



"Run by the Members, for the Members"

The Small Boat Club Kingston-upon-Thames Newsletter March 2024

Commodore's Comments

Ooops...Commodore on the naughty step here, but I can report on that we have had two well attended committee meetings, constructive discussions with action lists being noted and indeed actioned....



Much of the discussions have been about the flood damage to the island, which sadly has put paid to our Working Parties and any early season activities.

However, there was very useful island inspection

last Sunday (March 17th) with Dom Evans and The Commodore leading the way and taking a good look at what needs to be done in the coming months, and thank you to everyone else who was there.

The Social Pages

Our first event of the year attended by SBC Members was the ATYC Spring Ball at the Richmond Hill Hotel on the 24th. SBC put together a very fine looking table at an event attended by over 150 people from 14 clubs.



Perhaps this picture of our members in their finery might inspire more to put on their 'glad rags' and go next year?

The most recent event was the Fitting Out Supper which was held at the Boaters last



Saturday (March 16th) where we had the upper deck to ourselves. A huge thank you to Gavin for organising such a great evening, and judging by the laughter and general hubbub of conversations, it was enjoyed by all...and some of us carried on and made very good use of our discount at the bar...

Future events for the diary (also on the Club website):

24th March – postponed Working Party 1
1st June – Family Fun Day (date tbc)
6th July – SBC Summer Party
24th – 26th August ATYC Rally (see next section)
7th September – Commodore's Cruise
27th October – Moonlight Cruise (hunter's moon)
3rd November – 1st Autumn Working Party
17th November – 2nd Autumn Working Party
23rd November – 2024 AGM and Laying Up Supper (venue tbc)

Cruises

Following the success of the St. Katherine's cruise last year Simon Price has kindly put together a list of cruises that members might want to join. SBC cruises in black, non-SBC in red:

- 25th-27th May – upriver, Boveney/Hurley
- June, date TBC – downriver, Tideway Taster to Chiswick/Dove Pier
- July, date TBC – downriver, Queenboro/Rochester
- **July 19th–21st – Thames Traditional Boat Festival**
- August 23rd–26th – down river cruise to St Katherine's Dock, to coincide with...
- **August 24th–26th – ATYC Summer Rally West India Dock**
- **September 7th–8th – Classic Boat Festival, St Katherine's Dock .**
- Sept 7th – Commodore's Cruise
- **Sept 15th – Dunkirk Little Ships Chertsey Lock**
- Oct 17th – Hunters Moon Moonlight Cruise to Shepperton
- November TBC – Guy Fawkes fireworks @ Lensbury

Club Merchandise

How about some new SBC clothing for the new season? We have a local supplier who holds our logo. The prices below are for a selection of clothing but they have a more extensive catalogue if people want something different. Club clothing normally comes in navy blue but sweatshirts and polo shirts could be white or pale blue instead. We aim to order several garments at a time.

Adult fleeces: £27.50; Child's fleece £20.50;
Adult gilet: £24.00; Adult polo shirt (unisex or womens) £14.50; adult sweatshirt £20.00..

Please speak to Linda for more details via Club WhatsApp, lindavarney2@gmail.com or 07961 541088

Andrew Barwick holds the stock of Club pennants, price £25.00 each.

Trevor has Jubilee Island Map tea-towels (£8.00 each), Island Map prints (£3.00 each), SBC badges (£2.00 each).

Reminders

A polite reminder to all members with a boat moored on the island that it is condition of our lease, Club Rule 12.d and Club Mooring Agreement Item 1. that ALL boats must have a valid EA licence, and these should be displayed in a visible place – when it is safe to do so given current river conditions (no pun intended!).

Useful Information (more available on the SBC website

What Three Words:

Clubhouse: RANKED . PANS . BOATS

Jetty: AWAIT . TALKED . ENTRY

Environment Agency:

River Conditions (updated daily):

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/river-thames-current-river-conditions>

We still have 'Red Boards' / 'Caution: Strong Stream' on every stretch of the Thames, not just ours. So please be careful if crossing to the island, and please do wear a life jacket / 'Crewsaver'.

Closures:

<https://www.gov.uk/check-river-conditions-and-closures>

Thankfully the work to Chertsey lock is now complete and passage can resume, however (as above) Red Boards are in place.

If members have other 'useful information', reports of cruises and events, funny boating stories etc they would like included in a newsletter please let me know.

