

but we did have a good run the next Saturday.

Saturday morning came with the sun and gentle wind. The forecast was for a west to northwest wind but by midmorning it was southerly though still gentle.

Redouble left her mooring and by 1300 hours was outside Christchurch harbour. It was decided to use the spinnaker so the guys and sheets were set to utilise the bow rollers to hold the spinnaker open rather than the 14 foot long pole. Once the spinnaker was set the course was fine tuned towards Hurst Castle. After a while the wind became more South Westerly and increased up to 10 knots. The boat speed increased to an acceptable 5 knots in slight seas. The autohelm was doing sterling work in keeping Redouble on course. As Hurst Castle was approached discretion being the best part of valor we went back to traditional hand steering not a lot of room for error here. By now wind was against tide creating a sloppy sea with white horses. The wind was still SW but now 16 knots and Redouble was making 4 knots over the land against a sloppy sea and 3 knot tide. Once into the Solent progress improved and after 5 hours with the spinnaker we approached Portsmouth Harbour entrance. Here it was decided to take the spinnaker down and replace it with the genoa, which would be far more sensible in confined waters. The genoa was only used for a short period as it was decided to go in to Gosport Marina (Camper and Nicholsons).

Total distance travelled was 30 nautical miles in 6 hours, berth to berth.

I just wish that the instruments on Redouble had a double trip so that I could record the time easily for the main voyage only. Rather than include the twidley bits and pieces within Harbours.