

G.C.C.C. Rally at Studland Bay, Dorset.
28th/29th August 2008.

Six boats arrived and anchored in the bay which provided good shelter from the Westerly winds over the weekend. They were Kamelya, Autumn Storm, Siara, Parnvoose, Cracker and Andromeda.

Most boats motorsailed against a light SW/W wind down the Solent to gain maximum advantage from a swift ebb tide. Once in Poole Bay a pleasant sail was enjoyed by all with all but one boat dropping anchor by 1530/1600 hrs.

All went ashore for a barbecue at 1800 hrs and were joined a little later by the crew of Cracker that was able to anchor on the beach (well, more or less). The barbecue finished when day turned into night and we all went for a "nightcap" aboard Cracker or Kamelya before returning to our respective boats. We enjoyed a beautifully calm night and woke to a bright and sunny Sunday morning.

However the forecast threatened winds of F6 or F7 and, although well sheltered, we all checked that our anchors were well set with plenty of cable out.

Satisfied that the boats were safe, we went for a good walk to Ballard Pt. Where we enjoyed spectacular views west across Swanage Bay to St.Albans Head and East as far as St. Catherines Pt. – the visibility was remarkable. After all that effort we were in need of some refreshments at the Banks Arms at Studland.

After dinner we all gathered aboard Andromeda to while away some time before retiring to our berths in readiness for an early morning start (for most of us) with the tide back home.



