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Bobcat & Catalac Cruising Association

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Disclaimer

Neither the BCCA nor Committee will accept any liability for personal injury arising out of participating in any event, rally or race organized by or through the BCCA whether sustained by members, guests, or visitors, or caused by the said members, guests or visitors whether or not such damage or injury could have been attributed to or was occasioned by the neglect, default or negligence of any of the officers, committees or servants of the BCCA.

Boat Owners Third Party Insurance

It is the responsibility of all boat owners to have adequate third party insurance in respect of him/herself, vessel, his/her crew for the time being & his/her visitors.

April 2005

Hullo all fellow B.C.C.A. members

With Easter past we now look forward to our first rally at:

Bembridge on May Bank Holiday 28th.April to 2nd. May.

As usual the formula will be backing onto the beach for a BBQ one night and a meal at Brading Sailing Club on the evening of the 30th.April, where we will be holding a **raffle** with the usual array of bottles and goodies as the prizes. If anyone attending wishes to donate any prizes for the raffle these will be gratefully received. Brading Sailing Club can only cater for 26 persons so the seats and meals will be booked on a first come first served basis.

Please let us know your choice of main course and sweet from the following menu.

Roast Sirloin of Beef with Watercress, Game chips and Red wine jus.
Roasted Cod Loin with Basil and Lemon Crust.

Warm Apple and Cinnamon Crumble served with Crème Anglaise.
Very Rich Dark Chocolate and Rum Torte with Double Cream.

The cost for 2 course main and sweet £11.00 per head.

Having made your decision please let us know and send a cheque payable to **B.C.C.A.** for the meal to J. Bretherton. Trinity Cottage, Ley Green, Kings Walden, Hitchin, HERTS. SG4 8LT. Mob:07989 110837
Cheques to J. Bretherton only as P.Gimson will be on his boat not at home.
This is as already stated a first come first served basis.

The tides for Bembridge Rally 30/04/05 HW 04.04 and 16.56: 01/05/05 HW 05.10 AND 18.48 entrance to Bembridge from -3 to +3 hr. of HW. The charges this year are £10.00 per night on the beach and £2.00 per meter on the Duver pontoon members choice. All harbour dues will be collected by Jeremy Bretherton.

line up with those in the outer frame. We then obtained a window cut to shape from 4mm polycarbonate allowing a 3mm clearance all round. Having obtained all the materials we positioned the outer frame centrally over the hole, drilled clearance holes through the fibreglass to take the screws. The inner frame, window and outer frame was then assembled with copious application of an all weather non silicone sealer obtained from Wickes making sure that there was a continuous seal to both inner and outer edges of the inner frame, a continuous seal between the window and the fibreglass hole and a continuous seal to the inner and outer edges of the outer frame. To be honest it is a job best assembled with three people, but once several screws have been located and taken hold the task becomes simple. All screws need to be carefully tightened down in rotation and the sealant gradually oozes out leaving a completely watertight seal. We have done this to all the windows to Minou Chaud and have had no trouble with leaks since.

Head Lining - Having had to replace our lining we took the time to line the whole roof with 3mm plywood which we stuck up in small sections with panel adhesive and the occasional wood screw to hold it in position whilst the adhesive was setting. Having obtained a smooth surface with which to work we obtained an off-cut of carpet (not foam back) and stuck this to the plywood with wood glue. We had to use a staple gun and staples to hold the carpet up whilst the glue set and spend hours taking out the staples afterwards as they rust in the damp. The end result is most satisfactory as the lining is now robust as well as offering thermal insulation to the boat. We now have a very warm, dry and smart boat for our trouble.

Best of luck

Aleck & Chris (Minou Chaud)

GOODS FORSALE IN THE MARKET PLACE

1. PAIR OF MANGANESE BRONZE, ONE INCH O.D. $\frac{3}{4}$ I.D. ADMIRALTY WATER FILTERS IN LINE, FINE MESH.....PRICE: £15.00 each.
2. ONE HUNDRED FEET OF NEW 5/16 CHAIN COUPLED TO ONE HUNDRED FEET OF 15mm NEW TWIST ROPE (NYLON).PRICE: £100.00

CONTACT JOHN GREEN Tel: 023 9246 2502.

FURLING GENOA: Foot: 32'8" Luff: 13'2" approx
White used one full season, as new still crisp. £295.00

HONDA 2 OUTBOARD.

Four stroke short shaft, ex condition, genuine reason for sale, we have bought a new large dinghy and this outboard is now too small. Still under Manufacturers warranty. £250.00

TWO ALUMINIUM FOLDING BIKES.

In bags, light weight they fold very small
ex condition little used.
£125 each or £240 for the pair. ovno. Genuine reason for sale.

DIGITAL CAMERA KODAK DC 250 ZOOM

complete with discs, cables etc for connection to computer and TV. Picture manipulation programme, picture cards to store 100s of pictures, perfect condition.
Cost over £500. £200.00

Contact: Toni 07990 528016 Essex.

ALL THESE ITEMS ARE NEW.

<u>Ref No.</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>RRP</u>
<u>BARTON MARINE ITEMS.</u>			
1	1	Towable Genoa Car	60
2	3	Fiddel Swivel Block	9.82
3	1	Triple Swivel Block	60
4	1	Double Reverse Shackle	32
5	1	Single Fixed Eye Block	17
6	1	Towable Genoa Cars 2:1	60
7	3	Single Block Swivel Becket size 4	11
8	2	Single Snatch Block, Snap Shackle. 10mm	36
9	3	Single Block Swivel Becket size 5	26
10	3	Double Swivel Blocks 10mm size 3	15
11	1	Triple Block Swivel Becket size 3.	22
12	1	Double Rope Clutch 10mm.	70
13	4	Size 1 Deck organisers, 4 sheaves.	35
14	1	Size 1 Deck organisers, 5 sheaves.	36
	1	Size 1 Deck organiser, 6 sheaves	

LEWMAR MARINE ITEMS.

15	2	Solent Snatch Block Size 1,	80
16	1	Superlock Rope Clutch 10 - 12 single .	37

OTHER ITEMS.

1	Plastimo Olympic 85 Compass	?
1	Barton Lazy Jack System for boat 30' LOA	?
1	SKANTI Leisure DSCall Trans/Rec unit.	625

I am open to offers on any or all the items above
Contact Bernard warden on 01296 662505 Mob:07958 353374
or e.mail: bwb@warden.freeserve.co.uk I also have for sale my

Catalac 9m Catamaran "Nemra" No 9.110.

A well established safe catamaran suitable for family use. The vessel has been completely refurbished with the hulls having been "peeled" and replaced using International Gelshield 200 epoxy, professionally carried out, November 2000 – June 2001. The interior of the cabins have been relined. The rigging has



been replaced, cushions and mattresses recovered and reconditioned 2 Volvo 2001 diesel engines with "S" drives installed. To all intents and purposes a "new boat" at a reasonable price. GB25,000 = E35,000.

Haptic saga(continued from last month).

Sunday 12th sept. We were woken at 6 a.m. by the church bells. A morning trip to Buzet sur Baise. Three locks, one only had a ladder, ugh!
Travel time 3hours 10 minutes arrived in time for lunch.

Monday 13th. To Lamagistere.This was further than expected but Agen was noisy and industrialised. We steaked to the canal bank with wild mint scenting the air wherever we walked. The nights are cooler now, we need a duvet again. 48km today.

Tuesday 14th. Mist on the water this morning, and a kingfisher perching on the mast over the cockpit at breakfast time.

We moved on to Valence D'Agén for market day. An interesting busy rural centre. On again in the afternoon to Moissac. There is a beautiful Abbey Church here with cloisters. The carving of the stonework round the main doorway is amazing!
Really worth a visit.

Wednesday 15th. 16 locks today- too many. There were a lot of herons and kingfishers on this stretch of the canal, also a terrapin sunning itself on a floating log. We were held up for about 20 minutes by a large barge dredging the canal. We stopped at Castelsarrasin for lunch then Montach for the night. There are finger pontoons here which are very short. This left us no option but to let the mast overhang a public quay. Fortunately nobody walked into it. We are now 365 feet above sea level.

Thursday 16th. A livaboard barge passed us this morning with a car on board and its own derrick for lifting it ashore.
We stopped at Grissoles for lunch and ST jory for the night. This is the last possible stop before Toulouse. Spent a pleasant evening by the local archery club.

Friday 17th. Automatic locks again. A red squirrel crossed the gates at no 3 lock, as if it owned the place. We arrived in Toulouse by the first manual lock at lunch time so had to wait until 1.30 p.m. before we could go on. The centre of Toulouse is busy and not very friendly. We tried to stop at St Sauvier for fuel and a short visit to the V>N>F> offices to get the carte navigare but were met by the first really rude woman in the entire journey! So we pulled over to the other side of the canal. Roger stayed to guard the boat and I went off to the V.N.F. central office. We are now legal! We continued onto port Sud where we received the usual most courteous welcome. The next day we went looking for gaz and managed to get lost. When we asked a local man how to get there, he got his car out and took us. Faith in human nature restored!

Sunday 19th. We rescues a crayfish from the quay and returned it to the water. This was to the great delight of an old lady who was trying to protect it with her walking stick.

We went through our first oval lock, which was easier than expected. Stopped that night at Negra, the site of the little canal chapel. There was a very strong surge on entering the lock and the ensign got caught up in a tree, to be rescued later.

The next day we passed another barge, with a Citroen on its deck. We stopped at Renneville after 3 locks and half a day.

The lock keepers are noticeably more friendly away from the city. This one told us about a 90 ft restaurant barge returning at 4 p.m. giving us plenty of time to move to a safer part of the quay.

Tuesday 21st. We stopped at Lauragais to see the exhibition on the construction of the canal. Then to Selaga for the night.

A cold night, now at 600 feet. We steaked to the grass bank along with 15 other private boats while the quay was nearly empty with only 2 hire boats.

Wednesday. The coldest night so far, also wet and windy. We met a Birmingham couple on an English narrow boat who plan to winter here. Rather them than us. We left early so as not to get stuck in the mud at the side of the canal. The water level dropped dramatically after we arrived yesterday, due to locking movements, and barely made up overnight. 8 locks today including one double and one tripple. It is much easier going down! We were finished by lunchtime and tied up on the spacious quay at Castelnaudery. That evening a man with one leg fell between the boat behind us and the quay.

Helped to give first aid until ambulance arrived, Fortunately we are by the police station so had lots of help. The man who was 76 was lucky to get away with only one broken rib and bruises. But he lost a crutch and had to get new ones immediately as the hospital would only lend for 24 hours.

The next day Maggie took her first cycle ride for 30 years to get gas from an out of town builders merchant. It was quite interesting. They say you never forget how, but the balance somehow does not remember!

On Saturday the army came to town in force, There were lots of races and a recruitment campaign. I couldn't get them to enrol Roger. He was no good at the running test!

Sunday 26th To Bram. We were charged 6 euros to sit on the grass bank while the quay remained empty, but for 1 hire boat.

Monday to Carcassonne. A short day, stopping between locks ,with a wonderful view surrounded by vinyards. Arrived in time to look round the new walled city of Bastide st Louis started in 1260 a.d.

Tuesday 28th. We visited the faiytale medieval cite of Carcassonne on the hill. This was founded in 43-30 B.C. Mostly modernized between 1130-1150 A.D. The main castle moat being widened and an outer wall added in 12th-13th centuries.

We took reels of photos.

We also found out why there were pigs on all the tee shirts etc. Evidently during a long seige in 795 A.D. The Moorish Dame Carcas took the last of the town's corn and fed it to a pig. The poor animal was the thrown over the ramparts onto the Francs below. When it burst open, they saw all the food, and decided that if there was still enough grain to feed the pigs

in the city, the seige would never end. They therefore negotiated with the Dame, granting her the city and lands. She later became a christian and took one of the Frankish Counts to be her husband.

Wednesday 29th. We had an uninvited guest on board during the night, trying to steal deisel. Not a great experience, but we managed to drive him off with some universal language. Roger still has some good navy expressions which did the trick.

Still it was unsettling, So we move on early to Trebes. This was the first tike we were held up at lock for lack of water.

We arrived in time for local shopping and had a quiet night.

Thursday 29th. Trebes to Homps. This was a very hard long day, as we had to wait at every lock. Four boats made the locks very tight, and an ignorant frenchman seemed bent on squashing us to the point of distruction. We arrived too late for the shops. There is an English supplier here but all closed up.

Friday 1st October. We left very early to avoid the frenchman. We still had four boats in the lock, but this was a friendly helpful crowd and with everyone helping each other, it was a much more successful day.

It was a gentle run then down the Aude valley to Le Somail with beautifl scenery. There is an artist's colony here and a library of ancient manuscripts and antique bookshop. A very pretty bridge and some expensive restaurants, but no food shops.

Saturday 2nd. We saw our first heron for days as we crossed the Aude at river level between the canal Junction and the Robine.

We then realised that all we had seen on the Midi were overfed ducks, (and bumper boats). The last part of the Midi lived up to It's fame with beautiful views, but all to often we were concentrating on dodging bumper boats. The canal Robine was a real contrast, narrow and tranquil with kingfishers again.

Then into Narbonne, had our carte navigare checked - thank goodness we remembered to fill it in this morning.

On again and under the famous roman bridge with houses built right across it. Two bridges further on we stopped in our winter resting place, to be greeted by Mick and Molly (ex Skycat 9m catalac) from Fareham club. So we relaxed with a beer and a good chat.

Hi Folk's,

Many thanks for your last email. We also had some problems with the computer while we were away. My son says I am too impatient and stop the phone before the system has finished. Many people we have met use shops but Derek says there is a security problem, I will leave him to explain.

English mobile telephone

Before you go, two things to do at your phone shop are:-

Make sure your phones have the international barring removed.

Negotiate a reduction for being abroad this should be 20% with
vodafone.

The cheapest way if you intend to stay in one country a while is to take a phone from here that works with your PC. Derek will explain the type later. We use two phones one for calls to and from the UK and one for PC use. Then buy a local card to use while you are there, but keep your English one separate so that you can easily be contacted from home.

Gas installation

If you want to use Gaz, this is available in France from builders merchants and garden centres, but is expensive. The cube with a soft top seems to be the French popular choice. Holland, Germany and Belgium have different makes I believe. So my advice is when travelling from one country to another just have one bottle on board, or enough for requirements.

Electricity

In France many places supply free electricity. Wintering in Narbonne we found it cheaper to buy electrical appliances eg a microwave heater etc. than to use gas. Purchasing costs recovered in one month.

Over to Derek.

Internet cafes usually get you to sign into a hotmail/msn account two things to remember is one the computer has a memory of what you type as your password and sign in name easy way round this is after you have finished using the email services sign out then sign back in as me@mine.co.uk and password as mine.. it will fail to work but the computer remembers these details not yours most machines should have auto complete turned off but this measure insures that your emails are safe. The second is on the sign in page input your details as below and make sure you tick the two boxes:-

Connectivity

I advise against Bluetooth connections for anything at present this is due to security problems also phones with Bluetooth do not connect to pc's via wan eg wireless internet connection. The pc wan connection is set to either or both 802 803 mhz which is about .16-.84 mhz difference from Bluetooth. If you really want Bluetooth connectivity you will need a USB Bluetooth connection device...

Phones the requirement for a mobile phone is GPRS this allows you more data flow a cheaper rates on the network when purchasing a phone ask for a GPRS phone and cables and software to connect to your pc. Preferably get the shop set it up for you, so you can see it working with your pc!!!! Saves a lot of headaches some phones say they can connect to pc's but in practice they don't..eg my parents were use to the nokia phones but after 2hrs of the shops time with no joy they reverted to my Motorola v525 method. One phone that works with the pc is the Motorola V525 we use this method. but be warned these phones are not always reliable! Eg phone cuts sound off after a time period of maybe ten mins. but most mobiles have their problems batteries etc..

Software outlook is best used if just connect for emails from a mobile phone as you don't have to be on the phone whilst reading or writing the emails only for send and receive. Be warned that email sizes are getting larger you can now send 3meg files to hotmail so I advise the following procedure goto hotmail.com and sign in view the inbox list of emails delete emails not required don't read any of them... sign out then run outlook and send receive this will now download your emails but without the crap you don't want. Saving a lot of download time.

Warning I have a pet hate AOL this software is difficult to remove. If it causes you problems, which it does when software and hardware conflicts occur it is very difficult to remove, I find worms trojens and viruses easier to track and destroy than AOL un-installation. Avoid like the plague. This is only my personal opinion.

Marina connection If using the internet a lot check if marinas supply an internet connection via cable or wireless. If you have a mobile laptop with wireless or LAN capabilities you will be able to talk to people using a web cam and/or microphone. If you can negotiate a cheap rate and your friends have windows messenger or msn messenger on their PC's this may work out cheaper than the mobile phone. It really is a pc phone or video phone, plus all the other benefits eg email and internet access for weather etc.

Hope this is of some help with your planning.

Regards,
Roger Maggie and Derek.

Hotmail
msn

.NET Passport Sign-in [Help](#)

E-mail Address

Password

Sign me in automatically.

Do not remember my e-mail address for future sign-in. (Select this when using a public computer.)

Microsoft .net

Don't have a .NET Passport? [Get one now.](#)

Internet cafes usually get you to sign into a hotmail/msn account two things to remember is one the computer has a memory of what you type as your password and sign in name easy way round this is after you have finished using the email services sign out then sign back in as me@mine.co.uk and password as mine.. it will fail to work but the computer remembers these details not yours most machines should have auto complete turned off but this measure insures that your emails are safe. The second is on the sign in page input your details as below and make sure you tick the two boxes:-

MANY THANKS DEREK ED.
