raftsmanship **BOATBUILDER'S NOTES** · TOOLS

rd News

Compiled by Steffan Meyric Hughes: +44 (0)20 7901 8055 steffan.meyric-hughes@classicboat.co.uk

MY ROGERS, LYMINGTON eet the new ss, same as e old boss

51 years building boats in ngton, the father of the Contessa, ny Rogers, is entering semiment. He will continue in the y business that bears his name, llow his son Kit to take over the

t's a really exciting time," Kit "I'm working on two new els of the Contessa 32: the e', which will incorporate what earned building our 'eco' model, the 'Expedition' for customers want to sail shorthanded and in enging situations."

lany people recognise a Contessa hen they see one, with its nctive rounded companionway.



The design, a 26ft (7.9m) bermudan sloop drawn by David Sadler and built from GRP by Jeremy, is a Folkboat derivative and, with a production run of more than 300 yachts from 1966-77, it predates the famous Contessa 32 of 1971.

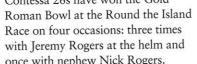
MAYA RESTORED

Maya, 1973, was restored for a syndicate to race under IRC, for which the Contessa 26 receives a very good rating - so good, in fact, that

Above left: Jeremy and son Kit Above right: Maya's new interior is much improved from the 1973 original

Contessa 26s have won the Gold Race on four occasions: three times once with nephew Nick Rogers.

"I knew we were buying a modern classic, but having her refurbished to this standard has turned her into a real treasure," explained syndicate founder Kevin Collins. Maya will make her racing debut at this year's Round the



Island Race on 30 June.



From wreck to ready for Mylne 6-Metre

Resourceful boatbuilders often buy wrecks and store them, while they wait for owners to take them on as projects. Valdai, a 1930 Mylne-designed 6-Metre yacht, was bought by boatbuilder Tom Owen in near-terminal condition in 2008. A syndicate of three owners came forward to bankroll the project and now she's been launched from Tom's workshop in Fowey, Cornwall. Tom was fitting the deck hardware as we wrote this, and spoke to CB from under the yacht's aft deck. The owners plan to race Valdai at the 6-M British Open from 25 to 28 May at Mylor.

The restoration has been a major one, including redrawing the lines, installing new moulds to bring her shape back, reframing throughout, new mahogany planks below the waterline and new deck Above: Reframing and (right) the newly-laid deck

beams. She retains some of her original fabric, through the lead keel, rudder, mahogany backbone and the topside planking.

Tom, London-born and raised, escaped a decade ago to study boatbuilding at the International Yacht Restoration School in Rhode Island ('Iris' to its friends). Since then he's restored three Tumlare Class yachts (27ft, Knud Reimer-design, CB224) and had a steady stream of more general work. Tom's main interest is in light to medium displacement racing yachts of the 1930s and 40s; his next project will be a restoration of a Dragon this autumn.



MOUTH, CORNWALL

eplica tender goes to the dogs

nore than 200 years, Pasco's Boatyard built dinghies and fishing boats to work the Fal ary, but none has appeared for 40 years - until this April, that is, when a 14ft (4.3m) er Falmouth Oyster Punt was launched from Pasco's shed at St Just in Roseland. She's ouild of *Dogboat*, built in the 1930s to fish, then sold to the family who owned the etre cruiser Charm of Rhu, as a tender for them and their dogs. The original Dogboat lost to rot, all except the stern, which has been built into the new boat by Hugh Noott Joe Christopher, both graduates of the Falmouth Marine School. She was missioned by Martin Thomas, the present-day owner of Charm of Rhu. She's larch on copper-fastened and still has the original sweeps, refurbished, painted and renered. Traditional oak thole pins are used rather than noisy metal rowlocks.

Gaff or bermudan?

Boatbuilder Matt Hobart (below) looks ready to go as he sits at the helm of one of two Hazel 18 daysailers nearly ready to launch from the yard of Gannon & Benjamin in Martha's Vineyard, MA. The Hazel 18 is to Nat Benjamin's design. The two latest boats will have one big difference: one will be gaff, the other bermudan.



Popular Paine Pisces 21 design

The Chuck Paine-designed Pisces 21 (above) built by Maine's Classic Boat Shop, and featured in CB276 last year, continues to be popular on the US East Coast. Here is the latest, called Pizazz, on her way from Maine to Annapolis, MD, for delivery to her new owner.



UNDERFALL YARD, BRISTOL

Completion of Bristol 27 Eskdale

Since last month's report on the dinghy Dormouse built by Tim Loftus, Dutchman Win Cnoops of Star Yachts, also at Bristol's Underfall Yard, has written to tell us about the delivery of his first Bristol 27 semi-displacement motor cruiser Eskdale. She was on show, in incomplete form, at last year's Southampton Boat Show in September. Her new owner

will keep her on the Thames at Pangbourne near Reading. She's the bigger sister to the displacement cruiser Bristol 22, the first of which, Morgana, was launched by Win in late 2010. Both boats are to designs by Andrew Wolstenholme. They cost around £65,000 and £150,000 (inc VAT) respectively.

Oyster Smack Wanderer to be restored

Win's other big ongoing project, with Tim Loftus (under the Slipway Co-operative banner) is the restoration of the Oyster Smack Wanderer which has been in the same family for 50 years.



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