



PPCA Newsletter  
July 2020

## Introduction

Welcome to July's Newsletter. This month, in a fairly brief edition, we have the latest Covid updates, Joy looks to the future and Terry looks to the past.

## Editorial

So, another month, another set of rules about what we can and can't do with regard to Covid. I must admit, I've completely lost track of how many people can meet up, under what circumstances and in which place. Every time I look, the goal posts have moved again. It's good to see that the club are running paddles again, albeit in a limited way. It would just be nice if the toilets were open....

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 private trips that have been posted on the club's facebook page.



## Covid 19

### Access to the Members' Shed by Ken Hamblin

Mount Batten Staff are not on duty on Mondays and Tuesdays but will be on call in the classroom up by the car park from 1330 hrs until 1930 hrs on Wednesday Thursday and Friday. Someone will also be on call at the same location from 1000 hrs until 1700 hrs on Saturdays and Sundays. However the In Deep Diving Shop is open from about 0830 hrs most days until late afternoon evening. So it is possible for anybody who has their boats stored in the Members Shed to collect their boats and return them most days now but please check the timings with the Mount Batten or the Diving shop. If it is your intention to make use of this facility again please make sure you have read the PPCA Covid 19 Risk assessment and Consideration and control document. There are facilities for Sanitising in this shed so please ensure you that you apply the safety precautions as per the Government guidelines as well as the distancing requirements of 2 metres.

In addition there is a form that you are required to enter your details so that we have a record of who has been in the shed and when. This is for your safety as well as everybody else in that we would then have this record in the regretful prospect that somebody later finds they were infected with this virus so that this would then be used to locate anybody else who may have been in the area at this same time.

I know very well this sounds dictatorial but it is for all our benefits during this horrible period of time but at the same time may I wish that you all have a great paddle or paddles and enjoy your time on the water and look forward to seeing you all again soon and getting back to normality.

Have Fun!!

### Booking on Club Sessions by Marty Johnston

It has been a long time coming and it brings me great pleasure to announce that we are officially open!

You will by now be aware that we have a new booking system for Tuesday and Saturday paddles. It is my hope that Fridays will follow shortly.

Please book on the new sessions via the website. New sessions will be added weekly, for Tuesdays this will happen around 1900 on Tuesday, and around 1000 on Saturdays for the following week.

If for some reason you have to cancel or cannot make the trip, please post on our Facebook page ASAP. In order to fill your slot on a first come first served basis.

If you are using an free space then you must read and accept the covid consent form. To do this simply use the consent form product available on the website.

Happy paddling!

### PPCA and TCA Club Trip to the Scilly Isles 2021 (IOS 2021) by Joy Ashford

Many of you will recall that in Aug 2019, Tony Sickelmore, a member of the Tamar canoe association (TCA) proposed a joint trip to the Isles of Scilly for a week's sea kayaking with the PPCA; This trip was due to take place this August 2020. This joint venture was to include 11, TCA members and 14, PPCA members. Unfortunately the trip in August this year has had to be postponed due to COVID-19.

I say 'postponed' as the trip has now been planned to take place in Aug 2021, exact dates to be finalised. The PPCA and TCA members who paid their deposit for the 2020 trip are being offered first choice for places for the 2021 trip, but there may be vacancies plus a reserve list will be kept. The approximate cost of the week's trip will be around £300, which includes the ferry from Penzance to the isles of Scilly (for you and your kayak) and camping tents/cooking facilities.

If you are interested in attending this expedition next year or would like further information please email Tony direct, [arcticrambler@aol.com](mailto:arcticrambler@aol.com)

## Antiques Roadshow

This week it's Terry's turn to provide our blast from the past

### PPCA History Snippet by Terry Calcott

During the early years of the PPCA, the late 1970s. The club organised a number of marathon races, 3 of which formed part of the Hasler race series (see later in article for information about the Hasler series). These marathon races were:

**The Two Counties race**, which started at Calstock and followed the Tamar down to the finish at Coxside.



1979

**The Plymouth Sound race**, which started at Coxside and then followed a 14 mile circuit around the Sound.

**Canoe race**

RESULTS of the Two Counties Marathon Canoe Race from Calstock to Coxside, organised by the Port of Plymouth Canoeing Association, in which there were 60 competitors in 47 boats, were:

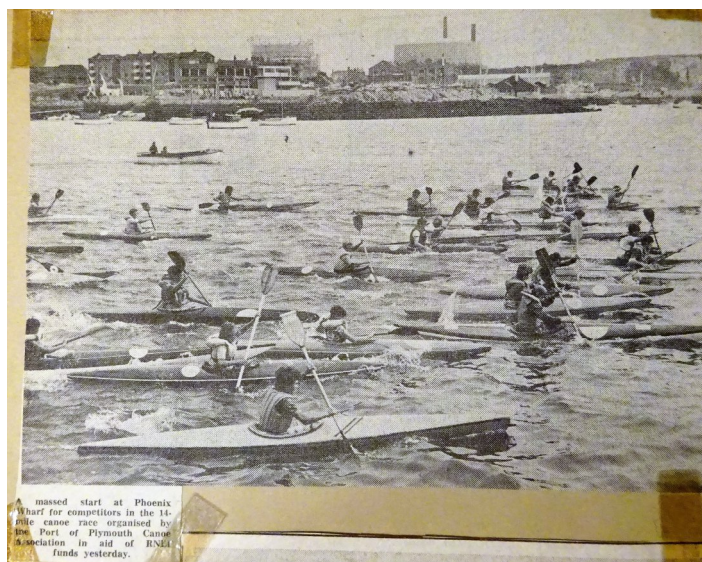
First class senior men's K1 (for the Kirton Kayaks cup): 1, Keith Wallace (PPCA), 1.50.41; 2, Mike Carpenter (Exeter CC), 1.56.56; 3, N Braddon (St Austell Scouts CC), 1.58.35.

Senior men's K2: 1, G Rowell and D Blackmore (RNKA, Richmond), 1.46.48; 2, P Woodger and S Amos (Exeter CC), 1.52.54; 3, M Compton and Trudgeon (St Austell Scout CC), 1.54.52.

Junior K2 (for the Cornish Fibre Sports Shield): 1, P Gay and E Daw (Exeter CC), 2.02.22; 2, S Morley and J Geary (St Austell Scout CC), 2.03.38; 3, K Pearce and P Tucker (St Austell Scout CC), 2.07.02.

Slalom Class 5A (Baron Canoe Shield): 1, S Hill (PPCA), 2.22.37; 2, A Tibbetts (PPCA), 2.26.23; 3, A de Rijke (Plymouth), 2.29.25.

Junior Slalom Class 5B (Read Shield): 1, A Worrall (PPCA), 2.32.07; 2, A Byron (North Devon CC), 2.35.15; 3, D Birdett (PPCA), 2.45.16.



1976

**Port of Plymouth Canoeing Association**

The R.N.L.I. Appeal Race

This is to certify that

C. VALLAND

gained Second position

in the Junior Touring class

of the Plymouth Sound

(14 mile) L.D. race.

Held on the 8th August 19 76

Race Official [Signature] Club Secretary [Signature]



**The Lyhner race**, which started at Saltash Passage and then took a 6 mile round trip up the Lyhner.

This period of the club history organising marathon races phased out in the early 1980s but during this time the club was very active in marathon racing and had many members who took part in the various races.

From Wikipedia

**The Hasler series** is the British national club championship for the sport of marathon canoeing. Clubs compete within their regions throughout the season to win the right to race at the Hasler Final, held in September each year.

The Hasler Series and Trophy are named after Major Herbert 'Blondie' Hasler, DSO, OBE, a distinguished Royal Marines officer in World War II who famously paddled 85 miles upstream, at night, into occupied France in a successful attempt to blow up enemy shipping and survived to tell the tale.

The Hasler Trophy was presented by Lloyd's of London underwriters to commemorate Operation Frankton, the raid of the so-called 'Cockleshell Heroes', led by Major Hasler. The Hasler Trophy has been competed for since 1957.

#### Operation Frankton

One of the most daring raids of World War II took place on the night of 11 December 1942 in the enemy-occupied port of Bordeaux in France. Operation Frankton involved 12 men in six canoes being taken by submarine to a position 10 miles south of the Gironde estuary on 7 December.

One of the canoes was ripped passing through the hatch of the submarine, but the other five then had an 85-mile paddle ahead of them. Two boats were lost in the tidal race and the remaining three carried on for three days, paddling in darkness and lying up during the day. One more boat hit a submerged rock and sank and the final two boats went on to Bordeaux harbour, where they attached their limpet mines and, assisted by the ebb tide, paddled silently back down the river. The mines detonated and severely damaged four vessels and sunk one.

The four remaining men beached before reaching the sea, scuttled their canoes and travelled overland to try to reach safety. Two were captured, but Major 'Blondie' Hasler and Marine Bill Sparks made their way to Spain – the only two of the original ten who survived.

## Marketplace

### Items for "Sale" by Doug Sitch

Gul Shockwave Neoprene Spraydeck (Bigdeck) with 'S/M' tube. Bit old and stiff but ok. Free to good home.

Palm Neoprene Spraydeck (R4 Keyhole) with 'M' tube. Used but ok. Free to good home.

Playboater Neoprene Spraydeck (Bigdeck) with 'M' tube. Used but ok. Free to good home.

Large Yellow Sealine Dry Bag 30 litre. Hardly used. £5.

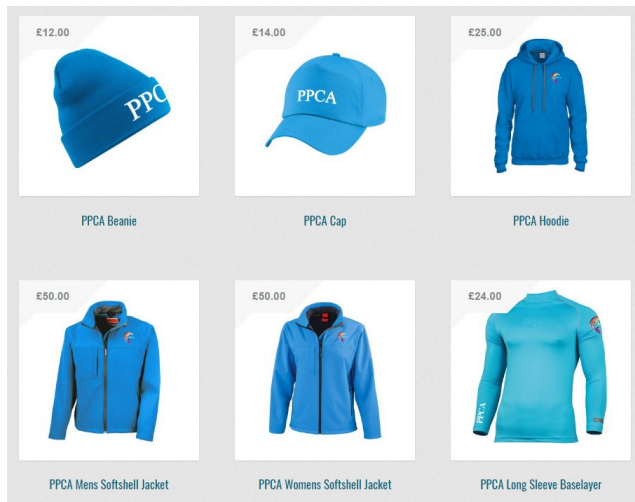
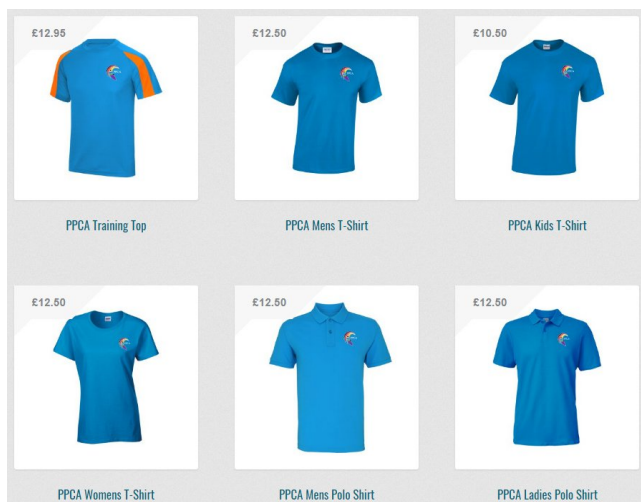
Please contact Doug directly if you are interested on 07966740025

## 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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