



PPCA Newsletter October 2020

Introduction

Welcome to October's Newsletter. Another fairly thin edition which is hardly surprising in the current circumstances. This month Terry urges us all to keep paddling and Jackie is looking for committee members.

Editorial

The equinox has come and gone, the evenings are dark and the white water warriors are doing their Saturday evening rain dances again. A summer like no other has drawn to a close and I suspect that Terry's piece will strike a chord with many of us in that peer paddles have often taken the place of club activities. That said, the club continues to run paddles and there is a lot of work going on behind the scenes to keep the club functioning and in good shape ready for the day when we can all get back on the water as a group. All of which is a fairly convoluted way of saying please read Jackie's piece and see if you fancy volunteering for the Committee.

Oh, and don't forget the AGM.

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. 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

Acknowledgements

The cover photographs are from Bruce, Helga, Keta, Terry and Joy.

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

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.

All posts are up for nominations but the Club will particularly require nominations for the posts of:

Club Leader

Introductory Course Co-ordinator

A description of each Committee post can be found under the PPCA Club Committee Roles & 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 amount of time involved etc.

If you would like to be nominated you will need to secure a proposer and seconder to support your nomination and email the Secretary (secretary@ppca-canoe-club.org.uk) advising of the post you would like to volunteer for.

Features

Pandemic Paddling by Terry Calcott

The pandemic has decimated paddling as we know it this year and the club has done its absolute best in difficult circumstances to provide a programme of activities for the members. With the limit of 6 in a group on recreational club paddles they have become quite different to what we were used to pre-covid. The online booking system has helped some paddlers get out on the water, but also many other club paddlers have dropped off the radar from paddling and not ventured out on the water at all for many reasons.

For my own reasons during the pandemic I have kept a distance from official club activities and concentrated on organising my own peer paddling with a small group of club members and friends. I know there are also several other club paddlers who have also organised peer paddles. On one Saturday recently I counted two official club paddles taking place plus three peer paddles, the club had well over 20 paddlers out on the water. Even though not everyone can take part in the official club activities there are still a healthy number of club paddlers regularly out on the water, which is great to see. The days of us all paddling as a large group of 20 to 30 on a club paddle is long gone and no one knows when we will return to these larger groups.



One of the reasons for joining a club is for the social interaction and group activities. Most of my interaction this year apart from my regular paddling group has been short conversations, a wave from a distance or catching up with other club members on the slipway or briefly in the courtyard. But most of the time out on the water when groups pass each other and exchange pleasantries. The other place for social gathering we used to enjoy was the post paddle drink up in the bar at Mount Batten, but alas this has had to be curtailed. Fortunately, I have found a great outdoor cafe for social distancing but still able to enjoy a hot drink post paddle with friends. The one thing I thought I would miss most were the changing facilities and a hot shower at Mount Batten after paddling. But this is now a distant blur and it did not take long to adapt; the back of the car has now become the norm for a quick change.



As the months progressed, I have expanded the number of paddlers I regularly paddle with but keeping within the group size of 6. After checking my logbook, I had organised 35 peer paddles since paddling started again. This equates to nearly 2 a week.

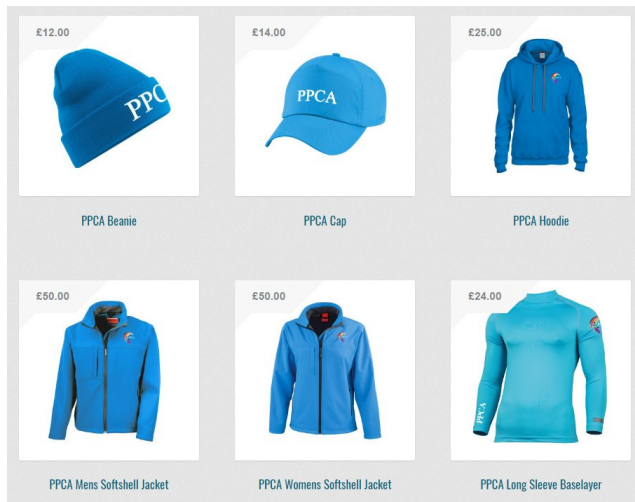
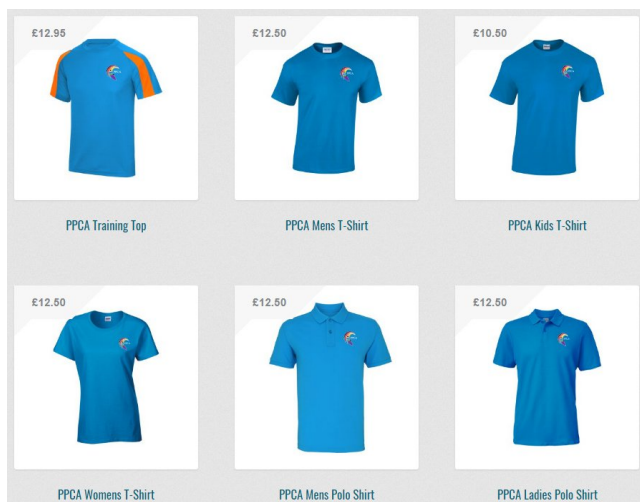
Paddling has seen a massive surge in popularity during the pandemic. Water sport as we know is great for both physical and mental wellbeing. I intend paddling as often as I can, and I encourage everyone to get out and paddle as often as possible. If you cannot get on an official club session, then why not organise your own peer paddle if you have your own equipment. I look forward to the day when we can all come together again and paddle in large numbers on a club paddle, fingers crossed for next year and things improve, and that day comes soon.

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/>

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