PENDEEN PILOT GIG CLUB

NEWSLETTER

"THE GIG-GLE"

Issue 85 - November/December 2013

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With 'Geevor' and 'Avarack' sitting side by side in the Gig shed in Pendeen, a long awaited dream has materialised. It has been a long haul to this point and particular thanks should go to Shirley Pitts for all her hard work and co-ordination. It was a big ask to achieve £22,000 by the completion date, but with the support of the committee and members, Shirley has pulled it off. We can now be very proud of our fleet. Two racing boats, two training boats and two serviceable trailers are a good base for a club our size, and we can now look at upgrading other equipment as and when money becomes available.

The committee of the last two years has also taken us much further as a club. We now have Club coaches, have nearly finished our 'Accreditation', which required official standards to be achieved, we have a Junior Section and we have a strong connection with Bolitho School, giving us access to grants for the work we do with their pupils, and also use of their Gym for training as we have accessed 3 rowing machines for them. All these achievements have taken many hours of networking, form filling, training courses, meetings and discussions. Most of the current Committee have done at least two years and, inevitably, some are ready to retire from their posts. A massive *'Thank You'* is in order for all the Officers but particularly to all four Rowing Captains and the Welfare Officer, as they leave their posts. Realistically these posts should not be quite so onerous in the coming year and there will still be a good support network from the experienced people in the Club, so please don't be afraid to give one of these posts a try. It's a lot of fun organising willing volunteers and very satisfying.

We have attracted new members throughout the year, particularly ladies, but we do need to be on the lookout for more. It can be difficult to include new rowers once the Scillies' training gets to the serious stage, so if you know anyone who might like to give rowing a try, encourage them to start now. Our next task is to build a younger, stronger club, something we are now well equipped for, so get the word out there and let's look forward to some great rowing in 2014.

Bolitho School Gym:

The issues with CRB checks have now been resolved and Juniors are already using the Bolitho Gym and having fun. The rowing machines use excellent technology and will be linked to a screen so that there will still be a competitive edge to training. The gym will be booked for our use on Tuesday and Thursday from 6 until 8 and Sunday will be available for extreme weather conditions. The Juniors will also have exclusive use from 4 until 6 on Fridays. Your Captains will inform you of further arrangements.

Junior Rowing: **New Instructions:-**

Due to the darkening evenings and the recent poor weather rowing at 4pm on Friday will now finish for the winter, so the **winter arrangements** will be Friday afternoon at the usual time, up at Bolitho School Gym, using their rowing machines, with actual rowing continuing on Sunday morning at 11am. Shirley will contact all Junior rowers with exact information.

New Gig:

It's here, the long wait is over and we now have our new boat. Her name was chosen very democratically, with everyone being asked to suggest possible names for the committee to create a shortlist. The final shortlist of Bann Shoal, Enys Zawn, Geevor, Liberty Rock and Zawn were then voted on by members through the club e-mail with 'Geevor' being the overwhelming favourite. A very fitting name considering our boats are kept in the Old Blacksmith's Shop at Geevor. A naming ceremony will be arranged in the New Year.

Scillies':

The World Championships next year will be the 2nd, 3rd and 4th May, as always finishing on Bank Holiday Monday. Neil has booked camping for the people who have requested it from him. Hopefully you have all - paid him - if not sooner rather than later please.

Travel - The Scillonian Steamship Company has published its concessionary prices for the World Championships in 2014. Tickets will be available from the Penzance Office from Monday 2nd December 2013. You must be a member of a Gig Club to get the concessions and you cannot get a concessionary fare online. Prices will vary with your travel date - general information below.

TRAVEL BY BOAT: Concessionary fares for travel from Saturday 26th April to Saturday 10th May
£35-50 to 41-50 one way, depending on date of travel

TRAVEL BY AIR: Concessionary fares OUTBOUND (to St Mary's) Thursday 1st May to Saturday 3rd May
Concessionary fares INBOUND (to Lands End) Monday 5th May to Thursday 8th May
£59.50 to £68 one way, depending on date of travel, from Lands End (Newquay travel is extra)

Fundraising:

Following two years of intense fundraising, you may be forgiven for thinking that we could now sit back, but not quite. We are very grateful to Shirley, who has worked tirelessly to make sure that we could pay for our new gig when the time came, and I'm sure she will be glad to be a little more relaxed about her task, but there is always more equipment to be bought and the bank will be empty, so keep up the support and we might even get some nice soft seats to row from and entice Sally to come and sit on them !!

The collections of clothes and household linens, in any condition, even your old painting rags, mobile phones which do not need to be working and ink cartridges will continue, as it is a very effective way to raise funds and reduce our carbon footprint at the same time. 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.

Good news from the Co-op Grant application. Shirley and Anna have worked on this more than once and this year they were successful, receiving £1,000 for the Club. Well done girls.

Calendars: A big thank you to Charlotte for organising this year's calendars, which turned out to be a great success. They were attractive and well produced and have sold well. With the right contacts they were produced for a good price and sold out quickly making £200. Well done Charlotte - I guess it's time to start on next year's pictures.

Community Links: As many of you will know, Liz Sullivan has recently set up a community project known as WAC - Whole Again Community. Generally this project aims to promote a healthier lifestyle and one of its latest projects is to have soup workshops, both teaching people to create economical, healthy foods and also selling soup to promote the project. Liz is looking for some help on Saturday 30th November between 5 and 10pm for the launch at Lescudjack Centre, Treneere. As well as featuring soups there will also be music and art activities for people to join in and as healthy living is the main promotional theme Liz wants to incorporate sporting activity. This is an ideal place for us to be promoting the Gig Club and encouraging people to come and join us at rowing or at our Gym sessions. If you have time on Saturday to help Liz or the club with any of this please contact her on 07557807015 or lizziewholeagain@gmail.com
Please see the promotional flyer attached to this Newsletter

Christmas:

Look out for more news about a Christmas Social and Christmas rowing which will be discussed at next week's Committee Meeting.
Wherever you spend Christmas have a fun time and enjoy all that you do, continuing on to a Happy and Successful New Year.



Club Website:

Don't forget that Sue works hard to provide information on the Website, so have a look at it on one of those long, dark, winter evening.

Club Kit: All enquiries and orders for kit should be directed to Shirley Rees at srees171@googlemail.com or 07824446543.

Rowing Times:

REGULAR TIMES: **WINTER**
Junior Rowing; Friday 4pm at Bolitho and 11am Sunday at Newlyn pontoons
Tuesday and Thursday Evening: 6 - 8pm Bolitho Gym starting soon
Sunday Rowing; Social, mixed rowing from 10am

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

'Geevor' awaiting her name

