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E a s t e r E g g R a l l y a t R o y a l H a r w i c h Y a c h t C l u b

In the March issue of Gaffers Log , the editor states that our National President, Brian Hammett, had arranged for fair winds and weather for the coming season. All I can say is, maybe he should brush up on his communication skills with whoever is doing the arranging, because the weather at Easter and the first test of Brian's supernatural powers, was dire. If you remember, Easter was notable for bitter cold, gale force winds and snow, but quite a good crowd turned up at Pin Mill for a rousing get-together at the Butt and Oyster on Good Friday.



The forecast for Easter Saturday was even worse, N'ly F 5-7, but we gaffers are made of stern stuff and Colin and I set out with quiet determination for the rally and dinner at the Royal Harwich YC on the Orwell. Although it was wind against tide, the A12 wasn't too uncomfortable and we were able to weather the Copdock roundabout in one fetch, before bearing away towards Woolverstone.

Altogether, 23 hardy souls turned up for the dinner at the RHYC (plus two late arrivals, who had to beat all the way up the B1080) and what a splendid meal the club laid on for us - plenty of second helpings. After the meal there were speeches (mercifully few) and prizes (many). In view of the fact that no-one actually sailed to the rally, Brian's prize-giving had to be quite creative, for example there were prizes for the boats which would have travelled furthest to the rally had they left Shotley marina, and a prize for the fastest smack not to have left its moorings.

Brian is to be congratulated in organising an excellent rally in spite of the adverse conditions, we can only hope this particular talent won't have to be exercised too often in the coming season.

Bernard Patrick

[Click here for Mike Robertson's "Passage Race" report for the Easter Egg Rally.](#)

(Have your local chart to hand for ease of reading)

