

7up To Southwold

9th, 10th and (for the lucky ones) 11th June 2018.

Weather- sunny and light cloud. Wind forecast NE 2-3; actual NE 4-5 both days (it's the East coast after all). Lumpy seas and that's the difference between yachting and caravanning, at least according to Jerry, one of the Southwold harbour masters.

Passage planning on Friday evening was well attended, although Ivan rather highjacked the in-depth discussion with his treatise on buckwheat diets. Shocked by what he has put himself through, we hastily agreed an 8:30ish start and left without mentioning the total absence of buckwheat in any form on *Jalousea* and quite possibly many of the other ships in the fleet.

Saturday morning saw **Constance** leave SYH first, followed an hour or so later by a gaggle consisting of **Orca 11** and then **Mistress Quickly, Flapjacq** and **Jalousea**. **Ariane** and **Charisma** followed an hour or so later, so as to benefit from a further increase in the depth of water over the Southwold bar.

Once round Languard it was a straight punch to windward and *Jalousea* failed to hoist any sails whatsoever for the entire trip. Poor show, although I don't believe we were the only ones.

Hazel entertained the fleet with a masterclass in assertive r/t skills as *Jalousea* attempted to gain permission to enter the harbour.

The lowest depth we recorded was 0.8m under our keel, LW +1hr, on a draft of 1.9m.

Peter and Jerry were their usual helpful and friendly selves, arranging berths for us all and assisting with lines, electricity and so on. The combination of a beautiful setting and first class harbour masters sets Southwold apart.

We congregated aboard *Jalousea* at 6pm, in what proved to be a re-run of last year's drinks, debrief, snacks and then the trek to the Anchor at Walberswick. Good food and wines (some wines more expensive than others) gave us all a memorable evening, made perfect by John's excellent navigation skills as he plotted a shortcut back to the boats. This included an encounter with an owl and overall it took less than 5 minutes longer than the standard route- a clear win!

Sunday morning and Peter and Bosun were the first to leave, then Tim and Chris and later still Robert and Jo and *Jalousea*. It was a straight run back to the Orwell, still a lumpy sea up until the Ness and the change of the tide.

A good trip and excellent company. Thanks to all.

Roger and Hazel
Jalousea