

Quantum **Network**–Newsletter Winter 2015

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

- **Looking back - highlights of the 2014 season:** Did retiring *Quantum Leap* make a difference?
- **Sailing Quick-Quiz:** A few nautical related questions to exercise your brain and get you thinking about sailing.
- **Looking forwards - what's new for the coming season?** More changes at Quantum Sailing for 2015.
- **Sailing opportunities 2015:** Thinking about the summer – time to start making sailing plans.

Looking back at the Quantum Sailing year.

2014 was our first season without *Quantum Leap* as the mainstay of our business. When we sold her, we had some trepidation but hoped that it would give us more flexibility:

Right from the start of the season we had some excellent sailing. I particularly remember a cross channel trip in early March, not always the best time of year for this. Surprisingly we had brilliant weather for the whole week, even managing a visit to Alderney. Whilst this is a favourite destination of ours, it's one that is only accessible in the right conditions. Not only we were the sole visiting yacht in the harbour but they hadn't even put the landing pontoon in place for the season!



Our aim for 2014 was to offer more variety, sailing in new locations and on a different yachts. So it was really pleasing to take a group of regular Quantum Network sailors to the West Country for an Adventure Cruise sailing out of Falmouth. I expect that this is a trip that we will run again.



One of my personal highlights of 2014 was a short delivery to Scotland. We were delivering one of my favourite yachts, a Rustler 36. This is the sort of boat that you could take anywhere in the world with confidence. It was special to me as it was the first time I had sailed up the Clyde. This only fuelled my desire to do more sailing in Scotland. For the yacht, it was the last leg of a delivery from the Caribbean. We were met at Rhu by a lovely, enthusiastic couple who were obviously delighted to be reunited with their precious yacht. It felt like a very worthwhile delivery.

Overall, I would say that it was an excellent year and I can only think that the change in approach has been a positive move. I hope that 2015 will bring us as much good sailing.

Nautical Quick Quiz

Just to start you thinking about sailing again here are a few nautical questions for you. They aren't all technical, so everyone can have a go. No cheating by googling, the answers are at the end of this newsletter anyway:

- 1) The Hoegh Osaka is in the news for grounding on the Bramble bank but what ship grounded there in Nov 2008?
- 2) Also in the news this week, why won't Alex Thompson and Pepe Ribes win the Barcelona World Race this year?
- 3) In the old naval song 'Spanish Ladies' it says that 'Ushant to Scilly is 35 Leagues' but how far is a League?
- 4) What is a vessel displaying the day shape signal '3 vertical balls' indicating to other vessels?
- 5) What signal would the vessel in 4) above display at night?
- 6) What do the following acronyms a) SOLAS, b) GMDSS and c) EPIRB stand for?
- 7) Do you know your sailing vessels? What is a) a Schooner and b) a Cutter?

Quantum Sailing Changes for 2015

We are making another changes at Quantum Sailing, to further increase the flexibility that we can offer. From the start of 2015, we will deliver all of our RYA training through our partner **Hamble School of Yachting**. This means that we can continue to offer a full range of custom solutions, such as bespoke courses for small groups or own boat training, but we will now be able to offer individual places on a full range of RYA courses that are available throughout the year. Whilst places on individual courses may mean sailing with other instructors, we know the calibre of the skippers at Hamble and are confident that the instruction will be of the highest quality.



We also have a new look web site for 2015; please check it out at www.quantumsailing.co.uk

Sailing opportunities in 2015

Through our link up with YachtMovers, we will continue to offer delivery opportunities in the coming year. We already have a couple of Network members signed up for a delivery across the Mediterranean in April. This is a very economical way to build experience and mileage, so watch out for emails as the opportunities become available.

We expect to organise a number of Adventure Cruises again this year, trips where you can book individual berths to sail as part of our crew. Like last year, we will be providing these on a bespoke basis in response to demand. We will be coordinating groups with common interests and organising sailing trips to suit. Consequently we won't have a preset programme but likely destinations this year include:



- West Country cruise from Falmouth to the Isles of Scilly and Devon / Cornwall coast, 7-day, cost £640 per person.
- West coast of Scotland cruise from Oban or Largs exploring the Scottish islands, 7-day, price TBC.
- Cross channel cruises from the Solent to France & the Channel Islands, 3 or 4-day Long-weekend, cost £395/£495pp respectively. 7-day, £650pp.

Other possibilities include a week in the Med, if there is enough interest. Costs are inclusive of yacht, skipper, food onboard, moorings, fuel and gas. If you are interested in these or other locations please let us know. You can email us at info@quantumsailing.co.uk or just complete our survey online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/G3K9V3R> We will do our very best to organise the cruises that you ask for.

Quick Quiz answers:

No one claimed 100% on the picture quiz in the last newsletter but let us know how you get on with this one.

- 1) It was the Cunard liner Queen Elizabeth II on her final voyage.
- 2) They lost their mast earlier this week, some 400 miles off the Brazilian coast, whilst leading the race.
- 3) It is generally taken as about 3 miles but it's not a standard measurement and was originally defined as 'the distance a person could walk in an hour'.
- 4) Vessel aground and 5) at night they would show two all-round red lights + anchor light(s)
- 6) Safety of Life at Sea, Global Maritime Distress & Safety System, Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon.
- 7) A Schooner has at least two masts, with the foremast shorter than main.



A Cutter generally has single mast, fore & aft rigged with at least 2 foresails - an inner foresail called a Staysail and a Jib (often utilising a bowsprit)

