

An active start to 2020 for Cruising Fleet members

Frostbite Cruise – first foray into the Solent

The first weekend of most years sees a small flotilla of hardy Parkstone cruising people head up to the Solent for a few days of winter sailing. January 2020 was no different.

Nigel Wrigley is the long-standing organiser of these rallies but was unable to take part due to engine problems with his usually faithful *Thais*.

Leadership of the rally fell to long time Frostbite regular Nigel Clark of *Calero*.

Four boats signed up for the rally, *Calero*, *Excalibur*, *iPad of Poole* and *Ruby Max*. On the Friday three vessels visited Lymington, berthed on the Dan Bran Pontoon and then enjoyed dinner at the Lymington Town Sailing Club. The following day the trio of yachts sailed to the Folly Inn on the Isle of Wight's Medina river where they were joined by *Excalibur* and later by the unexpected appearance of *Tantrum*.

The weather held up during the rally. The sail to Lymington was lively with a NE wind gusting 25-30 knots and moderate swell helping us on our way. Saturday's light W wind provided a gentle run up to the Folly. The flotilla returned on the Sunday into a light W breeze and calm sea.

Jackie and Rob Dobson of *iPad* commented: "Lymington Town Sailing Club were very welcoming giving us a discount on drinks and not charging us to take part in the Quiz. We didn't win but managed to hold our own despite being a couple of people short and the amount of alcohol consumed! A fun evening.

"Saturday night at the Folly was another great evening. The food and the musician were excellent. Lots of dancing and merriment followed. It was a great weekend and a lovely way to meet members from PYC we haven't met before".

Cruising Fleet "peleton" heads out on Studland bike ride

Seventeen members of PYC's Cruising Fleet met in the club car park at 1100 am on January 8th ready to embark on a gentle 6.7 mile, post-Christmas, cycle ride to the Bankes Arms at Studland organised and lead by Howard and Chris Stocker.

Conditions were dry with a light breeze. A mixture of electric and peddle powered bikes made up the peloton that first regrouped at the Sandbanks ferry and then continued to Studland arriving at the Bankes Arms just after mid-day where we all enjoyed a pleasant lunch.

Daylight is short in January and the prospect of afternoon rain meant we soon needed to be heading home. We all arrived safely back at PYC by 1500 hrs without incident save for one chain coming off and the loss of a pair of cycle gloves. Everyone said they very much enjoyed the day and were looking forward to the next Tour de Studland.

