

# Cruise to Tollesbury

## 30th June - 1st July 2018

With warm weather forecast to continue over the cruising weekend, all eight boats and fifteen crew arrived safely at Tollesbury on Saturday. Richard and H and Jean and Mike had spent a night at Bradwell; the rest of the fleet had a following wind to Tollesbury, reaching speeds of up to nine knots.

Coming in, the channel was very busy with outgoing yachts and racing dinghies. With little room to manoeuvre, several of us found ourselves short of water but after one or two temporary groundings everyone made it over the sill.

There was just time for a quick bite to eat before we assembled at 3 pm - bound for John's garden party in aid of Colchester Hospital's Cancer Centre Campaign. Two taxis brought us there and we soon settled down with plates of sandwiches; strawberries and scones with clotted cream and jam. We had



the old argument - cream on jam (Cornwall) or jam on cream (Devon) - such a lot to think about under the blazing sun! Several of us browsed the stalls, others took to the shade. A glass of prosecco was on offer for the price of an expensive strawberry!

The drinks reception was at 6 pm on Callista. We were fairly full after the garden party but managed to down glasses of wine, crisps and cashews. Peter had tied his dog up nearby and Jean and Mike and also Nick, left theirs on their boats so our Max initially had plenty of room. But as more people sat around the cockpit, Max was happy to lie on the floor.



As Saturday had been quite busy most people had agreed to meet for lunch at the yacht club on the Sunday. We decided to eat early - at midday, ready for departure around 2 pm. Roly and I sat outside with Mark and Harriet and their son Arthur. Others had gone inside to escape the sun but we found a table with a sunshade. Roly and I had tuna niçoise which was very tasty and we heard that the crab salad was especially good.

We were expecting fairly strong winds on the return journey. However, the main bugbear was that the wind was right on the nose. Mike and Trish disappeared out to sea - I presume not for ever - but we decided to motor along the coast with Nigel and Janine close behind.

At one stage we tried motor sailing with the genoa but seeing Juniper of Ore quite close by we realised that it didn't pay. Off the Orwell we put up sails and we enjoyed the smoother, quieter ride - even if Juniper did eventually overtake us!

I think all participants would agree that it was a short but pleasant cruise in good company and with lovely weather.

Adie, Roly and Max on Callista

