

By The Way

Issue no 98: January 2023



The Magazine of Byfleet Boat Club



Happy New Year!

Following an appeal from NABO and the IWA I wrote to my MP ahead of the interparliamentary debate on funding of the waterways. Part of my letter is reproduced below:

As a boat owner on the River Wey I feel that it is vital that the waterways in public ownership managed by the Environment Agency and the Canal and River Trust receive adequate financial support.

Since the pandemic we have seen a huge increase in the use of the waterways in Surrey for such outdoor activities as walking, running, cycling, fishing, sailing, canoeing, paddleboarding as well as boating. The benefits are obvious.

However, the inactivity of the EA (as well as their mismanagement of the Thames waterways) has led to the deterioration of our local waterways, for example in the proliferation of invasive species on the river Wey.

All the amenities offered by the Waterways are now under threat. Please will you raise this with the DEFRA Minister with responsibility for the inland waterways, Rebecca

Pow MP, as a matter of urgency, and bring to her attention all the benefits of the waterways mentioned above as reasons why the inland waterways in general, and Canal & River Trust in particular, should continue to receive funding from government into the future.

The result? Rebecca Pow MP, recently re-appointed as the Defra Minister with responsibility for waterways in England and Wales, responded to the debate, but was unable to confirm any timescale for the announcement of Defra's review into Canal & River Trust's funding, saying only that, "... the outcomes... will be announced forthwith."

Mike Chamberlain

Q: Any progress against Pennywort?

Tristan says: Some. We have been having meetings with the EA trying to look at how we can work more closely together next year and what can be done to share resources more effectively. It is not going to be an easy task and if we don't have a cold winter, then the Pennywort won't die back as much as it normally does and so will have a head start next year, which would only make it harder.

Cover page: Mick Wilson with NB Cranley stuck in weed at Walsham Lock. See above..



Tristan Brown

Looking back over this last year it has been a turbulent time for everyone. From repeated COVID outbreaks to Storm Eunice, one of the driest summers we have had resulting in more summer boards being out than has been the case for 15 years, to fires along the navigation and now the cost-of-living crisis, I have been proud of how much the team have managed to accomplish. Here are some examples of the work they have been doing:

Bank protection and reinstating areas of towpath through Guildford, New Haw and Cartbridge

Installation of infrastructure to allow electric boat hire from Dapdune Wharf

Replacing Triggs Lock gates

Removal of damaged and diseased trees and vegetation management

Maintenance and repairs of existing structures

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our volunteers and staff for their continued hard work and passion for both the waterway and the Wharf. Their contributions have been invaluable, and I have been so impressed by their technical knowledge and dedication.

It has also been a testament to the community on the Navigation, in all its variety, that it has continued to be a welcoming open and friendly environment.

Looking forward to next year, the main projects along the Navigation will be:

Repairing Godalming Wharf Wall and replacing the damaged staging

Replacing up to 1km of steel sheet piling along the New Haw mooring line. We are having surveys conducted in December that will show if a full or partial replacement is needed

Repair works on Unstead Meadow Weir

Perseverance

After spending more than a decade at Dapdune Wharf, Perseverance, one of only three remaining Wey Barges, will be moved and lifted out of the water at Stoke Lock so that over the coming

Navigation news

years we can start to complete the necessary maintenance works on her. The aim is that one day she will not only float on the Navigation again but be a functional part that can be enjoyed by the communities along the river.

Thames Lock footbridge will be replaced. We are still going through the planning process, but the aim is to dramatically improve the accessibility of the structure, with the actual replacement aiming to take place at the end of 2023

We will continue to develop new partnerships and offers at the Wharf

Looking to the future and the effects of climate change that have been so apparent this year, from the drought conditions in the summer to the massive downpours we have already seen this winter, we are starting to update the way we monitor water levels. The first stage of this will be to put remote (renewably powered) cameras at key strategic points along the navigation so that water levels can be monitored remotely. This will act as a trial this year to then be expanded over the coming years.

We will also continue to build on our messaging to portable craft users in terms of both safety and the need of licences. We will be advertising the Paddlers Code more widely along the Navigation and will continue to promote

the purchase of licences through the QR codes displayed at key points. I am very happy to say that the trial run at the end of the summer resulted in an increase of 135% in our annual sales figures for temporary portable craft licences compared to 2021.

Visiting Dapdune Wharf

The team will be hosting a number of events and walks over the course of next year, building on the success of this year's schedule. Some of the highlights of these will be; camping on "the island" at our family friendly Big Camp Weekend in the Spring, back by popular demand, we will be running our Easter trail again, along with our Come Out and Play festival highlighting different sporting events over the Summer holidays, as well as the Wey River Festival in September with the illuminated pageant and not to forget our Spooktacular Fun Run at Halloween.

If you can't wait until then, we have made the decision to keep our tearoom and bookshop open over the Winter months on Fridays, Saturday and Sundays, so feel free to come down, keep warm and enjoy a coffee and a book.



Volunteers positioned the sausage-shaped device on the towpath in its rolled up state and filled it by pumping in water, causing the dam to roll out and push across the canal. The 3 metre wide cylindrical tube created a 1.2m high barrier in a matter of

SpeedyDam at Birtley,

In a first for the Wey & Arun Canal Trust a water-inflated dam usually used to protect against flooding has been put to use in a restoration project.

AquaDam Europe's mobile flood barriers have often been used to protect against floods and storm surges but are now being adopted by canal trusts as a fast method of creating a protective barrier during construction work.

The company's SpeedyDam model has been installed at the Wey & Arun Canal Trust's latest major restoration project at Birtley, near Bramley in Surrey, where a lift bridge is set to be constructed.

a few hours, much faster and cheaper than bringing in material to achieve the same result.

The dam means volunteers can now dig a trench below the canal bed and build a temporary footpath and bridleway diversion needed here ahead of construction work on the bridge.

The SpeedyDam has a strong geotextile membrane with a seam-free blown polyethylene liner, much like a car tyre, allowing it to withstand tremendous force. When empty it is easily transportable and will be used on future Wey & Arun Canal Trust restoration projects.

A surprise for Sylvia



Sylvia Turner received a nice surprise in the club post recently. It was a card and a lovely drawing made by a family visiting Byfleet thanking her for giving them a nice time on the rowing boats.

It was sent by Jules and Alan Kennedy (who must have a little daughter called Grace). Sylvia wondered if it was anything to do with Steve Kennedy's granddaughter, (who is also Grace Kennedy), but it wasn't her. So, we don't know who they are. It doesn't really matter, it's just nice to be appreciated and it's proof that the rowing boat hire gives lots of pleasure to the locals and also to visitors from Chipping Norton. Well done Sylvia!

Grace Kennedy's Thank you card



Tales of the Thames

Ken and Sally Price (*Jester*)



Medmenham Abbey (Sally Price)

You may have passed this many times but there is an interesting history to this building.

Downstream from Henley, on the Buckinghamshire side of the Thames is the somewhat mock-ruined Medmenham Abbey, founded in 1201 for Cistercian monks, although practically nothing survives from the original building. In the 18th century Medmenham Abbey was owned by the rakish Sir Francis Dashwood (1708-81) of West Wycombe Park, a wealthy London merchant, the only Chancellor of the Exchequer to admit delivering his budget speech while drunk, and founder of the Knights of St. Francis of Wycombe or, as it became known, the Hellfire Club. The club would hold secret meetings at Medmenham to which only ladies of 'a cheerful and lively disposition' were invited, and which would invariably descend into Bacchanalian orgies.

One night at Medmenham in 1763, as so often happens, rough house turned to tears. One of the members, Sir Henry Vansittart, the Governor of Bengal, brought along as his guest a baboon that had accompanied him back from India. Another member, John Wilkes, the cross-eyed radical journalist and MP for Aylesbury, thought what fun it would be to dress the animal up as the Devil and conceal it in a box. At just the right moment he released the creature, which sprang out from the box on to the back of the Earl of Sandwich, First Lord of the Admiralty. "Spare me gracious Devil" cried out the noble earl in terror, "thou knowest I was only fooling, I am not half as wicked as I pretend!" And with that, earl and baboon fled from the abbey into the night. The baboon was never seen again, while the Earl of Sandwich retired into private life to work on his new invention, the sandwich. The Hellfire Club moved their headquarters to the caves at West Wycombe and continued their debauched ways underground for a while, but the members slowly grew old and weary and began to prefer a quiet night in to orgies, and the club finally closed down in 1774.

Medmenham Abbey is now a private home.



Dear Tony

I have a problem with my 1.8 l British Leyland engine which is cooled using pumped river water in a heat exchanger running over the top of the engine. I had a new water pump and new hoses fitted last year. I also replaced the pressurised radiator cap.

The problem is the engine keeps losing water through the pressurised overflow and often needs about half a litre of water the morning after a day's cruising. However sometimes on a long cruise it appears to be always full of water but there is still a gradual build-up of rusty water in the bilge.

I have been wondering if I should fit a new/ higher pressure cap?

I also wonder if there is a leak in the heat exchanger so the pumped river water is adding to the natural

pressure in the cooling system and this is the reason the water is being forced out?

Also if there was a hole in the heat exchanger it might explain why the water level drops overnight. Is there any way I could test my theory?

Tony says:

There is ample evidence of long term coolant loss via the filler so why is this happening?

As an experienced boater I assume that you are not filling the cold engine right to the top but leave something like a one inch air gap to allow for expansion as the coolant heats up.

Are you aware that there are two lengths of filler neck and I get the impression that your filler neck may be a long one and the filler cap the short version. When you drop the cap into place you should need to push it down against the spring in the cap before you can twist it. When fitted it you should not be able to easily waggle it about. Although in theory coolant should not be ejected through an ill fitting filler cap unless it was overfilled (see above) or you are running hard, like against a strong stream, I would want a well fitting cap.



It looks as if your cap has an extra rubber seal under the top. If it has and it fits well then put a length of hose of the overflow pipe on the filler neck and run it into the bottom of (say) a milk carton sat beside the engine. Then any coolant should flow into the milk bottle as the engine heats up and then when it cools down and the coolant contracts it should suck the coolant back out of the milk carton. This only works if there is an airtight seal between the top of the cap and filler neck.

It used to be possible to hire a cooling system pressure tester that allows you to pressurize the cooling system without the engine running, but I have not seen them listed for ages. If you can borrow one pressurize the system to about 10 psi and hunt all around the engine looking for leaks, especially pay attention to all the core plug discs

in the engine block - they can pinhole through rust. There is no sign of antifreeze colouration within the rusty overflow stains so you need to ensure you have a sufficient concentration. Antifreeze contains corrosion inhibitors that get "used up" as the coolant ages so if not changed in accordance with the antifreeze instruction you will get corrosion.

If there is a leak between the coolant and raw water systems it is more likely to be via the rubber end caps than through the core, especially as it looks as if the jubilee clip that has been used to seal the rubber cap to the end of the heat exchanger core is too large.

It may be tight but the curve under the worm drive part is set for the specific size. So it will be too flat and when you tighten the clip the two ends do not push down on the rubber properly. This is a very common mistake even made by some so called engineers. The clip should be a nice sliding fit with little slack on the rubber end cap. The "tail" on the smaller clip should be about the length of the one on the larger clip when tightened.

As for checking for leaks through the heat exchanger core a pressure tester should find it if left pressurized

Tony's Technical Page (Cont)

for a while as long as you have ensured there are no other leaks. As it may be difficult to get hold of one then the only other way I can think of would be to run the engine up to temperature with the filler cap OFF. Then set to about 1000 rpm and partially block the exhaust so the whole raw water system is put under pressure, after half an hour or so any leak should show as a rise in the coolant level.

I think BMCs tend to run at about 6psi and if you fit a higher pressure cap those rubber end caps have been known to burst. I would not advise fitting a higher pressure cap.

Finally we can not rule out a leaking head gasket (or an internal crack). Once you have ruled out everything else it may be time to get some test fluid from eBay/Amazon that you mix with a sample of coolant, if the fluid changes colour it means that you have exhaust gases in the coolant, which you shouldn't have.

Tony

© Tony Clarke

Members Questions: Booming Propellor

Could anyone in the boat club give their advice on this problem when cruising with *Miffy* on the Thames?

At 1400 rpm I get a booming under the swim, I think it may be cavitation, if I go up to 1500 to 1600 rpm it disappears but the engine is working harder and making more noise,

it is a 35 hp 4 cylinder diesel engine in a 48 ft narrow boat with a 17 x11 propeller.

Would fitting a 17 x 12 propeller help? I would be hoping to have the same speed or more for the same rev's, Please let me now what you think.

David Harwood (*Miffy*)

Ed: Please send replies to the Editor and I will pass them on to David

Whatever happened to Pegasus?

Mike Chamberlain



With butty Bullfinch April 2013 (MC)

In 2013 on our way to the Cavalcade I spotted ex WB *Pegasus* moored at Thames Ditton. Four years later she was still there in a sorry state. Every time we passed I thought wouldn't it be great if someone restored her and even dreamed of doing it myself!

The next time I saw her she was in Dave Chadwick's moorings at FourAll Marine. Apparently Dave bought her and the butty as it was en route to being sunk in a gravel pit! Gossip on chat sites said it had a twist in the hull due to unbalanced loading and Dave



At Thames Ditton July 2017 (MC)

confirmed there was still a load of coal in the bilge. He concluded that it needed rebottoming and I invited him to bring it up to Byfleet for our Open Day when finished. All went quiet until I saw a post from Kathryn Dodington indicating that it has a new life at Ponders End, one of our favourite stops on the Lea.

Kathryn said:

'Some of you will remember seeing *Pegasus* on trips we made to Canalway Cavalcade and other trips to London. Every year she seemed to lean a bit more and get lower in the water. She was towed away a couple of years ago and eventually sold to the Pinnocks at South Island Marina at Ponders End.'

Pegasus is now working for a living again delivering coal and fuel in London. Another historic boat saved!



Photo Competition

Cathy Wooden (*Miffy*)

Once again the Woking Area U3A Camera Club enjoyed looking at the entries for the competition. There was a good deal of discussion about each photo, the main considerations were the impact of the photo (wow factor), composition and clarity/focus.

We were impressed with the standard of entries this year which seemed better than last year. It took some time to go over each photo and picking the winners was difficult as there was not that much between them, hence two of the photos that weren't in the first three, were highly commended. The results are below with some comments about each photo.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to all those who entered. I hope that you and a few more will enter this year.

Cathy



Trees at Warren Farm



Lily



Bray Lock



Waiting for lunch

Photo Competition

(Flora and Fauna)



A sad end! Boveney Lock



Reflections



Early morning mist Runneymede

Some of the non prizewinning entries are shown here, illustrating the high standard achieved



Lilies



Mind the lock cat!



Reed sunset

Events Diary Feb-Jun 2023

(subject to change please check Noticeboards)

Day	Date	Time	Activity	Contact
February				
Sat	04	19.00	Interclub Skittles Match at Hinchley Wood Scout & Guide HQ	Steve Kennedy
Tue	07	19.30	Craft Evening	Christine Pantling
Wed	15	19.30	BBC Committee Meeting	Brian Clarke
Fri	17	19.30	3 rd Friday Talk – First Aid Course	Steve Kennedy
March				
Tue	07	19.30	Craft Evening	Christine Pantling
Wed	15	19.30	BBC Committee Meeting	Brian Clarke
Fri	17	19.30	3 rd Friday – St Patrick’s Day themed evening	TBD
Sat	25	09.00	Working Weekend	Steve Price
Sun	26	09.00	Working Weekend	Steve Price
			(including launch Hire Boats & watching Boat Race)	Steve Price
April				
Sun	02	15.00	BBC AGM at Club	Brian Clarke
Tue	04	19.30	Craft Evening	Christine Pantling
Wed	19	19.30	BBC Committee Meeting	Commodore
Fri	21	19.30	3 rd Friday Talk – “The K&A from Restoration to 2016” (Ian Wilson)	Mark Wilson
Sun	23	12.00	St George’s Day BBQ and Drink	Steve Price
Thu	27 – 03	May	Boat trip to IWA Little Venice Canalway Cavalcade	Steve Kennedy
Fri	28—01	May	Boveney Weekend Trip	Rodney Wardlaw
May				
Mon	08	12.00	Coronation Tea Party	Cathy du Plessis
Wed	17	19.30	BBC Committee Meeting	Commodore
Fri	19	19.30	3 rd Friday Talk – TBD	TBD
June				
Sat	10 /11	10:00	Trip to Warren Farm with lunch time BBQ	Cathy du Plessis
Wed	14	19.30	BBC Committee Meeting	Commodore
Fri	16	17.00	3 rd Friday Talk -	TBD

Events Diary July-Dec 2023

(subject to change please check Noticeboards)

Day	Date	Time	Activity	Contact
<i>July</i>				
Sat	15	10.00	Byfleet Parish Day (Date to be confirmed)	Nigel Prior
Sun	16	14.00	Strawberries, Scones, & Pimms watching Wimbledon Final	Cathy du Plessis
Wed	19	19.30	BBC Committee Meeting	Commodore
<i>August</i>				
Wed	16	19.30	BBC Committee Meeting	Commodore
<i>September</i>				
Fri/Sat	15/16	18.00	River Wey Festival Boaters BBQ (Date tbc)	TBD
Wed	20	19.30	BBC Committee Meeting	Commodore
<i>October</i>				
Sat	07	09.30	Rowing Boat Laying Up	TBD
Wed	18	19.30	BBC Committee Meeting	Commodore
Fri	20	19.30	3 rd Friday Talk - ??	TBD
<i>November</i>				
Sat	04	17.00	Trip to Walsham Gates for Ripley Fireworks (date to be confirmed)	TBD
Sat	11	09.00	Working Weekend	Steve Price
Sun	12	09.00	Working Weekend	Steve Price
Wed	15	19.30	BBC Committee Meeting	Commodore
Fri	17	19.30	3 rd Friday Talk – TBD	TBD
Sat	25	17.30	BBC Illuminated Parade	Brian Clarke
<i>December</i>				
Sat	09	19.00	BBC Christmas Party (including Photo Competition results)	TBD
Wed	13	19.30	BBC Committee Meeting	Commodore
Fri	15	17.00	Carol Singing	TBD

Photo Competition Winners



1st: M Chamberlain 'Mandarin at Clivedon'

This photograph grabs your attention straight away with stunning colours and its perfect focus on the feathers. The photo is well exposed, the colours natural and the contrast good. It could have perhaps done with a bit more water on the left hand side , but this is a minor issue.



2nd: Luke Randall 'Norfolk Broads'

This has a tranquil feeling about it and has good impact with a nice reflection, it's a shame part of the reflection is cut off. The photo is sharp, and the colours are well balanced. It could perhaps be cropped at the top to show less sky

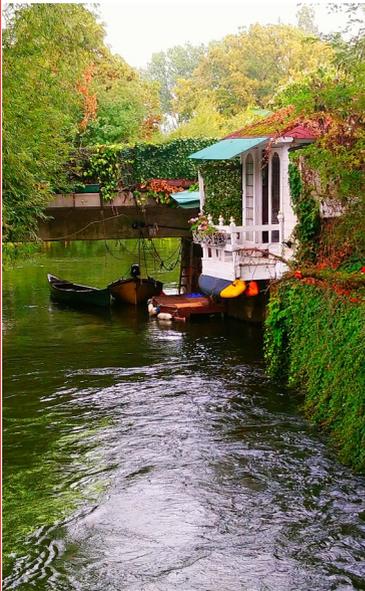


3rd M Chamberlain : 'Getting a ride'

This is an appealing photo with the cygnet riding on the back of the swan. It catches the eye. Focus is sharp, there is good feather detail on the neck but some of the feathers are burnt out although it is difficult to get detail with white subjects. The composition is good overall but the subject could perhaps have been further up in the frame and have more water to the right .

Photo Competition (Flora and Fauna)

Highly Commended



Mick and Suzanne Wilson

The Mill Sonning

Good composition, the eye follows through bridge, the colours are eye catching and the focus sharp. It could perhaps have done with some cropping at the bottom. The colours fade out a bit at the top of the picture.

Luke Randall – Yorkshire Dales

Luke this is a nice peaceful scene that is good on the eye. It is quite well composed but could do with some cropping to remove the 'beach' on the left and some cropping on the bottom. Colours are good and focus sharp.



Linda Charles: Canal Artist

In a new series of 'Characters on the Cut' we feature Linda Charles

Ed: Linda and Arthur live on the mooring line at Walsham Spinney below Walsham Weir. Arthur is a Relief weir keeper as well as Warden to Walsham moorings. He can often be seen skilfully reversing Weyward Lass from the waterpoint at Pyrford back to the head of the moorings at Walsham.

Arthur and Linda have been boating for around 25 years, previously hiring with friends and family holidays up and down the country. Before taking up boating they regularly enjoyed holidays in the Greek Islands, boating being a major part . Living locally to the Wey and walking the towpath most weekends, they first hired a narrowboat from Guildford boathouse to explore the whole length of the navigation. Enjoying it so much they made a repeat booking straight away! That combined with attending the boat gatherings in Guildford (years before ownership) cemented the conclusion that they would like their own boat. After looking at second hand boats with great disappointment they decided to buy a sailaway, fitting out



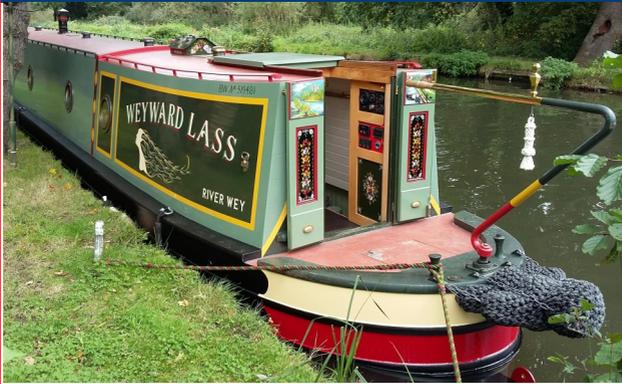
Linda at work

"Weyward Girl" (their first boat) over the course of a number of years as they were both working full time.

Linda has been an Artist for as long as she can remember. As a hobby, it's her most passionate pastime, enjoying painting for friends and family ; also crafting and making greeting cards. Her artwork naturally extended onto the second boat *Weyward Lass* and she combined traditional canal art with her own version ; painting scenes and wildlife from along the Wey onto the panels and doors: a narrowboat is a great canvas!

Linda says: "My boat has been a great vehicle (literally) allowing us to explore the canal network, towns, villages and cities in a way impossible to see without a boat. Painting and keeping a pictorial diary along the way helps me to remember our journeys and experiences. "

Ed: Examples of Linda's work can be seen on the following pages



Weyward Lass at Walsham



Linda's art on boat panels



This pigeon box was a recent project

Club News:

In Memoriam: Carol Hardyman



Sadly, Carol Hardyman passed away while on holiday in Germany on Christmas eve.

Carol was a much loved long time member of Byfleet Boat Club, who also served on the committee. She was a regular at events of all types and will be greatly missed.

She was sociable with everyone despite her occasional setbacks and always made people feel

welcome at the Club. Her spectacular outfit at the Club Christmas dinner will be remembered by many of us!

We send our heartfelt condolences to Phil and his family. The funeral will be on 10th February at midday and will be broadcast on the internet. The link is:

<https://youtu.be/cqPwHkbg2M> It will automatically appear on the screen as soon as it commences

Craft Evenings at the Club: next meeting 7th Feb

Christine invites you to an evening of chat and crafting with members, bring along what you are working on. Or sit and watch others craft while you chat and drink tea. A monthly evening over the winter time, from September till Easter, the first Tuesday of the month



Club events

As usual the Club Stand at the Byfleet Parish day generated a lot of interest. Thank you to Nigel and Jo Prior and others. (picture Cathy du Plessis (Ayresome))



The cruise to Ripley Bonfire was a spectacular success (pic: Suzanne Wilson)

Club events:



*Steve Price
(Finans Folly)
working hard at
the Winter BBQ
(SW)*



*The annual
illuminated parade
drew the crowds; we
almost ran out of
refreshments and
made a significant
amount for club
funds– thanks Steve!*



*Tristan at the
Illuminated Parade
(MC)*

Christmas party



Steve's band played really well



The food and drink were much appreciated, especially as the caterer had to be changed at short notice



Claire Cathy and Andrew were Rockin' all over the world

Boat Hire Roster 2023

Mark Pantling

Happy New Year to you all,

The time has come again to compile the **Boat Hire Roster** for the coming year. Firstly, thanks to those who took their turn last year and a special "Thank You" to all those who rallied round at short notice on the days and weekends when things didn't go to plan. It was much appreciated.

We have deliberated long and hard over how to continue with Boat Hire in the fairest way since Covid.

This year everyone will be receiving a notification for a weekend with very few exceptions on the basis of extreme medical conditions. We think that with enough people covering each weekend, every member will be able to contribute .

A minimum of four members will be called on to cover each weekend. This will consist of two from a Family membership plus individual members or another two Family members to make up the four.

It will then be a case of **NO LESS THAN TWO** of those people attending to cover the Boat Hire for safety reasons on each day. Hopefully all four will attend to share the burden but it will be down to those four to decide.

Only entire weekends will be allocated, so if two people wish to cover one day and the other two the other day then that will be fine as long as the entire weekend is covered with no less than two members each day.

To continue with last year's approach, if you wish to cover a particular weekend or work with other specific members. **I will be open to offers/requests until 14th February** on a first come first served basis.

Hopefully I will then pair up the remaining members and compile the list by the middle of March bearing in mind Easter is 6th April. I apologise if this seems a little close to the beginning of the Hire Season but it leaves me little time with membership fees not being due until end of January this year.

May I remind you, if you are unable to cover your allocated weekend, it will be your responsibility to find someone to cover it or swap with you.

The compiled list will be sent out as soon as possible by your preferred means but the Roster on the website will be kept up to date as and when I am aware of anyone changing their date. The list on the wall at the club will be updated as and when I can get to it. Please keep an eye on the website for updates if you are looking to swap your date.

Finally, may I wish you all pleasant boating in 2023.

Fees and Membership subscriptions

Hi members,

As you know, this is the time of year when we collect your membership fees.

The fees, as detailed in your individual invoices, are due to be paid by **31st of January 2023.**

For those of you who haven't paid yet, this is just a gentle reminder.

This year, I have taken over the membership process from Phil Hardyman.

Phil has made huge improvements in the process making it much simpler and less time consuming, but it does require you to go to the BBC website to see your own invoice.

It is easy to access your invoices online via the BBC website with your User ID and password. If you are having any difficulty in trying to get access to the site or your invoice, **PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL ME ON 07808 059 980 AND I WILL BE HAPPY TO RESOLVE ANY ISSUES.**

Best wishes for the New Year

Steve Kennedy

Vice Commodore



Byfleet Boat Club committee would like to invite you to renew your membership of The Byfleet Boat Club for the year 2023.

The club is in a relatively healthy financial position, and considering the cost of living crisis that we are all experiencing, the committee has decided not to increase the membership fees for 2023, and in addition offer a one-off discount to existing members for renewing.

So the fees for renewal in 2023 will be:

- **Family Membership - £90**
- **Individual Membership - £60**

Committee page

Commodore	Brian Clarke (<i>M'Lady</i>)	(07785 908283)
Vice Commodore	Steve Kennedy (<i>Narnia</i>)	(07808059980)
Hon Secretary	James Osborne (<i>Tristan III</i>)	07918 913342
Hon Treasurer	Cathy Wooden (<i>Miffy</i>)	(07984 453248)
Membership Sec.	Steve Kennedy (<i>Narnia</i>)	(07808059980)
Chair Maintenance Committee	Steve Price (<i>Finans Folly</i>)	(07884 148412)
Minutes Secretary	Steve Kennedy (<i>Narnia</i>)	(07808059980)
	Mark Pantling (<i>Journeyman</i>)	(07796 967590)
	Melvyn Wayne (<i>Lady Jennifer</i>)	
	Andrew Williamson (<i>Ayresome</i>)	(07448 979653)
	Cathy du Plessis (<i>Ayresome</i>)	(07833118286)
Editor By the Wey	Mike Chamberlain (<i>Paper Moon</i>)	(07531657641)

Ed: Thanks to Cathy du Plessis and Brenda King for proofreading this issue.

Next copy date 1st June 2023:

Contributions to bbc.btw@gmail.com

Editorial Contact: Editor: mike@papermoon59.co.uk,
Generic E-Mail: bbc.btw@gmail.com

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Easyfundraising

The boat club has had an **easyfundraising account** for some time, and every so often we send out a reminder to members as it tends to be forgotten.

Easyfundraising has over 7000 brand partners who will donate part of what you spend to a cause of your choice. It won't cost you any extra as the cost is covered by the brand.

To find out more about how it works go to: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/how-it-works/>

Cathy



The screenshot shows the Easyfundraising website interface for the Byfleet Boat Club. At the top, the Easyfundraising logo is on the left, and navigation links for 'How it works', 'Find a cause', 'Register a cause', 'Register a business', 'Log in', and 'Sign up' are on the right. The main content area has a teal background with the text 'Byfleet Boat Club', '© West Byfleet, Surrey', '£515.32 raised', and '18 supporters'. A yellow button says 'Sign up and support this cause'. To the right is a white box containing the club's logo, a blue pennant with 'BBC' in yellow. Below this is a grey section titled 'About Byfleet Boat Club' with a short description of the club's activities.

The Easyfundraising web page for BBC

ED: Once you have found the club in the list of charities it is fairly easy to register and start shopping. Choose your retailer then easyfundraising switches you to the retailer site and automatically receives a small percentage of what you spend. I find it works well for Amazon and one-off store purchases.

Stern View *Brian Clarke (M'Lady)*



It's a new year and a new boating season. Our 2022 boating season was one of our most successful with many social and boating events, including a skittles match at Weybridge Mariners, a Queens Jubilee tea party, a bacon buttie powered Hire Boat launch, trips to Warren Farm, a very successful Christmas Party and Christmas singalong.

I am planning to get back on the boat as soon as possible this year, and in the meantime am watching some narrowboating blogs and reading canal books! I hope you enjoy your boating in 2023.

Brian

In 2023 we are planning another extensive calendar of events both social and on the water, which we expect will include something to celebrate a once in a lifetime event of a King's coronation. The events calendar is published elsewhere in the magazine and will develop as the year progresses.

I have set myself a mission of continuing the ongoing process of tidying the clubhouse making it easier to find things and hence a more useful clubhouse and even more welcoming. If there are things that you feel the club would benefit from being available, then please let me know and I will speak to the committee about whether we can find any necessary funds.

Today, I am sitting looking out at a very frosty and cold garden and I am suffering from boat withdrawal symptoms!



Good turn out at the Autumn Working weekend (C Clarke)