polythene, TA to all those customers who regularly drop them in & thanks to you our customers for accepting new purchases in used bags!



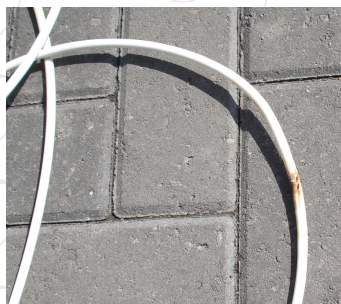
We use e-mail to publicise our Xmas Sale saving paper & ink and stock a new range of ecologically friendly boat cleaning materials. However today we got a new challenge, a delivery of distress flares. What with all the health & safety rules in force these days our flares are now transported to us in extra thick cardboard cartons but inside is a smart strong wire cage. Cardboard you can recycle but the cage? Fortunately next door we have a dog & cat-grooming parlour that were delighted to receive the cage & willing to take another five! Which should see us thru the season. But to get back to the title, it has been interesting to observe that over the past year the Eco Blast fog horn (even though it costs twice as much) is starting to outsell conventional gas filled aerosol horns. The Eco Blast horn which retails at £21.95 comes complete with its own hand pump, it's loud and quick and easy to recharge.

### NIGHT VISION

The other month I mentioned the Weems & Plath Light Wedge which is great if you're wanting to glance at a chart yet retain your night vision. Available from the same manufacturer this set of LIGHT DIVIDERS with red LED lights built into the arms light up the chart without the shadows created by the hands or other objects. Special centre adjust mechanism allows quick, precise, one-handed operation. In stock at the Marine Store at only £19-95.



### BEWARE PLASTIC COATED GUARDRAILS



Not too many folk know that when you 'remove' oxygen from the surface of stainless steel it can rust very rapidly! Dirt or surface contamination on a stainless boat fitting will prevent oxygen reaching the surface & the result is a telltale rust patch. Put a good quality stainless steel boat fitting in stagnant water & the subsequent corrosion & loss of strength can be rapid. So be wary of stainless steel plastic coated guardrails (banned now for some years for use on race boats) but still often seen on yachts & powerboats. A small crack in the plastic coating due possibly to chafe or UV degradation can allow water to get in, it becomes stagnant, the stainless starts to rust & the net result is that the wire can break without warning!

### Aunty Foulin's problem corner

Dear Aunty F,

This year I hope to take some time out & sail single handed down to the Azores. It's been my lifetime ambition to do such a passage, but last week whilst working on the boat and sucking a Werthers Original I managed to loosen a filling. What will I do if it happens again on my voyage?

Dear Colin Crown,

At the Marine Store we stock the Dentanurse first aid kit for teeth. Sold for just £15-00 it can be used to re-fix dislodged crowns, bridges & fillings.

Incidentally we also stock a good range of first aid kits & books.

**Do you have a boating related problem?**

E-mail me, Aunty Foulin, and I'll do my best to solve it:  
[auntyfoulin@storrarmarine.co.uk](mailto:auntyfoulin@storrarmarine.co.uk)



### NEW RANGE OF LIFEJACKETS

Fresh in for the start of the new season is the Spinlock range of DECKVEST (compact personal lifejacket harness for performance sailing) & the MAST PRO HARNESS (latest generation of the only harness especially made for working at height) I have personally tested both these items under at times demanding conditions & can honestly say that they are a great leap forward.



Call in & collect the Spinlock catalogue with its excellent pullout section on the '10 ways to prevent man overboard' & on the reverse '10 useful guidelines when ascending the mast.'

**REMEMBER OUR LATE NIGHT SHOPPING, TUES TILL 8PM. PLUS EARLY BIRD START MON TO FRI 7.30 AM (SAT 8.30AM)**

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