PENDEEN PILOT GIG CLUB

NEWSLETTER

"THE GIG-GLE"

Issue 79 - April 2013

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Please e-mail comments or editorial to Jill at jillhoather@googlemail.com

As soon as the clocks change and we return to evening rowing, there is always the pleasure of some evening fresh air (though sometimes very fresh, this year) tempered with the confusion of rearranging rowing times, completing Scillies' training, re-organising your personal tasks to make space, and this year, due to the success of the Open Day, we have also included some new rowers. As there was such a small number of us going to Scillies this year, the general rowing was expected to take off quickly, but for all sorts of reasons there have been sessions where it has been difficult to have complete crews. Seasoned rowers know that this will change, there will be more of us about and not off training with other clubs, and we can all get to know our new rowers better and have some lovely relaxed rowing. Dan has offered to cox on the Sunday that most of the experienced rowers are away in Scillies so there will be a session then. However, some members will be covering the fundraising at Pendeen Rally so, as with the next two Sundays, General and Novice rowing will be together at 11am, hopefully ensuring enough for a boat. Please check rowing times at the end of the Gig-gle. For the crews going to Scillies, Men's Vets, Men's A, Ladies' Pendeen and Mounts Bay mixed boats for Supervets and main races, Good Luck and enjoy the weekend. Fingers crossed for good weather. Let's also look forward to seeing everybody fit and healthy, house moves complete etc and back on the pontoons for our usual rowing times in May.

Membership 2013:

Thank you to everyone for making the effort to contact about their memberships, all current rowers and a few social members are now sorted out. We welcome our new rowers who have been building their skills since the Open Day, some of whom have already joined and the others now have Membership Packs to encourage them.

There are now some social members who will pay £2 if they take up an occasional row, but also there is now a facility for Guest Rowers to sign in and pay £2 for an individual social row. There is a clip board with the kit in the Lights' Shed with a declaration sheet for guests to sign, so if you have a friend or visitors to Cornwall, who would like to come and try an odd session, bring them along.

All Membership forms are now being kept in a plastic wallet in the life jacket bag in the shed, so that should any medical information or emergency numbers be needed they are easily available. *Jill Hoather*

Junior Rowing: **Fridays 4.15 prepare boats 4.30 pm rowing 5.30pm finish**

We would like as many Junior Rowers as possible to join us at Morrisons on Sunday 21st April, (parents also welcome) to assist with bag packing as a fundraiser. Shirley Pitts will be co-ordinating this and calling the parents of Juniors to confirm times and safety. They will definitely be doing a morning session, so anyone who has not talked to Shirley, but would like to help, just turn up between 10 and 12.

As the usual Junior Coxes will be at the Scillies' Championships, it is possible that we will have to cancel the session on May 3rd, unless we can confirm a replacement. This will be confirmed by the session on Friday 26th April. It has been good to see new and returning members out rowing since the weather has improved. Keep it up guys, we should be getting two boats out soon.

Fundraising:
Pig Gig Event was the best yet. Congratulations.

The World Pilot Pig Gig Championships were such a success, we should ask ourselves whether we should really allow Jan to finalise her house move. Her current home, though very remote, does appear to have a direct line to God! Her apologies for not being able to attend the whole of the GRP Race Day were balanced with the offer of being responsible for 'talking to God' about the weather, and it certainly worked. We now have Zennor asking if we could do the same for them - 'hmm - maybe for a price'!! Our prayers answered, we all enjoyed a great day at the beach, accompanied by all the people who were just glad to be able to put their nose out of the door following all the cold easterly wind, which meant that, not only did we have excellent racing, but we made nearly £600 toward the new Gig. Thank you to everyone that helped in any way and particularly the general public who supported us so well.

As with any event not everything went quite to plan. Lizzie's lovely Sweet Potato and Chick Pea Soup, was cleverly spread all over her car when an over keen driver pulled out in front of her, causing an emergency stop. This is probably all a good business plan for Dan to scrape Lizzie's seats clean, and following all the transporting of goods, my car is definitely in need of a treat from 'Spandau Valet'. Sally spent the whole afternoon catering, just to empty the Gig Club goods from her freezer. She should definitely be given first choice of seat at the next races for missing out on the racing, as she didn't feel up to rowing the boat alone for the A race so stuck to her chores. ('Super Sub Sal' turns Tea Lady!) A great effort was made by everyone and if rowing is about good '*team work'* then this is where good crews start - well done everybody.

Thanks should also go to Emma Gage, who supplied Tee shirts with yet more of her gig designs on them, which were sold at the event. She also emptied her famous 'Gig' collecting pot adding another £16 to funds.

I have written a lovely report for the Cornishman accompanied by some of Charlottes' beautiful pictures, but so far it hasn't been published. Fortunately, Zennor did get a sports write up in so we had a mention.

Sun 21st April:	***Bag Packing at Morrisons for Juniors (Adults required to supervise) Contact Shirley Pitts 361862***
Sun 5th May:	***Pendeen Rally at Geevor Mine - a couple of car boot stalls & event help***
31st May to 2nd June:	***Weekend Beer Festival at Trewellard Pub -Our own cask of ale will be called 'Trewellard Gig Ale'***
Sat 20th July:	***Lafrowda Day, St Just***
Tues 6th August:	***Morvah Pasty Day***
Mon 26th August:	***Fish Festival Newlyn (fund raising for those not Rowing)***
Fri 13th December:	***Newlyn Harbour Lights switch on.***

Plus another 'Pig Race' evening, a Casino Evening at the Trewellard Inn, Car Boot to be held in Trewellard Inn car park and a Junior Race Event

We are still collecting Clothes and household linens, in any condition, even your old painting rags. Mobile phones, which do not need to be working and ink cartridges. Everything is sorted and distributed to be recycled in whatever is the most appropriate way. We made £300 from these collections last year, and although this may not seem huge, it is literally 'money for old rubbish'. Shirley Pitts organises the collection from her garage, so she is the best person to give your items to, but I can always pass them on if necessary.

Calendars: Charlotte has sent the following information concerning the **Photo Competition** for the Calendar Pictures. *As you know we are producing a 2014 calendar to raise funds for the club. Now is the chance to channel your inner 'David Baileys' and submit your best gig related photographs. The deadline for submitting photos is the end of June. Can I please ask that the pictures are submitted as JPEG's and that they are originals, unfortunately copies do not reproduce very well. Photoshopped and enhanced pictures welcome – be creative!* Please send your entries directly to Charlotte. Don't forget to add your name and maybe a brief description. These will be judged by an independent judge and the best used for the calendar, which will be produced earlier than previous calendars , to encourage higher sales. *Good Luck*

Race Reports: Emma Gage

Penryn River Race: Unfortunately this event had to be cancelled due to wind on both Good Friday and the re-arranged date. Penryn are hoping to manage a new date later in the season.

Pendeen Pig Gig Event: With strong easterly winds plaguing Newlyn for weeks the weather gods smiled on us on our event day, bringing sunshine, slightly less cold conditions and most importantly a reasonably calm sea. Despite the late withdrawal of Cape Cornwall there were still 9 plastic gigs lined up on Sandy Cove from 8 clubs.

The gigs were: 'Pendeen Watch' - Pendeen, 'Portheras' - lent to Falmouth, 'Lady Sue' - Mount's Bay, 'St Aubyn' - Mount's Bay, 'Future' - Coverack, 'Ghost' - Penryn, ' Piala' - Hayle, 'Mermaid' - Zennor, 'Lowen Mor' - Porthleven

With the World Champions, Falmouth borrowing Portheras and Penryn attending for the first time, it was a larger event than the last two years, and another step towards an even bigger event next year. Another notable guest was Trevor Deakin, the man responsible for building nearly all the GRP gigs in existence. Taking us all by surprise, he kindly sponsored the Men's A and Ladies' A races to the tune of £100 to the winning crews, which created a ripple of excitement among the competitors.
The races were a straight line back from between Low Lee Buoy and Penlee Lifeboat station, with Andy Basey and Peter Hewitt manning the start/safety boat. The first race was the juniors but, unfortunately, only Zennor were able to field a complete crew this early in the season, so a few ladies' crews rowed alongside them to give them a race. The Ladies' B race saw the Scillies' Avarack crew, which is a combination of Mount's Bay and Pendeen, race together for the first time. While the crew could not maintain their good start, and finished 8th, they felt positive rowing together (despite myself still recovering from flu) and had a good race. The race was won by the mighty Falmouth, with Porthleven in second, and Hayle (who had two men in the crew) third.
The Mens B race was again won by Falmouth with Coverack in second but with our men including young Joe Clough a superb third. With our ladies hard at work selling a range of tasty food in the gazebo, we did not put in a crew for the Ladies' A. This was convincingly won by Mount's Bay (their B crew), ahead of Coverack in second, and Porthleven in third. The Men's A was dominated by Falmouth (well they are the defending World Champions!) with Coverack coming in second and Zennor third. Our men rowed very well and were well up before being pushed out of line and losing a few places. The veterans race saw a mixed Zennor crew victorious, ahead of Mount's Bay ladies veterans crew, (also defending ladies veterans World Champions) in second, and Coverack in third. Jill and Debs rowed in a joint ladies 'super vet' crew with Mount's Bay, coming 4th. This crew will be taking part in the ladies' super vets at the World Championship so the race provided good practice for them. I, for one, have high hopes for this crew. Emma

Events :

As discussed at the General Meeting, **ALL** race dates for the next 2 months will be published in the Giggle. It will then be your responsibility to let your Captain know when you are and aren't available to row at these. With this information and confirmation of a tower the Captains will decide which events we will attend.

Future Event Dates:

May 3rd to 5th 2013 Scillies

Other Possible Race Dates: Please confirm availability so we can choose the best ones to attend.

Saturday 18th May	Zennor	Sandy Cove	Coxes Meeting 11am	**Definite**
Saturday 1st June	Mevagissey			Possible
Sunday 2nd June	Rock			Possible
Saturday 8th June	Falmouth			Possible
Saturday 15th June	Mixed	Saltash		**Definite**
Sunday 16th June	Vets	Saltash		**Definite**
Saturday 22nd June	Salcombe			Possible
Sunday 23rd June	Helford			Possible
Saturday 29th June	Mounts Bay			**Definite**

Rowing Times:

All the kit is now back in the 'Newlyn Lights Shed' for the summer, making start and finish work much easier. Please remember to store all kit safely, both on the pontoon and at the shed.

REGULAR TIMES:

Junior Rowing; Friday 4.15 for 4.30 start, finishing around 5.30 for collection.

Tuesday and Thursday Evening: 5.30pm start, for rowing as soon as there is enough crew available.

Sunday Rowing; Social, mixed rowing from 10am Novices 11am

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS:

Sunday 21st, Sunday 28th April and Sunday 5th May - One Rowing Session at 11am

Juniors on Friday 3rd May to be confirmed

Tuesday and Thursday rowing will go ahead as far as possible but there is a distinct probability that Tuesday 7th May will need to be cancelled due to the lack of a cox.

Keep an eye on your e-mail or texts please. Rowing should be back to normal from Thursday 9th May

Contacts:

The club has its own e-mail address: pendeengigclub@hotmail.co.uk or contact Geoff Hoather on 01736 786006 or 07837277891 or GEOFFGOATHERD@aol.com

For more news and views see Pendeen Pilot Gig Club on Facebook

Our new website **www.pendeengigclub.co.uk** is now up and running online. *Check us out for info*

The CPGA now has a revamped website at www.cpga.co.uk

Any contributions for or comments on the Gig-gle can also be sent to jillhoather@googlemail.com

Welfare Officers: David Clough 01736364384 or 07518858432, email dpclough@msn.com, and Jan Barton 07964912139 or e-mail battybarton@btinternet.com

Meetings:

Next Committee Meeting: Thursday 16th May 8.30 at the Lugger

Next General Meeting: Tuesday 11th June Venue TBA

The last general meeting on 2nd April, 7.30, at The Lugger, started with a Special Meeting to formally adopt the new Constitution. This was done unanimously and a very productive and informative general meeting followed. Thanks to those who attended.