



# WIVENHOE SAILING CLUB



## MAINSHEET

2017 SPRING EDITION

Editor: Roy Crookes

profile: Nel Mooy

### contents

in this issue:	page
profile: Nel Mooy	1
message from the Commodore	2
lifting group activity	3
message from the Vice-Commodore	3
club cadet activity	6
sailing calendar	7
WSC AGM reports 2016	8
pull-out: sailing events/fixtures	11
dinghy registration form	13
WSC AGM accounts 2016	15
Rear-Commodore: social events	18
variety show	19
social calendar	21
winter nature walk 2017	21
club messages	23
stop press; small ads	24



### editor's note:

Spring is in the air, thank goodness, the sun is shining, the trees are greening and the birds are nesting, what a glorious time - to be under the boat, scrubbing and anti-fouling! Still, the glistening calm river looks welcoming and there is a wealth of sailing and social events in the calendar within this issue of *Mainsheet*.

There's also the cruiser launching details and dinghy registration reminder, together with reports from officers and the recent AGM. Accounts of events social, natural and afloat are recounted and one of our members is profiled, as usual.

In many instances you will find an appeal to support your club in one way or another, in its many voluntary procedures, so that it can continue to be active, well run, welcoming and cost effective.

May I take this opportunity to wish you well in the coming season and to have an enjoyable year of sailing.

18 years ago Nel arrived in Wivenhoe from Holland via London, together with her now wife Angela, who hails from Clacton. The Essex open skies, the water and the relatively flat land make her feel very much at home. This feels even more so, as there are quite a lot of fellow Dutch people around, including now and then, some sailors visiting the club.

Why Wivenhoe? *'Just because it looked perfect on the map.'* Close, but not too close, to a town, along a river, a railway straight into London and right between family-in-law in Clacton and Eight Ash Green. Two years later their son, Oliver, was born.

In London Nel had enjoyed rowing on the Thames and therefore was keen to try this out on the Colne. However, with the strong tide and no safety boats around she knew a racing skiff might be a bit edgy and in the end found a boat for sale via eBay – rowed by someone on the sea in Felixstowe, so that should be ok. *Sirius Drinking* (originally a club boat sponsored by Greene King, for a club where all boats were named after a star) was moved to Wivenhoe and the family joined the sailing club, getting quite a few remarks about a boat without a sail at a sailing club. The boat was however perfect for the Colne conditions and

has recently transferred to the ownership of a fellow sailing club member.

To feel part of the sailing club Nel felt it would help to get involved and was a member of the General Committee and Angela cleaned the hard for a while. Now Nel looks after the WSC facebook page.

Her father-in-law was a keen sailor in Clacton with a number of boats to match – so they gained a Topper, that Oliver has sailed happily, as well as a Wineglass a vintage fibreglass dinghy. Somehow they also acquired 2 kayaks, which meant that, for a while, sailing club correspondence was addressed to Nel ‘the fleet’ Mooy. To prepare they did a RYA course in Brightlingsea, after which on a short outing in the Wineglass, various ropes broke – vintage indeed!

Oliver joined the cadets and he was happy, so Angela and Nel tried the Wineglass again and something else broke and they lost their nerve - too much wind, too little wind, too cold! So they told themselves ‘*if we just got some more practice it would be all right!*’ Angela had been to Menorca sailing in her youth and her parents, now in maturity, wanted to go dinghy sailing, one more time and Menorca seemed the answer and it was! ‘*beautifully rigged and ready boats, safety boats, warm water, instruction and someone to catch your boat when you came in for lunch*’.



sailing in Menorca

Back in Wivenhoe – they tried again and ended on the other side of the river with a broken centre-board – ‘*we kept Rob busy!*’ With or without sailing, the river has given them lots of joy – rowing, kayaking, St. Nicholas arriving for the Dutch diaspora or

just walking along it. ‘*We are really lucky to live in such a perfect place*’ she says. And on the sailing front, this year is going to be different! ‘*We know we can sail, we have a fixed boat and no excuses – so watch out for (and probably avoid) us on the river!*’

### message from the Commodore:

Spring has caught me out again, one minute the weather is cold and miserable then out of nowhere the sun comes out, it starts to warm up, all the daffodils come out and I start panicking about the amount of work to be done before the boat goes back in the water. It’s the same every year, I should be used to it by now.

Wivenhoe Sailing Club is fortunate in many ways but one thing that we are not blessed with is a large boat park. At this time of year both cruisers and dinghies have to be moved around the boat park, so that the Lifting Group can get the cruisers launched. Launching the cruisers is hard work, often made harder when dinghies that need to be moved are full to the gunwales with water, or the tyres on their trolleys are flat, or the launching trolleys are falling to pieces. So please will all of the dinghy owners make sure that your dinghies can be easily moved. Not only does lifting a boat full of water not do much good for people’s backs, it doesn’t do any favours to the dinghy either.

Anyway, enough of my moaning, something else that happens every year! But let me first reiterate my appreciation to all those who, in whatever way, helped with the ‘hard working party’ at the end of March – well done!

Now, after getting the boat ready, getting all the gear back on the boat, checking the mooring and checking a hundred and one other things, you begin to think that being a boat owner is nothing but bloody hard work. Eventually you get to have your first sail of the year and then you know why you do it, because there is nothing quite like it and so far, for me, it’s been more than worth it every year. I hope you all have a great season and look forward to seeing you all out on the water.

Bill.

lifting group news:

<b>WSC cruiser launch dates</b>			
<b>date</b>	<b>HW</b>	<b>ht/m</b>	<b>start</b>
<b>April</b>			
Mon 10	12.50	5.0	9.00
Tues 11	13.28	5.0	9.30
Sat 15	15.32	4.7	10.30
Wed 26	12.55	5.3	9.00
Thur 27	13.39	5.5	9.30
Sat 29	15.09	5.3	10.30
<b>May</b>			
Tues 9	12.23	4.9	9.00
Wed 10	12.59	4.9	9.00
Thur 11	13.32	5.0	9.30
Wed 24	11.42	5.2	7.45
Thur 25	12.30	5.3	8.30
Fri 26	13.18	5.5	9.00
Sat 27	14.05	5.5	10.00

members' meeting 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2017:

24 members convened at 11.00h in the upper deck of the club-house to discuss the lifting group business. The officers, Kevin, Ted, Chris and Peter were re-elected and the cruise dates (above) received. Lifting and launching regulations and procedures were discussed as were items such as maintenance, hoist manning safety and hard clearing and areas of responsibilities and possible improvements.

Mullins can:

Is there no end to the magic of Mullins? Yet again, the boy wonder comes up with the goods and silences the doubters – it'll never float – it won't work. But it does and it did! Seen in the river in late March, the latest contraption designed, built and put into operation by the lifting group's favourite action man, Chris Mullins, was the club's bespoke tidal powered mooring lifter. Granted it did spring a leak but nevertheless succeeded in raising brother-in-law, Dave's wayward mooring.



what's this floating upstream of the barrier at low water? (photo EA )



and still visible at high water! (photo EA )

Vice Commodore's report:

**Hello to all club members**

By the time you read this, the clocks will have gone forward, spring will have sprung and we'll all be looking forward to a brand-new sailing season – hopefully enjoying the fruits of our winter labours! With these thoughts in mind, I'll bring you up to speed on what's been happening at the club recently and give you a brief summary of what you can expect over the coming weeks.

Firstly, I'd like to say a big thank-you to all those who turned out for the hard-working party on Saturday 25th March. Members readily tackled the tasks, from gardening and hard-cleaning to work-boat maintenance and cadet-boat rigging. Bernie ran a short demo

session on how to run the bar and Carole and her team of helpers very kindly kept everybody fed and watered. So, I'm delighted to say, the club is looking *spick and span* in time for the first race of the season.

On Friday 31st, we held a 'boat owners and sailors' meeting, attended by a great cross-section of our membership. We discussed various topics, ranging from encouraging less experienced members to get afloat, our young cadets and the ongoing cleaning of the club slipway (more on this later). The meeting generated lots of useful feed-back, and we plan to continue these conversations at the upcoming Sailing and General Committee meetings. Short talks were also given by our membership secretary Chris Wood, general committee member Robert de la Rue, cadet leader Steve Hart, commodore Bill Kippen, WivGigs rower Eryl Foulkes and myself.

So, now to what's on the horizon? Many of you will be itching to get on the water and it won't be long before you can. The race season will be kick-starting on Sunday 9th April (check the club website for full details) and cruiser lifting gets under way the following week, from Monday 10th April. If you haven't already booked in your lift slot, time is of the essence, so please do check our website for details of the lifting dates and times, so that the group can continue to plan ahead.

Unfortunately, we have made the decision to drop the evening races from our program this year due to poor attendance last season, however, if interest in them is regenerated, we will willingly review this, when planning ahead for next year's sailing calendar. In the meantime, there's still a very full sailing calendar to look forward to, with a fantastic selection of races and cruiser events, details of which can be all found on the club calendar. Please do support the races and cruiser events where you can. There's a lot of time and effort put into organising our club events and it's hugely rewarding when they are well attended by our membership.

For those with spare time this summer, we are also looking for volunteers to act as 'Officer of the day' for some of our races. Club member Ray Hall has kindly offered his services to show future volunteers the *ins and outs*, so if you'd like to see what's involved,

please feel free to contact myself or our commodore, Bill. We would also welcome any help our members are able to give for the ongoing maintenance of our Viking workboat. It is currently under the care of Richard Mosek and Peter Goldsmith, who are doing a fine job of preparing her for the new season but, as they say *many hands make light work!* As I'm sure you're all aware, our club slipway is also vitally important to the activities of the club but unfortunately, in more recent times, it has become extremely muddy, which has made it difficult – not to mention dangerous – to launch our boats. While this is partly due to some unreliable equipment, it is also down to a lack of volunteers to operate the said equipment. I'm pleased to say, we have solved half of this problem, by acquiring a new pump, which is much easier to handle, however we are still on the look-out for club members, who would be willing to spare a few hours of their time. Club member John Bampton has kindly offered to pass on his experience to help new volunteers to carry out this task more easily, so again, if you think you may be able to offer some time, please do get in touch with myself or Bill.

Finally, I would like to announce that club member Toby Roberts has decided to stand down from looking after the dinghy park after four years of commitment. I would like to extend my thanks to Toby for all the work he's put in over this time and welcome Mike Mitchell, who will be taking on the role from next month. One of his first jobs will be to dispose of the dinghies and canoes, that have been abandoned by arranging a blind auction – so if you haven't already paid for your storage fees and displayed your tag, please make sure you do so soon.

Any queries can be directed to:

[garyjobber@googlemail.com](mailto:garyjobber@googlemail.com) or 07973379641.

I wish all our members a very happy sailing season and I hope to see you out on the water!

Gary Jobber - Vice Commodore

# hard working – it's no party!

Images of hard-work:



I have a plan



wsc welcome tea break



it's not there now – the grounds all flat



Austin 'allegro' team – quick and lively



that's the way to do it – someone has to



Viking gets a makeover



three men an' a shed – with instructions



planning forum, as shadows lengthen

## Hunter 19 – *Black Hunter*.

As part of the many facilities that the club has to offer we are fortunate in having a small cruiser available for members to use, without charge! This small black hulled cruiser is currently kept on a mooring opposite the club. This is easily accessible by dinghy from the hard or pontoons. She was not used very much last year and the sailing committee has discussed various ways of trying to encourage her use. She is ideal for people without their own boat or who have a dinghy and want to gain experience in a slightly larger boat without the costs of buying their own. Until now, we have deliberately kept her very simple, on the basis that the less there is onboard, the less there is to go wrong. She has good sails, 2 anchors and warps, paddles and depth sounding pole and due to her small fin keel, sails remarkably well. Please do not be put off by the keel, as she only draws 3ft and is easy to wriggle off the mud when you go aground.



Pauline at the helm

We are currently trialling having an electric outboard motor and wonder if this might encourage more people to take her out? It could be useful for getting on/off the mooring or pontoon. If anyone would like a more experienced sailor to accompany them for their first sail and for details of her use and to book her, please call either **Steve Hart, 07816128932** or **Alan Tyne 07986538228**.

The sailing committee feels that, if after this year there is no demand on her use, we will accept the fact that she is not required and will make arrangements to dispose of her, so... use it or lose it! I would appreciate any feedback or thoughts about her.

Steve. [hartcraft@hotmail.com](mailto:hartcraft@hotmail.com)

## cadet section

The cadet section currently has 19 members, which is quite a good number to be able to give them quality time on the water. We have 8 Topaz dinghies, which you will see on a rack near the starting hut, a Wayfarer and the Hunter 19 cruiser, *Black Hunter*. On the hard working party day, we rigged our boats and checked them in preparation for the coming season. We also had a 'dry capsizing' practice on the marsh outside the club. The first sailing session at the beginning of April was well attended and the weather, with light winds and warm weather, was perfect for the first sail. After an hour and a half, we finished off the session opposite the hard with capsizing practice, which they all love. They enjoyed it even more when the cadet leader ended up in the water as well! The next session will be on Good Friday 21<sup>st</sup>, in the evening, so if you are around, please encourage them.



Topaz fleet in the marshes

On Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April, we will be taking them to Alton Water for a non tidal sail and picnic. You are welcome to join us and there is also a good cycle path. The cadets are very keen, so if anyone needs crew for racing, please contact me. We are also looking out for members who could come and assist with cadet sessions and tackle a few maintenance jobs on the boats. It is very rewarding seeing them progress from complete novices to competent sailors.

Again, please contact me, Steve Hart:

07816128932 or [hartcraft@hotmail.com](mailto:hartcraft@hotmail.com)

## Sailing calendar 2017

Event	Day	Date	Start Time	Notes
Cadet: Sailing	Wed	5/4/17	17:30	HW 20:30
FITTING OUT RACE	Sun	9/4/17	10:00	HW 12:10
SAINTY MEMORIAL RACE	Sun	16/4/17	14:00	HW 16:00
Cadet: Sailing	Fri	21/4/17	18:00	HW 20:46
Cadet: Alton Water practice session and picnic	Sun	29/4/17	11:00	
CAN RACE	Sun	30/4/17	14:00	HW 15:53
Cadet: Sailing	Fri	5/5/17	18:00	HW 21:06
MAY MUG/SYKES 1/SCALY CAPSTAN	Sun	7/5/17	13:00	HW 10:55
Cadet: Sailing	Fri	19/5/17	17:30	HW 18:41
W&RYO Spring Rally (to Packing Shed, W Mersea)	Sat	27/5/17		HW Brightlingsea Sat 14.01
Cadet: Sailing	Fri	2/6/17	17:30	HW 19:19
ROUND THE GUNFLEET RACE	Sat	3/6/17	TBC	
Rowhedge Regatta	Sat	10/6/17		HW 13:40 Races for Yachts and WODs
Cadet: Summer Camp	Fri	16/6/17	17:00	
WALLET SHIELD	Sat	24/6/17		
Wivenhoe Town Regatta	Sat	24/6/17	11:30	HW 13:00 Races for Yachts and WODs
WOD CHALLENGE CUP/MAY MUG 2/SYKES 2	Sun	25/6/17	12:00	
Cruise-in-company	Sat	1/7/17	TBC	
W&RYO GOOSEBERRY PIE RALLY 2017	Sat	1/7/17		HW Brightlingsea Sat 18.37. Destination is Heybridge Basin
Cadet: Sailing	Mon	3/7/17	18:00	HW 20:40
UPSTREAM RACE	Sun	9/7/17	11:30	HW 13:20
WSC CRUISER REGATTA	Sat	15/7/17		HW 16:55
WSC DINGHY REGATTA	Sun	16/7/17		HW 17:40
Cadet: Sailing	Sun	16/7/17	14:30	
Cadet: Sailing	Tue	18/7/17	17:30	HW 19:46
Ostend Rally	Fri	28/7/17		
Cruise-in-company	Sat	29/7/17	TBC	
Pyefleet Week	Sat	5/8/17		
MAY MUG 3/SYKES 3/BOSTOCK CUP	Sun	6/8/17	10:30	HW 12:49
DINGHY AND CRUISER RELAY RACE	Sat	2/9/17	TBC	
W&RYO AUTUMN RALLY 2017	Sat	9/9/17		HW Brightlingsea Saturday 14.54. Destination is Bradwell
HAWARD CUP	Sun	10/9/17	13:30	HW 15:33
Cadet: Sailing	Fri	15/9/17	18:00	HW 20:30 Night Sail
MAY MUG 5/SYKES 5/CAPRIOL CAPSTAN	Sun	24/9/17	13:00	HW 15:02
W&RYO TAIL END RACE	Sat	7/10/17		HW Brightlingsea 13.50. Race in the Colne, then Fish & Chips at the Nottage
Cadet Regatta	Sat	7/10/17	11:00	HW 13:50
RAT RACE	Sun	8/10/17	12:30	HW 14:33
Cruise-in-company	Sat	14/10/17	TBC	
LAYING UP RACE	Sun	22/10/17	12:30	HW 14:22
WINTER SERIES 1	Sun	5/11/17	14:00	HW 12:26
WINTER SERIES 2	Sun	19/11/17	10:30	HW 12:25
WINTER SERIES 3	Sun	3/12/17	09:30	HW 11:20
Cadet Supper and Prizegiving	Sat	9/12/17	18:30	
WINTER SERIES 4	Sun	17/12/17	09:30	HW 11:30
ROW & RAMBLE	TBC			

(table with thanks to Nel Mooy)

## **Wivenhoe Sailing Club**

### **Annual Report 2016**

(Including the year up to December 2016 and the prospects for 2017)  
Presented by the officers of the club at the 91<sup>st</sup> AGM on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017.

#### THE COMMODORE'S REPORT ON THE YEAR.

I was tempted to start my yearly report by saying that if you all came to the club on Friday nights a couple of times a month then you would all know what was going on, and we could be back at the bar in about five minutes, but I suppose that would be a bit of a cop out.

'The club was formed for the encouragement of sailing'. It says so in our constitution and everything we do is to help us to achieve our stated objective.

How did we do last year? On the whole, pretty good. People went sailing. People went rowing and canoeing, which is like sailing but without the sail, so we'll claim them as part of our success. The Cadet Section was very active. We have got a group of really keen youngsters, who because of this club have been encouraged to have a go at messing about in boats.

We had three club cruises in company last summer which were fairly well supported and hopefully those who took part had a good time. We re-introduced an Around The Gunfleet race, but this time as a sort of team race. It included crews from Wivgigs, WCKC, ACBOA and Wivenhoe Sailing Club. The intention was to help to create closer ties between the local rowing, canoeing and sailing organisations, as well as to have a good thrash around the Gunfleet. Those who took part had a great time and we intend to have another go in June, when, hopefully, it will prove to be even bigger and better. The W.O.D.s raced in Pyefleet Week and a couple of our intrepid dinghy sailors competed at Aldeburgh Classics weekend.

The lifting group continue to perform well beyond the call of duty. A record number of cruisers have been brought ashore for the winter.

We have had a full social calendar with the Annual Dinner, the Row and Ramble, Burns Night and the Variety Show to name just some of the highlights.

Could we do better? Well yes, but that's up to you. I'm very hopeful for next season. I have always believed that people join sailing clubs because they want to get out on the water and participate in club activities. Yacht clubs are for those who mistakenly think that there is some kind of kudos in just being a member.

To achieve our objective we also have to do quite a lot of stuff that's not quite so interesting, such as maintaining the buildings, the safety boats, the workboat, and various bits of equipment. This year the exterior of the club house has been re-painted, a lot of refurbishment has been completed on the hut on the old hard, but there is still a bit of work outstanding for next year. The five year electrical test had to be done which required a bit of expenditure to get everything up to scratch. Generally I think we are maintaining the infrastructure faster than it's decaying but obviously it's a never ending process and there's always more to do.

We've managed to pay all the bills and the club remains financially secure. We have been able to keep the membership fees and other charges to members the same as they were for 2016.

To achieve all of this takes a lot of work by a lot of people and I would like to thank all the members of the various committees, the cadet leaders and helpers, everyone who has helped with running the club, organised and helped with club events and helped to maintain the buildings and club equipment. Without you there would be no sailing club.

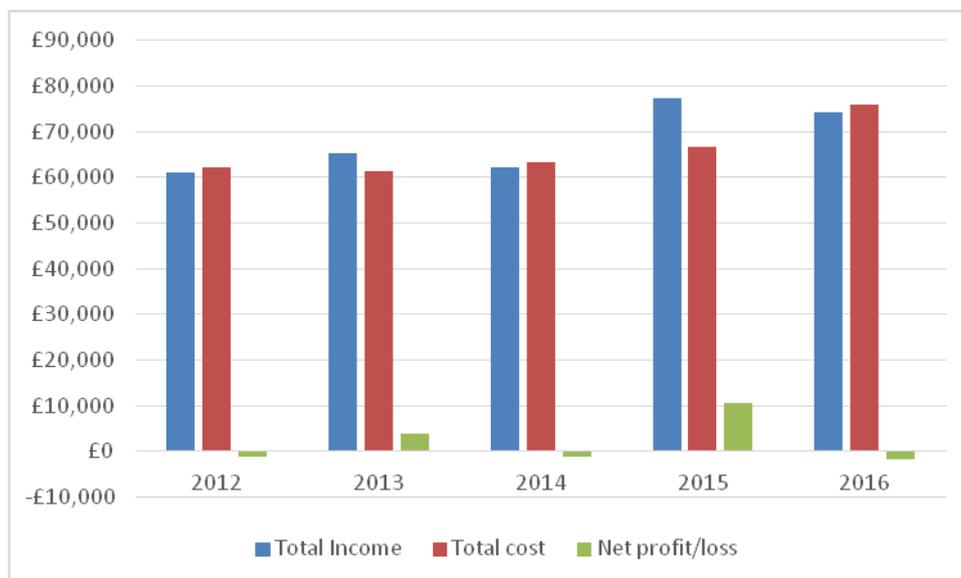
I am still convinced that Wivenhoe Sailing Club is, probably, the best sailing club in the world, but to remain the best the club needs the support of every member. So please be an active member, support club events, and help out when and where you can.

Bill Kippen

## HON. TREASURER'S REPORT ON 2016 ACCOUNTS

Despite reporting a loss in 2016, the Club remains in strong financial health. Overall, expenditure exceeded income by £1,665 this year, although in operating (cash) terms we had a surplus of £931. This compares with a cash surplus of £15,063 in 2015.

### Wivenhoe Sailing Club, income, cost and net profit/loss, 2012-2016



In income terms, we saw a reduction of £3,074 (4%). There is no single explanation for this: the single biggest reduction is in clubhouse event income, followed by dinghy storage, members' subscriptions and cadet fund income. Lettings (now split to indicate members' lettings and external bookings) were also down slightly, but our other key source of commercial revenue (bar income) was flat year-on-year.

A far larger part of the explanation of the changing net position was increased costs in the year, up £11,059 (18%). The increases were mainly in three areas: almost £7,000 more expenditure on repairs and renewals, more than £5,000 invested in the refurbishment of the Old Hard and around £1,500 additional expenditure on boats and engines. While the increase in repairs and renewals is particularly significant, I expressed concern last year that we were under-spending on maintenance; this year we have seen a necessary adjustment. Three items – external painting, replacing our coolers and electrical works (including some remedial activities) – account for more than half of the total on this line. If we average the repair/renewal costs for the past two years, it is historically comparable with previous years (less than either 2014 or 2012, for example).

Bearing in mind these costs – and in particular one-off expenses relating to the Old Hard – it is positive that we managed to increase our cash in the course of year, albeit by a small amount. With cash assets of around £77,000, more than our total expenditure in the course of the year, we remain in a secure position. Taking into account 10% increases in subscriptions and fees over the last two years, the General Committee took the decision to implement a one-off freeze these for 2017. However, we anticipate further inflationary pressures in the course of the year, so members should expect increases in 2018.

As I sign off as Treasurer, I would again like to thank those whose accurate record-keeping and careful stewardship of funds keeps the Club in a strong position, including the Rear Commodores, Sailing Committee, Lifting Group and Cadet leaders. I would also like to wish my successors all the best in the role.

Richard Bowyer

1. NOMINATIONS FOR THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Proposed by Bruce Anderson, seconder David Reynolds. All positions adopted.

Position	Nominee	Proposed by	Seconded by
Commodore	Bill Kippen	Tim Denham	Bruce Anderson
Vice Commodore	Gary Jobber	Bruce Anderson	Steve Hart
Joint Rear Commodore	Myrna Ekeroth; Carole Newman	Tim Denham Midge Hetherington	Robin Maloney Myrna Ekeroth
Hon Treasurer			
Hon Secretary	Eric Strudwick	Tia Reddish	Robin Maloney
Hon Membership Secretary	Chris Wood	Gary Jobber	Bill Kippen
Hon Sailing Secretary	Rob Maloney	Chris Wood	Nigel Cook

Notes: Myrna and Carole are standing jointly as Rear Commodore and if elected will share the role. We do not have a nomination for Honorary Treasurer,

The Hon Secretary introduced the new volunteers for Hon Treasurer. As their offer came in after the nomination period and they have not been members for 2 years, the general committee has co-opted Nick and Julie-Anne White.

2. NOMINATIONS FOR THE ELECTION OF GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Proposed by Rob de la Rue, seconded by Marie Scales.

Position	Nominee	Proposed by	Seconded by
General Committee Member	Brian Sinclair	Marie Scales	Eric Strudwick

Note: Rob de la Rue, Nikki Robinson, Bernie Hetherington & Tia Reddish were elected in 2016 and have another year to serve.

An additional, volunteer for maintenance of the clubhouse – Tim Bayton, supported by Dave Matthews and Trevor Baxter, has been co-opted to join the General Committee.

---ooo0ooo---

(reports with thanks to NM)



# Wivenhoe Sailing Club Events 2017

All the information you are likely to need is to be found at:  
<http://www.wivenhoesailing.org.uk/>

*Useful contacts:*

*telephone/email*

**Moorings: Tony Higbee**                      **01206 542193**  
tonyhigbee@hotmail.com

**Cruiser Lifting Group: Kevin Hosking**      **01206 827429**  
kevin.hosking@mypostoffice.co.uk

**Cruiser Captain:**                              **to be advised**

**Cadet Leader: Steve Hart**                      **01206 826318**  
paulinestevehart@btinternet.com

**Dinghy & Hard Space: Mike Mitchell**      **01206 820151**  
dinghyregwsc@gmail.com

**Mainsheet Editor: Roy Crookes**              **01206 824098**  
r.j.crookes@qmul.ac.uk

**Dinghy Races** Please make a note of the dates for your OOD and/or Safety Boat duties in your diary. Would race officers and safety boat crew please ensure that they arrive at least 45 minutes before the published start time. If you have a good reason for failing to meet your commitment, it is your responsibility to find a replacement and to advise the Club. Any boat preparing to race whose crew volunteers for safety boat or OOD duty will be awarded average points for that particular race.



*Officers*

**President: Stuart Bannerman 01206 820971**

**Commodore: Bill Kippen 01206 825762**

[thecommodorewsc@gmail.com](mailto:thecommodorewsc@gmail.com)

**Vice Commodore: Gary Jobber 01206 824970**

[thevicecommodorewsc@gmail.com](mailto:thevicecommodorewsc@gmail.com)

**co-Rear Commodore: Myrna Ekeroth/Carole Newman**

[rearcommodorewsc@gmail.com](mailto:rearcommodorewsc@gmail.com)

**co-Hon. Treasurer: Nick and Julie-Anne White**

**Hon. Secretary: Eric Strudwick 01206 822679**

[clubsecretarywsc@gmail.com](mailto:clubsecretarywsc@gmail.com)

**Membership Secretary: Chris Wood**

[wscmembershipsec@gmail.com](mailto:wscmembershipsec@gmail.com)

**Sailing Secretary: Robin Maloney 01206 823012**

[wivenhoesailingsec@gmail.com](mailto:wivenhoesailingsec@gmail.com)

*General Committee members*

**Rob de la Rue**

**Bernie Hetherington, Tia Reddish,**

**Nikki Robinson and Brian Sinclair**

**Wivenhoe Sailing Club**

**Walter Radcliffe Road**

**Wivenhoe**

**Essex CO7 9WS**

**Tel. 01206 822132**

**Club Opening Times:**

Sunday 12:00 - 14:00

Monday 20:30 – 23:00

Thursday 20:00– 23:00 Carpet Bowls

**Friday 20:30 – 23:00 Main club night**

## Sailing calendar 2017

Event	Day	Date	Start Time	Notes
Cadet: Sailing	Wed	5/4/17	17:30	HW 20:30
FITTING OUT RACE	Sun	9/4/17	10:00	HW 12:10
SAINTY MEMORIAL RACE	Sun	16/4/17	14:00	HW 16:00
Cadet: Sailing	Fri	21/4/17	18:00	HW 20:46
Cadet: Alton Water	Sun	29/4/17	11:00	
CAN RACE	Sun	30/4/17	14:00	HW 15:53
Cadet: Sailing	Fri	5/5/17	18:00	HW 21:06
MAY MUG/SYKES 1/SCALY CAPSTAN	Sun	7/5/17	13:00	HW 10:55
Cadet: Sailing	Fri	19/5/17	17:30	HW 18:41
W&RYO Spring Rally (to Packing Shed)	Sat	27/5/17		HW Brightlingsea Sat 14.01
Cadet: Sailing	Fri	2/6/17	17:30	HW 19:19
ROUND THE GUNFLEET RACE	Sat	3/6/17	TBC	
Rowhedge Regatta	Sat	10/6/17		HW 13:40 Races for Yachts/WODs
Cadet: Summer Camp	Fri	16/6/17	17:00	
WALLET SHIELD	Sat	24/6/17		
Wivenhoe Town Regatta	Sat	24/6/17	11:30	HW 13:00 Races for Yachts/WODs
WOD CHALLENGE CUP/MAY MUG 2/ SYKES 2	Sun	25/6/17	12:00	
Cruise-in-company	Sat	1/7/17	TBC	
W&RYO GOOSEBERRY PIE RALLY 2017	Sat	1/7/17		HW Brightlingsea Sat 18.37. Destination is Heybridge Basin
Cadet: Sailing	Mon	3/7/17	18:00	HW 20:40
UPSTREAM RACE	Sun	9/7/17	11:30	HW 13:20
WSC CRUISER REGATTA	Sat	15/7/17		HW 16:55
WSC DINGHY REGATTA	Sun	16/7/17		HW 17:40
Cadet: Sailing	Sun	16/7/17	14:30	
Cadet: Sailing	Tue	18/7/17	17:30	HW 19:46
Ostend Rally	Fri	28/7/17		
Cruise-in-company	Sat	29/7/17	TBC	
Pyefleet Week	Sat	5/8/17		
MAY MUG 3/SYKES 3/BOSTOCK CUP	Sun	6/8/17	10:30	HW 12:49
DINGHY AND CRUISER RELAY RACE	Sat	2/9/17	TBC	

W&RYO AUTUMN RALLY 2017	Sat	9/9/17		HW Brightlingsea Saturday 14.54. Destination is Bradwell
HAWARD CUP	Sun	10/9/17	13:30	HW 15:33
Cadet: Sailing	Fri	15/9/17	18:00	HW 20:30 Night Sail
MAY MUG 5/SYKES 5/CAPRIOL CAPSTAN	Sun	24/9/17	13:00	HW 15:02
W&RYO TAIL END RACE	Sat	7/10/17		HW Brightlingsea 13.50. Race in the Colne, Fish & Chips at the Nottage
Cadet Regatta	Sat	7/10/17	11:00	HW 13:50
RAT RACE	Sun	8/10/17	12:30	HW 14:33
Cruise-in-company	Sat	14/10/17	TBC	
LAYING UP RACE	Sun	22/10/17	12:30	HW 14:22
WINTER SERIES 1	Sun	5/11/17	14:00	HW 12:26
WINTER SERIES 2	Sun	19/11/17	10:30	HW 12:25
WINTER SERIES 3	Sun	3/12/17	09:30	HW 11:20
Cadet Supper and Prize giving	Sat	9/12/17	18:30	
WINTER SERIES 4	Sun	17/12/17	09:30	HW 11:30
ROW & RAMBLE	TBC			
<b>Social Calendar 2017/18</b>				
Barn dance	Sat	1/4/17	19:30	
Fitting Out Lunch (12:00 lunch available for racers)	Sun	9/4/17	12:30	
Music Night	Wed	11/4/17	20:00	Every other week, organised by Paul Mead
Nucleus kit sale	Fri	28/4/17	20:00	
Curry Night	Sat	20/5/17	19:30	
Quiz & Fish & Chips	Fri	16/6/17	TBC	
Open Day	Sat	23/9/17	TBC	
Games Night	Sat	14/10/17	TBC	
Annual Dinner	Sat	18/11/17	19:00	
Children's party	Sun	10/12/17	TBC	
Christmas Gathering	Fri	22/12/17	TBC	
Row & Ramble	Sat	6/1/18	TBC	
Burns Night	Sat	20/1/18	TBC	
Nature Walk	Sun	1/4/18	TBC	(table thanks to NM)

Wivenhoe Sailing Club  
 Walter Radcliffe Way  
 Wivenhoe Essex CO7 9WS



**TENDER & SAILING DINGHY HARD SPACES SEASON 2017-2018**

NAME			
ADDRESS & POST CODE			
Telephone No.		New Application	Yes/No
Please tick here if you'd be willing to volunteer 1 day in the year to help clean the club slipway			

Dinghy Space (up to 3.0 metres) or Canoe		Dinghy Space (over 3.0 metres in length)	
Name		Name	
Type e.g. Canoe		Type	
ID Mark/ Tag No.		Sail No	
Hull Colour		Hull Colour	
Old Hard	15.50	ID Mark	
New Hard	15.50	Tag Number	
Cruiser Tenders	Price Included in mooring charge - please complete & send form	LOA(M)	
On Inside of Club House pontoon	£25.00	Old Hard	£9.50/Metre
		New Hard	£9.50/Metre
Trailer *	£17.50	<b>See table for new rates guide</b>	
Late payment supplement	After April 30th add £10 per boat	Late payment supplement	After April 30th add £10 per boat
Total		Total	

Please note: All boats using Moorings and Hard Spaces should be clearly and permanently identified. Please complete this form as fully as possible. You will subsequently receive a label tag which must be attached to your boat/trailer somewhere visible to identify that the appropriate fee has been paid.

Unregistered boats will be disposed of in line with RYA guidelines and the monies raised set against outstanding fees.

I agree to be bound by the Wivenhoe Sailing Club Conditions of Tenancy for Dinghy Trots, Cruiser Moorings and Hard Spaces. I agree that my dinghy may be moved at any time.

Please pay online via BACS: Sort Code: **089299** Account No.: **65301485**

Reference: "**dinghy**", **membership number**, **surname**

If you can't pay online, cheques made payable to 'Wivenhoe Sailing Club'.

I have transferred/enclose £ \_\_\_\_\_ being the sum of all fees for hardspaces requested.

Signed ..... Date transferred.....

Please return with payment to:-

**John Roberts, 12a Recreation Road, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2HE (01206 524599) x**  
**Mike Mitchell, telephone 01206 820151 email dinghyregwsc@gmail.com**

**TENDER & SAILING DINGHY HARD SPACES SEASON 2017-2018**

Dinghy Type	LOA		Fee
	Feet	Metres	
420		4.20	£39.90
Bosun	14' 0"	4.27	£40.56
Canoe			£15.50
Dinghy up to 9'			£15.50
Enterprise	13' 3"	4.00	£38.00
Flying 15	20' 0"	6.10	£57.95
GP14	14' 0"	4.27	£40.57
Gull	11' 0"	3.35	£31.82
Heron	11' 25"	3.43	£32.59
K1	15	4.5	£42.75
Kayak			£15.50
Laser	13' 10"	4.23	£40.19
Leader II	14' 0"	4.27	£40.57
Mirror	10' 10"	3.30	£31.35
Rowing boat up to 9'			£15.50
Sport 16	16' 4"	4.99	£47.41
Topaz	12' 8"	3.86	£36.67
Topaz Xenon	14' 9"	4.50	£42.75
Topper	11' 1"	3.38	£32.11
Torch	12' 1"	3.68	£34.96
Trailer*			£17.50
Wanderer	14' 0"	4.30	£40.85
Wayfarer	15' 10"	4.83	£45.89
WOD winter storage			£25.00
WOD summer storage			£25.00

\*Trailer fees (and a separate trailer tag) are required for any trailer that is NOT usually stored under a boat. Trailers stored underneath a boat DO NOT require a tag, being covered by the tag issued for the boat which is stored on it.

## Dinghy, kayak and canoe owners

It's that time of year again, to untie the knots in your purse strings and send us a few beer tokens for the safe storage of your vessels. In other words, dinghy fees are due. Please note that **late fees have gone up to £10!** Late fees will be added after April 30th if payment has not been made.

As usual we appear to have collected a few seemingly abandoned boats over the winter, so if you're in the market for something cheap, keep your eyes open for the upcoming *Blind Auction*. **If you're worried your boat might be one of the ones in the auction** (ie. you haven't paid for over a year and you've been craftily ignoring my emails and phone messages), please get in touch.

Please complete the form and send it to Mike Mitchell at: 84 High Street, Wivenhoe, CO7 9AB or alternatively you can leave it in the pigeon hole at the club ('Dinghy Hard') or post it in the clubhouse letterbox. This form is also available on the WSC website.

We kindly ask that payment be made online (bank details are on the form). If you are unable to do this, cheques are accepted with the additional fee of one pint of beer to be left behind the bar for me, for the inconvenience!

Kind regards, Toby Roberts.

### **Bank details for dinghy fee payments:**

Sort code: 089299

Account number: 65301485

Reference: 'dinghy', membership number, surname

Please also complete & send the form if you have a tender that goes with a mooring as we want to tag ALL dinghies.

*Any questions, please contact Mike Mitchell: 01206 820151*

[dinghyregwsc@gmail.com](mailto:dinghyregwsc@gmail.com)

Please detach this centre-fold and retain the *2017 Events Calendar* and information leaflet for your convenience, when you separate and return the registration form to Mike Mitchell.

## WIVENHOE SAILING CLUB – ACCOUNTS 2016

### 1. Profit and Loss Account for year 2016 (showing details of previous years)

	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME:</b>					
<b>Membership income</b>					
Subs/Joining Fees	18810	19422	15696	16123	15261
<b>Sailing income</b>					
Mooring Fees	9290	9253	8053	7905	7061
Dinghy Storage	2267	3195	2649	2298	2084
Cruiser Hardstanding	4712	4083	5272	3186	4336
Cruiser Lifting Group	1601	1744	2152	1130	503
Sailing Events	10	-109	-369	-294	-267
Cadet Funds	893	1405	982	1159	400
<b>Commercial income</b>					
Bar	26033	25979	20786	24972	26558
Lettings	3721	6999	6662	6760	3867
<b>Other income</b>					
Clubhouse events	2448	4243	-685	406	277
Members' lettings	3373				
Sundry Income/Donations	495	376	412	597	606
Bank Interest	643	781	502	1050	437
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>74297</b>	<b>77371</b>	<b>62111</b>	<b>65290</b>	<b>61122</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>					
<b>Premises expenditure</b>					
Rates/Water	4201	3989	3597	3563	3401
Electricity	4993	4422	4303	3728	3627
Insurance	4181	4213	4157	4105	4432
Cleaning/wages	5166	9484	8856	7909	6478
Repairs/Renewals	10013	3261	8162	3775	7879
Old hard project	5470				
Alarm/security	1242	2819	1907	3031	1326
Phone, print, post, stationery	1832	1448	1754	1831	1257
<b>Sailing operations</b>					
Moorings	6011	5946	5622	5622	5463
Sundry/Flag Officers' expenses	1769	748	1099	902	1497
Tractor/hoist costs	793	1080	972	785	817
Boats/engines	3218	1694	2468	2343	1553
Donations/Subs	450	475	615	630	595

<b>Commercial expenditure</b>					
Bar costs	20493	18895	14978	17427	16632
<b>Other expenditure</b>					
Clubhouse events	3535	3834			
<b>Total exp before depreciation</b>	<b>73367</b>	62308	58491	55651	54956
Depreciation	2596	4383	4794	5808	7329
<b>Total cost</b>	<b>75963</b>	66691	63284	61459	62285
<b>Net profit/loss</b>	<b>-1665</b>	<b>10680</b>	<b>-1174</b>	<b>3831</b>	<b>-1163</b>

Notes: Members' lettings were included in single lettings line before 2016; clubhouse events were net of cost before cost line was added in 2015. Bar wages were moved from Cleaning/wages to Bar costs line for 2016.

## 2. Balance sheet at 31 December 2016

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Property	830	874
Rescue boats including outboard	1092	1455
Cadet boats	231	345
Furniture and fittings	128	191
Lease	16400	16532
Tractor	12	25
Stair lift	1001	1494
Plant and machinery	45	66
Tractor shed	5697	5997
Crane (hoist)	1554	1726
Boat shed	8605	9058
Cycle and mast racks	120	160
Projector and screen	120	178
Canoe and kayak racks	696	928
Topaz dinghy rack	286	382
<b>Total fixed assets</b>	<b>36817</b>	<b>39413</b>
Reduction in assets in 2016	2596	4383
<b>Stock</b>		
Bar	1687	2245
Clothing	0	0
<b>Petty cash</b>		
House committee	87	320
Cadets	906	1671
Bar till	319	200

Bar cage	189	87
Bank & investment	78552	73173
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>78776</b>	<b>77695</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>115593</b>	<b>117108</b>
<b>FUNDED BY:</b>		
Profit and loss	-1665	10680
Reserves	100262	89582
Lottery grant	14678	14678
WOD fund	2319	2169
<b>Total</b>	<b>115593</b>	<b>117108</b>
<b>3. Notes/management accounts</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Bar revenue	26363	25979
Gross profits	5870	7084
% profit on sales	22.26%	27.27%

Note regarding depreciation of assets:

The assets are depreciated over 3 to 20 years depending on the type of asset. Generally, equipment is depreciated over 3/4 years, buildings over 20 years. The lease on the clubhouse over 125 years as per lease.

Signed on behalf of the General Committee of Wivenhoe Sailing Club.



Richard Bowyer  
Hon. Treasurer, Wivenhoe Sailing Club

6/3/17

I have examined the records of the Wivenhoe Sailing Club for the year ended 31st December 2016 and confirm the above statements are in accordance therewith.



Martyn Lewis  
Independent Examiner

6/3/17

## Rear Commodores' report :

### CHRISTMAS CHILDREN'S PARTY

This was well attended by enthusiastic children and parents. They all enjoyed the usual mix of games, food, magician and a visit from Santa. This event seems to grow in popularity year by year and long may it continue.

### CHRISTMAS GATHERING

An evening designed to get everyone in the festive mood, it did not disappoint. Thanks to Albert for making the raffle board and getting it filled, so we could purchase some excellent prizes. Paul and Carole ran their Advent draw. Sausages rolls and mince pies were eaten, mulled wine was drunk (supplied by Bernie) and Lyn Button led us in some gusty Carole singing, with her expert keyboard playing.

### ROW AND RAMBLE

Not only rambling but cycling and delivery by boat (Bernie has been sailing for so long, he can do it with his eyes closed now) to the Albion, Rowhedge, were the order of the day.



Bernie caught napping!

It was a full house of ages 1 to 100 and the Landlord made us very welcome. The real ale at the pub obviously set everyone in the mood for eating and although chilli was supplied at the clubhouse later, we slightly under estimated expected numbers and just managed to eke out supplies for all. We have made a note to ourselves 'make more next time'.

### BURNS NIGHT

A great success, with Lyn B. addressing the Haggis, also giving a history of the man himself, producing a Scottish quiz and 'calling' the dancing. Phew you can't keep a good woman down. Well done Lyn!

### VARIETY SHOW

Another successful production and a full summary of events follows, from Nikki.

### NATURE WALK

Although this was not as well attended as usual, maybe the early start and the weather forecast put some people off, many birds were seen and our very own bird-spotter Tim Denham gave an interesting commentary. This was followed by a two course lunch in the clubhouse.

### QUIZ NIGHT

Many thanks go to Jack Reddish, for all his hard work in putting on a great quiz and excellent food. It was a very good night with many heads being scratched over the more challenging questions.

### HARD-WORKING PARTY

As usual all the workers at the March hard-working party needed refreshing and sustaining at appropriate intervals.



and time at last to take a breather

As you can see, we have tried to make the forthcoming social programme varied and fun but to make the events a success we need your support.

*Myrna and Carole would like to extend an invitation to those who already help us and those who would like to, for a get together evening at the clubhouse.*

It doesn't matter whether you can commit to giving your time at events or not, we are just as interested to know if you have any ideas at all for the club and would like to hear them.

Please contact either of us,

Myrna- [myrnaharbour@gmail.com](mailto:myrnaharbour@gmail.com) or

Carole- [pdncan@btinternet.com](mailto:pdncan@btinternet.com) so we can arrange a date to suit everyone.

Well that's all for the moment from the Rear's and we look forward to hearing from many of you soon.

Carole and Myrna

## **WSC Variety Show**

**Saturday 4 Feb 2017**

On a damp and grotty February evening, Wivenhoe Sailing Club was filled with laughter and music. Around 80 or so members and friends gathered on the upper deck to watch a variety show such as you have never seen before! This has evolved over the years - when I was a child (oh yes I was) - this was a Talent Contest between Tollesbury and Wivenhoe Sailing Club; I think there is even a trophy somewhere. Eventually it became an Old Time Music Hall evening and this year I called it a Variety Show so that we could include a wider range of acts.

The show was opened by our wonderful M.C, Mr Michael Mitchell, who also introduced each performer and kept us under control. The evening could not have gone ahead without the assistance of our tame pianist, Mr Joe Richardson, no sudden key change or alteration of words was too much and he managed to follow us – just as well! Our experienced performers covered a wide range of acts from singing and sand dancing to monologues and death defying acts that made you cover your eyes and weep! Our lovely ladies, Hilary Brunning and Mary Williamson, who you may have seen treading the boards for Wivenhoe Gilbert & Sullivan Society, sang beautiful ballads of good little girls and sad tales of nobody wanting a fairy when she's 40 (ish).

Chris Mullins & Albert Scott performed the Sand Dance – complete with real sand and Egyptian backdrop – I gather Chris is already practising something for the next show. Jim Lawrence, Brian Sinclair, Gary Jobber, Steve Hart, Albert Scott and I all performed various songs, some with instruments and some

accompanied by Joe. Gary & Steve were also our stage hands, setting up scenery and escorting the ladies on and off. They also had the power to remove anyone who was hogging the stage.

We were very pleased to welcome back, for one night only, Maurice and Ethel Onions who scared us with the Blowpipe of Death Act and The Amazing Flying Maurice Act – you had to see it to believe it!

Big thanks to the team of stage builders and set painters who worked so hard on the Friday afternoon to get everything ready and then took it all apart on the Sunday. Also special thanks to Wivenhoe Gilbert & Sullivan Society who lent us the lighting, kindly assembled and operated by Peter Cook and Mike Common. Carole Mitchell and Jan Tyne produced an amazing selection of sandwiches and nibbles for the interval, money for which was donated by the Sailing Club. Everyone involved volunteered their time and materials for which I am very grateful.

All proceeds from the show went to the East Anglian Children's Hospices charity and we raised an amazing £562.74. So final thanks goes to you the audience for helping to make this a great evening. Hopefully we'll do another show in 2018 - start practising!

Nikki Robinson

[photos page 20, mostly courtesy of Dave Matthews, with thanks – Ed.]

scenes to remember:



the cast



the sheik



the string trio



the compare



the workman



the sand dancers



the fairy



the Onions



the good little girl



the folk singer



the linnet



the comic

## Social Calendar 2017/18

Event	Day	Date	Start Time	
Barn dance	Sat	1/4/17	19:30	
Fitting Out Lunch (12:00 lunch available for racers)	Sun	9/4/17	12:30	
Music Night	Wed	12/4/17	20:00	Every other week, organised by Paul Mead
Music Night all-comers	Mon	24/4/17	20:00	Every 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday of the month
Nucleus kit sale	Fri	28/4/17	20:00	
Curry Night	Sat	20/5/17	19:30	
Quiz & Fish & Chips	Fri	16/6/17	TBC	
Open Day	Sat	23/9/17	TBC	
Games Night	Sat	14/10/17	TBC	
Annual Dinner	Sat	18/11/17	19:00	
Children's party	Sun	10/12/17	TBC	
Christmas Gathering	Fri	22/12/17	TBC	
Row & Ramble	Sat	6/1/18	TBC	
Burns Night	Sat	20/1/18	TBC	
Nature Walk	Sun	1/4/18	TBC	

Monday and Friday are club nights –  
the bar is open from 20:00 to 23:00

On Sundays the bar is open between 12:00 and 14:00

(table with thanks to NM)

### nature walk 2017:

Our annual nature walk this year took place on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March. The day dawned and it was almost perfect, warm, with the sun gently rising over the mud flats, the sky bright and little or no wind. The earlier 09.15 start seems to have discouraged a few members but a great group of 14 set off expectantly!

The run of southerly winds recently has encouraged some of our winter visitors to start moving north to their breeding grounds so no ticks were recorded for brent geese, lapwing, turnstone or widgeon! (First time ever, on the annual walk.) Some were obviously still present further down river in the estuary. Conversely, two summer arrivals were seen and ticked, being chiff-chaff and garden warbler.

Green woodpeckers were seen and heard a plenty in flight, on branches and on the ground. Such a beautiful bird! We had a lovely sighting of a pair of goosander in Marriages' bite, unusual as they are normally present on freshwater not salt! Excellent

views of yellowhammer, reed bunting and chiff-chaff were enjoyed.

A swarm of bees were feasting on/collecting the pollen from the exquisite flowering 'pussy willow' above our heads on the old railway footpath. We were to enjoy the call and sight of a chiff-chaff as it arrived and flitted amongst the bees and branches of the small 'goat's beard' willow tree. We had superb views of it. Blue tits, great tits, long-tailed tits and a great spotted woodpecker were seen as we followed the paths across the fields and along the wooded lane.

On our arrival back at the clubhouse, delicious veg. and beef chilli was ready for us and the bar open. Huge thanks to Myrna, Midge and Lars. Roy and Val also served drinks with style.

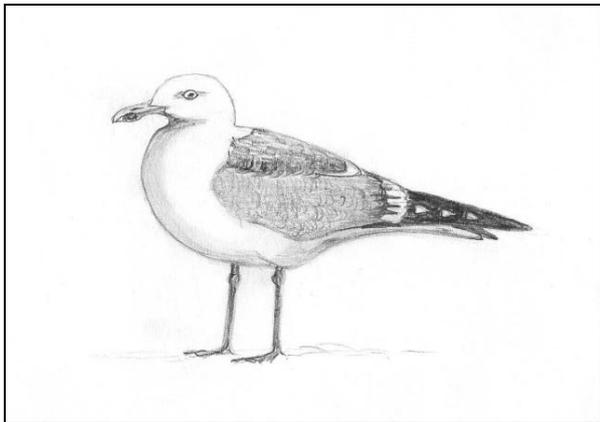
### List of birds seen: Grand total – 46 species

Little grebe	Cormorant
Little egret	Graylag goose

Canada goose	Shelduck
Teal	Mallard
Goosander	Curlew
Marsh harrier	Buzzard
Kestrel	Pheasant
Coot	Oystercatcher
Avocet	Knot
Black-tailed godwit	Curlew
Redshank	Black-headed gull
Herring gull	Gt. black-backed gull
Woodpigeon	Green woodpecker
Gt. spotted w'dpecker	Skylark
Pied wagtail	Wren
Duncock	Robin
Blackbird	Garden warbler
Chiff-chaff	Long-tailed tit
Blue tit	Great tit
Jay	Magpie
Jackdaw	Rook
Carrion crow	Starling
Chaffinch	Yellowhammer
Reed bunting	

### The much maligned Herring Gull:

Despite their name, they don't seem that fond of herring! It is one large gull, having a body length of 26in (66cm) and a wing-span of just over 5ft (155cm)! Some birds are slightly smaller.



herring gull ( Gill Maloney)

Herring gulls are probably the best known of all the gulls and most are permanent residents, though we do have winter visitors from Scandinavia and Russia. These gulls have a very varied diet including fish, crustaceans, dead animals and some plants – true scavengers. They love shelled prey and are often observed dropping them from a height, in order to

break the shell. These gulls can be identified by their grey back and upper wings and white head and under-parts. The wings have black tips with white spots known as mirrows. The bill is yellow with a red spot on the end of the lower mandible and around the eye is a ring of bare yellow skin. Their legs are pink (flesh coloured) at all stages of life. Young birds are mainly speckled brown with darker streaks and at this stage have dark bills and eyes. Only after 4 years of slow change do they get adult plumage.

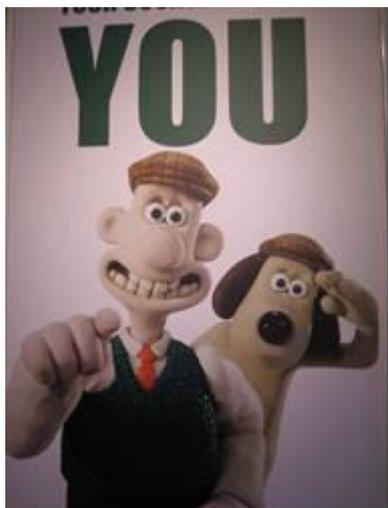
Herring gull numbers have been harmed in recent years, possibly by declines in fish populations and competition. Also human activity on the coast has deprived these birds of their natural habitat and ways. Their natural behaviour there irritates – their nesting habitats, constant calling, young birds squeaking, their droppings, scavenging ways etc. So these gulls have moved inland, firstly to land-fill sites, after burning of waste there was banned by legislation and then to streets and gardens in towns and cities, due to street lights allowing twenty-four hour foraging. Here they find discarded food in streets, in easy to tear plastic bags and that left out for other birds. The lack of predators and availability of warm roof tops, with ideal nesting places, have caused their numbers to soar. Again their noise, droppings and stealing of people's food, have made them very unpopular. They are just adapting and learning to survive!

It is interesting to note that, although they flock, these particular gulls keep physical contact between individuals to a minimum. Except when breeding, each gull attempts constantly to keep a 'safe distance' from each other but they are very social ie. if one gull finds food and decides there is more than it alone can eat, it calls others of the flock to come and share it! These birds help each other out. Also they have been seen using bread as bait to catch goldfish! Clever birds! They even wash some foods before eating.

Since 2009 – on the red list of birds (means there is concern over this bird). It was not until the 1990's that the first herring gulls nested in Essex. Could write a book on gulls – but I won't! Tim Denham [go on, Ed.]

club messages:

## YOUR BAR NEEDS



### NEW BAR STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS

First thanks to all the members who have already helped to serve behind the bar, you know who you are! The arrangements for staffing the bar during normal club opening hours are changing.

We have been very lucky to have had the excellent services of Simon, our barman, over the last couple of years. Simon is still going to be working with us and will be responsible for ordering stock and preparing the bar for use, including cleaning the pipes etc. but has now got limited time available for serving behind the bar. This gives us the best of two worlds, a professional behind the scenes service and a return to members volunteering for bar duty, an easy enjoyable and sociable experience, serving and benefitting the membership as a whole.

I will still be responsible to the membership for the operation of the bar and co-ordinating the volunteers (as well as being one!).

The volunteer role involves:-

[opening the bar; turning on the glass-washer and water-heater; checking the cash in the till; turning on the gas & beer; serving the delicious drinks to our delightful members and their guests; operating the till (which is not as cantankerous as the one in 'Open all hours'); cashing up the till at the end of the session; turning off everything which has been switched on; closing the bar]

ENJOYING YOURSELF!

NB there will be easy-to-follow instructions for those with poor memories!

All we need is an enthusiasm to help other members and a commitment to about three or four sessions a year, on either a Friday evening or Sunday afternoon. You can always do more if you wish! There are 100 sessions to cover each year.

The sessions are 20:00h – 23:00h on Friday evening and 12:00h - 14:00h on a Sunday, so a team of 30 members would be great but more would be welcome, so we can double-up on busy sessions or just be sociable.

Full training can be given to anyone without previous experience. To join our team please contact Bernie Hetherington at:

[berniehetherington@gmail.com](mailto:berniehetherington@gmail.com)

or 07967 505854.



is it a bird? is it a plane? No!  
it's WSC new mooring lifting system!

small ads:

**COLNE YACHT SURVEYS LTD.**  
 (Yacht & Small Craft Surveyors)  
**10% DISCOUNT ON ALL SURVEYS CARRIED OUT FOR MEMBERS OF RYA AFFILIATED CLUBS.**  
**Interested then speak to Bill Kippen. *AssocIIMS.***  
**TEL. 01206 825762. MOB. 07908 329767.**  
**E Mail. [billkippen@btinternet.com](mailto:billkippen@btinternet.com)**  
 Web site [www.boatsurveyors.net](http://www.boatsurveyors.net)  
**RYA Yachtmaster available for yacht deliveries, assisted passages or as crew.**  
**Project management. Assistance with laying up, fitting out or maintenance. Inspection and laying of drying moorings.**

**Keeping The Wivenhoe Boatbuilding Tradition Alive**

**Rob Maloney**  
**Shipwright/Boatbuilder**

- Repairs/Restorations
- Joinery
- Spars - Timber Masts/Oars
- Painting/Varnish work



Contact me on:  
 07901624341  
[robmaloney9@aol.com](mailto:robmaloney9@aol.com)

Or you can find me in:  
 St John's Road,  
 Wivenhoe  
 Essex  
 CO7 9DR

## WSC: MAINSHEET

Member Address

stop press: some upcoming events

Sun	9	April	Fitting out race/lunch
Sun	16	April	Sainty Memorial race
Sun	30	April	CAN race
Sun	7	May	May Mug/Sykes/Scaly
Sat	20	May	Curry Night
Sat	3	June	Round Gunfleet race
Sat	10	June	Rowhedge Regatta
Fri	16	June	Cadet Camp
Fri	16	June	Fish/Chip supper /Quiz
Sat	24	June	Wallet Shield
Sat	24	June	Wivenhoe Tn Regatta
Sat	1	July	Gooseberry Pie Rally
Sat	15	July	WSC Regatta (cruisers)
Sun	16	July	WSC Regatta (dinghies)

With thanks to Nel Mooy for help in preparation of this issue.  
**Next Mainsheet:** August 2017

Ed. Roy Crookes  
 Tel: 01206 824098  
 WSC Walter Radcliffe Way Wivenhoe