

# YVSC FIRST SOUTH RIVERS CRUISE MAY 2008

## Saturday

We all started meeting up during the afternoon the weather was cool and windy we were meant to meet at Ted's mooring but ended up with some boats at Oby mill and others at Duffers this happened due to the cool wind and the fact that we required shelter. Quite a few members were unable to do the full cruise so opted to stay this side of Acle bridge.

## Sunday

We awoke at Oby at 5:00am had breakfast, Bella & Claire set sail at 05:30am to meet up with the others at Duffers the wind was brisk and it was raining, we passed under Acle bridge raised masts and sailed towards Yarmouth then met up with the others and sailed down as far as Mautby.

We then motored our way down to Yarmouth as the weather was wet and windy we lowered masts and passed under the bridges at 08:30am. Most sailed across Breydon on just the jib but not Malcolm and Annabel on Claire who although reefed opted for both sails and goose winged down most of Breydon.

Pat and Alan waited for the lee of Burgh Castle before raising there sails and went down the Waveney with a rather large bow wave, the wave being almost as big as the smile on Alan's face!

Many of us sailed all the way to St Olaves on just the jib, Ripple though had both sails raised the wind being in just the right quarter for her and the old lady was going well. As we passed under the pylons, they were alive buzzing and humming violently as the rain fell on them.

We passed through St Olaves and on to Somerleyton were we moored up had some lunch, then decided to have 40 winks as the weather was poor this ended up being 3 hrs for us and most did the same.

Some went to the Dukes Head in the evening and said the food was good value and of a good standard.

## Monday

Awoke at 6:00am the sun tried to get out but failed a huge gust came through at 8:30am which made up my mind about putting in a reef but this was not used as the wind got up to gale force. We left for Waveney River Center later in the morning and had to fight wind and tide with spray flying over the bows.

We moored up just before lunchtime and socialized on each other's boats many had a visit to the shop, which was dry and warm.

A few members went to the Waveney Inn in the evening for drinks and food, one of the pubs brollies had to be commandeered as the rain was lashing down when we returned to our boats.

## Tuesday

The wind had died down by morning and we set sail for Beccles against the tide we had a nice steady sail many stopping for lunch at the swimming pool in the nice bright sunshine.

After lunch we then set of for Geldeston and arrived mid afternoon, we had afternoon tea this was provided by Pat and Alan to celebrate their wedding anniversary.

Many barbequed in the evening though some ate in the Locks Inn and partook in some of the fine ales on offer after which they went on to the mother ship (Ripple) for a nightcap.

## **Wednesday**

We awoke at 4:00am to the mother of all thunderstorms with continuous lightning and decided to get out of bed and go and sit at the rear of the boat away from the mast, thankfully the storm soon subsided and we went back to bed and stayed there till 08:30am.

We had a leisurely breakfast then set off, the wind was strong, we passed through the shelter of Beccles and raised masts then motored down to Aldeby.

Most put up their sails in the lee of the trees and we sailed down to Oulton Broad in the stiffening breeze.

Tacking up Oulton dyke proved challenging in the very strong breeze with Marionette going like a train and Reedling going well to.

We arrived at Oulton Broad Yacht Club, gained provisions etc. and booked our evening meals many went to the Waveney Inn and eight of us went to the Railway Spice for an Indian meal at Oulton Broad North station which had an extensive menu at exceptionally good value. It was excellent!!!

## **Thursday**

Awoke at Oulton Broad yacht club 5:30am and Mark walked via the docks to Lowestoft, and was there by 7:00am had a coffee and went to the beach then caught the 7:40am train back to Oulton Broad North arriving back at the mooring by 8:00am. Peter decided to rig the spinnaker on Marionette mid morning; we sailed around Oulton Broad for a while then set off for Somerleyton against the tide this was hard work but a reasonable sail.

We had planned to Barbeque in the evening but it was cold and raining so we cooked on board and had an early night.

## **Friday**

We awoke at 7.00am it was not raining but overcast with a firm breeze we set sail at 09:45am, Pat and Alan tacking hard down to St Olaves, we had a fast sail down to Burgh Castle with the tide Marionette, Bella and Lily moored at Berney arms for lunch while the hardy sailors batted up and down Breydon.

We passed through Great Yarmouth at 13:30pm and set off up the Bure the wind funneled down and no matter which bend you went round the wind seemed to be on the nose.

We arrived at Stokesby late in the afternoon and being the last evening of the cruise all decided to dine at the Ferry Inn.

Mark, Sharron & Bella May 2008