

# Cruising in Company – Osea Island Beach Party

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5<sup>th</sup> June 2010

The second summer cruise took place on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> June at Osea Island. This incorporated a passage race .

It was a lovely day with light South Easterly winds. Janice and I set off early to claim our spot on the beach. The light winds gave the racing skippers some headaches but most persevered and finished the course. There was some confusion about the finish line which was the doctor buoy. Rick on Le Bot said he didn't need a doctor!! The finish line was amicably adjusted with Alan Lee on Pineapple II winning by 9 seconds, Rick on Le Bot coming second and Colin Spikesly coming in third on Colne Sapphire. Alan was presented with the cup and the runners up were given expensive

trophies....blow up beach balls!!!

A large turn out of boats made for a jolly evening and a host of BBQ's gave the beach the appearance of Dunkirk with smoke everywhere.

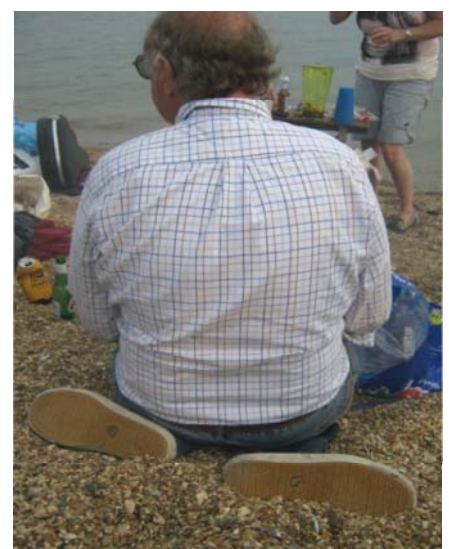


There were numerous activities including Badminton, French cricket and music provided by the Osea Island String Band, namely Rog,

Terry and Danny. Some culinary miracles were produced with Adrian taking the prize for BBQ'd

Spam and baked beans.

The Spikesly's produced the most exotic sweet, banana filled with chocolate, barbequed.





Great fun was had by all and 17 boats anchored overnight and at least 40 people attending. There was some fun with dinghy's and Colin Willett proved that it is not possible to start a normal outboard without assistance from Rick!! Adrian demonstrated the collapsible leg position whilst cooking. The evening culminated with in a display of hot air balloons provided by Rick, some of which were last seen over Maldon!! Closely followed by Barbara who was the Launch Pilot!!

The overnight anchoring gave some final entertainment when Steve and Barbara found that 'Shearjoy' had disappeared from her anchorage. She was found safely anchored on the Marconi Beach! About 1.30 am, a squall with heavy rain and lightening hit the fleet and Pinnocchio roamed across the river with Bruce and Jane running around in the lightening clad in only knickers! Vagspel had cosied up to Silver Pearl and Shearjoy so Terry had to reset his anchor...more underpants!!!

Sunday dawned with the yachts making their way back to Brightlingsea in light winds on the nose.

It was a lovely fun day and evening. How do you follow that???

Roger Burrows

Cruising Captain