

SWG Secretary's Report for AGM Jan 2022.

Because of Covid restrictions all activities in the early part of the year were virtual. We held a virtual fitting out lunch at which the keynote speaker was Barbara Bridgman talking about the Tamar Barge Lyhner of Cremyll. As restrictions started to ease members variously attended the Brixham Heritage Regatta (29/30 May), the Falmouth Classics (11/13 June) and our own Helford Rally (14/15 June). We then held our Plymouth Festival of Sail (21/23rd June) for which 21 boats initially registered and 16 managed to attend. The Fowey Classics (27/30 July) saw 10 member boats attend but it was affected by Storm Evert which saw 60 Kn winds coming up the Fowey estuary. The Dittisham (Ditsum) Rally was cancelled at very short notice but our River Dart Rally continued with 8 boats attending. This is our main small boat event of the year and the Gaffling 4.1 was sailed by the OGA President. The Dartmouth Rally followed (26/29 Aug) and is principally a Dartmouth Royal Regatta Sailing event at which we hold a Gaffers race and this year 6 member's boats took part. The final sailing event of the year, at which 12 member boats attended, was the Brixham Heritage Rally (25 Sep). Sadly the wind failed for the Saturday event but threatened strong winds for the following day and boats sought shelter or were craned out at the end of their sailing season. Our final 2 events were a guided tour of Charleston at which 30 members attended and a Zoom talk on the travels of Tom Tit, an Itchen Ferry built in 1894 and rescued by its current owner, from Risør in Norway to St Tropez.

At our AGM on 13 Nov, Mike Forwood and John Gallagher stood down as President and Editor and were replaced by Paul Jolley and Nick Fox respectively. The treasurer reported a healthy balance of accounts which were partly due to a £1250 payment from Lloyds Bank to close our account and transfer it to the Metro Bank. In terms of membership, we currently hold 197 members which is up from 170 in 2020.

Looking Forward

2022 provisional dates in the SW area so far are:

- a. Brixham Heritage Regatta 28/29 May.
- b. Falmouth Classics 17/19 Jun followed by the Helford rally 20/21 June.
- c. SW Gaffers Plymouth Classics Festival 4/6 Jul.
- d. Fowey Classics 26/29 Jul.
- e. Dittisham Rally TBA.
- f. Dartmouth Gaffers Rally 27/28 Aug
- g. Brixham Heritage Rally 24 Sep.

Tim Price - Secretary.