



BLYM in the snow, January 2010

JIBSHEET

the newsletter of

BURY LAKE YOUNG MARINERS



February/March 2010

The 2010 season beckons

As the memories of a snowy and frozen Aquadrome fade away we are already making plans for the 2010 season. And what a season it promises to be! Our new programme is available on the website (www.blym.org.uk, click on Club and Events) and our new RYA course brochure is enclosed.

All you need to do is to renew your membership and come sailing! You should have received your renewal details in the post, and the form is also available on the website (click on Membership.) There are **no increases** in membership or sailing fees this year!

You will find that our volunteer bosuns, the Bizzy Bees, have been hard at work over the winter repairing, painting and servicing the boats and equipment ready for another great season.

New fleet additions

We have exciting news of a grant obtained by Matt Wait and members of the BLYM Youth Committee. They have succeeded in obtaining almost **£49,000** to purchase six new Topers, six new Lasers and three new powerboats! This is an outstanding achievement and we hope to have the new boats in service early in the 2010 season.

In addition we have decided to retire our ageing fleet of Wayfarers and Leaders, and to replace them with six brand new Mark IV Wayfarers. This new self-draining design has some big improvements, and again, we hope to have them on the water early in the season.



2010 fleet additions: Wayfarer Mark IV, Topper, Laser and Jenneau rescue boat with centre console and Yamaha 15hp engine

Boats for sale

Our old Wayfarers and Leaders are up for sale, and we would like to offer them to members before advertising them externally. If you are interested please get in touch with Phil Cobby at phillcobby_4@hotmail.co.uk. We also have some older boats we are disposing of, so if you are looking for an inexpensive boat we may be able to help.

Splash Day & Work Party - Sat 6th March

Do please join us to help rig and launch the fleet on the morning of Saturday 6th March. Refreshments will be provided for those who help, and you can sail free of charge in the afternoon. There will also be a Boat Park working party on this date to tidy and clear debris. All berth-holders are asked to help. Please come along whenever you can, from 9.00 am onwards.

Laser Open Regatta

Laser Grand Prix Open Meeting

Notice of Race

Sunday 7th March 2010

Organising Authority - Bury Lake Young Mariners

Racing Rules of Sailing 2009-2012 apply

3 races, 2 to count

Briefing at 10.30

Warning signal for Race 1 not before 10:55

Entry on the day, race office opens at 09:00

Entry fee £6.00 per boat

RYA Courses - Spring 2010

Here is a summary of the courses we are running in the first part of the season.

Saturdays 6th & 20th February - RYA Basic Navigation

Sunday 21st February - RYA VHF DSC Radio Operator

Saturday 27th February - RYA Instructor Pre-Assessment

Saturday/Sunday 13th-14th March - RYA Level 1&2 Powerboat

Saturday/Sunday 20th-21st & 27th-28th March - RYA Assistant Instructor

Saturday 27th February - RYA Small Craft First Aid

Saturday/Sunday 27th-28th March - RYA Safetyboat

Monday-Friday 5th-9th April - RYA Start Sailing 1-4 and RYA Dinghy Instructor

Monday-Friday 12th-16th April - RYA Start Sailing 1-4 and RYA Level 1&2

Saturdays 17th, 24th April & 1st, 8th & 15th May - RYA Level 1&2

Group Leader & Instructor Training

We will be holding refresher training days on Saturday 17th April and Sunday 25th April for all BLYM Instructors and Group Leaders. This will be an opportunity to brush up on a variety of topics, and to look at changes we have made to the fleet over the winter so that you are well prepared for the coming season. Those eligible should have received an invitation, but if yours has not arrived please contact Craig Johnson (instructors) at craig@cjohnson.me.uk or Nick Nieder (group leaders) at twiglet.nick@ntlworld.com. Both days will follow an identical programme so you need only attend one of them. They are completely free of charge.

Boat Maintenance Workshop

The Youth Committee are organising free sessions for under-18s who would like to learn more about repairing and maintaining dinghies. There are three Saturday evening sessions (makes a change from hanging around in the High Street!) 13th, 20th and 27th February. We will even feed you pizza!

Details from Phil Cobby at phillcobby_4@hotmail.co.uk; please let us know if you would like to come.

Racing at BLYM

Sunday morning series racing continues, with the Roland Sweet Trophy series currently taking place.

Here are some regatta dates for your diary:

Sunday 7th March - **Laser Grand Prix Open Regatta**

Sunday 25th April - **Volvo & Hertfordshire County Regatta**

Sunday 6th June - **Topper Travellers Open Regatta**

Sunday 19th September - **Hertfordshire Scouts Regatta**

The Hertfordshire Youth Dinghy Racing Squad trains regularly at BLYM - contact Sam Flint at sami1288@hotmail.co.uk.

Vehicles in the Aquadrome

The mix of cars, pedestrians and dogs is not a good one, and we ask for the care and consideration of key holders when bringing a vehicle into the Aquadrome. We remind you:

- The speed limit is strictly **5 mph** - walking pace. Pedestrians and dogs have priority.
- Please lock the gate when entering and leaving.
- Please leave your car in the main car park unless you have heavy equipment or have passengers with limited mobility. Please don't drive into the park just to drop someone off.
- Those who do not observe the above may lose their key.

Please watch the notice boards for more details of two dates when vehicle access to the Aquadrome will be restricted:

- Sunday 21st March - Sport Relief Fun Run, no vehicles to drive through the park 10.15-12.45.
- Saturday-Sunday 15th-16th May - Rickmansworth Festival. The Aquadrome will be congested. Car passes may be required.

Rebuilding update

Our ambitious plans to completely rebuild the BLYM clubhouse are moving forward. During 2010 we will be working closely with our landlords, Three Rivers District Council to finalise the plans, produce a fully costed scheme, and seek planning permission. In parallel with this we will commence some serious fund-raising.

This is a huge project for BLYM, and it will require effort and commitment from the whole membership. There will be consultation meetings during the year to view the plans and give your views. We are asking members to consider how they can support the project financially. The cost of membership and sailing at BLYM is amongst the lowest in the UK, made possible by the enormous efforts of our volunteer team. We would like to keep it that way.

If you are able to contribute a little (or maybe even a lot) more than your subscription you can make a donation to our building fund. If you pay Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax your donation is increased by 25%, simply by completing a Gift Aid form (please just ask at the Galley). Affiliated groups can help by organising a fund-raising activity. And everyone can help by supporting the club's fund-raising activities throughout the year.

The project will also require substantial support from the Lottery, local companies and other sources. Our appeal to these bodies will be a lot stronger if we demonstrate powerful support from our own members. So there is the challenge. **Let's make it fun!**

STOP PRESS - BLYM reaches finals of RYA Club of the Year 2010
There are five finalists. Results will be announced at the RYA Dinghy Show at 4.30pm on Saturday 6th March, Alexandra Palace.

Summer Internship

We are seeking a volunteer who would like to gain experience working for BLYM during the summer months to support our schools and holiday programmes. Candidates will need to be over 18, and have minimum qualifications of RYA Dinghy Instructor, RYA Powerboat Level 2 and a relevant First Aid certificate. Agreed expenses will be paid to the successful applicant.

This opportunity may be of interest to someone such as a gap year student, or someone who wishes to become a professional sailing or sports coach in due course. Applications are requested by 28th February 2010.

Full details may be obtained from Mick Hamilton, BLYM Chairman, at michael.a.hamilton@laing.com.

Expedition to Norfolk

The weekend of 1st-3rd May sees us back in Norfolk, using the Hunters Yard heritage fleet of traditional Broads sailing cruisers. This trip is for experienced sailors, as we cover a lot of water in three days.



The Hunter's fleet

Sleeping on the boats in cabins and under awnings our one departure from the *Swallows and Amazons* lifestyle will be to have an evening meal at an inexpensive restaurant ashore.

Places are strictly limited, and will be allocated to competent sailors on a first come first served basis. The cost for three days is approximately £55 per head depending on numbers, plus travel to Norfolk and food.

Please sign up on the list in the Briefing Room. Places are limited, so please don't leave it too long.

Chandlery

BLYM runs an extensive chandlery for the benefits of members, offering the entire range of Crewsaver, YAK and Musto at 20-25% discount on the full retail price. Please ask at the galley for details.

SPRING SPECIAL OFFERS

Crewsaver Reach Buoyancy Aid in red or royal blue. RRP £42.95. BLYM Special offer **£29.95**.



Crewsaver Cell Drysuit with front zip and neoprene seals in navy/red or black/grey. RRP £281.95. BLYM special offer **£195.00**.



Contacts

Membership - Bernadette Blakesley membership@blym.org.uk

RYA course enquiries - Gwen Miles courses@blym.org.uk

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