



I nearly always write my editorial at the very last minute, with the justification that until I know exactly what the issue will contain, how can I write about it? But this time I have four things on my list – no five! – so here we go...

Having bade goodbye to Bungay Printers in my June editorial, I'd be saying 'hello' to Hobbs the Printers if I hadn't already visited them in Southampton, as well as having been corresponding with them for the past six months or so. This is their first *Fish*, following the September *Newsletter*, and they've already proved themselves both pleasant and professional to work with. I foresee a long and successful partnership.

Secondly, as someone who never passed a language exam at school and is now struggling to learn Portuguese, I have to mention the three members who have written articles for this issue despite English not being their first language. Thierry Courvoisier shares the third part of *Cérès's* voyage through the Russian inland waterways, Helena Klocke continues her passage aboard *Kiwa* begun in the last issue, and we join Eugénie Nottebohm aboard *Guilia* as she progresses from a nervous newbie skipper to an accomplished singlehander, largely illustrated by her own drawings and watercolours. I'm filled with admiration for all three!

As the author of a number of books I was also very impressed by Leanne Vogel's *Western Caribbean Cookbook*, which features nearly 80 recipes contributed by participants in the 2018–2019 OCC *Suzie Too* Rally from Curaçao to Belize. Plainly a great deal of socialising went on and, as we all know, when yachties socialise food nearly always features. Many of her fellow cooks have given permission for their recipes to appear in *Flying Fish*, and the first two will be found in this issue with more to follow in the future. Alternatively, visit <https://oceancruisingclub.org/Publications> to download the entire book as a PDF or order a hard copy – it would make an excellent present for a fellow sailor.

Next, I owe sincere apologies to Alastair Fraser who should have been credited, together with his sister Caroline, for the obituary about their mother Ann in *Flying Fish* 2019/1. I'm confident that Ann would have understood, however – an unforgettable character and good friend, she was famous for losing and mislaying things!

Finally the usual reminder – the submissions **DEADLINE** for *Flying Fish* 2020/1 is Saturday 1st February, but as I have three articles already on file, plus another three promised, it would be unwise to leave it until the last moment. If you've not contributed previously please take a look at *Sending Submissions to Flying Fish* on page 34, or the more detailed *Guidelines for Contributors* downloadable from the website at <https://oceancruisingclub.org/Flying-Fish-Archive>. I shall be away – and away from wifi – for much of December, however, so don't panic if you e-mail me and don't get a proper reply for weeks, though I'll post an out-of-office message if I can remember how!

Cover photo: Celeste with a bone in her teeth en route to San Francisco from Cape Flattery, Washington State – see 'Passage to San Francisco', page 5. Photo Ellen Massey Leonard and Seth Leonard