

Pam and Dick Moore in *ALIESHA*



Departed Chichester Marina
on 25th June 2001

Returned to Chichester
Marina on 16th September
2010

Distance sailed on voyage
52000nm

Distance sailed on

circumnavigation: 48,000 nm. We crossed our wake at Gibraltar on
Monday 7th September 2009



Route: Trade Winds via Suez, with detours to Venezuela, Maine, New Zealand, Fiji (again), Azores.

Yacht: Halberg Rassy 36 "Aliessa", 36' LOA. Well-built, fast down-wind and very easily handled by a crew of 2. Comfortable home for the pair of us but with room for 2 guests. We limited guests to a 7 day stay, the only exceptions being family.

Voyaging gear carried: wind vane (modified Aries type), water maker, SSB radio, wind generator, solar panels, Maxprop, bimini, sextant, second bower anchor and chain, towed water generator and a host of smaller items. We used them all.

Best places Bequia; E. coast of USA, esp. Maine; Galapagos; S. Pacific esp. Suvarrow in the Cooks; Fiji; Bay of Islands, New Zealand; Langkawi Group, Malaysia; N Aegean; Azores – but there were so many!

Worst Moments (1) Suffering a double lightning strike in the middle of the night in the Gulf Stream in 2003, which took out all our electronics and most of the electrics, as well as giving us a terrible fright. We were 100nm west of Charleston, S. Carolina when the storm hit us, bound for Beaufort, N. Carolina. We headed for Charleston as the city is quite large and had decent chandleries but were lucky to get there as the strike had caused a 17-degree Deviation in the steering compass which went unnoticed for some time. One of the pictures shows the pile of ruined gear on the foredeck in Charleston. The replacements cost \$22500 (2003 prices)

Worst Moments (2) Losing the engine halfway up the Red Sea; the camshaft broke (twice) and we ended up fitting a new engine ourselves in Egypt (2007). The actual re-engining was

fairly straightforward but dealing with Egyptian Customs and other officials was a minefield and involved much giving of “presents”.

Best Moments: The thrill of making landfall after an ocean passage; the delight of discovering old friends in a new anchorage; exploring new cultures and places; being free from the routine of “normal living”; diving into warm blue water whenever you felt like having a dip; watching the seabirds effortlessly wheeling over the waves for hours.

What we’d do differently: Always ask guests to find us rather than accept the need to be somewhere on a given date! Having a deadline goes against just about everything that makes Blue Water Cruising the joy it is.

Buy a 17” diameter tube RIB as a tender before we started (keeps you dry getting ashore in a Caribbean chop).

Have 2 outboards, one big one for speed and one light one for pottering.

Pam says “This had been a shared dream ever since we first met, sailing Merlin Rockets on the Welsh Harp in N London. We told everyone we’d be away for 3-5 years – in the end we took over nine, mostly because we were having such a wonderful time. I loved the fact that life was never dull -new places, new people, new customs, new everything. And our fellow cruisers were a great bunch. Entering a new anchorage and seeing a familiar boat was always a thrill.

Dick says “I loved the long passages, well away from land and other people, just the two of us and Aliesha, accepting whatever came our way. And I loved arrivals, a new country, new culture, new sights and smells. Arriving by yacht you are greeted as travellers, not as tourists and that makes a huge difference to the warmth of the welcome.



Beach in Bahamas



Lagoon in Suvarrow, N. Cooks



Lunchtime feast in Tanna, Vanuatu



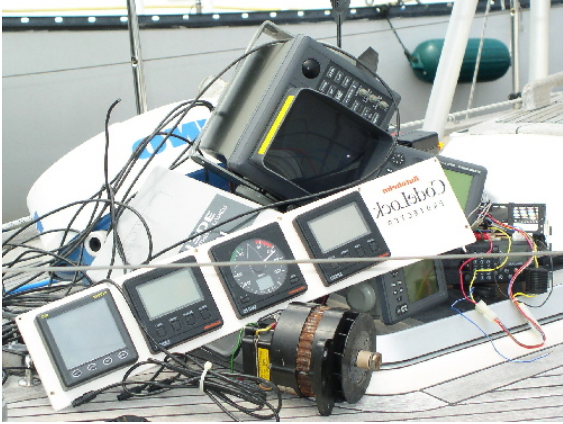
New friends in Sulawesi, Indonesia



Market day in Suwakin, Sudan



N.Indian Ocean, Trade Wind rig



After the lightning strike, alongside in Charleston SC



Removing the old engine in Hurghada, Egypt