

Quantum Network–Newsletter Spring 2014

Welcome to the winter edition of the Quantum Network Newsletter. In this edition we have:

- **Quantum Sailing open events:** What's in the pipeline for open events this year?
- **Quantum Leap:** Maybe we haven't seen the last of her after all
- **Electronic Navigation aids:** Continuing our review we look at the iSailor solution for iPads

Quantum Leap

We have some news regarding *Quantum Leap* that may be of interest to those of you that have sailed on her. Our SunFast 37 had been used for all of our cruises and charters over the last few years but, to provide more flexibility, with different yachts and different locations, it was time to move her on. In some respects we were very sorry to see her go. The Sunfast 37 is such a popular yacht because it delivers a great balance of performance, security and comfort. We are therefore really pleased that *Quantum Leap* is now joining the fleet at one of our key suppliers of charter yachts, Hamble School of Yachting. This means that she will still be available to Quantum Sailing and could well be seen again on some of our cruises and charters. So for now it's 'au revoir' but not 'goodbye'.



Quantum Sailing Open Events

This year we are planning our open events, cruises where individual berths can be booked, a little differently. Rather than having a programme with a large number of preset dates, we are providing a much more tailored approach, organising the cruises on dates to suit individuals from the Network that have expressed interest. Also, we are no longer constrained to sail from Gosport, these cruises could start from any number of different locations.

West Country Cruise from Falmouth

Our West Country cruise in June has proved to be very popular and is now full. Sailing from Falmouth, we intend to spend some time cruising around the Isles of Scilly, as well as visiting some of the other beautiful locations in the area. Given its popularity, we are considering running another cruise from Falmouth later in the year. The cost for the 7-days will be £620 per person, covering the cost of the yacht, skipper, all food onboard, moorings, fuel and gas. So if you are interested in a late summer or early autumn cruise, please get in contact.

Cross-channel long weekend from the Solent

We are also planning some more long weekend cross-channel cruises from the Solent, possibly 3-day and/or a 4-day events, visiting France and/or the Channel Islands. We have a number of people interested already so, if you would like to join the crew for one of these, please let us know. Destinations visited will depend on the weather and crew experience/preferences but could include locations such as Honfleur, St Vaast, Cherbourg or Dielette in France and/or Alderney or St Peter Port in the Channel Islands. The cost for the 3-day cruise will be £400 and the 4-day cruise will be £495 per person. As above, this covers the cost of the yacht, skipper, all food onboard, moorings, fuel and gas. Dates are still to be confirmed, so plenty of opportunity to get in early and influence when it will happen.



Electronic Navigation Aids – Part II - iSailor

We continue the series started in the Winter newsletter looking at the use of mobile navigation aids in the real world environment. This time one of our readers Rick, an RYA Instructor and Delivery Skipper, gives us his views on the iSailor app on the iPad:

Rick says, 'The huge advantage of iSailor is that the chart folios are big, cheap and accurate. For example, the folio for the South Coast of England has charts covering the coast from the Thames Estuary to the Isles of Scilly including the Channel Islands, with large scale planning charts down to pilot book info for each port and marina. The coverage is detailed and accessible. The folio only costs £17.49 to buy, and the charts are regularly updated free of charge. If you were buying Admiralty Charts to cover the same area in the same detail, I estimate you'd be spending well over £1,000. That's some saving. And you'd have to update them all by hand!

I first discovered iSailor when I was trying to enter Argostoli harbour in Kefalonia at night with no moon. I was tired, mistook one of the lights, and promptly got lost. The Raymarine chart plotter wasn't giving me a clear picture. And then one of the crew put his iPad in front of me with iSailor's chart of Argostoli harbour. It gave a very clear picture of exactly where we were. I promptly downloaded the App and bought the folios for the Mediterranean.



I've found that the chart folios contain information that is better presented than the average Raymarine kit. For example, the Traffic Separation Schemes seem to be clearer and contain more detail, and the lights and buoys are easier to access.

Transas is a Russian company that has been producing marine and aviation navigational charts for military and commercial purposes for some years. They have offices all over the world. iSailor is their entry into the leisure market. And it's a great one. Here are just a few of the features:

- Excellent Vector Charts - accurate and updated regularly
- Information on any vector chart object
- Chart orientation choices
- Accurate positioning using either GPS or cell tower
- Visualisation of Charts, Route and Tracks
- ERBL (Electronic Range and Bearing Line) functionality
- Monitoring of navigational data: Position, Course and Speed
- Monitoring of Waypoints: Course and Distance
- Quick return to ship's position
- Day and Night chart palettes
- iPhone chart display

iSailor is in continuous development, so the product is being regularly improved. And it's popular: thousands of yachtsmen around the world are now using it. I've used it regularly to plan entries into marinas, and as a back up for my main navigation system. If you were short of funds, and needed detailed charts for ports of refuge, a paper planning chart and an iPad with the folios of your passage area would work.

Having used it at sea for over a year now, I can honestly say that I recommend it without reservation.'

Thanks to Rick for this review. If you have experience with mobile navigation solutions in real world environment, we would love to hear from you. Please drop us a line- info@quantumsailing.co.uk