

## **B.Q.Y.C Brightlingsea Rally and Pirate Weekend 1, 2, and 3rd May.**

The rally season was due to start with a B.B.Q at East Mersea, followed by the Rally in Brightlingsea on Sunday. However the weather did not play ball so alternative arrangements were made.

By midday on Saturday several people had rung to either cancel or see if I was going to cancel but being ever the optimist I said we would carry on with plan A. So we set off for East Mersea arriving at 3.00pm for the B.B.Q at 4.00. Dropping the anchor to await the arrival of the other four boats, one by one they past us heading in for the pontoons of Brightlingsea so realising that nobody wanted to play B.B.Qs at East Mersea the hook was raised and into Brightlingsea we trooped to be reunited with the rest of the club boats. A decision was then taken to have the Pirate B.B.Q on the Hard of St Osyth's. After the B.B.Q it was suggested we walk up to the Ferry Boat pub for a quick drink well done to Tony for bringing the money. Then it was back to the boats to wash up and the meet up on April Fool to pass away the rest of the evening.

Sunday dawned with the forecasted heavy rain; a decision was taken to cancel the Crabbing completion until the next day. Coffee was taken on Indigo, and then the decision was taken to venture out into the rain for some chips then drinks in the Colne.Yacht. Club.

With the time past 3.00oclock it was time to dash back for the Rally which due to the inclement weather April Fool was chosen as host boat . The original host boat was left stranded back at Bradwell with engine problems so 10 of us gathered onboard for the Rally.

The evening meal ashore was arranged to take place in the Indian, which saw ten of gather for another first class meal.

Monday arrived and a return to Bradwell beckoned with a forecast of Force 5, 6, Maybe 7. With the departure not due before midday there was still time to hold the crabbing competition, with two competitors gathered lines were dropped. After about an hour had past the result was announced with Harvey from April Fool with 18 and Derek from Indigo with 13 Harvey was declared the winner. Midday soon arrived and we all ventured out of Brightlingsea setting three quarters of the Genoa to sail back to Bradwell. For the record 24 knots of wind was the most I recorded on the sail back. Well done to all those who attended Adagio, April Fool, Blue Danube, Indigo and Pink Panther.

Thank you to the Commodore for driving down to the pre arranged location just sorry we did not also make it.

Hope to see more of you for the next Rally at Ipswich, May 29, 30, and 31.  
Further details contact me.

Chris Dyer

Cruising Secretary.