

IN BRIEF

Volvo award

An East Coast Volvo dealer, Volspec of Tollesbury, Essex, has won the Volvo Penta Special Award for reaching £2 million in sales. Office director Bob Brammer said: 'This award recognises team effort and is the result of a lot of hard work by our loyal staff.'

Boat art to celebrate 2012 Olympics

A 30ft conceptual art project in the shape of a yacht is to be built from scrap timber to celebrate the 2012 Olympics. The vessel will be made from wooden toys, chairs, tables, cricket bats and pencils. Among those involved in the project is international boat designer Simon Rogers. The Boat Project starts next month in Thornham Marina, Chichester Harbour.

Solo pensioner heads for Cape Horn

Jeanne Socrates, 68, has started a solo circumnavigation to raise money for Marie Curie Cancer Care. She left Victoria, in British Columbia, Canada, on 25 October aboard her 38ft Najad, *Nereida*, to sail solo and non-stop around the world.

New job for Boat Show chief

Andrew Williams, Managing Director of National Boat Shows, has been appointed marketing director at Princess Yachts International. He will take up his new job after the London International Boat Show, in January. Andrew said: 'I have had four and half fantastic years at NBS, culminating in the rejuvenated show that we will all see in January.'

Cancer man to sail round UK

In 2005 Olly Rofix, 25, was diagnosed with a form of leukaemia so rare that it did not even have a name. Next year he is sailing around the UK to raise money for the Anthony Nolan charity and inspire other cancer sufferers. Olly, from Woodbridge, Suffolk, will be exhibiting his Valiant 18, *Jolly Olly*, at the London Boat Show in January and plans to begin his trip from Ipswich on 2 May.

A yacht with a Parsailor spinnaker crosses the start line in Las Palmas heading for St Lucia



PHOTO: BARRY PICKTALL/PL

The ARC's 25th birthday crossing



All-female crew: Trycha Darling with daughters Alice and Jillian on Triple D

PHOTO: ANDREW BROOK

The 25th Atlantic Rally for Cruisers (ARC) left Las Palmas, in Gran Canaria, on 21 November, with 233 yachts from 26 nations setting sail across the Atlantic, bound for St Lucia in the Caribbean, 2,700 miles away.

There were 91 yachts from the UK taking part. Among the 1,300 sailors in the fleet was British skipper Sam Fortescue, skippering the Sadler 34 *Summer Song*, eight months after a serious skiing accident in Switzerland. He fractured his skull, two vertebrae and his pelvis and broke three ribs.

Another British skipper, Robert Newman, was sailing *Mariposa*, a Jeanneau Sun Odyssey 42DS, which he bought just six months before the rally. The ARC's only all-female crew was the mother and daughters team Trycha, Alice and Jillian Darling on the Southerly 42 RST *Triple D*.

Most major boat manufacturers were represented in the rally fleet with Bénéteau proving the most popular with 30 boats. Ten Moody yachts took part, celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Moody Owners' Association.

The smallest boat in the rally was a Comfort 32, *Honningpupp II*, with Norwegian skipper Thomas Witso-Bjolmer. The biggest yacht was a 35m classic schooner, *Texel*.

PHOTO: DICK DURHAM

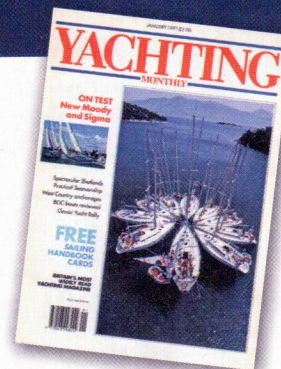
YM ARCHIVES

Twenty years ago in Yachting Monthly

Geoff Pack managed to check out the BOC round-the-world race boats in Newport to sniff out spin-offs for the cruising man: 'The majority of boats were masthead-rigged and multiple roller headsails were the most popular choice amongst competitors across the

fleet. A light-wind masthead ghoster is set on the outside stay, rolled away through tacks, and an all-round, No 2-sized working headsail is set on a roller immediately inboard of that. Those who believe that fashions come full circle in life will smile at the knowledge that the bowsprit is back. And conventional spinnakers have been replaced with asymmetrical spinnakers.

'Ultimately, whilst the cruising yachtsman may be sailing around in five years' time with



full-length mainsail battens, the major advance he can expect is reliability and durability of existing gear and equipment.'