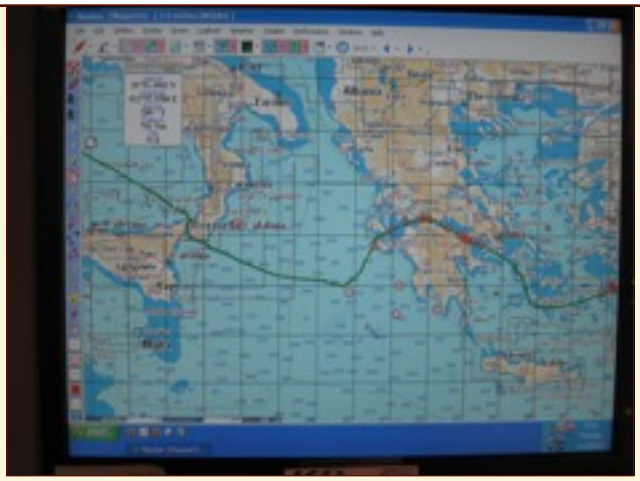
KEALOHA 8

Daniel, Howard and Ben compare and contrast the finer points of rugby referees and weddings...

We welcomed Daniel (a K8 circumnavigation veteran) and Howard a (K8 virgin) on board in Olbia and set sail for the passage to Turkey. On passage, Howard willingly donated his skull to support the failing spray hood while Daniel volunteered to cook a chicken stir fry while K8 enjoyed a sporty heel and bounced across from Messina towards Greece. We were sorry the boys didn't get much opportunity to don their shorts but we all enjoyed their bubbly company and were sorry they had to depart in Kos where waves were soaking the cockpit from over the sea wall in the 45 knot winds.



The route from Olbia to Marmaris

Originally the route was planned to take us from Olbia in Sardinia through the straights of Messina and round the south of the Peloponnese... motivation was for glimpsing the glow of Stromboli erupting in the night and relaxing stops along the way, exploring the south of the Peloponnese famed for their sandy beaches and beautiful bays. The lumpy bumpy weather however, was decisive, and we ran north instead to follow calmer waters and experience the Corinth canal. A few calmer days allowed the team to explore Greek islands then cut the trip short in Kos where storms raged again and commitments loomed.

David helms a very straight tight course down the Corinth Canal

The Corinth Canal

Is Stunningly historic and undoubtably THE most expensive waters in the Mediterranean. As you pass the submerged bridge marking the entry to the canal the military establishment hides in the pine trees on the left as you pass from West to East. Enjoy the "No Photography" sign as the soldier waves to you in the trees. Marvel at the foot and hand holds high above in the cliff walls left from the construction of the canal, and the names chiseled in to the stone. The sides of the gorge are also marked with colored signatures of helms men less able than David, blue and red stripes of paint from sideward glances of bigger vessels as they passed. We were glad

of the one way system. We also enjoyed passing under the Patras bridge between the Peloponnese and main land Greece. It is also an expensive toll to pay if you drive across and you wonder why you have to traverse to the island and then the motorway feeds you back on to mainland? It's just the Greek way I guess.

KEALOHA 8

Yacht Marina

Situated in the South East corner of Marmaris bay, this is the largest of three marinas and is very sheltered. Excellent facilities are offered for yacht refits and for wintering. Kelaoha 8 came back to Yacht Marina at the end of October. The weather has been balmy and we have enjoyed mostly clear skies so one day took a hike up the neighboring mountain to explore a Byzantine castle and shoot Photos.

While Kealoha rests in harbor Captain Ben takes the opportunity to do some maintenance

While the summer was busy with charters and sailing in various locations about the Med. The winter is looking just as busy with lots of maint-enance planned. Kealoha 8 has a good few miles under her hull having been around the world recently, but her presentation has not suffered at all from the consistent use, on the contrary. She is kept in the best possible condition, and being here in Turkey allows a lot of maintenance thanks to excellent marina facilities, large lift out capability and skilled teams readily available - after all, Oyster are building their 100 and 125ft yachts in Turkey and the Turkish are famous for their "Gullets" and carpentry skills.

Having already spent one winter in re-fit in Turkey, as crew we have learnt the lessons of negotiation and which are the best companies to use for the various jobs. The great thing about Turkey is that you can find someone to fix ANYTHING. Where in the UK for example you would probably throw something away and buy new, because it is too time consuming and costly to fix, here in Turkey you are more likely to get it fixed. Every town has an industrial area (Sanai) which for a yacht crew is like Ali Babbas cave. Family run companies do everything from upholstery, canvas work, manufacture of stainless items, plexi-glass, electrical components, power tools - everything. We even saw someone making coils to repair springs in a clapped out old car seat.

2010/11 REFIT CALENDAR FOR KEALOHA 8

Month	week 1	week 2	week 3	week 4
November 2010	Engine service & Tender serv.	Engine Service & Tender serv.	generator service	generator service
December 2010	Deck sanding	Deck sanding	Re-caulking	Re-caulking
January 2011	General Refit	General refit	General refit	General refit
February 2011	Lift out	II Deck sanding	II Deck sanding	waste water service
March 2011	Under waterline hull	Under waterline hull	Above water hull care	Above water hull care
April 2011	Relaunch	Wet trials and Owner holiday	Any other business	Any other business