

Bitternes Afloat



As a team we'd appreciate your prayer support! Throughout the week young people will encounter God through friends, sailing, worship, study and cake. We ask you to support the leaders as they serve by offering prayers of blessing.



April 5 - 12, 2014

The Bitternes Afloat Christian Cruise, is a week-long adventure-style sailing holiday for teenagers, the main purpose of which is to promote the Christian faith and nurture and encourage young people from a number of partner churches on the Norfolk Broads.

The Bitternes make use of a fleet of yachts crewed by between 5 and 7 young people and each with an experienced Skipper and Mate. We also offer enhanced sail training on a smaller day boat, skippered by a qualified sailing instructor. Based at moorings near South Walsham Broad, the cruise sails to different destinations each day and if the weather permits, this includes an overnight stay at a Broad near the North Sea.

The people, boats and scenery all change, however the purpose of this cruise continues to fulfil the original aims it was founded on: providing an exciting holiday, dedicated to celebrating the gospel of Jesus Christ. While exploring God's creation close up, the Bitternes meet to study and hear more of God's word through 'Morning Divisions' (crew-based Bible study), 'Evening Quarters' (a group worship session with activities and gospel presentation) and 'Cabin Clubs' (small discussion groups held on the boats).

The Lord's Prayer

Daily Timetable

In churches around the world, the Lord's Prayer is said unifying every believer. However, has the prayer become something we do on autopilot?! Has the prayer lost its meaning and relevance? Do we actually know what we are saying?

Through bible studies, discussion groups and presentations we challenge the use of the prayer from being a religious activity to being a meaningful conversation with our Father.

"Our Father" is the beginning of the Lord's Prayer. Through the Morning Divisions, we look at other names for God, understanding more of His personal nature through the descriptive names that are used throughout the Old and New Testaments.

06.30 Skippers and Mates meeting /Cruise gets up
07.00 Crews move from Sleeping to Day Boats
07.05 Morning Divisions (Quiet Time)
07.25 Walk to Breakfast (in Village Hall)
08.00 Breakfast
08.45 Prepare boat for inspection /
Duty crews to the Galley
09.30 Boat Inspection
10.00 Set sail (With a running lunch eaten
on board during the day)
17.00 Heave to and moor - end of sailing for the day
17.30 Walk to Supper (in Village Hall)
& Logs and Shanties
20.00 Either: Evening Quarters in Village Hall
(Sat, Mon, Wed, Fri.)
or walk back to boats for..
20.15 Cabin Clubs (Sun, Tues, Thurs)
22.15 All crews must be on Sleeping Boats
22.30 Lights out

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The Bitternes Afloat Cruise is a member of the
Christian Cruises Association.

Our Prayer Request



We appreciate the prayer support provided before, during and after the cruise. Please pray for the week - the Spiritual Programme, our Shore Crew, members, leaders and for safety.



The Bitternes are supported by a great number of people, from partner churches through to the leaders of the cruise who give up time to serve the young people. Please join us praying for:

the Shore Crew; Throughout the week they work tirelessly to prepare, cook and maintain the wellbeing of every member. Led by Marnie Harding, the Shore Crew includes: Stephanie Sweetland, Roger Moran, Will Trevitt and John Blair. In the run up to the cruise, please pray for their preparation and, during the week, their strength.

the Executive Officers; they organise the cruise. Please pray for their individual roles and for their personal leadership during the cruise particularly for Andy Hamilton as Commodore, with ultimate responsibility, and Nick Smith, Vice Commodore and Chaplain, responsible for the spiritual programme.

the Supporters of Bitternes Afloat; Since beginning in 1949, the cruise has seen many people actively serve through leadership. We honour these prayerful people, some of whom are a part of the "Friends of Bitternes", who continue to support the cruise in many ways. We ask you to pray for these and for partner churches that continue to invest in the young people as they return from their time with us.

the Skippers, Mates and Leaders; Bitternes Afloat relies on the expertise and goodwill of many leaders to bring the Word of God and sailing instruction to many young people each year. Please pray for the many different roles each person has and for God's blessing on their leadership.

Skippers: Gordon Cowen, Paul Cranston, Jo Godfrey, Andy Hamilton, Anne Hamilton, Phil Harding, Simon Jones, George King, James Mitchell, Nick Smith, Lindsay Smith, Richard Sturgess, Mark Webb, Sue Yardley

Mates: Callum Boud, Chris Capper, Matt Challis, Benjamin Clifford, Ruth Clifford, Charlotte Ellis, Jack Harding, Anna King, Jacob Moran, Beth Richardson, Catherine Squib, Philippa Wardale, Benedict White, Elspeth White.

and the young people; Each year the cruise is trusted with the physical and Spiritual lives of many young people, our aim is always to show something of God and bring each member closer to Him. We ask you to pray for each young person, for safety and for a revelation of God's love, and for those who join us for the first time (our Bilges).

Bilges: Tyler Bennet, Ben Clark, Freya Clark, Joshua Coates, Joshua Fish, Emma Fletcher, Emily Lambert, Emma Latham, Caleb Latham, Jack Lee, Madeline Pearson Gee, Lotte Powles, Rowan Richards, Matthew Richards, Alfie Rubins, Francesca Webb, Oliver Wells.

Crew: Amy Ashcroft, Philpa Askew, Sophie Boud, Toby Boud, Isabel Clifford, Eleanor Clifford, Matt Cranston, Imogen Creed, Megan Everett, Nathanael Fleming, Ben Fletcher, Josh Fletcher, Eloise Freeguard, Natalie Freeguard, Molly Goodwin, Robert Grinyer, Ben Grinyer, Cary Hobbs, Chris Hobbs, Robin Hutchings, Elliott Nash, Danial Smith, Simeon Souster, Henry Waller, Izobel Webb Pratt, Oliver West, Jack West, Max Whittome.

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