



2013 Christmas Caribbean Rally

The principle is well-known: to allow families to cross the Atlantic in safety, and enjoy a nice adventure... The Christmas Caribbean Rally will leave from Lanzarote on 16th December 2013, to go and celebrate Christmas and New Year three weeks later at Jolly Harbour, in Antigua. As it leaves at the best possible period, the rally should offer optimum conditions, with a very low risk of bad weather and trade winds which should be well established.

Only a few places remain available for this year, so take advantage of a knock-out price for this first edition, which includes assistance during the crossing and marina berths at Lanzarote and Jolly Harbour...

Discover it on: www.sailingrallies.com

Kit construction

In our last edition, we presented a comprehensive dossier on kit construction. An error in the caption meant that the photo of the Ripple Tender was not attributed to the right designer. This catamaran was designed by Spirited Designs, also responsible for, amongst others, the very attractive Spirited 380, which is not built in ply-epoxy, as indicated in the same article, but in composites... The person at fault has been duly punished! See it on: www.spiriteddesigns.com.au



Propeller

We already know that the choice of propeller is particularly important for the boat's performance, both under power (obviously) and when sailing. Under power, the propeller must push the boat along correctly, allowing it to move quickly without unnecessarily straining the engine. But under sail, ideally the propellers can be forgotten and above all, don't slow the boat. The new Hi Speed propeller from Exol has been specially designed for fast catamarans, and to feather, even in very disturbed water conditions. A plus in terms of both performance and safety. Just like the company's other propellers, the Hi Speeds have a micrometrical adjustment from the exterior, which allows the pitch to be adjusted precisely, without having to take the boat out of the water.

Discover it on: www.ewoltech.it



Guides to download

MaxSea is offering some little guides, free of charge, on its web site. Now available: a guide to boat charter, which goes over the A to Z of what you should know before you charter, and another guide to the choice of nautical charts. Information which it is always useful to (re)discover.

Download them free of charge, from: www.maxsea.com



Sailing on a 60-foot trimaran

The good weather is coming, and we will finally be able to start sailing seriously again. For those of you who like adrenaline, the 60-foot Orma trimaran Emotion is offering outings, leaving regularly from Sète, in the Mediterranean, as well as for special events. For example, the superb trimaran will be present at the Multihull Boat Show at La Grande Motte, on Sat 13th April, when it will organise short sea trips. The boat will also be at the start of the Route des Princes, to see the Multi50s and MOD 70s on the line.

For more information: www.granlargemotion.com



GOING UP

James Wharram honoured

James Wharram has just received the OCC Award of Merit, conferred by the prestigious British Ocean Cruising Club. A well-deserved reward for this brilliant architect's career. Note that James Wharram will be present at the Golden Oldies Trophy, a meeting for racing multihulls from the 80s to the present day, which will take place in Sète (Mediterranean) from 17th to 19th May 2013. Two good reasons to attend...

Tour de Belle-Ile

This event is attracting more and more participants. In just five editions, all the enthusiasts in the sailing world have become infatuated with this regatta, where pros and amateurs find themselves on the same start line, for a huge sailing festival. The sixth edition will take place on 4th May and entries have been open on the web site (www.tourdebelleile.com) since the beginning of February. Beware, there will perhaps not be room for everyone. 120 crews were present for the first edition, with more than 500 in 2012.

The America's Cup for young people

Whilst the 'big shots' continue training before the big regatta this summer, 12 young crews met up in San Francisco to race. Finally, five crews won their place to participate in the Youth America's Cup. The national crews from Germany, Great Britain, New Zealand, Portugal and Switzerland will be on the start line, alongside five other crews, sponsored by one of the America's Cup teams... A good initiative, which will provide some lively racing!

GOING DOWN

MOD 70 – what's happening

It's hard to follow what's happening in the MOD 70 world. The racing schedule for 2013 seems to have dwindled away, and no races will now take place. Yet the boats exist, and the n°2 MOD 70 (belonging to Roland Jourdain, whose sponsor abandoned him) has even been bought by Orion Racing. Michel Desjoyeaux still has his boat, but for the moment, no sponsor. We should see the MODs (under another name?) on the Route des Princes, and more and more certainly at the start of the Rhum. The Multi One Design is a nice adventure. Let's hope it continues!