



“Notes from the Bridge”

Burnham on Crouch Sailing Club Newsletter – September 2018

It seems only a few weeks ago we were getting ready for the start of our 2018 sailing season and here we are now at the end of what has been an incredible year with just the prize giving to go: Or is it? Well, this year we are pleased to be hosting the Crouch Yacht Club’s Autumn Series. This series will run during October and November and we are hoping to include some Dinghy racing as well so dig out your winter woollies and get ready for even more racing. Keep an eye on the website for further details.

Sailing

We have had an amazing year, weather wise we have had one of the driest summers, glorious sunshine and superb winds. As for the sailing we have had some outstanding results. We won the HMS St Mathew Cup, our junior section have won world and National championships in various classes and our keelboats have had some fabulous results in Burnham week. Not only did we win both team trophies in IRC and Class 5&6 but Digger and his Glorious Fools team have done the double and won the Town Cup for the second year on the trot. Well Done Everyone. You are a credit to the club.

This year we introduced our Stand up Paddle boarding (SUP) section and thanks to Tom Harrison this has been a huge success with our existing members and has introduced many new members to the club as well. Our Kayak section is also very active with lots of kayaks out during Wednesday nights and lots of paddles taking place at weekends as well as pool sessions.



Remember that as a member of the sailing club you can make use of all of this. So if you fancy a

go at Kayaking or SUP then speak to Clive Marfleet or Tom Harrison for details.



Our junior section also had new challenges to face this year, lots and lots of new children. It wasn’t unusual to see 30 – 50 children on a Friday night all being put into groups and being taken for trips around the river in Volunteer or in other boats. A big thankyou to our junior coordinators, our group leaders and everyone who helped out some even using their own boats when necessary.

Clubhouse

We have had a busy year in the clubhouse this year. We have rebuilt our pontoon and heavily modified it after it was damaged during the storms just before the beginning of the Season. We have added three new piles, new decking on the underside of the ramp section and several tonnes of chain down the waterline of the

pontoon. A big thanks to John Saunders for all of his work getting permissions from the various organisations to allow us to do the work and also to Digger and James Van Schagen for their efforts as well.

We have also finished our Accessible toilet project. It took slightly longer than originally planned but it's been well worth the wait. Again a huge thankyou to everyone who donated to this project and to John Mellard and John Saunders for overseeing the work.

Social

We have had some great social events so far this year. We had the Commodore's cruise up to Fambridge, a few dinner parties and During Burnham Week hosted two cocktail parties, Our Cream Tea party on Quay Day, The John Torrance trophy race and Hog roast and our Fish and chip supper. A massive thankyou to everyone who helped organise these events and to everyone who gave their time to help man the Galley and provide us with an everlasting supply of cakes.



We are planning some more social events over the winter period for you. Our fantastic Wednesday night caterers Shirina & Yim (Happy Fusion) have planned a series of Friday night dinners, and our social committee are planning some fun evenings as well so keep an eye on the website for full details and dates of these events.

The next big events on the horizon are our prize giving Dinners. The senior prize giving Dinner will take place on 6th October and junior prize giving

on 9th November. So keep these dates free in your diary.

I mentioned earlier that this year we were hosting the CYC's autumn series. Traditionally this series is raced in keelboats during October and November and anyone can enter. We are running IRC and local handicap classes. So if you have a keelboat and would like to do some racing then please go to the website for full details and online entry form, we would love to see you on the start line. We are also hoping to do some dinghy racing as well. Probably not every week but maybe a 4 race series run over two weekends.

I started this report by saying what an exceptional year this has been and I have mentioned some of our achievements. What makes this all the more exciting is that we are only a small club run by volunteers. Whether they are serving you a cup of tea or coaching your children out on the water. So the next time you see us pulling a rib up the pontoon or washing up the cups in the galley just think I could be helping with that. "Be proud to be BSC." If you feel that you can help then please speak to someone we would love your help.



Alan Hanna,
Commodore