

FOR SALE: Corribee 1, the first Corribee...



Introduction

The very first Corribee (sail number 1) designed by Robert Tucker and built at Tommy Mallon's yard by Loch Corrib in Galway, in 1963. Rebuilt in 1999 at Lallow's yard in Cowes in mahogany on oak, and restored to pristine condition in 2013, again by Lallow's, and stored undercover since.

A truly classic yacht, Corribee has lent her name to the whole class of "Corribees", renowned for their sea-keeping abilities and traditional characteristics. Corribees have been to the Arctic Circle, across the Atlantic and back, and of course, around Britain with Dame Ellen MacArthur in her Corribee "Iduna".

Leading Details

LOA	6.4m / 21'	Berths	Two
Beam	2.1m / 7'	Outboard	Yamaha 5HP outboard
Draft	0.6m / 2'	Tender	Z-Ray inflatable
Year	1963, rebuilt 1999	Instruments	NASA log and depth sounder
Construction	Clinker Mahogany on Oak	Lying	Out-of-water in Cowes
Keel	Iron ballasted with centreboard		

FOR SALE: Corribee 1, Interior



Port: Quarter-berth (extends under cockpit seat)
Gimballed Plastimo Neptune 2000 2-burner hob and grill
White laminate with round sink and pantry pump inset next to hob
Bulkhead with access to storage fwd by removing table with drop-down legs
Table doubles as saloon table and chart table over stbd berth

Starboard: Cubbyhole under cockpit seat
Fold-out NASA instrumentation
Space for chart table partially over side-berth
Side-berth
Bulkhead with access to storage fwd by removing table with drop-down legs

Storage: Battery box with 1 X 90Ah (estimated) 12V wet cell battery
Halfords 5A 12V battery charger
Anchor and rode, sails

Corribee 1 – a Brief History

In 1963 Ron Hollands (a talented Dragon-class helmsman) wanted a smaller boat with the feel of a Dragon, but with “a cruising ability all of her own” and commissioned a design from Robert Tucker. [1]

Robert Tucker’s 1963 drawings bear the working name of "Sea Nymph"; Ron Hollands had the inspiration for her eventual name while fishing on the banks of Loch Corrib in Galway, Ireland. [1] [2]

Corribee was clinker-built in mahogany on oak at Tommy Mallon's yard by Loch Corrib in 1964 / 65. Corribee, sail number 1, eventually lent her name to the entire class of "Corribees". [1][3]

Some 10 or so wooden clinker "Corribees" were built at Tommy Mallon's Yard before construction moved to Heron Marine at Herne Bay, who built a lighter plywood-planked version. Newbridge Boats in Dorset started to produce a GRP version called the “Corribee 21”, later to be known as the “Mark I” Corribee, followed by several variants of the Mark II, then the Mark III. [1][3]

In winter 1965 Corribee left Eire to be launched on the Medway in Ron Hollands' home waters – an undated surviving photograph (possibly from this time) shows her with a blue hull and white topsides. [1][4]

Corribee’s 21st Birthday was celebrated at Gravesend Sailing Club, presumably in 1986, photographs show her transom bearing the name “Corribee 1” and “GSC” (presumably “Gravesend Sailing Club”) and she is then sporting an emerald green hull with cream topsides. [4]

Corribee was bought at some time by Bob Adams and in his absence, two of Bob's crew hit an underwater obstruction sailing on the Thames and sinking Corribee. She was raised and put into storage in a shed on the Isle of Dogs. [5][6]

The two crew asked Bob whether they could have her if she was repaired, to which he agreed. Sadly, instead of repairing her, student friends of theirs stripped her traditional green paint, and started stripping out her decks and interior. [5]

Peter Fletcher, who had sailed with Bob, realised Corribee needed rescuing, intervened and moved her to another storage shed. Pat Hurley (who is responsible for saving this wonderful yacht, and whose husband used to sail with Bob Adams) decided to buy and restore her. [5]

But when Pat arrived at the new Isle of Dogs to take her to Clare Lallow's Yard at Cowes for restoration, she found vandals had forced the door the night before and lit two fires under her hull. [5]

Coribee 1 – a Brief History

In spite of this, Laurie Borer and the team at Lallow's, on an "as and when" basis and with help from drawings sent by Tony Tucker (Robert Tucker's son), restored her to her former glory. [5]

Coribee was relaunched by Jean Cook of the Coribee Owners' Association on Saturday 9th May 1998 from Lallow's Yard on the Medina, and was put up for sale by Pat Hurley in 2010. [6] [7]

She was bought by Andrew Gill and spent time in the Lake District, before being sold to Mark Rippington in 2012. In 2013 Mark asked Laurie Borer at Lallow's to restore her to pristine condition, and she has been stored undercover ever since.

As she approaches her 50th. birthday, this classic yacht is again for sale.

References;

- 1: Jan / Feb 1999 issue (W14) of Water Craft pp 39-42
- 2: On copies of Robert Tucker's original drawings dated 1st. December 1963
- 3: Wikipedia
- 4: Colour copies of original photographs
- 5: Coribee Owners' Association magazine, Winter 1995 [4], pp 31-32, "Coribee No. 1 - Dream or Nightmare?" by Pat Hurley.
- 6: Isle of Wight County Press 29-May-1998 "Classic wooden yacht is restored at Cowes yard"
7. Bill of Sale

Summary

A delightful classic yacht in pristine condition with an historic pedigree. There is more information about Coribeas on line, Coribee 1 has her own entry on Wikipedia, and I can email much more information if required....

Rebuild and subsequent restoration invoices totalling £21,500 available for inspection; offers invited....

Mark Rippington, February 2015