PENDEEN PILOT GIG CLUB

NEWSLETTER

"THE GIG-GLE"

Issue 84 - September 2013

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With the successful completion of our Junior Fun Day we realise how quickly a rowing season comes to an end, with some people still promising themselves that they will 'make it to rowing next week!' This has been a difficult season for many of us with other demands on our time, but we have all done our best to get down to Newlyn when we can do, and there has been a good atmosphere on the pontoons, with people making an appearance when they can. It was good to see so many members catching up with each other at Sandy Cove, and though it was a working day for us all, I think everyone enjoyed it. A big thank you from me for the amazing teamwork. With the new gig nearing completion, let's hope that life slows down a little bit so we can all find enough time to enjoy our training, and begin to build crews to fill both gigs for the World Championships at Scillies next year.

Junior Fun Day:

With excellent timing from the start, Eric's van got loaded, Avarack got hooked up, Newlyn shed was emptied of oars, lifejackets and tables and we all headed for Sandy Cove. We just forgot to tell Tesco that we needed them to open at 9.45 not 10, leaving poor Sue waiting for the door to open - 'mmm note for next time!!' Geoff had an inspirational moment and worked out my mistake with the BBQ, (possibly with a little telepathic help from our resident engineer), Sally got the refreshment crew organised and Eric set up for our artistic creations, Mike connected all the gas pipes and Dan provided all the other services, the gigs were lined up on the beach and the men disappeared to fetch a GRP to have its bottom scraped - everything was running so smoothly, (except perhaps my head). 'This is something Pendeen have perfected', we were just beginning to think, *and then the gas ran out!!* Oops, never mind, Mike and Jan soon sorted that, arriving back spot on time for the coxes meeting and Jan's great 'warm up' session. The whole afternoon ran so smoothly, thanks to all the help and a great Club effort. The further bonus being £200 towards the new gig, thank you all so much, we should all be very proud.

Report prepared for the Cornishman - (Hopefully they will publish it)

Pendeen Gig Club Junior Fun Day Sunday 13th October 2013

With the growth of Junior rowing at Pendeen Pilot Gig Club last year, the Club wanted to give all their young rowers a chance to race in a 'proper wooden gig'. Most clubs now use GRP (Glass reinforced plastic) boats for training, and only the 'selected' rowers get chance to use the 'best' boats to race in. Most Club events do have a race for under 14's and under16's and there is a 'County Junior Championship' held at Hayle each year, however this does not give all the young rowers chance to race, so 2012 saw the first 'Junior Fun Day', which was so successful that it had to be repeated.

With very calm waters, Sunday October 13th saw Pendeen host it's second Fun Day at Sandy Cove, Newlyn. Pendeen rowing 'Avarack', were joined by Cape Cornwall rowing their gig 'Brisons', Hayle rowing 'Azook', Mounts Bay rowing 'Kensa', and Zennor rowing Senara. The afternoon started with a fun warm up session that everyone embraced and enjoyed and then two mixed club races to get everyone in the mood and give people a chance to row with new people and in a different gig. This was followed by the serious business of the Under 14's race, with Pendeen racing home to take the trophy this year, closely followed by Zennor, Cape and Hayle. More serious work from the Under 16's rounded off the day, with Hayle taking the trophy this time, followed by Mounts Bay and Zennor.

This year saw the addition of an 'Art' project, kindly run by the Newlyn Centre 'Ebb and Flow' group. With the intention of creating a record of the day, it produced some lovely art pieces, as well as a 'doodle board'. It was a great hit and an extra activity to join in when not rowing, second only to the BBQ, cakes and soup. Everyone had a great day, either working or playing.
A big thank you to the visiting clubs for making the day happen, and to all the adults involved both on the day and in the organisation and training. If you or your child (10years minimum) would like to learn to row, please contact us at pendeengigclub@hotmail.co.uk or see our website www.pendeengigclub.co.uk and we can advise you about the most appropriate place and times.

Bolitho School Gym:

As the Club have been involved with Bolitho for some time now and have supplied one rowing machine already, with another two being supplied very shortly, we have been invited to use their equipment throughout the winter. 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 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:

Avarack has been measured up by Andrew ready to fit the seats and stretchers to our new gig, and he will soon be needing to know what name we have chosen so that he can complete the painting. All members have been invited to suggest names for the new gig for the donation of £1. The Committee will then choose a shortlist and all members will be invited to vote for the final name. Geoff has already received an interesting selection of names and needs any further names to be sent in by Saturday 26th October please.

Scillies':

The World Championships next year will be the 3rd, 4th and 5th May, as always finishing on Bank Holiday Monday. It seems very early to be thinking about the spring, but accommodation on Scillies' is always at a premium on this weekend, meaning that it is important that you begin to think about where you are going to stay, and book it, if you want to take part or even just come to support. Camping places need to be booked now (though the campsite do seem to have variable rules about this). Neil is prepared to book 6 places to cover the requests that have already been made. With the need to pay for the new boat, the Club cannot afford to pay for these places in advance, so as soon as Neil has an exact price, you will be expected to pay. There are always adverts on 'Gig Rower' offering accommodation and camp places for sale at the last minute, but this is a bit of a lottery, so it is best to be organised.

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.

Fundraising:

The Junior Fun Day made £200
A big Thank you to the Radjel. Their collecting bottle was emptied at the General Meeting, having been neglected for some while, resulting in £200 plus a little more change that was returned to the bottle to encourage the next 'fill-up'.
The Trewellard also emptied their collecting box, for the second time this year, resulting in £81. A big thank you to them as well.
Shirley has lots of good news on the Grants front, which is also encouraging.

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 are all doing well. A recent collection from Shirley's garage is hoped to be close to £200 in value. Thanks to everyone, especially those 'house movers', who may not have had time to row, but have certainly been making money from their 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.

Photo Competition The results of the photographic competition were announced by Charlotte at the General Meeting. We are very grateful to Charlotte's partner, who is a professional photographer, for being our impartial judge. 1st - Jill, 2nd - Geoff and 3rd - Lucy. These and another 9 pictures have now been used to create a beautiful calendar, which will be on sale very soon, as Charlotte had been hoping to have it by the Fun Day.

Calendars will be £5 each. I'm sure we will all be wanting to buy our own but they will also make lovely Christmas presents, so get your copies quickly from Charlotte. e-mail charlottestevens623@yahoo.co.uk

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

Race Reports:

Newquay Ladies' Championships

If Shirley's picture on Facebook told a visual story, as she arrived above Newquay harbour, Tristan's expletives as he called Mike an hour or so before were even more impressive. With the first northerly wind, or even wind of any sort, for at least a fortnight, it was midday before a decision could be made to go ahead with the Championships. The harbour wall was packed with lady rowers watching the first heat tackle short chunky waves as they raced out to the first mark. It must have seemed the longest first leg ever! Taran was seen clean out of the water, once she had turned to tackle the side on waves of the back straight. The last leg, at least had a following wind and some surf to use, before the first boats were welcomed back, by the crowd, to the safety of the harbour. From here things settled down gradually as the heats progressed, with the best conditions during heats 6, 7 and 8 but remaining interesting, and then the waves began to build again. By the time heat 11 came round Shirley R, Jill, Sue Nan, Amy, Sue W and Debs headed up the beach feeling more than a little apprehensive as they set up Lark to row out to the start. Geoff did well to keep us lined up and eventually the starter was happy that we were all ready to go. Building well off the line, we were thought we were getting used to the waves bucketing over us, until a massive one emptied itself over the whole gig, soaking every single one of us in one go. Once done, the fear vanished and we quickly recovered from being stopped in our tracks, picked up the pace and removed ourselves from the danger of Clevedon dropping Taran's bow onto our rudder, chasing Cadgwith B in Lantic right up to the first mark where they managed to 'get water' for the turn. Round the mark, we discovered that the back straight was way better than we had expected and with more great coxing from Geoff, telling us that this was now 'fun', we knuckled down, recognising the water as something akin to Lowly Buoy on a bad day, and flew past Cadgwith, increasing the lead all the way home and really enjoying surfing the last leg.

Sadly this was always going to be a two race heat, with Falmouth B and Fowey A racing home for the first two places and proving their worth with Fowey A being 4th in the final.

We were quite happy with 3rd place with such an exhilarating row, proving that it is not always about stamina, but on this occasion about skilled rowing, understanding your water and team work. This was Pendeen Ladies 'Row of the Year', which will take us forward to Scillies' with a very positive attitude.

A special mention for Tristan, who volunteered as an Umpire for the day. He had a terrific day, beginning the day on 'Tamarisk' and then changing on to a smaller boat on the 3rd mark, until just before we reached it, when their steering broke and they had to abandon their watch and run to safety. *'Shame you missed the best bit Tris!'* Jill

Newquay Men's Championships

My apologies for a lack of report, as I was on holiday at the time of this event, though we all know that it will be remembered for the capsize of a gig, which caused the races to be abandoned - and we thought the Ladies' was a bit scary!!!

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