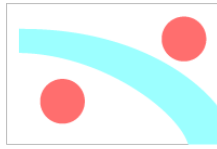


Wivenhoe and Rowhedge Yacht Owners' Association

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2012



WINTER EVENT REPORTS:

MARITIME TALKS

Normandy

Mike Taylor-Jones
The Nottage Maritime Institute
Saturday 22nd October, 8pm

Mike Taylor-Jones's talk titled "The Norman Conquests" described his and Liz's cruise in a rather windy June along the coast of Normandy. It took in their struggle against persistent head winds which they did eventually conquer to reach Cherbourg. On the way Mike digressed about 1066 and the Bayeux Tapestry and the D-Day Invasion of June 1944, one of their anchorages being inside the remains of the Mulberry Harbour at Arromanches.

Scandinavian Cruise

Chris and Jill Guy
The Nottage Maritime Institute
Saturday 12th November, 8pm

The Guy's treated everyone to a wonderful evening journeying in distant European waters with a range of visitors. I'm sure it tempted many to think about Scandinavian waters in the future!

THE ANNUAL DINNER

Sixty seven members and guests enjoyed another excellent dinner provided by Caroline Bindloss and her team. The background noise from conversation seemed to be louder than ever, indicating everyone was enjoying themselves. Phil Thompson was in the Chair and for the first time we had two female speakers. The guest speaker was Miranda Delmare-Morgan, who spoke amusingly and eloquently about her upbringing and experiences in various boats. Midge Hetherington responded as members' speaker with a range of wonderful, wild, memorable sailing experiences with Bernie. The last members left around 00.45, another typical WRYOA dinner having finished with people mingling and chatting.

SWATCHWAYS

The Nottage Maritime Institute
Saturday 28th January, 8pm

The Swatchways evenings held at the Nottage Maritime Institute and featured three speakers, these were:

Phil Thompson – the talk was titled *Sail to Sandwich* and was based on an account of a family holiday in 2009, on a trip across the Thames and various stops on the Kent coast including the Cinque port of Sandwich.

John Wilson – talk titled *A Gloomy Day*, a very funny and well-illustrated account of a series of small adventures and calamities that occurred when simply trying to reach a moored boat from the shore in a tender.

Tim Denham and Jill Maloney presented a number of slides that showed a hot summer cruise around the East Coast Rivers during the summer of 2010, this was described by Tim as some of his best cruising in 35 years. These were followed by some arctic scenes from Hunstanton, Norfolk, during the very cold winter of the same year.

REMAINING WINTER EVENTS

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Nottage Maritime Institute
Sunday 4th March, 11.45am
(see attached forms)

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC EVENING

"Weather"
Wivenhoe Sailing Club
Saturday 24th March, 8pm

SUMMER EVENTS 2012 (details and forms to follow later in the year)

THE SPRING RALLY

Shotley Marina, Ipswich Haven Marina, and the Walton Backwaters
Saturday 2nd – Tuesday 5th June

THE GOOSEBERRY PIE RALLY

Tollesbury Marina
Saturday 30th June – Sunday 1st July

THE AUTUMN RALLY

Heybridge Basin
Saturday 8th – Sunday 9th September

RIVER NEWS (provided by Bernie Hetherington):

The winter period has been fairly quiet on the river but a few things have been happening.

- The Colne Estuary Partnership held a meeting at WSC on Thursday 10 November. Items of particular interest were:-
 - Anglian Water gave a presentation on the expansion of the sewage works at the Hythe with improved processing including tertiary purification and an undertaking not to increase raw sewage discharge into the river.
 - A report was given on the completion of the Balanced Seas Project for Marine Conservation Zones in the Colne and Blackwater including a 1 km X 1 km no take zone off Colne Point. The draft final report is on the internet.
- The Nottage Courses and Friends lectures continue and anyone interested in attending is welcome.
- Mike Downs will shortly be moving from Rivage, the cottage adjacent to the Nottage which has been his home for 19 years. He is moving to rented accommodation elsewhere in Wivenhoe. The future of Rivage is subject to a review of its use by the Trustees and Management Committee but no decisions have yet been made. Mike is very pleased with this opportunity and will continue to be the Warden at the Nottage at least for the time being.
- The proposed new ferry service between Brightlingsea and Colchester is still on track for the coming season. The boat has been ordered and a landing point at the Hythe in

Colchester is programmed for completion in 2012, further details will be published on the BHC website.

- Just before Christmas a vessel sank in the approaches to West Mersea just north of the Nass Beacon. It is currently marked by a lit yellow and blue wreck marking buoy whilst its future is being decided – see local Notices to Mariners for more details.
- The demolition of the baffle wall off Bradwell power station is underway with the scrap steel being brought into Brightlingsea on a barge towed by Noddy Cardy's tug "Agamar". The steel is not being stored ashore on the Wharf, it is being taken away by lorry for disposal. The central concrete structure of the baffle is not due to be removed until 2014 – see local Notices to Mariners.
- Andrew Hack the recently appointed manager at Priors has moved on and been replaced by John Dicks.
- There appears to be a crescendo of emotion being emitted concerning a concrete crushing plant working 24/7 being installed on the quay at Fingringhoe. This is a complete misunderstanding of what is proposed. The actual proposal (which has currently been refused) is for inert, already crushed, building waste to be brought in by barge to be used to profile completed extraction areas of the quarry to assist their reintegration into the surrounding environment. This issue was discussed at a meeting in Fingringhoe between representatives of ECC and others and Fingringhoe residents but did little to ease the emotion associated with its misunderstood proposal.
- A strategic study is underway to investigate future options for sustainable management of Brightlingsea Harbour over the next 25 – 50 years. It is being undertaken by HR Wallingford with their partners Marina Projects and will involve discussions with local stakeholders and anyone interested in becoming involved in the process should contact BHC.
- Apologies have been received from the owners of two powerboats which disturbed the peace of the river late last summer.
- In a separate incident a prosecution is being taken by BHC against a jet ski rider who lives locally who was speeding and abusive in Brightlingsea Harbour.

LOG YOUR ACTIVITIES: Can I ask everyone to think about logging their sailing experiences both local and afar this year with the Newsletter, the Maritime Talks, the Swatchways and the Photographic Evening in mind. I would love to see more contributions from members. The theme for the Photographic competition this year is "Weather".

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