



## Skinny Dipper Wharram Tiki 26

For those of you who are not aware of the connection to the club that this boat has, here is a short history. The boat first appeared at the club some years ago purchased by Ken Hook, the clubs moorings officer, from a DIY builder on the Isle of Wight. It's a wooden catamaran held together by a clever system of ropes and cross braces, and glass sealed. Many of these boats have crossed oceans and taken part in endurance sailing. Its "wing sail" configuration gives the boat a Polynesian look, and is designed to be easily managed by the single handed sailor.

Ken was working towards using her for the "Jester challenge" a single handed trans-Atlantic race for small sailing craft. Indeed he entered the race and set off for the Azores, but unfortunately his self-steering gear failed and he had to give up and return to Poole. Ken was actively working towards fitting out for the next "Jester" when he was diagnosed with a brain tumour. He sadly died some months later.

"Skinny Dipper" was then purchased by John Galilee, an NHYC member, and sailed by him and his family. During a fierce winter storm the mast was felled whilst on the mooring, and John decided to sell the boat. Chris Boxer bought her and spent some time reinforcing the foot of the mast and re commissioned her ready for the new season, with alterations to the rigging and running gear. Chris sailed the boat successfully for a couple of seasons at NHYC, giving a few of us some very fast, very wet, and exhilarating sailing.

Chris then sold the boat to two members of the armed services, who had sourced this particular craft for a bold venture. These two men had already been the youngest pair to row the Atlantic, and had "Skinny Dipper" lined up for another adventure. This time it is "Sail The Peaks" a gruelling sailing, running, walking and climbing event. They, along with two other armed servicemen, are attempting to post the fastest time and raise cash for the Army Benevolent Fund.

I'm sure Ken Hook would approve of this venture involving his boat, and is a fitting tribute to his memory. Anyone wishing to follow, sponsor, or donate to this venture click on the link to find out all the information:

<https://www.justgiving.com/sailthepeaks2016>

Peter Brown

Chris and "Skinny Dipper"



Chris and "Skinny Dipper"

## An Echo Report

EARLY morning swimmers off the coast of Poole had some surprising company.

This seal popped up only a few yards from the bathers on Saturday.

Neil Niven was equipped with a waterproof camera and took this shot.

Fellow swimmer Tim Harris said the seal was spotted at around

8.15am. "We swam from Canford Cliffs to Shore Road and back and this was on the way back, near Flag Head," he said.

"The seal popped up only a few yards from us and Neil snapped it."



## Police and Crime Commissioner Martyn Underhill is re-elected.

You might wonder why I have included this already well reported piece of news in the N.H.Y.C. Newsletter? You may have even voted for another candidate. Obviously this was not the place to promote any candidate but at least we can say congratulations to Martyn.

Perhaps we have good reason to thank Martyn, his original election pledge four years ago was that he would retain the Marine Section, even though that would create funding problems. OK, it is a tiny Section now of two PCs and a Sergeant. They do have a powerful RIB but much of that was at his insistence.

He also backed us up, us being Poole Harbour Watch, and has encouraged us many times pointing out to those who participate the value of the patrols. As for the future, it is said, "*He who lives will see.*" I have been told that the Marine Section will be retained and I hear a whisper that things might even get better!

## RED Faced

Oh dear, oh dear, oh dear. First time out and I found a pot or net rope, marked with the smallest possible buoy. I was happy to go over the side, in fact I already had flippers and mask on, when Solent Coastguard (I'd informed) asked me not to. They had already tasked Poole's inshore lifeboat. To my embarrassment, when they arrived, they weren't needed, the rope must have come off of the blades. Bless 'em, they were great and shown no annoyance at all.



# Derek Burdell Takes Us Back in Time

Many years ago (at least sixty) our family had a beach hut at Hamworthy Park. As teenagers my brother Tony and I used to paddle and sail an ex-Royal Marine two man canoe off the beach. Well, in those days to explore the creeks and backwaters of Poole Harbour was something of a great adventure. One such trip took us up the Corfe River towards the Castle. As the river narrowed we unintentionally disturbed poachers who had their nets across the river. There must have been plenty of fish around in those days.

In the first week October some years ago we were expecting very high spring tides. I happened to be talking to Jim and Howard, owners of *Cheemaun (33)* when we hit on the

idea of repeating my trip up the Corfe River, but in our Shrimpers. So we set off *Cheemaun* and *Gem* set off from N.H.Y.C. both towing a small dinghy. Jim and Howard had embarked Mike Stacy (*Winterlin 318*) as crew and I brought along John Snelling and George Grantham.



According to the Met Office it was to be the highest tide for forty years. We set off at 0900 with a stiff

south-easterly breeze to our starboard stern, taking a course between Green Island and Fursey Island. With six knots showing on the log, we reached across the harbour and through the gap between Round Island and Fittsworth Point. We were then well placed to find the passage up the Wych Channel to the Corfe River. After about a mile we passed North Point and took the starboard channel up the Corfe River itself.

We then came across a small farmhouse nestling on the left hand bank. On *Gem* we were by now concentrating hard on the echo sounder and checking the centre plate for depth, as we were in some really shallow water. Suddenly to our amazement, the boat stopped dead in the water. It was shallow, yes, but not that shallow, it

took several seconds to realise that we still had enough depth and were not on the bottom. When our masthead light ten plopped in the water alongside I naturally looked upwards. To my horror we had fetched up on an overhead power cable.

Thank goodness the engine started first pull. We did an



immediate about turn whilst quick thinking George leapt into the dinghy and retrieved the light which was still floating up river. We decided to drop anchor back down the creek a little alongside *Cheemaun*. Jim and the lads were already preparing their dinghy with an outboard motor and kindly offered to tow us in our dinghy. We continued up river for at least another mile towards Corfe finding ourselves surrounded by fantastic scenery. We were now reduced to rowing across the top of a vast expanse of reeds which had taken over the upper reached of the river. An amazing area with miles of reeds, open water and wild life in abundance.

We at last saw Corfe Castle through the trees, but the tide was now on the turn, obviously time to head back to the Shrimpers, weigh anchor and head for long Island for lunch. On the way we saw a couple of seals swimming close to Arne Shore and then after lunch we went ashore on Long Island to explore and stretch our legs. Then again, back to the Shrimpers and an exhilarating beat across the harbour and down Blood Alley Lake to the club.

It was a day to remember, there are not many places left that are quite as tranquil as the backwaters of Poole Harbour. Finally, just a tip, don't go exploring using old charts, mine were too old and didn't show the power cable. It was good to learn later that all overhead cables over water are insulated. Stroke of luck for us, eh!



**HAYWIRE BAND** (who played at N.H.Y.C. Recently) are playing at **HAMWORTHY SOCIAL CLUB, MAGNA Rd.** on **SATURDAY 21st MAY 2016**

**DANCING till LATE.**

**TICKETS are 10 to include either a CHICKEN CURRY, LASAGNE or VEGETARIAN MEAL.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TICKETS PLEASE CONTACT BARRY SWAFFIELD 07836712743**



# POOLE HARBOUR BOAT SHOW

20th - 22nd MAY 2016

in association with 

2016 CONFIRMED SPONSORS:



## Countdown to Poole Harbour Boat Show in association with Sunseeker

Poole Quay and the award-winning Poole Quay Boat Haven will be transformed into a free showcase for sports boats, RIBs, chandlery products, clothing, watersports accessories, on-the-water demonstrations and live music.

On Friday May 20, from 1pm to 8pm, quayside stands will be open to the public however access to the exhibiting boats in the marina will be restricted to press and trade only. Organisers Poole Harbour Commissioners are honoured to welcome Sir Steven Redgrave to officially open the three day show. Now an ambassador for Jaguar Land Rover, Sir Redgrave will make an appearance on the Westover Group stand on Friday afternoon between 3pm and 4pm.

On Friday evening, visitors to the Quay will be able to enjoy a spectacular fireworks display at dusk, sponsored by Sibbett Gregory, and this will kick-start a full weekend of free entertainment and then on Saturday 21 and Sunday May 22, between 10am and 6pm, with open access to all, the action continues and a central entertainment feature will be the show's music stage named 'Sunseeker Sessions' which will showcase great British performances with musical talent from across the region. On-the-water activities include a junior RIB slalom, dinghy racing and Poole Gig Rowing Club races as well as RNLI and PHC vessel demonstrations. Visitors will also have the opportunity to take to the water themselves on Saturday and Sunday in R19 or J24 sailing dinghies as taster sessions will be available from Poole Quay Boat Haven between 10am and 4.30pm.

Gibbs Sports will also be demonstrating its amphibious vehicles. The Quadski, the world's first amphibious sports car, reaches speeds of 45mph on both water and land and transitions between them in seconds. The four-wheel drive Humdinga is designed to access remote and hostile terrain and is capable of 100mph on land and 40mph on water. Both vehicles will be displayed on Saturday and Sunday at 11am and 2pm. Other exhibitors include Boston Whaler, Cobra Ribs, Jetski Safaris, Beneteau, Monterey Boats, Princess, Regal, Ribeye, Sealine, Searay, Rockley Watersports, the RNLI, The Watersports Academy, Weird Fish, Windy Boats, Quay Holidays and many more.

For more information on the Poole Harbour Boat Show in association with Sunseeker, and for a full list of exhibitors, please visit <http://www.pooleharbourboatshow.co.uk/>