

BRIEF TRIALS REPORT
YARD NO. SYC:336 - 40 ft. OCEAN PIRATE

Date - 15th November, 1968

Weather Conditions:

Wind: South East Force 8
Sea: Short heavy swell up to 15 ft.,
with breaking waves.
Visibility: Moderate
Personnel on board: 7
Fuel: 200 gallons
Fresh water: 100 gallons.

Port Officials confirmed that sea conditions were bad with a heavy swell and onshore winds which had built up for 24 hours. Pilotage services were withdrawn from nearby Ports and Deep Sea Trawlers and Oil Rig Vessels were not proceeding to sea.

The Ocean Pirate left the Shipyard in the inner Harbour and headed for Lowestoft outer Harbour at 10.30 a.m. and thence to sea.

Conditions around the confined harbour entrance were bad with short breaking swell, the crests streaking foam in the gale force winds.

The Pirate headed out to sea at full power taking the weather on her starboard bow.

Course was altered for Great Yarmouth and with following wind full speed was maintained through the Hob-Gob (tide race) where conditions worsened. Clear of the tide race, conditions improved somewhat to an average of approximately 12 ft. swell, but worsened again near the entrance to Great Yarmouth Harbour, where swell length shortened to approximately 40 ft. by 15 ft. high. With the following wind and sea, the distance of miles from Harbour entrance to Harbour entrance was covered in minutes.

The Pirate proceeded up river to Breydon Water where speed trials were carried out, which proved a boat speed of 27.25 knots (approximately 31.5 m. p. h.)

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Later in the afternoon, on completion of trials, the Pirate returned to Yarmouth Harbour and again headed out to sea at full power and speed against the South East gale making for Lowestoft Harbour. Full power was maintained throughout.

Behaviour of the 40 ft. Pirate at sea was magnificent and full speed was maintained across the tide race, the craft reaching Lowestoft Harbour at approximately 3.30 p. m., having headed a Force 8 gale continually.

HLD/HJM/CFG
27th November, 1968.