



Maldon Canoe Club

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

4.30PM 29th November 2025

South Woodham Ferrers Sports Centre

1. **Persons Present:** Steve Hunter, Rob Wilson, Adrian Harding, Rebecca Brown, Kerry Stone, Liam Still, Lisa Keilthy, Peter Ward, Clive Marfleet, Roger Mills, Matthew Cousins, Rachel Cousins, Jamie Paul Brooker, Duncan Smith, Derek Clark, Clint Gaydon, Keith Payne, Andy Byrne, Steve Gristwood, Scott Mathson, Judy Podd
2. **Apologies:** Nic Ketley, Trevor Jones, Gemma Smith, Patrick Jennings, Adrian Birt, Mark Attridge, Paul Thwaites, Denise Smith
3. **Previous minutes:** Put to those in attendance, no objections and no matters arising - proposer Rob Wilson, seconder Adrian Harding

4. **Chairmans report – Steve Hunter**

It gives me great pleasure to present this report for the past year — a year that has been exceptionally active, rewarding, and full of growth for Maldon Canoe Club. From winter pool sessions to summer sea paddles, white water adventures, leadership development, and our expanding programme of club activities, it has been a year to be proud of.

Membership, Systems & Administration

We began the year with the continued rollout of our new membership and booking system, WebCollect. I'm pleased to report that it has now become an integral part of how we run the club. Over 100 members successfully renewed or booked onto sessions using the system, and it has helped ensure that we remain compliant with Paddle UK requirements around safety, event management, safeguarding and record-keeping.

A huge thank you to Scott for the considerable work he put into getting everything set up and running smoothly. We have learned a lot as the year progressed, and your patience has been appreciated as we fine-tuned the system.

WebCollect has enabled our leaders and coaches to plan sessions more effectively by providing clear attendee lists and allowing us to match coaching ratios to participant numbers.

Club Activities & Paddling Programme

This year has been one of our busiest to date, with an excellent variety of paddles across sheltered water, estuary, open water and white water environments.

Winter Into Spring

Despite a very chilly start in January, peer paddles and the return of the refurbished pool allowed members to keep active. The early pool sessions were well attended and saw both new and returning paddlers developing their confidence and skills.

Thanks to all of our coaches who supported these sessions, and to Duncan for stepping up and joining the coaching team.

Spring & Summer Expansion

As soon as the weather improved, the calendar became packed:

- Pool sessions continued to run strongly.
- Weekday evening paddles launched with a new, more varied format — different days and different locations, rather than every Wednesday at the same venue. This has proved extremely popular, bringing more members out to paddle and providing broader training opportunities.
- Numerous club trips took place, including:

- The Blackwater Tour (taking advantage of the rare annual permission to paddle the private stretch from Kelvedon to Langford).
- Sea kayaking sessions at Maylandsea, and more advanced coastal paddling on the Farne Islands.
- White water sessions at Lee Valley, Nene, and in the Wye Valley.
- A busy calendar of Chelmer, Crouch, Cam and Blackwater trips.
- Many peer paddles occurred throughout the year, further encouraging members to get out on the water independently and responsibly.

By August, we had already delivered over 40 organised club events — a testament to the commitment and enthusiasm of our leaders, coaches and volunteers.

Our Summer BBQ at MYC was another highlight, bringing the whole club together socially. Thanks to all who helped cook, organise and make the day a success.

Autumn & Winter

As the evenings drew in, weekday paddles eventually came to an end, but the activity did not slow down:

- Two pool sessions per month were reinstated for winter, providing warm, safe opportunities to practice rescues, rolling and boat handling.
- White water opportunities increased, including the club's North Wales white water weekend, where many members tackled new stretches and gained valuable experience under the guidance of certified leaders.
- Sea paddles and river trips continued for the hardy paddlers among us.

A huge thanks goes to Del for all the effort he has put into coordinating this program and leading the majority of the club paddles and transporting hired boats back and forth for members to use.

Coaching, Training & Leadership Development

One of the strongest themes this year has been developing our coaching and leadership capability.

With the support of a bursary received early in the year, we offered a Paddlesport Leader training and assessment pathway, including:

- First Aid

- Safeguarding
- Paddlesport Safety & Rescue
- Leadership training and mentored leading

Five members were selected to undertake the full development programme: Matthew Cousins, Rachel Cousins, Rebecca Brown, Mark Attridge and Keith Payne.

Congratulations to Rachel Cousins, Matthew Cousins, and Mark Attridge, who successfully passed their Paddlesport Leader assessments this year and officially join our Leadership Team.

Alongside this:

- Several members, including Mark, Judy, Adrian and myself, completed White Water Safety & Rescue training in North Wales.
- Leaders in training were given supervised opportunities on weekday paddles to plan routes, manage groups and gain valuable leadership experience.
- Committee and coaching team members maintained up-to-date qualifications in First Aid, Safeguarding and Event Safety.

We also enjoyed an evening at Maylandsea Bay Sailing Club with a very informative session on multi-day trip planning and wild camping — thanks again to Clive for organising.

Equipment, Boats & Infrastructure

The club has invested significantly in its equipment this year to support growth in coaching and member paddling.

New additions include:

- A Venture Easky (donated)
- A P&H Capella sea kayak
- Additional Pyranha Ion
- Two donated Dagger GTs (with thanks to Hannah)
- Multiple new spraydecks
- Trailer servicing completed by Ade, including the addition of a 7-pin/13-pin adapter

Our fleet continues to grow to meet the needs of members, and although the container is getting rather full, this reflects the strength and popularity of club activities.

My thanks goes to Ade for looking after our equipment so well ensuring we have the right equipment available to support the new members of the club. Compared to two years ago our equipment store is now bursting at the sides with the amount of boats we have, with nine boats added to the fleet.

Partnerships, Clubs & Community

We continue to foster strong links with:

- Bramston Canoe Club, sharing paddles and white water sessions
- Maldon Yacht Club and the wider river community, including attendance at the Joint River Users meeting

These relationships help to ensure we operate safely, responsibly and collaboratively on local waterways.

Club Identity & Merchandise

This year we relaunched the club merchandise — hoodies, polos, beanies and caps — all available through WebCollect. The items have been well received and help promote a shared sense of identity across events.

Thank you to Rob for coordinating this and managing the logistics.

Committee & Volunteers

Running the club is very much a team effort. My sincere thanks go to:

- Our committee, with a special thanks to those who are standing down this year, Steve and Scott and a special thanks to Judy and Rob for many years of dedicated service for which we are extremely grateful.
- Those that have put themselves forward to join the committee for the year ahead, thank you for your support and I hope you will find it as rewarding as I do.
- Our coaches and leaders. I would like to make a special mention here for Clive Marfleet, who has for many years been the driving force behind this club, and

continues to provide us with some excellent coaching and leadership, and without whom there is no doubt that we wouldn't be here today.

- Everyone who contributes behind the scenes — towing trailers, planning trips, transporting boats, managing bookings, suggesting events, mentoring others, or simply turning up with positivity and enthusiasm

Your commitment is what keeps the club thriving.

Looking Ahead

Next year we will continue to:

- Strengthen and expand our coaching and leadership team
- Offer a varied and inclusive programme of paddles
- Maintain high safety and governance standards
- Support members developing skills from beginner level through to white water and sea adventures
- Invest in equipment where needed
- Build community, confidence and enjoyment on the water

We have much to look forward to, including more sea kayaking opportunities, white water weekends, and a winter of warm pool sessions.

Closing Remarks

It has been a year full of superb paddling, personal achievements, new friendships, and strong club spirit. I am immensely proud of what Maldon Canoe Club has accomplished and grateful to every member who has contributed in any way.

Thank you for your support throughout the year.

Happy paddling,

Steve Hunter

Chairman, Maldon Canoe Club

5. Treasurers report – Rob Wilson - (Copy of accounts handed around to those present)

Good afternoon, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Membership – Many of you, new and current members took advantage of 2024 prices before March 2025 increase. Membership fees and numbers are so important to providing income to the club. Thank you all for being here and all members belonging to our club. Members also provide income across the board – Pool sessions, boat hire, Lee Valley, etc. Thank you, Derek, for organising the events. Thank you for Steve H & Scott for managing Webcollect and the website.

Adrian was given a budget of £1000 for equipment, boats and maintenance which he kept to. Last year and this year with Lee Valley sessions, pool sessions, outside trips which have been well attended and with lots of boat hire has allowed us to buy more boats and equipment.

I wish to thank Stephen Gristwood for successfully obtaining a bursary of £500 in 2024 which MCC contributed in 2025 up to £750 for helping our coaches who have now passed their paddle sport leadership role. (Actual was £610)

I also show in the far right 2020 column income and expenditure with loss figure of - £45.42 from first year of the club. MCC has always tried to invest, grow without being a profit-making club. Over 5 years from the 1st to now 6th AGM with a profit of £118.85

We had in the bank on 31 October 2020 £498.06, on 31 October 2024 £5,781.52 and this year 31 October 2025 £6056.92. Note on 14 November have £6228.87 due to transfer of £1115.64 on 13 November which £849.14 is for year 2024-2025

In summary Our assets which are kept at MYC are worth around £22,000

Total income is £7,536.31, Total Expenditure is minus £7,417.46 Resulting a profit of £118.85

A short summary of yearly expenditure

Lee Valley made a profit £315.00

Pool sessions made a profit of £574.50

Boat Hire made a profit of £385.46 (£380 + £198 + £580 + £460 - £742.76 - £350 - £139.78)

Paddle-Sport Coaching cost £610 (BC £500 - £1110 fees)

After 5 years on the MC committee in various roles including chairman for a short period and nearly 5 years as Treasurer. I did step down 2 years ago. When the treasurer resigned, I stepped back into the role. This year I am standing down

after 5 years to allow new blood into the club. I will support the new Treasurer to ensure the club continues and allow a seamless hand over.

I do however suggest to the new committee securing our banking method further by having 2 signatory account with Chair, Secretary, Membership Secretary and Treasurer having overall control.

Thank you

Accounts passed unopposed, Proposed by Scott Matheson, Seconded by Matthew Cousins

6. Membership report – Scott Matheson

Moving to WebCollect has been a success.

We now have a system that manages both memberships and bookings effectively.

WebCollect itself will be undergoing a major update in 2026, with plans to become more mobile-phone friendly.

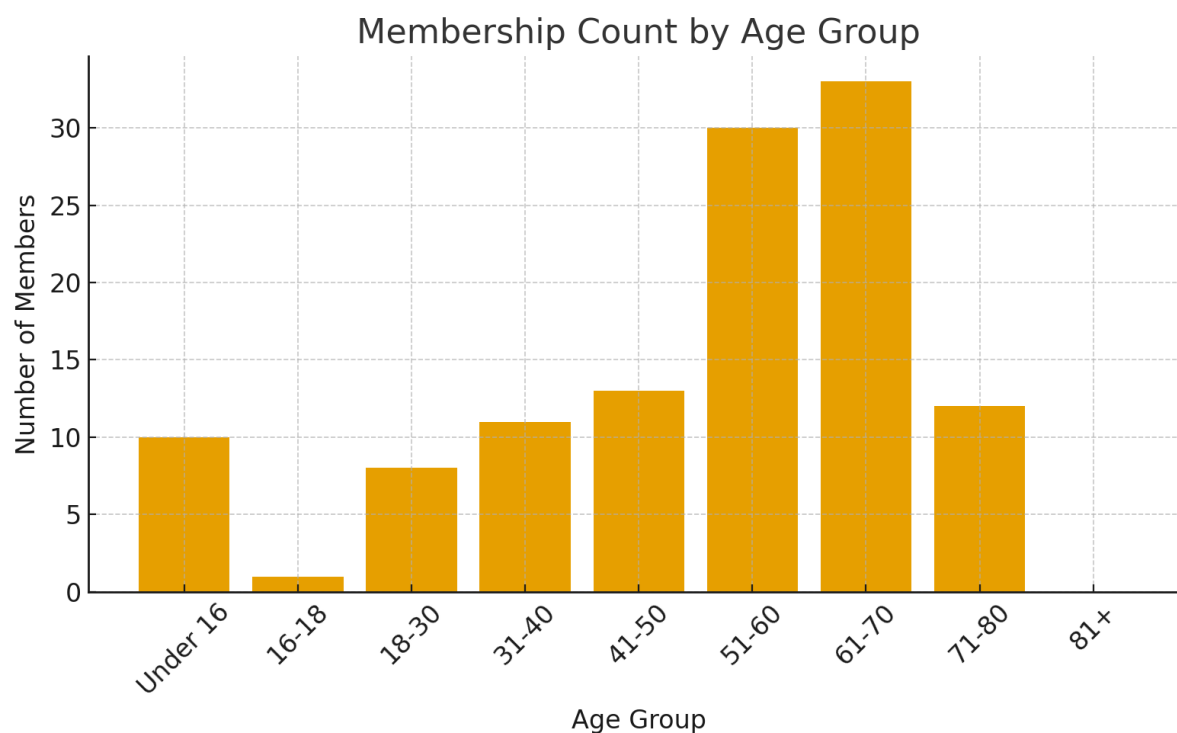
MCC 2026 membership is now live if anyone would like to rejoin for 2026.

Quick analysis:

- 83 Subscriptions / Memberships types
- 90 Members (family membership is for multiple members)
- 130 people have registered in WebCollect and paddled with us at some point this year.

Membership Counts

- Adult membership – 39
- Senior – 36
- Family membership – 40
- Junior membership – 4



7. Election of Officers – Judy Podd

As there was no more than one person who correctly put themselves forward for committee positions, the following list was read out to those present, who then voted on whether they were content with their election. There were 2 abstentions, therefore all those shown below were voted to the Committee.

Position	Name of nominee	1 st proposer	2 nd Proposer
Chairman	Steve Hunter	Hannah Wood	Judy Podd
Treasurer	Lisa Keilthy	Gemma Smith	Adrian Harding
Club Secretary	Kerry Stone	Steve Hunter	Derek Clark
Membership Secretary	Keith Payne	Scott Matheson	Steve Hunter
Health & Safety Officer/Equipment Officer	Adrian Harding	Steve Hunter	Derek Clark

Welfare Officer	Rachel Cousins	Derek Clark	Matthew Cousins
Events Officer	Derek Clark	Keith Payne	Lisa Keilthy

8. Open discussion

Clive Marfleet opened discussion regarding keeping coaches at the Club after the Club had contributed towards their qualification. Several options put forward and will be considered in the future.

Clive also asked for clarification regarding the coaching costs for the Lower Tryweryn which was explained by Rob Wilson (club paid out £240, attendees paid £212.50 which resulted in £27.40 loss)

Meeting ended at 5.50pm