



Solent Soundings



Issue No. 11 - Spring 2005

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Don't forget to look at <http://groups.msn.com/MICROCRUISERSUK> for rally photos and general discussion.



Editorial

Thanks to Graham, who has done sterling work organising the marquee for the Cobnor Anniversary celebrations and also made contact with catering firms, to Chris Jenkins for agreeing to run the bar, and to the rest of you who have offered to help. More volunteers needed - please see below.

notice, but I only received it today, so I am rushing this out now in the hope that you will see it in time.

I have copied below an item which might be of interest to some of you. Sorry for the short

Mark Tingley (07742 368 557) would like to crew for someone, particularly at the Cobnor week-end.
Any offers?

TRADITIONAL BOAT BUILDING OPEN DAY

Wooden boat enthusiasts are invited along to the first in a series of Traditional Boat Building Days. The event takes place on Saturday 16 April at Dolphin Quay Boatyard, Queen Street, Emsworth.

Projects completed by the yard will also be on display.

On the day, you will be able to follow the progress of the restoration of *Terror*, a Victorian oyster boat that was originally built in Emsworth and is now being restored with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund. A display will chart the history of the vessel and those working on her will be available to answer questions.

The event runs from 10am - 4pm and is free of charge. Refreshments will be available during the day.

A number of wooden boat experts from the boatyard will be on hand to give demonstrations of restoration techniques as well as to answer questions and provide guidance and advice.

The open day is organised by Chichester Harbour Conservancy in conjunction with Dolphin Quay Boatyard who are undertaking the restoration of *Terror*, the day is funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The Conservancy are running the day as part of their commitment to support boatyards within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and to maintain the traditional skills needed to preserve the precious fleet of wooden boats kept in Chichester Harbour.





50th Anniversary Celebration

We're going to need a lot of help with this event. Anyone willing to give a hand please let me know. Here's a list of possible tasks:

- Car / boat ferry skippers, ideally with switched-on mobile phone(s) to help return people to their boats/cars moored/parked in other parts of the harbour. Hugh is organising an official ferry service for Saturday night, but help might be needed at other times.
- Information point / boat parking organiser
- Leaders for cruising-in-company during the ensuing week. I (Liz) am down for this, but we are expecting about 40 boats to stay-on, and I can't really turn-up at, say, Wootton Creek or Bembridge with 40 of us! So we might have to split into groups of ten or so. Some will probably want to explore on their own, some will want to stay within Chichester Harbour, whilst others would welcome a cruise down the Solent. Jay has agreed to help, but a couple more potential leaders would be helpful.
- Chris Jenkins has kindly agreed to run the bar, and Doug Jones has offered help, but further volunteers would be welcome.
- Graham Deans has done a lot of work organising marquee hire and has made contact with an outside caterer, but we need someone to carry this (the catering) forward. There is to be a bar-b-que on Friday evening, and a celebration dinner on Saturday night. Graham is in the throes of moving out of his house, and so his attention will be diverted elsewhere for a while.

Those of you who have already offered help, as well as those who haven't, might see something in this list you could do, or might like to suggest something else. If so, please contact either myself or Hugh.

For Sale - Modified GP14



The Flying Pig has been so successful that I have decided to sell Erik the Red (photo attached). Before I put it on the market, do you know anyone from the DCA who could give it a good home for a nominal price?

Keith Holdsworth
01425 479 239



Dell Quay Festival of Sail

This takes place at Dell Quay on the week-end immediately preceding the Cobnor event and welcomes anyone with a boat carrying a traditional workboat rig. There will be a full

on-shore programme to include entertainments, exhibition of marine art, and fireworks. Further details from Philip and Barbara Ruewell on 01403 782 027



Rallies Programme

Rally hosts accept no responsibility for safety of participants - skippers must decide for themselves whether they and their boats can cope with prevailing and forecast conditions. We rendezvous from mid-afternoon onwards and some cook on board, while others prefer to eat at the nearest pub, to which we usually adjourn at around 7pm. In tidal waters it is easier to camp on board, but some find it necessary to camp ashore. Please don't wait until the Friday night to enquire about a rally the next day because your host might already be launching.

If members coming down for the Anniversary celebrations feel like arriving a week early, they will be able to attend the **DELL QUAY FESTIVAL OF SAIL**, "celebrating our working sail heritage", to be held from 8-10 July at Dell Quay, Chichester Harbour. If you book in advance, boats with gaff or other interesting rigs will be welcome to moor alongside the quay, club jetty or Conservancy pontoon for the week-end. Lots of fun and games are planned. Details from Philip Ruewell - 01403 782 027.

Copperas Point, Chichester Harbour - OS 197-830 019

16/17 April Sat HW Portsmouth 17.21
Liz Baker Home 01323 842 124; Mobiles 07957 945 523 or 07854 652 554

Sheltered from the easterly winds which prevail at this time of year. Behind headland immediately north of the yacht basins. There is a beach here along which we can walk to the pub at Dell Quay once the tide has dropped.

Portchester Castle - OS 196-625 057

30 April - 2 May Sat HW Portsmouth 16.43
Len Wingfield Home: 01483 563 422

Tie your boat to the ramparts and explore this ancient castle.
Onward cruise in company on Sun - destination to be agreed by those present.

River Medina - Folley Inn - OS 507 930

14/15 May Sat HW Portsmouth 16.04
Jay Milbourne Mobile: 07890 198 089
Meeting point just South of the Folly Inn pontoons.

Yarmouth - OS 196-350 898

4/5 June Sat HW Portsmouth 22.45
Steve Bradwell Home: 01252 724 854
Meet on beach at NW corner of harbour. Sunday morning sail up the Yar when swing bridge opens.

Oxey Lake - OS 196-330 936 (just west of Lymington)

18/19 June Sat HW Portsmouth 21.06
Chris Jenkins Home: 02392 601 779



Dell Quay Festival of Sail

8 - 10 July (not a DCA event - please see above).

50th Anniversary Celebrations - at Cobnor, Chichester Harbour

Fri 15 July to Fri 22 July Sat HW Portsmouth 19.11

Bookings to Hugh Clay (see elsewhere in this Bulletin)

To be followed by cruising in company for remainder of week. Bookings in advance essential.

South Coast regulars, please don't turn-up unannounced hoping to sleep afloat as there won't be room!

Bembridge - OS 196-641 887 or 638 887

13/14 Aug Sat HW Portsmouth 17.18

David Jones Home: 01403 266 800

Meet on sandy beach to port just inside harbour entrance, or to starboard if you want to use the highly recommended fish restaurant on that side.

Poole Harbour, Shipstall Point - OS 195-984 884

27/29 Aug Sat HW Poole Entrance 15.30

Keith Holdsworth Mobile 07932 394 553

Newtown - OS 196-415 903

Meet on RH bank, just above Shalfleet Quay.

10/11 Sept Sat HW Portsmouth 15.55

Liz Baker Home: 01323 842 124; Mobiles: 07957 945 523 or 07854 652 554

Ashlett Creek - OS 196-467 034

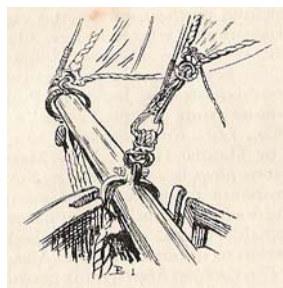
24/25 Sept Sat HW Portsmouth 16.10

Len Wingfield Home: 01483 563 422

Fowley Island, Chichester Harbour - OS 197-744 044 - Accessible HW +/-2 hrs.

15/16 Oct Sat HW Portsmouth 17.50

Liz Baker (Phone as above)





Rally Report

East Head- 1-3 April 2005

Len Wingfield 14 footer *Bluey*
 Cliff Martin Mirror
 Alan Glanville Ness Yawl *Lowly Worm III* (host)

As far as I am aware, this is the earliest a rally has ever been held on the South Coast (Liz)

This was an excellent first rally of the season. The skies were blue, the sun shone and the wind was F 3 to F5 for most of the week-end. Len launched at Warblington Road, Emsworth late afternoon Friday, and made his way with very little wind to the beach to the north of the Hayling Island Sailing Club for the night. I launched two hours later at Northney Marina and spent the night at anchor in a creek off Swear Deep. In a day of unbroken sunshine and good winds from the east I sailed down the Emsworth Channel and spotted Len at Sandy Point. We met again at East Head to walk and lunch at low water and then set off at a cracking pace in company to the top of the Thorney Channel. Equipped with thigh-high waders we then dragged our boats up a ditch for an hour on the rising tide to Andrews boatyard at Prinstead, a yard which has the look and feel of the 1950s. The locals were very helpful and we passed time at a great little café there. At high water the mud was covered and we were able to line up the boats

and depart the lee shore at speed into a strong breeze. Another glorious sail in company saw us arriving at East Head where a Mirror dinghy was just about to leave. New member Cliff Martin had explored up to Roman Landing looking for the rally. He had launched at Itchneor mid afternoon. An experienced sailor Cliff was to enjoy his first night camping in his boat. He did not manage much sleep but appeared to thoroughly enjoy his first overnight dinghy cruise. In the evening we three had a very enjoyable walk and a congenial pub meal.

On Sunday Len left at daybreak to catch the tide at Emsworth. Cliff and I sailed in opposite directions a few hours later, with beautiful sunshine and a breeze to carry us over the ebb.

Alan Glanville



From our Correspondents

On Sunday (13 March) I went sailing and first went up the Thorney Channel. It was cold but a bit sunny, with a SW2-3 wind. Next I sailed down to East Head and across to the Fishery Buoy off Hayling. Here the ebb was literally roaring, a frightening sight, but I was lucky in having a steady breeze from the south and was able to creep wing-and-wing up the Emsworth Channel in the hope of visiting Oare Rythe, but didn't quite get that far. I saw a small

yacht going East who was barely able to stem the tide, and it did concern me slightly. I was thinking about the problem of crossing the Pilsey Sands in failing light if I needed to dodge the tide. So I gave up and sailed for home. It was really sluicing along and when I got to the Stocker I had jib poled out plus mainsail on a dead run in a fair breeze, plus engine, and then only just winning.

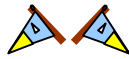


I was just thinking about the disappointment of not visiting the seals when suddenly there was a loud splash, and a torpedo-like animal leapt clean out of the water about 25 yards away, and kept doing this in pursuit of fish. He was behaving like a dolphin. At last he rested for a moment, his Labrador head came up and I knew it was a seal. All the way back I remained close to the shore to avoid the tide and watched the wonderful exhibition of water

birds feeding and playing on the mud. Some tiny ones were scurrying around scooping the mud and I think they might have been Dunlin.

I arrived back at Itchenor at 1800 where it was very cold and with no sign of human life in any shape or form whatever! [Fairly normal, you might say]!

Dave Sumner



Dear Liz,

I've done my first rally. I made every mistake in the book and a lot of my home-made gear didn't work very well and/or I didn't know how to use it, but these things can be sorted. Roger Barnes was right, I

woke up in a blind panic thinking I'd drifted away.

Thanks for all the encouragement in getting me started in the DCA.

Cliff Martin

