



# PPCA Newsletter

## August 2020

## Introduction

Welcome to August's Newsletter. This month, we have the latest on Covid, advance notice of the AGM and some important welfare news. We also have a tribute from British Canoeing to one of our own.

## Editorial

It scarcely seems possible that we're talking about the AGM already. The summer seems to have hardly started. Please read Jackie's piece and volunteer for the Committee in your droves.

Reading the update from Mountbatten, it seems my wish for a toilet has been answered. Never underestimate the power of the press.

Ivor Jones

Newsletter Editor

## Next Committee Meeting

Please forward any items you would like considered at the next committee meeting to [secretary@ppca-canoe-club.org.uk](mailto:secretary@ppca-canoe-club.org.uk). They will go to the secretary.

## Next Edition

There is no specific deadline as such for contributions but please bear in mind my general sloth and indolence and let me have anything time-sensitive well in advance.

## Contributions

Please send any contributions to [newsletter@ppca-canoe-club.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@ppca-canoe-club.org.uk)

## Acknowledgements

The cover photographs are from Debbie, Joy, Terry and Gavin.

## Covid 19

### Membership Update by Mark Perry

Stop Press - Following this month's meeting the Committee have agreed that members will receive a recognition that on-water club activities were suspended due to COVID-19. This will cover a 4 month period and Committee members are currently evaluating the most fair and easiest to implement option. Full details to follow when this evaluation has been completed - watch this space

### Mountbatten Update

Mountbatten Centre update on the next small phase of the centre re-opening :-

The board has now given approval that as of Wednesday 5th August we shall be opening a toilet facility downstairs. Our opening hours remain the same restricted times; 1330-1930 Wed-Fri and 1100-1700 Sat & Sun, these times will therefore apply to the toilet facility.

This will not be open to members of the public and only for commercial tenants, MBC members and MBC Staff. We feel that by opening it to a smaller number of people we are able to better control the safety measures we are putting in place and it therefore reduces the risk to all users.

This will be under constant review and therefore other times and areas remaining under constant review to be operated in full or in part with appropriate control protocols as and when it is deemed reasonably safe and indeed practicable to do so.

### PPCA Committee 2020/21 Call for Nominations by Jackie Perry

Although the AGM is not due to take place until October (date to be advised), we would like to remind members that they may want to consider volunteering for a post on the Committee for 2020/21.

Being part of the Committee is a great way to contribute to the club.

A description of each Committee post can be found under the PPCA Club Committee Roles and Responsibilities tab in the Members section of the website.

If you are interested, you are also welcome to ask any of the current Committee members about their role and the amount of time involved etc.

All posts are up for nomination so if you would like to be nominated you will need to secure a proposer and seconder to support your nomination and email the chair ([chair@ppca-canoe-club.org.uk](mailto:chair@ppca-canoe-club.org.uk)) advising of the post you would like to volunteer for,

If you do have any difficulty regarding finding a proposer and seconder, we could assist with this prior to the AGM.

There is one vacancy as we stand at this time and that is for the post of Club Leader, probably one of the most important posts for the club and one we cannot run without so we are particularly looking out for an experienced paddler with lots of enthusiasm and plenty of ideas. Your Club needs you!!

Please note that the AGM may need to run virtually/online this year due to Covid 19.

## DBS Checks by Alan Ede

Hello everyone,

I am processing DBS checks for those that are out of date.

If you receive contact from GBG Online Disclosures please complete the online application. I will then contact you in order to verify your documents.

You may have opted for the update service at the time of the last check. This means that British Canoeing will periodically check your DBS status which does away with these 3 yearly chase ups from me.

If you did opt for the update service please let me know.

For any of you who have recently been created as an applicant by me, once you have your DBS certificate you have 30 days to register.

I am still getting my head round the update service so will post more information here later.

Other welfare related news.

The requirements for safeguarding training, (previously Paddlesafe), have changed this year. There are slight differences regarding the coach and non-coach, (helper), requirements.

In basic terms it is being tightened up and coaches, leaders and helpers will need to complete some form of training/refreshers every 3 years. This will be in the form of face to face, (classroom), training or e-learning.

Again, more updates will be posted here later on this matter when I fully understand it.

## Brian (Buck) Taylor by Ken Hamblin

Could the Newsletter please include this letter which was sent to Buck last month from David Joy the CEO of British Canoeing and add my congratulations to him for this accolade. This is well deserved, as most river paddlers will know, for the amount of time and effort he spends on the welfare of the River Dart for our paddling areas, not only for the river but the lay by we use to park in at Holne Weir which he often cleans up and for helping to repair the toilet facility at New Bridge when it was vandalised many years ago and now this latest project with repairing the river bank at Holne Weir which has seen quite a bit of erosion during all the heavy rains of this last winter. Also many more little tasks that most of us don't know much about. Well done Buck and thank you for all you have done for the paddling community who enjoy this wonderful river and I know the PPCA take great pride in the fact that you are one of our members, amongst several other local clubs I think.

Editor's Note: The letter that Ken refers to came as a PDF and I have attached it at the end of the Newsletter so please try to stay awake beyond the list of committee members.

## Caption Competition

Hopefully Debbie will forgive me for purloining one of her photos for this purpose but I couldn't resist speculating on the conversation taking place here. Entries please for the next edition.

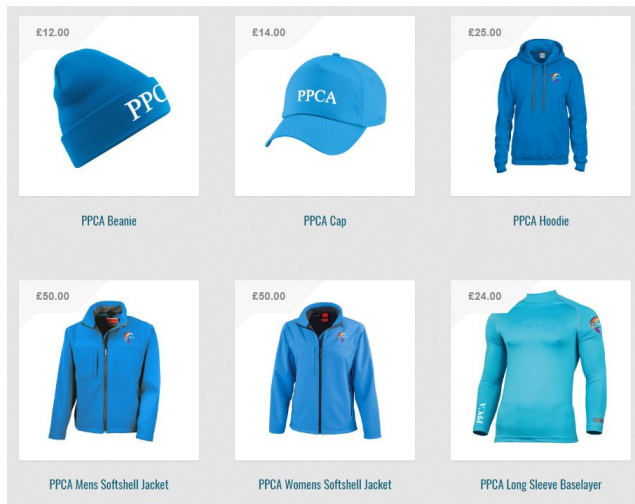
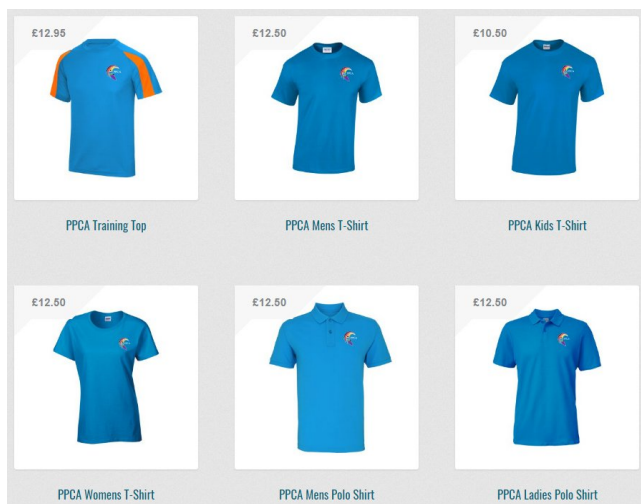


## Exchange and Mart

### PPCA Club Clothing by Jackie Perry, Publicity Officer

A full range of customised kit in either blue or black is available to order direct from Tailored Branding via the link below

<https://hsclothing.co.uk/ppca-3/>



Discount Available at Millets, 38/40 New George St, Plymouth PL1 1RW

One of our members works in the Millets store (Big 'Thank you' to Lee McKenzie!) on New George Street, Plymouth and has negotiated with his Manager a great discount of 15% on production of your PPCA club membership card. Usual T's & C's apply, e.g. goods already discounted/sales items might be excluded.

Discount Available at Kayaks and Paddles

Kayaks and paddles offer discount to local kayak and canoe clubs. The PPCA and Tamar Canoe club can get a discount up to 15%. This is an offer not a right for the person that is making a purchase, so please do not go upsetting Kayaks and Paddles employees as this discount might be taken away.



**Raise free donations** for us every time you shop online with easyfundraising!



<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ppca/>

## The Committee

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### Health and Safety Officer

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### Club President

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18 June 2020



Mr Brian Taylor  
By email

*Dear Brian*

**Thanks for your outstanding work at Holne Bridge and on the river Dart**

I have been following the challenges around the site at Holne Bridge and Ben seal has been keeping me advised of recent developments.

I have been aware for some time of yours and Pete's truly outstanding commitment and work on this site, but wanted to take this opportunity to record my personal thanks and thanks on behalf of the staff and many members within British Canoeing, for going above and beyond over the past few weeks.

This is a very important site for British Canoeing and I know that our members and other users really appreciate being able to access it. I also know that you have done a fantastic job year round and for many years, in keeping the site clean and safe and speaking with site users, anglers and many paddlers within the south west community in particular. I appreciate that this has called for considerable skill and patience which has been tested on many occasions. Thank you so much.

I am also aware, that the challenges we have faced on the site over the past few weeks have been particularly testing and that you have dealt with these in a most professional way.

I appreciate that the recent challenges around the misuse of the site and our decision to close the site earlier than planned have been difficult to deal with. Thanks for the work you completed to install the new fencing. This probably seemed an easier task than your dealing with the reaction to the closure. I appreciate that this must have been far from easy.

Ben has advised me of the many difficult conversations with local people from Ashburton, the open water swimmers and paddlers from throughout the region and how well you have dealt with the concerns and complaints that have followed. I understand that you have been so successful in persuading people of the appropriateness of our approach that one person has even become a member of British Canoeing as a result! That really is a testament to how people feel about you.

I know from these conversations are never easy, so thanks again for dealing with these matters so well. I am sure that the steps we took were the right ones and that we will emerge with credit from this situation.

We are grateful too for your outstanding work in raising £15k from the local clubs and RDT towards the bank repair work. We know that this work would have been impossible without your involvement and commitment to fundraising. I am also aware that your work extends to other areas and that you are also active in trying to raise funds for an access point at Staverton.

As you may know our strategy is entitled *Stronger Together* and this is also one of our values within British Canoeing. We are indebted to you for your work and without it paddlers and others simply would not have the opportunity to use the site to pursue their passion. Our other values include *Striving for Excellence* and *Individually Committed* and I think you have embodied these Values in your commitment to this work over a long period of time.

Thank you very much indeed.

Please do let me know if there is anything we can do to assist you further and I hope I get the chance to visit the site and to meet and talk sometime soon.

Kind regards



David Joy  
CEO, British Canoeing