

# News

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## **Philips Sailing Association**

Our Welcome page, the item in Your Articles on the Innovator and Nigel Brecknell's pictures feature the setting up of the PSA. Frank McAreavey emailed me last month to say he had heard from the committee that due to lack of support and interest, the PSA has been dis-banded. Many of you will have memories of supporting Innovator, both on water and ashore. During those enthusiastic days, PSA member with boats extended invitations to all Philips people who want to try boating to join them for a weekend afloat. Events were also held on the East and South coasts. During the peak years a crew was selected to represent Philips UK in the annual business house Round-the-Island race.

## **Peace in our time**

This historic remark was made by Chamberlain at Croydon Airport in 1938, clutching the piece of paper after his visit to Hitler, has virtually been echoed by Miliband during his interrogation by the House Foreign Committee in respect to the EU and Blair's Red Lines. Are they just as worthless?

## **Mullard Rose**

Some may have spotted the picture of the Mullard Rose in Your Pictures. It also gets a mention in the article on Southampton. Ours had endured two house moves and was in need of TLC. Cuttings were taken to a rose grower on the Hogs Back and now we have four more thriving young bushes. How is your Mullard Rose?

## **Earley days of Transistors**

Reading Autosports from the 1960s I came across an advert for Margolin, [\(see PDF for 'loop link'\)](#) transistor radios. Before the GEC-Mullard merger, both companies were in competition to supply the kit of 6 Transistors and 1 Diode. Dave Turner, at that time in the London office for GEC Semiconductors recalls transistors GET873 GET874 GET103 GET105 and GEX something diode. What were the Mullard types? OC for transistors and AO for diodes.

## **Council Questionnaire**

Several of my neighbours and I have received very intrusive questionnaires. In addition to asking about any alterations, additions and improvements to our home, they expect us to tick boxes about income, savings, creed and origins. Have you had similar experiences? We are ignoring them.

## **Taxation and Inflation**

Some 37.4% of our Gross National Product is now collected by one form or other of taxation. NHS has spend the last years increases on wages but with worse waiting time and increases in MRSA and other deadly sicknesses. Schooling is producing more illiterate and ill mannered teenagers than 10 years ago, so why these two major failures despite the massive increase in funds? Our troops are fighting unsupported wars grossly under funded and ill equipped, so where is all the tax take going?

Retail Price Index is used to give our company pension annual increase. Pity it wasn't based on October at 4.2%. It is calculated that pensioners have inflation of over 7% as we don't buy the same 'basket' as 20-40 year old.

## **Labour Numbers**

Are you one of the 25m families who's life has been exposed by the loss of HMRC CDs in transit? What can you do to protect your vital financial information and those of your grandchildren? It is estimated the costs of changing individual bank accounts and similar records will exceed £200m. You can guess who will foot the bill - we tax payers.

Another set of numbers are those concerning the selling off of QinetiQ. The sale made £107m for 10 top civil servants who also enjoy their pension paid by - guess whom - tax payers. Numbers and spin cannot replace New Labour's lack of MANAGEMENT skills.