

MOA Rally to Island Harbour 2023

Thirteen boats signed up for a MOA Rally at end of May bank holiday weekend.

With a few restrictions in place all members who expressed an interest in joining were able to be included. A couple of boats berthed at the Folly Inn moorings with the remaining being accommodated in the Island Harbour Marina.

Some boats arrived before the weekend to explore the Isle of Wight and enjoy the sunshine, with the remaining arriving on the Saturday afternoon harbour locking period.

Saturday evening started with a welcome drinks party on the harbour lawn, followed by a BBQ. The congenial event was a good opportunity to meet up with members for whom this was their first rally, along with those 'old hands' at such events.

Sunday dawned warm and sunny and, with nothing arranged for the morning, members discovered the area with visits to Osbourne House, Newport and Wooton amongst others.

Sunday afternoon offered the annual MOA boules competition. With seven boats entered the pace started off relaxed as members enjoyed the sun and socialising. After the first knockout round, the competition became more competitive with scores becoming closer. The final match became very tense, with only one point finally separating the teams. Well done to team BALOO on winning this year's event.



Sunday evening dinner was at the Folly Inn, this involved a pleasant 15 minute walk along the River Medina. The newly refreshed pub and menu provided good hospitality and tasty meals were served to the 29 MOA members in our own dining area with river views. The walk back along the footpath was a little more challenging in the dark but successfully navigated by all.



Monday morning locking out signalled the departures for most of the boats, heading back to home ports or onward for further cruising. The weather for the weekend was on our side with sun and reasonable breeze for sailing.

Boats attending the weekend came from as far as Poole and Chichester.

THUNDER MOON – Fiona and David Baddeley

TEAM SPIRIT – Janis and Robbie Sargent

ZINGARA of LARGS - Sarah and Anthony Joint

HUNKY DORY – Kathleen and Roger Davis

SEBBY – Teresa and David Kennard

SEVERN LADY – Christine and Haydn Chappell

BALOO – Jacky and Simon Robinson

PADDINGTON IV – Petra and John Abecasis

SOLAR ECLIPSE – Angela and Roy Matthewson + Family

INDIGO – Hedda and Chris Wells

STROLLER – Charlotte and Don Cousin

BLUE MAJIC – Lorraine and Ian Bevington

MOODY BLUE – Jenny and Stuart Wineberg

Many thanks to all the participants for joining us for the weekend and we hope to meet you at future rallies.

David & Fiona Baddeley (+Alfie the Labrador)