



## 'Resolution', a Broom 35 CL - the ship of my choice

*"She was the ship of my choice and as I thought the fittest for the service she was going upon as any I have seen."*

*Captain James Cook, 1772.*

Living in Holland, we started boating 35 years ago, exploring the smaller Dutch waterways in a Beekman 580. A couple of years later we moved up to a Saga 27, which enabled us to tackle larger canals, rivers and lakes. In 1988 we traded this in for a Broom 9-70, 'Witchcraft'. And so began our love affair with Brooms.



In 'Witchcraft' we explored more of the Netherlands and made our first sea trips - initially along the coast to Belgium but eventually all the way back to the UK. Four years later we exchanged her for a Broom 39, 'Dragonfly' and, in 1995, joined the original, short-lived Broom Owners Club (anyone else still have that black and red burgee?). 'Dragonfly' took us to Denmark, up the Rhine and

eventually back to live in the UK, completing the last part of the trip from Ramsgate to Brundall rather ignominiously on the back of a lorry due to an engine fire.

After that, what else could we do but call our new Broom 38 CL 'Phoenix'? After six years we decided we'd like to explore more of the Broads and enquired whether Brooms would build us a lower, slower boat. At the time, they only seemed to be interested in building bigger and faster boats so we reluctantly went to Haines for a 34 Sedan.





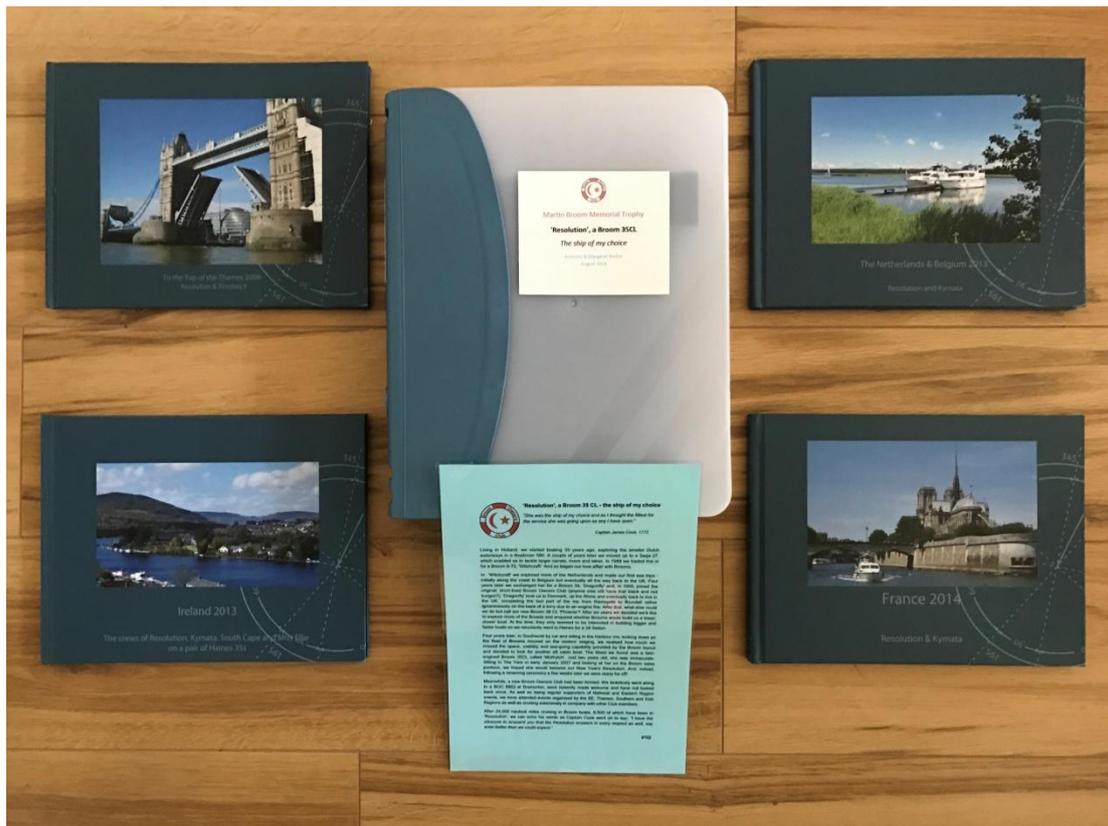
Four years later, in Southwold by car and sitting in the Harbour Inn, looking down on the fleet of Brooms moored on the visitors' staging, we realised how much we missed the space, visibility and sea-going capability provided by the Broom layout and decided to look for another aft cabin boat. The fittest we found was a twin-engined Broom 35CL called 'McWytch'. Just two years old, she was immaculate.

Sitting in The Yare in early January 2007 and looking at her on the Broom sales pontoon, we hoped she would become our New Year's Resolution. And, indeed, following a renaming ceremony a few weeks later we were ready for off!

Meanwhile, a new Broom Owners Club had been formed. We tentatively went along to a BOC BBQ at Bramerton, were instantly made welcome and have not looked back since. As well as being regular supporters of National and Eastern Region events, we have attended events organised by the SE, Thames, Southern and Irish Regions as well as cruising extensively in company with other Club members.

After 24,000 nautical miles cruising in Broom boats, 6,500 of which have been in 'Resolution', we can echo his words as Captain Cook went on to say, *"I have the pleasure to acquaint you that the Resolution answers in every respect as well, nay even better than we could expect."*





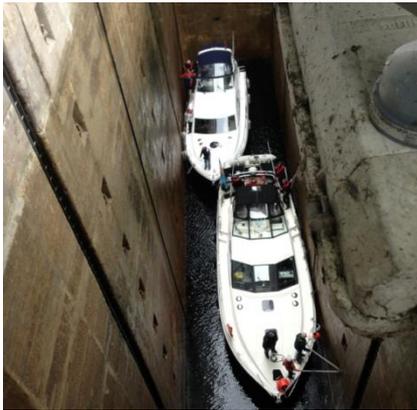
We are submitting the enclosed photo albums, which illustrate just a few of our more recent adventures, for the Martin Broom Memorial Trophy as evidence of our enthusiasm for, and commitment to, the Broom marque and the Broom Owners Club. They demonstrate the eminent suitability of even a relatively small Broom for extended inland and coastal cruising, both in the UK and abroad. We hope that our experiences might also inspire other Club members to exploit their boats to the full.

**Exhibit 1: To the Top of the Thames 2009**



Some friends were arranging a reunion near Oxford in June 2009. Our first thought was that we couldn't go because we'd be off boating but then realised that we might be able to make it by boat. We travelled down the coast and up the Thames to Abingdon Marina, within easy reach of the reunion, cruising in company with Tim & Chris Turner in 'Timchris II', met up with some of the BOC SE Region at Chiswick and enjoyed a splendid weekend at Boveney Lock with the Thames Region.

### Exhibit 2: Ireland 2013



At the 2012 AGM, Peter Bentley announced that he was arranging an event on the Shannon and that he'd welcome attendance from other regions. Initially we thought this sounded a bit unlikely but an enthusiastic Vic Hodson suggested that a group of us from the East hire a couple of boats on the Shannon for a week and join in. The result was a fascinating week and great event in Killaloe with the Irish Region.

### Exhibit 3: The Netherlands and Belgium 2013

With our son and family living in the Netherlands and expecting our second grandchild, we were keen to spend an extended period on 'the Continent' to welcome the new arrival. Vic and Maureen on 'Kymata' were also interested so we offered to show them around. We took fellow BOC members Len and Claire Oram ('South Cape') across with us to provide extra eyes on Kymata and crew for the sea crossing on 'Resolution'.



### Exhibit 4: France 2014



The trip of a lifetime! Having enjoyed our joint venture to the Netherlands, Francophile Vic wanted to show us something of France. 'Kymata' and 'Resolution' left Brundall on 24 May, cruised down the coast to Ramsgate, across to Dunkirk and then to Paris via the St Quentin Canal. After travelling up the Marne to the Champagne Region we returned to Dunkirk via the Canal du

Nord, arriving back in Brundall after 813 miles, 155 locks and more than eight miles through seven tunnels on 6 August. We were jointly awarded the Brundall Motor Yacht Club Cruising Trophy for our exploits.

*Anthony & Margaret Barber  
Norwich, August 2016*