

Cruise to Lymington Town S.C.

Tuesday 14th March 2023

An interesting trip: Monday's weather had been very unpleasant with winds of some 40kts and a very rough Solent: the forecast for Tuesday did not look good.

In the event the winds moderated to about 12kts, gusting 17, and the seas, which had shown herds of white horses at 0600, settled down to the "Solent chop" by 1100. Even so *Strongbow* was knocked down by a sudden squall at about 1110.

Brainwave was happily re-launched on Monday otherwise they would have had to join Hilary, Dick and Pat on *Wightlink*, *Tyrrick* escaped from the clutches of the mud up Harold Hayles creek at noon and *Dunlin*, under the command of the indomitable Dave Kennett, took the usual crowd of retired and semi-retired pirates across to his berth in L.T.S.C. marina. *Famous Grouse*, being an open launch carrying Linda and Jeremy set off in the "let's stick our nose out and see" mode. They were sheltered for a few hundred yards by the ferry by which time it was just as easy to keep going and they enjoyed the crossing.

Thirty-three of us sat down to a convivial meal. The L.T.S.C. had no staff on hand to serve the food so David (Jock) and his better half, Eileen, delivered the meals.

Terry Bishop gave a toast to our former Cruising Captain Geoff Neary who had passed away the week before and Dick Dawson led applause for the L.T.S.C. on its award of R.Y.A. club of the year.

It was great to have such a good turnout.

We all headed home just before 1500hrs. but *Tyrrick* detoured for a delightful trip up the Western Haven at Newtown for coffee. There was enough water to make it right up to the bridge on the Hamstead Estate track and explore one of the tree wrapped side creeks.

David Porter

Captain of Cruising

