

## RSWSC SHRIMPER FEST 2011

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2011-09-29

Always a tense time, are we going to get the number of boats to make a regatta? Well success, fifteen arrived some guests from Southampton, Scotland as well as our local stalwarts!

Our weather was not too bad and our first days racing was a moist and windy experience but a good way to start the week. Dave Parr, our Commodore, with assistance kindly ran the day one and fifth day races, otherwise we were under the guidance of one of the most experienced of cruising skippers, Martin Pumphrey, whom I was glad to have on board especially as it gave Drifter 240 some more than worthwhile tweaking. It's all down to the helm from now on!!

The first race was a good W course set in the large area normally put aside for waterskiing, no comment. For the Shrimpers this provided an exciting race



having the opportunity to deal with katabatic winds or drainage winds which provide a different dimension to our sailing experiences certainly a pleasant alternative to what can only be described as lake sailing in the normal part of the estuary. The first race was won by a clear margin by Chris and Jennie Dullage in 270.



Our first social evening at the club provided a wine tasting followed by a served BBQ from Henry's galley which the forty participants enjoyed. The wine tasting was supported by Wendy Morison from Wadebridge Wines and myself showing a couple of early English wines one excellent sparkling in the form of a 2006 Camel Valley and the other a still soft 2007 organic white from Davenport vineyard in

Sussex. Wadebridge Wines offered generous discounts to all those placing orders on the evening as well as a further contribution to our evenings 'improved accessibility to the club fund'. With the result of a good raffle, a part of the ticket and wine sales the fund benefited by £400

Wednesday was our first cruise taking us out on a blowy day with a gentle force five on the way and a proposed circumnavigation of Newland Rock. Martin was soon aware conditions on the other side of the rock could be challenging to some of the boats who rarely experience this sort of sea and were only with us because of the company of other Shrimpers and our rescue boat ably handled throughout the week by Brian Budden and Keith Snelling. As a result a sensible about turn was adopted by our cruise skipper and we made for quiet water to enjoy our picnics as well as some well chosen wines and dropped anchor in Hawkers Cove not far from the old lifeboat station. This was not in itself out of the ordinary except for Sue Morris with Ivan and Louise Mortimer in Shrimper 17 who embarked on the little known practice of barbecuing off the transom of the boat. It is official and we had the proof as our rescue boat delivered some particularly well done but very tasty little sausages.



All participants had a free evening and made use of some of the currently inspired eateries in Rock with the new 1 Rock Road taking its fair share.

Thursday could have been either a race or cruise and the latter won. Although the swell higher than yesterday outside the estuary Martin created an excellent sail whereby we had a virtual Le Mans start with sails furled, anchors down and all aboard in the cockpit. There are several benefits to this, apart from the obvious



entertainment value, in that the fleet starts off more or less together as we made our way to an improvised mark being the rescue boat near Padstow before a gentle cruise/race up towards Wadebridge before anchoring or rafting off Trewornan Creek. We enjoyed some good weather and for most an extended picnic after which one might imagine a few

kissing's with the putty on the return trip, however, that was more the case getting to our picnic spot.

Henry put on a curry evening on Thursday which was enjoyed by 20 of the cruisers and as is so often the way after a good sail then supper there wasn't anybody in site after 9.15pm.

Martin had high hopes of Friday providing us with a longer cruise and so it was we set off with another anchor start with the fleet avoiding the ferry or could it have been the other way round as we looked as if we didn't want to be messed around. All went well although we were being headed by a westerly that slowed up our chances of getting to the new lifeboat station off Trevoise for a quiet lunch. Great sailing was had by all with most of the fleet getting around Gulland Rock having had lunch under sail before messages started to filter over the radio about returning before being caught by an adverse tide and worst of all an inaccessible sandy mooring.

We all had a cracking sail back to Rock.



Friday night is fish night, always popular and with the regulars, over 100 meals were served – remarkable from such a small galley.

Our last day did not look upon us kindly and it proceeded to rain and make for a very wet race in the early afternoon which started with a good breeze and ended with almost totally becalmed and many places being decided by the vagaries of the wind but still enjoyable. Mark Peek positioned himself to make a well-deserved first over the line

The final dinner with 48 provided Henry and Steve the chance to excel with the serving of a three course meal with perfectly cooked Cornish fillet as the main. After which I gave a brief summary of the week thanking all those who had made it possible including Richard and his attractive team on the bar, Chris and Jennie Dullage for coordinating the challenging job of registration plus others mentioned earlier in this report.

Jane Parr, our Rear Commodore, kindly presented the prizes:



Our Cruise Heroes – Bill and Sue Lawes

Racing, – 1<sup>st</sup> Equal Chris & Jennie Dullage 270 and Mark Peek 356  
(No, that is not Mark with Chris!)



1<sup>st</sup> Lady Helm – Ruth Tayler 722, our guest from Warsash



Overall Most Improved over the two races – Marcus and Felicity Corbally,  
in 110 Gertrude

The unanimous view was that the week had been a success and definitely to be repeated next September, keep an eye on the RSWSC website for all details with a further view for more cruising with one day of the Peter Keeling being put aside for this which could be achieved if the race up the river is included in the results.

Until next year, Christopher (Topper) Ann.

September 2011

## Regattas – 2012

**The following dates should be put in your diaries for 2012:**

**Please note Camel Week has been moved forward by one day**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Shrimper Week	Friday 29th June to Wed 4th July 2012
Junior Camel Week	Friday 27th July to Tuesday 31st July 2012
<b>Camel Week</b>	<b>Saturday 11th August to Thursday 16th August 2012</b>
Autumn Shrimper Fest	Saturday 22nd September to Wednesday 26th September 2012