

## Alternative CentrePlate Wire

From *The Shrimper* editorial, Autumn 2007

One of our French members, Olivier Sachs, writes: *"I don't know how the centre plate mechanism is set up on recent Shrimpers, but on my boat (Saint Brendan - 15 - 1980), the centreplate was originally raised/ lowered by means of a metal cable. This had to be replaced each year and broke two or three times, until I changed it for a Spectra cable, just fitted with a simple knot. That was some ten years ago, and I never had to look at it since then - a good bargain".*

I have since been told by Keith Thatcher (*Winkle - 144*) that *Spectra* is another name for *Dyneema* and that he carries a length of 3mm *Dyneema* rope on board - just in case. He adds that (size for size) *Dyneema* is as strong as wire and much more flexible, so is far less prone to crimping where it passes over the keel box sheave (where his broke!) and/or on the winch drum.