



SCANNER

NEWSLETTER of the SOLENT MARITIME SOCIETY

No. 671

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Society Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100088504665729>

Future Meetings;

July 29th - David Hornsby - *The rise of MSC (Mediterranean Shipping Company).*

August 26th - *Members Evening - Decades on... Anything from 1955, 65, 75, etc.*

September 30th - Adam Ratcliffe - *Cruise Ships through the generations - part 2.*

October 28th - **Guest Speaker:** Peter Lamb - *No more for the Skylark!*

November 25th - Mike Lennon - *Eastern Mediterranean Shipping.*

December 30th - A.G.M + Andy Skarstein - *Solent Shipping Review 2025.*

2026

January 27th - Martyn Davies - *Continued views from the Ferry.*

Society News;

AUGUST IMPORTANT - We will see the return of the “Decades On” evening. This is a members’ evening, so make sure you bring your: slides, CD-Rs & memory sticks to the meeting with photos or short clips from years 1955, 1965, 1975, 1985, 1995, 2005, 2015.

SOCIETY CRUISE - five members made the annual Society cruise on the 24th.

MEMBERS - Currently, we are running at a healthy membership of 36. We would like to grow this number to a target of 40 by the end of the year! Four extra doesn’t seem like much, but this will be a hard task. Any ideas on how we can increase membership will be greatly received. We also want to increase our attendance at meetings, but we do appreciate everyone’s different circumstances.



Paul, Mike, Andy & David enjoying the views from the top deck on our annual Red Funnel Cruise.

Photo: Andy Skarstein.

SOLENT SHIPPING NEWS - JUNE

- 10th to 12th June saw the **2025 SEAWORK EXHIBITION** take place in Mayflower Park, Southampton. This year highlights were tugs AQUA POLLUX built 2024 & WYKE CASTLE also built 2024. Work boats included NORTH EASTERN GUARDIAN IV launched 8th May 2025 in Whitby, SEAZIP 12, built 2022, SEACAT CONSTELLATION (AIS says its name is Stock Build 3) in from Cowes and NR HUNTER also in from Cowes. Visitors & stands were there from all over the World. More small craft were due to attend the event. The above information was from the opening day on Tuesday. Very friendly event worth visiting.
- Dutch shipbuilder **NEPTUNE MARINE** and locally-based **WILLIAMS SHIPPING** signed a contract on 12th June at the SeaWork exhibition for an additional EuroCarrier 2495 Multicat. Williams Shipping already have two Neptune Multicats and will take delivery of the new – at present unnamed - vessel in August 2025. Compared with their earlier vessels, the 24 metre vessel will have an increased 24 tons bollard pull and will be fitted with an A-frame and plough to support expanding operations in coastal and marine work.
- Also at SeaWork exhibition, **GOODCHILD MARINE** of Great Yarmouth confirmed that **ABP** have ordered an additional ORC 171 pilot boat to be based at the Port of Southampton. ABP have not confirmed if this order is due to be delivered in Q4 2025 or is in addition to replace one of the three recently delivered smaller ORC 136's. ABP already have several of the larger design based on the Humber ports, one of which *Trent* was on the pontoon display. The French-designed ORC 171 is 17.63 metres overall with a beam of 5.36 metres and a draft of 1.46 metres, normally fitted with twin 600hp diesels giving up to 28 knots and fitted out for 2 crew and up to 7 pilots.
- Probably one of the more famous tugs to grace the Southampton area was the REDBRIDGE. The tug has been sold in 2025 to new a owner and operator Cadia Towage in Sierra Leone and has been renamed **PROCADIA TUG 38**. She was ordered by Red Funnel Towage and completed in 1995 for use in Southampton. In 2005 she was renamed ADSTREAM REDBRIDGE, and in 2008 sold to Svitzer Marine Ltd to become SVITZER REDBRIDGE. She came to Southampton under both names during her time.
- **GOLDY SEVEN** arrived on 26th May from Terneuzen to load grain at 36 berth for Ruisbroek but was detained the same day, moving to 48 berth on the 4th June. GOLDY SEVEN is a Damen built coaster completed in January 1997 at Hoogezand in Netherlands on a Romanian-built hull as SAAR AMSTERDAM for Bockstiegel, almost immediately being renamed A.B.AMSTERDAM, then FEHN HEAVEN in 2007, FEHN POLLUX in 2014, ADRIA KVARNER in 2021 and taking present name in 2022. Gross tonnage 2,844 tons, 4,250 dwt with 89.9m loa and 13.17m beam. The GOLDY SEVEN finally sailed at 8.33am on the 11th June bound for Tangier.
- Another ship that was detained was the **MAERSK PUELO**. She arrived at SCT 1 on the 7th June on North Atlantic service from New York, Norfolk, Baltimore, St John and Le Havre, was detained with deficiencies, on 9th moved to 38/9 berth, then to SCT 1 (no working), back to 38/9 berth then sailed on 18th to Wilhelmshaven, where she appears to have been switched to Maersk service to Mexico
- **BBC SINGAPORE**, part of a series of 15 'LakerMax' heavy-lift sisters ordered from Sanfu Shipyard in China, built to Dutch Groot Ship-design. 2025 built, 15,629 gross, 13,000 dwt, 149 x 23m, 2 x 250 ton cranes (500 tons in tandem). She arrived 22nd June from Masan, South Korea with deck cargo and sailed 23rd to Rotterdam assisted by Itchen Marine's WYESTORM (with new strengthened mast and displaying no name) and WYEKNOT
- **Public Event! The OCEAN LINER SOCIETY in collaboration with the s.s.SHIELDHALL are offering a Mini Ship Exhibition on Saturday 30th August 2025. The ship will be open to visitors, FREE OF CHARGE, during the morning session where there will be tours, special exhibitions, and merchandise stands available to purchase shipping related items. This part is from 10am - 2pm. This could be followed by a sailing on the SHIELDHALL from 3.30pm-7pm. Ticket prices are £45pp or £45 with 20% discount if you are an OLS member. The ship will steam down Southampton Water to the Solent, passing the cruise ships Aurora, Brilliance of the Seas, Iona, MSC Virtuosa and Sky Princess. The occasion will provide a wonderful photographic platform to view the ships.**



REDBRIDGE - *dressed overall for her delivery in Southampton, 1995.*

Photo: Richard Jolliffe.



GOLDY SEVEN - *(Tanzanian flag) 9th June, she is Bosnian-owned, and has a 18m fixed Flettner rotor sail that was fitted in 2018.*

Photo: David Hornsby.

SEAWORK EXHIBITION - JUNE 2025



AQUA POLLUX - built 2024.



WYKE CASTLE - also built 2024.



NORTH EASTERN GUARDIAN IV - launched 8th May 2025 in Whitby.



SEAZIP 12 - built in 2022



SEACAT CONSTELLATION (AIS says its name is Stock Build 3).



NR HUNTER

Photographs; Richard Jolliffe.



SEAODYSSEY - was at Fawley berth 5 on 19th June.

Photo; Chris Brooks.

CRUISE SHIP NEWS - JUNE

NORWEGIAN SUN & NORWEGIAN SKY - both sisters will be calling at Southampton in 2026, as part of a major reshuffle at Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings Ltd. The owners of Norwegian, Regent Seven Seas & Oceania Cruises. Both ships are to be chartered to Indian owned cruise line Cordelia Cruises that was founded in 2020. Both ship will make their way to the port and run a series of cruises. *Norwegian Sky* will arrive on the 10th May 2026 and complete 10 cruises from the city. *Norwegian Sun* will arrive 1st June and complete 2 cruises from the port. *Norwegian Sun* of course came to Southampton in 2001 on her delivery voyage 25 years would have passed since she arrived! Neither ships have been in Southampton apart from that one visit. *Norwegian Sky* will be delivered to Cordelia in October 2026. Where as *Norwegian Sun* will be delivered in 2027. A chance to get photographs before they get chartered out!



A Cordelia Cruises promotional advertisement of their 2027 fleet.

LIBERTY OF THE SEAS - is another ship making a welcome return to the city in 2026. She was last in the port in 2007, only six years after *Norwegian Sun* when she also arrived for a promotional visit to the port. It all seems like yesterday! She will replace the Independence of the Seas, a ship of the same class, running a series of summer cruises.

CRYSTAL SERENITY - made her inaugural visit to Portsmouth on the 22nd of June. It's the first time she has been back in the Solent area since Crystal Cruises previous owners, Genting Hong Kong Limited, went into liquidation in 2022, because of the effects of COVID. Crystal Cruises was purchased with both ships; *Crystal Symphony*, 1995 & *Crystal Serenity*, 2003, by A&K Travel (Abercrombie & Kent) an American company that refitted both ships and returned them to service in July and September 2023.



CRYSTAL SERENITY - arriving in Portsmouth for the first time 22nd June.

Photo: Mike Lennon.

Southampton JUNE Visitors;

CRUISE SHIP ARRIVALS

QUEEN ANNE [1, 8, 20], NORWEGIAN PRIMA [1, 22], REGAL PRINCESS [2, 14, 26], EMERALD PRINCESS [3, 17], VISTA [3, 15], BALMORAL [5], CELEBRITY APEX [5, 17, 28], BRITANNIA [6, 20, 27], QUEEN MARY 2 [6, 20, 24], INDEPENDENCE OF THE SEAS [7, 9, 18, 21, 29], MEIN SCHIFF 3 [7], AURORA [7, 25], IONA [7, 14, 21, 28], MSC VIRTUOSA [7, 14, 21, 28], ARVIA [8, 22], AIDA PERLA [9, 23], SILVER SPIRT [10], VENTURA [10, 14], ARCADIA [11, 27], AZAMARA ONWARD [11th], SEVEN SEAS GRANDEUR [11, 23], SKY PRINCESS [13, 28], SILVER DAWN [14], AZAMARA QUEST [19], HAMBURG [26, Cowes], MARINA [30]

Watch out for in JULY;

AZAMARA JOURNEY [15th], MAJESTIC PRINCESS* [18th], VISTA [21st], SEVEN SEAS NAVIGATOR *to be renamed 2027* [29th], DISNEY FANTASY* [31st]

Portsmouth JUNE Visitors;

AIDA SOL [1], HEBRIDEAN SKY [5, 11], SPIRIT OF DISCOVERY [12, 29], BALMORAL [15], ARTANIA [17], SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE [21], CRYSTAL SERENITY* [22].

Watch out for in JULY;

ILMA [8th], SCARLET LADY [27th], EUROPA [30th].

** Maiden Visit.*



MSC VIRTUOSA - departing Southampton 21st June bound for Lerwick.

Photo: Chris Bancroft.



SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE (ii) - departing Portsmouth 21st June bound for Cadiz.

Photo: Chris Bancroft.



GIOVANNE DELLE BANDE NERE - leaving Portsmouth on 15th June.

Photo: Mike Lennon.



BBC SINGAPORE - departing Marchwood 23rd June, bound for Rotterdam.

Photo: David Hornsby.



MAERSK PUELO - seen here laid up temporarily detained at 38/39 berth.

Photo: Chris Brooks.



BBC BAHRAIN - passing Fawley on 13th June heading to Gibraltar, from 101 berth. Photo: David Hornsby.



ANJI VIRTUE - 13 June, alongside 104 berth, having arrived from Wilhelmshaven. Photo: David Hornsby.



VORTEX - 3315 cm LPG tanker at Esso 2 on 13th June.

Photo: David Hornsby.



SEVEN SEAS GRANDEUR - seen departing Southampton 11th June.

Photo: Chris Brooks.



BALMORAL - arriving at Portsmouth 15th June.

Photo: Adam Ratcliffe.



ARTANIA - arriving at Portsmouth 17th June in perfect conditions.

Photo: Adam Ratcliffe.



ORCA 1 - on 2nd June bound for SCT1 berth from Rotterdam.

Photo: Chris Brooks.



ADAMS - on 16th June. She was bound for SCT1 from Saint John, Canada.

Photo: Chris Brooks.



SAN RAPHAEL MAERSK - departing on the 19th for Rotterdam, passing Town Quay. Photo: Chris Brooks.

A big thank you to all those that contributed to this month's edition!