

Our First at Fowey



We brought our Eleanor (M35) in December 2024. It's our first boat, our first Moody and our first time sailing! And despite not being able to sail there, the first rally of the year for the SW branch at Fowey in April 2026 was also our first ever rally.

We were staying at a B&B at the top of the hill in Fowey and as we walked down to the harbour on Friday afternoon it was wonderful to see so many Moodys gathered across the water on Pontoon 3.

This was Rob's first rally as Captain of the SW branch, and as we disembarked from the local water taxi, he and Jen, with help from their crew, David and Sharon, on Amethyst, made us very welcome with wine, beer, nibbles and introduction to lots of other friendly faces.

Claire and I have jumped right into Moody ownership; Claire is now SW Secretary, and I have volunteered as Weymouth and Portland Port Officer. It was helpful to put some faces to names. We spent a lovely couple of hours chatting on the pontoon with everyone in glorious evening sunshine (I think Rob must have some good connections!), but mainly just meeting some new friends.

My interests are mainly technical, so I had lots to talk about with the others on the pontoon. From nylon bow rollers to feathering props and all things in between, it was helpful to get the insights from experienced sailors, such as readying a new dinghy and first start of the outboard for the season. And in the evening: the legendary Sam's for delicious local scallops.

Saturday was free to do your own thing, and our Captain organised a trip to see the Bird Lady of Fowey. A marvellous exhibit of birds of prey with opportunity to handle them if you wished. Or enjoy beautiful Fowey from the Hall Walk. Or explore the local NT house at Lanhydrock, glorious in the spring sunshine and bathed in woodland bluebells. In the evening, the Royal Fowey Yacht Club (RFYC) put on a wonderful dinner for 22+ of us with what surely must be the best view in Fowey.

So how did it go? We loved it. Rob and Jen know how to put on a party, and booking RFYC to put together an excellent dinner was an excellent plan. Next time we plan to take a boat! And hope to see you there.

Kevin Howard (Eleanor Moody 35)

28 April 2026

