

## **BSC Winter Briefing 2019**

Dear Members,

As I look out my window the rain is pouring down and the thought of going sailing is distinctly unattractive.

Thankfully that has not been the case during the summer when we have been blessed with many fine days afloat both racing, cruising and kayaking.

The good news is that Simon Hibberd and friends have been hard at work devising an excellent programme for 2020 which is now viewable in the form of Dutyman accessible via the updated Club website. Please visit this and volunteer for duties as patrol boat helm, crew or race officer.

We have plans to encourage more people to gain the skills required to helm the patrol boats and I will describe these in my Spring Briefing. If you have any questions regarding the use of duty man I'm sure Simon can answer them.

Looking to the future, in the shorter term, we have the Carnser Clear Up and lunch, at the Manor Hotel, on Sunday the 1st December. An email containing all the details has been circulated to members and I look forward to seeing many of you there. If you wish to know more please contact Jane Bassett, who is organising our social events.

We plan to present a prize or two at the lunch and hold a 100 club draw.

**May I take this opportunity to encourage more members to join the 100 Club? There has been a gradual natural loss of members who need replacing so as to maintain an important income stream to ensure the economic health of the Club. It costs only £5 a month which, speaking from personal experience, you really don't miss once the standing order has been set up. Half the income is distributed to members and the remainder delights the treasurer.**

Please let Ann Cleall know if you would like to support the Club in this way and give yourself a chance of being a winner! The odds are much better than the National Lottery.

Jane Armstrong, (may I take this opportunity to say that it is not a Club rule that you have to be called Alan or Jane to be a member?) has again arranged a Winter Series, the Notice of Race for which has been circulated, commencing at the Kings Arms, Blakeney, where she will signal the first start at 18:30 on Sunday the 17th November.

On the subject of finance you will find, attached to this briefing, a short history of the Sim Posts, which sit to the West and East of the Cut and are used for starting and finishing races. You will see they have been there since 1908 and are now in need of replacement.

An estimate of £800 has been obtained and your Committee has voted to donate £250 towards the project. Sadly the Parish Council does not currently feel able to support the replacement so I wondered if any members would like to contribute. If so please let me know.

Following some lively debates, during the season, regarding the racing rules, we have invited Mike McNamara, the current Wayfarer World Champion sailor and sail maker, to give a talk on the subject at Bayfield Hall on Friday the 15th May 2020. Please put this date in your diaries. More details nearer the time. I have appended a PDF covering the basic rules in case you fancy a little homework.

The other major social event I would ask you to note is the Hog Roast at Blakeney Village Hall on Friday the 7th August. I am delighted that Dave Buckey has agreed to be our speaker, continuing

where he left off last year, regarding his life in the Norfolk Constabulary. An evening not to be missed.

In conclusion I would like to wish you and your boats, a happy hibernation. I look forward to seeing you at the Winter Series or, failing that, in the New Year.

Séan Moore  
Commodore BSC 14th November 2019