



Ooops Moments !!

Ooops No.1a Mandy & Steve forgot their Tea Duty. Oh Dear, red faces & panic but thanks to frantic activity all was put right & a very pleasant, jolly tea time was enjoyed by those members present & only about 15 minutes late.

Ooops 1b. Not to be out done Judi & Geff got their dates mixed up too but realised in time to preside over a better attended Sunday tea than seems to be the norm these days without anybody really noticing the hiccup.

Ooops No.2 Dave B. dropped his Sander into the river !

Ooops No.3 Mandy inadvertently left the gas on which blew out thereby leaking gas into the boat. I won't report on the comments from Steve as he pumped out the bilges, with difficulty.

Ooops No.4 Henry was very rightly given a right ticking off when he made to kickstart his BBQ with petrol. Ouch

Ooops No.5 A member got an urgent phone call from Alan G breaking the bad news that their boat had been stolen. A bit later when the owners were on their way to Grove Ferry to check things out they received another call from Alan who said that after all their boat was still there but that Pisco Sour & the Shetland next to it had gone. With some relief they gently pointed out that Pisco Sour had gone away for a few days & that the Shetland had been sold & left the moorings. Whew !!! Well at least it proves that somebody is keeping an eye on things.

Security ~ A thorny subject causing ongoing concern because main gate, slipway & compound gates are still being found unlocked & padlocks not scrambled. Please take care & do not give combination numbers to non GFBC Members or call them out across the river for all to hear, also afraid that it is required that you lock the Slipway gates behind you when you launch your boat & do not leave it open until your return. It is still hoped to install cameras on the North Bank & any decisions or plans will be reported as they become known.



The Picnic Cruise 10th July ~ Six boats spent the weekend at Redhouse & two more came down for the Picnic on Saturday afternoon which amounts to 17 Club members which considering GFBC's fairly healthy membership was a pretty low turn out. Perhaps not the event to catch the interest. However our numbers were boosted when Renroy arrived on the way back from a visit to the seals so Irene & Roy with their passengers enjoyed an impromptu stop off for tea & we enjoyed the bonus of making some new friends. I have to admit that we were a bit disappointed that more dinghies & inflatables did not make the trip down, but we had a good natter & played silly games & enjoyed a pretty good time. Our newest member actually tried to make the trip from Grove Ferry to Redhouse in a PVC blow up powered by a small electric engine which found the tide too much. In reply to a distress call Terry R carried out a rescue mission in Pisco Sour & towed the crew in. Some folks will go to any length to save fuel !!



CAUTION ! Being able to refurbish our boats or rebuild our moorings & dispose of unwanted scrap on the bonfire for burning is a very useful facility but only if people use common sense & **DO NOT** include non combustible or dangerous items such as shown here. Fortunately this aerosol can was spotted before the fire was lit, if it hadn't been there could have been a very nasty accident or even a fatality. Apparently there has been several incidences of dangerous items being discarded in this way. The Club bonfire site is not a substitute for the Council Waste Tip so please do not use it as such. It would be a great shame if this facility was withdrawn from the majority because of the irresponsibility of a few.



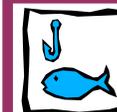
Did you hear about the Bunny who was arrested? He was charged with Battery !

Illuminated Boat Parade, Sandwich 25th August -



A small contingent from GFBC prepared for this event but after hearing that the Bridge was not going to be opened, that the Tide was going to be very low & finally that SSMBC had decided to pull out completely, enthusiasm waned. One crew opted out but the remaining two crews, Pisco Sour & Muffles carried on, decorated their boats & moored against the quayside giving a static display & getting a front seat view of the proceedings. It seems that GFBC was very well represented as spectators. Everybody who went along gave a good account of the evening & had a very enjoyable time.

Work Party 1st September. Only one new face amongst the 18 Members who turned up to tackle the usual ongoing chores, such as clearing the stinging nettles, undergrowth, & general tidying of the Compound & surrounds ensuring folk good access to their boats & the slipway. A large post was removed from one of the moorings with difficulty, the Clubhouse on the South Bank was thoroughly cleaned & the sink in the gent's loo unblocked. Nothing particularly momentous but nevertheless chores that have to be done. As usual quite a lot achieved by not very many. A pleasant break for a lunch of bacon & sausage butties followed by fresh fruit crumble & cream, washed down with plenty of tea & coffee. John Arnold would like to thank everybody who turned up especially those who came despite suffering various ailments.



NO FISHING Just a reminder that the Slipway pontoon is NOT a fishing swim & should not be used as such.

Afraid that members are still complaining of finding dog poo on the North Bank. Please make sure that your dog is not caught short without you noticing.

