

NEWS FROM THE PONTOONS

Route du Rhum – coming soon

As is the case every four years, there is excitement everywhere at the approach of the Rhum, certainly the most important of the singlehanded transatlantic races, the one that all the skippers dream of adding to their racing record. On the start line for this tenth edition we will have the 'Ultimes', including the gigantic Spindrift 2 (40 metres long, current holder of the fully-crewed round the world record), Banque Populaire VII (31.5 m – the trimaran which won the last Rhum in the hands of Franck Cammas), the new Sodebo (34m), Prince de Bretagne 80 (24m), Idec (29.7m), the MOD 70s, including Musandam-Oman Sail, et certainly a few others... In short, an impressive entry list for a race which should be sensational. In the Multi50 class, the race between those aiming to win will also be hard-fought, and only a genius would risk forecasting the result: Actual, Maitre Jacques, Fenetre Cardinal, Rennes Métropole/Saint-Malo Agglomération (winner of the last edition), and of course Arkema, will once again be demonstrating why we think nothing but good about this class. But what will have us all dreaming is the three A Capellas we will find at the start of the Rhum. These are sister ships (11.5m long) of the first winner, in 1978, which launched the Rhum legend by winning by just 98 seconds, ahead of a 21-metre monohull. At the helm of these wonders we will of course find Charlie Capelle (who is taking part for the fourth time on his favourite boat) and Loïck Peyron, who will be starting the tenth edition of one of the rare races he has not won... Incredible!

Follow it on: www.routedurhum.com

C Class World Championship – the Little America's Cup...

The C class boats are fabulous machines. Equipped with a rigid sail and foils, they have been the technological shop window for sport catamarans since the 60s. The speciality's world championship is even called the 'Little America's Cup', which gives you an idea. The last official champion is called Franck Cammas, and he will be able to defend his title in September 2015 on Lake Geneva, as the 27th edition of the Little Cup will be organized by the Société Nautique de Genève. After the previous editions held in the United States, Great Britain and Australia, the choice of Geneva is explained by the local dynamism in terms of very high level sailing, and the technological advances to be found in this area.

For more information: www.littlecup.org



Team France

We see that the excitement is starting to grow around the next America's Cup. Since the announcement last December of a Team France made up of the dream trio (Cammass – Desjoyeaux – Kersauson), the team has started to train and work, whilst awaiting information about the 35th Cup. At sea, Cammas is racing on an Inter 17, in the framework of his Olympic preparation, and in Extreme 40s. Last year, he spent 320 days on the water, and he hopes to do the same this year: "but in addition, I work every evening for Team France, wherever I am in the world. We have a top-quality team..."

For his part, Michel Desjoyeaux has just returned from the Transat AG2R (which he finished in 10th place) and is devoting all his energy to the design side, for which he is responsible.

Meanwhile, a few time zones from Paris, Olivier de Kersauson is using the time difference to his advantage, to fish during the day (he lives in Polynesia) and work at night: "I haven't seen Olivier so committed to a project for a long time," said his friend of the last 24 years, Louis-Noël Viviers.



STARBOARD

Book

Leaving aboard a sailing boat to spend a few years as a family in a confined space - what a strange idea... Two enthusiastic Multihulls World readers, Silva and Boris Rohou, embarked on a cruising catamaran with their three children (Kéliane, Kicco and Elliott), to experience the adventure together for two years.

From a vague dream to the concrete realization, their book draws a parallel between the public side of their adventure (their idealized blog), their daily life at sea (which did not always go smoothly) and the childlike vision of their youngest's diary.

Discover the article they have written for us in this magazine (page 68) and above all, the book (in French) they have written about their experience: 'L'enfer du décor'.

Available from the on-line shop at www.multihulls-world.com.

Boat Show

The 'Festival de la Plaisance', which takes place every September in Cannes, on the French Côte d'Azur, is changing its name. The famous boat show becomes the 'Cannes Yachting Festival', for its 37th edition. On the other hand, what will not change is the huge presence of multihulls at this show (around forty every year) and of course the presence of the whole Multihulls World team...

For more information: www.salonnautiquescannes.com

Boat-sharing

If you are looking to share the costs and the use of a boat, here is Vogavecmoi.com, a web site specializing in boat-sharing.

Boat-sharing puts boat owners and crew in touch with each other, around a passion for sailing. Today, there are more than 20,000 people using this system in France, the Mediterranean and even in the West Indies and the Pacific. The site has now existed for 4 years, and has put thousands of leisure sailors in touch with each other for day outings, weekend cruises or even Atlantic crossings.

For more information: vogavecmoi.com