Brixham Regatta

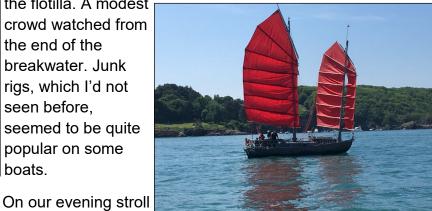
The Brixham regatta took place in the lightest of wind, and no wind at all, so no records were broken. About 25 boats took part. The only trawler this year was *Pilgrim* but others are hoped for

Escape at Dartmouth

next year. Your correspondent was onboard Escape, a modest gaff yawl, built in the 1930s to a design for a lifeboat for Norway. Owned and sailed by Andy Pomeroy, he and his boatbuilder father have built no less than 32 pilot gigs. Escape is part of Nikki Alford's VentureSail fleet of charter vessels. Her beloved Bessie Ellen is up for sale, though still active. We hope she stays in the UK.

We had a pleasant afternoon drifting on the water, admiring

the flotilla. A modest crowd watched from the end of the breakwater. Junk rigs, which I'd not seen before, seemed to be quite popular on some boats.



A junk-rigged vessel

we admired the statue of a trawler crew fighting the

wheel. There were also several well done interpretation boards dotted around Brixham's pretty harbour. The one for 'Man and Boy' states it stands to commemorate lives lost in the Brixham fishing industry and to

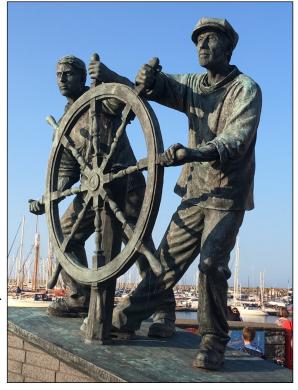


Part of the flotilla moored up

heritage. A specially formed local charity - Fishermen in Sculpture Heritage - (FISH) were responsible for the project and took ten years to raise the funds for the work.

Jonathan Seagrave

First published in South West Soundings, the magazine/ newsletter of the South West Maritime History Society, September 2023.



Fighting the wheel. The sculpture is entitled 'Man and Boy