

September Blog

We started off September with a wonderful day sail out to Osborne Bay off the Isle of Wight, this time not with any guests or trainees but with the families of the skipper and mate. As the kids were climbing the rigging, swinging off the boat the skipper and mate equipped their dive gear and set off to scrub the hull from all the wild life we gathered over the summer. Once the hull was all shiney we had a BBQ on deck then sailed back to Hamble. Overall a really fun chilled out day and a great way to start off the month!

Following our hull cleaning day, out I went on one of the crew's family yachts where we went sailing around the Solent, for me this was great to have some practise at sailing modern yachts.

After some sanding, varnishing and cosmetic upgrades to Jolie Brise we began doing trips with fourth form students. The idea was to get up to 10 kids that were boarders at the school to come down and have a taste of what Jolie Brise is like and the type of things they will experience if they join the sailing club. We ran the trips Tuesday- Friday taking a different group each day often stopping by Cowes for lunch letting the kids wander around the town then a sail back to Hamble to catch the school bus. The trips are proving to be a great success with the school, also the kids are getting so much out of it given what the year has been like with the pandemic. For me it's also been really good to be doing some proper sail training and not just taking the boat out for some sailing.

To the right is a picture taken by a popular photographer that lives in Cowes.



Another highlight of September was the yachting journalist Tom Cunliffe coming on board for some filming. He has sailed pilot cutters all his life and his daughter Hannah is the Director of NHS-UK. It was a fantastic day with just the crew to sail the boat and Tom coming along to talk about sailing and pilot cutters, and the film is for his YouTube channel.

Overall a fantastic month full of sailing and teaching, I am looking forward to October!