



### Social

Thanks to all those who came to the Christmas gathering. The weather was off-putting but the warmth inside was most agreeable.

Wishing all members health, wealth and happiness for the festive season. The next meeting is at 20:00 on Monday January 5<sup>th</sup> at Wivenhoe Sailing Club.

### Cruise in Company

We are currently planning the activities for the season ahead. If you have any suggestions or favourite destinations to add to the programme, please let Stephen know. [social@acbo.org.uk](mailto:social@acbo.org.uk)

### Shed news

The sheds are becoming much busier as people are getting ready for the new season. Please remember to switch off the lights when you leave.

Before leaving, I usually have a final quick check round in case anyone is still working. The last check is to scramble the combination when you put the lock on the door. Having a combination lock is a great convenience for everyone who uses the sheds but making it easy for a passer-by to see the combination removes any security it provides. I tend to hang the lock on the inside hook so I don't take it home by accident when there are others working in the shed.

We are in the process of writing to owners who have boats at the sheds which are unlikely to see the water again and whose boats or trailers are becoming unsafe. It is part of the storage policy that boats should be movable if required.

Finally, a big thankyou to those who have been down and moved their dinghies into the central store or outside, to make room for winter storage.

### Moorings

There has been some discussion about unoccupied moorings being used by visitors to the creek. I know that occasionally they are picked up for a quick lunch stop. I am sure many of us have done the same when out and about.

However, longer term moorings are allocated by the cooperative and are only available to members in accordance with the moorings policy.

### Other News

Having replaced all the running rigging over the last couple of years with double braid and many of the shackles with soft shackles I am now fairly adept at splicing. If anyone would like to learn how to create eye splices for halyards or sheets, message me in the coop WhatsApp group. Hopefully we can get a group together at the sheds one afternoon.

Equally if there are members who have particular skills to share, or wish to learn, we could perhaps make it a regular feature of the winter season.

Hopefully laying up is now finished, imagine what it is like to lay up a Thames barge. YouTube Edith May,. [https://youtu.be/kKGLN4ziszsi?si=NtcFX4\\_VezEoau-C](https://youtu.be/kKGLN4ziszsi?si=NtcFX4_VezEoau-C).

### Contacts

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