

LEIGH CREEK GUZZLERS ASSOCIATION

'Old Cleeve'
383, Sandhurst Lane,
ASHFORD,
Kent.
TN25 4PF
01233 - 623732
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email clay_oldcleeve@ntlworld.com

GUZZLETTER NO 99

Dear GUZZLER,

On Tuesday 10th April your Committee met to discuss activities over the coming months. This is a report of details from that meeting & the Winter Pub Night plus a comprehensive guide of our programme and the latest news.

I can report that I actually received two Christmas Cards from Nick Martland in Oz. this year. One was a card showing Koalas surfing which again showed typical Auzzie class. Thanks Nick. The stamp was more traditional, costing \$A1.50 it showed the three wise men. Another card followed with Nick's subs, it was that of a nice Christmas tree. Both cards cost \$A25.00. Such extravagance!

GUZZLERS membership now stands at 49 in 2011/12, all of those expected to continue their membership have paid up, others have now been removed from the mailing list.

A few of us visited the War Rooms and Churchill Museum on March 1st. There was loads of memorabilia to view. I was rather interested in the reinforced structure of the building that took place overhead and the accommodation allocated to staff. In those days no one was as nosy as today & work could go on without questions being asked. The day ended with a meal at a local tavern. Very interesting – glad that I went.

The Pub Night on Tuesday 6th March attracted 13 members. Unfortunately these recruited at the occasion last year were not able to come along. I hope that it is not the last we see of them! Peter West saw the photo's I included in the last GUZZLETTER and recalled that one of those in the Rover Crew picture was lost when HMS Hood went down on 24th May 1941. Roy Salter again won the furthest travelled prize. Good on you Roy for making the huge effort from Suffolk. As the bar service was abysmal, closing at 1030, leaving members gasping for the last pint, we have decided, for the moment, that we should seek another venue for our social meetings.

On to future social events:-

A day at the Den has not won great approval at all but Andy is hopeful of getting away to attend the Oyster Festival in Whitstable on **Friday 27th July** carrying over to Saturday 28th / Sunday 29 July for those who wish to kip and spend some time on 'Calypso'. Diesel and food costs will be shared at the time. Because of Andy's work pattern not being known at present, final confirmation will be given out by email nearer the time.

I am afraid that there was insufficient response to allow us to go ahead to have a boating trip to celebrate the GUZZLERS 30th year. We considered a chartered narrow boat on the Midlands Canals (Rugby / Oxford) for a week or long weekend in mid September, when the kids have returned to school, but interest did not allow us to go ahead.

I give formal notice of our 2012 AGM & Pub Night on 9th October 2012 at 2015 at The Elms. (please note NP!!). It is easily accessible and we should be able to gather round a couple of

booths, and the beer will at least be fresh & cheap. Bar closes at 2359 so I am told! Please put the date in your diaries now and if there any items for inclusion in the agenda or revision of Aims please advise me before the end of September.

Trafalgar Night

Trafalgar Night Dinner at 'The Elms' for GUZZLERS and wives / partners. Saturday 20th October 2012 with a start at 1900

To celebrate the 207th anniversary we have approached the management and they are keen to lay on the traditional dinner for us. I do need some indication who would like to attend. The committee will be there in force so would you kindly let me know, either by email or phone, by the end of June, how many places you would like.

A sub-committee will make final arrangements with the manager once numbers are known. Dress is optional – suitable for the occasion. I shall set the standard with black tie and medals! Cost to be shared. Roughly £10 per head payable on the day – plus your drinks.

It could be an opportunity to repeat our enjoyable event in 2005.

Bawley Trip

I will have to pass any further information on at a later date if conditions become suitable.

Other news:-

The Group have an outline project to purchase land and build additional storage and facilities on what I knew as Knapp & (Deals) site. The GUZZLERS committee is completely supportive of this move and will be recommending to the AGM that a good percentage of our funds go towards this. Additional funding will be needed from other sources and personal donations will be probably asked for at some point in the future.

Dave Taylor has again sent some news of Mark Readman who is residing in Perth WA. I hoped that Mark would want to join the association but is resisting at the moment. Apparently Dave & Wendy were on holiday in Oz, and were in Perth. They looked him up in the phone book and gave him a call. Surprise surprise!

Just to remind you that my email address is clay_oldcleeve@ntlworld.com

The Groups website <http://www.3rdcb.org.uk> is up and running. Do take a look and view a very excellent recent Admiralty Inspection report. The inspecting officer, a female Lt. Cdr. has obviously been prompted that the group has no longer an affiliated ship and I have had confirmation that a Hunt Class sweeper, 'HMS ATHERSTONE' has been nominated. GUZZLERS details are included on the website and there is access to recent GUZZLETTERS.

All that remains is for me, on behalf of your committee to wish you all well. We do hope you are able to attend some of the functions.

Regards,

Stuart Clay
Secretary