Notes on the Social Sailing group meeting on 1st April 2016
**(Recorded by Barbara Beck with additions from Gary)**

*43 Members of Social Sailing attended the meeting, 17 members apologised.*

 *Mike Tong said that there were 99 paid up members to date. (now 104)*

*Item 1) Update on, Sand, Ferries and Tender Park also report on Laying-up, Scrubbing-off, strops, moorings and launching. (GG and DD)*Gary showed pictures of the sand around the pontoon dating from its greatest extent at the end of 2015 to the situation in March just prior to when the pontoon was removed. He estimated that power hosing and natural erosion had removed about half a meter of sand at the hammer-head back to the next pair of piles.

David Dodgson (DD) reported that Selene 2 would now be used as Ferry with the usual call sign on channel 8. Waterproofs are needed in Selene 2. Also life jackets must be worn and wellies or waterproof shoes would be helpful. Richard Archer asked about maximum numbers on Selene 2. DD confirmed 6/7 persons: also luggage should be carried as the boat becomes very wet and sandy. He said climbing aboard from the Selene 2 is not difficult.

GG reported that pressure washing was now part of the laying-up deal with better equipment and more staff for the end of 2016. If rope-strops (clearly identified) were delivered to the Crew in the shed in good time, then they would put them on the appropriate mooring buoy as part of the launching service.
Calls between boats, whilst Social Sailing, should be on Channel 16, transferring to Channel 6.

*Items 2&3 Updated Programme for 2016* *+ discussion of Events likely to be over- subscribed*Gary presented images from last year of many of the venues to be visited as he outlined the programme, concentrating on the harbour events and short trips into the Solent. Points arising:

**CYC 19th April:** Request for views on the food at the Club. There are other eating options available for future visits.
**Itchenor 28th April**: June suggested that people let her know (on the day) if they want fish & chips as Nick would not be able to cope if everyone wanted that choice.
**Bembridge Brading May 4th**, HW 10.07, so the Ferry must be early, 08.00 hrs or an option is to go the day before or to sleep on-board on the HISC moorings. Lyn pointed out that the ferry service will be slower than in previous years.
**Poole Week, Parkstone**: Latest report suggests owners moor at their own risk for the fear of grounding.
**Bembridge S. C**. evening meal 5th July: Lyn reported new staff so the service may have improved.

**Social Sailing Week:** (Mon, East Head) This year it is intended that Selene 2 will be used for the picnic at East Head. Richard Curties suggested that Selene could be launched for this trip.
**Dell Quay** (Thurday): Jane Blaydes will enquire about use of the new club pontoon.

**BBQ at White Lodge** (Fri): Numbers could well be limited with preference being given to those signing up at the meeting followed by those emailing the Captain. Payment by those attending will be preferable.
**Stewart’s Pontoon and BBQ,** 4th August: It may also be necessary to limit numbers attending by road to this event.
**Mini Medina**, Ginns Farm was being considered for Tuesday Aug 23rd. June said that there had been changes there after the last disappointment, so food etc should have improved.

**Topless** events would be organised by Gil Carter and Mike Durrant to coincide with the longer trips in the main programme of events.

*Item4 Getting more people onto boats*.
For day-trips, Mike Tong suggested that people hoping for lifts should contact the trip organiser. (We have tried this before without great success, it may be useful for skippers willing to give lifts to make it known to the organiser in advance to save many phone calls.)

*Item 5 Looking Ahead*. Gary suggested that in view of the healthy state of SS-finances and the likelihood that the SS-BBQ would not be subsidised, there could be zero subscription for 2017.

He also stressed the importance of attracting younger members to SS in order to balance the age profile. With week-day only events, and people working to a greater age, there was no easy solution. He thought that emphasising the sailing aspect of events where they had previously been listed as “Lunch at XXXX” would be helpful.

At the November AGM there had been strong pressure from members to retain the publication of the SS-programme in the HISC-calendar, which in turn is copied into the Club handbook, even though this meant inevitable changes with such a long lead-time. Gary agreed to submit an outline programme for 2017 after the November AGM, as had happened for 2016.
Gary said that his term of office would end after the 2017 season so it would make for a smooth transition if his successor was appointed in time to prepare a programme for 2018, which would mean before the 2017 AGM.

*AoB* Lyn Smith encouraged Members to support her in her attempt to raise money for Research into Pancreatic Cancer, from which both Richard and Doreen had died. She is doing a charity walk along the South Downs in May.

Richard Curties expressed thanks on behalf of those present for the excellent conducting of the meeting.