



I always wonder if anyone ever reads the editorial, so it's really nice when my requests bring results! This was the case with my appeal for more proof-readers in *Flying Fish* 2018/1, and though only one (excellent) volunteer came forward in time to assist with this issue, two more have put their heads above the parapet more recently and will be initiated on 2019/1. The turnover rate tends to be slow, fortunately, as most proof-readers assure me they really enjoy it and some have read every word of every issue for decades. Now that's what I call dedication!

From the sublime to the ridiculous – well, not quite! – and what I'm asking for this time are more recipes, ideally short ones which can be squeezed into half a page or less. When I started the feature in *Flying Fish* 2009/2 my intention was to use recipes to fill those irritating gaps at the ends of articles – the ones which are too small for a half-page advertisement but rather too big for a snatch of poetry, philosophy or other *bon mot* – so while the occasional longer recipe is fine, it's the short, simple, boat-friendly ones that I welcome most. One day we must have a bring-a-plate party featuring only items made from recipes which have appeared in the *Fish* – it could be quite a feast!

Back to the sublime – or at least the very impressive – and as someone struggling to learn Portuguese I take my hat off to the four members who've written for this issue despite English not being their first language. This underlines just what a worldwide Club we are and I would urge anyone, native English-speaker or not, who has a story to tell but is unsure of their writing skills to have a go. Spell-checkers do much to help with our sometimes crazy spelling, and as editor it's part of my job to sort out any grammatical glitches, though hopefully without losing the author's own, individual voice. Turn to pages 39, 166 and 192 to decide for yourself whether I've succeeded.

You may already have noticed that this is the fattest *Fish* for several years, and this is reflected in the wide variety of places it features. From Alaska to Antarctica, North Cape to South Georgia, and the Aegean to the Marshall Islands via the Bahamas, our members have not just been there but have invited you to accompany them, in spirit at least. And, as always, their photos are just as evocative as their words.

Finally, the usual reminder – the **DEADLINE** for submissions to *Flying Fish* 2019/1 is **Friday 1st February**, though I always try to be flexible if the issue isn't full. I have three articles already on file, however, plus another promised, so don't leave writing until the last moment ... and unless you're a seasoned contributor, please read *Sending Submissions to Flying Fish* on page 18, or the more detailed *Guidelines for Contributors* downloadable from the homepage of the *Flying Fish* online archive, before you start. Many thanks indeed, and I look forward to hearing from you!

*Cover Photo: Celeste at anchor in the beautiful Tuamotus,
August 2018 – see A Penchant for the Primitive, page 5.
Drone photo by Ellen and Seth Leonard*