

# On Lawling Creek

**A**t the Harlow Blackwater sailing club in Lawling creek, unlike last year we have been able to run more or less our full list of on the water sailing events. Although to comply with COVID regulations we begin the season without 'changing facilities', members changing in the dinghy park or their cars and without warm showers after sailing. Fortunately sailors are a hardy bunch and the desire to be on the water outweighed these minor inconveniences.

Our sailing is run in conjunction with the Maylandsea Bay sailing club, the other club situated on Lawling creek. The combined turn out from both clubs has meant we have had some well contested races throughout the season. Like the Olympic sailing you may have watched, we have had some very close finishes between boats, with one dead heat and several only separated by one or two seconds. In July the club ran a successful Solo dinghy open regatta, welcoming visitors from a number of different sailing clubs. Full use of the available tide was made, fitting in three races for the Solo fleet. In August we ran a similar event for the Laser dinghy class, which was open to visitors.

The COVID restrictions have so far limited social events this year, but as restrictions have eased we can at last make full use of our indoor

facilities. Opening the bar and galley to members after and before sailing. Due to the uncertainties we ran a scaled down regatta week for members, with no organised social events. A few members still camped on the site and the club house was open every evening to enjoy some glorious sunsets on the club balcony.

The sailing was well supported with close racing taking place, in good though sometimes taxing wind conditions.

Our sailing continues well into October if you are interested in on the water activities please pay us a visit. We have a very active windsurfing section that has great fun on the water when the wind strength increases. We also have active canoists and paddle boarders, whilst some members take their bigger boats to visit other East Coast creeks and marinas.

You can find out more from our website at [www.harlow-blackwater-sailing-club.com](http://www.harlow-blackwater-sailing-club.com) or email us at: [hbsccommittee@gmail.com](mailto:hbsccommittee@gmail.com). We have club moorings and winter storage available for larger boats. As well as dinghy, canoe and board storage in our dinghy park. If you contact us we can arrange for one of our members to greet you at the club, show you around and introduce you. Or just drop in when you see us open, which is usually on a Sunday whenever the tides are in ■

