

ACBO Newsletter June 2019

Sailing Programme

This is just a reminder that the first cruise in company is scheduled for Saturday July 6th. To Tollesbury. Let Dave know if you require a berth and call the Harbour View Tollesbury to pre-order your meal. Text Dave on 07968630727 by 3rd July at the latest. The menu is on their website.

You are welcome to join us by road!

ACBO Half Year Report June 2019 (for full minutes see General meeting notes)

The committee has met every month to six weeks since the committee was voted in last October. There are 27 individual shareholders (3 deceased). We have 89 members and associate members. We will decide at the next meeting about issuing a share offer for those shares. We are also considering the structure of fees with a view to increasing the fees for boats that have not moved for years. We are also looking to decide on a small dividend for shareholders now our income has increased. The finances are going well. Income has been increased through renting out the West end shed and chasing non payers.

A small group of volunteers have been working hard on updating the electrics, water proofing the roof, renewing the purlins, repairing the hole in the wall and clearing rubbish. Thanks to all of them.

We are updating the launch and recovery and health and safety policies.

We have been very frustrated that we can't clean the slipway until we have agreement from the Borough Council which should be with us shortly as we are in the closing stages of negotiations with Colchester Borough Council regarding the lease for the 50 moorings in the creek.

Social Meetings

The meetings will continue to take place at Wivenhoe Sailing club on the first Monday each month (NOT AUGUST OR JANUARY) at 8.00 pm. Here there is a chance to keep updated with progress of creek and shed events. Everyone is welcome and there will be talks arranged on alternate months, and the opportunity to share navigational experiences and places visited.

Next months talk is entitled "Sail assist" by Andrew Scott,

Cruising tales

Intrepid sailors Brian and Keith decided to wait until the worst June weather in decades to go for a four day Cruise on their 26ft Golden Hind 26, Proteus.

Determined to bite the bullet and turn left out of the Colne for a change they made fantastic progress up the river with their new Tan sails pulling hard with a good breeze from the South with the genoa boomed out. Romping past Clacton and Walton Piers and making for Stone Banks entered the Stour at lunch time after a 6 am start. Picking up a mooring at Wrabness to stop for a bite to eat it was time to check the weather again to confirm the next stage of the cruise. Rain and strong winds all day!!! Time to run for cover. Brian has always fancied going into Manningtree; information being a bit on the thin side in the Essex Rivers pilot a phone call to the Manningtree sailing club to check availability of the quayside. A friendly voice answered the call and confirmed that the quayside was ok to moor against and was available. Knowing that the river dries almost completely at Manningtree we set off with two hours to go before highwater. The river is buoyed until Mistley and the realisation that seagulls cant stand on the water helped us to navigate the channel around very close to Mistley quay. The moorings are then followed closely interspersed with a few more port and starboard buoys in the most amazing loops and switch backs. After an attempt at winning the ploughing trophy trying to take a short cut to the quay we got back on track and made it to the quay. We settled safely on the mud and with a handy ladder were able to climb the short distance up to access the delight of Manningtree. The sailing club was open and gave us a very warm welcome, fine beer and good facilities.

As predicted the weather closed in on the Monday – rain, strong winds. Time to head into sample the delights of the small riverside town. The Co-op, a charity shop, a delightful coffee shop and baker, a chance meeting with Jackie Halsall and back to the sailing club for a lunchtime half and meeting a former ACBOA member Ken Steggles. Back to the boat for an afternoon nap but visitors arrived for afternoon tea bearing cakes and cookies. With the rain lashing down Bill, Brenda, Ken Keith and Brian reminisced about old times over tea and cake around the cosy saloon table.

A 6 am start the next morning saw careful navigation around the loops of the River Stour to get us into the buoyed channel-cutting a long story short another fine sail with cool winds but sunshine all the way back to our mooring (via a very long detour out to gunfleet east cardinal owing to wind and tide).

A view from the quay. The channel from the quay to the buoyed channel follows the posts at the end of the two dinghy launching slipways.



