MARCH 2017

The rise of the mighty J Class

Inside the 9-strong fleet of 2017

CRUISING

Smart provisioning for an ocean crossing

How to use weather files

TESTED

Infiniti 46: foils for IRC racing

GEAR

Top sailors' top kit

RACING

Thomas Coville, fastest man around the world

Aboard experimental supermaxi CQS

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Alex Thomson's Vendée Globe story





Runderwear

Dee Caffari

"In wintertime we often look at base layers and how to keep warm but we sometimes overlook the impact our underwear has on our health, happiness and wellbeing. Trust me, I am not joking, and those who have covered a few sea miles will agree.

"In the comfort of our own homes we get to wash every day and change our underwear – something of a luxury when you are faced with an offshore passage, especially in cold weather. Therefore any item of clothing that is so close to your skin for days at a time needs careful consideration. We all talk about natural fibres, wicking qualities and being seam free and I am delighted to say that Runderwear answer these needs very well. Originally designed for runners seeking a chafe-free existence, they also go a long way to answering our needs for offshore sailing.

The company has a women's sports top, men's and women's briefs and hipsters in a growing variety of colours. Ideal for anyone considering their personal comfort and a spot-free bottom offshore.

From £16.99. www.runderwear.co.uk



Dee Caffari has sailed around the world five times and is the first woman to have sailed single-handed and non-stop around the world in both directions.

NEW GEAR ROUND-UP

ROKK Mini range

Scanstrut has released a range of compact and multi-adjustable mounting systems for phones, tablets, handhelds and action cameras. The Rokk Mini range uses one-click release mechanisms that can be surface or rail mounted, and stuck, screwed or cable-tied down. If combined with the Devon-based company's waterproof cases, iPhone chargers and new dual USB charge sockets, these mounts help provide a full and robust solution to using phones and tablets around the cockpit.

Body £29.99, bases from £9.99. www.scanstrut.com



Legacy Atlantic Challenge chronometer

Thomas Mercer's latest work of art is a chronometer that pays homage to Sir Francis Chichester's feats of navigation. Chichester used a compass as a direction finder, a sextant to calculate latitude and a Thomas Mercer chronometer to determine longitude. This new Legacy version has a stainless steel body with precious elements in high gloss finished timbers. There is a hand-painted dial featuring a map of the Atlantic Ocean and, engraved on the base plate, are Chichester's signature and Gipsy Moth V's silhouette and deckplan.

www.thomasmercer.com





Garmin Quatix 3

Garmin's latest refinement of its GPS smart watch very cleverly combines wearable size with unrivalled functionality. It streams NMEA 2000 data to show speed, depth and wind numbers, plus it can show race features like distance to start and time to burn. It also has an anchor alarm and, usefully, a dedicated MOB hot key.

Price £469.99. www.garmin.com

