

## **Report on Rally to Gins Farm (Royal Southampton Yacht Club) 11/12 May 2024**

Great forecast and great week end.

Five boats went, Mike in Kaikoura, Richard in Puffin, Paul in Monty D, Bob and Judy in Whisky Galore and it was great to see Tim in his first rally in Norm.

Richard left early to do a spot of fishing at the entrance to the river Beaulieu. Mike, Paul, Tim, and Bob left about 1.30 pm and arrived just before 3pm with Richard catching up.

We all moored safely on the walk ashore pontoon, directed by the Bosun. We then relaxed for an hour in the club house over a pint or two. We also stood in amazement at the torrent of water passing to the river from the mainland. After the recent flood in the club house visitors were provided with temporary toilets and wash basin. The remaining part of the afternoon before dinner was taken up by snoozing and a spot of fishing. I had to wake Richard up when his rod was rattling. Luckily, he landed a nice 42cm bass, but thoughtfully let it go watched by other Yacht club members.

The dinner at 7pm was very well cooked, with most people having 3 courses at £28, Fifteen percent discount was on the drinks.

After a stroll down the peaceful pontoon back to the boats we had a night cap on Whisky Galore, fooled by a peaceful quiet night with gentle winds.

The next day there was a fresh easterly, and we were provided by a black roll bacon butty for breakfast.

Boats then left for East Cowes about 11 o'clock and arrived safely after a choppy crossing.

In all a rememberable trip.

The next Rally is to Marchwood sailing club on the 15<sup>th</sup> /16<sup>th</sup> June. Watch your emails!

Mike



Richard heading up the river Beaulieu



Paul with Boats moored at Gins

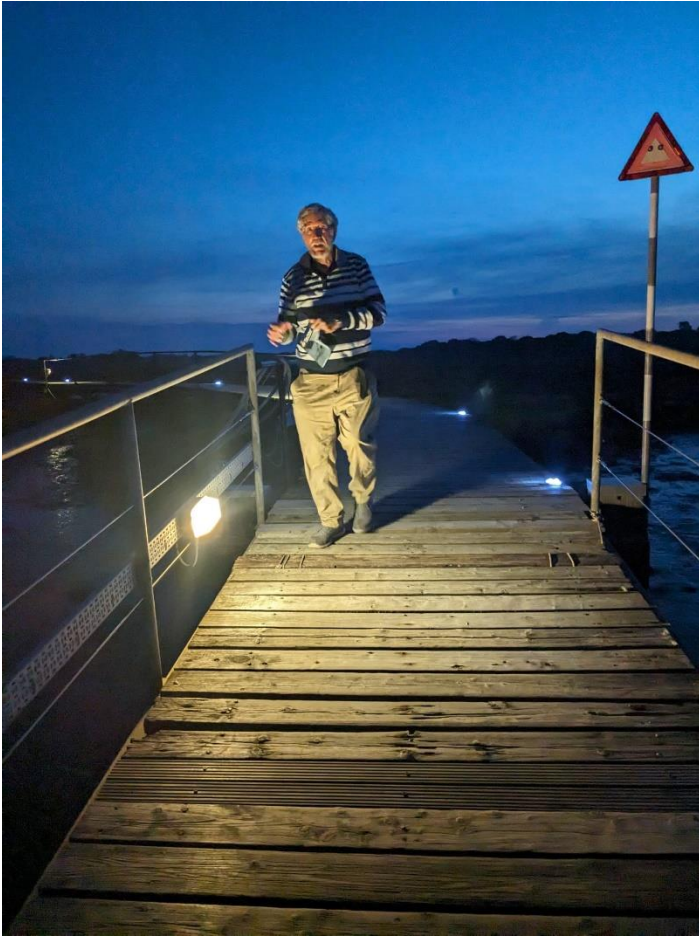




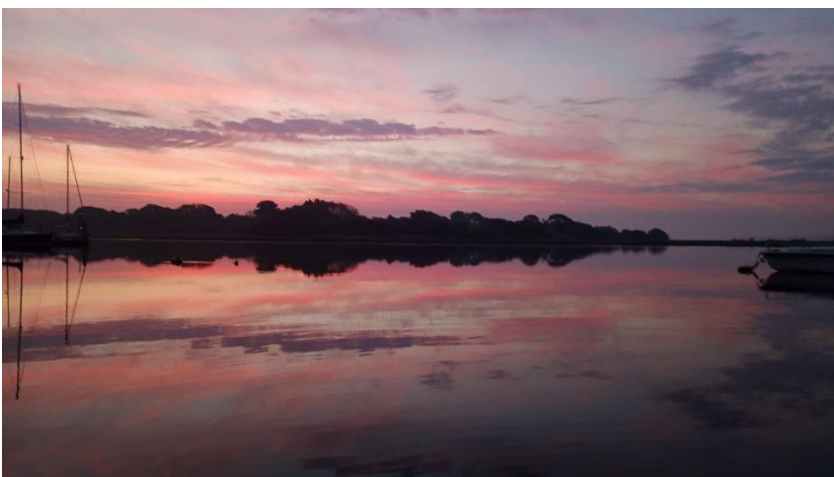
Richards Bass



The torment of freshwater



Mike walking back in the dark



Sunrise on Sunday