

Noggin & Natters

Saturday 28th February - Old Ship



The Old Ship was the venue for 34 MOA members to turn up from antifouling, retail therapy, holidays in Madeira, Grand Canary, the Caribbean and London rugby pitches to enjoy a social ashore as spring began to show its colours. We sat down to good honest pub-grub and tales of the boat-yard, and dreams of the fine sunny warm weather promised in our dreams and hopefully to be realised by all this summer. WE ARE OWED.

The Old Ship



The captain welcomed us, wished Laurance Gandar a very happy birthday with the usual renditions and then presented Peter Turner from Indigo with the 2008 Boules Trophy. This trophy was won handsomely during probably the shortest competition witnessed in the MOA.

A thoroughly good evening enjoyed by all.

Richard Beeson
Solent Branch Captain

Fitting Out Supper/St Patricks Night

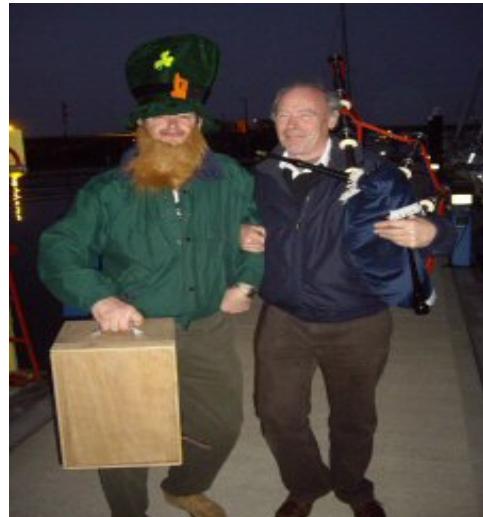
Saturday 21st March

Coordinators: Steve and Annemarie Westwood

With most of the preparation work having already been done for the 2009 events calendar, the decision to turn this event into a social occasion, with the theme being St Patrick's Night, proved to be a very popular one. We filled the Old Lodge at Alverstoke to capacity. Our guest for the evening was Campbell de Burgh who got the evening off to a fantastic start by piping some of the members who are berthed at Gosport off the pontoons in an assortment of green costumes and led by our captain, Richard Beeson dressed as a leprechaun to their waiting taxis!

After opening drinks Campbell de Burgh fired up his bagpipes in the bar, much to the amazement of the locals and piped us into dinner After an Irish grace by Annemarie, an excellent Irish supper, our 'Irish' captain for the night duly led proceedings, ranging from an Irish quiz, Irish jokes, and prize giving, to the best-dressed leprechaun being Matthew Sage

During the evening Joseph Sage, our Vice Captain, standing on a chair complete with leprechaun hat invited members to volunteer to co-ordinate the events for the coming year, and received an excellent response.



Campbell de Burgh finished the evening by entertaining us all on the bagpipes and the evening finished with a rousing Irish song.

The change of format for the Fitting Out Supper proved to be a very successful one and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

Joy Beeson



Irish Lads



Green Friends



More Irish Lads and Lasses



Prizegiving



Offshore Leprechauns

Easter at Poole

10th to 13th April

Coordinators: Kim & Joseph Sage

After a shaky start with numbers reducing due to bad weather, sickness and boat failure, 8 boats arrived successfully in Poole Harbour in time for drinks on board Time Out. Kim and Joseph did an absolutely sterling job, despite the disappointment of not having a boat and with a crew of 9 in total including their family from Cumbria; they managed to arrive in two cars bringing drinks and nibbles to welcome everyone to the event. We were also delighted to be joined by the Captain of Poole branch, Dave, his wife Bev, Ian and other members, who we hope will join us in future events.



After a lazy start on Saturday, with one or two popping ashore for retail therapy, we left Poole Quay at midday and sailed across to Brownsea Island where we anchored. By now the weather was improving, it was warm and the sun was shining so by mid afternoon we took the dinghies ashore and went for a wonderful stroll round the island eventually arriving for light refreshment at the National Trust café on the far side.

In the evening we were invited aboard Solar Eclipse by Roy and Angela Mathewson, and enjoyed a lovely evening there with members arriving by dinghy in an assortment of Easter bonnets, which caused great amusement.

We woke up to blue skies and sunshine on Sunday and after canvassing opinion with the other members decided to have an Easter Sunday picnic on the beach. We found a superb spot at Pottery Pier but later discovered we were sitting right next to an ants nest!

Once again the Sage family and guests arrived. This time they brought two cars to Poole, but Joseph and Kim brought their dinghy on the roof! With the assistance of the Raysbrooks dinghy, they were all able to join us Brownsea Island, for another brilliant afternoon, lazing by the beach, chatting, sunbathing, sleeping and even presented prizes to the winners for the best Easter bonnets which were still being worn, to the amusement of passers by! Five of the party went to the Easter service in the church, which apparently was packed, and they were just able to squeeze in at the back.

In the evening the majority of us set off for Studland where once again we dropped anchor, and this time received a wonderful welcome from Tony, Eleanor and Steve on Arctura. At 9 p.m. when we had almost finished all their drinks and nibbles we returned to our own boats for supper, or anything we could think of preparing at that time!

Although we planned to race back to Yarmouth on Sunday, we awoke to blue skies, beautiful sunshine a flat sea, and no wind, so just enjoyed the stunning scenery, took lots of photographs and slowly made our way home.



It was a truly amazing weekend, despite a 'rocky' start, it was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone, but SPECIAL THANKS must go to Joseph and Kim for all the effort they put in to ensuring the weekend continued, and everyone enjoyed themselves, despite the fact that they had suffered the disappointment of being boat less. Thank you both very much for all your hard work and efforts; it was much appreciated by us all. Joy Beeson

Captain's Supper

18th April 2009

Co-ordinators: Richard and Joy Beeson



There was an excellent turnout for the Captains Supper with 47 people arriving in 21 boats. The weather was kind with sun and warmth when the cold wind



stopped! The traditional pontoon party commenced at 6.00 pm on the Dan Bran pontoon in sunshine no wind and plenty of good company, wine and fabulous nibbles brought on by Joy and her helpers Annie and Lesley.



At 7.15pm a rapid procession led us to the Royal Lymington YC for dinner. Mark the Club Steward coped with the numbers rising from 30 to 47 over 2 weeks and laid on a dinner which was first class.

The Captain addressed the said company with particular to Joy for with such a large

and the club for being so adaptable.



suitable welcome, thanks, in the organisation of the event moving target of participants

After a lazy start on Sunday morning, sunshine and a good breeze, 10 boats left to take part in the first Dixon race organised by Sally commencing at midday to the Royal Thames racing mark just SE of Calshot. With excellent sailing conditions nine boats finished the race, and results will be posted on the website shortly.



Richard Beeson

Nab Tower and weekend in Chichester Harbour

Sat 2nd May - Mon 4th

Coordinator: Charles Bond-Smith

Saturday dawned bright with sun and a good forecast as 11 entrants made their way to Lee Point for the start of the Nab Tower Race. The usual jostling on the line led to a reasonable start in light airs which deteriorated to very light and then no airs. By this time a mile or so separated us and when going sideways with zero wind and speed through the water 7 entrants drew stumps and headed off under the trusty iron topsail. No sooner done than a good breeze filled in with Time Out recording 20 knots true! Our old friend Robert Hughes in Bounder won the race -well done!



Late afternoon found the fleet at anchor at East Head, crews on the beach barbecuing and doing what we do best. Steve & Annemarie brought ashore the Freebooter brazier which was fired up to keep us all warm in what was a rather fresh chilly breeze.



Sunday morning dawned bright and after Charles had rescued the brazier (50 gal drum - much modified) from the back of the rangers truck, the rest of us had a leisurely day before anchoring up at the top of Itchenor Reach. At 5.45pm sharp, Charles & Diana on Rafiki acted as taxi and collected 21 souls from our various boats and thence off to Bosham quay serving nibbles and drinks on the way. (Some of us owe them a bottle or two!).



We moored just as the flood allowed alongside the quay and so we moved to the Anchor Bleu, which thanks to Joy had reserved the dining room for us. An excellent meal washed down with 'Type 42' ale was enjoyed.



Rafiki returned us, serving liqueurs on the way, to our boats as dusk fell on the river. The event was first rate and Charles and Joy did a fine job in organising it.

Monday morning was fine and at 10.00 we up anchored and headed for the Dixon start line just West of West Pole. 9 starters enjoyed a good race with a beat followed by a long tack to Darling Associated off Gilkicker. Results will be announced later.

This was a good weekend and many thanks to Sally for co-ordinating the racing, Joy & Charles for the co-ordination of the meal, Charles & Diana on Rafiki and for their 'taxi' & nibbles, and Freebooter for the warming brazier.



Richard Attendee & MOA Hack

Yarmouth Boules and BBQ

May 23rd - 25th

Coordinator: Colin Newman



'At Last' went down the Solent on the Friday in fine weather and was chased down the channel by cruise ship P&O Ventura. Nearer Yarmouth we were overtaken by a stealth speed boat, distinguished by blackened out windows, diagonal stripes on the hull and



XSR on the rear quarter ...any idea who owns this craft? Friday evening witnessed a lovely sunset boding well for the Bank Holiday w/e and the next day's Moody BBQ and Boules competition.

The Dockmasters did an excellent job sorting all 16 berths together, though we did move one errant yacht down the pontoon, which must have given the owner a fright when he returned to



find his boat. Who did that?

The weather for the evening BBQ was nice and sunny and the group ended up sitting by the attractively coloured rubbish bins on the dunes. It all got a bit smokey around the BBQ's with one or two members making serious attempts at smoke signals. Numerous children played cricket whilst other "children" cremated food on the BBQ after spending too much time chatting.



The Boules Games were ably organised by Alan Howlett under strict instructions of knockout rules. Later Alan became the Pied Piper of Hamelin entertaining the children with further Boules



matches (as the pictures show).

The main MOA competition was won by Bear Poles from Poole...Jonathan, Victoria and Mike are now under strict instructions that they have to come to the Laying Up Supper to receive their prize. The children really enjoyed themselves and finally as the sun went down everyone returned to their boats for the evening.

The next day a group went walking along the Yar River to Freshwater Bay and nine hardy souls amongst us paddled their feet -- it was cold! But the RNLI organised a distraction for those suffering frost bite as they retrieved their inshore lifeboat.

Most of the group then caught buses to the Needles, some to Alum Bay. Over 20 started the walk and 14 ended up at Magical Totland Bay (the sun was shining again) where we enjoyed lunch at the Waterside Cafe, which has improved its menu and quality of food. Even musical entertainment was provided by a two piece jazz band.

The next morning (Bank Holiday Monday) turned out to be another sunny day and Alan Howlett treated us to entertainment 'up the mast'. This was particularly impressive after the pontoon party the previous evening, which had lasted two hours before members retired to their boats for a spot of supper before turning in. The morning weather did not remain clement and only a few souls took part in the Dixon Race. Overall, Yarmouth did us proud again as a great venue for a Moody rally

Colin Newman

Bembridge Surf and Turf Moody Style

6th & 7th June

Coordinator: Mark Glyde

The day started with a brisk easterly wind, and the 14 boats that made the trip experienced a bumpy ride up the Solent, with the wind on the nose. Colin and Anne from "At Last" arrived by taxi, just in time to enjoy the beach fun and barbeque. We went to the beach inside the harbour to keep out of the wind and in excess of 60 people enjoyed 50 superb fresh Crab and Lobster supplied by Tina.



There were lots of Children and a very successful sandcastle competition with 7 entries judged by Annie and Sally from Mistral Dancer. The winner was Annalise from Dreamcatcher. Our Captain Richard led rope throwing lessons, and he assured me it was nothing to do with the way we tried to raft up in the harbour!

The "Grizzly treasure hunt" had many teams of children searching high and low for all sorts of items of a grizzly nature. The competition was judged by Annemarie from Freebooter. The winner was team 2 from Argo.



The wind continued to increase throughout the evening and everybody returned to their boats to warm up. The weather continued to worsen and at 3.00am resulted in a very loud and wet storm. By Sunday morning the sun was out and the night's storm was long forgotten as we all prepared for a lovely gentle sail home



The Moody Regatta

Saturday 27th June

Coordinator: Mike O'Connor

The first Moody Regatta took place on Saturday 27th June in the Solent on a hot and humid summer's day. At 1000 the six yacht entry began to head towards the committee boat (Zephyr) which was trying to set a line some 700 - 800 meters off of Hillhead Sailing Club.

The Race Officers Ian and his number two, Peter, struggled to get the first race underway in a dying breeze. A number of postponements followed while the wind was eagerly waited for. Eventually it came and the first race was duly started. All the competitors made a clean start in 3 - 6 knots of light shifting wind, heading out westwards, against a foul tide, towards Cowes. Ocean strider with perfect timing and well trimmed sails was first away and showed a clean set of heels to the rest of the fleet.

On completion of the first race the wind built and was blowing 15 - 20 knots from the South West in glorious sunshine (a white fluffy cloud day) - ideal conditions for the remaining Moody races.

The Race Officer set a triangular course which gave the fleet exciting starting, exhilarating beats and close manoeuvring around the leeward marks and on the runs home. After a great day's racing in sublime conditions the fleet headed towards Cowes and the Yacht Haven for the evening's entertainment and the prize giving.



At 1845 the competitors and non race entrants duly mustered on the pontoon adjacent of Galatea for canapés and sundowners. The Branch Captain gathered the team and Sally read out the overall positions:

1. Ocean Strider
2. Galatea
3. Timeout / Argo
5. Caron
6. Freebooter



helmsmen & crew were called their respective prizes - sourcing the giftware and for price for the engraving.

After sundowners, the party moved onto Tonino's Italian Restaurant along Cowes High Street where supper was enjoyed. Customary 'wobbly coffees' followed onboard the regatta winning yacht, Ocean strider, before everyone headed home and 'lights out'!

In sum a cracking weekend's sailing was had by all. The racing was held in near perfect conditions and sailed in tremendous Moody spirit. Last but not least a big thank you must go out to Sally for helping to arrange the event and for all onboard Zephyr for acting as Race Officers, setting great courses and showing great handicap yacht racing management!



BARBECUE AT BEAULIEU

Saturday 4th July

Coordinators:- Richard and Joy Beeson - Saturday

morning dawned with grey overcast skies and light rain. However on approaching the Beaulieu River at midday the weather had changed into a warm sunny day with blue skies. Braveheart was the first boat to arrive, and they welcomed the



early arrivals on board with Pimms and a selection of delicious nibbles that set the tone for the day - very relaxed and enjoyable in excellent company.

By mid afternoon when we had finished all the Pimms we returned to our boats to enjoy a spot of sunbathing, reading and relaxing. Sleeping was out of the question as the men had decided to engage in a spot of "Boat Maintenance", which included the use of drills and saws!!



7 p.m. saw us taking our dinghies ashore to Bucklers Hard, where we had the use of an excellent barbecue on the foreshore by kind permission of the harbourmaster, along with wooden benches and tables with excellent views along the river.



After lighting the barbecue the men made a hasty retreat to the Master Builders to sample the local brew, and returned with drinks for the ladies, and continued to do what they do best, chatting and cooking the supper with pint in hand!



A thoroughly relaxed evening was enjoyed by all, including two pet dogs in the last of the sunshine. We stayed to see the sun going down and watch the most amazing sunset before retiring to Ocean Strider for

a nightcap and game of Bop It.

Many thanks to all those for joining in and making the event so enjoyable. Special thanks to the Raysbrooks and the Sages for their excellent hospitality as always.



MOA Hack Joy Beeson

Folly Bop

11th June



all was well.

Some considerable trouble had gone into arranging a challenging on-shore treasure hunt, so imagine our dismay when a bit of wind and rain caused some reluctance to participate; so it was postponed to another time. So brains instead of wellies were used to provide answers to Plan



Coordinators: Peter and Lesley Williams

Despite the weather forecast becoming a reality, thus producing a nasty wet day, a respectable number of boats made it over to the River Medina and The Folly Reach pontoon on Saturday 11th July. Most unusually for us we were the first there, having had a brisk sail from The Hamble, so were a little concerned that nobody else would turn up. But they did so



“B” Quiz completed in the comfort of dry saloons.



And the winner was.....Pauline Warren on “April Mist”.



The traditional pontoon pre-dinner reception would have been a washout without the generous hospitality of Val and Geoff Lucas on Moon Shadow, their luxuriously appointed Eclipse33, which just managed to remain afloat



under the weight of sheltering bodies. Talk about steamy windows!

Then over to The Folly Inn and the sanctuary of their dry interior. The unwarranted weather had caused the management some disquiet as apparently 70% of their seating is outside and the awnings weren't coping. However nobody has ever accused The Folly of not coping under strain of soggy sailors so room was made for all somehow.

Good food, loud music and some table top bopping took their inevitable toll so not too late back to the boats and live to fight another day.

Naturally Sunday was bright and breezy, so with the prospect of fresh beam winds the fleet had dispersed homewards by midday.



Peter and Lesley Williams, "Dulcibella"

OSBORNE PROMS AND GOLF

25th July

Coordinator: Joy Beeson

12 boats, and 40 members and friends gathered at Shepards Wharf, Cowes on Saturday morning for the annual proms concert at Osborne House. Luck was definitely on our side as we awoke to a beautiful warm sunny day - absolutely perfect



for the day's events!

A round of golf has been on the agenda for the last two years and finally took place! Six keen golfers: - Charles, Hazel, Richard, Joseph, Matthew and Alex set off on foot to Osborne House at 10.30 a.m. to enjoy a game on the attractive course within the grounds of the house, and overlooking the Solent.



A fine game it was too we're told, with Alex winning easily with an excellent Stapleford score of 21 for the 9 holes - well done - he played really well. Meanwhile the rest of us made the most of relaxing, sightseeing, sunbathing and preparing for a fantastic evening at the Proms. At 5 p.m. we made our way to the chain ferry, where the energetic amongst us set off on foot up the hill to Osborne House, while the sensible ones caught the local bus!



Being the first to arrive we were able to secure a wonderful spot right in front on the stage, and there we set out our tables, chairs, rugs etc, and enjoyed a superb picnic, amidst popping champagne corks, and Pimms etc in beautiful surroundings by the side of Osborne House, with wonderful views across the bay.

Music was provided by the BSO, one of the UK's top symphony orchestras, along with the superb talents of the husband and wife opera stars who sang a host of operatic hits. to fall the finale. the songs, a 'ball', with Jerusalem, Land of Hope and Glory, British Sea Songs and many more. The evening finished with a spectacular fireworks display.



As the evening progressed and dusk started atmosphere was rapidly building, leading to The huge and patriotic crowd joined in with dancing, waving flags and generally having all the usual British favourites including



As this is such a popular and enjoyable event we will definitely be repeating it again next year.
Watch the calendar and book early to
guarantee a place.



Gins Farm Jazz Night

Saturday 6th September

Coordinators:- Heather & Andy Raysbrook

Saturday dawned sunny and the attendant wind of the past week was gone. Braveheart was moored on the club pontoon by 10.15am soon followed by Time Out. Andy and Jessica were promoted to Berthing masters for the day and co-ordinated the MOA arrivals with all the local spare berths on the river - some 27 boats and 60 crew turned out.

Attendees:



At Last	Colin & Anne
Braveheart	Andy, Heather & Jessica
Time Out	Richard, Joy & Denise
April Lass	Pete & Viv
Ocean Strider	Kim, Joseph, Elizabeth & Vic
Dulcibella	Peter & Lesley
Imogen	Martin & Sheena
Mistral Dancer	Laurence & Annie
Freebooter	Steve & Annemarie
Helga	Mike & Ros
Clarus	Brian & Jill
Cutaway	Neil & Bron
Bambola	Sally & Mike
Snow Leopard	Stuart & Sarah
Rafiki	Charles, Hazel & friends
Halyards	Alan & Liz
Ragmans Trumpet	Paul & Sarah
Accomplice	Andrew & Astrid
Zephyr	Sally & Ian
Moody Blue	John & Tricia
Dreamcatcher	Kevin & Mary
April Mist	David Warren
Buzz	Andy & Tina
Orthops of Hamble	Derrick Parker &
Solar Eclipse	Roy & Angela
Westwind	Ian & Linda Campbell
Broomstick	Rob & Trish

The welcome party commenced at 6.00 pm sharp with Braveheart dispensing the usual drinks and nibbles. At 7.15pm we made our way to the RYSC Gins clubhouse where the MOA table took over all but a small corner.



We sat down to an excellent meal pre-ordered and accompanied by cool notes from the Harry Young Jazz Band followed by dancing (some of it wild!) until sometime after midnight when we departed to the boats and the Ferry man (who we engaged at reasonable cost to ensure a safe return to the boats) on what was a still and starlit night. Final revellers turned in at 2.00am.



Sunday dawned bright with a little cloud and by midday most of the boats had departed, with the promise of a good sail in a moderate breeze, a pleasant change from the recent days. A fine conclusion to an excellent rally.

Many thanks to Andy, Heather and Jessica for the hard work that went into ensuring that this event, our largest to date, was such a success.

Richard Beeson

Southsea Marina Curry Night

Saturday 26th September

Coordinators: David & Jane Snook

All week we were blessed with warm weather, and the Curry Night was no exception. There were a few more last minute additions which took the total number of boats to 8 with a combined crew of 23. This added to the Curry ordering procedure, as the orders had to be submitted beforehand to enable the staff at Bombay Bay to prepare the food quickly. The reason for this was that the restaurant already had a prior booking for 25 at 8.00 pm on the same day, plus it is open to the public who had also made bookings.



With most of the fleet rafted on the holding pontoon just outside the cill gate, the party started with some drinks and nibbles on Moody Waters pontoon inside the marina, where we all had a chat and also met some new members Hugh and Delma who joined the MOA in May with their M31 Hourglass. Hugh and Delma had been berth holders in Southsea Marina for 12 years - but have only more recently acquired Hourglass.





Onto the restaurant at 6.30 for an early start which suited those of us who had children. Bombay Bay did a fantastic job of serving the correct courses to the party, I was quite amazed that it went so smoothly, and everyone paid compliment to the food and surroundings. At 8.10 pm we had to make a move to allow the tables to be rest for the prior booking, so we took to the outer balcony overlooking the marina to continue conversation and settle 8 bills with the staff.

Sunday morning was again a beautiful day, and some of us went over to Hayling Island in dinghies and the ferry, to the Ferry Boat Inn. Watching the activities in the harbour entrance, a spot of lunch on the bench tables, and a walk along the beach. Thanks to all who came along to make this such a good weekend, and by the compliments received, we could do it again next year. No doubt the weather could not be planned, although our MOA booking times could be for another time.

David & Jane Moody Waters



Participants:

Moody Waters	M33	Jane & David Snook	3
Zephyr	Elan 34	Ian & Sally Breamley	2
Hourglass	M31	Hugh & Delma Evans	2
Halyards	M38	Liz & Alan Howlett	2
Liesel	M41	Micky & Rosie Barnes	5
Dreamcatcher 2	M40	Kevin Morgan & Mary Allen	2
Argo	M40	Mark & Diane Glyde	4
Arctura	M S31	Tony & Eleanor Redshaw	3
		Total	23

Marchwood

Saturday 10th October

Co-ordinators: Jennifer and Richard Filer



Jennifer & Richard	Martin & Sheena
Charles & Hazel plus guests	Kevin & Mary
Alan & Viv	Kim & Joseph
Sally & Mike	Roy, Angela & daughter
Tony, Eleanor & brother	Richard & Joy



A beautiful sunny autumn day saw members arriving at Marchwood by boat and car for the penultimate event of the Season before the AGM.



The event commenced with the usual enjoyable pontoon party at 6 p.m. hosted by Jennifer and Richard, until the autumn chilly evening forced us to retire indoors to the Clubhouse where a three-course meal had been laid on.



Following an early race briefing by Sally six boats set off in earnest on Sunday, with very little breeze to compete in the Dixon 6 race Rafiki made an excellent head start and led all the way. Fortunately the wind picked up towards the end of the race with a rush towards the finish for the remaining boats. Results will be announced shortly.

Many thanks to Jennifer and Richard for co-ordinating this event, and especially to Sally for yet another excellent job as Race Officer.

Joy Beeson.

Shalfleet

Saturday 24th October

Co-ordinators: Steve and Annemarie Westwood

Following a morning of heavy squalls and 20-30kn winds, eight boats with some very soaked members arrived at Newtown Creek for the final event of the season. At this time of year we twitchers look out for the arrival of migrants, (usually from the North), however we had a treat with the arrival of our migrant old friends Sue and Mike Kimber on Freebooter, who are currently wintering in Corfu on Kingfisher!



After mooring on the buoys and hot drinks, we gradually made our way to the shore by dinghy. The rain had stopped and the sky was clearing. Following a short stroll we arrived at The New Inn at Shalfleet, where a room had been reserved for lunch and we were able to dry out and enjoy a delicious meal and circulate amongst friends.



On returning to the boats later in the afternoon the sun was shining! Four members of the party returned to the shore to walk off their lunch and enjoy the beautiful surroundings, whilst the remainder of the group divided themselves between Liesal and Ocean Strider and enjoyed drinks, nibbles, excellent conversation and laughter late into the evening.





Sunday saw a leisurely start, as we had just put the clocks back following the end of British Summer Time. Joseph organised the final Dixon race of the season and did an excellent job in preparing all the race details, which he distributed on Saturday evening. Seven boats participated in a fiercely contested race; results have yet to be announced.

Many thanks are due to Steve and Annemarie for once again co-ordinating this excellent and popular event at Newtown Creek, and to Joseph for his input into organising a brilliant final race in superb sailing conditions. Many thanks too to Micky & Rosie and Kim and Joseph for hosting a superb evenings entertainment on their boats.

Joy Beeson

New Year's Eve at The Folly

31st December

Coordinators: Kevin Morgan and Mary Allen

At the beginning of the week the weather forecast for New Year's Day was not good and caused one cancellation. In the event the bad weather did not materialise and most people arrived at The Folly pontoon during Thursday morning. The mooring was limited to 2 boat lengths on the Folly walk ashore pontoon unless anyone wanted to moor alongside a large motorboat (said the harbour master). This option was politely declined and we all duly moored up in 2 rafts of 4.

Lunchtime and afternoon was variously occupied by walking, resting or preparing for the evening. One boat was dressed overall but we noted that the flags had been set back to front. As we reached low water, the boats settled slightly into the soft mud, but not enough to cause any



Once were party mulled onboard



everyone was able to admire the costumes and work out who was who. At about 7.30 we made our way over the walkway to The Folly Inn.

Inside we found our tables and settled down to enjoy the evening. As usual, the full buffet meal was excellent and the tables included poppers, balloons, hats and crackers.



Music and dancing continued throughout and after the bar closed temporarily to allow the staff a break at midnight, a shower of balloons fell over the dance floor. The party continued until well after 1am, but finally we admitted defeat and returned to our boats.

The following morning (yes it was still morning) boats departed around 11 for various places, some continuing the New Year by sailing down to Lymington, while others went only as far as Cowes. We had a jamjar on a piece of string with a tea light inside and a packet of bread sticks left on Dreamcatcher which had been props for someone's fancy dress, but we can't for the life of us work out what they were for or which famous person they belonged to? Anyone want to claim them?

A thoroughly enjoyable New Year's Eve at The Folly yet again!

problems.

darkness fell, the lights switched on and at 6pm the began. First was warm wine and a few nibbles "Dreamcatcher 2" where

"Dreamcatcher 2" where

Kevin Morgan & Mary Allen

more pics below....



