

Solent Sunbeam Class Newsletter May 2019



A lot has happened since the last newsletter!

New Sunbeam V70 Minty was proudly launched - with plenty of champagne - following her fitting out at Haines Boatyard. I look forward to seeing Simon & Harriet Patterson out racing in her.

See <https://solentsunbeam.co.uk/brand-new-sunbeam-launched-to-join-96-year-old-fleet-at-itchenor> for the full story. This has appeared widely in the national and local press as well. It sketches out the origins of the GRP addition to the fleet.

As far as the weather is concerned 2018 was always going to be a hard act to follow and this has proven to be the case, with 6 races lost so far - the majority due to too little wind!

However, there has been a lot of action on the water, with 24 Sunbeams having raced so far! The popular Thursday evening races started with 12 Sunbeams racing on the 2nd May.

The award for the best photo of the year so far must go to Jerry Saunders who took this picture on Argosy at the first out-of-harbour race:



Chisholm Weekend

The Class enjoyed the 31st running of the Chisholm Weekend over the early-May Bank Holiday weekend.

The weekend is always one of the best-attended events in the Solent Sunbeam Class and this year was no different, despite a cold stiff NW breeze, with 16 boats competing. The weather got the better of the fleet on the Saturday. The class aimed to race two races, but only four completed the first race and with the wind gusting to 30 knots, the second race was abandoned.

On the Sunday, 14 boats started the 1st race in light airs with two short beats up to Star then down to East Head. Ollie Gilchrist in Sky led the way to the first mark, but when the fleet split on the run back down, the fleet that chose the east side of the run had the advantage of more wind. This enabled Roger Wickens in Danny to move up to lead the fleet by the time she reached the leeward mark, followed closely by Alan Stannah in Spray and Mike Weston in Jabberwocky. After a second lap these positions remained unchanged.

In the 2nd race, Roger Wickens in Danny led at the first mark, followed closely by Mike Weston in Jabberwocky and Richard Pearson in Penny. Penny unfortunately hit the mark and had to do a penalty turn. Tim Hill in Query moved into second place and third place was closely fought with Jabberwocky pipping Nick Leach in Polly for third place.

Overall, Roger Wickens in Danny won the Henry Chisholm trophy having sailed a consistent series with three firsts. The overall results were:

1. V26 Danny – Roger Wickens, Tim Martell, Jacky Wickens
2. V25 Query – Tim Hill, Jacqui Evans, Jenny Yeates
3. V66 Molly – Richard Stephens, Tina Webster, Henry Dembinski

On the Sunday evening 42 Sunbeamers enjoyed a delicious Henry Chisholm dinner and heard tales of Sir Henry's time as Class Captain!

<https://solentsunbeam.co.uk/report-chisholm-weekend-2019> gives the background to the weekend.

V65 Alchemy

I am pleased to report that Alchemy has been sold to Roger Wickens, who intends to carry out a refurbishment, including giving her a new mast.

Stephen Carden-Noad

Itchenor SC's longest-serving Secretary/General Manager leaves at the end of June after 12 years service. If you would like to contribute to his leaving fund please go this link:

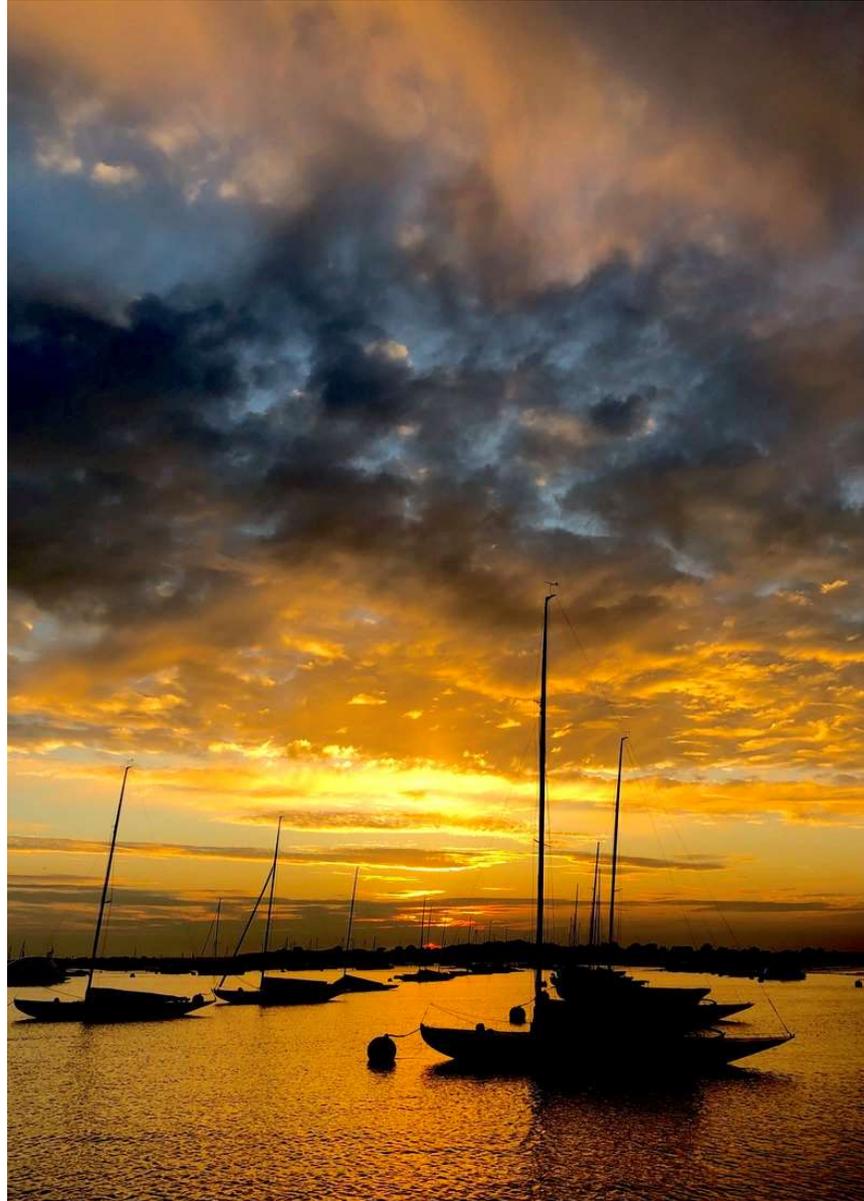
https://www.itchenorSC.co.uk/html/stephen_carden_noad_leaving.html

Forthcoming events

This weekend sees the Chittagong Weekend Series with two races on both Saturday and Sunday. Please remember that on Saturday there are two races starting at 1040 and 1420. On Sunday there are two back-to-back races starting at 1040.

And finally:

Sunbeams at anchor after a fabulous Thursday evening sail. (photo credit: Jerry Saunders).



Nick Leach, Class Captain - 0779 095 1773