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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.

Hello fellow Bobcat and Catalac sailors everywhere

May - June 2007

Forthcoming B.C.C.A. Poole Rally 2007

25th. May – 27th. May.....POOLE RALLY 25th - 28th May

Why not join us for a relaxing weekend in Poole Harbour. Meet in Bramble Bush Bay on Friday evening (25th) or during Saturday (26th). Saturday evening bring a plate of food to share and your own tipples and we will either go ashore to eat on the beach or get together on 'Dragonslayer' if the weather isn't kind. Sunday lunch is organised at RNLI (13.00) after which there is a stroll round Brownsea Island for those seeking pleasant views and gentle exercise. Should the weather be as last year (F6/7 winds) why not just join us for Sunday lunch at RNLI anyway. The food is very good and cheap.

Need to know your intentions by Wed 16th May. So if you intend to join us do it now by Email or Text to

(Email aleck@mq-sales.fsnet.co.uk Text to 07905105596) as we must confirm numbers to RNLI.

Anyone wanting ideas for the plate of food can chat to Chris on 01202 661164.

CATALAC 900.....Sail No. 9.918 PETITE FLEUR.....£44950.00

This boat was built for the present owners to enjoy their retirement. It has two double cabins and one single. The interior is finished in medium oak with a polished wooden floor to the saloon area. The boat has both interior and exterior steering positions and sugar scoops at the rear with built in boarding steps.

Apart from the other usual equipment, it has Radar, Liferaft, interior heating, 12 and 240 volt lighting and fridge.

The boat is in excellent condition and has had very little use due to unforeseen circumstances.

For further details contact Barbara Leeks b.leeks@hotmail.co.uk Tel: +44 (0) 1903 744117

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>>> RUSH UPDATE <<<

Last month we left Alan and Marilyn on Rush having just gone through the Panama Canal into the Pacific Ocean. They now intend to leave tomorrow or next day for a few days on Perlas Islands then on down to Equador.



One of the many San Blas islands



Homes on the shore of one of the many San Blas Islands.

See also dug-out canoe with its own jetty at the bottom of the garden.

Dug-out canoe with sail-the sail of patch work, made from stitching anything available.



The Children ask us for candy or magazines.



3/4/07 We will we will be leaving for Bahia Caraques in Equador tomorrow with a few days in Perlas Islands to rest and sort things out in a more relaxed place. Will try to scrub the bottom of the boat as it promises to be a slow trip with little winds or headwinds and an adverse current. It could be two weeks before you hear from us again so don't worry. All for now keep in touch Alan.

12/04/07Hi,

We have had a great week or so since we left Panama. We sailed off early in the morning to go to the Perlas Islands, it was rather a slow trip taking about 11 hours to go the 40 miles due to slight wind. As we arrived, the Perlas Islands are huge. There was a peace and calm as soon as we arrived and it instantly relaxing. We potted around the next day finding a place to dry out Rush to clean the bottom and were just so amazed at the amount of wildlife. A natural reserve and so untouched.



Ave. Queen

The northerlies were there and blowing at just the right strength. We felt we should still dry out and scrub the bottom so the next morning we moved over to our marked spot and Alan went down and checked out the bottom before the low tide was at its peak. He was surprised how good it was, probably helped by the time we spent in the fresh water going through the lake between the locks. We decided to set sail and make use of the wind and it was the best 2 days of wind, blowing well and averaging between 6-7 knots. We knew it wouldn't last and true to form the winds disappeared about 2.00 am. on the beginning of the 3rd day. The sea was so calm, hardly a ripple and the even though we were motoring it was so peaceful. The marine life was amazing. I think they must enjoy the break from the rush of waves as well. We saw whales, dolphins, birds galore. It was the antics of the fish that amused us. We saw dolphins jumping and twisting as if they were on top of the world. As we neared Bahai De Caraquez on the last day we saw some other kind of fish just jumping for joy as well. There were a lot of whales just skimming along the surface, dolphins just gliding along enjoying the peace. We had a few join us playing in the stream of Rush for a short while. The phosphorescence in the water was so bright at times. We didn't have smooth sailing all the way unfortunately. At night there was lightning in sheets in the distance. The nights were generally very dark, the stars out on the 3rd night for a good while. On the 4th night, the squall hit. I had to get Alan up, all the electronics went in the oven, it teemed with rain and we got soaked furling in the headsail. The furler isn't working properly and Alan has to go down and turn it by hand while I pull the ropes. We collected rainwater with the express purpose of me thinking what a long shower I would be able to have the next day!! The winds were southerlies and we were really thumping into the waves and it was quite rough. A gallon water bottle sitting on top of the fridge fell off, the lid coming off and I found water every where in the front of the galley hull. I duly mopped it up amidst the thumping and bumping. Well obviously my skills at mopping just needed improvement as later when collecting the rainwater, it was coming so fast in the rain that the container overflowed while helping Alan furl the headsail. Again, water everywhere and mopping again. I was truly glad it happened a few days into our trip so we had some sea legs or feeding the fish would have been a frequent occurrence. The next day we were just whacked. We were so tired but managed to back into routine and amazingly enough the last night was again great sailing, with the wind coming from southeasterly but again doing a good 5 knots, up to 6-7 most of the night. It was lovely watching the dawn come in as the wind dropped or was against us so we motored again that day till the wind picked up. We watched the gps click over to all zeros as we crossed the equator, Alan threatening to celebrate in the usual manner but I told him we had no treacle to rub in my hair and what a mess in his beloved Rush. It worked!! As the morning of the 5th day dawned, the seas calmed and we glided along with the motor, the sea again hardly a ripple and it was a beautiful relaxing end to a trip we thought might have been a real struggle. We were so pleased to arrive and the trip took 5 days, 5 hours and 50 minutes by the time we dropped anchor. We had to wait awhile out in the bay till the pilot came and guided us in as there are a lot of sandbars at the entrance and they like us to come in at full tide. As we only draw the metre they let us come in a couple of hours past high tide and here we are anchored in this most delightful bay. We were given a lovely welcome by the American guy, who runs the local marina!! He has moorings etc and full of information. We went ashore last night and walked around the streets doing a few things and both our hips told us we haven't walked for a while. It felt quite strange last night. We are so keen to get out and get some exercise. Alan's eyes are just bulging at the price of motorbikes here, so cheap and he would love to get one so we can head off to tour South America. We are just going to rest for a couple of weeks, relax and enjoy the atmosphere. It is so lovely here and even the name sounds pretty and relaxing - Bahai De Caraquez. We have been checked by marine people, we went and filled out the paper work at the Captains office and have to go to Manta on Monday to do immigration. We are going to have to learn Spanish really really fast as very little English is spoken here. The internet is very slow, but available as there is no phone service here for my Australian mobile. Contact at the moment is only by email unless I lash out and buy a phone for use only here in South America. I am thinking about it.

I have sent some more photos to alanrush3@hotmail.com for anyone to have a look at if they like. I have even put a map of Ecuador on it so you can see where we are. Unfortunately the map is a bit blurry but if you follow the coast down you can make out this place. If you find Manta you have gone too far down the coast. There is also a map of South America so you can see where Ecuador is in relation to the rest of South America.

The lonely planet books are starting to get dog eared as we read and plan for our trip.

April 19

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I'm sitting or rather bumping around in the bus on the way home to Bahia De Caraquez from Portoviejo. We have been looking at motorbikes. 2 hour trips each way. The bus actually looks so modern but I think the shocks are just about non-existent. The air conditioning is open windows but so hot when we are stopped like now. The trip can vary so in time, as someone said they stop for anything, a chook if they could!!! We have just had a rush of guys coming on selling their produce - bread, fruit, water and lollies. No opportunity is missed to make a dollar. We would be the only tourists on the bus! Alan is looking at Chinese motorbikes, 200 cc trail bike for between 1100 & 1350 \$US. For one the roads are so bad & we want to go off road a lot. He is going to have to go to Manta to buy, most likely Monday after all our research! We did have a nice lunch today - big quarter chook, chips and salad. Alan went up the road and bought bread rolls to eat up the rest of my chicken! The sodas are all in recycle bottles as well as beer. One of the customers today took the remainder of his soda in a plastic bag. Looked like he was carrying fish in a bag but his drink. I see people carrying milk and cheese the same way! Speaking of food, Alan just tells me when he checked out something earlier he went up this side street and they had just killed a goat! Not in public please!! Latin music is constant in our travel in taxis and buses. For all their horror driving, I haven't seen an accident yet. I think they are more courteous on the roads really.

I can't remember when I last wrote. I hope I don't double up on stuff. I have bought a pushbike. I have wheels again!! Now this is very exciting for me. Not a problem back on the right side of the road. Sore tail from exercise not known for such an age but worth it!

This place is unreal. There are so many houses made of bamboo with iron roofs. Brick houses with just the front rendered, in a fashion anyway. The tiniest little houses, made of whatever looking to fall down any time with the loveliest wood door. A door I would dearly love to have on my place at home for the cost of an arm and a leg! Really reminds you of the story of the 3 little pigs. A huff and a puff..... The land is so fertile. We have just passed rice fields at the present, lots of bananas, plantains, coconuts, oranges and all sorts of crops. It is just so green. Alan is desperately in love with the huge sweet passionfruit. His face tells it all! For me it is the watermelon and pineapples. Damn shame I am allergic to mangoes but then like all good nurses we know a way around that too. Aren't antihistamines a wonderful thing. Easy to say after the event. The hayfever has been so bad since I have been over here. The pharmacist couldn't understand me till I sneezed in his face and then 'ah' and off he went. Haha. The breeze is lovely when we are moving. The climate is really quite good considering we are virtually on the equator. Rush is back in the southern hemisphere for the first time since 95. She sits there in the ria rocking gently with the other boats till last night! The tides are high at the moment and the incoming and outgoing tide sounds like a river. The dinghy almost goes backwards in the trip from the dock to Rush. The outboard is an absolute necessity or we would be row, row, row your boat out to sea and be waiting for the incoming tide. There is so much debris, all night hearing logs etc banging the hulls as it rushed past. Makes me remember the 40 ft log with all the birds near the Perlas Islands floating by so near. What you don't see at night might be a good thing! There is a nice group of people in the anchorage. Lots more to come in the next month or so. There will be double the boats with Ecuador becoming very popular. We are loving it and as we talk to more people who have travelled we are looking to it more.

I have bought a sim card for my phone, getting all excited that I am in contact again in a more ready means. Damn, works well in Ecuador. Not sure if you can ring me, pretty sure you can but you can't sms I think. I can't send sms, only from my computer. Any sms I send, don't reply to via sms, I won't get it. My aussie sim is useless here, most likely everywhere in SA. My no. In Ecuador is +59399541186.

The homes here don't have a garden, not that I have seen. Just bare dirt. Imagine what it is like when it rains! The floors in homes I have seen so far are concrete. How easy to be a housewife washing the floor - just hose it down and sweep it out! The downside, they probably wash their clothes like me but they have big plastic bowls. I want one too. Stuff this little bucket nonsense. It took me ages yesterday sitting out on the back of Rush - forced to have the breeze blowing over me, the sun keeping me brown and looking out over the landscape. Pretty sad isn't it?

In case you are wondering, no I am not sitting here with the laptop. I am using my dopod. My exciting new toy. It is so good for travelling. At first like all new toys I thought it was named aptly for a dippy idiot but now I am used to it, it is brilliant. I have this little keyboard that slides out and am typing away here.

We are nearly back. I am going to have something done to my hair. Hoping just for a tidy up but with the language barrier and the look on the guys face yesterday I am not sure what I am in for. You could see the helpless look in his eyes when Antonio told him what I wanted. He is a gay guy, will charge me \$2. I

went with Suzy, the Australian lady I met. He does her hair. Unfortunately I have hair all hairdressers dread to touch. Should be interesting with no hairdryer to help style it.

Well that an experience. I biked down to the guy but he wasn't there. Probably running scared. I went back to the dock and Trip who runs it offered to take me over and translate across the road to his hairdresser. She was just the sweetest person. Her hair was styled well so thought that was a good start. She cut it, fine, then proceeded to put foam hair rollers in. It reminded me of when I was 12 and my sisters in law rolled my hair so tight I had nightmares. They were of the opinion one had to suffer to be beautiful!! Didn't work did it? While we sat there waiting for the rollers to take effect we had spanish lessons. She was great. I then left with hair all bouncy and curly and a fringe. Like back in the 60's. I went straight back to Trip and we had the best laugh. I think I will tell everyone to go there! Best stylist, all for \$3. For tonight it feels soft and not like straw.

We have been here a week today. It has been great. Tonight while eating dinner there was continual bumping, only for Alan to find a huge tree trunk wedged under Rush. The downside to a cat. As we were leaving the dock they towed a huge one away from there. We seemed to be in the firing line for debris and rubbish tonight! We would have the same problem even if tied to a mooring. Mmmm, have to think of a solution before we travel.

Ola,

Spanish is improving!

You must all feel sorry for me. It is so hard to sit here and write emails, when the breeze is gently blowing, the place is so quiet and peaceful, looking across the river and upriver. The water has hardly a ripple at the moment, the tide must be on its way out but not choppy today. There is plenty of cloud in the sky hiding the sun from shining brightly but the sky is a pretty blue. I am sitting in the marina here using shore power as we have so little power on the boat. There hasn't been enough sunlight in the day and the fridge is using the power that we do get. We don't think the batteries are working as well as they could but not worth going and buying more to have them sitting there while we are away and traveling for the rest of the year. Alan is on Rush putting the outboard together again. It has been playing up, seems like the fuel is having trouble getting through or something. It goes well for a short while and then stops. He pulled it apart yesterday and had a quick look at the carb hoping that would solve the problem but no, today it is a complete pull apart. He couldn't find why it is playing up, he bought a new fuel hose but that wasn't the cause. The current is so strong with the tides coming in and out he rowed me ashore and I am happily sitting here chatting to people as they come and go.

We had a doozy of a storm last night. Not the kind you are supposed to get here. There was so much thunder and lightning, unreal and the heaviest, heaviest rain. Unfortunately we are a little wet inside!! The hatch was open a couple of inches on each side of the beds and the rain fell so heavily it splashed up and has wet a few things.

There is a small window at the foot of our bed and we didn't think to shut it so the end of our bed got really quite wet. The quilt was the wettest, fortunately bunched at the end of the bed which stopped the bed getting so wet. I thought, while I am up I will collect some rainwater so filled the cans but sat and waited for them to fill this time. Didn't have to wait too long, the water was hosing through the pipes. Filled all the containers, put our electrics in the over including laptops and back off to sleep thinking for sure some boat was going to be hit tonight. Some of the thunder came almost simultaneously with the lightning. It was close. When my life was on the land, I used to look out to sea and think I am glad the lightning is out there. Now it is a different story and glad to see it over the land or a long way away. It rained all night till about 9.00 this morning and gradually cleared to a lovely day.

Alan is off tomorrow to Manta again to hopefully buy his motorbike. He has phoned the place, they say they will have it serviced and ready to go, Alan arranged this through a friend interpreting for him. Being Ecuador anything can happen and we are just hoping it is there when Alan actually gets there. He is going by bus and it will take about 3 hours to get there. Not the distance, just the slow roads.

I will be rowing ashore tomorrow with the tides if the motor won't work. That or wait around and cadge a ride when someone is coming and going from their boats. We would like to head off by the end of the week to see where we get too. We might only go for a short while at first or just stay away if we find it is ok. I have to buy a helmet, they are so cheap here, can get a good one for under \$20, might not be the best for high speeds but certainly enough for what we will be doing. That is a full face helmet. It will be

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so good, out there in the open air, the wind blowing and the feeling of freedom. The best way to go - well as long as it doesn't rain etc but then that will be part of the fun of the trip. We will be staying in accomodation at night so we can dry out then. We can get these really good leather jackets for around \$30 not too far away and we will probably both get one. I will have to, I don't have any warm clothes here and it is going to be so so cold at night, warm during the day once we go inland and into the Andes. It is so exciting. As the roads are so bad, Alan is getting a trail bike, 200 cc is all we are going to get, we think that should work. It is yellow, we don't have any choice there, they only have the one. We won't be going day in, day out and will have lots of stops to rest the old rear end. As soon as I can I will be getting a sheep skin seat.

We had a great day over the river yesterday to San Vincente. We headed off on a panga at about 2ish, squeezed 5 of us in a taxi, 4 in the back seat, me sitting sideways and headed up to another town about 1/2 hour away called Canoa (that's how it sounds anyway).

We went for a swim and I so wished I had the body board with me. The sea had the best rolling waves for riding the waves. The water was so warm and it sloped out so gently. We 3 girls had a great time playing in the surf and then went back in with Alan. He was too busy talking!! to Don and they walked all the way up the surf to find us and couldn't see us. Can't men talk!! Alan and I didn't stay in long and I have now added another first to my list of adventures only this wasn't an adventure I would like to try again. As I turned my back into the waves I had this massive sting all over my back as if it had been hit with find gravel but stinging like mad. I said to Alan quick, look, what have I done and he found the sting of a bluebottle still attached to my shoulder. Here he is saying don't scratch and I said probably too late, I scratched instantly it hurt and maybe made it worse. It stung like crazy. Apparently they roll themselves in the sand here when they get stung. Trouble is we didn't find that out till much later. There was no sign of any blue bottles and after all these years I have never been stung before.

Later that evening we sat over at the hotel Bamboo with the best Pina Colados during happy hour watching the sunset then we caught a bus and headed back home. We arrived at the Hotel Bamboo to find most of people from here over there as well. There are the most beautiful sunsets out over the ocean here. The sun has been so orange. We miss that on the east coast at home. The advantage of being on the west coast.

The bike is going well. We had to take it back and get the peddle readjusted. It wasn't turning properly. I asked Alan if I lost 20 kilos and took all my stuff home could I take the bike home to Aus. Well you guessed it, the relief when he thought I would take all my stuff home was there, but no, the bike must go.

My Spanish is slowly improving. Very slowly but finding it easier to understand the written stuff but listening and getting across what I want is still slow. It is so hard to get single \$1 coins or notes here. We need them as people dont have the change and the banks even dont have a lot of notes. I had to beg the bank to get \$10 changed the otherday. We use American currency and the dollars are sadly lacking.

Alan is back, biting at the bit, wanting to get going so we will head off to the internet and go for a walk. We love our walks. We might even be forced to take the bikes for a ride.

Hi,

Way to go. We now have wheels. We leave on our first road trip tomorrow. Alan went off to Manta on Tuesday with Tony to help interpret to buy the bike. The one previously arranged wasn't up to scratch so they had to wait and had some amendments done to this bike and came back on Wednesday.

It is a great little bike, Chinese, 200cc trail bike. Made to go the distance!! Well made to go the roads in Ecuador hopefully! For the first time in my life I am glad I have a big backside. It certainly helps on the seat of a trail bike. We have a sheepskin seat on the top of our shopping list when we take off tomorrow. Second on the list is a warm leather jacket. We can get them cheap up towards Quito. As we go inland it is going to be really cold at night and even coolish as we get up higher in the mountains during the day. We are the odd ones out in our helmets. Alan got a helmet free with the bike, I had to find one yesterday and what a problem trying to get a small enough one. The one I have is a little on the large side, but at least it will be cooler hopefully. It is a rarity to see someone using a helmet around

here and so as soon as the locals see us coming we have 'tourist' written all over us just because we are wearing the helmet!!

Our bags are virtually packed, all the perishable food is to be eaten as we are going to turn the fridge off to let the batteries charge up a bit. As the dry season nears, the days tend to be more cloudy and overcast for some reason for more of the day so the solar is just getting by. I go ashore to use the laptop to save what power we have on the boat.

Hey, the showers on the shore have a hand drier in there, makes a great hairdryer!! Even if I do come out looking like a birch broom in a fit - it works.

There is so much debris going up and down the river here I have added a few photos showing some of it. For you Raija, there is a photo of one of the yachts moored next to us. You said you prefer 'terra firma' Well now you can have both worlds, terra firma and on the water!!! For you Val, bags of passionfruit - Alan says you love them as much as him.

We did a trial run on the bike yesterday up the river and it was just great. Unfortunately you have to keep a constant vigil for animals - horses, pigs, dogs, chooks, donkeys, you name it, it seems to be there and the brilliant potholes. This tiny little chicken crossed the road at one stage, it still may grow to lay eggs or be a meal for someone. The suspension is good!! We did a top speed of 65 kph yesterday! How is that for breaking speed records. We don't mind, gives us time to take in the atmosphere, see the sights and appreciate them. It is so good on the bike, a real sense of freedom and a 360 deg view at all times. As we were going through the villages etc yesterday I wanted to take some photos but often I feel embarrassed taking photos when the people are just sitting there looking at you as you go past. The scenery changes as soon as you get out of town. There are a lot of shrimp farms up the river not far from here. There are islands in the ria. The little cane house on the way up has a million dollar view!

I potted around here in Bahia while Alan was away. I used the dinghy to go in and out to Rush. I spent most of the day with Suzy. I left all the windows open on Rush when I went out in the morning to air everything. The storm a couple of nights previously had got the mattress on the bed wet and when I lifted the underblanket off on Tuesday morning I found the mattress wet covering most of the base of the bed. The mattress is covered in vinyl so that was ok, it needed to be lifted to let the base dry which is fibreglass. I had the sheepskin underlay out and the doonah airing on the rails on Rush and I said to Suzy later in the day - do you think it is going to rain? Promptly she says no, and in the next couple of minutes it started!! We made a dash back to Rush but things were a bit damp so was glad Alan didn't come home that night. Gave me an extra chance to air everything. Suzy has decided she isn't a sailor - she couldn't dart around and get in and out of the dinghy and even onto the back of Rush like I do. Mostly attributed to the fact she can't swim for sure.

Yesterday when we were in the bank, Suzy was standing in the queue swaying still from when we had dinner on a friend's yacht the night before. Suzy and I went out for Pizza Tuesday night and did they have the nicest pina cooladas!! The fruit here is plentiful, so much variety but different to what I am used to. The pineapples are very pale yellow and as juicy as but not that sweet. The oranges are green on the outside when you buy them mostly, starting to turn a light yellow and ready to eat. Again as juicy as hell, but soooo many pips. Out of one orange I had 45 pips last night. I still had quite a few so thought, brainwave, juice some and make a vodka and orange. Well that had to be the sourest screwdriver I have ever had!! I am determined to eat them, not going to waste them and when I had the first one I was pulling my face into so many different looks, but determined to eat that orange!! After that I cut them up pineapple, watermelon, banana and passionfruit on the top saved the day. The watermelon is just divine. Every day I seem to still be learning things in my life, whenever will I stop learning - hopefully never. Life is out there to be lived. I have juiced some oranges this morning, added some sugar (so healthy eh) and is in the fridge for a chilled, sweeter screwdriver tonight.

Well I must head off down to the internet and send my photos and this email and do a little searching of information I need. For those who don't know, I send photos to a hotmail address for anyone to have a look at if they choose. Go to www.hotmail.com and user name - alanrush3@hotmail.com and password australia and they are there.

Must away, bye for now, love,,,,,,,,,,Marilyn

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Many Thanks Marilyn for the info and the Pics. Have fun Peter & Sue CL.8.212 ME-AND-ER.....

Members there are hundreds of pictures of Alan & Marilyn's adventure of a life time on hotmail. Why not log on and join their adventure.

E.mail from Dagnall and Cathy Clutterbuck proud owners of Scubacat.

Dagnall, this season looking for more speed and after much head scratching has parted with hard earned cash and bought a new engine in the form of a Honda 20Hp 4stroke with electric tilt to replace the Yamaha 9.9Hp fitted to Scubacat. He has also had the good forethought to purchase a rev counter to enable him to make the most of the available power.

Peter,

I thought that you might be interested in the summary of my Prop tests so far:

9.25"*12" standard prop, Max RPM, 3900, average boat speed (GPS into and with tide) 6.025kts

9.25"*10" prop, Max RPM, 4200, average boat speed (GPS into and with tide) 6.05kts

~10"*5.75" Cut down from 11.75" dia, dual thrust prop (see photo, with standard 9.25" prop) Max RPM, 5600, average boat speed (GPS into and with tide) 6.25kts.

The max log waterspeed was about 7.4 kts, but I think this needs a large pinch of salt / recalibration.

The cut down dual thrust prop seems to be the best so far, with the engine revving nicely to its proper max rpm range, and it also gives me reasonable reverse thrust. I suppose I'm just a bit suspicious that it may be too fine and my simple carving it down to fit may have reduced its efficiency, and I wonder if I might get better performance from a slightly greater pitch.

- I've found a Piranah prop dealer in Cornwall, and am thinking seriously of getting one of their props, as I can then have a set of different pitch blades to play with.

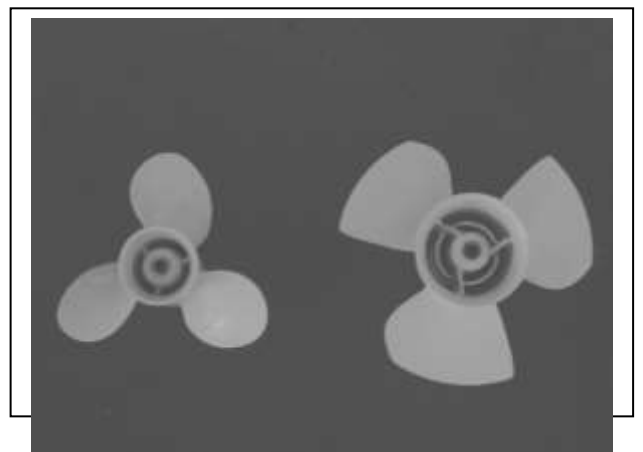
Anyway, I found the equivalent data from a test last year with my old 9.9Hp, and it showed I could only get average speeds of about 5 Kts with the old engine- so at least I have proved that the expense is worth it so far.

I really must get the sails out and remind myself that this is a sailing boat!.

Hope to see you at the Folly. Unfortunately the Poole weekend clashes with me having to breathe more airline air and overcome jet lag again, still, it pays for the props...

Best regards

Dagnall and Cathy, Scubacat



Hi dagnall I assume you cut it down because there's not enough room for the larger prop to clear the anti cavatation plate.

The best solution for the engine is for it to rev about 500rpm. below maximum revs. The manufacturers tend to make the power drop off at higher revs.

(8) Hon. Sec. Office 196 Harewood Ave. Queens Pk. Bournemouth, Dorset BH7 7BQ

What are the maximum revs. for your engine?

The design of the saildrive-reverse thrust prop I usually find can be pitched to a greater angle on the standard saildrive gearbox. Your engine has not got the saildrive gearbox but your cut down prop with the larger blades could be given a greater pitch to drop the revs down to 4900 / 5200. This range is about right on a 4stroke with maximum rev of 6000. The engine will then run all day flat out if required and be less likely to over rev when surfing down a wave or when it encounters weed.

The advantage of your high-speed gearbox is that the prop will cut through weed rather than clog.

Have a word with Aleck Tidmarsh on Dragon Slayer at the Folly weekend he has fitted Kiwi adjustable folding props on his 12 meter. He also had a 25hp 4stroke on his 8 meter.

He will be found at anchor just past the Folly at Windy Gap.

Sue and I will not be able to attend.

Have fun Peter & Sue CL8.212 ME-AND-ER