



OCTOBER 2009 NEWSLETTER

After 4 years this will be my last newsletter; how time has flown.

Sunbeam Appreciation

Most of you will know I have recently returned from sailing Dainty in the warmer waters of the Mediterranean in the South of France. Sarah and I were part of the Dainty team this year supporting Peter Nicholson and Mike Hollis who have undertaken this adventure five times now. This is not our first visit to Cannes and Saint Tropez. We went two years ago with Honey so we knew what to expect and were not in any way disappointed. Sailing in the Regates Royals (Cannes) and Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez in company with some of the world's most beautiful classic yachts is a wonderful experience.

What made our trip special this year were two things: the first and most importantly is confirmation that the Sunbeam is appreciated in this international arena as an outstanding classic yacht. If you have visited the Class website you will see Dainty was included in the shortlist for a special prize at Cannes. It's wonderful how race committees and other competitors on even the largest and most

prestigious classic yachts appreciate their little cousin.

The second thing that made our trip special was our considerable success in the racing. The signs were good when we achieve a third place in class in our very first race in Cannes. This was followed by second in the Yacht Club de France race, again in class, from Cannes to Saint Tropez. Most importantly Dainty was third in class for the Les Voiles regatta. To be on the podium is achievement enough but to be in such illustrious company is exceptional.

All this wonderful sailing, wall to wall sunshine, gentle breezes, beautiful scenic coastline, good food and wine and the company of friends. Who can ask for any more?

Meanwhile at Home

While away the Sunbeam Autumn Jubilee series was won by Query; well done Tim. Unfortunately the Nim Ellam trophy single handed race did not take place as scheduled and will not be awarded. As the season draws to a close with only one series the "Edwards Noggin" to be completed the final positions for the season long series, McMeekin and Candlesticks etc is all but decided. See attached results sheet.

AGM

Our autumn AGM will take place at ISC at 13:30 on 7th November as notified by e-mail. The Agenda for the meeting and minutes of our last meeting accompany this newsletter. Could I please ask owners to confirm if their boat, full or part, is for sale or alternatively if they would consider an

arrangement limited solely to a contribution towards costs.

Questionnaire

Julian Money our designated new Class Captain wants to get a clear understanding of the Class's views on a number of matters. To help him in this task he asks you to complete the accompanying questionnaire and return it to him by the 4th November.

Thanks

Finally, I would like to thank the Class for its support, particularly the Class Officers who have served during my term as Class Captain and past Class Captains for all the help and advice they have given. It has been a privilege to service as Class Captain, I have learnt a great deal and had the benefit of getting to know individual members in the process.

The Class has a challenging time ahead to improve turnout and get new owners and crew. We have a wonderful boat of outstanding quality raced in an area which is spoilt for the choice of boats to sail. The task of promoting the Class remains a high priority for the new Captain. I know you will give him every support.

Richard Pearson
Solent Sunbeam Class Captain