

Tuesday, October 5, 2010

Diving with Dolphins and getting ready to leave

On the weekend before last I went on a diving trip to Tenerife, and came across a small school of Dolphins. And got very close. After a frustrating week in which the to-do list got ever longer instead of shorter that was exactly what I had needed: Thanks to Ralf we just got all scheduled items for the boatyard done last week (we were still working while the crane started lifting her and the supports dropped out underneath), and now Gudrun V is back in the water. Ralf is back home, and I am finishing the rigging with the help of Octavio and Domingo. Domingo is a Olympic gold medalist and two times Americas Cup sailor, and his tips and advice are invaluable. Welcome the new day! Hola! Cleaned screw with line cutter. Gudrun V, waiting for the anti fouling But not all work is done: Gudrun is still missing her backstays, the sails, and the winches. All of which was supposed to be ready 8 weeks ago. A pain. Reminds me of software projects . On the other hand waiting for the suppliers gave me enough time to thoroughly overhaul the whole boat, especially the deck hardware and the electrical installation: I replaced all batteries and battery-cables, installed new charge controllers, changed the solar panels, fixed the wind generator, and updated the navionics (Depthsounder, Log, Radar, AIS, Chartplotter, Windinstrument). But I was promised that everything will be ready by the end of the week, and so I hope to be able to leave on Sunday. After that I want to put Vespina on land. A couple of people were interested in buying here, but it seems not interested enough. My attempts to find a place for her on the dry in one of the harbors on the Canaries where unsuccessful, since nobody would rent me a space for more than six months. Something with being afraid of being stuck with a boat that nobody is paying for and nobody is picking up. Fortunately Gorka from the diveshop found a friend with a friend who has a big warehouse ... and I can put Vespina there for as long as I want. The only trouble is to get her there, which will require to take out the mast and put everything on a flat-bed trailer. But not here in Las Palmas, because Vespina won't fit through the bridge to the harbor. Should be interesting, let's see how much of it I am able to organize and complete before the end of the week! People have already warned me that there is a holiday next week, and so it's unlikely that much will happen this week. Oookaaaay. Life is definitely slower in the Canaries . The only trouble is: I am supposed to leave Las Palmas with both boats on Friday. The ARC is coming for it's 25th anniversary with over 250 boats, and everybody else has to leave the port to make space. Big pain. We'll see how this turns out.

Posted by Axel Busch in Gudrun V at 04:42

Did you hire a professional videographer? Well done!
Anonymous on Oct 7 2010, 08:36