



South Coast rally to Hornet Services Sailing Club

Nick Hillier had kindly agreed to organise a rally to his club in Gosport on Saturday, 30th August. The Hornet Services Sailing Club is about as far up Haslar Creek, just inside Portsmouth Harbour entrance, that most boats can go.

Nick had planned well and the weather that weekend was set fair with a lighter wind than would have suited some.

Two of the participating boats, WIDGEON from Marchwood and ALBERTINE from the Hamble River, chanced to meet somewhere close by Calshot.



Victoria 30 sloop, WIDGEON
by kind permission of the crew of Albertine



Frances 34, ALBERTINE
by kind permission of the crew of Widgeon

Other participating boats were the Victoria 30's, TRACKER and WYNN, both from Chichester with Frances 26, FELICITY remaining on her usual Gosport berth.

The layout of the pontoons is a bit of a maze with some of the boats quite a long walk from the shore but

ALBERTINE, the host boat, was alongside a pontoon right by the harbour wall.

The clubhouse is in an historic building from the 1940's that was the original wardroom for HMS Hornet, when the site was a base for the Fast Patrol Craft of the Coastal Defence Forces.



Richard, Tim and Nick



Bridget, Alf and Roy



Lynda, Chris, Jon and Jerry



Roy



Jenny and Lynn

The Hornet Services Sailing Club certainly lived up to our expectations. We enjoyed an excellent meal in fine surroundings and with excellent company for a very modest price.

We should like to thank Jon and Lynda for their hospitality aboard ALBERTINE, thank all the members that participated in the rally but, most of all, thank Nick and Bridget for organising this most successful rally. Thank you.

Right: Dee, Tim and Lynda in the clubhouse



New Members

David Lee joined the association in August. He has a Frances 26 sloop, RAKU, which he bases in Portsmouth Harbour.

Andrew Gleagle joined us in September. At the present time, he has a Parker 235, JAGO, which he bases in the Beaulieu River but we understand he is keen to acquire a Victoria Yacht.

Annual Luncheon and General Meeting

This year the Annual Luncheon is being held on Sunday, 16th November in Linden House, the home of the London Corinthian Rowing and Sailing Club, our usual venue.



For those new members this year and for many of our more senior members who have shied away from our AGM in the past, we should explain that this is really a social occasion. Please note that it is not called an AGM and that the words Annual Luncheon do definitely take precedence.

The association has always used Linden House because of its central location between the East and South coast contingents and because of its good transport links by road and public transport. However, Linden House has a charm of its own. It is on the Middlesex side of the River Thames just upstream of Hammersmith Bridge and overlooks the river.

We usually gather in the bar on the first floor, where you see the balcony on the photograph. We move to the Commodore's Room, also on the first floor but the other side of the red front door, for a proper three-course lunch; the service and food are always excellent. Finally, we move downstairs to either the Captain's Room or the Ballroom, if numbers require it, for the business of the day.

Although there is really no limit on the number of our members who can attend the General Meeting, there is a limit of thirty, or so, that can be accommodated for the luncheon itself. When our Honorary Secretary sends out the official notice of the Annual Luncheon and General Meeting to all members, it would be best for you to reply immediately, to ensure places at the table for yourself and your guests. We look forward to seeing you there.

Autumn Shadow Thames Rally to Wallingford on Thames - September 2014

John and Gillian Walker on Heavenly Daze and Peter and Carol Hunt on Jolly Olly set off from their respective marinas on Friday, in order to reach Goring on Thames ready to receive passengers on Saturday morning, namely Jon and Lynda Spencer and Peter and Jenny Cosker.

We enjoyed a short cruise up to Wallingford arriving early afternoon to find the public moorings pretty full up with narrow boats. However, with some assistance from temporary members of the crew we managed to moor up together.

We then adjourned to a local riverside pub for lunch after which some people enjoyed a walk exploring the town centre.

Dave Probert and Angie arrived on White Rose of York and moored alongside Jolly Olly, then John and

Carolyn Cade joined us by road. Peter and Carol set up a table and chairs on the bank alongside the boats and while the Committee Meeting took place on board Heavenly Daze, the ladies enjoyed tea and a chat. Paul and Patsy Townsend arrived on Rebwelly and moored alongside Heavenly Daze, followed by David and Sue Macgregor who drove up, having only returned from Greece the previous day.

After the meeting pre-dinner drinks and nibbles were enjoyed in a pleasant balmy evening and we then walked to the Avanti, a local Italian restaurant, for our evening meal. It was a lively evening with music and some singing and the food was very good. Afterwards, we dispersed, some going home by road and the others back to their boats for a communal nightcap on Jolly Olly. Peter and Jenny stayed in a local hotel and were going on to their holiday in the Lake District the following day which we hope they enjoyed.

Report by John Walker (Chairman Motor-Cruisers)



Four Shadows and Towpath Party – by kind permission of Dave Probert



Riverside Party – by kind permission of Dave Probert



Dinner at the Avanti



John Walker (Chairman Motor-Cruisers)



Four Shadows at Wallingford



Photographed on a Sunday morning walk before breakfast

Editorial

Although we are coming to the end of the normal boating season, further Newsletters will be published whenever there is enough copy to justify publication.

At this time of year, thoughts may turn to maintenance and making improvements to our craft, while some will go on sailing throughout the winter.

Articles, whether long or short, illustrated or not, are always welcome and the editor is unlikely to turn any away. Please send any articles for publication to:

news@victoriashadow.co.uk.

The next Newsletter is likely to be published after the Annual Luncheon and General Meeting; possibly a Christmas edition.