

UK Rallies 2014

JRSRC East Coast Rally - 26th/27th July

by Tom Wallace

The Junk Rig Sailing and Rally Club held their East Coast Rally at Bradwell-on-Sea, at the same time of the year when the JRA summer meeting used to be held.

Twenty two members and guests came, bringing seven junk rigged craft from around the South East coast and I have appended photographs of six boats. Of Robin Blain's *Gigi*, there is sadly no picture (or none that I can show you).

We started arriving on Friday 25th (the evening before the actual rally date), giving us the opportunity to extend the meeting by going to *The Green Man* in Bradwell Waterside. The remainder of the company came in during Saturday morning to have lunch on the veranda at the marina bar and restaurant.

The afternoon of Saturday was spent sailing in the Blackwater and luckily there was a good breeze. In the evening, a BBQ was arranged for us at Bradwell Quay Sailing Club. It was a good meal and excellent company. No speaker had been arranged.

On Sunday morning, the boats took members and guests across the Blackwater and up the creek to

Tollesbury Marina for the usual fine carvery lunch in the clubhouse.

Tollesbury Creek is tidal and the marina, being at the top of the tide has a sill across the entrance to prevent water draining completely from the pontoons. Members who were not staying on had to judge their departure from the marina wisely and so they did with no groundings this year. Nor was there any embarrassing clouting of the concrete sill.

The afternoon was spent sailing in the river, ending back at Bradwell before the critical point in the ebb in *that* creek. At this point, the Rally officially ended, but several owners stayed until Monday before leaving for home.

People participating in the rally were: Robin Blain (JRSRC Secretary) with *Gigi*; Tim Metcalfe and *Chopsticks*; Tess Metcalfe, Bob Ager aboard *Orlando*; Paul Tucker, Peter Hard, John Clough, Rodney and Vivian Whitworth; John Dinnin and *Alouette*; Phil and Sue Corridan with *Swin Ranger*; Chris Scanes, Richard Brooksby and *Tammy Norrie*; John Liddiard, Martin Roberts, Paddy Newton, Jill Newton, Tom Penny and Tom Wallace with *Ram III*.



Alouette - John Dinnin



Swin Ranger - Phil Corridan



Ram III - Tom Wallace



Orlando - Bob Ager



Tammy Norie - Richard Brooksby



Chopsticks - Tim Metcalfe

JRSRC Scottish Rally - 30th/31st August

by Robin Blain

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between the

As the overland members arrived in Kippford on Friday 29th, they were greeted not only by warm, sunny and calm weather, but also by *Ti Gitu* (Fay 40) and *Badger* (Benford Dory 34), waiting on the Solway Y.C. pontoon (see photo).

Paul and Mo Fay had been cruising in the Western Isles after having sailed up the East Coast and through the Caledonian Canal and *Badger* was on passage to the Isle of Man.

We based ourselves in the Mariner Hotel and mostly used their massive conservatory dining hall that offers superb views of the Kippford Estuary. It is close to the Solway Y.C. facilities, which was also hosting their end-of-season dinghy championships that weekend.

Saturday welcomed us with a good sailing breeze and dry sunny weather, so after an early lunch at the Mariner Hotel, fifteen members were distributed between the two yachts and set sail down the estuary to sample the performance of cambered panel sails and some well-developed handling systems.

Badger now relies on the Hasler-style upper luff parrel system and *Ti Gitu* also concentrates on controlling the yard angle and

upper battens and mast.

After some invigorating sailing around the islands to the west of the estuary, we returned before the tide had made it impossible to dry out alongside the pontoons. Twenty-five happy sailors then assembled for dinner at the Mariner Hotel, that kept us well wine and dined for the rest of the day.

Sunday gave us stronger wind and we had another day of settled sailing conditions, so with everyone allocated to a different boat we set sail out of the estuary towards the massive Cumbria wind farm. On our return to the Mariner for tea there was much discussion and comparison of our weekend sailing experiences particularly concerning the control and development of the cambered panel sail rigs.

The Rally then ended with some making their way home while a few who delayed their departure until the Monday were entertained royally aboard the boats for the evening.



Robin Blain



Crews awaiting the opening of the Mariner Restaurant

Peter Manning



Badger Sailing

Peter Manning



Ti Gitu sailing

Robin Blain



Boats on the pontoon