

BSC Spring Briefing 2020

Dear Members,

Inspired, in equal measure, by a trip to the Dinghy Show at the Ally Pally and the re-emergence of the sun, I find myself almost as excited as Zoe Ball (what is she on?) about the new sailing season.

Boats are now appearing on the Dinghy Park and I encourage you to register yours with the Parish Council if you have not already done so. This means they have a database and can contact owners if the need arises. I encourage members to pay the voluntary £5 per boat to the Council as, in my opinion, this represents decent value given the maintenance work and provision of mooring chains. <http://www.blakeneyparishcouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/BoatOwnershipRegistrationFormandDonationRequest.pdf> for details.

I am grateful to our splendid secretary Jane Armstrong for organising another Winter Series. These events have been well attended and provided a very pleasant way of keeping in touch with members during the winter. My only regret is that Yachts and Yachting have failed to reproduce my painstakingly detailed reports of all the races, which have appeared on our Face Book page.

I referenced Patrol Boat Training in my last briefing and would ask that members willing to perform these duties, who are not already approved Patrol Boat Drivers, contact me by email indicating their interest in training. The plan is that Steve Leigh and I will run through the duties involved and allow you to spend time on the water gaining experience of handling the boats.

There will be no charge for this so do let me know as soon as possible so we can arrange dates. Please email me at sremoore@hotmail.com

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.

It has been agreed that the Club will pay for engraving the trophies won this season. Your committee felt it was appropriate in order to preserve historical continuity.

A discount has been negotiated at SP Shoes and Engraving in White Lion Street, Holt. An advert for this business will appear in the Year Book and trophy winners can have their names and boat details engraved there, stating that the charge should be made to the Blakeney Sailing Club account.

Further to my previous comments regarding the replacement of the Sim Posts I am delighted to report that excellent progress has been made with various donations being made including a grant from the Blakeney Community Fund and a donation from Blakeney Hotel. Our brilliant Bosun, Rod Jeffreys, has garnered some major contributions and has now ordered the posts which should be installed sometime in the Spring. We will be organising an event to celebrate this which will include a race start and invitations to all those who have contributed.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible out on the water, starting on Good Friday.

Best wishes for the 2020 season,

Séan Moore
Commodore BSC