

Blakeney Sailing Club Spring Briefing 2018

Dear Blakeney Sailing Club Member,

The awful weather we have endured, in recent months, makes the halcyon days of summer on the briny seem a distant dream.

Take heart I say, the wonders of Spring will soon be upon us so now is the time to make our plans from March to October 2018. That said your hardworking committee have not been idle but have produced the exciting programme you will find on the Dutyman website.

A special mention is deserved regarding this planning and the innovative introduction of the web based Dutyman programme which has come about thanks to the hard work of Simon Hibberd and his long suffering crew, Alan Collett. I suspect that the same dynamics were at work during this enterprise as operate when they sail together. Simon helms and tells Alan what to do. When it goes wrong it is Alan's fault!

In any event, I am sure the hours they have spent populating the programme will be rewarded for many seasons to come, by reducing the burden of recruiting crews to run events. Members allocated duties will receive timely email reminders and be able to swop duties via the system. You should have received emails from Simon alerting you to the Dutyman programme. I would encourage members to familiarise themselves with its operation. I know the system is a great success at other sailing clubs. I should add that you will only be on the duty rota if you have received an e-mail which specifically informs you of a scheduled duty. We have circulated all BSC members with the Dutyman details but have only allocated duties to the regular/active sailors. Of course, anyone is welcome to volunteer for duties if they wish.

The first event of note is the traditional land rush, on the first of March, when boat spaces may be bagged. This is quickly followed by lunch at the Moorings on Sunday the 4th March. Please let Ann Cleall know if you wish to reserve places.

The sailing starts on Easter Saturday so fingers crossed that the weather cooperates!

I am grateful to Angela Harcourt who, in addition to her duties as club treasurer, has found time to organise an evening at Bayfield Hall with an interesting speaker and a fish and chip supper. This will be on Friday 11th May and details are advertised on the club website and Facebook page and will be circulated nearer the time.

Previous events at this venue have been very successful so I urge you to book early to avoid disappointment.

Still on dry land matters, the final two events of the Winter Series will be: Saturday 10th February at 12.30 (lunchtime) at the White Horse in Blakeney; and Thursday 8th March at 6.30 pm at the Dun Cow in Salthouse.

I am delighted that Bill Glauert and Eleanor Sidgwick have agreed to continue promoting flotilla sailing throughout the season and to keep members updated on plans via Facebook and emails.

It only remains for me to wish everyone happy sailing in 2018. I look forward to seeing you out on the water.

Séan