

Cruise in Company

Saturday 29th June 2024

Seven yachts participated in this year's Cruise in Company albeit well spread out.

Friday delivered a fresh to strong southwesterly and with an east going tide much of the afternoon made it challenging for those sailing down the Solent. It was also forecast that Saturday would be light and variable. By Friday evening Ishima was at Newtown, Gentle Whisper was at Yarmouth, Safina was at Lymington, Pipkin was at Bembridge and the rest were at Gosport. The decision was made for a plan B with skippers free to decide what passage route they would take.

Saturday morning was a flat calm. Ishima decided to use the last of the west going tide down to the Needles and sailed around the back of the Isle of Wight. When they found breeze they were able to enjoy a good sail and made Bembridge is good time with a 50/50 split between motoring and sailing.

The route through the Solent could be started later and by 11am there was a light southwest breeze and east going tide. By midday off of Cowes the wind had died so motoring was necessary. But in the eastern Solent there was a good southeasterly breeze giving a beat around Ryde Sands.

All yachts had arrived at Bembridge several hours before high water.

Enjoying a sunny summers evening we met up for a social and barbeque at the marina. Our thanks to David and Fiona Baddeley for organising the social.

Andy Billowes



BBQ at Bembridge Marina



Thunder Moon and Windsong



Time Out, Ishima and Safina