

Poole Quay Cruise ~Thursday 8th & Friday 9th July 2021

Three boats, BrightStar, Titan and Tyrrick made the trip to Poole Town Quay Marina for the two night cruise.

The wind was stronger than forecast, and with wind against tide *Titan* and *Tyrrick* had a pretty rough passage. David on his 5m. r.i.b. got "washed down" several times and could only average 11.5kt.,taking just over two hours. Jez and Val on *Titan* were slightly slower and at one point *Titan* picked up a rope which, though causing considerable vibration was cleared with no discernible illeffects.

BrightStar, a 46ft Hanse 455 sailing yacht (home berth Haslar Marina, Gosport) was the last to arrive; she had been in the Beaulieu River at Buckler's Hard marina and had suffered total engine failure - which was eventually sorted by SeaStart. The engine's electronic control unit - MDI unit - had failed for the second time and after only 86 hours of use. As it is a totally sealed unit repair wasn't an option. And there was only one available in the Southampton area (at a cost of £552). Richard knew from previous experience how to bypass the MDI unit and start the engine (a big screw driver and a large spark) and stop it as well. But he won't take the boat out unless it is 100%.

Richard invited us all on board for splendid nibbles and drinks before Jez and Val headed off (about an hour late) for dinner. Richard and David discovered that they had both been to the same "interesting" boarding school in Scarborough! Richard arriving the summer that David left. On Friday Richard and his crew - John and Mike - spent most of the day washing the foresail, though Richard was scurrilously accused of sloping off to the pub, while David took his daughter for a mini-cruise up to Wareham. (Note to Ed - Richard doesn't drink so he must have been somewhere else). Richard (Malthouse), John (Harrap) and Mike (Taylor) all live in the village of Bentley. All have been retired for some few years; Mike was a rocket scientist with the Ministry of Defence and spent some time trying to diagnose BrightStar's electronic engine problem. Both John and Mike have sailed with Richard before - including a cruise around the British Isles in 2014 and another to the Baltic in 2016.

An excellent dinner was held in the Poole Arms on Friday evening - booked by Jez and Val - and was a very jolly affair after drinks on board *Titan*.

David invited everyone to take a look at *Tyrrick*. Despite her size her fit out had been carried out imaginatively and provided a modicum of creature comforts.

On Saturday *Titan* headed further West while *BrightStar* and *Tyrrick* returned to the Solent. *BrightStar* stood by a lone sailor with an engine fire on his yacht off Bournemouth until the Swanage lifeboat took the vessel - *Que Sera* - under tow.

Conditions for the return were calm and *Tyrrick* averaged some 23kt in the light rain.

Drinks on BrightStar. L-R David Porter, Val, John Harrap, Mike Taylor, Jez Butcher



Lord Baden-Powell looking out to Brownsea Island



"Rest" day for BrightStar crew





Poole parade of minis (& BrightStar)



Dinner in the Poole Arms



Standing by *Que Sera* (engine fire)

