



# WIVENHOE SAILING CLUB

## MAINSHEET

2013 SPRING EDITION

Editor: Roy Crookes

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#### editor's note:

This concluding *Mainsheet* of the current round (the 4<sup>th</sup> year after PC) has news and views of past and coming events, ads and a take-away *contact-and-event* pull-out supplement for your retention and convenience.

#### profile: Gill Maloney



Gill has always loved boats of all types but didn't have the opportunity to sail until her Mum and Dad (WSC's very own Francis and Denis!) moved to Wivenhoe, some 25 years ago. Childhood memories are of holidays by the sea '*I have always been drawn towards water – love to be in it or on it!*' and opportunities, always taken, for any sort of boat trip (due to Denis's naval background – serving in the Royal Naval Patrol Boat Service '*Churchill's Pirates*' during the Second World War). Her dad made sure they learned to swim from a very early age, at Acton swimming baths, with lessons and swimming club at least 3 times a week.

Visits to Wivenhoe with the children, when Denis bought *Sea Holly* a 20 ft ply-wood *Lysander* sailing boat, meant opportunities for her first experiences of sailing – and she loved it! Gill was captivated – both by the beauty of the River Colne and the beauty and wonder of being able to sail by wind power alone. But 2006 signalled the start of her sailing adventures, moving to Wivenhoe with Holly and Robin, she could sail as much as she wanted to. '*and what a boat to begin to learn to sail! Dipper – the prettiest boat on the river and beyond (so we are always being told)*'. [Tim and Gill experience photos and filming by so many fellow sailors and get a friendly shout across the water, expressing admiration.]

*Dipper* – a varnished mahogany, clinker-built *North-East Coast One Design* – by Alan Buchanan, is only 19 feet in length but lovingly cared for and kept in tip-top condition by Tim, for the last 37 years. He applied 11 coats of varnish when *Dipper* was last taken back to bare wood! Sailing

aboard *Dipper* in luxurious comfort, with rich mahogany all around them, Gill told Tim *‘who really laughed –it was like going to sea in granny’s best sideboard’*.

For each of the last seven years, from May to October, they have spent on average around 80 nights aboard – sailing the rivers and creeks that make up the Essex and Suffolk coastline. Gill appreciates the way that, without sailing very many miles, she can enjoy quiet and unspoilt creeks and the tranquility and peace of sitting aboard *Dipper*, *‘anchored in a sheltered creek at low-water with a privileged view of the multitudes of waders and other wildlife that abound - in our patch’*.

Having done little dinghy sailing, when Tim put a centre board box in the dinghy and made a small gaff rig for it, Gill sewed a little tan sail, from an old sail from *Dipper* and her dinghy sailing adventures began too! Tentatively at first but with increasing confidence she soon became happy enough to take the dinghy and sail off on her own. She found it a lovely way to see the creeks and get into the mudflats for close encounters with the wading birds and seals. *‘It is a bit ‘swallows and Amazons’ and I sometimes wonder if I am 7 or 57 years old!’* Gill confides that they *‘absolutely love it’* and wouldn’t swap their wonderful little boat or where they sail it, for anything else. *‘The smaller the boat, the greater the enjoyment!’* she says *‘Let’s hope the sun shines and we have some gentle breezes this summer’*, longing to revisit and explore all the favourite places yet again but that’s *another story!*

## boat launching this Spring

On Friday evening, 22<sup>nd</sup> February there was a boat owners meeting in the clubhouse followed by a sub-meeting of cruiser owners about using the club’s boat-lifting facilities. Ted took the chair on behalf of Kevin, who was indisposed and expressed the following thanks:

to all concerned for the way the re-alignment of hard-standing storage space was undertaken this haul-out;

to Chris Mullins for his great input of work into arranging the tractor-shed and sorting out storage of gear and for the help of John Austin.

The form for this year’s launching dates\*, prepared by Peter Cobbold and the mooring renewal form from Tony Higbee were to be collected by everyone in the group, before leaving. Tony emphasised that everyone must have paid for mooring before being launched!

### \*Proposed launch dates are as follows:

<i>day</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>HW/h</i>	<i>Event</i>
<b>April</b>			
Sun	7	12:30 start	Fitting Out Lunch
Fri	12	14:20	launching
Sat	13	14:51	launching
Fri	26	13:17	launching
Sat	27	14:00	launching
Mon	29	15:25	launching
<b>May</b>			
Wed	8	12:06	launching
Thu	9	12:44	launching
Fri	10	13:20	launching
Sat	11	13:54	launching
Mon	13	14:58	launching
Tue	14	15:30	launching
Sat	25	12:54	launching
Mon	27	14:29	launching
Tue	28	15:17	launching
Wed	29	16:07	launching

Ted reminded the group of the need to observe the operating procedures in the interest of safety, demonstrated crane-speak, (in the absence of the *star-demonstrator*) reminding everyone that the tractor driver could not hear a word from outside the cab and explained how the weight of a tractor would not prevent it from sliding on an inclined slippery surface - the reason for the long wire. Anyone wishing to drive the tractor was invited to speak-up but to remember that there was a commitment of time involved. Volunteers for the group

management team were also needed from young new-blood.

The chain-block situation was explained, the consideration of a bronze bush for needle roller bearings (in the lower end of the chain-block) and that we had four service-able chain-blocks, were noted. It was emphasised that we should all **PLEASE** - return any gear used, to the place from where it was found. The progress and the situation with the proposed mobile crane were explained. Comments, suggestions or queries were invited from the hall, especially the new faces but it was omitted to mention the, now traditional, *cake for launching* custom!

Chris Mullins was asked to relay the situation with hoist and gear maintenance and did so 'with his usual verve', though Ted did suggest it was too-late to embark on a painting scheme now and that a summer programme, possibly including evenings, should be considered.

Eric suggested that this year's hauling-out dates be made available asap for our Website and the lifting procedures be put on.

\*[There are 4 Saturdays planned but please consider whether a weekday could be chosen, to relieve pressure on weekend lifts. Earlier date choices are easier to satisfy and helpers should be on site a good 3 hours before-high-water.]

an overview of winter boat storage at wsc



a bird's eye-view as seen by A Raven

Andrew took this rather wonderful photo from a light aircraft, while flying with his father, Ken over the club on New Year's Day, one of the few days when visibility was good. As can be seen from the long shadows of the clubhouse and boat-shed, it was a gloriously sunny day with the sun low in the sky. ChrisM had volunteered to climb

up onto a nearby roof to get such an overall impression! of the density of boat laying-up this year and I'd taken some from the back stairs of the club. But this one gives a much better picture of the total distribution of dinghies and cruisers and the efficient packing of these in the available space. Great manoeuvring- bulge team!

## man overboard

A clipping of an original newspaper report of this incident appeared last year in a retro-style menu in a café at Circular Quay, Sydney. Further search revealed an amazing rescue!

HMAS *Australia*, a 10,000 ton heavy cruiser, was one of seven warships built to the *Kent* design at Glasgow, Scotland. The propulsion machinery consisted of eight super-heated boilers feeding high-pressure and low-pressure geared turbines, delivering up to 80,000 shaft horsepower to the cruiser's four three-bladed propellers. The cruiser's top speed was 31 knots with a range of 2,270 nautical miles, while the economical range and cruising speed were 10,000 nautical miles and 11 knots.



HMAS *Australia*: Wikipedia

Following sea trials *Australia* departed Portsmouth in August 1928 for her delivery voyage to Australia, visiting Canada, the United States, Jamaica, Panama, Tahiti and New Zealand. On 6 August 1928 *Australia* was in the North Atlantic en route to Montreal when Petty Officer Evan Allan was swept overboard with heavy seas running in force eight winds. Evan and several other crew were attempting to recover the starboard breakwater door which was adrift on the forecastle. The official report states that a large sea came inboard and swept the fore part of the forecastle. When it cleared, the Commanding Officer saw Evan swimming in the water abreast of the bridge. The sea state precluded the safe launching of the sea boat and it was only due to Evan's remarkable

coolness and the prompt actions of Commissioned Shipwright William White, Lieutenant Commander Rupert Long, and Evan's divisional officer, Lieutenant Commander Harry Howden, that tragedy was averted.

The cruiser circled round the spot and a sailor was lowered over the side on a Jacob's ladder, while the cruiser was steered along-side the petty officer, swimming in the rough sea. The swimmer, with the aid of the sailor on the ladder, caught hold of the lower rung. An officer climbed down the ladder and helped to tie a rope round the rescued man, who was pulled out of the water and up the ladder. Evan suffered from shock caused by immersion and contusions to one leg, the result of the heavy seas bumping his body against the cruiser's hull when he was hauled back on board.

HMAS *Australia* remained active in the post-war era, in her final years as a training ship, until decommissioned in 1954 and sold for scrapping in 1955. Evan Allan passed away in 2005 at the age of 106, the last surviving Australian World War I veteran.

[HMAS *Australia*: Wikipedia; Trove.nla.gov.au: *Man overboard* from *The Argus* Melbourne 1928; <http://117.55.225.121/> Lieutenant\_William\_Evan\_Crawford\_Allan]

## nature walk:

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb, it was at first a most beautiful morning, the best we have ever had! Nineteen club members had assembled in front of the clubhouse, the smallest group we have ever had!

At 10:00 hrs we set off under a clear blue sky, a very light breeze from the east, the tide down and the surrounding countryside sparkling with frost. Just how good was our bird species count going to be? As we began our fixed annual route, first along the seawall towards Marriages' woods we ticked some of our usual winter birds on the mud flats and across the marshes; redshank, dunlin, lapwing, greylag geese etc.

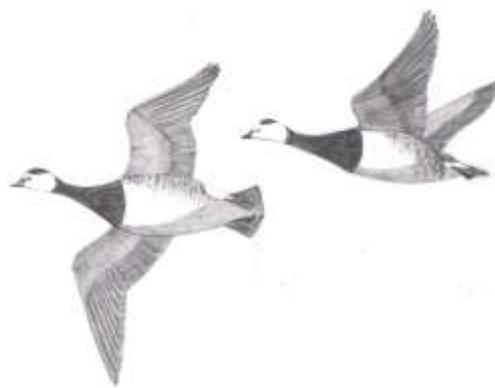
As we approached Marriages' bite the first bend in the river, we heard the sound of geese in flight. We were then treated to the romantic stirring sight of some 400+ dark -

bellied Brent geese flying low overhead and come in to land on the river in front of us to preen and chat! (how they constantly chat to each other - geese, like many other bird species pair for life). While we were watching the geese the morning's weather dramatically changed for the worst. A bank of sea fog rolled up the river at first like smoke, reducing visibility to 50m at a time. Thereafter things improved slowly but it remained sadly an indifferent day after that. For some, another highlight was to see a Muntjac deer in the woods by the side of the old railway track.

We continued to tick off bird species as we walked and saw them but after the gloom of the fog nature went rather quiet. However here is the compiled list –

- |                   |                          |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Little grebe      | Cormorant                |
| Grey heron        | Canada goose             |
| Barnacle goose    | Brent goose              |
| Greylag goose     | Shelduck                 |
| Mallard           | Teal                     |
| Widgeon           | Buzzard                  |
| Moorhen           | Coot                     |
| Oystercatcher     | Lapwing                  |
| Turnstone         | Dunlin                   |
| Redshank          | Curlew                   |
| Black headed gull | Lesser black backed gull |
| Herring gull      | Woodpigeon               |
| Stock dove        | Green woodpecker         |
| Pied wagtail      | Gold crest               |
| Robin             | Fieldfare                |
| Blackbird         | Song thrush              |
| Blue tit          | Great tit                |
| Long-tailed tit   | Chaffinch                |
| Starling          | Magpie                   |
| Jackdaw           | Rook                     |
| Carrion crow      |                          |

A grand total of 41 species of bird were seen. Two new species were seen for the first time on this annual walk. They were buzzards, five high in the air over Fingringhoe marshes, and barnacle geese, 6 flying low over the marsh inside the sea wall on our return across it to the sailing club. When added to the annual 'nature walk's' accumulative 'Life list' a total of 71 different species have now been seen!



barnacle geese (Gill Moloney)

**the barnacle goose:**

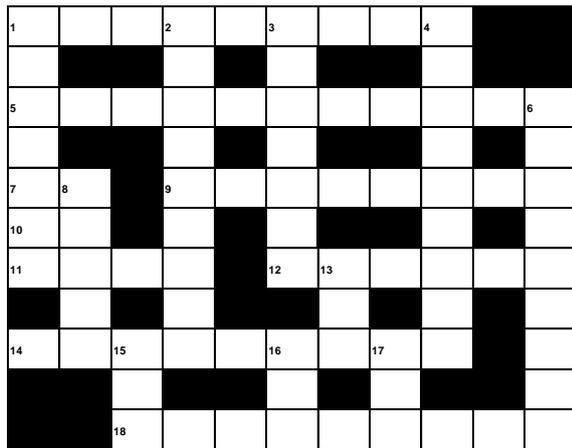
This is a very attractive goose. Its plumage pied in black white and grey. It grazes the sea washed turf of our river estuaries, mainly in the north and northwest of Britain. It is from ring recoveries and coloured band observations that we learn the movements of these birds. There are two principal populations, one from East Greenland, the other from Spitsbergen (Svalbard). A small third population from arctic Russia winters in the Netherlands and some of these winter on our east coast. Six of these we saw on Sunday! Barnacle geese fly in irregular packs or flocks not V's or Chevrons. Their lifespan is around 18 years.

Tim Denham



no that's fine, I think I can get through

## Mainteaser



### clues across:

- 1 it's used to clear out below (5,4)
- 5 they keep you dry on board (11)
- 7 it shows who you are or is it in the mind? (2)
- 9 bespoke attire for the mariner (8)
- 10 is it the answer to 11 across? (2)
- 11 a red kangaroo or monetary unit (4)
- 12 take them daily to avoid your GP (6)
- 14 waste time arranging it on board (9)
- 18 do they catch-on well? (9)

### clues down:

- 1 use it to hold a sail or make a loop (7)
- 2 less effective method than 6 down (9)
- 3 used in chili not for antifouling? (7)
- 4 it goes round in the marina (9)
- 6 they're observed when making an adjustment (4,5)
- 8 take in the sail or get wet (5)
- 13 kind of soup you could see in a fog (3)
- 15 he swans around on the Colne (3)
- 16 unlikely weather in UK (3)
- 17 under pressure, it makes a line for the bar (3)

(Solution on page 15)

### another story: east coast wonders

After a long day making a passage (especially early or late in the season) it's a wonderful feeling to finally drop the anchor in a favourite spot, light the oil lamps for light and warmth and most of all to conjure up 'a one-pot-wonder' dinner. Fantastic! especially with a good ration from the ships wine store. Each day feels like an

adventure, often not knowing where we will anchor - wind and tide dictating.



dinner's ready

We sail the area between North Foreland and Orford Ness; the furthest is to the River Alde, which we love. Sailing enables us to find some lovely walks across country; these are often, by necessity, to find food stores to re-stock the food lockers. Many local shops have closed and it is increasingly difficult particularly to find fresh vegetables – very exciting when we find somebody selling vegetables from a garden stall. Exploring the Rivers Crouch and Roach it is always possible to find some 'characters' there. However many days are spent, up and down the length and breadth of the River Blackwater, wherever we go, there is always something new to see. The rivers and creeks are always changing – that is the fascination, looking for the places where such things as ancient fish-traps and brick works are evident. We always watch the wildlife, as the birds' migrations and nesting seasons come and go - for the Avocet chicks to hatch and the local resident Eider duck 'flotilla'- just a couple of the amazing treats to live amongst, whilst enjoying life afloat. It is a true escape and all the more enjoyable because it really is possible to live with very few things, compared to what we have at home – and it's not difficult to manage!

The aim is to sail everywhere, only use the outboard engine very rarely and tow a (much modified) *Tepco* dinghy, to get ashore in all the places that look good to explore. *Dipper* a fantastic sea-going boat, built for the North Sea and being a keel boat, sails beautifully to windward. We try to get to the highest navigable point in the

rivers and creeks, leave *Dipper* anchored close to the first fixed bridge and row or sail the dinghy as far up as possible – sometimes ending up in 6ft-high reed beds.



up the creek

When the weather is perfect – ‘enjoying ‘Perry Como’ sailing’, it’s nice to just keep sailing and get as far as possible in a day. One of the great friends often seen on the water is Ralph Merry – out either rowing or sailing nearly every day of the year. He’s a great gardener and it is not uncommon to wake up, anchored in a little creek and to find a little parcel under the cockpit tent, of home grown apples, tomatoes, even grapes and lettuce, complete with a few slugs.

A truly memorable wildlife 24 hours followed an enjoyable afternoon walk ashore at Second Beach. On returning to *Dipper*—two harbour porpoises were swimming past- magical! Having set sail back into the Colne there was a spectacle of 3 hobbies (probably mum, dad and juvenile) singling out a house martin from a flock and chasing it in and out around the rigging and sails for a few minutes – it was amazing to see and hear the action at such close quarters. Eventually the poor house martin must have tired and succumbed as they all flew off out of sight. As if that were not enough, the following morning on sailing out of the Pyefleet, an Osprey, came down to take a huge mullet from the river only 20 yards from us- who needs television?



under way, on the deck of *Dipper*

***Dippers log book- extract: 26<sup>th</sup> June 2009***

*Underway 04.30 hours. Stunning morning: mist, gentle breeze, beautiful sunrise. Gentle air wafted us quietly out of the Butley River, continued out of Abraham’s Bosom and into River Ore, where the last of the ebb and light airs carried us down to river entrance.*

*Anchored under shingle banks to wait for slack water. Followed rhum line out of the river (as used by fishermen) to North Weir Buoy. Minimum depth 0.5 metres. Wind SE (not NE as forecast) Force 2. Whisked along by tide and SE breeze.*

*Arrived River Deben entrance 08.00 hours. Sped along coast in glorious sunshine, over sparkling sea, to Platters Buoy – Harwich Harbour. Waited to cross shipping lane whilst watching huge Karsten Maersk container ship meet up with two tugs before she entered the harbour. Used motor to cross harbour as very busy with ships going to and fro.*

*Arrived Walton Pier 11.30 hrs. Wind light for a time. Clacton Pier 13.30 hours where we lost favourable tide. Ebb set in strongly but wind slowly freshened to SE4 and set a course for North Eagle–Bar – Beach Head. Set spinnaker at the Bar Buoy – fantastic spinnaker run to Bradwell Power station.*

*Pity, suddenly cold and grey and wind freshening all the time. Entered Lawling Creek on first of the flood 19.30 hours. 15 hours sailing in total. Cold, very tired but happy. Kipper kedgeriee for supper. Looking forward to good kip.*

**Gill Maloney**



## **Wivenhoe Sailing Club**

### **Annual Report 2012**

(Including the year up to December 2012 and the prospects for 2013)  
Presented by the officers of the club at the 87<sup>th</sup> AGM on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2013

#### **Commodore's report for 2012**

Nestling quietly next to the barrier, Wivenhoe Sailing Club is no longer a secret. We now have neighbours with the Cooks development nearing completion and the footpath is continually busy with walkers and cyclists. Our membership enquiries have increased and we have welcomed more new members this year. Wivenhoe Town Regatta and Open Day were a great success all thanks to the organisation of our volunteer members; we have raised money for various charities this year and, I hope, raised our profile within the town.

Administration of the club is always busy and it's easy to get bogged down in meetings and forget why we're all here – to get out on the water surely? It's important to thank those that give up their time during the week to have these meetings; respond to the various requests from the local community and organisations; arrange the use of the club through lettings; carrying out general maintenance and repairs to the site; check that we are operating within the bounds of regulations and our constitution whilst making sure that there is plenty of entertainment and fun to be had on and off the water.

We are trying to bring the club up to date and have replaced the broken weather station in the lobby with an electronic version. Broadband has been installed this year and a computer is located on the upper deck for all to use, kindly donated by Zac Brightmore. Questions are being asked about setting up an online/electronic payment facility to make life easier – but we still need some help with this!

So finally a thank you to all of the Committees and volunteers who have shown me and the club so much support, we wouldn't be here without you.

**Nikki Robinson: Commodore**

#### **Hon Treasurer's report on the 2012 accounts.**

The accounts for 2012 show a net loss, after the inclusion of depreciation, of £1163. Two items in particular have increased our costs – the replacement of three night store heaters (Repairs & Renewals) and the new chair lift which is now paid for but requires depreciating in accordance with standard practice.

I am particularly pleased with the bar's contribution to club funds and although the "use of clubhouse" i.e. lettings shows a fall in income, these items are well managed.

Sundries includes Colchester BC fee of £180 for the annual licence, the Performing Rights Society's charge of £372 and we now have a stock of Club burgees (25) which are available to members at £20 each. Please contact me if you want one.

Looking to the future, there are two major items, the cost of which will have to be provided for – these are the re-tarmacking of the parking area and fire-proof varnishing to the upstairs timber ceiling.

It is my opinion that the various committees are running the club on sound lines and I recommend the adoption of the 2012 accounts.

**Guy Ward; Hon. Treasurer**

## Names/contact details for 2013 Officers, Committee members and others:

(all 01206 unless shown otherwise)

### Officers:

<b>Commodore:</b>	Nikki Robinson 305043	<b>President:</b>	Tony Higbee 542193
<b>Vice-Commodore:</b>	Phil Thompson 827786	<b>Rear Commodore:</b>	Gary Jobber 824970
<b>Hon Treasurer:</b>	Guy Ward 823221	<b>Hon Secretary:</b>	Eric Strudwick 822679
<b>Sailing Secretary:</b>	Chris Osborn-Jones 01442 843230	<b>Membership Sec:</b>	Midge Hetherington 825639

### Committee Members:

Roy Crookes: ( <i>Mainsheet</i> editor)	824098	Nell Mooy
Ray Meddis: (Communications)	827966	Heather Laurie
Ewan Alexander:		Lindsey Churchill
Bruce Anderson		Dan Churchill

### Non-committee posts:

Bar Manager:	Peter Goldsmith 823016	Bookings:	Jane Valentine 820236
Mooring secretary:	Tony Higbee 542193	Cadet leader:	Steve Hart 826318
Dinghy spaces:	Chris Smith 07718078608	Lifting Group:	Kevin Hosking 827429

**Wivenhoe Sailing Club, Walter Radcliffe Way, Wivenhoe, Colchester. CO7 9WS.  
01206-822132. <[www.wivenhoesailing.org.uk](http://www.wivenhoesailing.org.uk)>**

oOo

## Membership Report

At the end of 2012 there were 239 memberships. They comprised 13 Honorary Life Members, 8 Life Members, 2 Country Members, 3 Young Adult Members, 92 Adult (single) Members and 117 Family Memberships. This is a total of 352 members, with over 2 thirds of them living in Wivenhoe. During 2012, there were 26 resignations and sadly 2 deaths. There were 29 new members, so membership has stayed fairly constant.

**There are 44 memberships who have not yet renewed for 2013.**

If you are one of them, I will be contacting you soon. *Midge Hetherington*

## Dinghy registrations

Dinghy registrations for 2013 are now due. Printed forms are available at the clubhouse, or in a link from: **WSC Alert - Dinghy Registrations** on 4<sup>th</sup> April and also from the Members area of our website, above. Completed forms should be returned with the appropriate fee to Chris Smith at the address on the form.

If your dinghy is not listed, then the fee is £8:50 per metre of boat length.

NB All members with a WSC mooring should register their tender, but the fee is included in the Mooring fee.

**Please note that a £6 "Late Fee" supplement applies after May 10th.** Chris Smith



## Wivenhoe sailing club: sailing and social events

<i>day</i>	<i>dayNo</i>	<i>month</i>	<i>HW</i>	<i>Start</i>	<i>Event</i>
Sat	16	February		19:30	WOD Association Party - details to follow
Sun	17	February		10:00	Nature Walk & Sunday Lunch
Fri	22	February		19:30	General Boat Owners & Lifting Meeting
Sat	2	March			Wallet Ball at Benton Hall Golf Club
Fri	8	March		19:30	Supper cooked by Cadets - after AGM
Fri	15	March			Safety Boat Theory
Sat	16	March			Safety Boat Practical
Sat	23	March	09:01	09:30	Spring Hard Working Party
Sat	30	March		19:30	WOD Association AGM & Dinner
Sun	7	April	10:56	09:30	Glozier Fitting Out Race
Sun	7	April		12:30	Fitting Out Lunch
Fri	12	April	14:20		launching
Fri	12	April		20:00	Beer & Band Night
Sat	13	April	14:51		launching
Sun	14	April	15:29	14:00	Sainty Memorial Cup
Fri	26	April	13:17		launching
Fri	26	April		19:30	Fish & Chips & Quiz Night
Sat	27	April	14:00		launching
Mon	29	April	15:25		launching
Fri	3	May	19:28	18:00	Evening Pursuit 1
Fri	3	May		19:30	Beer, Band & Curry Night (BBC1)
Wed	8	May	12:06		launching
Thu	9	May	12:44		launching
Fri	10	May	13:20		launching
Sat	11	May	13:54		launching
Sun	12	May	14:30	13:00	Can Race
Sun	12	May		12:30	Sunday Lunch
Mon	13	May	14:58		launching
Tue	14	May	15:30		launching
Mon	20	May	20:46	19:15	Evening Pursuit 2
Sat	25	May	12:54		launching
Sun	26	May	13:52	12:00	Stuart Pawsey Cup / Ladies Race
Sun	26	May			WRYO Spring Rally Weekend
Mon	27	May	14:40		Bank Holiday Cup
Mon	27	May	14:29		launching
Tue	28	May	15:17		launching
Wed	29	May	16:07		launching
Sat	1	June	06:42		WSC Cruise In Company
Sun	2	June	07:47		WSC Cruise & Blackwater Race
Sun	9	June	13:31	12:00	May Mug/Sykes 1/Scaly Capstan
Sat	15	June	17:15		WSC Dinghy Regatta
Sat	15	June		18:30	WSC Regatta Party with Live Band

Tue	18	June	20:02	18:30	Evening Pursuit 3
Sat	22	June	11:51		WRYO Gooseberry Pie Weekend
Sun	23	June	12:45	11:30	Upstream Race
Fri	28	June	10:15		Ostend Rally
Sat	29	June	17:39		Rowhedge Regatta
Sun	30	June		12:30	Sunday Lunch
Tue	2	July	20:30	19:00	Evening Pursuit 4
Sat	6	July	11:49		WSC Cruise to Bradwell
Sun	7	July	12:31		WSC Cruise to Bradwell
Sat	13	July	16:10		Wivenhoe Town Regatta
Sun	14	July		12:30	Sunday Buffet Lunch
Sun	14	July	16:34	15:15	May Mug/Sykes 2 / Halfway Cup
Thu	18	July	20:39	19:00	Evening Pursuit 5
Sun	21	July	11:33	10:00	May Mug/Sykes 3 / Bostock Cup
Sun	28	July	17:08	13:00	Hog Roast & Visit from Old Gaffers Assoc.
Sat	17	August	08:50	09:00	Wallet Shield Race
Sun	25	August	15:55	14:00	May Mug/Sykes 4 / Farran Cup
Fri	30	August	20:01	18:30	Evening Pursuit 6
Sat	31	August	08:41		WSC Cruiser Regatta Weekend
Sat	31	August			Beach BBQ - Mersea Stone
Sun	1	September	09:51		Mixed Relay Races - Dinghies & Cruisers
Sat	7	September	14:09		Cadet Regatta
Sat	7	September	14:09		WRYO Autumn Rally
Sun	8	September	14:46	13:00	Haward Cup
Sat	14	September	07:23		WSC Cruise Weekend & Race with CYC
Sat	21	September	14:08	11:30	WSC Open Day BBQ & Refreshments
Sun	22	September	14:46	13:00	May Mug/Sykes 5/Capriol Capstan
Fri	27	September		19:30	Fish & Chips & Quiz Night
Sun	6	October	13:44	12:00	Rat Race
Fri	11	October		19:30	Beer, Band & Curry Night (BBC2)
Sun	20	October	13:43	12:00	Glozier Laying Up Race
Sun	20	October		12:30	Laying Up Lunch
Sat	26	October		09:30	Autumn Hard Working Party
Sun	3	November	11:37	10:00	Winter Series 1
Sun	3	November		12:00	Bonfire & Hot Dogs
Fri	8	November		20:00	Beer Tasting Evening
Sun	17	November	11:40	10:00	Winter Series 2
Sat	23	November		18:30	Annual Dinner & Prizegiving
Sat	7	December		18:30	Cadet Supper & Prizegiving
Sun	15	December	10:34	09:00	Winter Series 3
Sun	15	December		13:00	Children's' Christmas Party
Fri	20	December		20:00	Christmas Gathering & Prize Draw
Sun	22	December	15:02	13:30	Winter Series 4
Sun	22	December		12:00	Mince Pies & Mulled Wine
Tue	31	December		20:00	New Years Eve Party & Buffet

## Burns night prep: a galley slave's story

With 88 confirmed guests & 6 staff to feed, the shopping started much earlier in the month with Wendy Jobber & Jan Tyne hunting down haggis (the vegetarian ones run faster) and the rest of the shopping. The potato peeling team (two sacks of) headed by Louise Woods, phoned me at around 11.45 to say they walked out of the galley and into a flooded floor at the clubhouse as a flexible pipe under the sink in the bar had broken and was leaking very badly. The water to the club house was turned off for a couple of hours whilst Peter Goldsmith and Eric Strudwick, assisted by Alan Tyne, sorted it out.

By 12.30 most of the helpers had arrived and we worked out where we could start but you don't realise how much you rely on fresh running water until you haven't got any! I had a brief moment where I felt dinner may not happen on time! Fortunately, Louise and team had managed to get the potatoes in water before it was turned off so we could get them cooked. The lower deck became an extension of the galley as there really wasn't enough space for all of us to spread out. Ken Jordan, John Austin and Peter Nangle prepared the upper deck for dinner, setting out the furniture, laying the tables and hanging up the fairy lights.

Jan Tyne then caught her wrist on a knife whilst preparing the haggis. Linda Austin & Linda Morgan were there to bind her up and Steve Hart administered sympathy. A quick trip to the minor injuries unit at Clacton for three stitches and all was well.

As we were unable to make a pot of tea we felt obliged to open the whisky to avoid dehydration! Everything was prepared by 5.30pm so we all had time for a quick change and then back down the club to finish cooking and greet the guests including the Mayor of Wivenhoe, Penny Kraft who'd never been to a Burns Night. It was with gratitude that I handed over the running of the evening to Lyn Button &

Stuart Bannerman who, as always, treated us to some splendid traditions, poetry, audience participation and dancing later in the evening.



the haggis bites back

Food service was expertly organised by Steve Hart and carried out by three of our cadets and a friend who offered to work; Rosie Kippen, Emily Mildren, Becky Hart & Katie Caple-Hornhare (from BSC).



now the haggis gets it

There was a slight concern when a few people who hadn't booked vegetarian haggis requested it on the evening and we only just had enough – don't forget next year! Ben & Mark ran the bar and stayed until the bitter end!



the chieftain takes a break

We are fortunate to have a great team of volunteers who enjoy helping out and all work very hard to make this evening possible so huge thanks to Linda & John Austin, Ken Jordan & Linda Morgan, Peter & Jane Nangle, Steve & Pauline Hart, Jan & Alan Tyne, Gill Maloney, Kath Scott, Louise Woods, Wendy & Gary Jobber, Mary Williamson, Lyn Button & Stuart Bannerman.



but not for long and we're all reeling

The event as usual went off in style and was thoroughly enjoyed by the revellers. The only things missing were kilts! Come on gentlemen – let's see those knees next year!

**Nikki Robinson Commodore.**

## hard working party 23 March

Who would have thought that we would be facing the coldest March we could remember and snow drifts, after the heat-wave and near hose-pipe ban of last year? Nevertheless it came to pass that this state of affairs did happen and would indeed stop us from enjoying soup and sandwiches after a morning's labouring, willingly inside and outside the clubhouse. Can we have another one soon, I hear you shout?

## Commodore's award: Squire's clock

In recognition of their much valued work for WSC '*above and beyond the call of duty*' the award of the *Squire's clock* this year went to Linda Morgan and Ken Jordan. Linda and Ken, who usually like to stay out of the limelight, have been regular safety boat crew for races, among their many other activities.



(photo: Robin Maloney)

Ken and Linda (with light headwear!)

## wine glass presentation:

John Bampton was presented with a pair of engraved crystal wine glasses at the WSC AGM by the Commodore, in recognition of his 'sterling work' in keeping the club hard clear for nearly ten years. This was a very popular and well deserved award to John, who will have been seen by many of us hosing the mud down the hard and back into the river, often ahead of the lifting activities.

solution to *MainTeaser*



### knot a problem for Mr Mullins

Chris Mullins started his first rope-work and knot workshop on Sunday morning, 27<sup>th</sup> January, right after the Burns' Night event! Despite the heavy heads, there was a good turn-out and Chris had made a terrific effort to provide a well prepared talk with plenty of exhibits and an impressive 'stage-set'.



but is it money for old rope?

After a brief introduction we got straight into a range of practical mariner's knots with an explanation of the applications. We then had a demonstration of whipping techniques for the ends of different ropes. Then it was our turn to try a few knots and hitches under the watchful eye of CM with a welcome cuppa from Kerry. Subsequent planned sessions clashed with holidays and so the attendance was reduced and probably will involve an extended programme. Next time it's got to be splicing (or are we getting more whipping)?

stern locker:



**For sale:** here in the sailing club park – tender, trolley and outboard ..... £200 ono. Good, solid, stable 9ft 10ins GRP clinker-style tender with built-in buoyancy. Has safely and many times carried my large son and two grandchildren with me, from the *Butt and Oyster* at Pin Mill to my mooring in the Orwell. Now needs some TLC to the fender and the trolley. The outboard, a 1990's model Evinrude worked perfectly when I last used it, 5 years ago. If interested please contact:  
Tim Sherwen on 01206 619740 or [timothy.sherwen@gmail.com](mailto:timothy.sherwen@gmail.com).



**For sale:** *SAILFISH 18* and trailer; at WSC, 18'6" red and white; lifting keel. Contact Roy Crookes: tel: 01206 824098.

more stern locker:

**Free to a good home:** boom cover and set of sails for Mirror or similar dinghy. Both in good condition. You will need to collect. Contact:

Phil Cohen: 26 Belle Vue Road, Wivenhoe, C079DL - tel: 01206 820527.

**Mains hook-up lead - marina or boatyard**  
24m orange cable 250V/16A with standard (blue) plug and socket to IEC 60309. Also 13A UK plug to 16A socket fly-lead converter.

As new, one careful owner, rarely used. Current cost £30 inc VAT. Best reasonable offer secures - half to the Pioneer Sailing Trust :half to the Cadet Fund.

Bruce Anderson - 07710 981 329

water events for the diary:

- **WSC Dinghy Regatta:** Sat. June 15<sup>th</sup>
- **Ostend Rally:** Friday June 28<sup>th</sup> (organiser Bernie Hetherington).
- **Rowhedge Regatta:** Saturday June 29<sup>th</sup>
- **Wivenhoe Town Regatta:** Sat. July 13<sup>th</sup>
- **Wallet Shield Race:** Saturday August 17<sup>th</sup>
- **WSC Cruiser Regatta:** Sat. August 31<sup>st</sup>
- **WSC Cadet Regatta:** Sat. September 7<sup>th</sup>
- **WSC Open Day:** Saturday September 21<sup>st</sup>

## WSC: MAINSHEET

Member Address

stop press:

- 12<sup>th</sup> April, Friday;  
hw 14:20h - **first launching.**  
20.00h - **beer & band night.**
- 26<sup>th</sup> April 19.30h, Friday;  
**fish & chips & quiz night.**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> May 19.30h , Friday;  
**beer, band & curry night.**
- 1<sup>st</sup> June: hw 06:42h, Saturday;  
**wsc cruise in company**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> June: hw 07:47h, Sunday;  
**wsc cruise & Blackwater race**
- 15<sup>th</sup> June: Saturday;  
hw17:15h - **wsc Dinghy Regatta**  
18:30h -**wsc Regatta Party &Live Band**
- 22<sup>nd</sup> June: Saturday; hw 11:51h  
**WRYO Gooseberry Pie Weekend**
- 29<sup>th</sup> June: Saturday; hw 17:39h  
**Rowhedge Regatta**

Next Mainsheet: August 2013

small ads:



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