

## **HPYC Cruise to Dover 19 May**

Six boats took part in this “one way” cruise to Dover, five of them as the start of their summer cruises and one boat doing a week long circular cruise stopping at Ramsgate on the way out and then returning via Bolougne.

Ariane left a day early for Ramsgate and Kristina, Leading Wind, Mazza, Pippin and Whisper left on Saturday, at the crack of dawn. Sadly there was not a nice sunrise to reward the fleet for the early start. Apart from four of the boats being swamped by a huge “tsunami” caused by a large container ship going the opposite way down Black Deep (and we were all a long way away from it) the trip was an uneventful motor sail all the way. However the early morning start meant that we had a very fast trip to Dover and were all tied up in the Granville Dock by lunchtime. After a suitable afternoon nap the crew of all six boats meet up for drinks and then went to the nearby Cullins Yard for an excellent and reasonably priced meal. During the afternoon some of the crews visited the Grand Shaft (the triple spiral staircase) and Redoubt Fort as they were both open that weekend.

Another early start the next morning saw five boats leave, four going to Eastbourne, Ariane to Boulogne whilst Pippin remained to do some sightseeing. Pippin then sailed to Eastbourne the next day.

After a couple of pleasant days in Eastbourne the remaining boats started to continue with their own cruising plans and depart at different times for different places. At the time of writing this there are three boats in Cowes, one in Yarmouth and one in Weymouth. Two of these boats are waiting for a weather window to cross to Cherbourg whilst the other three are continuing to sail West before dropping down to Brittany and, in one case, further afield.

All in all a great start to everyone’s cruising plans especially as so far no one has had to battle through South Westerlys. A bit more sailing would have been nice but we can’t have everything!

David Hervey-Murray  
Leading Wind



The fleet leaving at 4.00 am



*Leading Wind* and *Mazza* sailing round Beachy Head