

May Marion Bremerhaven 2015

Bill Hudson

Log Book

26th July 2015 12.00

Set off on the first part of our incredible journey @ 12.00hrs
Out of docks, no problem, Hull next stops!!!
Arrived Hull Marina @ 14.00hrs no drama
Tied up with help from Lorna Doone on visitors berth
Roger did a fantastic job of berthing the boat
Hull now the weather is poor it is raining and cold
Going out @18.45hrs for a meal in an Indian restaurant.
Good meal
Night in Hull marina

27th July 2015

Up next morning & cooked breakfast (rubbish)
We went for a walk round shopping centre & bought a few bits
Set off from Hull at 13.00hrs
Arrived back in Grimsby @ 15.30hrs
Weather was terrible (rain & fog)
Back on berth perfect!

Tuesday 28th July 2015 05.00

Set off for Lowestoft accompanying Lorna Doone
Weather rainy & cold but no wind & calm sea
Who said it was a calm sea, it was terrible, and we were tossed side to side
very violently. Everything ended up on the floor
It was too rough to go down into the lounge / galley for us (except Bill W,
he stayed down there all day reading and sleeping, he fell out of his bunk
twice that woke him up).
We had the mainsail & board main out & made good progress. Averaged
7.4 knots & berthed in Lowestoft @ 21.00 hrs, Roger backed in perfectly
(again).
Superb meal on Lorna Doone cooked by the Earlier seasick Jane, bless her it
was good.
Then a few whisky's on our boat

Good night was had by all

Wednesday 29th July 2015

*Day off today relaxing went shopping for groceries & bits & bobs
Into the yacht club for a drink & met some other lost souls who are also
going to URK*

*Went to Weatherspoon's for dinner, ham, eggs & chips & a beer £23.00 for
the four of us, then back to boat to do some jobs & prepared for tonight's
meal, steak dinner for Garry & Jane*

Thursday 30th July 2015

*Left Lowestoft @ 05.10hrs destination Ijmuiden ETA 21.00hrs if all goes well.
Weather bright & blustery not much swell seems like a good day for sailing
The mainsail is up but not all the way up as it is jammed at the top
We have got the JIB out as well & making 6 knots
Arrived at Ijmuiden @ 20.00hrs through the lock with no problem
Nowhere to moor for the night, found a mooring one hour up the north sea
canal @ Ijmond & stopped for night at 23.30hrs
Terrible crossing (again)
Egg & beans for tea*

Friday 31st July 2015

*Set off at 08.30hrs, bloody good going no more falling over all the time.
Through the lock & bridge with no fuss & now on the inland sea
Allan is getting dinner ready & we are sat outside, its flat calm with little
wind, some boats have sails up, but not making any headway.
ETA Urk 16.00hrs (we will see???), we are doing 6.7 knots
Coming over yesterday we used about 22 gall fuel - not bad
We moored up & had dinner @ 14.00hrs, it was superb, then the boat would
not start, Alan got it going after a while & we set off on the last part of the
trip to Urk.
It was uneventful & we finally moored @ 17.00 hrs to a hero's welcome.
Lots of people from Grimsby met us & we tied up without any problems.
Went & had a shower, it must be the worst shower ever, no room & no
pressure & wet changing room.
Back to the boat to see what is planned for tonight!!!
Went to yacht club in the Marina?? & then had a few drinks in the boat.
Everybody went to bed drunk (except me)*

Saturday 1st July 2015

Got up with a hangover & after we had a beverage went into town!! To a café for breakfast, it was good & cheap.

Bought some more beer & bits & pieces for the boat but had a few beers in a bar & then got ready for BBQ tonight.

Got picked up by private car & took to the BBQ, it started off very quiet & there were not many people there. We moved a few tables together & after a few beers it started to liven up then the BBQ started & the food was delicious, the local folk singers arrived and it really started to get going. A fantastic night was had by all.

After too much food & drink we were driven back to the boat, drunken young Bill went straight to bed & after coffee we all did the same, all in all a very good day!!

Sunday 2nd August 2015

09.00hrs I got up & made a drink & the others slowly appeared
Alan did a full English breakfast & it was eaten with gusto, after washing up & putting things back in place the intention is to have an easy day doing small jobs & no alcohol, we will see.

Well!! Some alcohol consumed but not a lot

Nice relaxing day

I ate mussels today for the first time, I like them now

Early night as we have to leave tomorrow after getting some fuel

Paid 1.23Euro per litre??

Monday 3rd August 2015

Bill got me up @ 06.00 because he thought diesel fuel man had arrived; he hadn't just a bunch of builders working on the dock side. So we had a cup of coffee and later he turned up & we went and collected some fuel. The harbour master came round & we had to pay for Sunday night.

We left Urk @ 10.15hrs Dutch time, next stop Lemmer.

Hooked up in Lemmer after having a row with Harbour Master in Marina (what a nasty man) we then lowered, the RIB to go back to the town centre

*(then put it back cause it wouldn't work & took the bikes, had a few beers & a pot of mussels (cost Euro 100) then back to boat for shower & a rest, it was very hot. The site Wi Fi don't work & the showers were rubbish
Stayed on boat & had early night*

Tuesday 4th August 2015

Left Lemmer @ 09.30hrs & motored up the canal, under a few bridges. Graham got stuck & we had to tow him off. The weather has changed & it is raining now not very good for Roger who has to steer from the outside (Moaning sod).

We moored up in a very nice Marina (Yacht haven) all new showers & toilets & free Wi Fi which works

We had a lazy afternoon & then went out for a meal & a few pints.

We had a plate of ribs it was massive, more than we could eat so we took some home in a doggy bag.

On the other side of the canal was a proper pub.

Smoking was allowed @ the bar even the barmaid smoked behind the bar.

Alan got to talk to the local idiot! He always gets them.

Then back to the boat & a few more whiskeys on Steve's boat.

Very good day

Wednesday 5th August 2015

Awoke to blue skies & sunshine.

Made good time in good weather & moored up at Ladsel @ 13.00 hrs.

Easy day doing nothing

Friday 7th August 2015

We are moving out to sea today getting ready at Ladsel to leave @ 07.30hrs everything stowed.

Through the lock no problem flat calm but little wind, Roger was asked to keep to the route but he knew better & cut across outside the Boyed channel as shown on the plotter and the way all the other boats were going, the inevitable happened, we ran aground Woody went below to consult his tablet showing the tide in this area and reported back that we were on a falling tide, "Stupid bloody Roger" Called Omega II to come back to tow us off and he ran aground, He did get himself off after 15 minutes. Bill said how could he get off on a falling tide so he went below to check Woody's tablet and reported back that we were on a rising tide and not a falling

one (not Alan's fault so he said but then it never is) eventually we got free of the bottom & steered into Chanel and from then on with regular checks on the pilot (Roger) we stuck to the correct course.

The sails are up & down like a fiddlers elbow, but no good no wind Making good progress under power 7.8 knots landed in Nordine @ 17.30hrs we had to moor up on the Marina wall, there was a 3 metre tide so we had to use a lot of rope to secure the boat. We just went to the club house for a few beers. Alan did us some lunch, early night we were all shattered.

Saturday 8th August 2015

Cleaning the boat & tidying up had to get two tyres for Woody's bike & then I had to fit them.

Then we all went to town on the bikes. Had a snack in the centre & then me & young Bill went for a ride along the seafront. We went looking for a cheap alcohol shop but it was closed.

Back to boat to jet wash & clean the boat decks while Woody & Roger were resting??

We had got all the laundry done & out the away then we went out for a pint.

Good night was had by all. More whisky was drunk on board.

Sunday 9th August 2015

Set off at 06.10 for Bremerhaven no incidents & Woody didn't shout at any one at any time.

It is a calm day, bright & sunny ETA 18.00hrs??

10.20hrs had a good kip downstairs on the seating, the sea is a bit choppy but not bad. Alan is getting some breakfast on the go. It smells good. Young Bill has just woke up, he could sleep for England.

A very uneventful journey & we moored @ Bremerhaven @ 19.00hrs tied up in a place that looks like an East German prison camp.

Shower number 2509

Went into the clubhouse & had a few pints of becks & a whisky or two, then back on the boat for an early night. Well that was the plan, but more beer & whisky was consumed, then bed (shattered)

Monday 10th August 2015

Got up & had a shower in clubhouse, very good. Then a continental breakfast.

It was very good. Plenty to go at & very well presented, but expensive (11Euro)

Then me, Bill & Alan went for a bike ride into town it is a smashing place & very bike friendly.

Then back to the boat for a rest, Alan is cleaning up & has got the Vac out, some rest. We have had a somewhat restful afternoon (no actual work) & decided to go out for a Chinese meal back onto the bikes & after about 3K we found a restaurant, it was very good & including 4 large beers only cost 60 Euro. Into the club for a swift pint then back to boat for an early night, Woody & Roger stayed in club & had whiskies with the boss.

Tuesday 11th August 2015

Woke up at 07.30am beautiful sunny day but we had a lot of rain through the night, I went to get showered & when I got back to boat they had fixed up two hoses & filled up with domestic water.

General lazy day

Wednesday 12th August 2015

The day of the tall ships, we went down to see them come into harbour, there were thousands of people watching & milling about.

Sunday 16th August 2015

After what Bill and Roger described as a very disappointing visit in comparison with previous years (We were not looked after by our liaison the vice commodore of the Vesser yacht club, but others tried their very best to salvage our visit)

We left Bremerhaven @ 16.15hrs out into the river with no problems.

The sea is very rough & I have been sick & don't feel very well at all.

The crossing was horrendous all the way & the boat is falling apart. The steering seat is loose & will need mending & a part of the forward handrail has been lost. Our ETA is 15.45hrs Trevor has got us a berth here in Nordeney, Woody has cooked a stew, he put it on yesterday but it still wasn't done enough, it smelt great & tasted ok so I ate mine, I was starving. We will cook it properly tomorrow.

Those three intrepid travellers have gone out for a pint, but I can't be bothered

Alcohol free day for me!!! YES?? Early night & the best nights sleep so far.

Monday 17th August 2015

Got up & did a light breakfast we should have had bacon but someone (Woody) had bought chops instead?? Went into town & got new fittings for the bow thruster the switch and cables were totally burnt out, (Burnt out by Roger when he put us aground and tried to get us off with continuous use of the bow thruster), had some lunch & then had a few pints in the clubhouse then back to the boat for a chat & more beer, I put the stew on the heat (again) at least it will be cooked now. The weather is abysmal, raining hard & dull but at least there is no wind so we plan to leave here on Wednesday morning @ 05.00hrs we paid Euro 158 to stay here for 3 nights it seems like a lot to me!!

Tuesday 18th August 2015

Had a good night's sleep & I was woken up with a cup of coffee, Alan is trying to unblock the sink pump, he has got the floor up & has nearly done it now then we can have breakfast.

We had a good breakfast then shower & Alan went to town to get Wi Fi for weather, we dossed about & met him in the bar. Alan pissed me off & I went off in a huff to do some shopping. Then in the bar all day & early evening.

Back to boat for steak & eggs (gorgeous) & bed

Wednesday 19th August 2015

Awoke to a good day with wind dropping S/S then into town for Wi Fi, still good weather so we plan to set off today about 16.00hrs the forecast is good, Woody is getting brunch!! I will do some sandwiches for tonight.

Set off from Nordeney @ 14.00hrs light wind & pretty calm sea, let's hope it stays like this??

53.38N 006 21.E 20.20

Pacific Osprey went straight in front of our bow, would not answer radio, we had to take evasive action (!!!!!!!)

Very uneventful trip apart from that, very long & boring ETA 08.45hrs

Arrived at Zjoland ' 09.00hrs very crowded but with a lot of help from Trevor we squeezed into a gap just a couple of foot bigger than the boat.

(Very well done Roger! post trip we never heard the last of that manoeuvre for quite some time)

Had a S/S & a coffee (14Euro for 3 coffees?)

Then a short ride into town for more beer

We had a gigantic pot of mussels then an early night

Friday 21st August 2015

Left port @ 05.45hrs very uneventful and we are off on the final leg of our incredible journey, next stop Grimsby (Yes)

The weather could have been better not the most comfortable journey the sails have been up all day & we have averaged about 6.1 knots with the engine.

We got 3 tubs of fuel in & that should get us home.

What a boring journey (and rough in places) & all through the night as well. How people do Atlantic crossings, I don't know even after I had learnt to sleep below on a journey.

Saturday 22nd August 2015

Bright sunny day, sea calm. Alan & Roger have put the sails up & we are making 6 knots. ETA Grimsby 11.30hrs into port with no drama.

HOLLIDAY OVER.