

Well I think you'll all agree it's been a pretty mixed season as regards weather so far. Still, members who've been in touch seem to be making the best of it. Read on for information of forthcoming events and reports about several that have taken place.

Forthcoming events

11 – 14 August Airbourne at Eastbourne

Although not an “official” NYC rally we expect, as in past years, that several NYC boats will make their way to Sovereign Harbour for a night or two to watch the airshow, either from the shore or at anchor. The airshow programme is available on

<http://www.eastbourneairshow.com>

4 September - Buddy Sailing Day

Buddy crew will want to put this in their diary. Invites and details will be issued nearer the time.

Tues 13 September – First skills forum of the autumn/winter season.

Topic and venue to be confirmed, we are hoping to cover Radar with the RNLI at the life boat station.

17 – 24 September – Late season rally to the Solent.

Hoping for an Indian summer we've added this in. The intention is to head west and return to Littlehampton the following weekend for the rally.

24/5 September Littlehampton Rally

Details will be published nearer the time.

Buddy Sailing Scheme

We are delighted to report that Richard Mitchell has made an excellent recovery and will soon be available once again. He even has a full set of sails rigged on Blue Danube ready for the off.

If you see him ask how many people it took to bend on a single line reefed main – the answer is 4. That's 1 to do it and 3 to give conflicting expert advice!!

RYA Training Course - VHF Radio



Newhaven and Seaford Sailing Club is running 2 RYA VHF Short Range certificate courses this autumn.

NYC members are offered a discount of £10. The discounted cost is £65 for the one day course including the course book, teas and coffees. Assessments are a further £30 and the certificate another £30. A total of £125.

The course consists of 7 hours classroom training followed by an assessment. Three hours of pre-course work are required. The courses will be held locally either in Seaford or Newhaven.

Dates for the courses are:

Sat 17th Sep at 0900hrs &

12th Nov at 0900hrs

Interested members should contact instructor Bill Giles (mention you are a NYC member) as soon as possible at

bg@billgiles.org.uk or ring 07720 399189

A Report from the Summer Rally from Matthew Longbone

Four boats headed west as an alternative to the originally intended East Coast rivers event for an early summer Solent rally: Beaumaris, Hunky Dory, Belfast Child and Salute.

The boats spent parts of the rally together and on occasions split to different ports for various reasons, collecting crew etc.

The first night was spent at Sparkes Marina on Hayling Island followed by a very light airs sail the next morning to rendezvous in Bembridge harbour on the Isle of Wight. A pleasant afternoon was spent walking into Bembridge, trying to locate the Crab and Lobster Inn which proved totally elusive.

However all the crews enjoyed the summer sun despite the lack of refreshment.

Prior to leaving Bembridge Matt ascended his mast using Klemheist knots for what felt like the sixth time in an attempt to finally complete fitting of his foghorn (a birthday present received 18 months ago!) - success!

(When Matt says "success" he hides the fact that it didn't work at all until he took the unprecedented step of reading the instructions! Ed)



Belfast Child passing Horse Sand Fort

The boats split to separate destinations at this point, with Salute heading to Newtown Creek for a night on a buoy followed by Yarmouth as a starting point for a circumnavigation of the island! Leaving at 5:30am one foggy morning (and putting to good use Salute's newly fitted foghorn!) they headed past the Needles and steered South-East for St Catherine's Point. After rounding the point visibility finally improved and they perched on a buoy for a pasty at Sandown to wait for the tide to catch up with them! Dolphins danced at the bow en-route. The next part of Salute's very own 'round the island' saw Jackie & Matt pass Bembridge once again before anchoring for the afternoon in Osborne bay and finally catching up with the other rally boats in Cowes for a 'bring and share supper' that evening. Meantime the Cowes 'splinter group' had enjoyed a walk along the river Medina and also endeavoured to establish the source of a slight diesel leak on Belfast Child.

After Cowes the group split again, Hunky Dory heading to Yarmouth to get in some IOW walking whilst Beaumaris, Belfast Child and Salute headed for Poole harbour in more light airs.



This group picked up a buoy off Brownsea Island for the first night and Mike & Eileen, Jackie & Matt landed on the Island via dinghy the following day and wandered amongst the deer and red squirrels.



Maurice took advantage of his relatively shallow draught and took a trip up to Wareham whilst in Poole. Is this a NYC first?



On the return he passed this miniature steam powered paddle steamer that actually works.

Salute and Belfast child then headed for Lymington with Beaumaris spending a further night in Poole. Beaumaris arrived in Lymington as the others were leaving for the Beaulieu River. Beaumaris caught up the

following day at the mid-river pontoon.

Roger & Kath later reported pleasant walks from Yarmouth to Freshwater and also a section of the West Wight coastal path.

Hunky Dory also had an interesting time returning home from Gosport single handed. Deceived by the light following breeze the newly acquired chute was raised but within minutes the wind rose to a F5/6. Whilst at the bow frantically trying to wrestle it down in what was now becoming a very nasty situation "George" the autohelm decided he couldn't work out which way was north so careered round in circles off Hayling. Eventually a panic induced adrenalin rush managed to haul down the snuffer and get things under control. George was given a sound thrashing for being a very naughty boy and locked below for the remainder of the journey which was best described as lively and very very fast.

Salute headed for Chichester as a spring-board for the journey back to Brighton spending another night on a buoy whilst Belfast Child headed for Gosport and caught them up whilst passing Chichester the following day.

All boats enjoyed one or two weeks in pleasant company and even saw the sun!

Membership News

We are pleased to welcome John & Gerry Whittemore as family members. John has joined via the Buddy scheme which demonstrates the recruitment value of this facility. He has some previous sailing experience so buddy skippers please note.

John has also provided the following report of his first buddy day out.

Boat Buddy

For me Buddying is a practical way of leaning to sail on the sea. I've sailed on rivers and the broads, but to sail on the sea is a very different ball game.

My first time was with Maurice aboard Beaumaris

As it was the beginning of the season, the yacht had been put back into the water the day before, and the sails had just returned from the cleaners.

The first job on arriving was to attach the mainsail to the mast, then attach the genoa to the roller reefing gear.

We left the marina and motored into the river, and headed out to sea. We set the sails and sailed against wind and tide for Birling Gap.

We had a pleasant sail for about 2½ hours, taking turns to steer, with another buddy.

On reaching Birling Gap we came about and had a lively sail back. I couldn't see if the water reached the gunwales, because the spray dodgers were in the way, most enjoyable.

Then opposite Seaford beach the wind disappeared and we sloooowly went round in a circle, then a slight wind appeared which gave us enough way, until the wind disappeared again, and we sloooowly went round in a circle again, when the wind again appeared, enabling us to reach the mouth of the river, to motor in, an hour after leaving Birling Gap.

And finally....

A catering tip from a member who wishes to remain anonymous. Don't make a jelly and put it in the boat fridge to set just before heading out into a F6.