

TIMBALLOO

2019

SUMMER CRUISE

Part One - Cork



This cruise was a combination of sailing the south coast of Cork followed by the north east coast of Brittany.

There are many people to thank but to name a few are the manager of Castlepark Marina Kinsale Stephen Duffy (ex member and caterer of MYC), Neil O Regan from Sean Rua's restaurant Cape Clear, Harry the HM in Howth and Tomas MacGearailt Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine, and not least the CAI committee and members.

Timballoo's Crew Included:-

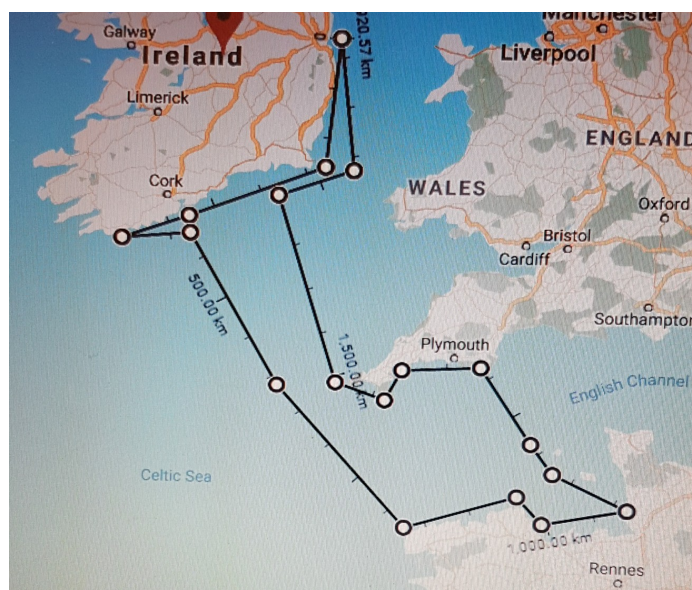
Gerry Dunne, Vincent and Sally Lundy, Chris Lundy, Orlagh Weafer, Paul Hanna, Paul Connolly, Nick Grattan and Colm Costello

Harbours visted and distances

Howth to Arklow	40nm
Arklow to Kilmore Quay	52nm
Kilmore Quay to Dunmore East	18nm
Dunmore East to Crosshaven	58nm
Crosshaven to City of Cork Marina	12nm
City of Cork Marina to Oysterhaven	23nm
Oysterhaven to Kinsale	6nm
Kinsale to Cape Clear	47nm
Cape Clear to Castletownshend	18nm
Castletownshend to Kinsale	33nm
Kinsale to Hugh Town (Isles of Scilly)	138nm
Hugh Town to L'Aber Wrac'h	106nm
L'Aber Wrac'h to Roscoff	32nm
Roscoff to Trebeurden	16nm
Trebeurden to Lezardrieux	39nm
Lezardrieux to Paimpol	13nm
Paimpol to Saint Quay Portrieux	15nm
Saint Quay Portrieux to Saint-Cast-le-Guildo	26nm
Saint-Cast-le-Guildo to Granville	29nm
Granville to St. Helier (Jersey)	30nm
St. Helier to St. Peter Port (Guernsey)	27nm
St. Peter Port to Salcombe	71nm
Salcombe to Falmouth	54nm
Falmouth to Newlyn	33nm
Newlyn to Kilmore Quay	143nm
Kilmore Quay to Arklow	52nm
Arklow to Howth	40nm

Total distance sailed 1,170nm

Total duration **8 weeks**



Introduction

The Cork cruise was in the company of the Cruising Association of Ireland of which as Commodore of the association Vincent had the added responsibility of confirming the routes and scheduling the fleet. When planning the routes a number of issues arise, firstly safety with consideration given to the type of vessels and the competency levels of the sailors. Secondly the comfort, which takes into consideration sea state and weather not only for the sailing but also the berthing and mooring arrangements including on shore facilities. Sea state requirements can be different for flatter bottomed motorboats (of which we had two in the flotilla) compared to sailing keelboats. Finally the inclusion of the social activities ensuring everyone has opportunities to gather as one group while having respect for the individuals own personal space and facilitate the following of their individual interests.

The original Cork 2019 cruise was to begin in Kinsale on 21st June and take in Glandore, Baltimore, Schull, Crookhaven, Cape Clear, Castletownsend, Courtmcsberry and back to Kinsale for 2nd July

Like all good plans they went astray right at the beginning due to the weather conditions. The unofficial start of the Cruise was the departure of boats from Howth, Dun Laoghaire and Greystones.

Phixius went ahead of the fleet and headed for Arklow from Malahide on Saturday 15th June. Taurus had gone ahead and rested in Greystones awaiting the CAI fleet to pass by and then join them.

Tuesday 18th June Crew Gerry, Vincent, Paul H and Paul C
Howth to Arklow 40nm



On 18th June at approximately 11.00am boats prepared to leave Howth and Dun Loaghaire for Arklow. These included Intermezzo, Rhapsody, Thar Saile, Ransom and Timballoo. It was gentle motoring with full sails, flat seas and sunny with the wind SW turning S at around 10kts. The tide pushed the VMG to over 7.5kts peaking at 9.9kts.

Bryan and Ann in Intermezzo were first to arrive in Arklow and organised the berthing for the fleet which arrived around 5.30pm into the tightly packed inner marina as the outside pontoons were fully occupied. With the inner harbour being packed it required very tight manoeuvring with barely inches to spare. With the boats safe and the warps sorted most retired to the Old House for a welcome and well deserved hearty meal.

Wednesday 19th June Crew: Gerry and Vincent

Arklow to Kilmore Quay

52nm

On Wednesday 19th June the fleet consisting of Rhapsody, Intermezzo, Thar Saile, Ransom, Timballoo and Taurus (6 boats) left Arklow at 9.15am for Kilmore Quay, with the sun shining and motor sailing against the tide doing 5kts. With the turn of the tide about 13.00hrs we were making 6.5kts down to Rosslare where the wind was gusting 20knts on the nose and against the tide. Timballoo and Thar Saile dropped sails and against the tide motored their way along the inner channel down the North Shear into the South Shear through a short lumpy sea, which limited the speed to 5kts. Intermezzo and Ransom (both motor launches) had motored ahead while Rhapsody and Taurus had taken the outer channel between Lucifer Bank and Long Bank appearing to fair better than Timballoo and Thar Saile. On rounding Carnsore Point inside the Barrells the wind had gone more westerly but we managed to get some sail up. We were expecting a running tide but as the Harbour Master in Kilmore Quay told us later there is a strong eddy of 2knts here and you need to sail 10nm offshore to get full benefit of the running tide. Then a spectacle took place before our eyes as we watched the Air Sea Rescue helicopter drop two crew into the cockpit of Taurus, which was less than a mile ahead of us. Was this an emergency, there had been no warning either visual or by radio. We watched as twice they completed this manoeuvre and as it turned out this was not an emergency but they had sought permission from Taurus to run some practice manoeuvres. Not shaken, not scared Mike on Taurus handled it in that calm and competent way of his. Air Sea Rescue dropped two of their crew into Taurus, lifted them off and proceeded to repeat the exercise while Mike managed to keep Taurus sailing in a steady course through the choppy swells. It was slow progress from Carnsore to Kilmore Quay through a lumpy sea arriving around 18.00. Bryan and Ann having gone ahead had organised the berthing having all the boats neatly rafted up. The chipper of well renowned quality and generosity was availed of by most while Timballoo and Phixius enjoyed the hospitality of The Wooden House who extended their serving to accommodate us. It was agreed to layover until Friday so the next day some went walking others went cycling and Bryan organised Mary Barry's for dinner at 7.30pm. The lucky 13 were picked up by the courtesy coach in two runs. Mary Barry's lived up to their reputation with excellent marks all round. The courtesy bus returned all to the marina in Kilmore Quay where we retired to Rhapsody with Cliff sharing a lovely Scotch malt whiskey and tall tales of adventure and yarns were circulated until midnight when the duvets and sleeping bags were calling.

Friday 21st June Crew: Gerry and Vincent

Kilmore Quay to Dunmore East

18nm



On Friday 21st June we left Kilmore Quay at 12 noon for Dunmore East, which was a nice reach across in pleasant weather and a SE 10knt wind. Arrived in Dunmore East around 15.00. There were eight boats to squeeze onto the new visitors pontoon. Some local boats were left on the pontoon but Bryan who had arrived first on Intermezzo was able to get some boats moved and we rafted up four deep. We were just in time to catch the local fish monger, who then directed us to the local Centra supermarket, owned by her brother, for the accompanying veggies. The agreed meeting water hole was the Strand Inn where we all had

a couple of well deserved refreshments and gave a hearty cheer to the appearance of Simon who was joining Rhapsody for the next few ports of call. What a beautiful sunny day and what a pleasant surprise to find such a wonderful scenic location. Strong competition for France.

Saturday 22nd June Crew: Gerry and Vincent

Dunmore East to Crosshaven

58nm

We had all rafted up on the Dunmore East pontoon and the outside boats were under pressure to let the others go. Cliff had suggested an early start but even his eagerness was overshadowed by the enthusiasm of the fleet. Timballoo, Ransom were away by 4.30am quickly followed by Rhapsody, Taurus, Intermezzo and Thar Saile all heading for RCYC in Crosshaven. A lovely morning with a warming golden orange sunrise greeted us as we left Dunmore East behind. Weather couldn't be much better with the apparent wind S 8knts giving a comfortable reach to start the leg. As the day progressed the wind backed and increased to an apparent 11knts then SE 15knts allowing for a comfortable broad beam reach. Later in the day the sea state became lumpy and confused, so much so that the auto helm found it difficult to handle requiring more work and concentration from the helmsman. Ransom and Intermezzo had now taken up their regular position of the front guard and with the usual reliable efficient 'Bryanism' organisation the berthing were assisted by the earlier arrivals. Timballoo for the first time lead the sailing boats, having motored sailed half the leg arriving around 15.00 hrs to be greeted by Bryan, Ann, Conor and Peter. The reason for the early start was to avoid the strong winds and large seas expected in the final approach to Cork, Timballoo got ahead of the high seas and winds and had a smooth journey across Cork bay. However Edel and Mile on Taurus who were not far behind they recounted their exhilarating surfing experience coming through the outer Cork bay. Shower, dinner and drinks were the order of the day in the RCYC restaurant and then retiring to their respective boats. A wafting melody of soft airs could be heard from the direction of Timballoo where Simon had joined Vincent and Gerry for some musical therapy with Graham joining in the session. The session was interrupted by a text from Tom declaring the expected late arrival of Phixius with three on board. It was now after midnight and they were still some hours out. Simon and Gerry hit the sack and Vincent guided them in around 1.30am. Colm, Maureen and Eamon were on board, all in good spirits after their long journey having left Kilmore Quay around 12 noon. A refreshing cup of tea on Phixius and then off to bed,

Sunday 23rd June Crew: Gerry and Vincent

Layed Over

Sunday 23rd June as expected turned out to be a miserable day with persistent rain driven by a fresh easterly wind. This was to be a day of rest and reflection in Crosshaven and time to review possible schedules over the next few days. A new schedule was agreed which would include Cork City marina on Monday followed on Tuesday by mooring in Oysterhaven and having a BBQ on the beach, then on to Kinsale arriving Wednesday and shelter from the strong winds expected late Wednesday night and all day Thursday with a reassessment planned on the Friday.

Monday 24th June Crew: Gerry, Vincent and Colm

Crosshaven to City of Cork Marina

12nm



Monday 24th left Crosshaven around 11am for the Cork City pontoon to take advantage of the last of the running tide, passing two French frigates accompanied by two Irish frigates heading seaward. The sea was flat and the wind light and a touch warming with added sunshine. A perfect motor up from Crosshaven to Cork City. 'Bryanism' had us all neatly berthed either side of the Cork City pontoon with welcoming hands to take our warps. Colm had joined Timballoo from Phixius and it was a pleasant two hour trip up. Union chandlery had moved further out from the city but Colm and Vincent managed the 214 bus out and back from their new premises with some not so necessary boating items. Simon had sussed out the evening entertainment so after dinner it was off to Coughlan's in the company of Rhapsody, Timballoo and Thar Saile to hear the Americhanics a sub group consisting of guitar, bass and mandolin and a well kept secret that they played there most Mondays. An absolute treat and definitely worth a visit if in the locality.

Tuesday 25th June Crew: Gerry, Vincent and Colm

City of Cork Marina to Oysterhaven

23nm



There was an arrangement with the local Clayton hotel to avail of their health suite facilities for showering etc at €5 per head. A medley of hot and cold breakfast serving were available at a discounted price of €10.50 per head and well worth it. It's BBQ day so off to the local Aldi and the English Market for supplies before we set sail. Left Cork City marina around 12.30pm to take the slack and ebbing tide. Made Oysterhaven in good time arriving around 15.00hrs and all the boats anchored up in a beautiful bay with glassy waters and blissful sunshine. The beach chosen for the BBQ was westerly facing so we had good shelter and heat from the sun. The tenders were brought out from their storage bags and the outboards dusted off.

Everyone was easily ferried across to the beach for the setting up of the mix of professional and single use BBQ's. Loads of food and drink to go round with song, guitar, mandolin and pipes to fill the light warm breeze. At sunset after a very satisfying day all round, the tenders ferried everyone back to their respective boats for a well earned sleep.

Wednesday 26th June Crew: Gerry, Vincent and Colm

Oysterhaven to Kinsale

6nm

Left Oysterhaven about 12am to arrive in Castlepark marina Kinsale around 3pm. The tide was running very strong through the marina and the wind wasn't helping. Some had problems berthing so we picked up Cliff on the outer pontoon to assist in bring Timballoo into the inner marina and reversing into a berth. Many hands appeared on our berth just in case we made a helm of it but fortunately we managed without incident. 'Bryanism' ** once more came into play and everyone managed to get into their berths safely, Thinksys and Jigsaw joined the fleet and the Blue Haven hotel was booked for the cruise dinner location. Twenty two attended including Tom and Ruth who came over from Crosshaven. The fleet now consisted of Rhapsody, Taurus, Timballoo, Intermezzo, Ransom, Cochise, Thar Saile, Thinksys, Jigsaw and Phixius in spirit.

Thursday 27th June

Layed Over

A day of rest and exploration of Kinsale and another look at possible options for the next leg of the cruise. Some boats were for making their way back and others for exploring alternative locations like New Ross with the main group interested in travelling further west. It was agreed to try for Glandore on Friday, weather and sea state permitting with a backup plan to head directly for Cape Clear Island Marina on Saturday.

Friday 28th June

Layed Over

The day was murky, misty and unstable. Jigsaw offered to test the waters and ventured out from the safety of the marina. On approaching Kinsale Head they made the decision for all of us that we would be much safer staying put. On their return to Castlepark marina they detailed the uncomfortable conditions to be found at sea, with two metre waves, thick fog and wind on the nose.

So all boats were stood down and the fall back plan brought into action with the expectation of much more favourable conditions for sailing directly to Cape Clear the following day,

Saturday 29th June Crew: Gerry, Vincent and Nick

Kinsale to Cape Clear

47nm



Nick who now lives in Kinsale joined us for the next leg of the journey. It was a good decision to delay our departure as the weather had improved considerably. We left Kinsale around 8am, motor sailing for two thirds of the leg in flattish water and when the wind picked up and veered more southerly, the engine was switched off and the sails tuned to enjoy a lovely sail to the gap between Sherkin and Cape Clear. At the gap we switched on the engine furlled the genoa and made our way through the wider easterly gap with a strong tide on the beam and then made our way outside the reefs into Cape Clear marina. The marina was very congested but Bryan with the help of a local motor boat owner held a section of the pontoon for the four sailing boats to raft up on. The fleet now consisted of Intermezzo, Thinksys, Jigsaw, Taurus and Timballoo. Making Cape Clear was one of the main objectives of the cruise and it was very satisfying to achieve it. More boats arrived later some deciding to go

elsewhere rather than attempt blocking the marina entrance. A dinner was organised in the Sean Ruas restaurant and once more we enjoyed excellent food and service with an evening that ended with dancing to a strutting Fender Stratocaster guitarist with accompanying bass player. Assistance to cross the rafted boats was supplied by Gerry in the early hours of the morning.

Sunday 30th June

Layed Over

A well deserved day of rest with the opportunity to explore the island. Some opted to walk others availed of the organised tour of the island by minibus. Gerry's sister and niece joined us on the boat for our duration in Cape Clear, enjoying the freedom of the island and managing well with the limited comforts onboard.

Mike had previously installed a made to measure spray hood and matching canopy on Taurus which is a sister ship of Timballoo. He still had his original Habitent portable canopy which he donated to Timballoo. Gerry and myself now had the opportunity to go through its setting up with Mike and it turned out to be reasonably easy and fast to do. At the time we did not realise just how advantageous this would be especially on those rainy days to keep the boat dry and free from condensation and our extended stay in France providing us with shelter from the guaranteed sunshine. Because Timballo was tiller steered, the tiller stored vertical and the canopy created an extra room, even bigger than the lounge below deck. A party room no less up on deck.

Monday 1st July Crew: Gerry and Vincent

Cape Clear to Castletownshend

18nm



Nick along with Gerry's sister and niece got the ferry to Baltimore to make their respective ways home. We had considered heading out round the Fastnet rock which would be a two hour round trip but we were warned by the local ferryman that the day that was in it would mean a very lumpy and uncomfortable sea so we gave it a miss. Another time maybe. Feeling of the nearing of the end of the Cork cruise there was one more item to tick off, dinner in the well reviewed Mary Anne's restaurant in Castletownshend. A plan was formed to weave our way through the islands along the inward route to Castletownshend. Leaving Cape Clear around 12 noon under pleasant weather conditions and a steady breeze, Thinksys and Jigsaw lead the way through the islands back to the open sea arriving in Castletownshend about 5pm.to pick up moorings. Dinner had been reserved in Mary Anne's for 7.30pm and once more we were not disappointed with excellent food and service.

Tuesday 2nd July Crew: Gerry and Vincent

Castletownshend to Kinsale

33nm

On Tuesday 2nd July we left Castletownshend for Castlepark marina in Kinsale about 10am. Jigsaw, Taurus, Timballoo and Intermezzo had a pleasant sail back to Kinsale arriving around 5pm giving enough time for crew to make the connection to Cork and trains to Dublin. Thinksys sailed directly to Cork.

Timballoo remained in Kinsale to prepare for the next leg of their cruise to France which would include the Scilly Isles in the company of Intermezzo and Phixius.

TIMBALLOO

2019

SUMMER CRUISE

End Of Part One – Cork

**Check out
Part Two – France**