PENDEEN PILOT GIG CLUB

NEWSLETTER

"THE GIG-GLE"

Issue 79 - April 2013

Editor: ***Jill Hoather*** **Race Reports:** ***Emma Gage***



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

Thursday 16th May was, to all intents and purposes, what we would all call a normal day for the time of year. It was also a rowing night. Two days earlier, also a rowing night, Avarack had made a bolt from St Mary's aboard the Scillonian, which had turned around from the island as soon as possible, to get back to Penzance before a horrendous storm hit us. Dan and Geoff struggled to control the trailer as they collected Avarack from the pier in horrendous winds, and even drove home really slowly, to tuck her up safely in Pendeen. 'What a difference a day makes'. Tuesday rowing was impossible and Thursday rowing was the perfect night to take to the water, or hang around on the pontoon and chill out on the first relaxed, calm warm and welcoming evening of the year. With more evenings like Thursday, and the return of a few people who promise to be back in June after all their diversions, the summer rowing is looking good. Bring your friends, join us out there and have some fun.

Membership 2013:

Guest Rowers facility. Please encourage your guests and friends to come and try rowing. Just think what a great activity it is, to go home and tell your friends about after a holiday. Just get them 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**

Congratulations to our juniors for getting out a team, and rowing so well at Zennor races on Saturday. Most of the general race days that we go to will have a junior race, so we need to keep working at training, and bring along friends to increase our numbers if possible. It is always easy to borrow a gig for a junior race, as many clubs don't have juniors, so let's try to get enough of us to take 2 teams to race before the end of the summer. Check the dates on the Race calendar each time you get your Gig-gle.

Sunday 25th August there is an Under 14's Championship Day at Hayle. The Club has never before entered this Championship, so let's work on giving ourselves the best opportunity for a good result.

Many of you will remember us running a Junior Fun Day last year. Plans are beginning to be developed to have a similar event again, but definitely a bit sooner in the year. More news to come.

Towing Fees:

Zennor Races: Apologies to all who raced but I forgot to collect towing fees on the race day. With less '*money collecting'* now we have the new membership system, we all seem to have got out of the habit of bringing money for fees. Some people have now paid me, but please can anyone who raced on Saturday, pass £2 to Jill on the pontoons as soon as possible please.

Fundraising:

Sun 5th May: Pendeen Rally at Geevor Mine gave us the opportunity to help the Community and be seen in the Village. A big thank you to all the people who helped on the day, particularly those who ran the car boot selling, making £110, and Dan and Liz who I gather entered their dogs in the Dog Show. This is never the best event for us to support, due to the World Championships, so it was good to help out this year. The profits from this event are ultimately shared out to all the groups who help on the day, so there will be some more income from this event.

31st May to 2nd June: ***Weekend Beer Festival at Trewellard Pub -Our own cask of ale will be called 'Trewellard Gig Ale'. Please come along and support this event, enjoy yourselves and promote the Gig Club.***

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*

Club Kit: All enquiries and orders for kit should be directed to Shirley Rees at srees171@googlemail.com or 07824446543. Congratulations to Shirley who has now completed her Charity Walk. Hopefully we will now see her back at rowing occasionally, but if she isn't around and you want to look at the kit book or ask about prices, just call her or ask Mike Ellis to bring the book for you.

Race Reports: Jill Hoather

World Championships

Even with less members attending the World Championships this year, it did not change the emotional highs and lows of the racing. With the Ladies setting targets by coming 6th in 'Supervets' in a mixed crew with Mounts Bay ladies, the Men's Vet crew, assisted by Graham from Hayle, and having declared Michael's (very slight) lack of years, took on the challenge and came 13th in the Vets, rowing a brilliant race in a much bigger field. The exhilaration of Friday night behind us, our ladies again teamed up with Mounts Bay, enjoying a very sociable weekend of team rowing. Their biggest disappointment, (to say nothing of Anna's disappointment), was that poor Anna, who should have been flying in for a day's rowing on Saturday, was grounded at Lands End by Fog. Something tells me that Anna will be booking a full weekend travelling by boat next year!!

Our Men's A crew have trained hard all winter in the gym and this was their opportunity to prove how valuable this had been. With the only change of crew being Chris instead of our Hayle friend, we flew off the start of the Aggie and, though running at the landward side of the race all the way in, we stayed well to the front of the pack and definitely in a position similar to last year. Close on Rat Island we were pushed side on by a gig from the main pack and, not able to give way to them due to the outer race buoys, we were jammed in until they eventually understood that unless they backed off we couldn't move out of their way. The gym training definitely paid off and the guys fought right to the line but, needless to say, plenty of other boats had taken the opportunity to pass us, meaning we had to start the Nut Rock races in Group F. Knowing where we should have been gave the boys the confidence to maintain the front of the race on the first Nut Rock, and though we were a whisper off first place, second was sufficient to get us into Group E. Maybe we thought we were entitled to more, but Sunday morning reminded us how close all those middle heats are in time, and although we went up another couple of places, we were disappointed not to have made Group D. This would have enabled us to maintain last year's position of 47th. With winning the group being our next challenge for the last race, the guys gave everything they had. With full power on every stroke, giving me plenty of water to use and again fighting right to the line, coming in 3rd in a really close finish with a final position of 51st.
This year's Scillies' was thoroughly enjoyable, with lots of interclub co-operation both on and off the water. Helped out by Hayle and Mounts Bay we had some great racing and caught up with lots of long time friends from other Clubs. With two boats next year, we should all start planning now and look forward to a great Scillies' together.

Zennor Races Saturday 18th May

Following our GRP Event at Sandy Cove, Zennor thanked us and asked if we could have another word with the weather fairy for their event - the weather was so good that Geoff actually asked James if we could have extra points for our achievement. If this had actually been possible it would have only served to complicate the points system even further. This year the CPGA have made a very late decision that the Tribute Challenge will be assessed by a points system based on race results at every Club event that we go to. A decision which will obviously be biased to the bigger clubs, and which meant that Zennor not only had to collate their own results board for each race, but also a second set of points for the CPGA excluding any boats with composite crews. It also meant that the Ladies had to make a very difficult decision as to which race to enter. If we entered the A race we would accumulate points for the Tribute Challenge but if we entered the B race we would have a more appropriate race challenge for the crew of the day, but no Tribute points as there would be no A boat. This is a year where we need to work on growth and development within the Club so our final decision was to support our developing (*and old*), rowers and row in the B race.
The days racing achieved some encouraging results. The ladies went first and had a steady race with the pleasure of being up with other boats to race with and having three boats behind them at the end, an encouraging result, confirming that the right decision was made. The men had two whole Club crews, with the help of Pete Hewitt (experienced but well out of training), junior, Joe Clough in his first senior race and two virgin racers who have only been rowing this season all in the B crew. The Men's A did not have their best start but kept the pace on after the first leg, stayed out of trouble, and with a surge of adrenalin spurred on by Chris, had a great time overtaking St Ives. "Satisfying". Men's B rowed well, keeping up with the pack, giving the new boys good experience and reminding Pete how long it is since he actually picked up an oar! The most exciting race of the day was the Under 14's, where our crew of, Joe, Jess, Josh, Steven, Harry and Nathan led the race for the first half. From the beach we could only see the last part of the race and as we watched Coverack and Appledore come into sight, we weren't ready to see Avarack appear, around the lighthouse quay, on the inside of them fighting all the way to the line. A great race with much excited shouting and a fantastic result as our close third place turned out to be the official second, as Appledore's boat had some under 16's in it. Well done guys, let's keep training and head for some more great results this summer. The final race of the day was the Vets, where with 4 men and 2 ladies we had a great race. Having, out of courtesy, let Falmouth take the lead we battled with Zennor all the way round, but even with Dan's amazing coxing round the last turn they got away and we finished third. A satisfying days racing.

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:

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

Sunday 2nd June	Rock	Tower to be confirmed		Chosen
Saturday 8th June	Falmouth			Possible
Saturday 15th June	Mixed	Saltash		**Definite**
Sunday 16th June	Vets	Saltash		**Definite**

Entry deadline for Mixed and Vets is by post with a deposit cheque from the Secretary to arrive 31/05/13
Please inform your Captain of availability now so that they can confirm their entries.

Saturday 22nd June	Salcombe			Possible
Sunday 23rd June	Helford			Possible
Saturday 29th June	Mounts Bay			**Definite**
Saturday 6th July	Truro			Probable
Saturday 13th July	Paignton or Goran		Probably not	
Saturday 20th July	Rame			Possible
Saturday 3rd August	Coverack			Possible

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: THE SIX WEEKS OF 11'0CLOCK NOVICE SESSIONS HAVE NOW COME TO AN END. NOW THAT SCILLIES TRAINING HAS FINISHED ALL NOVICES ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE SUNDAY SOCIAL ROWING SESSION FROM 10AM AND AS SOON AS YOU FEEL READY TO JOIN US AT EVENING TRAINING THERE WILL BE MIXED BOATS AVAILABLE TO ACCOMODATE YOU AND HELP YOU FURTHER YOUR SKILLS.

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 General Meeting: Tuesday 11th June Venue: The Trewellard Arms 8.30pm