



New location for Sunday Teas

As decided at the AGM, the first Sunday Tea to be held on the North Bank was June 1st & I am pleased to report that it was an absolute success. Blue sky & warm sunshine allowed the 22 members to sit together for a good natter over their cups of tea or coffee & delicious cakes provided by Shirley & Tony. Everybody agreed on how nice it was to be on their boats & able to down tools & amble over for tea & back later to carry on without the tedious business of having to pack up their boats so early in the afternoon to go round to the Club House. So top marks for making the change & it also has to be said that the new Loos were welcomed & commented on very favourably. By the way the gates are left open allowing access to teas.

A GFBC Mooring at Pluck's Gutter

We went to lunch at The Dog & Duck on Sunday 15th May & was delighted to be able to use the Club's new mooring, which had been made safe & tidy complete with a smart sign declaring that it is a private mooring for the Grove Ferry Boat Club. I think you could probably get two small boats on there with a bit of adjustment & the river might be wide enough to allow rafting. Anyway it is a lovely addition to our Club's facilities.



P.S. Many thanks to the Members who carried out the work that made the mooring fit to use.

Something for the Fishermen

Did you know that scientists have discovered that male cod serenade the females during the mating season. The courting ritual begins with the male trying to get alongside the target of his affection & then grunting at her about 7 times for 15 mins.



How amazing, but hang on, surely that same practice can be seen in bars & nightclubs up & down the country almost every night of the week ?

The Annual Dinghy Run

Sunday June 8th at 11 a.m. 13 small craft left the Club's moorings for The Fordwich Arms & for once the weather was perfect. The trip went without mishaps except for Leo breaking a sheer pin on some sort of debris but fortunately John Arnold was able to provide a replacement & John Bottle carried out the repair & along with Leo we made a mental note to acquire a spare sheer pin. There was plenty of weed but it did not seem to cause any trouble & the river seemed to have enough water. Chaos reigned for a brief while when we arrived at our destination but everybody got moored up adequately with those who had come by car on hand to catch mooring ropes & help us all get alongside. 33 members then proceeded to sit down to an excellent Sunday lunch & a good chat. The homeward journey was as enjoyable as the trip out & I for one went home a very happy bunny after a lovely day out.



Stupid Idiots

A speed boat containing three young men passed our mooring at a sedate pace on Saturday 7th June but as soon as it had passed it sped up so that by the time it got further down it was on a plane on the wrong side of the river. A chap out in his dinghy with his two very young children had the fright of his life & is still wondering how a bad accident was avoided. Just before this incident the same boat had been coming down river from Port Farm & again was at full chat on a plane, again on the wrong side of the river & nearly overturned Colin & Liz with poor little Katie. They were completely swamped with water & totally drenched. The three idiots did not even slow down or check that Colin & Liz were o.k. & went on to do the same again as previously reported. It seems that the culprits are known so it seems likely that they will get some sort of dressing down. Let's hope that they will moderate their behaviour in the future. If not watch out everybody.

Rubbish !! What a shame that other users of the river are not as caring of the country code & wild life as GFBC members. The number of beer cans & bottles etc. thrown into the water is really disappointing, wonder what their homes look like?



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Unlucky Eaterie You have to feel sorry for the Grove Ferry Inn who having worked very



hard to repair the flood damage to their gardens & menagerie, were hit by a fire which broke out upstairs on 4th May, forcing them to close for the day & get the problem fixed. Unfortunately the fire alarm went off the next day causing them to lose valuable trade yet again. However, they did not despair, indeed one of the staff joked that after 19 weeks of flood & now a fire they were waiting for the plague of locusts. The gardens have been restored & are now beginning to look good so Best wishes from GFBC for the rest of 2014 & here's hoping those locusts keep away !

Oops !! On the day of the Dinghy Run we started off at 10.45 a.m so as to be ready for the 11 a.m. Start, but our engine just kept spluttering along for a few yards & stopping. Despite all the advice from the bank it looked like we would be staying behind but we were saved when Henry found that he had not switched the petrol on. (Can't get the Staff)