

The nights are drawing in and for many of us the sailing season is winding down. On the up side our shore based activities and social events are kicking off. And of course the AGM is fast approaching, it's very important to the club so please do read on.

Forthcoming events.

October 8 Quiz Night at Riverside Hall

NYC teams will attempt to recover the trophy from Coastwatch, last year's winners whilst RNLI will be trying to lift the trophy for the first time.

Tuesday October 11

Skills forum at the White Lion, Seaford.

7 pm for 7.30 start.

The topic is Winterising your boat. A group discussion of hints and tips led by Maurice Elford

Remembrance Sunday 13 November

Wreath laying service with the RNLI off Newhaven. Details TBA

Saturday 19 November at Riverside Hall, Newhaven.

AGM followed by the laying up supper

A vital meeting that will determine how the club is managed and the programme of events. We need YOUR input into what you want in terms of social events, rallies, skills forums, and training.

We also need volunteers for the Committee, please try to step up and help out, it's not onerous and many hands make light work.

The meeting will be followed by the annual prize giving.



Its trophy time!

As usual, we will be awarding trophies to members at the AGM for a variety of sailing events and feats for the 2016 sailing season, **and we need your input!**

All claims must relate to achievements in the 2016 season and must have completed by 24 September 2016.

7 Ports Trophy (the Tapping Cup)

As usual the aim is to visit 7 of 8 listed ports in the 2016 sailing season (below). If no-one achieves 7 ports, consideration will be given to the nearest to the 7. The specified ports are:-

Rye, Sovereign Harbour, Littlehampton, Chichester (any marina), Bembridge, Gosport (any Marina), the Medina River (any marina) and either one of Lympington or Yarmouth.

Should more than one skipper have visited 7 of the listed ports in the season, then the 8th port will be counted as a decider. Otherwise in the event of a tie, the skipper to have achieved their result first will be the winner.

Cruiser Cup Awarded for the most ports and anchorages visited.

Courage Cup (first Channel crossing by a skipper),

Most improved skipper cup

Most improved crew cup.

Kittiwake Cup awarded for a special yachting achievement

and of course the old favourite

The Cock Up Kettle, awarded for the most embarrassing mistake.

You may as well own up – it will come out in the end!!

All claims and nominations (briefly justified) should be sent to club secretary Graham Eaton g.m.eaton@icloud.com no later than Saturday 15th October.

Cruiser Cup and 7 Ports Trophy claims must be supported with ships log entries

The committee will consider all the entries and their decision will be final. If you have any questions about any of these trophy events, please contact Graham at the above email address.

And don't forget the photo competition

Bring along your favourite 2016 shots in the following categories,

- a) Nautical
- b) Any subject you like

News from our members

Farewell Zeta

After years of great sailing Nigel and Ann have recently sold Zeta. They are now looking forward to becoming motor boaters.

Yachties in the club are delighted – we now expect to have a committee boat to start our competitive cruises!

The Piranha Bar at Sparkes Marina is no more

News just in from our Commodore

The Piranha Bar and Restaurant at Sparkes Marina has shut down. There are now NO bar or catering facilities on site. It was a good job

on my recent visit that we were reasonably well provisioned and that one of the Fray Bentos steak and kidney pies (bearing a comparatively recent sell by date of the early 90's) I carry for emergencies was available.

Airborne from Matt Longbone

Airborne 2016 presented an opportunity for an unofficial NYC gathering at Eastbourne to witness the sights, sounds and somewhat busy locks which accompany this great free event which takes place just 'around the head!'

Jackie and Matt left after work on Friday 12th August, sailing from Brighton and rounding Beachy Head after dark in what was to be their first 'night sail' on board Salute. The wind was a brisk F6 from the SW which assured a reasonably fast passage and they took up berth on a pontoon as directed by Eastbourne Marina staff.

The following morning, Ann hailed them from on-board Zeta which was berthed almost opposite! Mike and Eileen were also present, Eastbourne being Belfast Child's home port. Roger on Hunky Dory was in town too and heading back to Newhaven on Saturday 13th.

This was the day Jackie and Matt chose to visit the airshow with visitors Sharon and Robb on-board....leaving a busy lock at around 11:00hrs they sailed to the airshow location putting in a couple of smart tacks in the lively F5 breeze.

The anchorage for the airshow was just tenable to allow a perfect platform for viewing the show and a picnic lunch on-board and there were many other boats with the same idea! Mike, Eileen, Nigel and Ann watched the show from the shore.



As always we were treated to a fantastic air display, with highlights including the Red Arrows, Breitling wing walkers and a Typhoon jet. The sunshine put in an appearance and the show ended around 5pm allowing time for another sail back to the (again busy!) Eastbourne Marina locks before an enjoyable evening meal out.

On Sunday Salute and Zeta returned to Brighton Marina in quiet easterly conditions allowing them to compete in the 'cruising chute stakes!



Littlehampton Rally

Sadly the weather intervened this year forcing the cancellation of the event.

Zeta's summer Littlehampton & Solent sail.

With an invitation to provide support for Ann's son Chris who was to demonstrate "fly-boarding" from his jet-ski for the 21 August Littlehampton River Festival Ann and I left Brighton in Zeta on the Friday to enjoy a very pleasant sail and avoid the stormy weather forecast for the next day. The show took place on Sunday in improving weather conditions and attracted big crowds at the riverside. The Festival included the fly-boarding by Chris Headon, hovercraft displays, swimming races, racing powerboats (though thankfully not actually racing in such a confined space), a yellow amphibious car, classic yachts, visit by Shoreham Lifeboat and the Coastguard helicopter, dinghy racing in the river by Arun Yacht Club, and an MOB recovery demo by the Littlehampton RNLI. Zeta was dressed overall to support the event.

A complete weather change on Tuesday let us sail in easy conditions to Gosport, where we made an overnight stop. While in Gosport we discovered that Matt and Jacquie Longbone were aboard their Westerly "Salute" and were heading for Newtown River. Discovering that Newtown was a bit crowded, we decided not to try to get there, and to motor instead up the Medina River to the Folly Inn. On the way to Cowes we were passed at high speed by the Americas Cup catamaran – spectacular!



Surprisingly there was plenty of room on the Folly pontoon, and we spent a peaceful evening listening to the curlews and oystercatchers. Next morning we were pleased to see former NYC members Graham and

Jane Scholes who arrived from Chichester in their Bavaria “Teddy Rose”. It was good to catch up and share our sailing news of the last few years.

Considering where to go next, we called up “Salute” and agreed to meet up in Ryde Harbour. Ryde is an interesting harbour to visit as it dries completely and fin keel boats need to lean against the harbour wall. The approach, from just north of Ryde Sands, is a very narrow channel just a few hundred metres East of the Hovercraft landing area, and Ryde Pier. It is clearly marked with buoys, but it is advisable to get the timing right and enter and leave no more than 1.5 hours either side of HW.

Ryde’s friendly harbour master welcomes you by bringing a huge fender board to your boat as you come alongside. If you enjoy the beach life, just hop over the harbour wall and you are on a lovely sandy beach, and the water at this time of year is clear, warm and very tempting.



Bank Holiday in Ryde is busy! A scooter rally with hundreds of rather aged and some younger

“mods” was assembling, with scooter riders from all over the country. The decorations on many of the scooters was spectacular. Loud music, the rumble of the train across Ryde Pier, and the regular arrival and departure of the hovercraft made it seem unlikely that there would be any prospect of a peaceful night for us “old gits”, and yet by just after 10 pm all seemed peaceful and calm.

Matt and Jacquie decided to move on to Emsworth late the next day but we stayed another night against the harbour wall, hoping for a decent sail to Chichester Harbour the next day. Bad plan! Wind turned against us and a motor sail was just about possible. We decided to join Matt and Jacquie again at the Emsworth pontoon, where we understood there to be some space. We all went ashore in dinghies, and found the new shore pontoon facilities for dinghies to be busy with many children enjoying “crabbing”.

After a stroll around the town and bit of essential shopping, we ended up at The Lord Raglan pub, with garden overlooking nearby moorings, for what turned out to be an excellent lunch. Next morning, time to make the journey home, and with the SW wind picking up to 24 knots at the pontoon, we set off down to the Chichester entrance. After a bit of a bumpy exit, passing the West Pole, we set half a genoa and powered in “rock n roll” fashion with gusts of over 30 knots through the Looe Channel and home. Matt decided to go round the Owers to give Jacquie a less bumpy ride, and we all arrived back safely in Brighton in the late afternoon.

Free Spirit goes to Brittany

Richard Hanson and Sharon sailed Free Spirit to Brittany via the Channels Islands in September. We hope to publish further details of what sounds an excellent trip in the next Newsletter.