

AGM Nov 2nd 2018, 11 a.m. in the Club House

1. **Welcome:** Mike Tong, the Fleet Captain, welcomed all 39 members present to the meeting and reminded us that he would be retiring today. He thanked everyone who had helped him with the planning and running of the group, especially Jane Blaydes for handling the internet messaging and, especially, the invaluable help of his wife, June.

2. **Apologies:** Apologies had been received from Mike & Elizabeth Abrahams, John Bailey, John & Marilyn Blake, Pat Bovis, Belinda Cook, Richard & Carolyne Curties, Geoffrey Palmer and Ray & Margaret Stewart, Barry B.

3. **Minutes of the last AGM held on Nov 3rd 2017:** The Minutes of the last AGM were taken as a true record of proceedings.

4. **Matters arising not covered on the Agenda:**

1. Pontoon & Ferry: As at last year's AGM meeting there was no ferry running as the pontoon had not been installed. A substitute vessel was used to run up on the beach. Over the 2018 season both the pontoon and ferry were in use. Although precarious no one fell in and no one got their feet trapped!
2. Joint Events: The Club had asked that joint events with other cruising members be arranged and these were fitted into the programme. No non-members attended these events so the exercise will not be repeated.

5 .Fleet Captain's Report:

First, I must give you all my heartfelt thanks for all your messages of commiseration and support after my contretemps with a very large vehicle while I was on my bike cycling along the Seafront a couple of weeks ago. I think I am going to be a few weeks yet before the effects taper off. It's a good thing that we are out of the sailing time of the year!

So here we are at the end of a very sunny and hot season! We are here so that I can report on our activities over the last year. First I must say that whatever happens in the summer, mostly in regards to sailing, the social side in the winter goes from strength to strength with great attendance for Friday lunches and, of course, many Social Sailors support the Wednesday evening Dinners. We even had a strong presence at a Marlow talk on high tech ropes a short time ago and learnt to splice multi-filament dyneema!

I am sure that this is a reflection of our increasing age demographic – all getting older and not enough young blood – words that have been said over several of the past few AGMs. Still, we are a vibrant group among the rest of the Club's younger dinghy activists and enjoy our membership just as much if not more. Naturally, as (almost all) retired people, we should have more time to enjoy the Club's facilities with or without grandparently duties which come in the way.

On the sailing side we remain at about 20 yachts which leave the harbour although, sadly, the Penfold's Sunmaid and our Excalibur are replaced by motor boats from the "Dark Side". We have, I'm pleased to say, been augmented by Dagnal and Kathy's catamaran and Norman Payne's Westerly, both with sails!

In terms of membership numbers, we are much the same as last year, down from 94 to 90. I can report (unless anyone corrects me!) that for at least the fourth year in a row, no one has passed away. We are very lucky, and I think I am going to achieve the object of my predecessor, Gary Gledhill, of retiring alive, although a car transporter on the seafront made an effort otherwise!

Turning now to what happened over the last 12 months, I can start with the various winter events over 2017/18. I seem to remember a very happy Turkey Dinner at the Club when the Social Sailing members continued their support and made up several tables. Into January there was lunch arranged by Judy Cave at Emsworth Sailing Club with 30 members enjoying a varied menu of delicious food with a very sunny outlook. There were then the usual first Friday in the month HISC lunch in February and a visit to CYC organised by Trevor. Unusually, March's was cancelled by snow so next was the Spring one with 28 members including preparatory information about the upcoming programme and state of the Club facilities.

Sailing season proper started as usual with 4 day cruises. First to CYC, thanks Trevor, especially for negotiating a "knock down" £5 short stay charge at the waiting pontoon. 38 people enjoyed the trip and lunch mostly outside in the sun, 9 boats with 6 by car. A week later less clement weather oversaw the trip to the Itchenor Club although again the tasty lunch itself was partaken outside with a cloudburst accompanying the motor home. Then to Dell Quay on top of the tide with 5 boats including the Clarkes in their rib to do the ferrying. The weather was good, if cold, and the Dell Quay members very welcoming. Thanks to Jane for the organisation. Lastly 4 boats and 15 persons visited the Haslar lightship at Gosport for an excellent lunch. Thanks, John Cook.

Summer "away" trips started as usual with the Port Solent/Bembridge outing. 7 yachts and 29 persons made it to Port Solent and the Wetherspoons pub – very successful, thanks Paul. 5 more boats joined at the Duver Marina with a jolly dinner at Brading SC – thanks Lyn. The Gary organised Seaview lunch next day was joined by 19 having reached the Club by various means. On return we found that a major Marina fire practice had been successfully finished.

The Folly Jaunt at the end of May was not blessed with good weather but visits to Newport, Island Harbour and Bucklers Hard were enjoyed by the usual crew of 15 to 20 with 8 boats.

Blooming June was the usual success encompassing Cowes, Newtown Creek and Yarmouth. Thanks go to the Baileys, Gledhills and of course Kevin and Richard for their BBQ set up – this year in rather chillier conditions.

Poole Week was arranged on a rather more "ad hoc" basis than previously. The only fixed date was at Parkstone, which gave us excellent moorings and a happy and delicious supper. Half a dozen yachts spent time at places various en route and around Poole Harbour. Summer had definitely arrived and swimming was the order of the day for many!

Harbour Week was in the middle of the heatwave. Coffee and wonderful cakes at Hisc for about 20 was on Monday morning followed by dinner for 30. 12 by boat and 15 by car went to the Itchenor pub on Tuesday. For some reason East Head on Wednesday only attracted a dozen – the number reduced by the theft from a locked dinghy of Excalibur's outboard! The Boathouse Café at Chi Marina only attracted 2 boats and 8 people. However the BBQ on Friday was a roaring success with about 60 members luxuriating in the Taylors' garden – thanks very much Gusti and Peter and to John the Chef for cooking.

After the well-received event in 2017, the Mini-Medina starting the day after Cowes Week was again well supported by 7 boats and crews. The Folly evening was dampened by a lack of kitchen gas which severely reduced the menu. Tuesday at West Cowes included dinner divided between Murrays for the fish eaters and the Duke of York's for standard pub fare. Then on to Hythe where John Bailey had the nightmare of an inadequate number of visitor berths requiring him to phone worldwide for house owners to provide them! However he managed it and the drinks and nibbles were great, thanks very much, John and Sue.

The end of August saw the popular BBQ at the Stewarts, thank you Margaret and Ray. 30 people and 5 boats rafted at the bottom of the garden had a great time in glorious sunshine, eating their own meat and Margaret's salad.

Solent Rivers Week started on Sunday 9th September, nearly the end of the season already! Visits were to Island Harbour, Yarmouth, Dan Bran Lymington, finishing at Hamble Point. About 25 members give thanks to Margaret, Lyn, June and Anthony for their organisation.

Finally the sailing part of the season finished with well supported trips to Itchenor and CYC, Thanks Trevor and John Beck.

Now, particularly as this is the end of my tenure as Fleet Captain, I'd like to thanks all the helpers who make the running of Social Sailing possible. We rely on Jane Blaydes for the web and circulation of news and information, thanks Jane. Thanks to Paul Young for keeping the books and telling me when I haven't handed over subs. Thanks to all the organisers of individual events. Most of all thanks to June, my most active assistant who keeps me on the straight and narrow, arranges many of the events and prompts me when jobs need to be done.

At this point, June kindly presented Jane with a lovey planter of cyclamen for her work over the years on the website.

6. Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer, Paul Young, presented the accounts and reported that membership had reduced to 90 paid up members.

	£	£
		1,094.21
Opening Bank and Cash Balances as at 01/10/2017		
Income		
Subscription 90 members	450.00	
No flag sales during 2018	0.00	
Deposits repaid – Dan Brun	100.00	
Royal Solent Yacht Club	100.00	
Hythe	45.00	
Beaulieu	25.00	
BBQ Taylors	165.00	885.00
Expenditure		
Deposit paid to Dan Brun	100.00	
Deposit paid to Royal Solent Yacht Club	100.00	
Deposit paid to Hythe Marina Restaurant	45.00	
Deposit Beaulieu	25.00	
Itchenor Ferry	20.00	
BBQ (Taylors)	318.49	
Web Hosting	113.44	
Canapes at HISC	127.50	
Flowers & Gifts	155.56	1004.99
Closing Bank and Cash Balances as at 30/09/18		974.22

Fleet Assets at 30/09/17	£
Bank Balance	974.22
Petty Cash	0.60
Flags at Cost	222.12
Total	1196.94

After discussion Jane Blaydes reported that the figure for the website was, in fact, for 2 years' account. The subject of Subs for the coming year was raised and Paul suggested £5.00 per person again. Monica Rose said it was very good value. A show of hands showed agreement with the suggestion. Paul also pointed out that he still had a supply of flags for sale, no flags having been sold during the year.

Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Lyn Smith and seconded by Karen Lichfield and the motion was carried nem. con.

7. Rear Commodore Cruising's Update: David Dodgson reported that there had been a number of problems with visitors during the season and that payments were not collected properly. A scheme is being drawn up which will be published when ready to explain the procedures and to make sure that subs are collected in future, including from club members who are not mooring holders. The lift out had gone smoothly this year with no complaints from boat owners.

Operation of the ferry for the coming season will be changed – payments will be taken in at the time of booking. Peter Wareham asked if club cards could be used, but this has been considered too complicated. In answer to the question as to what the fees would be for moorings, this has to be decided. They have been in place for 30 years but only collected intermittently. Lyn Smith suggested that if members were going to be away for long periods they should advise the Club that their mooring would be available. Peter Lichfield asked if there would be any payments to mooring holders to encourage them to free up their mooring, but this is not the case.

The outboard store is now in good order and the tender park is now working well. A track for the tender launching has been promised, but so far no action has been taken: money aside there is no matting available.

The contract for the area of the seabed rented for the moorings runs out in January and a fixed fee is being negotiated to run for a further 5 years.

Lyn Smith pointed out that it was proposed to improve the hammerhead for safety reasons but there has been no action. David reported that the contractor is due to visit to check on the loose cleats and inspect the situation. Lyn remarked that if there were to be an accident the Club would be liable, although there is a notice on the pontoon. Jane Blaydes reported that tenders often used the "Solos' Jetty" but the end of that and the main launching ramp have been washed away. David said that matting would be installed beside the pontoon.

In answer to a query from Jane Blaydes, the bow props purchased for her own use last year are no longer needed and it was asked if there would be a refund. David replied that this is not planned and as they were originally sold at a discounted price it should be easy to sell them at a similar price on eBay for example.

8. Election of Officers: Mike Tong reported that following his planned retirement nominations had been asked for the position of Fleet Captain. There had been only one – Lyn Smith. Paul Young had agreed to stand again as Treasurer and, again, no one else had been nominated. Therefore, Lyn and Paul were duly elected as Captain and Treasurer respectively.

At this point Gary Gledhill took the floor to congratulate Mike on his term of office and thank him for his hard work over the two years. On behalf of the members he presented Mike with a gift of a Diver's Watch and June with flowers.

9. Provisional Social Sailing Programme for 2018: At this point Lyn Smith, new Fleet Captain, took over the meeting to run through the provisional programme for the 2019 season. Lyn reminded everyone that the Cruising Programme had started with Doreen and was continued by, first Richard, and then Gary, and Mike. She explained that her participation in events would be curtailed by a lack of a skipper or boat, but she hoped to join in as many events as possible. She also hoped for help from the co-ordinators and sailors over matters such as the cancellation of events.

The programme starts with Winter lunches at the club and the one in December will clash with Ladies Who Lunch, but all members will be welcome to attend the talk which will follow the lunch. Additionally, there is the Christmas Party on 8th and Turkey Dining-In night on 15th when it is hoped Social Sailors will join in as usual. In fact, she will start a Social Sailing table in readiness.

In 2019 there will be a meal at Emsworth S.C. on 11th January and members are reminded that there is a fee of £2.00 for the Club over and above the cost of the menu. Trevor Rose will report the February date of the lunch at CYC in due course. In March a proposed skittles evening at the Royal British Legion is listed and members should let Lyn know if they are interested in attending. Dates for Itchenor S.C. will be moved after the Becks reported that the Club would like us to attend during the sailing season on either Wednesdays or Thursdays. John Cook reported that Haslar Lightship will probably have new caterers and he will let Lyn know the position. During "Summer Pastures New" in June the BBQ may need new organisers as Kevin & Richard are hoping to sell Wild Thyme. Gary & Rosemary Gledhill have offered to take over. This lengthy event is left open for members to do their own thing, returning to Parkstone S.C. for 29th June. As Cowes Week has been moved to mid-August the plans for July & August still need to be finalised but it is hoped to include a visit to Southsea Marina where the Marina entrance and holding pontoon have been dredged. For the "Folly Jaunt" a new venue has been included, the MDL Marina at Shamrock Quay. Dell Quay has been included towards the end of the season and Jane Blaydes pointed out that the Club are very particular about the booking and any shortfall in numbers would have to be paid for. Members thought that support of Dell Quay SC should be continued and Jan and Peter Wareham offered to take over the organisation of this visit. Jane to hand over particulars as DQ has already been in contact.

A number of members voted that they would like a dinner at Mengham S.C. be included in Social Sailing Week as well as a dinner at HISC. And Glenda Tickner, who is a member at Mengham will find out about the catering situation. As the Stewarts are away arrangements for their BBQ are on hold.

Paul Young asked if members would be interested in a booking for dinner at Wetherspoons in Port Solent for the planned visit there and this was approved.

Peter Glasby pointed out that his wife, Barbara, together with Iris Long had started the Social Sailing group for dinghies. (In fact, cruisers became part of the group in 1997).

10. Any Other Business:

Website: Jane Blaydes reported the costs for the site are £12.99 and £4.79 per month for the hosting. She will arrange the contents of the HISC magazine section again with photos and news from the website.

Flag Project: Jane then drew attention to the flag project and the plan to have 101 flags for the centenary celebrations of HISC. Meetings for the Flag project are held regularly and the flags already made are displayed and demonstrated. As Jane has made 4 flags she has seen the Social Sailing flag and commented on it several times as it suggested that events were alcohol-fuelled and that members jettisoned their empty bottles. She felt that the Fleet might like to know how they were being represented and showed a correctly sized copy of the flag depicting several boats sailing around and out of the harbour with 2 empties floating with them. After some heated discussion - should the flag be banned or should the project - as Mike Durrant insisted - not be interfered with - a proposal was about to be submitted when

Barbara Beck revealed that she had designed and made this flag to celebrate the year 1997, when cruisers joined the Social Sailing group, and that she would withdraw the current flag.

Engine Maintenance: Norman Payne drew everyone's attention to two courses in diesel engine maintenance which Dale Dibley at Sparkes Marina plans to run on 10th and 18th November. It is hoped that ladies will attend to help them understand any problems which may arise in emergency situations. The second course is rather more advanced and covers adjustments and servicing. The courses will cost £35.00 per person and an engine will be available to work on. The start time is 10 o'clock and anyone interested should contact Norman, or Dale directly.

Outings: Peter Christmas asked if any members would be interested in behind the scenes trips to London and/or Greenwich some time next year, outside the sailing season, and many people showed an interest.

There being no further business the meeting closed in good time to take lunch.