



## **Lunch at the Royal London Yacht Club, Cowes**

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

Not an unpleasant day, but the Solent was distinctly turbulent with wind against tide making it a bouncy passage for all, especially those under power and in small boats! Whilst there are those who extol the benefits to liver and appetite of a vigorous ride, I think I will leave that to those who ride horses rather than waves.

It was easy to find our moorings but much less easy to moor as the outer pontoons were subject to a nasty chop which made them very uncomfortable.

The Royal London bar offered a comfortable pre-prandial gathering point with views out over the harbour and time to converse before descending to our ground floor dining room.

Service was quick and efficient, and the food was tasty and well presented.

I know that several of us would have liked the opportunity for a desert, but this did not seem to be possible as we had been presented with a fixed price two course menu with few options.

If we return, I shall hope to negotiate a much wider choice of menu and try to get individual pricing for the items as in all our other venues. It seemed to me that the Royal London was not geared to accommodate a large group as I had to persuade them that it was possible to charge individually rather than issue a bulk invoice to our Club, which was their preferred option.

The return journey was much more comfortable with tide and wind both driving west.

As usual Tyrrick turned into Newtown for a quiet picnic and thus missed access to her berth.

It was agreed that I try to arrange trips to the Master Builder at Bucklers Hard and the Royal Victoria Yacht Club.

My inclination is to do the Master Builder towards the end of October and save the Royal Victoria for November as it is accessible by road should the weather turn foul.

Terry Bishop has suggested that we try Ashlett Creek next year. It is almost opposite the Hamble, is accessible for about four hours, and has a very good pub. The last was echoed by several other members who have visited.

I must pick the brains of those who have been and survived. Any tips or guidance, the name of the pub and anything else. I think it sounds great, but I worry for deep keeled yachts. I'm alright Jack (in my little ditch crawler!).

Please scroll down for photographs

Enjoy life, on, in and off the water!

David



Sorry about the quality, but I downloaded this as a still from Matt's video.

