

Paignton Canoe Club Member

Firstly, well done to Richard and Tristan in their efforts at organising the end of season paddlers' party! A great time was had by all that attended and we raised a fair few £££ for Dartmoor rescue. You can see some of the (more conservative) pics that were taken that night on facebook. Maybe it's best to draw a discreet veil over some of the other pictures that were taken that night!

We are now in the Summer Season so we are out of the pool and on the sea/river/estuaries. As a result this newsletter will be mostly dedicated to upcoming dates and events including our Tuesday night sessions.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this month's Newsletter. Please feel free to contribute to the next one.

Jeremy (vice chairman and editor)

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## **From The Chairman**

The pool sessions are over & now our Tuesday nights are back on the proper water in the lighter evenings. We have a great selection of trips in which the aim is to be on the water at 7pm. Please have a look at the trips, for the longer trips be aware of the distances, conditions & plan accordingly. On the longer trips, we will have a break in them for stretching our legs etc. Bring a light, flask & maybe an extra layer for when the sun goes down.

There's a little interest in the trip in June for North Cornwall, Padstow. Please contact me, text, FB, Forum or in person so I know whether to run the trip 07986898083

Some other events are advertised for future dates. More details will be on the website or Facebook page nearer the time. They include:

July 5th, BLDSA Cross Torbay swim. Swimmers leave Meadfoot to swim Brixham & some swim back. They need kayakers to provide safety cover. Details will be on the

forum but it should be noted that you should be happy being in your boat in the middle of the Bay. It's a long day on the water but good to do.

July 12th/13th there is a South Deon Sea Kayak Meet, Based at Kevics in Totnes. This is being organised by Paul Rutherford, Paul & Julie have both been coaching on our current course, Thanks from Myself & the committee.

Aug 9th The round the pier swim, part of the regatta events with some of the swimmers looking very familiar! A short evening's paddle maybe followed by a sociable drink.

Sept 6th is the Commando Challenge on Woodbury common using the Marines obstacle course. See Bee's post on Facebook to register an interest.

Sept 7th Arytons Dream Swim: It's fair to say that the swimmers are very enthusiastic but not the fastest, bacon sarnies at the end! The cause is to provide a room at Exeter RD&E for parents to be able to grieve in sensitive surroundings after the loss of their child or premature baby.

Friend requests on Facebook...

While we know most of the paddlers who want to join our group we do receive some odd requests. We try to check these people out. Some are easy to spot with a quick google search or look at their timeline, Girlfriend of someone who wanted to advertise non canoeing activity, Spanish/Italian/European person with no details but is a member of some strange buy & sell pages but what do we do when the person is said to be a member on another club page, can't see a post from them on there but from their own timeline? It seems far-fetched that we would be of interest to them? I guess there's always joining the club first.

Thanks and well done go to Richard and Tristan for organising the paddlers party

Cheers Rob

## **Latest News and Recent Events**

### **Hiring Club Boats for the Summer Season**

Club boats stored on the trailer are available to be hired by members for the whole of the 2014 summer season! (as well as for individual Tuesday club nights, subject to availability)

That is anytime from now until the end of September. Cost will be £20 per boat. Members will be responsible for the boat they hire out, boats will need to be returned undamaged and with all fittings (footrests, airbags, backrests etc.) in place and undamaged either on or before the next pool season starts in October.

Remember due to parking issues the trailer will not be brought to the summer paddling venues

## **Club Boats not stored on the trailer**

Just a reminder that we have several club boats that are kept at members' houses as they are too impractical to keep on the trailer, these are available to members to be hired on a weekly basis or for Tuesday night sessions. If you wish to hire them please get in contact with the member storing them to organize.

**Canoe:** stored with Richard O'B

**Canoe:** stored with Tristan S

**Double sea Kayak:** stored with Tim D

**Orca sea kayak:** stored with Charles E

**Topo Duo:** stored with Peter V

**Surf kayak:** stored with Rob C

## **Canoe Training and Assessment Survey**

(by Tim)

A final reminder to the many club members who have not yet made their views known regarding Canoe training and 2 Star assessment: here is a survey to see what interest is in the club for the club to provide both canoe training and also being assessed for 2 Star certificate. The link takes you to a few questions that will take no more than a couple of minutes to complete.

<http://doodle.com/8ieru2by7f28vd6>

It asks for your name, but I will be the only person who sees the raw results. It is not a commitment from the club to provide, nor for you to attend. We are just trying to gauge interest. Laying on these sorts of courses requires substantial effort, so there will be a cost attending them. It will not be huge, but enough to show a commitment. Any profit would go to club funds, not the coaches.

Tim Durrant , head coach, [tim.durrant1@gmail.com](mailto:tim.durrant1@gmail.com)

## **Paddlers Party**

(By Richard)

On the 12 of April 2014 after some time in the planning the "Paddlers Party" finally came together. We had a lovely sunny day were some people went cycling and

others climbing. At about 18:00 some people started to arrive at the Plume of Feathers on Dartmoor. Eventually about 30 people had turned out and were on their way to getting slightly drunk. So after a while we proceeded (my MC, Rob Cox and I) with the raffle. We had some amazing prizes donated from. VE Paddles, Mark Allen, Kayaks and Paddles, The Mount Batten Centre in Plymouth, Raven Springs in Totnes, Brian Taylor and System X. We with Jo Butlers help actually managed to sell the whole raffle book of 500 tickets. Not bad going a? We all had a really good night and would also like to thank the Plume of Feathers for their help with the use of their function room and other facilities.

In total we managed to raise over £300.00 for the Dart Moor Rescue Team in Plymouth. This money will go towards the cost of purchasing and kitting out their new Headquarters near Roborough, Plymouth.

A really big thank you to DJ Doug Sitch and all that attended from our club, as you made the night.

THANK YOU Rich

On another note I would like to congratulate Sam Kite on passing her 3 star Canoe. Well done Sam.

Richard

### **April Head of the River Race Dartmouth to Totnes**

(by Roger E)

I was inspired to join in with the rowers and paddle boarders after a random chat with a few of them a few weeks earlier. The route alternates each year, of 15Km and this year started just above the higher car ferry.

I'd decided to take on the paddle boarders, some of whom were categorised as semi pro, and on 15ft £1-2K boards. On the day there was a F4 breeze coming down the Dart, even though we had the tide with us.

Some might say its incompetence, but I misread the start times and the paddle boarders (150 in total) started around 1.30. I was launched and ready in my ancient Fibreglass white water racer which wobbles unless you're moving at 3.15. The rowers in their 4, 2, and single man river, sea, and gig boats were departing. So without further ado I set off, having to avoid the racing line as the stream of overtaking boats with rowers aged from 16 to 70 overtook me, some going like the clappers, others in a more laboured way. The headwind rounding the Greenway ferry jetty was unhelpful, as I deliberated on pausing for refreshments from Dittisham's inviting Ferryboat pub. However, Steve Redgrave didn't get his five golds by this approach, so I carried on.

I was able to slice some of the corner after Dittisham to the long straight toward Stoke Gabriel and Bow Creek. It was here that the wind really meant more effort

needed and the spray was coating my face and glasses. The mixed pairs, and single sculls, were overtaking and what a miserable bunch of grimacing rowers they were. I even witnessed some 'gamesmanship' with weaving to disrupt overtaking rivals.

Rounding Duncannon Bend it got easier, although I overcooked it, and the shallows really slowed me down with the drag, a mistake I made again coming up to Sharpham and the river fronted cottage. I did exchange pleasantries with a young female rowing pair, who seemed to be lacking a bit of fitness.

My confidence was up, I knew it was only about 20 minutes to the finish so I rounded the corners, and passed Sharpham quay knowing that I was almost there. At last I sighted some slow paddle boarders about 300m from the rowing club finish, they were no match for my speed and desire to beat them. On reflection, they weren't very good, and perhaps I should have offered them a tow.

At the line a toot from the finishing team, job done. Approx: 1'30. The lead boarders took 1'25. I would have come 91st out of the rowers, I think that it would be closer if the boarders had been in sight, and with other PCC members for team work battling the headwind.

I found plenty of food and drink in the club house afterwards, before it was time to walk home with Kayak on my shoulder.

Let's line up a team for next year!

Roger Easterbrook

## Upcoming Events and Trips

All Paddle sport has a certain risk to it. It is not and never will be 100% safe. Anyone attending any and all Paignton canoe club activities does so at their own risk.

Pcc rules can be found at: <http://www.paigntoncanooclub.org.uk/ClubRules.html>

## 2014 Tuesday Night Summer Paddles

(By Rob C, Jo and me!)

Meeting times will be at 7pm (unless stated otherwise). There will be no changing facilities at these locations and the club trailer will not be brought due to parking and security issues. If you wish to hire a club boat for any Tuesday club session please contact us at least 2 days before for us to organise.

### May

6 Goodrington - Meet at Youngs Park Road

- 13 Goodrington - Meet at Youngs Park Road
- 20 Paddle the Dart from Totnes - Meet at Longmarsh car park. Head downstream & return with the tide. (Ideal for canoes!)
- 27 Teign Estuary, Passage House to Teignmouth - Meet at Polly Steps car park, Drive through Teignmouth docks, to run shuttle up to the Passage House. (Ideal for canoes!)

### **June**

- 3 Kingswear to Brixham – Meet at 6.30pm at Darthaven marina car park to organise shuttle to Brixham. A Long and committing 9 mile paddle! Bring a drink, snacks and a light for a late finish in the dark. (For long kayaks only!)
- 10 BBQ at Silver Cove – Meet at Youngs Park Road, paddle to Silver Cove for a BBQ. Bring your cooking gear, food & drinks (No pedestrian access)
- 17 Babbacombe to Coombe Cellars - Meet at Babbacombe 6.30pm to run shuttle, late finish.
- 24 Preston to Torquay or further? And return - Meet to launch near Slipway on Marine Parade

### **July**

- 1 Rescue practice Goodrington - Meet at Youngs Park Road for an evening of sea rescues. Dress to get wet!
- 8 Paddle the Exe Canal or Exe down the weirs and return – Meet at Haven Banks car park. Helmets required if going down the weirs.
- 15 Stoke Gabriel to Bow Creek & Watermans Arms, return 10.30 in the dark, bring lights.
- 22 Meadfoot to Thatchers Rock & the Orestone
- 29 Cockwood to Turf Lock and return, longish paddle ending in the dark.

### **Aug**

- 5 Brixham to St Mary's, explore the caves. Lights & Helmets advised.
- 12 Fireworks, Paddle from Goodrington, Inn on the quay. Paddle over to Preston & back for the fireworks. Lights required.
- 19 BBQ - Institute Beach. Road access for non paddlers
- 26 Meet Passage House to head upstream & litter pick the Teign.

**Sept**

- 2 Stoke Gabriel to Totnes, finish in the dark
- 9 Meadfoot to Babbacombe and return, Lights advised.
- 16 Goodrington, Coffee on the beach?
- 23 Kingswear to Dittisham, Ferry Boat Inn & return.
- 30 AGM - Paignton Sailing Club

**Cornwall Surf Trip 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> May**

(by Rob C)

Unfortunately the surfing weekend at Skern Lodge won't happen but that doesn't mean we can't head up to North Devon on the weekend of 17th/18th of May! We can camp at Lobb Field, which doesn't usually need booking in advance, on the Friday & Saturday night. Bring Helmets & your boats & we'll hope for some nice surf.

Lobb Field is on the road between Braunton & Saunton Sands, good facilities & sometimes a burger van on site. Tel: 01271 812090

Rob C

**Paddlers Required for Coaching Assessment**

(From Facebook by Paul R)

We are looking for some willing paddlers to come along as guinea pigs for our L2 Coaching Assessment on: Saturday 10th May at the Totnes Canoe Club boatshed (above the weir at Totnes) from 12.30 for a couple of hours.

We will be teaching 2 Star skills in kayak and canoe whilst being observed by our assessors! A good opportunity for some extra free coaching, please let us know if you would like to join us.

Julie Paul R and Paul T  
(See the PCC facebook page for more details)

**Open Canoe Demo Day**

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May, run by AS Watersports at The Quay, Exeter. Free boat and paddle demos.

[http://www.aswatersports.co.uk/kayak\\_news/news/news.php?n=113&pg=7&s=0](http://www.aswatersports.co.uk/kayak_news/news/news.php?n=113&pg=7&s=0)

All paddling trips and events are entirely weather dependent and because of this are often organized (and can be cancelled) at the last minute. So please keep yourself up to date with what's going on using.....

## Club Communication

**Emails:** [info@paigntoncanooclub.org.uk](mailto:info@paigntoncanooclub.org.uk)

[newsletter@paigntoncanooclub.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@paigntoncanooclub.org.uk) Please use this for anything relating to the newsletter and only the newsletter. Please do **not** give this email out to non-members.

**Website:** <http://www.paigntoncanooclub.org.uk>

**Club Forum:** (for members only)

<http://www.paigntoncanooclub.org.uk/members/phpBB3/index.php> To access this and any other password protected part of the site you will need.

**Username:** pcc      **Password:** water

This is for all members and only members to use. Feel free to contribute, your input matters and we want to hear it.

**Facebook:** Love it or hate it, it's used a lot. PCC has a facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/44208464189/> which we allow anyone to join and use, so please only put on there what you want the whole world to see.

**Committee Telephone Numbers:** (For Members only)

[http://www.paigntoncanooclub.org.uk/restricted/Members\\_Contact.html](http://www.paigntoncanooclub.org.uk/restricted/Members_Contact.html)

All Committee members are unpaid volunteers with separate full time Jobs

## The Next Newsletter

We want you to contribute to the Newsletter. ALL MEMBERS please email to [newsletter@paigntoncanooclub.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@paigntoncanooclub.org.uk) anything you want to put into the newsletter.

Newsletter Info (including what we are looking for) can be found at:

<http://www.paigntoncanooclub.org.uk/members/phpBB3/viewtopic.php?f=4&t=1434&p=5196#p5196>

We store members' names and email addresses on a Gmail account, if you do not wish to have your details stored in this way then please email [newsletter@paigntoncanooclub.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@paigntoncanooclub.org.uk) and request to have your details removed.

The cut off date for content for the next newsletter will be the 28<sup>th</sup> of this month.

Happy Paddling  
Jeremy