



# WIVENHOE SAILING CLUB

## MAINSHEET

2014/15 WINTER EDITION

Editor: Roy Crookes

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### editor's note:

I would like to extend seasonal greetings to all club members and readers in this winter edition of *Mainsheet*. As usual there are the regular features: membership renewal and reports of club business, special events and news, our nature feature and next year's calendar. We also have the sailing statistics and award of trophies but first, as is our custom:

#### Commodores Christmas Message:

Dear All,

I don't think anyone can help being struck by the transformation that the club hard and car park go through over the year. Tara is occupying her usual winter position at the western approaches and the "village" of tarpaulins represents many hours of

hard work by the lifting group. Most of the members will have been involved in some way in lifting days but, if you haven't, nothing quite encapsulates the cooperative spirit of the club as the team on the day, planning the lifts and then in a good humoured and inclusive way co-ordinating the hoist, tractor and importantly protecting the public as the boats come out. Sharing cakes, coffee and tea is just as important as getting the work done. Sadly, we lost Margaret Handley this year who was for many years the main support of the group as they'd come into the clubhouse from the wet and the cold and who is much missed.

The lifting group then is a reminder that we are a club who share common interests and exist to help each other get on the water (and off it!) in a friendly, helpful way. The spirit of the club was also very much in evidence this year at the very successful Sail 14 event which saw many of the club boats on the water despite the weather. The open day too demonstrated we are very happy to open our club up to share the joys of being on the water. Members enthusiastically supported our 1920s themed Annual dinner and, as we head to our centenary over the next decade, no

prizes for guessing it will be the 1930s next year! We also had our biggest ever Burns night this year and I look forward to seeing many of you on the 24th January 2015 (sign-up sheets will be available early in the New Year.

Whatever challenges we face in the coming year I am sure WSC will continue to thrive with this spirit at its core, so with this in mind I would like to wish you and your families a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Stuart

## profile: medusa



Head of Medusa in marble, 1630  
Gian Lorenzo Bernini, 1598–1680 (Google)

‘From Greek mythology said to have the face of a hideous human female with living venomous snakes in place of hair. Gazing directly into her eyes would turn onlookers to stone’. (Wikipedia)

‘The Medusa channel provides an approach to Harwich Harbour from the south and the Medusa buoy lies just over two miles east of Walton pier.’ (*East Coast Rivers: Janet Harber.*)

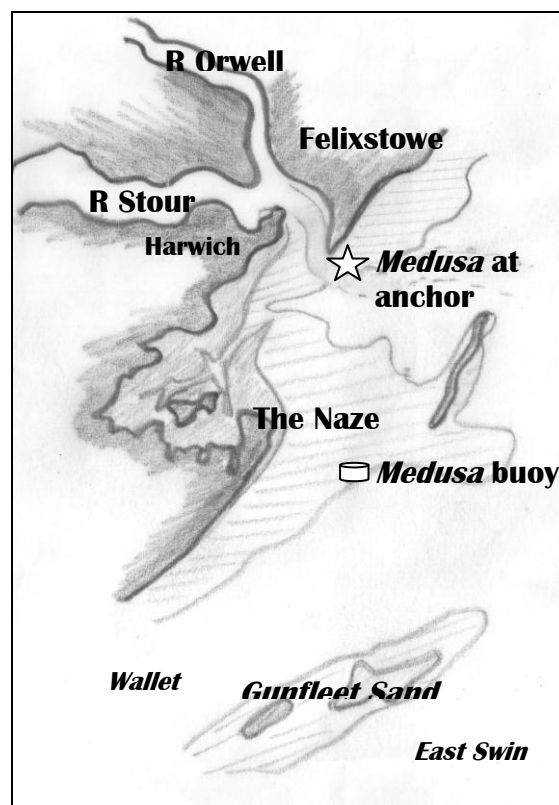
‘HMS *Medusa* was a 38-gun, 5<sup>th</sup> rate frigate of the Royal Navy, that served in the Napoleonic Wars. Launched in 1801 she was converted to a hospital ship in 1813, before being broken up in 1816.

It was used in 1801 by Nelson, to cross the channel to observe the French invasion fleet, at Boulogne.’ (Wikipedia)

The following account, taken from: ‘*The Life of Nelson Revised and Illustrated by the Old Sailor*’ by Matthew Henry Barker, 1836 (Google) links the frigate *Medusa* with our local waters.

Nelson needed to be at the Nore by sunset and wanted Mr. Spence, a Maritime Surveyor, to take the *Medusa* out by ‘a new channel’, the *Medusa*, having run in through the ‘proper channel’ between the Ridge Shoal and the Andrew’s Shoal and was anchored in the Rolling Ground off Harwich. Being a very large frigate, drawing 18 ft. she had touched once or twice in that passage and when Spence came on board, Nelson said:

‘We have got the *Medusa* into this hole but cannot get her out through the proper channel whilst this wind lasts and, although I have two or three pilots on board, neither they nor the Harwich pilots will take charge of the ship in so dangerous a navigation.’



approaches to Harwich Harbour  
(from *East Coast Rivers: Janet Harber.*)

He added: ‘*Much less will they venture over the Naze, as they call it but I must go to the Nore at all hazard in the frigate. I shall therefore esteem it a particular favour if you would devise some means to get me out of this*

*place into the Swin, by any possible way in your power or through any channel, for I am in a great hurry.'*

Spence engaged to carry the *Medusa* out by 'the back channel over the Naze' which he had 'very minutely surveyed', though he said that he '*could not promise that there would be more than 22 or 23 ft. at high water and perhaps not so much that tide and even that would be through a very rocky and uneven channel for three or four miles*'. '*The largest vessel that had ever before ventured that way drew only 14 ft!* The whole distance from the anchorage of the *Medusa* to the Swin was about 11 miles.

Spence however, 'declared that he was ready to run the risk'. Accordingly, at the 'proper time of the tide', he got the frigate under sail and ran her out over the Naze or back channel 'without any accident'.

This channel was afterwards named after the *Medusa* frigate 'by Nelson's desire, in preference to his own name' as Spence had requested.

On reaching Sheerness, Lord Nelson wrote to Earl St. Vincent, '*Our active force is perfect and possesses so much zeal that I only wish to catch that Bonaparte on the water, either with the Amazon or the Medusa.*'

## club sailing news:

### wsc dinghy racing statistics 2013-14

In the summer season there were 22 races – 26 boats entered at least once, the average number of starters was 7 and the most was 10. In the WOD fleet, 10 raced, the largest start was 6 and the average was 4.

At the annual dinner there were 7 different winners of individual trophy races, and 3 winners of series (6 trophies): Nigel Cook sailed the most races (19) and Bruce Anderson raced the most different boats (5).

In the winter series (2013) all four races were held, 12 boats entered in total, and on average 9 started. Perhaps fewer distractions encourages this excellent turnout!

Bruce Anderson, Vice-Commodore

and in the boat-yard:

The lifting group as usual worked wonders accommodating over-wintering cruisers and relocating sailing dinghies. There are some 30 cruisers in the yard, another 10 or so on the pontoons and about as many sailing dinghies and there are still WODS afloat.

[With the WODS and now 4 wooden craft among the cruisers, it is rumoured that a splinter group will be formed in the club! TH]



dinghies on the club forecourt



a well-used pontoon and WODS beyond



hard-standing room only

## Minutes 88th AGM, 7th March 2014.

### **Item 1. Apologies.**

Apologies for absence were received from; Pauline Hart, Mike Mitchell, George Brown, Ian and Jane Valentine, Robin Calvert, Simon Hoskins, Ann Hunter, Bob Hollis, Jack Redditch, John Bampton, Wendy Jobber & Robin Maloney.

### **Item 2. Minutes**

The minutes of the 2013 AGM were noted.

### **Item 3. Commodore's Report.**

The Commodore was thanked by the President for a super job and presented with a gift of an engraved glass. The Commodore presented her report on the year.

*The club has had another great year, gradually moving forward and making improvements along the way. We are so lucky to belong to this club and to be able to sail on this river.*

*One of my main goals has always been to have a better relationship with other clubs in this area and try to regain some of the 'Kindred Club' spirit that I remember so well from my cadet days back in the 80's. The last Commodores' reception had representatives from nine clubs and I will be passing on contact information to the new flag officers to encourage these relationships to grow.*

*This year we have been able to accommodate Wivgigs which has drawn in some new faces and I was pleased that Rob De la Rue was able to host a gig race day here for visiting clubs from around the area just before Christmas. Several members have been out in the gig along with our cadet section and I hope that this relationship will continue to grow.*

*Our Wivenhoe One Design fleet have been out in force and in all weather last season. Congratulations to all of them for the time and effort put into restoring and sailing those boats. Let's try to keep them upright next year!*

*The Cadet section continues to be a great success and credit to this club. Currently there are 35 cadets and some on the waiting list also. A good spell of weather last summer provided the ideal backdrop for cadet camp and some cadets entered the Evening Pursuit series – well done to all the cadet leaders and helpers. Last year also saw the purchase of the Hunter 19 and an opportunity for cadets to sail in something a bit bigger. This boat can also be used by the rest of the membership and has been a great success so far.*

*Our Lifting Group still seem to perform miracles and despite the concerns of 'no more room in the car park' they have, once again, accommodated everyone. It's a big job that's done very well.*

*In spite of the tightening of purse strings over the last few years the club has still maintained a good financial position. Our Treasurer works tirelessly to make sure everything is in order and is always looking around for ways to save money. I've been nagging since my Rear Commodore days about some form of electronic payment for members and we now have a separate account set up for membership fees that you've have been paying into this year.*

*All members now have an electronic key for the lobby and toilets of the building, there are plans to roll this out to other doors on the site. Thanks to our Secretary for researching this so well and for maintaining the system.*

*The social events have been very well attended and lots of fun (you know I love a party) so well done Gary Jobber, supported by his wife Wendy and a fairly small House committee, for achieving*

*great things. Rear Commodore is a very rewarding job and we have no one standing for this position in 2014 so it really will be a case of all hands on deck.*

*This is my final report as Commodore, I think I may have said that before but it's true this time. I've enjoyed every minute despite a few ups and downs along the way but now it's time to pass the flag over to someone else. My daughters will be relieved not to receive strange phone calls from foreign sailors at odd times of the night asking for the gate code and how to get in the club! I hope that you will continue to support the next Commodore and Committee in the way you have supported me. Although I'll be taking a back seat for a while, I'll still be around to help out when I can and sign up for bar duty which I hope you will all do before you leave the meeting.*

*Finally, big thanks to the Officers and General Committee members for their continuous hard work and support that they have show me. I have learnt from your example and will make sure I give the same back to you.*

*Nikki Robinson*

The Commodore then thanked Phil Thompson the retiring Vice Commodore, Gary Jobber the retiring Rear Commodore and Tony Higbee retiring as President.

#### **Item 4. Report of the Treasurer and Auditor**

The Treasurer presented his report.

*In order that the type face can be larger and easier to read, I have split the 2013 accounts in two – Income and Expenditure and separately, the Balance Sheet. I believe it to be of interest to members that previous years' figures are shown for comparative purposes. I will, of course, endeavour to answer any questions relating to them at the AGM.*

*On the banking side, there have been some changes – in addition to the Club's main account with the Co-operative Bank, three additional accounts have been opened:*

*WSC HOUSE Three debit cards have been issued enabling certain members of the House Committee to buy goods and, if necessary, to draw cash. I deal with this by bringing the balance up to £1000 at the end of each month.*

*WSC MEMBERSHIP This enables those members wishing to pay their subs via BACS to do so.*

*WSC MOORINGS This enables those members wishing to pay their mooring fees via BACS to do so.*

*BACS (Bankers automated clearing system)*

*I would make a strong request that members making BACS payments only use the designated account and do not include payments relating to other accounts. The same applies to cheques – if you include a number of amounts due, in the one cheque, then I have a problem in advising those responsible for moorings, membership, dinghy fees etc of the amounts that are relative. That is, it makes more work for everybody involved. (We are all unpaid volunteers!).*

*Guy Ward, Hon Treasurer*

A member asked if bills sent out will it have the bank account number.

The Treasurer answered: Yes that will be done.

#### **Item 5. Adoption of the accounts.**

Proposed by Ian Hunter and seconded by Bernie Hetherington. Unanimously agreed.

Inspected Account Page 1

	A	B	C	D	E
1	<b>WIVENHOE SAILING CLUB</b>				
2					
3	<b>1. Income and Expenditure Account for year 2013</b>				
4	showing details of previous years				
5		2013	2012	2011	2010
6		£	£	£	£
7	<b>INCOME</b>				
8					
9	Subs/Joining Fees	16123	15261	15065	14666
10	Mooring Fees	7905	7061	6609	6882
11	Dinghy Storage	2298	2084	1945	3638
12	Cruiser Hardstanding	3186	4336	3332	1749
13	Cruiser Lifting Group	1130	503	881	2155
14	Sailing Events	-294	-267	-545	-235
15	Clubhouse Events (incl of costs)	406	277	-735	276
16	Lettings	6760	3867	5306	5039
17	Sundry Income/Donations	597	606	1259	667
18	Bank Interest	1050	437	663	383
19	Cadet Funds	1159	400	775	1439
20	Bar	24972	26558	28797	32313
21					
22	Total Income	65290	61122	63351	68970
23					
24					
25	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
26					
27	Rates/Water	3563	3401	3524	3020
28	Electricity	3728	3627	3415	2862
29	Insurance	4105	4432	4642	4131
30	Repairs/Renewals	3775	7879	3255	4760
31	Cleaning/Wages	7909	6478	5297	5638
32	Tractor/Hoist costs	785	817	365	744
33	Moorings	5622	5463	5194	4860
34	Boats/Engines	2343	1553	2413	1302
35	Alarm/Security	3031	1326	2337	1370
36	Phone Print Post Stat'y	1831	1257	1561	758
37	Donations/Subs	630	595	430	396
38	Sundry/Flag Officers' Exps	902	1497	666	1163
39	Bar Costs	17427	16632	21824	21185
40					
41					
42	Total exp before depr'n	55651	54956	54924	52191
43					
44	Depreciation	5808	7329	5566	4605
45					
46	Total cost	61459	62285	60490	56796
47					
48	Net Profit/Loss	3831	-1163	2862	12174
49					
50	I have examined the books and records of the Wivenhoe Sailing Club				
51	for the year 2013 and confirm the above figures give a true and fair view				
52	of the Club's financial affairs.				
53					
54					
55	R Anne Hunter				
56					

Inspected Account Page 2

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	<b>Wivenhoe Sailing Club</b>										
2											
3	<b>2. Balance Sheet at 31st December 2013</b>					<b>3. Notes/Management Accounts</b>					
4	with details of previous year										
5				2013	2012			Bar	Yr 2013	Yr 2012	
6				£	£	£	£				
7	<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>							Revenue	24972	26558	
8											
9	Property			968	1019			Gross profit	8142	9200	
10	Rescue boats incl outboards			2587	3450						
11	Cadets Boats			2659	3217			% profit on sales	32.60%	34%	
12	Furniture and Fittings			425	634						
13	Lease			16800	16960						
14	Tractor			99	198						
15	Stair Lift			3329	4968						
16	Plant and Machinery			148	221			Other	Yr 2013	Yr 2012	
17	Tractor Shed			6645	6995						
18	Crane (Hoist)			2131	2368			Revenue comparison:			
19	Boat Shed			10037	10565						
20	Cycle & Mast Racks			285	380			Membership	16123	15261	
21	Projector & screen			397				Mooring fees	7905	7061	
22								Dinghy storage	2298	2084	
23	Total Fixed Assets			Yr 2013	46512	Yr 2012	50975	Cruiser h/stand	3186	4336	
24	(value after depreciation)							Cruiser lift grp	1130	503	
25											
26	<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>							House cttee	5030	3244.46	
27											
28	<b>STOCK</b>										
29	Bar			2572	2404						
30	Clothing			0	164						
31											
32	<b>PETTY CASH</b>										
33	House cttee			737	238						
34	Cadets			372	47						
35	Diesel float for tractor			150	150			Note regarding depreciation of assets:			
36	Bar till			175	128			The assets are depreciated over 3 to 20 years			
37	Bar cage			254	342			depending on the type of asset. Generally			
38	Vice Comm float			50	50			equipment is depreciated over 3/4 years			
39								buildings over 20 years. The lease on the			
40	<b>BANK + INVEST</b>			56476	48719			clubhouse over 125 years as per lease.			
41											
42	Total Current Assets			Yr 2013	60786	Yr 2012	52243				
43											
44	<b>TOTAL</b>			Yr 2013	107297	Yr 2012	103218	I have examined the books and records			
45								of Wivenhoe Sailing Club as at 31st Dec 2013			
46	<b>FUNDED BY</b>							and confirm these statements give a true and fair			
47	Profit and Loss			3831	-1163			view of the Club's financial affairs.			
48	Reserves			86924	88087						
49	Lottery Grant			14678	14678						
50	WOD Assoc - temp			1863	1617						
51											
52	<b>TOTAL</b>			Yr 2013	107297	Yr 2012	103220				
53											

### Item 6. Election of Officers,

The following officers were overwhelmingly approved.

Position	Nominee	Proposed by	Seconded by
Commodore	Stuart Bannerman	George Brown	Tom Taylor-Jones
Vice Commodore	Bruce Anderson	Nic Blower	Tom Taylor-Jones
Hon Treasurer	Guy Ward	Nikki Robinson	Susan Kerr
Hon Secretary	Eric Strudwick	Ewan Alexander	Guy Ward
Hon Membership Secretary	Midge Hetherington	Libby Armstrong	Chris Canfield
Hon Sailing Secretary	George Brown	Tom Taylor-Jones	Peter Cook

### Item 7. Election of General Committee members.

The following General Committee members were overwhelmingly approved.

Position	Nominee	Proposed by	Seconded by
	Nel Mooy	Heather Laurie	Gary Jobber
	Roy Crookes	Ray Meddis	Nel Mooy
	Bernie Hetherington	Libby Armstrong	Chris Canfield

### Item 8. Bar and other volunteers.

Gary Jobber the retiring Vice Commodore asked for volunteers for the bar. A consistent problem has been getting people to sign up serving behind the bar. Gary stressed that this is not as onerous as might be thought and pleaded for everyone to do at least one session. Gary also thanked the existing volunteers.

Gary also asked for volunteers for the house events, especially as the Rear Commodore post was not filled. Gary highlighted that you do not need to be on the House committee to organise an event.

Tony Higbee mentioned that Angela Godwin has done an excellent job on cleaning the hard, but more volunteers are required to keep it clean.

### Item 9. Motions

Stuart Bannerman spoke about the Review Group proposals and highlighted that:

- the sailing club age profile might need reviewing if the review is representative of the overall membership
- some items could not be addressed in AGM but would need further investigations.
- following RYA policies makes resources available
- to avoid a few people carrying the club offices should be restricted for 3 years, following RYA model constitution.
- it is desirable to have a handbook for new members
- there were lots of request for new kit as well as tools gets boat out of the water
- mixed views on facilities; a working group may be required
- there might be a financial reserve that could be deployed
- social arrangement and lifting group were particularly well rated

## **Item 9.1 Motions from the Review Group**

**Motion 1.** Number of meetings. Changes to rule 5.1.5

***Meetings of the GC to be held at least four times a year but not more than six.***

Proposed by: Stuart Bannerman, Seconded by: Nick Blower. The motion was not carried

**Motion 2.** Composition of General Committee. Changes to rule 5.1. General Committee.

***The management of the Club shall be vested in the General Committee consisting of : President, the Officers, representatives of approved interest groups, as may be defined from time to time, and two ordinary members.***

***(for information approved groups may be cadets, lifting group, WOD, other boat users)***

Following some discussion, the motion was not proposed.

**Motion 3.** Candidate Statement for election. Introduction of new rule; 5.2.2

***Every candidate may submit a brief statement of how they intend to carry out the duties of the role.***

Proposed by: Heather Laurie, Seconded by: Robert de la Rue. After a second count this motion did not receive a 2/3 majority and was not carried

**Motion 4.** Tidying up date inconsistency. Changes to rule 6.1.2

***The Hon sec shall give all members 42 days clear notice, specifying the date, of the meeting and shall also send them 21 days prior to the AGM details of the business to be transacted including details of candidates.***

Following some discussion, the motion was not proposed.

**Motion 5.** Period of Office. Changes to rule 5.2.1

***Any officer or committee member will be elected at an AGM for a period of two years and be limited to a maximum of 2 successive 2 year periods. The AGM may support the reappointment of a member if no suitable candidate comes forward.***

Following some discussion, the motion was not proposed.

**Motion 6.** Working Groups to be appointed to look at the following areas:

***1)Members handbook***

***2)To ensure the appropriacy of the WSC Constitution and explore the adoption of the RYA constitution for WSC.***

***3)Interiors and bar (To produce a an attractive a cost effective plan for the refurbishment of the clubhouse for a future meeting).***

Proposed by Stuart Bannerman, Seconded by Brian Sinclair.

Each part was voted separately, all three parts of the motion were carried.

**Motion 7.**

***To create a new role to establish training needs across the age range of the club, eg. OOD, Day Skipper, Offshore, RYA etc. and also take on specific responsibility for training. Either:***

***7a) Added to an existing officer post or 7b) A new role to be created.***

Proposed by Andrew Diggins, Seconded by Hannah de la Rue. The motion was not carried.

**Motion 8.**

***A specific role for marketing and publicity to be created either:***

***8a) Added to an existing officer post or 8b) A new role to be created***

The motion was not proposed.



**Motion 9.**

***Note that the forthcoming General Committee has to take some action to increase the number of new members across the age ranges.***

Proposed by Nick Blower, Seconded by Brian Sinclair. The motion was carried.

**Motion 10.**

***The AGM 2015 to receive and approve descriptions of responsibilities and duties of office holders.***

Proposed by Bruce Anderson, Seconded by Brian Sinclair. The motion was carried.

**Motion 11.**

***Members to approve the minutes of the AGM as soon as conveniently possible after the meeting (e.g by publishing draft minutes in the web and/or in Mainsheet and seeking endorsement).***

Following some discussion, the motion was not proposed.

**Motion 12.**

***The AGM to receive a report on progress of suggestions in the Review 2013/14 in March 2015.***

Proposed by Stuart Bannerman, Seconded by Peter Goldsmith. The motion was carried.

**Item 9.2, to Appoint a Director of Elections proposed by Michael Mitchell**

**Motion13**

***I wish to move that this general meeting should appoint a Director of Elections. The appointment will be immediate and will last until another general meeting appoints a successor. His/her job will be to run any elections that are needed during his period of office. He will be an ex-officer of the club and at least 10 years a member. He will be independent of all Officers and committees and report only to the next general meeting. He will deal with any election-related business including publishing election notices, receiving nominations, publishing election addresses, ballots, proxy voting, qualification of voters, keeping members advised about his role and the club's election processes, reviewing these processes and proposing changes.***

The motion was not proposed.

**Item 9.3 Rule changes proposed by the Honorary Secretary on behalf of the General Committee.**

**Motion 14.** Changes to rule 6.1. Annual General Meeting.

6.1.1 The Annual General Meeting shall be held before 15th March in each year ***on a date listed in the Club Calendar***, for amongst other things, the following purposes:

To consider and approve the audited accounts.

To elect Officers and Members to serve on the General Committee.

To alter and amend the Club Rules.

To consider motions submitted by Members.

To elect Auditors, Honorary or otherwise, for the ensuing year.

***and any business that the General Committee may order.***

6.1.2 Notice of any motion a Member wishes to bring forward shall be given in writing to the Honorary Secretary at least ***twenty eight*** clear days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.



<b>WSC MEMBERSHIP CHARGES &amp; FEES for 2015</b>	<b>FEE/CHARGE</b>	<b>LATE PAYMENT</b>
<b>Joining Fees</b>		
Joining Fee (Family & Single adult) (includes front door key)	£37.50	
Young Adult	£6.50	
<b>Annual Subscription</b>		
Family	£82.50	£92.50
Single Person	£66.50	£76.50
Young Adult (18-25)	£24.00	£29.00
Cadet – Club members	£6.50	
Cadet – Non club members	£22.50	
<b>HARD STANDING</b>		
Canoe or Dinghy up to 3m, both Old Hard and at Clubhouse	£15.50	£21.50
Dinghy up to 3m, Inside Pontoons	£25.00	£31.00
Dinghy Storage – Over 3m, both hards (per metre of boat)	£9.50	Add £6 per boat
<b>Cruiser Storage (per metre of boat)</b>		
Cruiser Winter Storage – Ashore	£16.50	
Cruiser Winter Storage – Pontoons	£16.50	
Penalty Fee for cruiser overstaying (per day)	£2.00	
<b>Dinghy trailers</b> not stored under dinghy & <b>Cruiser trailers</b> left on club premises during the summer.	£18.00	£24.00
<b>LIFTING (per metre of boat)</b>		
Haul out and launch	£6.00	
<b>MOORINGS (including one tender, per metre of boat)</b>		
All moorings.	£19.00	Add £19.00 per boat.

## WSC AGM, March 6th 2015

This is the last Mainsheet before the 2015 Annual General Meeting. At the AGM, the club accounts are submitted for approval, the General Committee is elected and resolutions debated. The constitution requires that all club officers (Commodore, Vice Commodore, Rear Commodore, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Secretary, Sailing Secretary and Membership Secretary) are elected each year. Members will know that this has been a particularly difficult year without a permanent Rear Commodore and I hope that we will be able to fill this post at the next AGM.

Other General Committee members serve for two years and, as three were elected in 2014, there will be up to five vacancies to fill. If you are able to contribute to the running of the club, then please put in your nomination to stand for election.

Following changes to the constitution at the last AGM, Nominations and Resolutions must be submitted by 6<sup>th</sup> February (28 days before the AGM). Nominations forms are available now from the website (under Members/Club Documents) and paper copies will be in the clubhouse foyer in the New Year. All adult members are eligible to stand for election provided they have been a member for two years. If you have any queries or need clarification, then please don't hesitate to contact me. Eric Strudwick – Hon Secretary

**Wivenhoe  
Sailing  
Club**



**Walter Radcliffe Way  
Wivenhoe  
Essex  
CO7 9WS  
Tel. 01206 822132**

**Membership Renewal 2015**

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**Dear Member,**                      December 2014

After careful consideration the General Committee has decided to increase the membership subscriptions for 2015.

Annual membership fees are due on 1st January 2015. Please pay promptly. As an incentive to get your cheque to me as soon as possible, you will receive a discount if your payment reaches me by the end of January. If you decide not to renew, it would be helpful if you could let me know so that I don't bother you with unnecessary reminders.

You will appreciate that it is important to keep records up to date so could you please complete the attached form and return it with your payment. During the year, if you move house or your circumstances change then please let me know as soon as possible. Our constitution requires that we keep a list of the names and addresses of current members in the clubhouse.

What makes WSC special is that it is run by the members for the members, and to keep this up we need everyone to help in whatever way they can. Can I therefore

please ask you that you sign up to help with the bar, in the galley, in the rescue boat, as a race officer, or in any other way that will assist club activities.

Email is by far the cheapest way of communicating with members. If you are happy to receive WSC communications and newsletters by email, please enter your current email address(es) on the form. For family memberships you might find it helpful to let me have email address for both partners to ensure that you know what is going on.

Cadet membership is managed by the Cadet leader, Steve Hart, who should be contacted direct at the same address as above but email:

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

Thank you for your co-operation, and good sailing in 2015.

Yours sincerely,

***Midge Hetherington***

Membership Secretary.

01206 825639

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

<b>Membership Subscriptions 2015</b>	<b>Before end of Jan</b>	<b>After February 1<sup>st</sup>.</b>
Family	£82.50	£92.50
Single Person	£66.50	£76.50
Young Adult (18–25 years)	£24.00	£29.00

**WSC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2015**

Family name: ..... Title: ..... Forename(s): .....

Tel: .....

Email address: .....

Additional Email address: .....

I would like my mail addressed as follows:

NAME(S).....

ADDRESS.....

.....

.....

.....

Membership: Family  Adult

Young Adult

Payment enclosed £ .....

Cheques made payable to Wivenhoe Sailing Club

Please complete and send with payment to;

Midge Hetherington  
Brown Oaks

Alresford Road

Wivenhoe CO7 9JX

(or to the Clubhouse)

**I would like to volunteer for the following duties;**

(Please tick at least one.)

Bar duty: ..... Race Officer: ..... Rescue Boat: .....

Help in Galley: ..... Gardening: ..... DIY: .....

Anything else? .....

(For Race Officer and Rescue Boat please indicate your experience/ qualifications. The club may be able to arrange/ provide training. Please indicate if you would be interested in this.

Training can also be provided for helping behind the bar.)

For family members:-

Partner's name: .....

Children's names and ages (if under 18 yrs.) .....

.....

**Please complete and send with payment to;**

**Midge Hetherington  
Brown Oaks  
Alresford Road  
Wivenhoe CO7 9JX      (or to the Clubhouse)**

## a plea from the Treasurer!

dear member: I have arranged for two bank accounts to be opened on behalf of the Club, namely for **MEMBERSHIP** and **MOORINGS**, following requests by some members to be able to pay their respective fees via **BACS**.

I would be most grateful if members using this method in future, pay their membership fees only into the Membership account and their mooring fees only into the Moorings account. Unfortunately there have been some members who have mistakenly paid fees into the *wrong* account or have lumped both of their payments together and paid them in to the *same* account, neither of which is a valid option.

Please note that such payments do cause a problem and entail time being spent by the Membership and Moorings secretaries together with me, trying to sort them out.

So I am asking all members **please** - to cooperate (as I know most do) and heed this request. Guy Ward: Hon Treasurer

## should WSC become a CASC?

Colchester Borough Council is in the process of changing its policy on "Discretionary Rate Relief". The old policy gave Wivenhoe Sailing Club 50% relief which was worth £2500 for the current year, but that scheme has now been withdrawn. My understanding from the published documents, is that Wivenhoe Sailing Club will not qualify for rate relief under the new policy unless we register as a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC).

**What is a CASC?** The government wishes to encourage amateur sports clubs by providing tax advantages. To access these, clubs must register as a CASC with the Inland Revenue. In return for providing open, accessible and affordable sporting facilities, WSC would get 80% Statutory Rate Relief and other tax advantages. As a CASC, WSC would also get 20% Discretionary Rate Relief from Colchester Borough Council. The total Rate Relief would be worth more than £5000 per annum to WSC or about £22 per membership.

## What must WSC do to register?

### 1. **Membership must be open to all.**

That does not mean that the club has no control over membership, but that it should treat all applications for membership without discrimination. To quote the IR guidance document:- "*Clubs can refuse or revoke membership, on non-discriminatory grounds, where the membership, or continued membership of the person concerned would be likely to be contrary to the best interests of the sport or the good conduct and interests of the club.*"

### 2. **Membership must be affordable.**

The Inland Revenue has defined this as being no more than £520 p.a. There is some ambiguity as to what should be included in this figure, but I am confident that WSC can provide membership within this limit.

### 3. **Have active participation.** The Inland Revenue has defined this as:-

***"At least 50% of members should participate 12 times each year"***

Initially, this looks quite a high level to meet, but participation can take many forms, and can include:-

- Getting on the Water - dinghy sailing (racing and pottering), cruising and cruiser races, rowing and canoeing.
- Volunteers - at organised events e.g. working in the galley, working behind the bar, crewing safety boats and race officer duties, boat maintenance work, cruiser launching and recovery, hard working parties etc.
- Running the Club – attending formal meetings on club business or sport related topics.

**Have a suitable constitution.** There are certain "key" clauses that must be in the constitution to meet the requirements for CASC. Also:-

- Our Dissolution Clause does not meet current requirements, not only for a CASC, but also to be eligible for a Sport England equipment grant. Essentially the local element would need to be removed.

- WSC would need to ensure that its classes of membership and voting rights meet current best practice – This is not onerous and something we ought to be aspiring to.

**What are other clubs doing?**

Our RYA legal advisor told WSC that the loss of Discretionary Rate Relief has been a big driver towards clubs registering as CASCs. At least 285 other sailing clubs have registered. Out of nearly 100 qualifying sports, only 7 other sports have more clubs registered than sailing. Locally, Ardleigh Sailing Club, Brightlingsea Sailing Club, Clacton on Sea Sailing Club, Aldeburgh Yacht club, Walton & Frinton Yacht Club and Dabchicks have all registered as CASCs as has Wivenhoe Bowls Club.

**What should WSC do about CASC?**

Our General Committee considered this at its December 2014 meeting and agreed to promote discussion about the club becoming a CASC. Since becoming a CASC would require changes to the constitution, a two thirds approval by an AGM or EGM would be required before any change could be implemented.

On January 16<sup>th</sup> I have arranged an evening meeting at the clubhouse (19:30 start) open to all members to discuss the issues. Please come along and have your say!

Eric Strudwick (Hon. Sec.)

calendar of events 2014:

**social calendar**

			<i>Start</i>	<i>Event</i>
Sat	10	January	12:00	Row & Ramble to Anchor, Rowhedge
Sat	24	January	19:00	Burns Night
Mon	26	January	19:30	Club music session
Fri	30	January	19:30	Fund Raising Quiz for Cancer Charities
Fri	6	February	19:30	WSC Picture Show - Summer Sailing
Sun	15	February	10:00	Nature Walk & Lunch
Mon	23	February	19:30	Club music session
Sat	7	March	18:30	Wallet Ball, Benton Hall - See Commodore
Fri	13	March	19:00	Friday Supper - Cadet Fundraiser
Fri	27	March	19:30	WWW Spring-watch – Upper Deck
Sun	19	July	13:00	Hog Roast & Visit from Old Gaffers Assoc.
Sat	19	September	14:00	WSC Open Day BBQ & Refreshments
Mon	26	October	19:30	WWW Autumn-watch – Upper Deck
Sat	21	November	18:30	Annual Dinner & Prize Giving
Sun	13	December	13:00	Children's' Christmas Party
Fri	18	December	20:00	Christmas Gathering & Prize Draw
Sun	20	December	12:00	Mince Pies & Mulled Wine



## sailing calendar

			<i>HW</i>	<i>Start</i>	<i>Event</i>
Mon	6	April	14:15	12:30	FITTING OUT RACE
Sun	3	May	12:43	11:15	Can Race
Mon	4	May	13:16	11:45	Bank Holiday Cup
Sun	10	May	17:08	15:00	Sailing Tuition day
Tue	12	May	19:23	18:00	Evening Pursuit 1
Sun	17	May	13:21	11:45	Sainty Memorial Race
Sun	17	May	12:15	11:00	Upstream Race
Wed	27	May	20:08	18:30	Evening Pursuit 2
Sun	31	May	11:31	10:00	Stuart Pawsey/Ladies Race
Sat	6	June	15:30		Wivenhoe Town Regatta
Sun	7	June	16:14	14:30	May Mug/Sykes 1
Fri	12	June	20:24	19:00	Evening Pursuit 3
Sat	20	June	15:29		WSC Regatta (Yachts)
Sun	21	June	16:06		WSC Regatta (Dinghys)
Fri	26	June	20:16	19:00	Evening Pursuit 4
Sun	28	June	09:56		BCOSS RACE 2
Sat	4	July	14:37		Gooseberry pie rally
Sun	5	July			May Mug/Sykes 2/cup
Fri	10	July	19:47	18:30	Evening Pursuit 4
Sat	11	July	08:32		BCOSS RACE 3
Sat	18	July	14:33		Bradwell
Sun	19	July	15:07	13:30	Bradwell / May Mug/Sykes 3
Fri	24	July			Cadet Camp
Sat	25	July	06:51		Cadet Camp
Sun	26	July	07:57		Cadet Camp
Mon	27	July	21:38	19:30	Evening Pursuit 5
Sun	16	August	14:10	12:30	May Mug/Sykes 4
Mon	24	August	19:30	18:00	Evening Pursuit 6
Sun	30	August	13:15	11:45	Bostock Cup
Mon	7	September	20:11	18:30	Evening Pursuit 7
Sun	13	September	13:12	11:30	May Mug/Sykes 5/Farren Cup
Sat	19	September	16:17	14:00	Open Day
Sun	20	September	16:54	15:30	Howard Cup
					May Mug/Sykes 6/Capriol
Sun	27	September	12:05	10:30	Capstan
Sun	18	October	15:53	14:15	GLOZIER LAYING UP RACE
Sun	1	November	15:11	13:30	Winter Serries 1
Fri	13	November	13:07	11:30	Winter Serries 4
Sun	15	November	14:00	12:30	Winter Serries 2
Sun	29	November	14:07	12:30	Winter Serries 3
Mon	28	December	13:52	12:00	Row and Ramble

club social news:

### annual dinner 2014

This year's annual dinner, held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November, was a well supported and very enjoyable evening that had taken a slightly different format to past events and had a period theme.



out of time family outing? (photo JH)

The setting for this, on the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the club was the 1920's, with the target of advancing a decade in theme each year, until reaching the club centenary.

The courses of the dinner had a distinct *retro*-image and the new kitchen equipment was successfully tested in full operation.



ladies aloud! (photo AV)

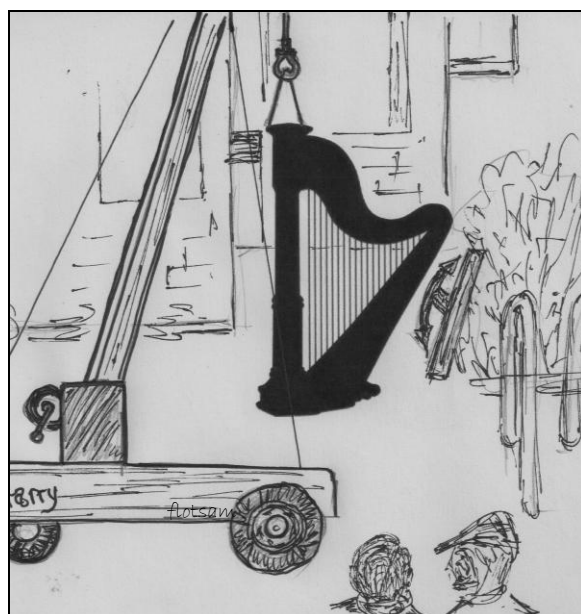
Prize-giving was ably handled by Bruce with his unmistakeable and customary efficiency and a new trophy was awarded to Robin Maloney, as the most promising newcomer.

[And yes! indeed it was a model *Thames Rater* (unlike the photograph featured of it, in the previous edition of *Mainsheet*, which was of it's sister model, a *Cadet*) – thanks Ted for setting that staight – Ed]

o0o

### music night

It turns out, perhaps not too surprisingly being nautical 'an all, that the club has a number of accomplished musicians, as well as a host of beginners and improvers. To accommodate the aspirations of these members a Monday night has been set aside each month at the club-house, for practice and play sessions. This format, on the last Monday of the month, will continue in January and February in the New Year – see the social programme above. All interested members are encouraged to come along and bring an instrument.



'..must be the larst mundi o' the munth!'

## WIVENHOE SAILING CLUB PRIZEGIVING: I - 2014 Dinghy races

Full Trophy Name	Trophy awarded for	Winner		Second		Third	
Bank Holiday Cup	Individual handicap race	Nigel Cook	Alcyone	Tom Taylor-Jones	Blue Velvet	Rob Maloney	Elise
Bostock Cup	Individual handicap race All classes eligible	Nic Blower	Coretta	George Brown	Duet	Nigel Cook	Alcyone
Cadet Cup	Best overall position All races count	Alice Reed					
Cadet Nutcracker	True spirit of Cadets	Oliver Tiller					
Can Race	Individual handicap race All classes eligible	Tom Taylor-Jones	Blue Velvet	Nigel Cook	Alcyone	Chris Osborn-Jones	Brunette
Capriol Capstan	Individual race for all WODs	Bruce Anderson	Vivian	George Brown	Duet	Nigel Cook	Alcyone
Cousin Jack Tankard	Evening Series (Currently pursuit races)	Nic Blower	Coretta	Nigel Cook	Alcyone	Rob Maloney	Elise
Farran Cup	Individual handicap race All classes eligible	Rob Maloney	Elise	Nic Blower	Coretta	Bruce Anderson Chris Osborn-Jones	Vivian
Geoff Bailey Trophy	WSC Regatta WOD Race	Bruce Anderson	Coretta	Nigel Cook	Alcyone	Chris Osborn-Jones	Brunette
Glozier Fitting Out Cup	Individual handicap race All classes eligible	Nigel Cook	Voyager	Bruce Anderson	Bubbles	Simon Jones	Brunette
Glozier Laying Up Cup	Individual handicap race All classes eligible	Steve Hart	Topaz R	George Brown	Duet	Nigel Cook Chris Osborn-Jones	Alcyone
Halfway Cup	Individual handicap race All classes eligible	Nigel Cook	Alcyone	Andrea Gibson	Butterfly	Rob Maloney	Brunette
Haward Cup	Individual handicap race All classes eligible	Nic Blower	Coretta	Nigel Cook	Alcyone	Rob Maloney	Elise
Ladies Race	Individual handicap race All classes eligible	Andrea Gibson		Becky Blower			
Mik Goody Trophy	First WOD in the Rat Race	Nigel Cook	Alcyone	Rob Maloney	Elise	Nic Blower	Coretta
Moss Cup	Series of 7 major races All classes eligible	Nigel Cook	Alcyone	Nic Blower	Coretta Mavi	George Brown	
Rat Race	Individual handicap race All classes eligible	Steve Hart	Topaz R	Simon Jones	Deniz	Nigel Cook	Alcyone
Sainty Memorial Cup	Individual handicap race All classes eligible	Steve Hart	Bubbles	Nigel Cook	Alcyone		
Stuart Pawsey Cup	Individual handicap race All classes eligible	Tom Taylor-Jones	Blue Velvet	Steve Hart	Bubbles	Andrea Gibson	Butterfly
Sykes Trophy	WOD Series	Nic Blower	Coretta	Nigel Cook	Alcyone	Bruce Anderson	Vivian
Thelma Worsp Plate	Best overall position. All races/classes count	Nigel Cook	Alcyone	Nic Blower	Coretta	Rob Maloney	Elise
Webster Cup	Upstream Race	Bruce Anderson	Coretta	Chas Morris	Sapphire	Nigel Cook	Alcyone
Winter Series	General Handicap Series	Tom Taylor-Jones	Blue Velvet	Nigel Cook	Alcyone	Bruce Anderson	Bubbles
WOD Challenge Cup	WOD series in Town Regatta	Nic Blower	Coretta				
WOD Cup	Best overall position All races count	Nigel Cook	Alcyone	Nic Blower	Coretta	Rob Maloney	Elise

## WIVENHOE SAILING CLUB PRIZEGIVING: II - 2014 Cruiser events

Full Trophy Name	Trophy awarded for	Winner	Vessel
Guy Harding Trophy	First WSC Yacht - SC Regatta (Fast)	Mike Dow	Dana Da
Harold Meadows Memorial	First WSC Yacht - Wallet Shield Race		
Isaac Stokes Trophy	Yacht to cruise furthest	Gary Jobber Eric	Ishmael
Plouging Trophy	Best running aground	Strudwick	Ffarfetched

### cadet dinner

Friday night 12/12 was the Cadet Dinner and Prize Giving. The cadets this time had a 'movie heros' themed evening (hence our Hobbit - please note the wonderful feet) and were served dinner by the Cadet Leader, Commodore and formally clad helpers.

This year's trophy winners were Kieran, Alice, Meg, Oliver and Abe, also there was a special appearance by *The Stig*.

[More in the next issue of Mainsheet -NR]



*Stig* steps up for a prize with the cadets

### it's the festive season:

and that means only one thing - it's ghost story time!



from *the scream* by Edward Munch

### a nordkapp ordeal

*'Tell us a story Grandad'*

It was a dark, wet December evening and the lights glowed on the tree in the corner of the room. The twins kneeled, wide eyed, on the sofa next to the old man.

*'Oh I don't know as I can think o' wun, jes like 'at.'*

*'Oh go on!'* they implored.

*'Well, 'and me 'at bottle o 'Jamesons then, an' I'll do mi best.'*

They settled down, each holding a cushion, just in case they needed to dive behind it.

*'It war some yers ago, when I wus a regular seaman, fishin' up an down in 'em oceans from Tierra del Fuego to Svarlbard.'*

*We wus jes roundin' the North Cape ('at's jes at the top o' Norway, as fer north as you can go in Europe). I war lookin' aht for the 'rhino 'orn' for good luck – if you don't or if 'at weather's too bad to see it, at's reckon to be bad luck! - when I sees something small in the water.'*

*'What was it?'*

*'At war a small tender, wi what look like three lads in it an' wun wus wavin' at us!'*

*'What did you do?'*

*'Ang abaht! Gve us time to 'ave a wet.'*

*'Well we 'eaded across and dropped 'em a line, only we ad to climb dahn it uzselves, as they war fair 'cream crackered', an' we 'ad to 'aul 'em up.'*

*'What's cream crackered?'*

*'Tired!'*

*'What happened?'*

*'I'm comin' to that!'*



**a small craft barely visible in the water**

*'One er em war gone already an' the other two wus not far off.' Wi give 'em some soup an' 'ot chocolate an let 'em rest or sleep.'*  
*'One er 'em war a young man, as 'ad jes left university, we found out later but 'at other un war not like anybody I'd seen afore!'*

*Massive 'ee were, an' dressed in rags an nets, more'an proper clothes!'*

*'The lad were fair knocked out. The other were ravenous an' vicious like! Ee keep gruntin' an snatchin' what we give 'im; crammin' it in 'is mouth an' slaverin' an' not so much as a word o' thanks!'*

*'an' I plum forgot to look at the 'orn till it were too late!'*

*'The dead man were in a right mess, all mangled an' look like ee' been in a accident!'*

*'We buried 'im at sea.'*

*'When night fell a mist came o'er us an' we couldn't see no land an' all of a sudden 'at strange one went wild, thrashin' and roarin'! Fair knocked down a couple deck 'ands ee did an' we 'ad to chuck a net o're 'im 'an wrap 'im in chains an drag 'im below! We locked im in the 'old. You never 'eard a noise like it.'*

*'When the lad cum round, ee started rambling' an' cryin' an' such. We couldn't calm 'im down. Ee reckon ee were on a expedition or arctic survey or sumat, what were on it's way to Spitsbergen, to study electro-magnetic disturbances whatever they are.'*

*'When 'at went passed that ole 'rhino 'orn' it were thunderin' an' lightnin' an' 'at were'nt possible to see it an' so they noo it were bad luck.'*

*'They was struck by some sunami or 'uge wave, what swamped 'em an' they was capsized. Some of 'em managed to cling on to a dinghy as 'ad broke free, an' four of em got aboard an' drifted till we rescued 'em. There was 'im an' two young scientists an' a' older, ship's carpenter. I'sh think it were 'im we buried.'*

*'Where were the scientists?'*

*'We never found out!'*

*'We told him what we 'ad found in the dinghy when we picked 'im up but he ditn't know nothin' o' 'at other occupant, as we'd 'ad trouble wi' – 'ee couldn't remember nothin' o' no big fella.'*

*'We took him below to see for 'iself – it 'ad all gone quiet but when we unlocked the door, the chains an' the net wus on the deck, all wet - an' 'at 'old wus empty!'*

*The twins laughed bravely to each other and considered going to bed.*

*Anon.*

[For further reading on an eerie arctic winter theme, try: *Dark Matter* by Michelle Paver. Ed.]

oOo

and now to lighten things up again in festive mood:

### snow buntings:

For Gill and myself winter has really arrived when on our annual early December visit to the North Norfolk coast we hear, then see the pink-footed geese in their tens of thousands! For us they are so wonderfully evocative of wildness. They winter there grazing the marshes before moving noisily further inland to the open farmland for the spilt grain and the remains of the carrot, potato, turnip and sugar beet harvests. But best of all it's the little snow buntings that please us most!



the snow bunting - **Gill Maloney**

These heroic little birds, just 16 cm. in size, have also made great journeys like the geese from Canada, Greenland, Iceland and Svalbard. These are extraordinarily long and prodigious feats for such little birds each half the weight of the smaller waders whose long flyways cause great amazement to most people! Once here they fly or run about in little flocks of 20 or 30 individuals on the coastal grassland, saltmarsh and dune margins of the sandy beaches having bred at high altitude on Arctic tundra.

At this high, level habitat humans are something of a novelty to them so snow buntings are extremely approachable when we are lucky enough to see them here. In summer plumage they are a striking black and white, easy to identify; but when here in winter their back and nape is orange-brown, underparts are whitish and their bills yellow! Hard to spot because of the clever camouflage. However they still show considerable amounts of white on wings and tail. Always a striking little bird in flight!

For us East Mersea stone has always been a happy hunting ground for the spring and autumn passage migrants and this last March running around in the strand line and further up the stoney beach was one of these delightful little birds, its summer plumage almost complete.

It was there for several days as we saw it on two visits: it ran around as if powered by clockwork on its little black legs nipping around with relative indifference to people, the little bird can easily be overlooked until almost trodden upon! Dogs and dog walkers failed to spot it! They are all the time looking for seeds. Scan the foreshore next time you are down by the sea in spring or autumn. You may be lucky.

**Tim Denham**

and in case you're missing the river

It might appear deserted without all our craft moored up on it;



the pier on a December afternoon

but it isn't! There are other inhabitants still making use of it:



a heron patiently waits for supper

and in the wet dock, the unlikely family comes to investigate the onlooker:



two's company but come in no. three

What an amazing sky providing a back-drop to a few remaining moored vessels.



sunset over Wivenhoe quayside

small ads:



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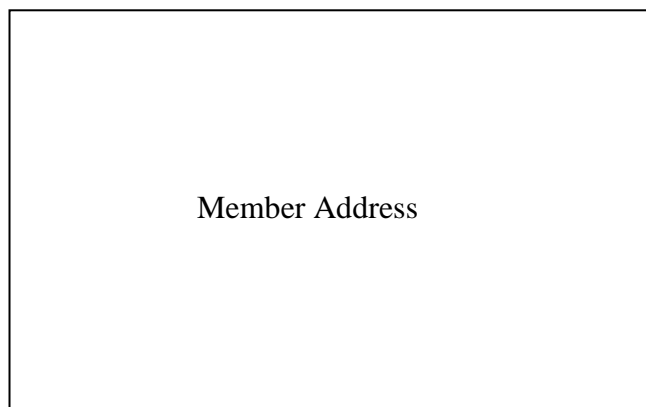
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## WSC: MAINSHEET



Member Address

stop press:

- Sat, Jan 10, 12.00h: Row & Ramble to Anchor, Rowhedge
- Sat, Jan 24, 19.00h: Burns Night
- Fri, Jan 30, 19.30h: Quiz for Cancer Charity
- Fri, Feb 6, 19.30h: wsc picture show
- Sun, Feb 15, 10.00h: Nature Walk & Sunday lunch
- Sat, Mch 7, 18.30h: Wallet Ball, Benton Hall
- Fri, Mch 13, 19.00h: Supper cooked by Cadets – fundraiser
- Fri, Mch 27, 19.30h: www Spring-watch
- Mon, Apr 6, 12.30h: Fitting-out race

Next mainsheet: April 2015

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