Re: Horning Boat Show 2022

The last Horning Boat Show was held in 2018, it was decided at that time to hold the Boat Show every two years. 2020 therefore was to be our next show which as we all know was locked down, the same for 2021.

With an element of doubt we decided to arrange for the show in 2022, the closer we got to January 2022 it appeared safe for the committee to push forward with the arrangements for Saturday 30th April.

The Exhibitor bookings for the show were considerably more difficult with so many companies having lost staff or indeed gone out of business. However, we pushed forward and made a special effort to invite Charities to exhibit in order for them to raise much needed funds for them selves, but filling the show pitches with interesting stalls for the visitors to see and donate money.

Of course providing the Charity pitches free of charge means that the show itself make less money for the Community Fund, but we thought as long as money is being raised for good causes then that was fine.

The media is of great importance to advertise the show together with social media giving out progress reports on a regular basis, this proved very successful.

The lead up to the show was helped by a good weather forecast which proved perfect for the day.

We have a team of some 30 helpers known as Showshapers who are integral to the running of the Show. They are present on all three sites to provide information and assistance to visitors and Exhibitors alike. All attend briefing sessions so that they are aware of their roles and the safety aspects associated with the Show.

Additionally, they help with the set up in the days leading up to the Show including the signage for publicity and the clearance of sites and signs after the Show.

Tom Blofeld very kindly provides us with free parking at Bewilderwood, without which we could not run the show. We provide a small fleet of mini-buses to ferry visitors to and from the village for a £1.00 each way which helped the cost of the buses.

Tom Blofeld very kindly opened the show at 10.00am.

The village, the riverside and recreation ground was heaving by 11.00am with visitors showing great interest in the exhibits.

The food court on the Upper Exhibition Area had around ten vans providing food of all sorts, they provide a good social area too for those who need a rest, which also is the area where our Horning Boat Show Auction was held at 3.00pm raising more money, the auction items were generously donated mostly by local businesses in Horning and Wroxham and further a field.

On show were Luxury Motor Cruisers, Launches, Sailing Boats, Holiday Cottages, Paddle Boards to name a few, there was also a gathering of Classic Cars which was a great sight to see.

The Horning Sailing Club run their Discover Sailing day which is a valuable addition to the Boat Show giving novices the opportunity to get out on the water with qualified instructors which proved very successful.

The other obvious benefit is for the Village businesses who have a bumper day with some shops and eateries having the best day of their year.

Everyone wins at the Horning Boat Show.

The show finished at 4.00 pm and by 6.00pm the team had cleared all the sites showing no evidence of a boat show having taken place.

The money raised from the show will be banked awaiting the Community Fund Committee to invite people to put in bids for their ideas for the money raised, which will benefit Horning Village in one way or another.

So will there be a Horning Boat Show in 2023/2024 ?

Roger Tomkins

Co-Chair

Horning Boat Show