

## OUT TO LUNCH – Hamble Quay

*The local carnival drew us here to investigate what is on offer in this little village*

With crabbing competition, try-a-kayak, pie-eating, tug o' war, craft market, funfair, live music and fireworks to entertain all the family we couldn't stay away from Hamble-le-Rice. Following the pink ferry through lines of moorings we berthed on the deepwater pontoon which, like its counterpart at Warsash, is linked to the shore.



More challenging is to squeeze inside scrubbing posts and lie alongside the quay wall, but there was barely a metre at HW and nothing to which you can make fast.



The High Street offers a choice of hostelries: three pubs providing food, not to mention a Thai restaurant and coffee shop.



Each establishment has its own distinctive atmosphere – and prices – which, according to local opinion, depends on the number of yotties in the clientele, so you pay your money and takes your choice. We settled for The Victory and could not fault either food or service, but the choice was dictated by seeing an empty table, hardly a comprehensive survey; further assessment is definitely required!

*Verdict: don't ignore the attractions of this hidden corner of our boating capital*

Tides on the day: HW S'ton 1220 & 1500 ht 4.4m

Deepwater pontoon with shore access

Harbourmaster tel 01489 576387 & VHF Ch 68

The Victory tel 02380 453105

King & Queen tel 02380 454247

The Bugle tel 02380 453000