

LEIGH CREEK GUZZLERS ASSOCIATION

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GUZZLETTER NO 110

Dear GUZZLERS.

I again say 'Hello' to all, and begin with my traditional welcome to another GUZZLERS year.

Those who have subs outstanding will receive a separate emailed reminder saying that they are overdue, so if those people wish to be included in future correspondence, please forward your cheque for £5 to me, made payable to '3rd CB GUZZLERS'. You can otherwise make a payment online, or better still, set up a Standing Order to the GUZZLERS Account number, 56032994 and Sort Code 60-17-44. If you choose either of these methods please send me an email to alert me to the fact that you have made the electronic transaction. THIS IS THE ONLY REMINDER I SHALL SEND.

We do want to retain your membership and our challenge is to chase up those who have not yet paid their subs and to retain our new members. I attach a Standing Order mandate for you to send to your bank by post should you wish to do so. Otherwise a SO can be set up on line or by telephone by your bank to the Account number & Sort Code above.

I attach the AGM Minutes from our meeting on 10th October 2017. For those who receive this by post I will include the Income & Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet that was approved at the AGM.



Nigel Boughton Smith 15th September 2017
Twin brother of Nick who was very active in the troop between 1960 - 1966



Kath Bentley 26th September 2017

At a wonderful age of 94, wife of our late GSM and GUZZLERS President Frank Bentley, mother of GUZZLER Reverend Ian Bentley. A number of us will have long time memories of her supporting, our old 'Skip' at The Den and spending her holidays with us all at Summer Camps etc.

Sympathies and condolences have been sent to their families on your behalf

The Summer Pub Night at The Crooked Billet, on 18th July 2017 was fairly well attended. Again the weather didn't allow us to sit outside in the balmy evening temperature but we supped a few. Neil Paxman won the furthest travelled prize.

The trip on 'Calypso' on Friday 21st – 23rd July 2017 to the Whitstable Oyster Festival went ahead and Andy Clapham reports:-

We had a later than planned start on the Friday due to a mechanical issue and set off around 11:00. We had then missed the tide for Faversham so headed for Chatham, where our traditional buffet lunch was had after locking in and mooring. Saturday saw a fairly early start with breakfast on the way back down the Medway and round the back of Sheppey to Harty Ferry. Going ashore by dinghy went well this year as I had remembered the petrol, and the

Ferryboat Inn served an excellent lunch. So to Whitstable where we were expecting a reduced event, however we felt all was as usual and as usual we availed ourselves of the local hospitality. Sunday found us in a Faulty Towers kind of establishment for breakfast, but we survived that and left Whitstable for home via the Swale as this was considered a more scenic route. As usual, good food, good company and good beer, though the weather was a little dull.

The Meryllyn trip September 9th – 16th 2017 - Andy Clapham writes:-

We had a bit of a mixed bag this year in respect of weather and crew. We were 10 in number, bolstered by a couple of Scottish sailing friends of Bert, and whilst the Scottish jokes were flying, I think they held their own! The weather was brisk all week and atrocious at times, the sailing however was really good and we only lost 2 days to high winds. The 2 days off were spent in Portsmouth Historical Dockyard and on buses going from Poole to Studland, both very good time fillers. We regrettably did not make it across the Channel, but no-one seemed to mind. Yet again, good company, good food and particularly good rum supplied by Neil made the trip seem short.

I am pleased to add to Andy's comments that John Craig, one of the noted Scottish crew members has joined the GUZZLERS.

PS Waverley – Thames Trip Friday 29th September 2017

When I circulated details there was only James & Elizabeth Packer who responded and who would wish to go. It is a shame as having undertaken the voyage (!) two years ago when we had such a good time with the weather and facilities up to the mark, it seemed that people did not want to repeat the experience.

AGM / Pub Night on 10th October 2017.

There was a very acceptable turnout of 14. Thanks to Colin Fraser for arranging access to 'The Den' to enable us to have a look around before the meeting began. Patrick Fairplay gave a brief account of what life was like as an 'urk' in the 3rdCB in 1945 and presented the Group with a framed Engineers Drawing of the old Chapman Lighthouse which was sailed to on Boxing Day sails after the war. All business was concluded by 2146 as you can see from the minutes. We refreshed ourselves at the Mayflower, in preference to The Smack after the AGM was concluded, much to the pleasure of the bar staff who were kept busy!

Your Secretary writes:-

At the committee meeting on November 7th we discussed possible activities and visits over the coming months, some of which were raised at the AGM.

The take up for recent visits has not been great so your committee ask that you make some suggestions which can be followed up.

We will look into visits to a brewery, probably Shepherd Neame, at Faversham, with an overnight stay in a B&B as travel would probably be by car and after having a taster session

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Alan Stone has said that he will provide details when we could visit Bentley Priory Museum, a WWII RAF Establishment, HQ of Fighter Command, probably in Spring 2018.

Nick James volunteered to have a look at The Kings Head at Pebmarsh, to see if it was worth having a run out. It was formally run by ex GSM Peter Daws, and a venue for one of our exploits years ago. Nick writes:- Yes, we went there soon after the Guzzlers Pub Night/AGM. Unfortunately, it had been closed for a couple of years and has now been taken over by "The Villagers" as a "Community Owned Pub". It has undergone a restoration with new facilities, and a paint up. There are no vestiges of 3rd CB memorabilia of any kind. We visited at around 5o/c, there were a handful of people around, but unfortunately, the young Bar Lady and the assembled throng had little idea of the old days, or its Landlord.

If you wish to Google the Pub there are further details.

Social Meeting 1

The Winter Pub Night is on Tuesday March 20th 2018 at The Mayflower at 20.15.

Den Day

We hope that people will be encouraged to attend a Den Day on Saturday 23rd June, HW 1326. I see from the Group's website that they have taken delivery of 4 RS Quest dinghies, which might be a little too skitty for most of us, so I hope the Gig will be available for those who fancy a more leisurely sail.

Social Meeting 2

Our Summer Pub Nights appear popular so we will be planning one in July next year.

Boat Trip 1:-

We hope that 'Calypso' will be available to go to Whitstable for the Oyster Festival in July.

Boat Trip 2-

GUZZLERS sailing on TV 'Merrilyn', September 2018 is being planned. Dates as yet not confirmed.

Social Meeting 3:-

AGM Tuesday 9th October 2018 at The Den at 2000, this will be followed by a Pub Night at The Mayflower on completion of the AGM.

Please discuss our programme at the Winter Pub Night and make your suggestions about visits or other activities, to one of the committee, or email me direct.

Many thanks for those who have passed on reports from the activities that I did not attend. All that remains is for me, on behalf of your committee, to wish you well for 2018, and best wishes for an exciting Christmas with your families.

The Groups website <http://www.3rdcb.org.uk> contains up to the minute news. Do take a look and explore it. Our GUZZLERS details are included on the website and there is access to recent GUZZLETTERS.

Chris Daly writes:- As a small advert for those Guzzlers that are more technically minded and want to keep up to date with what we're doing, we've expanded our social media use at The Den which may be of interest to a few. Lots of pictures of what we're doing on a weekly basis:

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/3rdCB/>

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/3rdChalkwellBay>

Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/3rdcb/>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/user/3rdcb>

PS. Ian Johnson advises of the Groups Presentation Evening is on Saturday 20th January 2018.

Regards,

Stuart Clay

Secretary