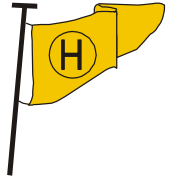


HARLOW (BLACKWATER) SAILING CLUB



COMMODORES COMMENTS FEB/MARCH

SINCE MY LAST RAVINGS we have had 2 working parties, both in extreme weather, with storms on the 26th January and gales on the 9th February, even so, a good turn out with many jobs completed.

We have 2 working parties' to go, one on 23rd February and the last on the 9th March. With a final push and better weather we should get all of the outstanding club house and grounds jobs done and be ready for the good weather! And sailing! – Not done a working party yet! See you next time! It's worth coming for the lunch alone!

The bad weather has taken its toll on the Cruiser and Dinghy Park and a number of boats have received some damage and many have damaged covers. If you haven't done so recently please check your boat.

Two weeks ago we learned of the death of John Ball who was a club Commodore during the early 80's and a keen dinghy sailor during over 20 years as a club member. Many will remember John and our thought are with his family.

WHAT NEXT?

- Dinghy racing starts on the 16th March with a warm up race. Serious racing starts on 30th March with Spring Points 1, Handicap 1 and Laser day 1.
- First cruiser launch is the 29th March – look for the sign up sheet at the club or contact Ian Henderson, the Cruiser secretary.
- Don't forget the Dinghy Exhibition at the Alexandra Palace on 1st and 2nd March.
- Hard copies of the programme will be available in early March.
- Race Box and Rescue Boat training will be run as needed this year. If you think you need it, please let me know. I will then arrange appropriate training.
- John Case, our publicity officer is planning a hardcopy newsletter for mid May, so if you wish to contribute get your copy and pictures to John by the end of April.

FURTHER AHEAD

A date for your diary '**21st September**', in the programme this is shown as 'BARTS BASH'. A day of racing for all dinghy and cruisers regardless of crew's age and ability with all the Blackwater based Sailing Clubs involved. A great day both on and off the water is being planned. Lets get a least 30 Harlow boats out – we could be on TV as part of a 150 boat fleet. **FULL DETAILS TO FOLLOW NEARER THE TIME**

See you all at the club

Rod Martin
HBSC - Commodore