

**LEIGH CREEK GUZZLERS ASSOCIATION**

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27<sup>th</sup> November 2019

**GUZZLETTER NO 114**

*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 you know that you are owing and wish to be included in future correspondence, please forward your cheque for £5 to me, made payable to '3<sup>rd</sup> CB GUZZLERS'. You can otherwise make a direct 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. I get a number of queries during the year but only very occasionally does that lead to anyone actually opting to join us. A SO can be set up on line or by a call to your bank quoting the Account number & Sort Code above. If you are unable to do that I attach a Standing Order mandate for you to complete and send to your bank by post.

I attach the AGM Minutes from our meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2019. For those who receive this by post I will include the approved Income & Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet that was emailed out prior to the AGM.

**Ian Johnsons Memorial Event - Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

The 3rd Chalkwell Bay Sea Scout Group held an event in memory of Ian. All members past and present including parents were invited to join the Group at the Den at 1200 for a ceremony with Scouts afloat in a number of boats in procession up the creek past The Den and a wreath was laid from a workboat, with Ian's old yacht Bacchus taking centre stage followed by a buffet and drinks reception. Members of Ian's family, Essex Yacht Club and Leigh on Sea Sailing Club were also in attendance together with others.

**The Summer Pub Night at The Crooked Billet, on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2019** was fairly well attended, attracting about 15 members. Furthest travelled was Mike Riley from Shoeburyness(really)! The weather allowed us to sit outside and we supped a few.

**Den Day Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019**

John Blackburn writes; the Den Day was worth doing and I believe was a success. We have had more people on previous years but probably around 15 people turned up at various stages throughout the day. Unfortunately 4 or 5 turned up after we had gone out on to the water, even though we did wait until around 1pm 'ish before heading out to try and allow for any latecomers. Maybe next time we will state a time that people must get there by if they want to get out on the boats. Andy Clapham took Calypso out and I took Bacchus out with 6 on board and Rosie the dog! We were out on the water for a good couple of hours and then we got to

use the BBQ, (recently purchased for the Group, by the GUZZLERS), which was good for those that missed the boating. After the BBQ about 8 of us went to The Mayflower for a few pints. Thanks must go to Jack Veitch and his team who helped with proceedings on the day. Even though they were busy with the scouts open boating they still had time to ferry a few of us to Bacchus and help with getting the BBQ out, etc. He also set up a closed Facebook Group for the Guzzlers which is linked into the Scouts Facebook page and already has 119 members! The idea is that once the membership reaches a peak we can then target the members to sign up.

And Andrew Bull comments: It was a fine day. The weather and company were very good. Please pass on my thanks via the next GUZZLERS newsletter to John Blackburn and Andy Clapham for providing their boats 'Bacchus' and 'Calypso' respectively and for John again for organising the BBQ. All appeared to enjoy the boating, hanging out at the Den, watching the tide ebb away whilst eating sausages and burgers, and taking further refreshment at the Mayflower afterwards. Ahhh!

For those receiving electronic copies I have attached some drawings in appreciation of Andy's efforts from Paul Cottrell's grandchildren.

### **AGM / Pub Night on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2019.**

There was a better turn out than last year as you will see from the minutes. We managed to keep the bar staff at 'The Mayflower' busy for a few hours anyway after the formalities were over.

### **Your Secretary writes:-**

Another rather quiet year for 'GUZZLERS' but we had good discussions at our recent committee meeting which provided some idea of our social & sailing programme for 2020. After a good deal of persuasion, sending out press gangs to ensure a full crew and numerous communications between ourselves and the Thames Barge Sailing Trust, we were thwarted by the news, within two weeks of our trip, that SB Centaur had a damaged bow and under Heath & Safety rules would not be available. So it was cancellations all round and monies returned.

The 'GUZZLERS' numbers are showing no sign of increasing as people become less likely to venture out. However I am pleased that Andrew Bull and his father Tony (ex GSL of 8<sup>th</sup> Leigh in the 1960's, working as a PLA Navigation Inspector along with Nigel Baker, Chris Burls and Arthur Hands, GSL of 6<sup>th</sup> Leigh at the time) have rejoined / joined. I have had some enquiries (Ian Blair from Australia - but no follow up). We do seem to enjoy our social gatherings - so long may that happen!.

### **Dates for your diaries in 2020**

#### **Social Meeting**

The Winter Pub Night is on Tuesday March 17<sup>th</sup> 2020 at The Mayflower at 20.15.

#### **Den Day Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

The Den is provisionally booked for another day of boating activity. HW 1241 at 5.6

#### **Social Meeting**

Our Summer Pub Nights appear popular so we will be at the Crooked Billet on July 21<sup>st</sup> 2020.

#### **Boat Trip**

We have been in touch with the TBST to enquire of the availability of SB Centaur in 2020 and have provisionally booked for October 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> 2020, making use of the midday tide to sail out of Maldon. It will give us a few more hours sailing time by meeting earlier. Details and requests to be in the crew will follow shortly.

#### **AGM & Social Meeting**

AGM Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2020 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.

**Other Group News**

From Laurence Dennis:- We are about to start advertising our upcoming fundraising event, and we would like to invite all members of the GUZZLERS to a Black Tie Dinner & Dance at Essex Yacht Club on the evening of the 18th April 2020. Tickets will be on sale for £30.00 Per Person. This includes canapés, a welcome drink on arrival and a 3 course meal. Further details including how to purchase tickets will be sent out in the next few weeks.

All that remains is for me, on behalf of your committee, to wish you well for 2020, 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 view the Annual Report 2018/19 where you can see what each section has been up to in the last year and news of the planned Den extension where verbal quotations are reported to be progressing . The GUZZLERS details are included and there is also access to recent GUZZLETTERS.

Register and keep track of the Guzzlers' activities by following our Facebook Group at [facebook.com/groups/leighcreekguzzlers/](https://facebook.com/groups/leighcreekguzzlers/).

Regards,

*Stuart Clay*

Secretary