Scow Potter in Chichester Harbour

A joint potter and picnic was planned in Chichester Harbour to include all makes of Scow dinghy from three clubs. West Wittering S.C., Bosham S.C. and Dell Quay S.C.

The day dawned bright and sunny with a lovely sailing breeze blowing from the SW. Seven LR Scows, 2 Bembridge Scows and 1 Chichester Scow left West Wittering to meet up with the other fleets off Itchenor. Bosham Sailing club arrived in force with 7 Chichester Scows. Dell Quay mustered one Scow to join us as sadly Jean and Liz Sagues with their LR Scow were unable to sail, however they joined us by road for a picnic and chat on the Bosham Hoe shore.

We were kindly lent the use of a Jetty to tie the boats to and it was a colourful sight when all were moored. Many different colour sails adorned the jetty and more than one passing 'big' boat remarked on the colourful sight.

The West Wittering sailors left it a little late leaving the picnic site with a beat all the way home (time and tide wait for no man) and one sailor (who shall remain nameless!) had to wade through thick creek mud to complete her journey. She was still smiling when she made it home; but her mobile phone was not! Lesson learnt, make sure the waterproof cover IS waterproof!

All in all a successful and very social potter which I am sure will be repeated next season. It is eventful trying to co-ordinate so many boats from different clubs; but it worked out well. The West Wittering boats had a 'buddy system' as a safety measure as no rescue cover was available. We each kept an eye on another boat to make sure they were alright – this worked well.

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