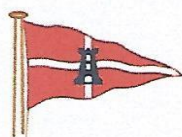


EAST COWES



SAILING CLUB

Rally to Marchwood Yacht Club

11th/12th/13th August 2018

Souvenir Log



Eleven boats made the trip to Marchwood Yacht Club for our third consecutive MYC annual rally.

Saturday: 0830: Guinan set off from East Cowes into a bright morning and a light breeze. About forty minutes later Torsten, ever the gentleman, picked up wife Linda with Mana from the ECSC Hammerhead. They waved to Lorraine and David on Gina, who were second out of the Medina; a long way behind Tom and Julia on Guinan. Tideline with Mike and Ben aboard set off a little later and benefitted from slightly increased wind in the later stages of the passage.

Karis, Craze-B and PLC had come over from Gosport the night before and berthed in Island Harbour; joining the seasonal berth-holder CScape (probably, unbeknownst one to the others).

Panda set off from her CHC upriver mooring with Gordon single-handing.

The other single-hander, Marcus, set off in Sundance from his mooring in Newtown Creek.

All the sail boats on the rally had set off relatively early.

Tides are important in the River Test. There are two high waters with a long stand between them with the ebb being compressed into half the time of a normal tidal distribution.

One advantage of a motor cruiser is that you don't have to worry too much about pushing an adverse tide. Puffin, with Richard and Dave aboard started from ECSC in the late morning.

They were not the last to arrive, that honour went to Marcus who stopped off in Ashlett Creek to visit friends at the sailing club. Sundance, displaying a consummate mastery of the tides, came in just before the spring ebb would have made life difficult.

The morning had become more overcast and the wind increased slightly towards noon. That was too late for Guinan and Mana who had made slower progress that they would

have liked. Tideline though, deployed her cruising chute and made the most of it as the wind filled in.



1-ECSC Raft



2- Sundance



3-CScape

Our Marchwood Yacht Club OOD (Officer of the Day) was Alan Saunders ably assisted by his lady wife Patricia. They stayed with us, on the pontoons in their GK29, Rime and Reason, all weekend.

Alan had sent comprehensive pilot notes the week before. In particular, he pointed out a mud bank on the approach which had reclaimed a number of club moorings in recent times and posed an added hazard for those unfamiliar with the latest lay of the land.

The Marchwood caterers had also been in contact over the previous few weeks and most boats had been able to pre-order their evening meal. The Honest Kitchen deserves a special mention. They run a cafe in Marchwood village and also provide the club's catering. Vaneeta found the evening meal so enticing that she returned for a repeat portion for Sunday lunch.

Saturday: 1800: Tideline was packed to capacity for a pre-dinner pontoon party. Much to Ben's (and from the look of the picture, Lorraine's disdain) David insisted on erecting a camping table in Tideline's cockpit.



4-David insisted on erecting a camping table in Tideline's cockpit (from Julia).

We moved to the clubhouse at 1900 for the evening meal at 1930. The food was excellent.

We filled two tables; one with Crazee-B, PLC, Karis and Puffin and the other with Mana, Sundance, Panda, Guinan, CScape, Gina and Tideline.



5-Crazee-B, Karis, PLC and Puffin (from Ben)



6-Front Left Alan our OOD; Sundance; Mana; CScape; Guinan; Panda; Gina and Tideline (from Patricia Saunders).

Alan and Patricia Saunders joined us for dinner. Alan promised a tour of the club's working premises and slipway cleaning gear the following morning.

Sunday: 1000: Torsten and David joined Alan for the tour and were particularly interested in a slipway cleaning device with a small bulldozer blade and rotating industrial strength brush.

Sunday was forecast to be wet, windy and generally miserable. Tideline, CScape and Gina decided to stay for an extra night.

Marcus from Sundance also decided to leave the Solent crossing until Monday and rejoin his friends in Ashlett Creek.

As it turns out, the weather was not as bad as the forecast, but it was pretty miserable with some heavy rain in the afternoon.

PLC and Puffin had left early; PLC to Gosport and Puffin to her pontoon at East Cowes Sailing Club.



7-The Commodore with his Kate Winslet Impression

Mana had engine trouble on the return passage but Torsten managed to fix the problem.

Julia and Tom in Guinan kept an ear on Mana in case assistance was required.

On their return to the Medina, Julia reported " *Good job Torsten fixed his engine as we literally inched up past the floating bridge as the tide was roaring out and the Seaclear was holding the bridge in place!*".



8-The Ill-fated Floating Bridge (from Julia)

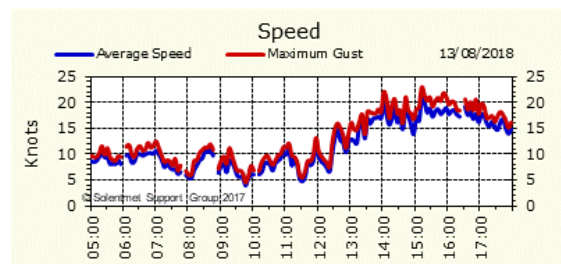
Monday: 1100: Bob and Vaneeta in CScape left first, bound for Southampton Town Quay.

Tideline and Gina left together and motor-sailed down Southampton Water. The front cover picture is of Tideline sailing past a liner in the lower reaches of the River Test.



9-Gina with Jib and Jigger Set; The Skipper did Remember to Loose the Mizzen Topping Lift Eventually (from Mike).

The wind picked up past the Calshot Lightship and both boats had a fast sail to Cowes in the strong west-going tide.



10-Bramblemet Log for Monday

A great big thank you to Alan and Patricia Saunders, The Honest Kitchen and all at Marchwood Yacht Club for taking such good care of us.

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