



Visit us on Facebook

Next Events :

17th October 2020

Crane Out at Grafton field.

SRCC PROVISIONAL Events Calendar for 2021

See the web site for more details

| 2021 | 2021 |
|------------|--------------------------------------|
| Feb | No Winter Break |
| April 3rd | Crane In |
| April 10th | New Members Night |
| May 31st | Lechlade Music Festival |
| June 19th | Summer Party. @ Ferryman. (no theme) |
| July | Club tidal rally to Limehouse |
| July 24th | Quiz night. At Ye Olde Swan |
| Aug 28-30 | Kings Lock fun weekend |
| Sept 11th | AGM At The Ferryman |
| Oct 9th | End of Season Party. At the Trout |
| Oct 16th | Crane Out |
| | |

AGM 2020

The AGM was successfully completed on line.

No major issues were raised and the accounts and last year's minutes were passed.

Tracy Day, "Nesta of Sidley" has offered to take on the management of the clubs Facebook page as Michelle Larkin has now relocated down river. Her offer has been accepted and the changeover has taken place. This is a closed group, only members can input to this page. When this year's membership list has been reconciled Tracy will need to check there is no one there who shouldn't be. Bet she didn't see that one coming.

Your current committee

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Trevor Matthews "Sandy Dee" | Commodore & Treasurer |
| Vacant | Vice Commodore |
| Alan Hill "Sea Chimes" | Secretary & web site |
| Dot Grafton "Shimmer" | Event Secretary |
| Dave Hansell "Yaw Grace" | Event Support |
| Pete Bint "Serendipity" | Event Support |
| Sue Hiscock "Sue & Buoys" | Event Support & Auditor |

Crane Out

If there are no major changes to Covid rules, crane out will take place on Saturday 17th October at Grafton. Weather & river conditions permitting

Those being lifted will receive a separate email with times and instructions.

I am working on the principle that crane out is work and not a social gathering therefore the rule of 6 should not apply.

As much as possible you should still obey the Covid rules. 1 mtr social distancing, and face coverings to be worn when this is not possible. Gloves to be worn when handling equipment. Hand sanitiser will be provided for each crane area. We have done a risk assessment which you can view on the web site, a copy will also be sent to those lifting out. Do not attend if you have had a recent positive test.

I cannot emphasize enough though; that we will still need the usual amount of helpers, and I remind you, crane out is a service to members for which none of the organisers or helpers gets paid. It's all voluntary and very hard work. None of us are getting any younger.

I have spoken to the EA and they will allow us to use the Grafton toilet on crane out day. The main reason for this is that we have to provide facilities for the crane drivers. I have promised that we will clean it and respect it. However it would be better all round if you could use your on board boat toilets. Hand sanitiser and wipes will be provided by the club.

Because of Covid there will be no food tent this year.

Over the summer there has been some antisocial activity at Grafton, with some items going missing, including a trailer owned by the club and used to carry the pressure washing tank.

There is a new lock on the gate, I will send the new code in a separate email to those craning out.

Also the gate hinges have been welded so the gate cannot be lifted off. There will be a separate gate at the top of the field for the fishermen to use.

Having said that, you should take precautions.

If you have an outboard I would suggest, if possible, you remove it to a safe place.

Most of us use ladders to access our boats when on hard standing, please secure them to your boat with a decent chain and lock.

Keep the gate locked at all times. The only people who have the right of access are club members and moorers. If anyone asks you to let them in do not. If they don't know the combination number then they shouldn't be there, it is private property. Lock the gate when you leave.

What a peculiar year

It's been a very strange year for us all.

In the grand scheme of things boating is not that important. Peoples health and wellbeing comes first and I hope you have all been safe and if you have had the misfortune to have fallen ill you are on the mend.

Having said all that it was a great relief to finally get out on our boats and enjoy the river. I know some of us were able to have socially distanced river side meetings for a drink or two. I have had many comments from members saying how they have missed the events with the chance to meet friends for more drinks and a jig about on the dance floor. It's nice to know that these events, when they happen, are enjoyed so much.

The lock keeping situation has been pretty dire. Some have succumbed to the virus and we wish them well in their recovery, some have needed to be isolated because they are vulnerable and some have just been no I can't say it, I'll get into trouble.

We always appreciate it when we do have assistance through the lock, some of us are finding it more difficult with our aches and pains to work several locks in a row. Personally I always ask the lock keeper if I can help or if they would rather I stayed on the boat, most appreciate help with the gates if you stay on your side but always ask the lock keeper. Let's hope the manpower situation improves next season. There have been no River User Group meetings this summer but when they do resume I will be raising the subject with the EA representatives.

Let's hope we can get back to a bit of normality next year with some social events and maybe even a London tidal trip.

You can see a provisional calendar on page 1.

Alan Hill

Streamlining Finances - PayPal

To simplify our Club accounting and reduce the work of the Treasurer I propose to phase out the use of PayPal by the end of the 2020.

Reconciliation of the PayPal and Lloyds Bank accounts can be time consuming particularly when members inadvertently make duplicate payments.

Paypal was useful in the early days of online banking and has served the Club very well. Most of our members are now making their payments by BACS.

Those members who do not bank online can still use BACS via telephone banking or it can be done in branch. If none of these methods suit you cheques will be accepted for payments. Handling cheques has become easier and I can now photograph cheques and pay them directly into our Club account on line.

Trevor Matthews

Time for a Change

Time to step down and someone to step up.

In one form or another I have served on the committee for about 17 years.

Committee member, fun day organiser, Vice commodore, Commodore, Secretary and crane out.

In a masochistic way I have enjoyed it but it is now time for new blood.

I have threatened it before but I have now decided that this will be my last year as secretary. I will not be standing for re-election at next years AGM. I would be willing to stay on the committee as a gofer and help with any hand over and if nobody else wants to do it I will also carry on with the web site.

Using the booking forms on the web site, myself and Trevor, as treasurer, have got things working quite well.

Once the boats go back into the water in the spring I will also be giving up organising crane out. Again I will be a banksman if required but I will not be involved with the planning. As crane out organising starts in July we will need to find a replacement before then. I will be around for advice with any hand over.

It is imperative for the clubs future that one or two members come forward to fulfil these rolls. This is why I am giving so much notice to give you a chance to think about it.

As a club we have had some very good, funny and less than sober social events. Personally Jill and I have made some good friends. There is no doubt the club is changing, for various reasons, but I sincerely hope it will carry on in the same vain.

Alan Hill "Sea Chimes"

The Committee going forward

I do hope we can find a replacement for Alan who has been tirelessly doing multiple tasks for the Club. Being a member of the Committee has become less onerous with more use of online communications. Previously, our meetings were held the morning after Club events and those members not attending the events have been put off joining the Committee as they thought they could not attend meetings.

This is no longer the case, so we are looking for a Newsletter editor and Crane out planner. These can be separate roles. It is important to have some PC skills and be able to communicate in a timely manner.

If a few more members step forward to assist, the Club will continue to thrive.

Trevor Matthews

Beale Park Moorings.

As some of you may know the very nice moorings at Beale Park have been suspended.

There was some confusion as to the reason. Below is the question asked by John Raper "Gandalf" and Beale Parks reply. I believe the no mooring signs may have gone recently but I think it was vandalism rather than the park removing them. A case of a few, messing it up for the rest of us.

Question put to Beale Park

Good morning

I have reports that we can no longer moor our boat at Beale Park and also that the moorings have been sold to an angling club.

Can you please explain the situation, and whether mooring will be permitted in the future?

Kind regards

John Raper

Swan Radcot Cruiser Club

Reply

Dear John,

Many thanks for your email.

To clarify, we have had to stop mooring at the park due to the misuse of our river front over this summer. We have been inundated with rubbish, human waste and burnt river banks so feel that currently we have no other option. This is something that we shall review over the winter period and will try to find a way forward for next year.

With regard to selling the frontage I can clarify that the river front still belongs to Beale Wildlife Park and Reading fishing club pay a licence to use it, it remains private property.

I hope that this helps in some way.

Regards,

Nikki Slade

Bookkeeper

Beale Wildlife Park

Lower Basildon

Pangbourne

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Tree Works.

The tree works on the right bank at Tadpole heading downstream have now been completed. The large tree on Tadpole moorings has gone.

There is lots more tree work in the pipeline mostly for next season. The National Trust have finally come up with some funds and work will start on their land, I believe in a couple of weeks. Land owners further downstream have also signed contracts to have work done. These contracts are for large sums of money. Running into the millions. Seb Cooke has done a good job keeping the pressure on land owners. When he surveys the trees that need doing it involves about six other people who have to be consulted, bio diversity people, wildlife experts and others. They all have to agree, which is why it all takes so long.