

Totnes Canoe Club



Newsletter January 2012

Welcome to the first newsletter of the year. There has been a reasonable amount of rain recently which has enabled many members to get out and about for some great white water trips.

The committee is starting to plan the new season which starts in April – we would like to hear from you, the club members, as to how you would like your club to develop.

AGM Friday 3rd February

This is where the decisions are made as to how to run the Club. This includes how to spend your subscription and membership money, as well as how the club is structured.

This year Sarah Rea is standing down as Treasurer and Membership Secretary and we are looking for volunteers to help out with these roles. This could well split into two positions on the committee to spread the load, and this will be finalised at the AGM. Please get in touch with Rob Dack if you would like to volunteer or would like further information.

"Your Club Needs You..."

The committee would like to thank Sarah for her extraordinary hard work and diligence in this position over the past five years.

The AGM is taking place in the upstairs room at the Dartmouth Inn, The Plains, Totnes and starts at 7.00pm.

Axe Race

This annual event takes place on 4 March on the River Axe. It covers five miles, mainly flat water on the river & estuary and is suitable for most ages with a family & fun element. There is also a section for more serious competitors. See their website www.axevalecc.co.uk for further details.

WW Symposium & river clean up

There is a new kayaking event, **The River's Source** hosted by Gene17 Kayaking at the River Dart Country Park this weekend Jan 27th to 29th. Several of

the Club's members are attending. If you would like more information see

www.riverssource.co.uk

On Sunday they are organising a litter collecting paddle to which anybody is welcome. Upper Dart from 9.00am, and then meeting at Newbridge at 1.00 to paddle and clean up the Loop and Lower sections.

Peer trips

There are too many to list here, but do have a look at the Club photos being loaded onto Flickr:

www.flickr.com/groups/totnescanoecub

Below are a couple of samples, here some of the Young Guns trying out some playboat moves.



Pool Session

Next session is this Saturday 28th January, 5.00-6.00 for beginners; 6.00-7.00 for improvers. Remember these sessions are free to club members. Please do not bring your own boat without permission in advance from one of the committee.

Taster Session and Calendar for 2012

The calendar will be discussed by the Committee over the next couple of months and will be issued prior to the Taster Session on 31st March.

The Taster session is for people new to the Club who want to come and have a go so please pass this on to any of your friends you think might be interested. From 10.30 to 1.00 at the boatshed.

The weekly Club sessions should begin on 23 and 24th April – details to follow.

Community versus Yahoo

Mik has created a new community forum which provides more flexibility than the Yahoo Group. Please have a look and let us know whether you think this is a benefit to the Club. We will run both sites and see which proves more popular. The new forum does not email everybody everything so you do need to keep checking in to see what's happening. www.totnescanoecub.org.uk/forum/index.php. You will need to register and wait a short while for your registration to be approved.

Outward Bound Opportunities for 16-24 year olds

The Sir Francis Chichester Trust offers **FREE** places on Outward Bound courses to young people who live in Devon and who are aged 16-24 (at the time of the course, which will be over the summer holidays). The courses are held at the Outward Bound centres in the Lake District, Wales and Scotland.

The closing date for applications for courses this summer is **Friday 6th April**.

For further information please contact Anthea Parkyn.

info@chichestertrust.org.uk
www.chichestertrust.org.uk

Torbay swim safety cover

The annual Torbay swim takes place this year on 7 July. They are looking for up to 30 competent sea kayakers (three star or equivalent) to act as support for swimmers (one per swimmer). The swim starts from Meadfoot Beach in Torquay at 11:00am and goes to Brixham and back - a distance of 8 miles. There is a time limit of 5 hours 30 minutes. The BLDSA will make a payment of £40 for each supporting kayak.

If you are able to help please contact their Secretary Peter Larrad:
peter.larrad@btopenworld.com

Playboaters

A diary date for anyone interested in those playboating moves (also known as showing off) there is a floodlit kayak rodeo competition at the Flowerpots weir in Exeter on the evening of 4th of Feb. See www.potsrodeo.co.uk for more details.



Improvers' White Water Course

Some of the improvers group took to the Upper Dart for a challenging day on this grade 4+ river. There were a fair number of swims and the trip ran rather late, but much was learned on the day.

This was followed by a day of advanced white water safety & rescue training on the River Erme.

