

# Seaward Squadron

## Rally 2011 - Buckler's Hard, Beaulieu River

Friday 3rd June - Sunday 5th June 2011



*The historic shipbuilding village of Buckler's Hard where warships for Nelson's Navy were built in the 18th century.*

The Seaward Squadron chose the Bucklers Hard Marina, on the Beaulieu River, for their annual gathering.

Skippers and crew of 18 Seaward Boats gathered over the weekend to enjoy meeting other owners and to make new friends and to renew old friendships. The boats represented are listed below:

Boat Name	Skippers Name	Home Port
35 Alchemy	David Harland	Guernsey
35 Bruiser	Jill Murphy	Hamble
35 Vikla III	John Webb	Hytbe
29 Braveheart of Poole	John Palmer	Port Solent
29 Indigo	Reggie Jeffes	Hove
29 Jambo	Ken Manley	Lymington
25 Caladh	Ken Haynes	Hamble
25 Jumper	Michael Awty	Hamble Point
25 Merlin of Southampton	Ron Foster	Yarmouth IOW
25 Pegasus	Barrie Humphreys	Bucklers Hard
25 Sirius	Euan McNair	Weymouth
25 Swan Song	John Roome	Lymington
25 Storm Rider	Fiona Russell	Guernsey
23 Blue Dawn	Kevin Horton	Weymouth
23 Serafina	John Foster	Lymington
23 Verity	Felix Hetherington	Bembridge
23 Linnet	Tom Rayner	Bucklers Hard
23 Sea Song	Michael Palette	Southampton

### The Seaward Squadron

The Seaward Squadron is an informal association of Seaward owners.

It gives a forum for owners of Seaward boats to meet and exchange ideas. New and prospective owners are always welcome to seek advice.

Each year a friendly get together is arranged. The first meeting took place in Guernsey in 1988 when just seven boats took part.

We have visited most of the Solent harbours and ports as widely spaced as Plymouth, Cherbourg and Guernsey.

This year, which was the 24th gathering, Bucklers Hard in the Beaulieu River was chosen as the venue

Plans have yet to be made for 2012 and suggestions as to the venue would be most welcome.

Suggestions so far are: Lymington, Yarmouth Weymouth or Guernsey.

Please let me have your vote.

*David Harland*



# SEAWARD SQUADRON

Buckler's Hard 3rd to 5th June 2011

The Beaulieu River proved to be a popular venue for this years rally and with good weather promised, a great weekend was anticipated by all.

Alchemy traveled across from Guernsey, via Weymouth, on the Wednesday to ensure everything was organised.



Seawards gathered on the pontoon

Craft started to arrive around mid-day on Friday. Several boats berthed on the Events Pontoon in the river, others choose to go into the Marina, where they had the benefit of electricity.

By the end of the afternoon most of the boats had arrived and everyone was ready for the trip to The Royal Southampton Yacht Club at Gin's Farm.



Getting ready for the evening



A view across the river

The riverboat 'Oliver B' took the party on a short cruise downriver to the clubhouse. The skipper gave a commentary, on the way, explaining the history of the river.



Gin's Farm Clubhouse - RSYC

Gin's Farm is an annex of the Royal Southampton Yacht Club and occupies a fantastic position, overlooking the Beaulieu River. They welcome members from other yacht clubs and have a walk ashore pontoon that is available to visitors.



The table at Gin's Farm Clubhouse -



Saturday dawned as another fine day and after breakfast crews started to make their own plans to enjoy the day. Euan McNair took the Palmer family across the river on Sirius to visit Exbury Gardens.



Exbury Gardens (photo J Palmer)

Many people chose to visit Beaulieu Village, some via the picturesque River Walk, others went up-river in their own dinghies.



The view from the River Side Walk



The Master Builder's Hotel



Pre-Dinner Drinks

Barry and Alison Kimber joined the party for the highlight of the weekend; the Gala Dinner at the Master Builder's Hotel. Prior to the meal the party gathered in the evening sunshine for pre-dinner drinks

Everyone was very impressed with quality of the local produce used to prepare the meal and said that they enjoyed a very fine meal. Wines to accompany the meal were kindly provided with the compliments of Seaward Marine.

After the dinner the John Hickman Cup was presented to Michael Awty. This award goes to the Skipper who has made the greatest effort to attend the rally or has supported the rally best over the past years.



Michael Awty, on the left, being presented with the John Hickman Cup

The weekend gives Seaward Boat Owners a great opportunity to get together, swap ideas about their boats and make new friends. Everybody seems to have had a great time.

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The meal at the Master Builder's Hotel