

Totnes Canoe Club



Newsletter February 2012

After another very successful year the new season is rapidly approaching and the Committee is busy making plans to help you get the most from your Club. There have been a few changes from the AGM as explained below – do let us know if you have any comments or further suggestions. In this Olympic Year we expect the Club to see increased interest and we look forward to seeing everyone developing their skills, but most of all to enjoy our wonderful sport. Here's hoping that Team GB get some more medals in the kayaking and canoeing.

Taster Session & Joining for the New Season

Tell your friends to come along to the Club's free taster session on 31 March – we will be booking people onto courses then.

If you want to join any of the training courses – 1 Star Kayak, 2 Star Kayak, 2 Star Canoe, or 3 Star Kayak – please get in touch with Paul & Julie at the taster session or via email:

enrolments@totnescanoeclub.org.uk

The summer sessions commence Monday 23rd April (Juniors) and Tuesday 24th April (Adult/Family). The courses will be run in six week blocks as usual.



Pool Session

This coming Saturday, 25 February – 5.00 til 6.00 for beginners; 6.00 – 7.00 for more experienced. At Totnes Pavillion Pool as usual. Come along and get wet in the warm! Remember its free to club members.

Deb Pinniger

The Club is pleased to be hosting a multi-media show by former world champion kayak freestyler Deb Pinniger on Monday 5th March at the Totnes Scout Hut, on the Steamer Quay at 7.30pm. She will be presenting her photography from the Ladakh area of the Indian Himalayas. Deb's striking images explore the remote cultures, landscapes and communities of the area.



Entrance is FREE!! (But a donation would be appreciated). Bring your family and friends it would be great to see you all. Shake off those winter blues and come socialise and be inspired.

See Jeremy's recent email for more details

Olympic Torch Relay

A date for your diaries – on Sunday 20th May the Olympic Torch relay will be passing through Totnes. It will be in the town for about 25 minutes which is quite a coup as much of its journey is, I was surprised to discover, by car!

This is the second day of the relay and it will be leaving



Penzance the day before so is likely to attract major media attention. Plans are afoot to hold some sort of multi-sports fayre with demonstrations and taster sessions to make it a full day of celebration and fun. Watch this space as plans unfold.

2012 AGM

It was great to see perhaps our highest ever turnout at an AGM with 28 attendees. It was a stimulating meeting with lots of discussion. This is a summary of the key points discussed - if anyone wants to see the full minutes please contact Roger Lane.

Chairman's report – see separate document attached
Secretary's report – Membership continues to grow, currently 150. Reasonable gender balance, and good to see 16–18 section growing

Sarah delivered her final report before standing down as Treasurer. The Club finances are in good order with a healthy balance.

The meeting gave thanks to Sarah for her help and hard work over several years as Treasurer, Membership secretary, Pool Coordinator and Training Course Booking Controller. Sarah started at the Club in 2004, became Treasurer in 2007.

With Adrian, arranged three Christmas parties, introduced the current course format, started the junior paddling nights. Both were awarded the Club Personality Cup. Sarah was senior paddler of year, achieving 3* and Adrian achieved L2 coaching.

Coach travelling expenses to be discussed by the Committee to clarify policy.

3 Election of Officials

Standing unopposed:

Chair – Rob Dack

Secretary – Roger Lane

Coaching Coordinator Juniors – Martin Jones

Coaching Coordinator Seniors – Yvette Steele

Welfare Officer – Paul Tweed

Quartermaster – Chas Billing

Safety Officer – Vacant (to be discussed at next Committee meeting)

WebMaster – Mik Wells

Social Secretary – Jeremy van Riemsdyke

New officers

Treasurer – Bill Hargreaves kindly volunteered

Membership & Enrolments – split between Paul Rutherford and Julie Perren.

4 AGM Proposals

Coach Funding

Proposal agreed:

- All coach training at 100% at committee discretion
- Club pays coaches BCU membership
- Active coaches get full family Club membership

AGM/Year End date

After discussion, it was decided to amend the financial year for closed accounts at end Jan for an AGM sometime in Feb. 2012 will therefore be a 13 month accounting year

5 Fees - Membership, Pool sessions and other activities

All trips, pool sessions will continue to be included in Club Membership.

Membership £60/£42/£18 Family/Adult/Junior – unchanged from last year. Likewise, training sessions remain Summer & Winter @ £6 adults, £5 juniors.

Kit hire to members is free of charge (unless being used for commercial purposes). Due to handling issues on and off the water, the Open Boats can generally only be borrowed for use on the Dart above the weir.

Agreed to offer Associate membership for people who have all of their own kit and just want to come on Club trips (not pool sessions) and social events such as the Monday social paddle. Special rate £18 per annum.

6 Trips, Summer activities, White Water

Taster Session planned for 31 March – book people onto courses then. Advertising needed. Committee meeting beforehand to assess coach availability and to finalise calendar. Summer sessions starting on 23/24 April.

Likely to include a Tryweryn trip, Surf weekend and a monthly estuary trip.

Trips to the Alps or other overseas venues are encouraged but should be organised by individuals as peer trips, not organised by Club

Suggestions for events and trips? – put on forum

Bill: Suggests Club becomes associate member of YHA, get member benefits? Investigate & agree at committee

7 Equipment

Equipment, all to be returned before end March for audit/inspection on the day of the taster session, but return beforehand.

8 AGM 2012, date and location

Dartmouth Inn, 7:00 Feb 2013, date tbc due to change to financial year

9 Any other business

New storage cage being planned for the boats stored at the pool.

Trying to get improvements to the bank where we launch for the evening sessions.

Looking at improving lighting in boat shed





There is lots of other information and discussions on the site, its not just about peer groups.

To have a look just go to:
www.totnescanoecub.org.uk/forum/index.php

To see instructions on how to join the forums:
www.totnescanoecub.org.uk/forum/viewtopic.php?f=5&t=36

Forum & Yahoo Group

If you haven't yet checked out the new forums now is the time to have a look. We are debating whether the forum or the Yahoo group is the best way to discuss peer trips. If you have a view, make it known please.

DATES & EVENTS	TOPICS	POSTS	LAST POST
White Water Peer Group Events Use this forum to organise peer group White Water trips.	7	28	by Yvette Steele ♀ Sat Feb 11, 2012 12:43
Sea & River Peer Group Events Use this forum to organise peer group sea and river trips.	5	28	by Paramoor ♂ Sun Feb 19, 2012 09:11
Club Outings & Events A forum for all official club outings and events. Moderator: Committee Members	2	2	by Mik Wells ♂ Thu Feb 09, 2012 09:00
Other Outings & Events For all events & dates which don't fall under other event categories.	5	6	by Mik Wells ♂ Tue Jan 31, 2012 09:41

FORUM	TOPICS	POSTS	LAST POST
Club Courses A forum for official club courses such as the Summer Monday & Tuesday evening courses and the Winter White Water courses. <small>For privacy reasons, the individual sub-forums for each course are only visible if you are signed-in and registered for the course. If you are registered for a course but can't see it then please contact the course leader to request access.</small>	1	1	by Mik Wells ♂ Fri Jan 27, 2012 10:33
For Sale Got something to sell? Post it here!	3	6	by Paramoor ♂ Thu Feb 09, 2012 21:31
Like! Like something you've seen on the WWW? Share it here and let's see if we can rival Facebook 😊	4	6	by Roger Lane ♂ Thu Feb 09, 2012 19:28
Forum Discussions A forum for discussing these forums! Got an idea for a new forum? Post it here!	5	10	by Roger Lane ♂ Thu Feb 16, 2012 20:50



Pictures of the Upper Dart in low water *courtesy Mik Wells and Mark Dixon*

There are lots of photographs loaded on Flickr – the Club has its own page where you can see many of the pictures taken of club activities over the last year or so. Check out:

<http://www.flickr.com/groups/totnescanoecub>