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www.islandyachtclub.co.uk



Some "Odd" Buoys !!

**Seriously though, they are excellent
(the boys or the buoys???)
Check out the map inside**

March



2008

IYC Newsletter



Page 3	Social Calender
Page 4	Cadets Winter RIB Training
Page 5	Cruiser Section / launch dates
Page 6	IYC Boating Activities 2008
Page 7	Dinghy Section /Camper Van Notice
Page 8	Motor Boat Section / Fishing Competitions
Page 9	Light sculpture Volunteers required
Page 10	Down on the Waterfront
Page 11-12	New Creek Buoys
Page 13	IYC Boats for Sale
Page 14	RYA Training
Page 15-16	Whimbrel A Bit of Bother
Page 17	IYC Galley

IYC Social Section

(Summer 2008)

- Mar** 1st Spanish Evening Meal; (email [IYC](#) for Tickets & Menu)
8th Quiz Night With Roy
15th Casino Evening
20th Fitting Out Supper (email [IYC](#) for Tickets & Menu)
22nd Easter Dance
- Apr** Quiz Night With Roy
12th Private Function
19th Murder Mystery Evening Meal (email [IYC](#) for Tickets & Menu)
26th Disco Night
- May** 3rd Hoo Cruise BBQ
31st Vice Commodores Cruise
- Aug** 9th Fun Day (email [IYC](#) for Tickets)
23rd Commodores Cruise
- Sept** 6th Quiz Night with Roy
20th Dance
- Oct** 5th IYC Birthday Bash (email [IYC](#) for Tickets)
25th Halloween Dance
- Nov** 8th Bonfire Night
15th Gentlemen's Cruise
22nd Annual Dinner Dance
29th Dance
30th AGM
- Dec** 6th Prize Giving
14th Children's Christmas Party
20th Christmas Dance
27th Pantomime
31st New Years Eve

CADETS



12 brave Cadets (and their parents) have faced the winter to make an early start training for the RYA RIB challenge.

If you will still be 16 years old by September you can compete. Here Paul gives advice on the task been set before another timed run at the end of session trials.

We are taking advantage of the sheltered waters at Stubbers Farm to start early this year.

The Cadets are competing for a place in the regional final based on their best and last trials, so every time they compete in a timed trial they are looking for a better performance to count, and they are getting very competitive.

The results are updated and displayed on the Cadet Notice board – so they (and you) can see how they are improving and who they have to beat.

Many thanks to Jeff and Paul for hauling their RIB's to Stubbers and for braving the cold winter waters (I had a sick note).

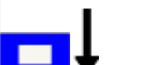
Good luck to you all and have fun.

Peter



Cruisers Section

Starting signals used in IYC & CCCS Cruiser Racing

	5 minute Preparatory	1 sound *  or  Class flag (No 1) Raised
	4 minute Warning	1 sound *  or  Code flag (P) Raised
	1 minute Warning	1 sound *  or  Code flag (P) Lowered
	Start	1 sound *  or  Class flag Lowered

Spring launch dates

Contact for launch on either:
Mobile (07787 142 115) or
Email alex_haven@yahoo.com

DATE	HIGH WATER	HEIGHT
22nd March	13:39	5.7m
5th April	12:56	5.8m
19th April	13:06	5.6m
20th April	13:39	5.6m
3rd May	10:39	5.5m
4th May	12:25	5.8m

IYC BOATING ACTIVITIES 2008

Adjusted for BST

Date	HW	HT	RACE	CRUISE	DINGHY
MAR Fri 21	12:34	5.8		Easter Cruise	Pontoon
Sat22	13:09	5.8			Easter Series
Sun23	13:39	5.7			Easter Series
Mon 24	14:08	5.6			Easter Series
APRIL Sun 6	13:37	5.9			Dinghy Race
Sun 20	13:39	5.6	Sunnyside Cup		Sunnyside Cup
Sat 26	16:38	5.1			Paul Meison Memorial
Sun 27	17:21	4.9			Dinghy Race
MAY Sat 3	11:36	5.5		Cruise to Hoo & BBQ	
Sun 4	12:24	5.7			Dinghy Series
Mon 5	13:09	5.9			Dinghy Series
Sun 11	17:51	5.1			Dinghy Race
Sat 17	11:55	5.4	Queenborough		
Sun 18	12:34	5.4			Dinghy Race
Sat 24	15:46	5.3		V. Com. Gravelines	
Sun 25	16:24	5.2			Dinghy Race
Mon 26	17:05	5.0			Dinghy Race
Sat 31	09:59	5.2	Boatacs Trophy		
JUNE Sun 1	10:59	5.4			Dinghy Race
Sat 7	15:59	5.6	RAY DAY	RAY DAY	RAY DAY
Sun 8	16:48	5.5	Ellen Rapkin		Dinghy Race
Sat 14	10:23	5.0	Harty Ferry Race	Harty Ferry	
Sun 15	11:15	5.1			Dinghy Race
Sun 22	15:36	5.4			Dinghy Race
Tue 24	04:48	5.3		S.Coast Cruise I.O.W.	
Sun 29	09:18	5.1	Nore Race		Nore Race
JULY Sun 6	15:48	5.7	Ladies Race		Ladies Race
Sat 12	08:21	5.0	Interclub Cruiser		
Sun 20	14:48	5.5			Dinghy Race
Sat 26	06:33	5.1	Blackwater Race	R. Com. Maidstone	
AUG Sat 2	14:04	5.8		Com. Brightlingsea	Hurricane Open
Sun 3	14:47	5.8			Hurricane Open
Sat 16	13:16	5.4	FUN DAY	FUN DAY	FUN DAY
Sun 17	13:51	5.6	Norton Novice		Forw'd Hands Race
Sat 23	17:21	5.5		Ramsgate	
Sun 24	18:14	5.2			Dinghy Race
Sun 31	13:46	5.9	Koningstein Pursuit		Koningstein Pursuit
SEPT Sat 13	12:06	5.2	Upnor Race	Upnor	
Sun 14	12:44	5.5			Dinghy Race
Sun 28	12:43	5.8	Greene King Race		Whitbread Race
OCT Sun 5	16:42	5.2			Dinghy Race
Sun 12	11:22	5.2			Gin & Rum
NOV Thu 13	11:54	5.9		Gentlemen	
DEC Sat 6	05:20	4.8	Prize Giving		

DINGHY SAILING SECTION,

MARCH 2008.

Here we are very close to our sailing season, we do have a full programme this season with around 48 race's, there will be two race's each day, so by the end of the season maybe some of us will have improved.

This season will you please drive the support boat when your name is on the rota for that day, there were occasions last season some of you did not fulfil your duty, this meant that one of the sailors had to forfeit their race to cover for the person who did not attend or have the decency to let me know that they were not available for that day, so please let us all work in harmony, I am sure you know where I am coming from.

For those of you that sail Dart's and Sprint's, have you serviced your rudder's? the rigging takes a lot of punishment on these cats as we all sail with a slack rig tension, therefore you should renew your standing rigging if yours are over three years old, nothing worse than being in a good position and your mast falls down, check your trapeze wires and fitting's as these are very light and once again take a lot of weight, I am sure that your crew will not like being dropped in the water for the lack of maintenance, these parts are readily available from suppliers contact me if you are not sure.

This season race's will start on time! We will sound a warning blast 15 minute's before the start, so beware.

One final piece, please observe the rule's. Most of the time a dinghy that is on starboard tack has the right of way and does not. I repeat, does not have to call STARBOARD. If he does he is being courteous to let you know that he is there, and not for you to think that he is giving way!

I wish you all good safe racing for 2008.

Brian.

Camper Vans, Caravans Notice

**Camper Vans, Caravans etc .
The Committee has agreed that should members wish to bring these down to the Club for them to stay on whilst Sailing etc then they should be parked in the designated area for Parking in the Compound.**

Motor Boat Section

May Day Bank Holiday, 3,4,& 5 Club cruise to Hoo & BBQ

May Bank Holiday, 24,25 & 26 This venue to be arranged at the next Motor Boat meeting to be held in the club house on Wednesday 5 March at 8 pm

July 26 & 27 Rear Commodores Cruise Maidstone River Boat Festival Theme this year is the Olympics (Possibly leave Canvey Wednesday afternoon 23 July return Sunday/Monday)

August Bank Holiday Weekend, 23,24 & 25 club cruise to Ramsgate

Please watch notice board for other information regarding Motor Boat meetings and events

Best regards Motor Boat Committee

Fishing Competitions

**IYC Open Fishing
Competition Saturday
26th April 2008 04.32
hrs HW**

**Children's Fishing
Comp Saturday 7th
July 2008 16.32 hrs HW
5.9m**



MEMBERS LETTERS

7500 torch-bearing volunteers required for light sculpture centred on Southend & the pier.

Peter,

Please see below and attached.

Do you want to put a mention of this in the club newsletter, you could say, "if anybody is interested to contact me by say a week after you publish.

Mike Edwards
Sailing Secretary

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to you to invite your club to participate in our community art project, scheduled to be held in the late afternoon of Saturday 12th April 2008.

Our project comprises of an 8.33 mile land and sea drawing, where the medium of the drawing is light, to perform a circle around the heart of Southend. The Pier is the radius of our circle and the drawing produced will be filmed and photographed from the air and depending on cloud cover from space by satellite.

The purpose of our Community Project is to:

Raise community spirit,

Raise the profile of Southend and the Surrounding area,

To develop community cohesion.

We hope that your sailing members might like to participate. Should they wish to do so, we will require them to sail into their chosen positions in the water aspects of the circle which will be marked by buoys and remain in position for 15 minutes, so that the image can be captured. The timing for the drawing is between 7:15 and 7:45pm.

I have attached our Group Information Pack should your club wish to participate as a group, and would like to add that should individual want to participate separately, they are more than welcome to do so and can register via our web site or by email us directly using the contact details below.

On behalf of my project partners and I, we look forward to hearing from you on this matter.

Kind Regards

Anna Heim

On behalf of

Manners, Berry & Heim - Directors

Pi Community Art Project

Down on the waterfront

Two members were on their way out over the mud flats to place marker posts to enable them to accurately obtain water depths for the creeks new channel buoy anchorages...

'Don't stand in the brown or watery looking mud,' one had said.

'Why,' the other had quipped as he strode gamely on... looking on into the distance...

'Well it's like this...'

Then with an absent mind, or thoughts about the myriad of disgruntled calls from members he'd fielded that morning, he'd stepped into what had just been mentioned...

'See what you mean,' had been the remark as he'd pulled a leg out of a soft patch.

The laugh, though, was on his face later, as the one who had given the warning had got a boot full of icy cold water when crossing the gut way to enable them to place the markers for the green buoys!

We were looking for a piece of rope – easy you'd think – for the yard often turns up some tasty morsels. A piece was found. It was about 25mm diameter and many metres in length. For the job in hand it was a bit of a struggle.

Then, along came one of the compounds senior sailors, singing, 'The Twelve Days of Christmas...'

After learning of their need and passing a few comments, for which his age, wisdom and whatever else allows, they carried on. Suddenly picking up the threads of 'Sailors' friendly, if a little caustic, tirade about people not returning things... one of them rummaged in 'Sailors' or should I say, BJ's rope locker.

'Look!' was the exultant shout, 'There's plenty of what we want in here,' chucking up a more suitable length of rope.

Senior Sailor shuddered, involuntarily, and then muttered, 'It's taken me years to collect that lot...!'

It was heard from above... a voice, as if from the heavens... 'Make sure you shackle that chain on the right way up... or the buoy will float upside down.'

Three hard at it heads bobbed up to see a cheerful, grinning, Paddington bear like face looking down.

'Ha-ha!' chorused several voices...

'What's doing?' a club member asked upon arriving (late) for a work party Saturday some weeks ago.

'The Boss is over there,' he was told.

Looking the way indicated, he saw the young man in charge. He was strutting across his patch with a crocodile of men in tow... 'H-!' the member had said, 'It only seems like yesterday that he was a game young lad who at the tender age of eight had helped construct jetties on the site of our old dinghy racks...' Life moves on!

The member made a land based tack and sallied forth to help prepare Lily for her fresh daub of make up.

Water Rat

Hi Peter,

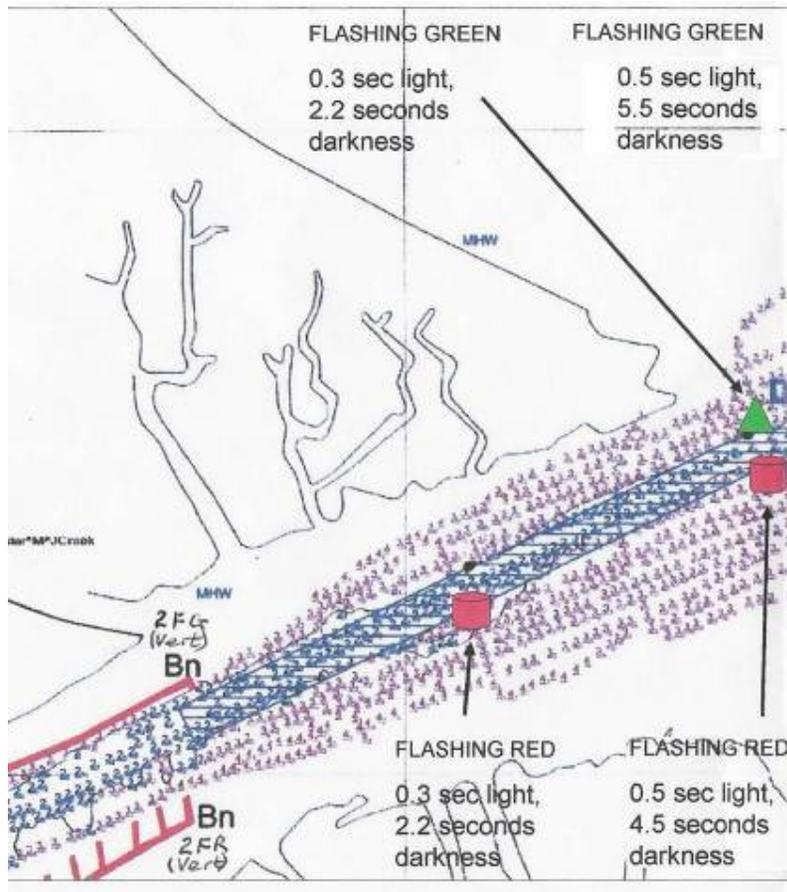
As you may be aware the new creek buoys have been installed. I have dispatched a raft of pictures to put on the club web site.

I have attached a few of others showing the actual event etc. These you might like to add to the next magazine - as a collage perhaps. Out of picture (because he was wielding my camera and helming) is Dave.

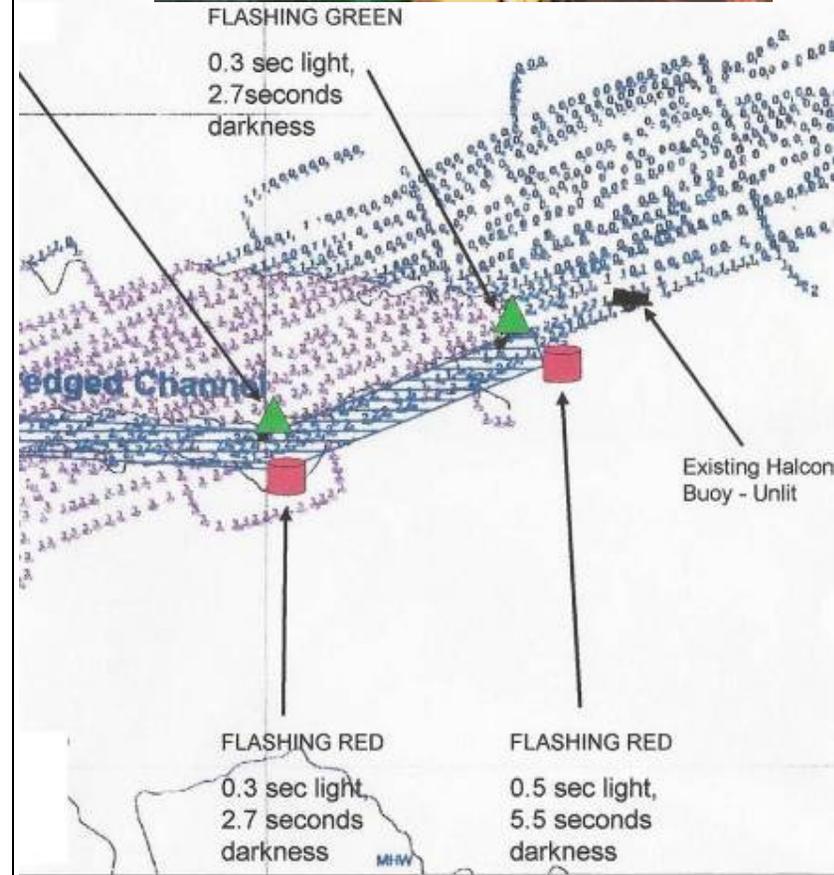
We had a spot of bother with a lack of ballast in the buoys - Bill is going to investigate this? In the short term, the stability of the buoys has been stabilised!

Kind regards,

Nick.



11



12

IYC Boats for sale

Listed on the IYC Web site where you can find more details.

SAILFISH	WHICH WAY NORTH	18	OFFERS
M/BOAT	SEAGLASS	24	£8,500
FAIREY FISHERMAN		26	£13,000
SNAPDRAGON	KEIRA	26	OFFERS
LEISURE 20		20	£4750 ono
FAIRLINE FURY	APRIL DAWN	25	£5,995
COLVIC WATSON	POLLY	23	£10,500
Ex RN (FISHING)	CHARTEL	22	£7,000
EUGETHENE		24	£3,000
SNAPDRAGON	SEA LAIKA	27	£8,500
BROOM FLYBRIDGE			
CRUISER 1982	Twin 150HP Perkins	35	£58,500
SNAPDRAGON	KABUKI	26	£8,000
TRAPPER 300	FLYING FOX	26	£8,950
WESTERLY CENTAUR	LITTLE GOOSE	26	P.O.A.
McGREGOR	EMILY	26	£10,500
HALMATIC	ANGLER	30	£4,000
ARISTO CAT	WESTERN ENTERPRIZE	33	P.O.A.
SEA ROVER	INCH	28	£10,000
WOODEN CAT	TWEEDEL DEE	30	£1,500
MACWESTER ROWAN	MOUNTAIN ASH	22	P.O.A.
SEAL 22	NO NAME	22	£3,995
FLETCHER ARROW	FLIGHT	14	£3,195
WESTERLY PAGENT	LAROTAUIA	23	P.O.A.
VIVACITY		20	£1,750

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A bit of bother

The day was one of those days that sounded, from the start, quite promising and it was. The forecast, showers at first, dry later, nineteen degrees with a north-westerly two to three increasing four in the afternoon, announced to my subconscious that I could have a decent sail on the tide. It had been two weeks since I'd last been afloat. Never mind the seven year itch, I'd passed the seven day itch and was becoming tetchy... As Jerome K Jerome, succinctly put in his brilliant yarn of boating on the Thames a hundred years ago, 'There is no more thrilling sensation I know than sailing.' Need I say more!

I left the morning adult class that I was working in at twelve thirty prompt. Upon reaching the creek and boarding *Whimbrel* I quickly making ready, lastly I hoisted the burgee, where it flapped in eagerness. I'd cleared my berth thirty three minutes later... It was simply gorgeous. The sun was shining brightly with only a few fluffy clouds passing over a deep blue sky. It felt a lot warmer than forecasted. Clearing the mooring, the sails were immediately set and the engine silenced. I ran serenely and silently, except for a gentle rustle at the forefoot, out of the creek over the eager flood tide. I breathed the saline air and revelled in it. The wind proved to be of admirable strength and the boat left a mesmerising curving wash over the protected waters. I had noticed upon leaving that the tide was some what more advanced than was normal with about an hour to go: I was though, later than usual. The thought immediately passed from my mind.

I headed up Hadleigh Ray sailing nonchalantly past numerous lonely boats; some though, had people lazing in their cockpits. Tacking casually round the stern of a yacht with two reclining figures luxuriating, probably, over a mug of tea, I'd wanted to call out, 'Get out sailing...' I returned their acknowledgements: I'm known locally (the boat and me that is) to sail if humanly possible up any creek, or gut, wherever there is a dusting of water, as if it were the high seas.

Clearing the moorings towards the western end of Two Tree Island I blithely put a tack in. I'd sailed this stretch of water so many times: I thought, almost, the boat knew its own way. I had two sounders, one electrical (switched off most of the time) and the reliable centre plate!

Passing a buoy, conveniently laid by the other Island yacht club, 'the Benfleet', my mind registered the fact that another tack was soon necessary. I promptly forgot. My mind went off on a tangent, thinking of smooth water, reflections and colours. The tide was well over the saltings. It had a magical feel – mesmerising even. It was idyllic.

My reverie was broken by the realisation that I was looking at tufts of vegetation poking out of the water. '- Hell,' I said as I pushed the tiller over to tack. In that same instant my centre plate jumped up and reminded me forcefully that I'd run out of water, 'Stupid boy' I'd muttered: I'd landed on Marks Marsh Island, the patch of marsh that sits up Benfleet Creek. There I was, marooned, amongst a mass of cord grass and sea pursalane, all of it waving at me - as if laughing – it seemed.

The slack plate wire was rapidly wound in: it was no more than fifteen minutes to high water. As a rule my engine is little used... my wife believes it has a secret pin number... it was running in an instant. Full astern was no good. I looped a line over the tiller, to turn the boat away, and went forward. Nothing initially happened. Then

she moved – a little - then more consistently with a gentle bumping motion - my palpitations eased slightly. I looked beneath the bow: the boat had started to move towards deeper water, it seemed, away to my port side. I moved aft, watching the boats slow passage past a stalk of cord grass.

Looking astern a plume of water spewed marsh plants torn from their moorings, scattering them in the prop wash. Gulls, always quick off the mark, frolicked and chased each other as tasty morsels came to the surface. The Gulls increasing in numbers screamed and hawked at one another as if laughing at the 'silly man' beneath them. Terns had appeared too, to hover and drop dart like, rising with little silvery fish...

The boat, meanwhile, had kept moving, but also, it had begun to turn very slowly too: the breeze and backed jib were at work and a surge of relief began to course through me: I knew that the tides were falling... And this tide seemed to be abnormally high...

All of a sudden the boat shot forward, I leapt for the tiller, flicked the line off and took control. The top of the rudder showed that I shouldn't be afloat, but the boat kept moving. 'Go girl!' I shouted exultantly.

Now both of the sails helped too, forcing the boat to heel, thus reducing her draft a little. *Whimbrel* was afloat and sailing again – but trapped!

'We're off!' I gasped, but not free: I could see that I was in a rill: vegetation showed to both sides. I slacked the sheets and studied the water ahead towards the way I needed to go.

Then: the Gods were being good to me, the water got obviously deeper on the creek side of the boat and the tops of tall strands of cord grass, that stand at least half a metre, had gone beneath the surface. I saw my escape. Only drawing about three quarters of a metre I judged it deep enough... the engine, that had been slowed, was again pushed to near maximum power. I had a momentary heart stopping flutter as I felt the bow rise up, then with a single cycle of a rocking horse motion, the boat hopped out into the deep water of Benfleet Creek.

I breathed a huge sigh of relief.

Feeling embarrassed and a little chastened I continued on my way, sailing up to the Benfleet yacht club, before turning for home. I recorded the event, dutifully, in the log book. It would be a reminder, if nothing else: it had been a case of, 'mind in neutral, finger up bum,' as old seafarers are apt to say...

Later back at my moorings I bashfully recounted my adventure to at least two people I met: it's always best to own up – you never know who may have seen you – just as well: little did I know: I had provided a great deal of interest to another sailor!

Three days later I returned to the creek for another sail. A voice cut through the air. I shuddered, an icy chill traversed my spine, then I felt a hot bolt run through me – colour rising. The voice, for it piped up again, emanated from the cockpit of a boat up on the hard standing, the owner, who will remain nameless, lived by the seawall, the words remain firmly embedded, 'Bit of bother the other day...'

I was mortified!

Nick Ardley

Whimbrel

ISLAND YACHT CLUB GALLEY

Opening times:

Friday 13.00 - 21.00hrs.

Saturday 0900 - 15.00hrs.

Sunday 0900 - 16.00hrs

Sunday Roast or Bar menu Please book in advance Tel: 01268 510360

BAR MENU	BAR SNACKS
SCAMPI AND CHIPS £4.00	NACHOS WITH CREAM & SALSA DIP £2.00
JUMBO SAUSAGE AND CHIPS £2.50	CHICKEN GOUJONS WITH DIPS £2.00
GAMMON & CHIPS £4.00	PRAWNS IN FILO WITH THAI CHILLI DIP £2.50
BURGER & CHIPS £3.00	SPICY CHICKEN WINGS WITH BARBEQUE DIP £2.50
ALL DAY BREAKFAST £4.40	WEDGES AND DIPS £1.50
CHILLI & RICE £3.50	CHIPS £1.00
CURRY & RICE £3.50	COFFEE: LATTE, CAPPACHINO & FILTER £1.50
VEGETABLE CURRY & RICE £3.50	

**JACKET POTATO FILLINGS: CHEESE, TUNA,
BAKED BEANS, COLESLAW, CHICKEN CURRY,
CHILLI, VEGETABLE CURRY £3.00**