

Rear Commodore's report for the AGM November 2018

Thank you so much to all the OODs, assistants, safety boat crews, race recording helpers and anyone else involved in making the running of our sailing events an excellent experience for our members. A special thank you to those that helped with major events such as the various open meetings, the regatta, 5 hour race, Youth/Oppy camp and the Riat weekend.

2018 has been another excellent year with high levels of participation, particularly amongst our junior and youth sailors. The aim for the rest of 2018 and the 2019 main season is to continue to train and encourage our young sailors and beginners, particularly those new to the club. To help with this we are making some changes to the format of our sailing program next year which will hopefully encourage more participation amongst beginners and those less confident. We would like Bowmoor to be known not only as a club with an excellent racing record with high levels of competition, but the club that welcomes, encourages and nurtures our new members.

I would encourage all fleet captains to make a big effort this next year to organise training, buddying and other inclusive events which aim to level the playing field. We have a wealth of knowledge and experience at the club and the clear benefit of sharing that is to make your own racing more competitive and more enjoyable. If you would like to get involved in this and would like some ideas, please talk to myself or John Banbrook.

The program for next year will show shorter series making it easier to qualify and room has been made in the program for some 'One Day Events'. These will include pursuit racing, standard handicap series (with an emphasis on encouraging first time racers) and a buddying day where more experienced sailors will be paired up with relative beginners. They will form a team and have to make sure that the less experienced sailor crosses the line first. Finer details will be communicated through Bowsprit.

Youth & Oppy Camp - 29 – 31st May ending with the Yoo regatta on the 1st June.

Regatta & 5 Hour Race – Now set for the weekend 15/16th June

RIATT weekend - under the smoke regatta - 19-21th July

Classic and Vintage RDA – With Ian Marshall now a member of Bowmoor again, we have a resident specialist on all things vintage and classic when it comes to sailing dinghies. Ian will be looking to encourage and educate members via Bowsprit this year. Date for the CVRDA to be confirmed.

Weed control

2018 saw another improvement year on year and this is thanks to those members that got involved with the weed trawling at the beginning of the season. This coupled with the continual dosing at 50 litres of dye a month and the algal bloom mid-season have helped to make this a relatively weed free year. Doug Roberts is doing a sterling job with his light column measuring device in keeping us regularly updated and we have kept the spend on dye to similar levels again. At the start of spring,

we may need to have another session of weed dragging and will be looking for willing volunteers to do this essential job. Without a clear lake, we don't have a sailing club!!

Starting hut and Committee Boat

There has been increased usage of the committee boat this season and more and more OOD's are becoming familiar and less daunted by the operation of the Scarlett Lady. As a result, on the whole, I believe we are experiencing a much better standard of course setting. To those OODs that struggle to think of a course or worry about getting it wrong, please don't worry, help is at hand. The key is to get to the club early enough so that you can take your time setting a good course and if necessary seeking the advice of the sailing committee and more experienced members.

Safety Boats

Big thanks to Ed Van-Thiel for keeping all the powerboats in good order and for arranging the replacement RIB which now completes the excellent line up of boats that we have at our disposal. Thank you also to Doug who has agreed to get the old failed (small) RIB and engine sold to clear much needed space in the boat store.

More Thanks

Thanks to our sailing secretary Rick Plummer for his continued support as sailing secretary, co-ordinating the sailing program and adding his calm experience to the challenges we face running a very packed and exciting sailing calendar.

To Geoff Silcock for co-ordinating the majority of your racing results and series.

To Nigel Fletcher for his hard work on duty man co-ordinating race duty teams.

To all the fleet captains (racing and cruising) for their enthusiasm.

To Rachael Jenkins, our super organised Youth Manager for her tireless work arranging training throughout the year and for co-ordinating Youth / Oppy Camp. This will be Rachael's last year doing camp so we are looking for volunteers to step forward this year to help with the event and perhaps take a leading role in 2020. I can't emphasise enough just how important Rachael's role is to the club, bringing on the new generation of lifelong Bowmoor members. If you are interested in getting involved and making a difference, talk to Rachael or myself.

To conclude, I wish everyone all the best for the 2019 season and a friendly and competitive winter series where we look forward to welcoming our usual visitors to swell the numbers. Keep an eye on the program for all the new events that you can get involved in.

Thanks for reading,

Dave Lynall