## **MOA Solent Branch**

## **Buckler's Hard Rally**

23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Fourteen yachts attended the Solent Branch Rally at Bucker's Hard over the Spring Bank Holiday weekend. Particular mention must go to David Rickard who sailed Gentle Whisper single handed in breezy south westerly conditions from Poole and back.

Yachts: Safina - Team Spirit - Galatea - Blue Magic - Lady J - Windsong - Moody Blue - Gentle Whisper - Solar Eclipse - Ossian Warrior - Argo - Magic Mood - Zingara of Largs - Ariel Spirit.

Janis Sargent organised an impromptu pontoon social for the early arrivers on Friday evening. The remaining yachts arrived during the course of Saturday. In the evening we had a social and barbeque in the marina's events area. Many joined in the fancy dress theme of the 1980s in recognition of the MOA's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. A good time was had and thankfully the weather remained dry for us.

Sunday remained breezy but with more sunshine. We enjoyed a roast lunch at the Royal Southampton Yacht Club located near to Gins Farm. A large group walked the couple of miles from to the club house and some opted to use their tenders. We met up for a drink before lunch. The food was excellent with good, friendly service and we were kept entertained by a saxophonist.

Yachts departed throughout Monday morning with times to suit their home passages. Some fortunate with the wind behind them. Some straight into the south westerly.

The socials on Saturday and Sunday were supported by members who drove to participate. So our thanks to them and to everyone for taking part.

Andy & Karen Billowes (Co-ordinators).



















