



the **Venturer**

Newsletter of the **North West Venturers Yacht Club**
Gallows Point, Beaumaris, Anglesey, LL58 8YL

Forthcoming Events

- 23rd -31st May Anglesey Exploration week. OOD Mike Hollingworth
- 6th June Beaumaris RNLI Training weekend including a DIY BBQ to be held at the Club. Bar Opening at 1800.
- 13th June Dulas Bay An alternative to Moelfre but rarely visited by the Venturers.
- 20th June Porth Wen Cruise in company with Traeth Coch Sailing Club with a BBQ & Cocktail Competition to be held in the evening.
- 27th June Abermenai A low water slack passage through the Swellies . See the rocks you so desperately try to avoid rise above you!!!
- 4th July Cemaes Cruise in company with the North Wales Cruising Club and join them with an Independence Day themed weekend and BBQ
- 11th July Moelfre A race around Red Wharf Bay in the Trilogy Trophy
- 18th July Conwy: An evening in Conwy after the crew have raced in the Irene Goodwin race.
- 25th July Caernarfon Victualing before setting off on the Summer Cruise.
- 1st Aug Family and Friends Pirate theme weekend with plenty of fun and a Kite Flying Competition.
- 8th Aug Beaumaris Sail out of the bay and try your hand at fishing with a DIY BBQ in the evening. A prize for the Biggest Catch!!! Bar Opens at 1800

In this edition...

Galley Rat. Tasty recipes to inspire when the weather just doesn't do it! See Pages 4/5.

March social, and the Start of Season party - see Page 9.

April cruise reports from Zygo (Pages 6/7) and Chinook (Pages 11 & 12)





Commodore's Corner

Well... It's another very windy welcome to you all - it seems that yet again we are starting our sailing season with lovely calm days in the week, only to see the weekends arrive with strong winds and rain to spoil our sailing plans.

On a brighter note, we did manage to take Avalon for a long weekend to the Isle of Man for the Easter Bank Holiday and very nice it was too with a warm sunny Saturday spent on the steam train and buses going to Port Erin, Castletown and then on to Peel for a lovely ice cream, with a return journey to Douglas to spend the evening with the crew from Madam Wen, who are members of Holyhead sailing club who had gone over for the weekend too.

For those who attended the work party, I would like to say a very big thank you for all that was achieved on the day and on that note I would like to congratulate Paul Morton and Jen Barcroft for both doing some excellent remedial repairs to the club house - it's started to look loved once more, so very well done to you both.

The start of season party also went well, with some 50 plus attending and all the food being accounted for; once again the Bishopsgate did the catering for us and all went very smoothly.

For those who stayed all evening, we had a duo playing called the Conwy's, who kept us all singing (and some dancing) till the end, so well done to Dave Clough for sorting this out for us all.

The clubhouse redevelopment had hit a sticky patch for a while with members too busy at work to commit the time to this, but I think we are now nearing putting a planning application in for the proposed works, so fingers crossed regarding this and I will keep you updated with progress.

On to Committee matters:-

Due to family commitments, Dave Clough has had to resign his post as Vice Commodore, so this leaves us with another post to fill. I would like to formally thank Dave for all his hard work over the past 16 months both in and off the water.

We now have vacancies for a Bosun, Sailing Capt and Vice Commodore so if we have any willing members who would like to step forward to take on these rolls, please contact any of the committee members for more details - we will all do our best to help you with your new position in the club.

Please do remember that our sailing club is run by its members for the members, so it will benefit us all if you take an active roll and do your bit to help our club go from strength to strength.

Many thanks.

Lee.
Commodore.

View from the Rear

A View from the Rear—May 2015

Well we are now into May and hopefully the weather has now settled into a more predictable pattern. The early season club cruises have seen pea soup fog and winds gusting up to 45mph never mind snow appearing in the Welsh mountains overnight. Work commitments and poor weather have put pay to any of our early cruise plans and after a mad rush to get into the water we've only managed a trip through the Swellies and back so far.

The end of May will see our first Cruise with a number of members showing real interest in exploring the anchorages of Anglesey for a week and for those with the time sling shooting across to Ireland or the Isle of Man for an extra week. If last year is anything to go by this will be a fantastic opportunity for all members to comeback having gained some good friends and a little knowledge to boot. We then have the RNLI training weekend always a worth while experience learning M.O.B drills etc. The evening will see a DIY BBQ and the Club bar will be open, watch the website for more details. The bilge keelers might even get a lesson on pulling up the beach optional for the fins. Late June early August will see a return to club tradition not seen for a while, cruising in company with both Traeth Coch sailing club and the North Wales cruising club. We have our cocktail competition and on the 4th of July N.W.C.C are organising an independence day BBQ so bring your cowboy hats and a General Lee battle flag. Details of all events will be on the website.

On a final note it would be great to see more of you out on the water, the sailing programme is your sailing programme and participation in the events is really appreciated.

Mike Hollingworth
Rear Commodore.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome the following new members, some of you will have already met some of them in the clubhouse.

Please welcome new members Mark Rayment & Natalia Gomez Escobar with children Santiago, Ines and Luca. Their boat is an Albin Nova named Redstar.

Also welcome to Richard & Gwyneth Adams who are the new owners of Shoestring, an Achilles 24.

Kind Regards

Susan D Beetlestone. NWVYC Membership Secretary.





Galley Rat

Well here we are in 2015. With all this cold and windy weather, I need food to inspire, food to smell good and taste even better but when cooking on the boat it needs to simply. Clean up needs to be simple. Macaroni cheese is a comfort stand by food and by using fresh crab you can take to a whole new level. A simple homely dish, and also wonderful luxury comfort food.

Marconi cheese with Crab.

You need:

50g Butter,

2 leeks, finely sliced and washed.

400g of macaroni or whatever short pasta you prefer.

50g Flour

500ml Milk

150g Grated gruyere cheese, or any other tasty cheese (Or a mix).

¼ Teaspoon of Nutmeg grated.

Breadcrumbs, about 2 or 3 handfuls.

Salt and Pepper.

1 dressed crab or one tub of white pasteurised crab meat or even 2 X 170g tins of white crabmeat.
(optional)

In your saucepan, melt the butter and add the leeks stir round and cover and allow to sweat for minutes to soften the leeks. Bring a large pan of salted water to the boil and cook the pasta according into the instruction on the packet, once cooked drain and keep warm. Heat the grill or the oven.

After about 10 minutes, add the flour to the leeks and stir cooking for a couple of minutes or so to cook out the flour. Gently add the milk whisking to avoid any lumps and simmer for 5 mins. Add half of the cheese and all of the nutmeg and the crab meat if using. Heat through and season, before stirring in the cooked pasta. Tip everything into a shallow baking tin - Tin foil trays are excellent. Top with the bread-crumbs and the remaining half of the cheese. Grill until it is bubbling and golden brown on top. Serve with a crisp green salad, and a good bottle of white wine.

For even more luxury, try adding lobster instead of crab meat, and perhaps using more than one cheese.

Pasta with Smoked salmon and crème fraiche.

A light supper dish.

500g of pasta (enough for 4)

zest and juice of one lemon.

Garlic- optional. Crushed.

Crème fraiche

2 large shallots, or one small onion, thinly sliced

100 g of Smoked Salmon

A dash of oil.



Galley Rat (contd)

Cut the smoked salmon into bite size piece and set aside.

Cook the pasta according to the instruction on the packet. Meanwhile, heat the oil and when it is hot, add the shallots and cook until lightly brown, adding the garlic after a minutes or so. When the onions are brown removed from the heat and allow to cool. Drain the cooked pasta and put back in pan. Add the onions and garlic, add about 2 or 3 tablespoons of the crème fraiche then the lemon juice and zest and the smoked salmon. Season with salt and pepper and serve either warm or cold with a wedge of lemon and a sprinkling of chopped parsley for colour.

Use reduced fat crème fraiche as this keeps longer on the boat and is better for you.

Georgina Clough

CG66 Safety Identification Scheme - a reminder

YOUR SAFETY FIRST

When you are at sea, if you get into difficulty and for whatever reason you are unable to raise assistance, is there anyone ashore who knows what to do if you fail to return at your estimated time?

Would a friend or relative know who to contact? Would they know sufficient detail about your vessel and your likely whereabouts to be able to assist the Coastguard to locate you?

In a man overboard, fire or abandoning situation where the skipper needs to attend to the situation in hand but also needs to advise the Coastguard, as long as you are able to pass the name of your vessels, your position, nature of the problem, assistance required and number of persons on board, then the Coastguard can obtain the remainder of the information needed from the CG66 - Voluntary Safety Identification Scheme.

Would it not be a comfort when you set out, to know that the Coastguard have as much detail of your vessel and its likely whereabouts on a database that is accessible to all Coastguard Co-ordination Centres throughout the UK should you get into difficulty at sea?

SO WHAT CAN I DO?

Quite simply, join the HM Coastguard's CG66 Voluntary Safety Identification Scheme. You can join online (<https://mcanet.mcga.gov.uk/public/cg66/>) , or download the form and send it to your nearest Coastguard Co-ordination Centre. Forms can also be obtained from any Coastguard Co-ordination Centre or Sector Base; MCA Marine Office or RNLI boathouse, or look out for them in your Local Marina.

The scheme is free and is for the benefit of the owners of all types of leisure vessels and small craft. Complete the questionnaire that will provide as much detail of your vessel including: name; type of vessel; size and colour; radio and navigation equipment carried; lifesaving equipment carried; your usual area of operation and mooring; and details of a shore contact. In short, as much detail as possible to assist the Coastguard should Search and Rescue action ever become necessary.

DRC (copied from the MCGA web site)



Zygo's Easter shakedown cruise to Rhoscolyn

Our initial plan was to launch the week before Easter and be on the water all prepared and ready for the bank holiday weekend. The weather had different plans for us and after days of strong winds blowing up the Straits from Menai Bridge, I put back launching until Good Friday.

This day started well and our launch by ABC went smoothly, just before the weather went wet and cold and stayed that way for the rest of the day. Not a very good Good Friday, but last minute jobs on the boat were done, and all was looking good for our passage through the Swellies to rendezvous with other club members who were already afloat and on the South side of the bridges.

Forced out of a very nice slumber by the need to make our Swellies passage, it was noted that the sky had lifted and was semi bright, and with a forecast for three days of settled high pressure.

As usual it was on with the kettle and stick my head out of the hatch for a quick survey of the moored boats which revealed Nigel and Ann on Sylvan were aboard, so a quick radio chat on Ch69 confirmed they too were shortly to be casting off and going South to Llanddwyn (with the first stopover in Victoria Dock). We cast off from our mooring in Beaumaris bay with high spirits and the hope of some sailing as it was blowing nicely.

Luckily we didn't have time to put some cloth up, as by the time we had Gallows Point abeam the wind had dropped, so we motored down to the Swellies, where we arrived slightly early and transited with about 2 knots of tide against us.

The main sail went up just prior to reaching Port Dinorwic but this was more a gesture than a useful aid to sailing. After an uneventful and windless run down to Caernarfon, and having heard Ocean Mood, Davico, Safari and Mentor on the VHF (channel 69) we caught up with the other boats (apart from Mentor who was sitting contentedly at anchor in Aber Menai) out on Caernarfon Bar.

After a valiant attempt to sail down the channel we gave up and opted to motor out into the bay and see if more wind could be had further out. Even Safari lost the will to sail while not having enough wind to keep her sails full in the slight rollers that were coming in.

Following a bit more discussion via VHF it was decided to carry on and try and get to Rhoscolyn, except for Safari who detoured straight to Pilots Cove for lunch.

Starkicker 2 came on the radio to say they were ahead of us and further out in the bay and also intended to make for Rhoscolyn, and they were sailing! Alas for us this option petered out as we were only making 2 knots sailing and as the tide was turning expected to be back on the bar in no time at all! Back on with the donkey and a bee line to our destination where all boats eventually met up and anchored safely.

Denise on Ocean Mood made a very determined effort to book us into the local pub for evening food but gave up after 28 engaged tones and an email. We opted to eat on board and walk to the said pub for a pint, where we found out why they were not answering the phone.

It was rammed, to such an extent that if you had not booked a table for a meal you couldn't sit down. A pint outside on the patio and return to the boats. Enough said.

After a very pleasant, totally still night we woke to the cacophony of the local bird life (and a couple of sheep). I had to do a double take as I looked out over the bows because I first thought I still had a bed sheet over my head but no, it really was thick, thick fog. We all stayed at anchor until 11.00 ish waiting for



Zygo`s Easter shakedown cruise to Rhoscolyn (contd)

the tide to turn and hopefully the fog to lift. Only one of these occurred, so with slight trepidation all boats set off for Pilots Cove in the gloom.

Starkicker left slightly before Ocean Mood, Davico and ourselves and I think missed out on the delight of a pod of Dolphins that visited each boat in turn and gave each a very nice display of their playfulness. What a start of season treat.

On arrival in the vicinity of Pilots Cove I contemplated (over the VHF) going into Pen Y Parc and anchoring for a while to see if the fog lifted as I was not sure about pilotage into the anchorage in the pea-souper. Safari kindly came on the radio and informed us he was in Pilots Cove and could see ok, and that we would get in ok, which we did. Thanks John for on the spot reporting.

On arrival we saw that Safari and Sylvan were already nicely at anchor and shortly Zygo, Ocean Mood and Starkicker were likewise. Davico opted to run right inshore and dry out for some anode checks.

By late afternoon the sun was trying to break through the murk, the water was disappearing fast so Zygo and Ocean Mood did a bit of shuffling about until, content that they were in exactly the right spot to guarantee and a good nights kip, re anchored.

A dinghy trip and walk ashore was in order. The sun made a brave attempt at putting in an appearance and a nice stroll around the headland was had by all. The fog lifted nicely and we returned to our boats with the hope of a better outlook for the return on Monday to our moorings.

No such luck! Monday morning saw us seeing very little again as the fog was back.

Following the usual banter about who was doing what Safari declared he was going slightly earlier than us and was going straight to C4 buoy from Llandwyn. While we were getting organised for the off John on Safari radioed to say there was no fog at all on Caernarfon Bar and he was in sunshine with excellent visibility, so we all opted to follow suit as to seaward was a wall of fog.

The fog returned in patches at various places going up the Straits, and with a vengeance from Menai to the Beaumaris moorings. As we approached Bangor pier Safari declared he was going to go very warily in case there was a mussel boat working. I checked for any AIS and informed Safari that there was nothing showing up on the plotter. Minutes later Safari radioed to inform us he had a mussel boat in sight, (so be aware, they do not have AIS) and that it was going the same way as us but liable to turn at any time because they are "devil boats". As Zygo was fifty yards behind Safari and we couldn't see anything at all for a while, it was a bit worrying. The mussel boat drifted in and out of view several times and disappeared in the fog again as he was going quicker than us. The next time we got a good sight of him he was coming straight towards us (thanks again to Safari for letting us know by radio).

A hasty turn to port for us followed so we could get amongst the moorings north of the Gazelle until we were sure he was well clear, and then back on track to the moorings.

A nice time was had by all with the added experience of some reduced visibility sailing (and motoring).

Many thanks to Jerry and Denise on Ocean Mood being OOD on this first Venturer`s outing of 2015.

Tim and Davina Downes
Zygo



50 CLUB

50 CLUB

There have been two draws held since the last Venturer and our winners are as follow:-

March

| | |
|-----|---|
| 1st | Pauline and Chris Hughes on Trisala-too |
| 2nd | Tim and Davina Downes on Zygo |
| 3rd | Jo and John Creasy on Davico |

April & SOS Draw

| | |
|-----|--------------------------------|
| 1st | Lee and Joy on Avalon |
| 2nd | Ralph and Mary on Glas-y-doran |
| 3rd | Jan and Simon on Jaygee |

Some members have chosen not to renew this year so there are numbers available for purchase – by joining, you will not only be helping the club to raise funds but have a real chance of winning! Please contact me if you would like to be included – you get 14 chances during the year with £50 being the first prize each month, £20 the second and £15 as third prize.

The draws on the Start of Season and End of Season night include a one off £150 prize for the first ball drawn.

Joy Bennett

Change of Address Notice

Please note.

Change of address for John Lomas:

New address is:-

Y Glyn,

Penmynydd Road,

Llangefni

Anglesey

LL77 7SG

Phone numbers remain the same

Thanks

John



THOUGHTS FROM THE VICE

March Winter Social

Another good turnout of 60 plus members and some more excellent catering by the Social Sub Committee. David and Kathy Rainsbury came along and gave a talk on their honeymoon trip to Norway from the UK in 2013. Accompanied by David's excellent photography and a video of him playing his guitar and singing whilst sitting at the end of a pontoon with some stunning scenery, we learnt about the crossing from Inverness (pleasant though to gale), the food (fish), their efforts at catching food (fish), and the walks they did up the Fjords. Most spectacular was the 3,000 foot cliff with a sheer face down to the water's edge – he wasn't perhaps as close to the edge as some might have gone for that photo, but then they were newlyweds.

Start of Season Party

Traditionally the kick off to the sailing season, we enjoyed some excellent catering by the Bishopsgate, and were then entertained by The Conwy's, a due from, not surprisingly, Conwy. John and Mike entertained us with a mixture of new and old, shanties and sing a longs, and the really enthusiastic members got up and danced. Thanks again to the Social Sub Committee for serving the food. It would be really good to see more members helping and assisting at club socials – just doing 5 minutes of washing up or clearing glasses would ensure that everyone got the opportunity to spend more time socialising rather than working – many hands make light work.

Racing

The club web site now has all of the sailing instructions for the rest of the season available, together with the general instructions. The cruise to Holyhead / Llanddwyn over the May Bank holiday weekend was cancelled due to the weather, so the Astrador and the Walton Shield may be fitted in the reserve weekends highlighted in the Sailing Programme – updates will be provided in The Venturer, and / or via the Event Notice Board. If you wish to be kept advised directly, please drop me an e-mail - details in the yearbook.

This is my last DCVC, as due to increasing work and family commitments I'm having to take a step back from Yacht Club Management Committee activities, and have resigned my position from 30th April. You will hopefully still see Sarico out on the water, but mainly day sailing with perhaps the occasional weekend club cruise. My activities on the Sailing Club Committee in relation to racing remain unaffected.

Dave Clough

DCVC May 2015.



Ohms law for Dummies – and Yachtsmen!

With apologies to those who are totally competent with electrical issues and measurement!

When it's time to think of fettling ones love and joy (hopefully your boat!), electrical problems can puzzle some yachtsman, and digging out the multimeter fills some with apprehension.

Direct current, which normally comes out of batteries, as opposed to alternating current at home and from shore power, are both governed up to a point, by Ohms Law, and the names and symbols of the electrical units are governed by a system called **"The Systeme International d'Unites"**, generally known as the **SI** units of measurements.

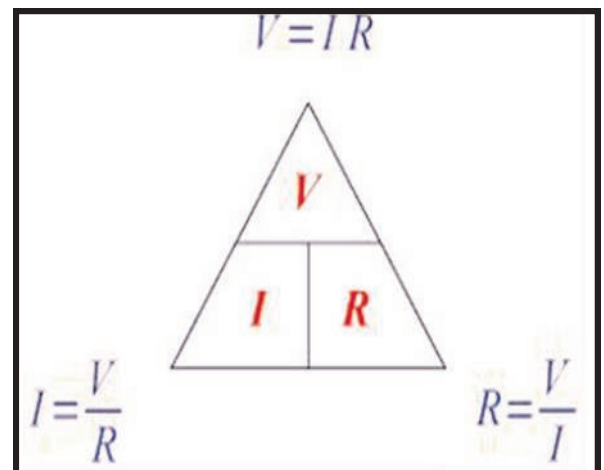
In this system, the units concerned here are the Ampere (I), the Volt (e) and the Ohm (omega) but the more often used symbols are Volts (v), Amps (a) and resistance (r). Power is usually measured in Watts (w).

The simplified description of the amp:-

If an electromotive force of one volt is applied across a resistance of one ohm then one amp of current would flow. Think of voltage as a pressure, as raising water pressure will cause more water to flow down a hose pipe, then raising the voltage in a circuit will cause more current to flow in a circuit.

The relationship between these units is often a puzzle to those who only occasionally delve into the world of the multimeter but there is an easy way to remember. This is by imagining a "Y" shaped symbol with volts at the top and amps and ohms each side at the bottom as shown in the diagram.

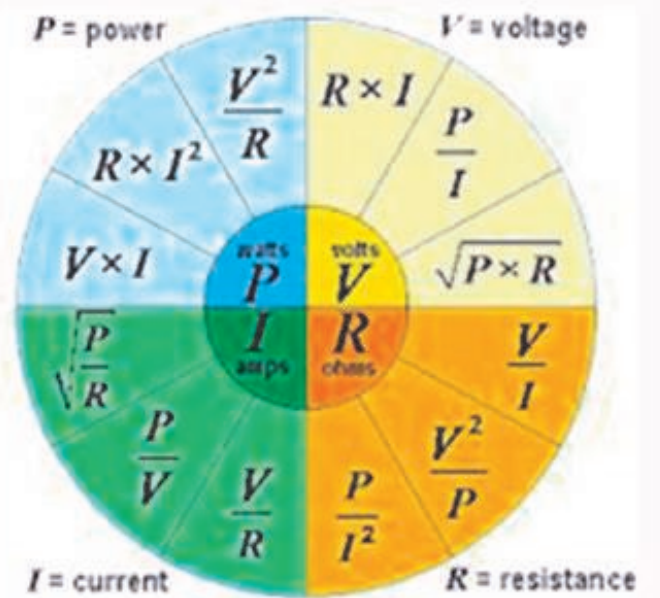
It will be seen that by remembering this diagram any one value can be calculated from the other two. For example, on a 12 volt system, if the current is measured as 2 amps then the resistance of the circuit is "V" divided by current "I" which would be 6 ohms. Volts are amps multiplied by ohms etc.



The other unit referred to earlier, watts, is a measure of power and is normally calculated by multiplying volts by amps, squaring current (amps) and multiplying by the resistance (ohms) or by squaring the volts and dividing by the resistance. The attached circle shows the various ways of calculating power, volts current and resistance.

Therefore to calculate the current that a 50 watt lamp should take, dividing watts by 12 (volts), gives about 4.2 amps.

I hope this helps those a little apprehensive of delving into their electrical problems, but before testing, always make sure your meter is set to the correct range, putting it across battery with it selected to current or ohms is not to be recommended!



Through the Bridges and Back again (11th April)

We set off from home in Manchester on Easter Monday in a vale of thick fog, Dad assured me it would clear as soon as we got to Queensferry. How wrong he was it was with us all the way to Beaumaris only lifting as we climbed out of Queensferry for 200 metres or so before we dropped back down into it. The most spectacular sight was the Swellies which had the fog being blown under Menai Bridge and up again.

I, Dom (My friend) and Dad had a target to get Chinook launched for Wednesday. Unfortunately for me and Dom we had been press ganged back in Denton without realising it when Dad offered us both the Queens Shilling. This meant like it or not we had to work hard to get Chinook ready to launch. We nearly managed this target only missing it by 24hrs. Stan placed us at the bottom of the beach and Chinook gently floated off out into the bay.

It was now up me, I had looked at the forecast and the weekend wasn't looking promising neither the less we had met in the club house new members Paul & Marie who now own Hwyl Dda. They were launching on the same day and as we went around gallows point they were poised in the slings ready to launch. The weather was perfect even if the gentle breeze was from the North our plan for the day was to try and test everything before making our way to Menai Bridge for a quiet night under the bridge with Hwyl Dda. Chinook was sailing superbly everything was going all too well, by now Dad and Dom were talking about getting the cruising chute out (aka The Death Sail). I don't think I mentioned Dom's nickname given by Dad "Death Sail Dom". So yet again I was out voted and out came the cruising chute and we set course down the straights towards the Adams Family house passing Hwyl Dda on the way.

We woke to a glorious morning down in Menai Bridge both Stargazers and Mood Indigos moorings were very accommodating for the night. We had a discussion with Hwyl Dda and given the deteriorating forecast with F6 –F7 coming potential for Sunday we decided to try and make for Abermenai. Unfortunately Chinook and the Wind had other ideas the wind shifted around to the SW blowing a F4 in the lee of the bridge and one of the lazy jack fixings on Chinook's mast decided to fail. Requiring a fitting a decision to go back to Beaumaris and pull up the beach to carry out repairs.

I really didn't want to disappoint Paul & Marie so we suggested a passage through the Swellies at Slack water to turn straight back around and returning to Beaumaris. They agreed and I lead the way under Menai Bridge. Passing under the bridge we found Steve Maclean in the middle taking photo's.

Given the extremely poor forecast at least the whole weekend wasn't lost. I managed to demonstrate a safe passage through the Swellies to some new members. I am sure it won't be long until they will be able to do the same.

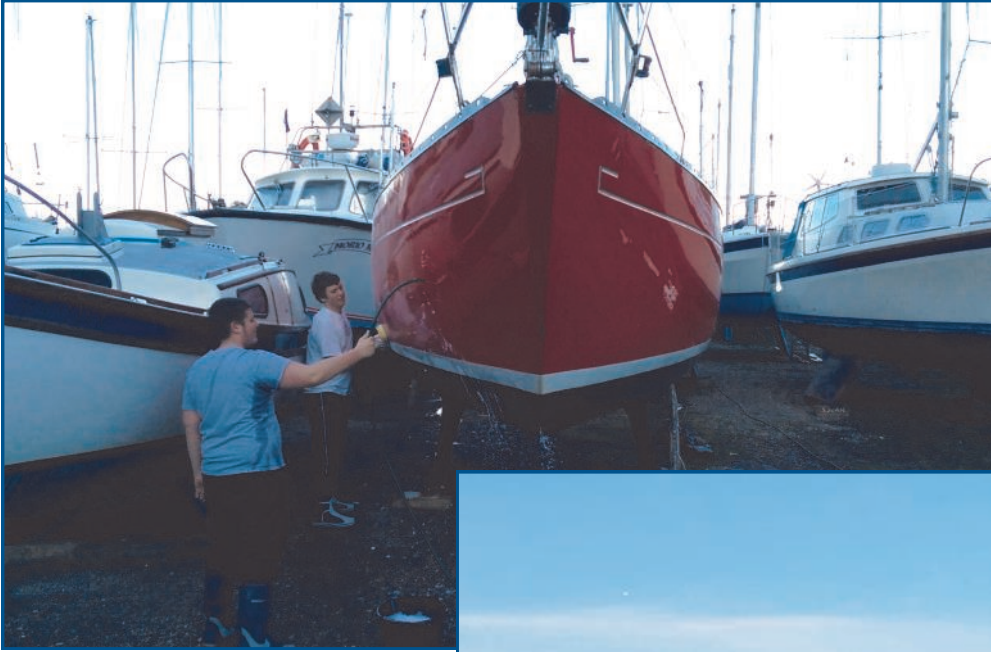
Joshua Hollingworth aged 16 ½

CHINOOK.

See back page for photos from the weekend.



Photos from April Venturings



Dom and Josh beginning to regret accepting the 'Queen's Shilling'. Should at least have demanded the minimum wage :-)
(see previous page)

Right: Fog over Menai Bridge, 11th April

Below: Under new management, and looking good—Hwyl Dda with Paul & Marie



Right, and without the fog: A View from the Bridge. Must be a Venturer below towing dinghy.

