



Social

The next social meeting at Wivenhoe Sailing Club will be at 20:00 on Monday 5th of October. This was originally timetabled as the AGM. The AGM HAS BEEN POSTPONED. Please see below for the new date.

These meetings on the first Monday of the month are social events and are also open to WSC & WRCA members.

NEW DATE: ACBOC AGM Monday November 2nd 20:00 at WSC

The AGM is an important meeting for both shareholders and associate members. Both the treasurer and Chairman are standing down this year. This is your opportunity to shape the future of the Coop and we hope to see you at the meeting. Documents will be circulated prior to the meeting.

Cruises in Company

Saturday 12th September is the ACBOC Laying up cruise to Bradwell, this is a joint event with WRCA. Please let Stephen know if you are planning to attend either by water or road. 07958 568375. Early plans suggest that members are leaving early to gather in Pyefleet or Mersea.

Other events which may be of interest.

Saturday 19th September Bradwell air show, hosted by the Green Man Inn. There will be hurricane and spitfire displays during the day, great food at the Green Man and the Bradwell Marina Bar, a BBQ, stalls, live music and military displays. Perhaps two visits to Bradwell.

Shed news

There have been a couple of occasions recently when the sheds have been left unlocked. Please make sure when you leave that all lights are off and there is no one still in the sheds. Finally checking that all doors are locked or secure.

Moorings

As we approach the end of the season there have been a number mooring changes. Please make sure James is consulted before moving onto a new mooring. Once the boat is ashore, or moved to winter storage, please take time to inspect or renew your ground tackle. If you are not sure how to proceed, please contact a member of the committee who can advise.

Other News

What were you doing in 1976?

Alresford creek was once a commercial waterway with barges loading gravel and sand from the overhead cableway. The mouth of the creek was spanned by a swing bridge over which ran the railway from Wivenhoe to Brightlingsea. The supports are still clearly visible on each side of the creek mouth as are the remains of the bridge keeper's boat house.

With the demise of the barging trade and the railway, the creek started a new chapter. Leisure vessels established moorings and the numbers started to increase to unmanageable levels. On the 1st of May 1976 a group of boat owners formed the Alresford Creek Boat Owners Association, with a view to regulating and protecting the creek from over exploitation and "To provide affordable storage,



moorings other facilities and services for boat owners in the local area.”

In 2018 the association merged with the Alresford Boat Owners Cooperative which was formed to purchase the sheds, previously leased to members, for storage and maintenance of boats.

2026 marks the 50th anniversary, even the weather is trying to imitate the glorious summer of '76. In celebration of the event members gathered on the weekend of the 21st and 22nd of August for a series of locally based land and water events.

The 50th Anniversary Colne Rally, was designed to encourage those getting into sailing to come out and sail on the Colne and enjoy the company of fellow members.

In typical ACBOC fashion, the event started unconventionally, why not have a swim before one leaves the mooring. Bread knife in hand, Rising Dawn was released from its mooring buoy. A gentle sail followed to meet up with Ava Rose, Sundance and Swedish Lass gathered in Pyefleet.

Saturday was a relaxed day making the most of the fine but gusty conditions with a run out to Colne bar and up the Blackwater towards Bradwell. The wind increased to 24knots entering the Blackwater resulting in a spirited sail tight



on the wind before dropping down to 5 knots. No surprises, on the return the wind had shifted, tight on the wind on the way back too. The fleet returned to Brightlingsea around 5pm. They put us all on the fisherman's pontoon together with Bolinda. Crews gathered on Swedish Lass for pre dinner drinks before getting the water taxi to shore. A fine meal was enjoyed by all in the at the Yachtsman's Arms.

On Sunday, crews gathered for breakfast in the Victoria Cafe, followed by more sailing in company. We were also joined by Proteus, the original plan was a raft up somewhere for lunch. However, all agreed that the breakfast was enough to last, possibly until Monday! On leaving the pontoon there was time for more sailing in the Blackwater. The fleet finally went their own way after a most enjoyable and fitting way to celebrate 50 years of Alresford Creek Boat owners.

What about the next 50?

First and foremost, members benefit from our aim: “To provide affordable storage, moorings other facilities and services for boat owners in the local area.” There is also a wealth of experience and willingness to share knowledge and time in true cooperative spirit.

We recognise the creek as a special place, not just for ourselves but for all who visit. We work to ensure that it remains so. There are many challenges to the environment we live in and by maintaining our presence we have a caring oversight which is so important to the future of the creek.

We also strongly believe in the “Kindred Clubs” ethos, all our events are open to WSC & WRCA members, we are also welcome at their events expanding the opportunities for cruising and socialising. We are most grateful for the support of WSC, allowing us to meet in the clubhouse on the first Monday of the month. Perhaps you would like to join us there or on one of our events. You will be most welcome. Details can be found on our website. [Www.acbo.org.uk](http://www.acbo.org.uk).

Well done to Anthony, assisted by Bernie for bringing his new boat back to the Colne. Apparently, it was an excellent test of sea worthiness with strong winds and heavy swell. Rising Dawn is now for sale via Morgan's brokerage.

Contacts

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