

Gosport Rally, 8th & 9th June 2024

The Gosport rally was held at Haslar Marina over the weekend of 8th and 9th June. Although Haslar is our normal base for the Nab Tower race this was the first time we have had a separate rally for a number of years. Initial interest was low with only three visiting yachts Moana, Mandalay and Safina all 31 Mk2s. However, members with yachts berthed in Gosport brought the number of participating members up to twenty, giving us a good turn-out.

The weather was sunny and a good breeze was enjoyed by those sailing to Gosport. The rally fell at the end of the D-Day commemorations with a display by the Red Arrows outside Portsmouth Harbour on Saturday afternoon. That was good for most of us but one visiting yacht could not access the harbour during the display and had to wait. Although they did get a really close view of the Red Arrows, possibly too close!

Late afternoon we met up for a pontoon social with food and wine. There was a good mix with many new members attending a first rally. The social was a good opportunity to get to know each other, to catch up with friends and make some new friends. We then had an evening meal in The Creek restaurant on site at Haslar. Unfortunately the services wasn't perfect but despite that members still enjoyed an evening in good company.

Sunday was another sunny day but with more breeze still from the northwest. The visiting yachts left towards the end of the morning. The north westerly made the second leg of the Dixon time passage a long beat (pretty much on the nose) from off of Ryde up the North Channel. Made more interesting by the number of dinghy and yacht racing fleets in that part of the Solent on a Sunday afternoon.



Pontoon social at Halar marina

Andy & Karen Billowes