



## Royal Solent Yacht Club

### *Out to Lunch at GINS*



### Cruise to Gins Farm Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Having been born on a Friday 13<sup>th</sup>, I should have realised that any project on any 13<sup>th</sup> would be subject to malign influence! And so it was that the weather forecast was horrible, especially for the return, causing several boats to pull out.

Five boats and two cars made it with fifteen members. Christine Webster and Adrian Hartley travelled furthest, driving down from London. The boats were *Second Wind*, a Moody 346, *Vidar* a 9.6m R.I.B., *Wight Chuffed* a 9m R.I.B., *Kora* a 625 Merry Fisher and *Tyrrick* a 5m R.I.B.

Travelling East was no problem with wind and tide pushing us along and everyone arrived in good time. We did pass a yacht which had gone hard aground on the inside of the shingle spit and was lying on her beam ends. I went over and hailed them but they were O.K. and had lifted off and gone by the time we came back down.

We had the whole of the outside of Gins pontoon to ourselves so there was no need to raft. The ground floor of the club house was still in the process of rebuild and plastering so there were no changing facilities other than two toilets.

Although we were booked in for 1300hrs. we had a long wait for service but this gave us a great time for pre-prandial rehydration and conversation! The food was good and despite the slow service, we all got away by 1500hrs.

The Royal Southampton Commodore came down to the pontoon to thank us for our support but missed Martyn and Kathy who had to catch a ferry. Luckily Jon and Caroline were still there and passed the message on.

I was pleasantly surprised by the sea conditions on the return trip; it was choppy and wet on the little R.I.B. but the wind had turned more to the south so we had some shelter on the Island shore. We made it to Yarmouth in about half an hour from the entrance to the Beaulieu river and dropped Jojo off on the harbour pontoon. David and Bol were not so lucky on *Second Wind* being caught in a heavy squall. Jojo had borrowed David's sailing coat for her trip on our R.I.B. so he had to shelter in the cockpit whilst Bol helmed and proved the waterproofing of his new wet weather gear!

Our next trip is to Buckler's Hard on Tuesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>.  
David



