

Solent Sunbeam Class Newsletter December 2018



The Class Captain

As the sun sets on 2018 the 2019 racing programme is being finalised.

However, I am pleased to report that some Sunbeamers have taken the opportunity to fly off to warmer climes.

A special mention must be made of Jenny Yeates who, as I write this, is approaching the finish of the ARC (Atlantic rally for cruisers) from Gran Canaria to St Lucia.

Jenny wrote the following message on the 10 December:

"I just thought I'd check in to let you know that we're well on our way...with over 2000 miles under our belts and less than 800 to go.

The weather has been pretty kind with mostly downwind sailing, 15-20 knots and making speeds of 5-6 knots, which equates to about 150 miles per day.

So far we've not had any serious issues. The boys managed to fix one of the dodgy heads and replace the impeller in the generator which packed up.

The sails are doing a grand job. We're using twin head sails for under 15 knots and goose winged main/jib for more. Otherwise we reach to stay on course - reefing in at night, so that we're ready to deal with any squalls.....of which we're getting more as we near the other side.

It's hard to imagine all the hustle, bustle and chill of December while enjoying the lonely tropics - we've not seen another boat for days.

I'm now very much looking forward to getting safely tied up and raising a glass to a successful trip."

New Social Secretary

I am pleased to report that Tamsin Saunders has volunteered to take over from Sue Smith as the Social Secretary, so if you have any good ideas for social events please contact Tamsin.

Forthcoming social events

Thursday 3rd January 2019 - **Ice skating** at Chichester Priory Park, Chichester (£12). Come and join the fun and have a go in the evening for a 45-minute session. If you are interested please let Tamsin know (as above).



Saturday 19th January, 1830-2030 – **Winter Cocktail Party**. RSVP to Tamsin (as above) and make payment ASAP please.

Thursday 7th February from 1800 – **visit to North Sails** in Gosport. Numbers limited to 45 so RSVP to me ASAP please.

“Look behind you” – the pantomime season is upon us!



Read about 15 Metre Class D1 Mariska's encounter with Dainty V1 during the Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez race in October on the class website (thanks to Peter Nicholson): <https://solentsunbeam.co.uk/look-behind-you-the-pantomime-season-is-upon-us>

And finally...



Our 95th anniversary party in May 2018

Have a great Christmas and New Year and catch up in 2019.

Nick Leach, Class Captain - 0779 095 1773