

We Offer:

- Winter Warmer Talks and presentations from Oct - Mar
- Newsletters
- Honorary Local Representative (HLR)
- Social events

Welcome to the Kent Section

The Cruising Association Kent Section arranges a series of winter lectures as well as events and visits during the summer months. Kent Section members are invited to join functions and rallies organised by the Suffolk Section as part of the east coast activities of the CA.

Where we meet

Our Winter Warmers take place on the second Thursday of each month from October through to March. We meet at the Dog and Bear Hotel, The Square, Lenham, Kent, ME17 2PG. The hotel is approximately 10 minutes from Junction 8 of the M20 near Leeds Castle.







Please see overleaf for a list of the forthcoming events for the 2024/25 season.



Contact kent@theca.org.uk







Join Us!

Be part of our cruising community ashore and afloat. Join as many CA Sections as you wish. Section membership is FREE to subscribed members. To find out more about our other Sections, visit www.theca.org.uk/sections alternatively contact us on the details provided.



CA Kent Winter Warmer Programme 2024-2025

Thursday 10th October 2024 - An update from the East Coast Pilot by Dick Holness

The East Coast Pilot has become the bible for cruising sailors in the waters from Great Yarmouth to Ramsgate. Over the years Dick and co-author Garth Cooper have constantly monitored the ever changing conditions in this area. A new edition was published in April 2024 and Dick will give us an update on navigation and sailing in these waters.

Thursday 14th November 2024 - Swinging, Spinning and Wobbling: pendulums, gyroscopes and Inertial Navigation - a talk by Jeremy Batch. Our world is round (sort-of) and takes 24 hours (almost) to revolve. The roundness was obvious to sailors for centuries, but the size of the sphere (if, indeed, it was a sphere) was a matter of guesswork and its rotation was once a dangerous heresy. The tilt, wobble and lumpy shape were all puzzling, but eventually undeniable. These concepts will be explored and explained by Jeremy in his own amusing way.

Thursday 12th December 2024 - Sailing through Russia; From the White Sea to the Black Sea by Maxine Maters. There are a staggering 93,000km of navigable waterways in Russia. In 2012 Russia opened its inland waterways to foreign-flagged pleasure craft. In 2013 Australian yacht "Tainui" successfully completed the 3,000 mile voyage through central Russia from the White Sea down the Volga River to the Black Sea. Tainui's crew were John Vallentine (AUS) and Maxine Maters (NL). John wrote a blog which was awarded with the CA's 2014 Lacey Trophy which became the basis for a now fairly useless cruising guide published in 2016, he also won the OCC's 2015 Vasey Vase for this "voyage of an unusual or exploratory nature".

Thursday 9th January 2025 - The role of a Thames Marine Pilot by Tim Coutts, Master Mariner, Marine Pilot PLA/Thames & ex-ship Captain. Tim will describe the role of a Marine Pilot in the UK, the Master/Pilot relationship and what to expect of a merchant ship bridge team. He will give an overview of the industry and ship types trading on the Thames & Medway and variations of berths & shipping terminals on the Thames. This talk will raise awareness of ship restrictions and views from the navigational bridge, and expectations of pleasure craft at sea & around the Thames, with an overview of the pilotage districts.

Thursday 13th February 2025 - Tug Kent by Barry Hill, National Captain. MT Kent is based in Basin number One at Chatham in Kent. She was built in 1948 at Lowestoft and began her life on the Medway berthing ships in the ports of Rochester and Sheerness. The tug worked for 40 years being deployed in various locations including Scotland and the near continent. It was taken out of service in the 1980s. She is now owned by the South Eastern Tug Society and is regularly seen at events on the Thames, Medway and across the channel.

Thursday 13th March 2025 – Shipwrecks in the Thames by Rob Smith. With so many ships visiting London, it is hardly surprising that there have been thousands of shipwrecks in the Thames. This talk tells the story of 12 ships that have sunk in the Thames and Medway, from a Roman cargo ship, to a mysterious sinking in the Cold War. Rob will show you pictures and maps to accompany the talk, and he will give you some suggestions of places to visit to find out more about ships like the 17th century ship whose sinking shocked Samuel Pepys, or the ship full of explosives that still sits at the bottom of the Thames Estuary.



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