



News from our Members

Ian Johnston, Victoria 26 sloop, JUMBLIE

On the 14th July, Ian Johnston reported that he had sailed from Scotland to Bangor Marina in Northern Ireland aboard his Victoria 26 sloop, JUMBLIE the previous day. JUMBLIE is normally based at Port Bannatyne on the Firth of Clyde. Whilst at Bangor he spotted another Victoria Yacht, either a Victoria 26 or a Victoria 800, called BILBO BAGGINS, which he thinks is probably resident there.

Phil Rowcliffe, Frances 26 cutter, LOUISE

Phil writes,

"I thought I should let you know that I sold my gaff-rigged Frances 26 'ELBE LADY' in May and have spent a few months looking for a suitable replacement.

I finally decided on another Frances 26 (it really does tick all the boxes for me), and I have just bought 'LOUISE' from Chris Lott; she's currently in Sovereign Harbour, Eastbourne although I may move her to my mooring at Itchenor, I haven't yet decided. So, I'm now the proud owner of my third Frances, this one being with cutter rig."

Editor: If my memory serves correctly, Phil's first Frances 26 was a sloop, JILL, which was shipped to Malaysia when Phil was working out there.

Norman Crawford, Frances 26 cutter, MALLARD

Norman and Christine write,

"I am pleased to report that Mallard has completed a circumnavigation of Ireland at 19.40hrs on 17th August at Ballycastle and is now safely back in Bangor.

We completed the voyage in three stints, 7 days, 12 days and 5 days and took in a fair amount of Irish culture and weather en-route. We visited some more wild and lonely places and were very pleased when we rounded Malin Head and got out of the ever present Atlantic swell, which was bigger than I remember anywhere even with nil swell warning. I shudder to think what it would be like with a warning.

We are glad to have completed the trip and cannot wait to go around again - by car!"

Editor: We have MALLARD as being based at Greenwich on the River Thames. You may have read their recent article in Waterlines that describes in some graphic detail the first three years of this continuing voyage away from base.

Boat For Sale

Diane Carter, Frances 26 cutter, ALOUETTE



Diane writes,

"Alouette is still for sale and I have now reduced the price to £21,950. She is a Frances 26 Cutter built by Victoria Marine in 1987. She can be viewed in the yard at the Weymouth and Portland National Sailing Academy. She is in very good condition.

All details may be obtained from Richard Meers at Cove Yachts. Office Mobile: +44(0)7975 521792, Personal Mobile: +44(0)7917 035004, E-mail richard@coveyachts.co.uk."

Shadow Rally to Henley on Thames, 27th August 2016

Those attending by boat: Ian and Tracy Rycroft aboard WINE DOWN TIME, Peter and Kate Hunt aboard JOLLY OLLY, Dave Probert and Ange along with Gina and Sam aboard WHITE ROSE OF YORK, Jim and Heather Melville aboard COSWECAN, by road: John and Gillian Walker, Paul and Patsy Townsend, Jon and Lynda Spencer, Peter and Jenny Cosker.

Four Shadows to moor alongside Fawley Meadows and eighteen hungry rallyists to dine in the Stable Bar of the Three Tuns in the centre of town. Continued overleaf ...



Message from our Leader:

We were lucky with the weather and despite moorings being few and far between we managed to muster four boats moored at Fawley Meadow with a hopeful addition of Rebwelly containing Paul and Patsy which sadly didn't happen thanks to the Bank Holiday boating congestion. They did attend by road to make our number 18 attending the meal.

It was a pleasure to have Jim and Heather join us, they already feel like long time members and I look forward to seeing them at future meetings. Gina and Sam became members for the evening at the rally and I spent the rest of the weekend singing "76 trombones in the big parade".

I realise the effort people made to be part of this rally and the walk to the mooring from town or the rugby club. Next time I shall book a mooring and restaurant closer to each other or provide skate-boards to make it easier.

I attach some photos from the day which give a flavour of the fun we all had.

Thank you all for making my first event as chairman so enjoyable.

Best wishes

Ian & Tracy "Wine down time"

South Coast Rally to Chichester Yacht Haven

Saturday, 3rd September, the day of the rally, started overcast but dry followed by light rain later in the afternoon and more serious rain later when the wind increased somewhat. None of this dampened the enthusiasm of those attending one iota.

Chichester Yacht Haven is very large with the lettering of the pontoons using up all the letters of the alphabet. Two of our largest boats were on 'S' pontoon with others on 'T' and 'W', not so very far away.



Richard and Meryl Saunders Jon Spencer

Richard is our South Coast Regional Organiser and the organiser of this rally. Unfortunately WYNN, the Victoria 30 sloop that Richard and Meryl usually sail was not in the water because work involved in removing old anti-foul and general smartening-up had overrun. Jon is, of course, the Chairman Yachts. He and Lynda had their Pilot House Frances 34, ALBERTINE moored further along 'S' pontoon.



Jon back aboard ALBERTINE

ALBERTINE had been used earlier in the day to take some of our Shadow members out through Chichester Harbour. We were delighted that Peter and Kate of JOLLY OLLY along with Ian and Tracy of WINE DOWN TIME had ventured down by road to stay in a local Emsworth Hotel and join in with the yacht rally.



Meryl and Lynda aboard ALBERTINE

Meryl makes exceedingly fine cakes and we gathered aboard ALBERTINE for afternoon tea; although the largest boat in the fleet it was still a bit of a squash at times.



Guy Warner's Victoria 34, RUBY STAR

Also on 'S' pontoon was RUBY STAR, which Guy was kind enough to allow the four Committee Members present to use for their Committee Meeting. This meeting was conveniently squeezed between afternoon tea and the pre-dinner drinks party back aboard ALBERTINE. Guy felt obliged to re-enter his own ship by lowering himself through the forward hatch to avoid disturbing our meeting.

Earlier in the afternoon, I set off to visit 'T' and 'W' pontoons to take some photographs before the rain set in. I could see the Frances 26 sloop, FELICITY on 'T' for she was directly behind our boats on 'S'.

FELICITY is normally berthed in the Gosport Marina and would have had a pleasant enough sail from Portsmouth Harbour with a following wind, almost certainly passing through the gap in the subterranean barrier called Main Passage before passing south of Langstone Harbour and then the full length of Hayling Island.



Alf Tracey and Roy Dawkins aboard FELICITY

Three pontoons further around the north shore of the marina was the Victoria 30 cutter, WIDGEON. She had probably come the greatest distance to be at the rally having started from Marchwood at the very top of Southampton Water.



Victoria 30, WIDGEON

Tim Clarke was aboard and was able to show me some new teak washboards he had made. They included handmade louvered ventilation slots, decorative moulding he had cut himself and featured an outline drawing of a widgeon duck's head nicely inlaid. WIDGEON is maintained to a very high standard indeed. At that point Dee returned with some shopping and I took my departure.

There is no photograph of Jerry Bottrill's Victoria 30, TRACKER but it is moored in Chichester Yacht Haven somewhere and Jerry certainly joined us aboard ALBERTINE that afternoon and during the evening.

Jon and Lynda welcomed us aboard ALBERTINE for the pre-dinner drinks party and light rain prompted most of us to seek shelter below decks.

We dined at the Chichester Yacht Club and fortunately had sufficient cars available that nobody need have walked, for the club was on the opposite side of the marina and both the wind and rain had had taken a turn for the worse. Over dinner a number of us were discussing the next day's weather forecast, which suggested a near gale and all yachts would be hard on the wind, in relatively shallow water with wind over tide. There was some suggestion the rally might continue to Monday, when the conditions would be more favourable.

Cruising Log Competition

Entries for the Cruising Log Competition need to be submitted to the Hon. Secretary by the 31st October and the winner will be announced at the Annual Luncheon and General Meeting on the 27th November this year.

The cruising log should tell the story of a voyage, passage or even a day trip that you made on a boat in 2016. The length of the actual journey does not determine the winner but rather the interesting things along the way, planned or unplanned, that you can write about. The competition is open to Motor Cruiser crews just as much as Yachtsmen and Yachtswomen, although we have not yet had an entry from the Shadow fraternity; we are patiently waiting.

The cruising log can be sent in as a paper document or a digital file and be designed to be published in book form or in the form of web pages. It matters not. Entering the competition, win or lose, gives us the right to publish the log in future Newsletters or on the Website, or both.

Some tips: If you are writing about places with strange sounding names, the inclusion of a hand drawn sketch map showing their whereabouts will certainly score you extra points. It is said that a picture can be worth a thousand words so include photographs and illustrations but do try and include people; a person draped in mud and weed is so much more interesting than an immaculate but otherwise empty foredeck (just an example.) The judges, for there is more than one, will look for specific points of interest, mark accordingly and then compare notes before coming to a final decision. A spokesperson will explain their reasoning at the General Meeting.

The Annual Luncheon and General Meeting

This takes place on a Sunday late in November and is our last event of the year. It is held in Linden House, home of the London Corinthian Sailing Club, on the banks of the River Thames just upstream of Hammersmith Bridge.

We like to meet just before midday so we have time to socialise in the first floor bar that overlooks the river. When the three course luncheon is ready, we are called into the Commodore's Room where we enjoy a properly served meal. There is a limit of thirty for the luncheon, perhaps just one or two more on occasion, but do book in good time. Once luncheon is over, we go downstairs to the Captain's Room where coffee is served prior to the General Meeting. We plan to be finished by about 4pm so that members and any guests are not too late getting home.

The emphasis is on the social side of things and if you are able to come, I think you will enjoy the experience.

Articles for the next Newsletter

Send by e-mail to: news@victoriashadow.co.uk and by post to: The Victoria Shadow Association, 4 The Grove, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 3SJ, Great Britain.