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*The official newsletter of the  
Fareham Sailing & Motor Boat Club*  
**September 2019**



FSMBC Banner  
proudly flying  
from the rigging  
of Blue Mistique  
in this year's  
Vannes —  
Fareham rally

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To contact the editor please e-mail [publicity@fsmbcnet.org.uk](mailto:publicity@fsmbcnet.org.uk)

Please try to get your articles, pictures, adverts etc. to the editor by the 20th of the month to ensure their inclusion in the following month's edition.

There have been lots of local rallies of late including the Bembridge BBQ and the Bursledon Regatta. I would have loved to have had photos and reports of these events to print in this newsletter. I'm sure someone who attended had a camera to hand and could have related a few anecdotes for the amusement of our readers.

However, some sober thoughts from yours truly. You may recall that Macavity visited Carentan in July. Some of you will have heard that the trip home was not without event. Having departed early through the Carentan lock we proceeded, in the dark, down the canal. For some reason the helmsman (no names mentioned) took a turn to port while his navigator checked things navigational. Before one could shout 'starboard' there was a crunching sound as keel hit gravel and rubbing strake hit starboard hand post. That was the instant that one realised that the custard was working out how best to hit the fan. Many facts instantly came to mind:

- The tide was ebbing extremely rapidly.
- It was still dark.
- The boat took on a significant angle of lean in just a few minutes. The one disadvantage of going aground in a twin-keeler was about to manifest itself: one keel on hard stoney high ground and the other on soft muddy low ground. Not good.

The question we were now asking ourselves was how far the boat was going to lean over when the tide was fully out and how soft was the mud? Had we sustained any damage? We thought it best to alert the Jobourg SAR of our position in case we did need help later when the tide came in. After taking our details they decided that they would send three pompiers (firemen/ambulance men) across the fields to check on us. They could not speak English and were not sure what they were doing there but seemed to think it was a good skive now that it was daylight. We had, by now pumped up the rubber dinghy which could be used to lay out a kedge anchor astern to ensure the boat came out in the right direction. It would also help if we had to abandon ship if she did not float off, but we did not want to think about that. Then all we had to do was wait, and wait.... I calculated over and over again the time when we could expect to float off but made it the same each time - 11:45 BST. The hour approached but there seemed no sign of things happening, but, dead on time, we floated off and a tug on the kedge took us out in a straight line. Cheers were heard from the shore.

As if I was not in a bad enough mood already it now became obvious that our passage home was directly into the wind and as we had a deadline to meet we motored all the way. I hate motoring! As we neared the west-going shipping lane visibility dropped until we could barely see our own bows. We were grateful for AIS and radar. Did I tell you that I absolutely hate fog? Visibility got better as we approached Princessa Shoal so we pressed on only to see a thick bank of fog approaching us from the North. A quick shout from the skipper had me plotting a course to anchor. As we dropped the hook we could not see cliffs or beach yet could hear people talking and dogs barking. As the fog lifted later in the morning we saw we were where we thought we were which was some consolation. Did I tell you I hate fog?

So, all in all, this was not the happiest of passages home.

I hate fog and I hate motoring. Add to this a dramatic grounding and you can see why I was not happy.

On a happier note however, on inspection, apart from a scratch on the rubbing strake there was no apparent damage to the boat.

## Forthcoming Events

### Island Harbour Rally & Afternoon BBQ



**Saturday 14th September 2019**

To take part in this popular event, please add your name and boat details etc to the notice board in the club by Thursday 5th September or email:

[jon.gun@btinternet.com](mailto:jon.gun@btinternet.com)

**Don't forget to bring something for the BBQ**

### Sail the Dramatic Dorset Coast



**Heading for Weymouth**

A few boats (C-Spirit, Jenny Wren, Macavity, Many Moons, Nondikass) intend leaving Fareham Friday 6th Sept (HW Portsmouth 17:54 BST) stopping off at Hurst anchorage or Lymington (Saturday morning market at Lymington) then heading West to Weymouth.



**FSMBC boats in Weymouth 2013**



**The view across the harbour**

**Fancy joining us?**  
**Text 07900622926**  
**or email [publicity@fsmbcnet.org.uk](mailto:publicity@fsmbcnet.org.uk)**

**To join the Island Harbour Rally & BBQ on Sat 14th remember to book with John Gunn.**



**Enjoying a meal out**

**To book for Island Harbour BBQ on 14th September contact John Gunn with the following details:**

Name, Boat Name, Length, Beam, Draught, No. of Crew, Arrival Date, No. of Nights, Emergency Number, Email Address

**Please Note: Spaces are restricted so book early.**

#### Sailing Events

15/09/2019 Solent Race - Ladies & Solent R5  
15/09/2019 Lugger Captains Cup Series. 12.00. **See page 4**  
21/09/2019 Gig training. 16.00  
28/09/2019 Cruisers in Harbour - Committee/Combined R8 11.00  
29/09/2019 Luggers - Dave Bradey Trophy 1, 2, 3. 11.30

#### Dates for Your Diary

26/10/2019 Trafalgar Night Event.  
16/11/2019 Dinner Dance and Prize Giving  
17/11/2019 AGM  
23/11/2019 Rally - Haslar Marina (Christmas shopping)

**Any items for inclusion in the October edition to be emailed to [publicity@fsmbcnet.org.uk](mailto:publicity@fsmbcnet.org.uk) by 20th of September.**



# **CAPTAIN'S CUP**

**WILL YOU MAKE THE RANK!**



**6 RACES OVER 2 WEEKENDS**

**1200 SUNDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER**

**1130 SUNDAY 13TH OCTOBER**



**KEEP CALM  
SAIL LUGGERS!**





Fareham Town is twinned with Vannes in the Golfe du Morbihan in southern Brittany which is approximately 350 miles away.

There are many different associations within the Fareham Borough who enjoy cultural exchanges with Vannes including; Music, Civic, Cycling, Tennis and Sailing. Every 4 years, a flotilla made up from the four Sailing Clubs within the Borough, namely FSMBC, Warsash, Hill Head and Portchester sail to Vannes to enjoy a weeklong celebration of the coming together of like minded people. Each Club has 2 or 3 spaces for boats to go and for the

last two trips it has been an honour for us to sail there in Blue Mistique representing FSMBC.

John and I had 2 months to complete the voyage this year which allowed 3 weeks to get there calling into different ports along the way, enjoy the exchange for a week and then take our time getting back home.

Ports called into included Braye Harbour (Alderney) St Peter Port (Guernsey), Roscoff, L'aber-wrach, Camaret-Sur-Mer, Loctudy, Ile de Groix and finally Port

Crouesty where the flotilla amassed for a sail past into Vannes. All these ports are well worth a visit as each have their own character and are very hospitable both ashore and afloat.

11 boats met up for a welcome evening in Port Crouesty with our French hosts. Amongst these was the boat Mythril Aegis – Jack and Margaret Pryde from FSMBC; great companions!

The flotilla dressed overall were escorted through the Morbihan to Vannes and were greeted by Bagpipers ashore playing amid pouring rain and 22 degrees, an emotional moment for us all.



**Pipers greeting the flotilla. Must get Kevin practicing for the return visit.**

Once tied up, we were met again by our French hosts with wine and nibbles being served within ½ hour of docking! This set the scene for a very friendly and sociable week.



**Nibbles and Fizz**



**The Mayor's Reception**

During the week visits included the Mayor's Office, Cathedral, Oyster Farm for dinner, Breton Dancing, followed by dinner, lecture by Yvan Bourgnon (French equivalent to our Alex Thomson), train ride through Vannes, picnic on Ile Iluric and a final dinner in the Best Western Holiday on the banks of the Morbihan where we watched the Raid de Vannes Marathon – 177km non-stop running/walking race in temperatures of 36 degrees!



**Dee chatting up Yvan Bourgnon**



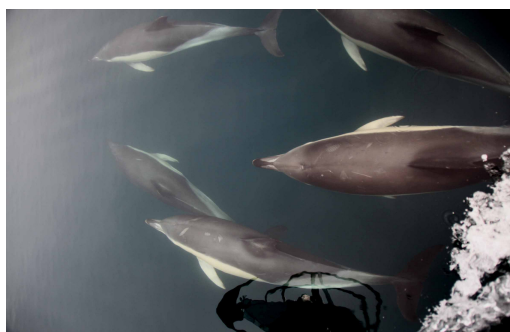
**The Road Train**

Sailing to Vannes seemed easy by comparison! (Thought I might have seen your names amongst the participants of this event guys. Maybe next year? .....Ed)



**The Gentlemen, all in smart blazers ... and ... The Ladies all in their glad rags.**

The ending of the exchange was very emotional especially after new and old friendships with our hosts had been reinforced in such a convivial manner.



We left with a sad heart and followed Jack & Margaret to Ile d' Arz in the Morbihan: peace, quiet and birds singing - an idyllic spot after such a full on week.

Heading back to England, John and I visited Port Louis, Lesconil, Camaret-Sur-Mer and then 130 miles later arrived in Falmouth – quite a trip especially as Dolphins were with us for most of the way across the western approaches of the English Channel.

All in all, we had a wonderful time and look forward to welcoming our French hosts in 2021 and hope Club Members will join in with preparations to support the occasion.

This is a brief overview of the 2019 exchange and an evening in January 2020 is being planned to give fuller details of the trip and how to join in with future exchanges – more the merrier! (Having done this trip on two previous occasions in Macavity and visited all the beautiful ports that Dee mentioned, I can fully recommend this trip to anyone who has the time. Ed)