

# Taming the THP

**..how to keep the *throat hauling parrel* from catching the batten ends...**

Sometimes when I hoist the sail, the luff hauling parrel has decided to catch one or two batten ends, which calls for a trip on deck to sort it out. This has happened to all my boats - not that often - maybe once or twice out of ten settings of the sail. It only happens as the sail is raised from scratch, never when I am under way and shake out a reef or two.

However, after I altered my luff hauling parrels into *Throat Hauling Parrels (THP)*, I think I see this happen more often than before.

The perfectly sensible fix to this is to take in the slack of the THP as the sail is gently lowered: No slack bight - no problem. The problem is that I tend to forget about my own sensible advices, so the sail usually comes down rather fast.

Today I got the idea that if I just passed the THP half a round around the mast (ccw), then the statistics would grow better.

Have a look at the sketch below: The red line shows how the THP was lead between the blocks B and D until tonight. It is easy to think that the uncontrolled bight (although inside the batten parrels) may decide to catch a batten end when the sail is dumped. The new version is shown in blue ink. It doesn't look too convincing on paper, but when I fitted it to *Frøken Sørensen* tonight, and took it for a test sail, it looked good. We lowered and re-hoisted the sail three times and there was no problems. Moreover, the slack rope now either seemed to fall further aft, or was held between the collapsing panels (see the photos):

Early conclusion:

I bet this is not a bullet-proof setup, but it seems that the new way of leading the THP at least has reduced the chances to have it caught by the batten ends.

I keep my fingers crossed, while keeping this new setup...

Stavanger, 11. June, 2014

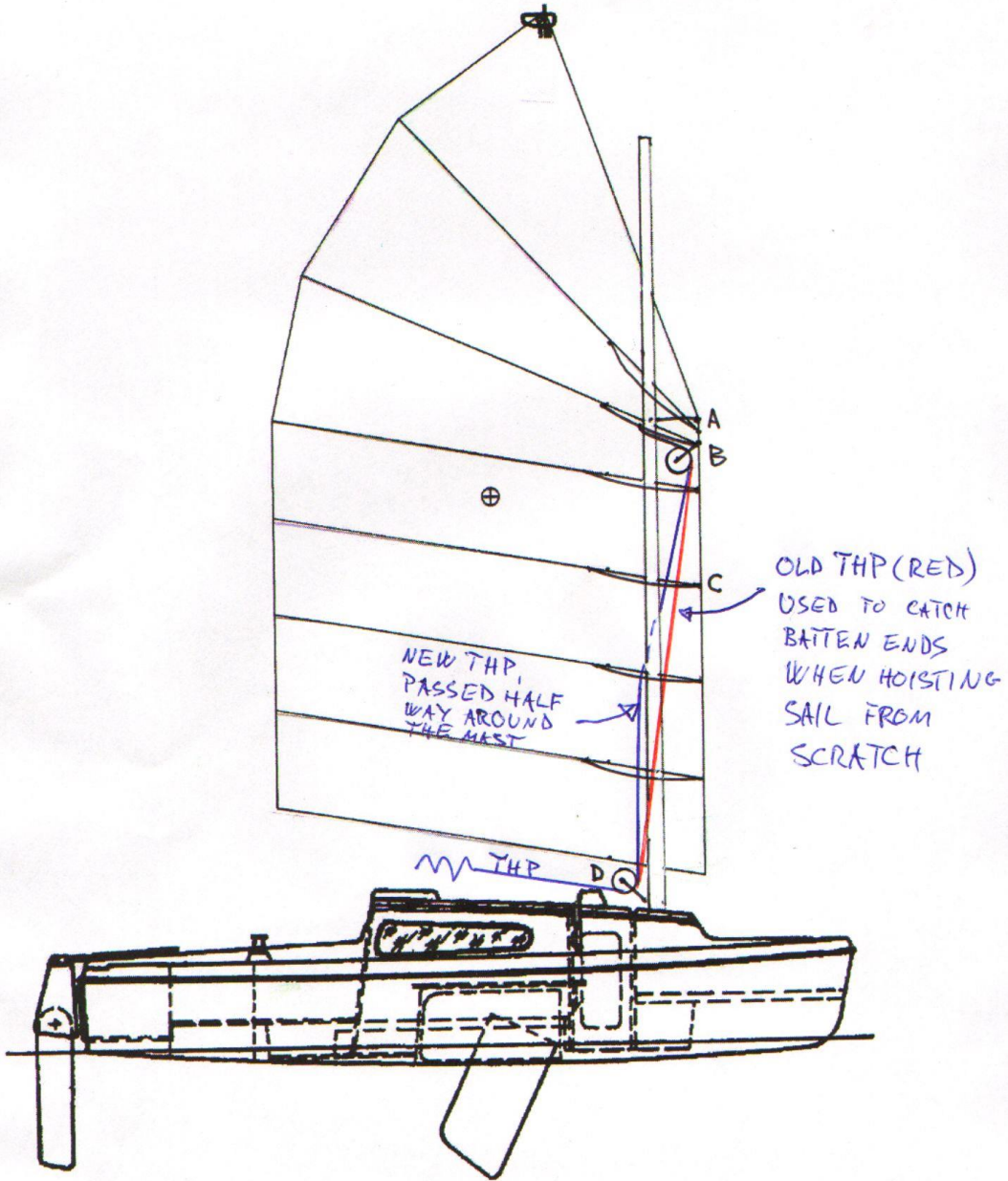
*Arne Kverneland*

PS, 15. August 2014

After another two months of sailing, I have so far accumulated 30 outings. The new THP setup is an improvement. Only once or twice since I modified it have I needed to go on deck and square it up when hoisting sail (never under way). Also, the new version definitely makes the deeply reefed sail set better. I have done some mackerel fishing this summer, which calls for only two or three panels up, to stay below 3knots...

Conclusion: The new way of leading the THP will be standard practice on my boats from now on.

# MOVING THE THP (THROAT HAULING PARREL)



AR=1.95m SA=20.2kvm  
20140611  
Kone Kvernland

The old and the new way of leading the THP.



**This photo shows how the (black) long end of the THP is lead aft and around the mast.**



**The new lead of the THP is at least as good for deep reefing as the old one...**



**..here the sail has been dumped. As said, it looks as if the slack bight of the THP falls further aft than it used to be. Hopefully that will improve the statistics...**