

CRUISING WITH SLAUGHDEN SAILING CLUB 2010

We are now well into May and the weather, although mostly dry, is still bitterly cold, with strong north easterly winds as the norm. Surely things will improve soon, so that we can start to enjoy sailing our boats as we had planned all winter. I wanted to contact all the members of Slaughden Sailing Club listed with cruising boats to encourage them to join in with the clubs cruising activities during the 2010 season. Many of you already do, and it will be good to see you again; however for various reasons others have not in the past, but I do hope you will consider doing so this year.

It is very encouraging to note that there are some newly acquired cruising boats in the club this season, and we will welcome them, as their new owners get used to them. Also the members with motor boats are encouraged to join us, as travelling in company and meeting socially in the evenings; to share the adventures is the main aim of the exercise.

The events planned this year are weekend orientated, as most of us are weekend sailors, but should you be lucky enough to be able to take longer cruises, maybe you would consider starting or ending your voyages in the company of other SSC members on the club cruises. We will no doubt be visiting the usual local rivers and creeks, and it has been suggested to me that that the late May bank holiday cruise should be based around the Walton Backwaters, and that seems a very good suggestion to me as it is such a magical destination, particularly at this time of year when so many birds are nesting or feeding young.

As many of the cruising members have much more experience than I do, and sail various boats with different sailing characteristics I do not try to make a detailed sailing plan for every one, but I work out my own passage plan, and am happy to share that with any one who wants advice. It is always advantageous if we know what every one is planning to do, so that we can keep an eye out for each other.

Please contact me if you have any suggestions or queries, and I look forwards to enjoying your company this year.

Paul Eaton Vice Commodore Cruising.