

Social Meetings.

This is the last newsletter before Christmas. We hope you all enjoy a healthy and happy festive season. May the New Year live up to its promise. Fair winds and following seas to all.

Many thanks to those who brought food to share at the December meeting. An extra special thanks goes to the magicians who made the washing up disappear!

A reminder that there is no Wivenhoe social meeting in January. The next social meeting will be on Monday February 3rd at 20:00.

Shed Wednesdays will be continuing as usual.

Shed news

Boats are being packed in for the winter and the site is looking a lot tidier. Space has been made for the tenders stored over the winter by rearranging the boats we can move.

Disposal of abandoned boats has been started and so far, has cost the cooperative £500 in skips. This does not include any charges for labour. This is obviously unsustainable and places a burden on all shed users. Our aim is to facilitate sailing for all at a reasonable cost. Unfortunately, a small minority are making it difficult to keep costs down.

By making the cooperative affordable there is a natural tendency to attract boats which are "works in progress." There is, however, a fine line between those that will grace the waters again and those which will become a liability. Currently it is cheaper to store a boat at the sheds for the whole year without launching. This is an advantage if you are working on a boat over the Summer. However, it also reduces the incentive to launch. In fairness to those who pay for storage and launch we have decided to charge the equivalent of the mooring fee to those who remain in the sheds over the Summer.

Sadly, there are boats which never see either the water or their owners. We are very concerned that ACBOC members will end up paying for the disposal of more of these boats. We are going to do whatever we can to prevent this in 2025.

A big thank you to the members who have helped on shed Wednesdays. They have made a big difference by volunteering to help with little jobs around the site on a regular basis. Rewarded of course with biccies and beverages.

Moorings

All is quiet, awaiting loving attention in the Spring. Those remaining afloat should keep an eye on the weather and make sure that their insurance company is aware.

Other News

You may have noticed that the Police marine unit are no longer circulating the Marine Community Newsletter. In line with Essex Police Policy, the regular updates will feature in the Essex Police Dispatch Newsletters that are circulated each week. You can subscribe to Dispatch by following the link here - <u>Dispatch newsletter | Essex Police</u>

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