

# Storrar Marine Newsletter

September 2009

I am told by those folks a lot younger than me that out in the big wide world is a glitzy magazine called HELLO another called Now, there is Heat & More to name but a few, all full of the sometimes lurid details of the rich & their quirky weddings. Rumour has it that they pay squillions to get exclusive cover of the big day. Well in the North East we thought we could bring our fanatical readers up to speed with **HELLO SAILOR** a blow by blow celebration of



Andy & Jill's wedding which was held at the Gossie Park Racecourse the other weekend. Andy tried to get a main sponsor and failed, he tried to get a Yachtie magazine to come up with the readies and failed, in desperation he turned to his local MP. When he eventually got him to get his snout out of the trough he said; "Sorry my slush fund is rather low and as we speak I am too busy on my constituency holiday oops sorry business right thru till the middle of October' so he failed again! Sorry folks if you thought you would see Andy & Jill in a Cinderella type coach drawn by six prancing white cart horses it ain't to be!

Joking apart it was a fabulous day, the bride looked radiant & as for Andy well he still had his worried look, however he did lose it once his speech was over and to his credit he has offered to pay (out of his own pocket money) my speeding ticket, cos he insisted I work right up till the very last moment on the Saturday (allowed me just 30 mins from leaving work to drive to Tynemouth, shower, change & drive up to Gosforth) and yes folks for once I did shave! Congratulations to you both from all at the Marine Store & all the best for the future. Remember Andy there are now two people you have to answer to, Jill & me!



## PHIL'S 'PHLYING'

Earlier this year March to be precise we ran an article on 'back to our roots' where we wrote that our early years were spent dinghy sail making. Then as the business grew, to the fitting out & supply of racing dinghies. Such was our reputation that before long we were supplying dinghies worldwide. China, Sri Lanka, India,



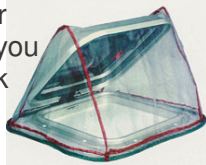
Pakistan & Hong Kong. Yes World, European & National championships have been won in dinghies fitted out by Rob Storrar & his partner in the original business. Well after a long long layoff we are back, the first dinghy in 2009 to hit the water was for a Cumbrian customer, Ginge as he is known to family & friends commissioned us to fit out & race tune a GP 14. Well earlier this month young Phil borrowed Avalon his Dad's immaculate boat to compete in a number of races at Bassenthwaite Week, competition was fierce what with a past World, European & National champion coming to the starting line in the same type of dinghy. Needless to say Phil crewing for a couple of helms



that he had 'picked off the beach' triumphed. Not bad for our first step back into the dinghy market! Phil's comments after winning the pursuit race (over 50 starters had crossed the start line) 'awesome boat speed & the big bonus for my mum is that she (the boat) looks so pretty' Thanks to staff member Ritchie for all the hard work you put into getting it perfect! The second image shows young Phil, this time helming just after crossing the finishing line in third place & thanking his crew or 'dish of the day' for helping get Avalon round the course so quick!

## Sorry Aunty Foulins on her Summer Hols

We regret that Aunty Foulins is unable to write her usual eagerly and anticipated column this month. She has made her way to Oban & is then joining Nimrod on its voyage thru the Caledonian canal this time travelling West to East, however she has e mailed me to say that to keep the dreaded Scottish midges at bay she has 'borrowed' from the Marine Store some of their Marinet Mosquito Nets for deck hatches. Three sizes are available 50, 60 & 70cm they are perfect for the Scottish 'problem' however if you are going to do flotilla abroad stick them in your hand luggage, they may save you from a nasty bite!



## CHANGE IN OPENING HOURS

Sorry folks, yes it's that time of year again no more Tuesday 8pm close & shock horror a 5-30 close on Mondays, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday. Saturday & Wednesday are 5pm. However it's not all bad news, for the early bird we are still in by 7-30am!

## Life Preservers For All Shapes and Sizes

So you are interested in a new lifejacket? Well we stock the largest range in the North East and unlike some of the mail order guys we will only sell them with a crutch strap(s) & note particularly the price we quote always includes this vital component! , Typhoon, Seago, CSR, Baltic, Crewsaver & Spinlock are the makes & should you have a furry friend? Bring them in & we will select the correct ikt for them too.



## NEW ARRIVALS AT THE MARINE STORE



We have just taken delivery of the latest VHF radios from Standard Horizon.

Slim, lightweight and waterproof, with the quality and durability expected from Standard Horizon – the new HX280E is an affordable hand-held VHF radio that is very easy to use. With all the regular features, such as dual watch and user programmable scanning functions you also have the added function of a preset key that allows direct access to no less than 10 channels. Compared to the HX270 which it replaces, the HX280 is 60g lighter, has larger digits, larger and more spaced out buttons, has more battery capacity (1650mAh compared to 1400mAh previously) and now comes with a Lithium battery pack which means no memory loss and less self-discharge. All this for only £94.95

**The GX1100E** fixed VHF is one of the smallest fixed VHF DSC radios on the market. The ultra-compact unit measures just 115mm x 60mm x 170mm (4.4in x 2.3in x 6.6in) but despite the small size, there has been no compromise on features. The front panel is fully waterproof (IPX7, one meter for 30 minutes) making it ideal for use on all types of craft, especially when space is at a premium. The GX1100E is the first fixed DSC from Standard Horizon on which ATIS (Automatic Transmitter Information Service) can be fully programmed and switched on and off via the front panel by the end user. ATIS is an identification system used on inland waterways in many areas of mainland Europe. Transmit power is switchable (via the front panel) between Low (1W) and High (25W), and there is a time-out facility which limits transmission time to 5 minutes, thus preventing unintentional (prolonged) transmissions. Priced at £114.95



## BACK TO SCHOOL or PRACTISE WHAT YOU PREACH

Most kids go back early September however for 'some' of the Marine Store crowd it was get your thinking caps on in August. I say some, cos Andy thinks I am incapable of learning anything, it's in one ear & out the other. Yes I know it took me well over fifty years to learn to tie a bowline & I still get him to switch my computer on each day. BUT I do have a couple of good points, well one anyway. I can recognise & remember customers faces/names a 'little' bit better than him!!!!!! But that's another story.

**It has** been interesting to hear Andy & Phil 'talk radar' to potential customers, but, & it's a big BUT did they really understand this specialist subject? Well some months ago we took the bull by the horns and got Phil to 'do' the RYA radar course so he was up to speed; however was Andy just talking bullshxx I don't think so. However to keep his mind off his forthcoming wedding we signed him up to 'do' the RYA radar course with Oceanic Yachts, Chief instructor Derek Garner (whose 'daytime job is piloting commercial aircraft & who has, I believe, at least three radar sets on his flight deck) ran an excellent course. Andy now has his qualification & feels he can talk with a lot more confidence. 'Well worth doing the course if you have had radar for some time or just bought' was Andy's comment when I saw him next day. For details on the RYA radar course & the other RYA courses Derek runs log onto [www.oceanicyachts.co.uk](http://www.oceanicyachts.co.uk)



**Later that** week young Andrew was a 'pupil' at Deep Vee who are based once again at Royal Quays marina, he was participating in a RYA powerboat level 1 & 2 course. When he reported to work on the Saturday (having successfully passed) he said 'perhaps now Dad will allow me to helm his powerboat as I am the only one in the family with any PROPER qualifications!' What else did he say 'really enjoyed the course, Tim the instructor was first class & I learnt a lot which I hope I will be able to pass on to our customers'? To find out more about the courses Tim runs log onto [www.deepvee.com](http://www.deepvee.com)

**Not to be** outdone Phil has signed up to do (when he is not seeing Hannah) his RYA Day/Coastal Skipper course this autumn at the Royal Northumberland Yacht Club starting late September. However in an effort to get some serious 'sea miles' under his belt & written up in his RYA cruising log book we also signed him up to help bring Polar Bear the ex Dee Caffari boat back to her home port in the North East (after she had competed in the Fastnet race). Further details on adventure sailing with Polar bear can be found by logging onto [www.thepolarfront.com](http://www.thepolarfront.com) & for RYA courses being run this autumn at the RNYC log onto [www.rnyc.org.uk](http://www.rnyc.org.uk)

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## SEPTEMBER COMPETITION

Yes this one is a game of chance, at Andy & Jill's wedding last month the question is how many times did best man Matt say NERVOUS when he made his speech. Was it once, twice, ten times or any no between? The FIRST correct answer out of the lucky hat wins a piece of wedding cake (if there is any left) & a place on the next Oceanic RYA radar course worth over £125. You have up till the close of play (5-30pm) on Friday the 25<sup>th</sup> of September to e mail your entry to [comp@storrarmarine.co.uk](mailto:comp@storrarmarine.co.uk) Remember it's the first correct answer out of Andy's lucky hat that wins the prize. If you were at the wedding, sorry you are not allowed to enter!



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