

## Problems with the Foot of Your Mast ?

In order to change the bulb (and the wiring) at the masthead on our Leisure 23SL it was necessary to step down the mast.

Unfortunately, in dropping the mast a slight twist caused one of the flanges to break off - closer inspection revealed that this particular flange had previously broken and been welded back in place.

Discussions with a specialist welder brought forth long and loud chortles of laughter and the foot was condemned - however he did provide me with a saviour in the name of Tony Goulding who could take a block of aluminium and create a new foot from scratch.



**Broken Foot**

In singing his praises, Tony did a fantastic job but it must be emphasised that the foot was made to fit an S&S Spars mast, which I have seen on other 23SL's but is entirely different to other 23's.

Cost-wise you are looking at about £350, which is significantly cheaper than a new mast, and incorporated a thicker flange design to help prevent any breakage in the future.

The man is a metal magician - if you need anything



milling he can do it - give him a ring.

Paul Valentine, Roaring Forty II (Up River)

*All Leisure's were originally fitted with S&S Spars masts and booms and in fact all the masts are similar, though as Paul indicates do differ in the details and size of the cross-section, and size of the foot. Tony Goulding (A G Precision Engineering) can be contacted on 01702 619214 - Editor*

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Ray Tuck took a different approach when having to replace his mast foot which had cracked in two. The old foot was removed, repaired (with glass fibre) and adjusted (for thermal expansion in the casting process) to make the tooling for a new casting.



Thurton Foundries (details below) who specialise in high integrity aluminium, brass, gunmetal, ductile and grey iron castings did all the work and the new foot fits perfectly.

*Unfortunately we do not have a photograph of the new foot, but Ray assures me it is at least as good as new! - Editor*

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