



Port of Plymouth Canoeing Association



Wet News 85. Nov 2013.

Club Officers

President	Terry Calcott	07828 652775
Chair	John Mitchell	01752 219246
Vice Chair	Ian Ruse	07980 355019
Club Leader	Chris Doidge	07973 285969
Asst Club Leader	Jane Hitchings	01752 691274
Secretary	Brian Taylor	
Membership Sec	Tracy Jones	01752 510653
Treasurer	John Elworthy	
Equipment Officer	Alan Ede	07799 556876
Publicity Officer	Andy Nicholls	07801 367363
Welfare Officer	Joy Ashford	01752 344425

Introductory co-ordinator Jenny Nicholls 07740 103398
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 (E-mails to this address goes to the club secretary).

Tel

December edition of Wet News.

Items for inclusion in the December edition of Wet News to reach the editor, Clive Ashford, by 21:00hrs on Sat 7 Dec please. Publication date Sun 8 Dec.

E-mail address:

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Post: Please call me for my postal address if required. Tel: 01752 344425

The editor (Clive Ashford) reserves the right to edit / reject items submitted.

Disclaimer. Opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of the PPCA.

The prologue.

I was gasping for a cup of tea a little while ago only to find that there wasn't a drop of water in the tap, a shortcoming associated with a freshly dug hole in the pavement just down the road. The supply was restored within a few hours but for a few days at least I stopped taking our tap water for granted.

Website forum.

It won't be news to you that the website forum has changed. Our website was migrated to another server which had problems dealing with the old forum; hence Andy has had to create the new one. This new forum can be accessed via a button at the top of our website, or direct via <http://www.pcca-canoe-club.org.uk/forum2/index.php> To paraphrase the tired and tested saying, keep calm and carry on posting.

3 star surf.

Congratulations to Phil Lucas on gaining the 3 star surf award. I was quite surprised to hear of Phil's success but only because I assumed that Phil had gained this award years ago. This must have been the easiest assessment that Phil has ever undertaken, but well done anyway, most deserved.

PPCA AGM, 21 October 2013.

Some 45 members attended the 2013 AGM to hear how the club is faring. You will all have had a copy of the minutes by now so I will just tell you about our achievers for the year.

Leader Chris presented the following awards:

Most enthusiastic paddler.	Vicky Hoskin.
Achievement.	Mark Curtis.
Services to club.	Damean Miller.
Endeavour.	Jane Siegne.
Leadership.	Martin Mills.
Inspiration.	Phil Lucas.
Outstanding contribution.	Terry Calcott.

Well done to all you very deserving recipients, undoubtedly there was strong competition for some of these awards.

Chris then presented retiring treasurer Syd Evans a bottle of something rather nice in recognition of his services over the difficult last 2 years.

Finally, in recognition of Terry Calcotts' high level of involvement in the club, Chris awarded Terry honorary membership. Very well deserved indeed.

Raffle.

The 40th anniversary raffle was also drawn at the AGM. The winners were:

Justin Frost,	£150 K and P voucher.	Donated by Kayaks and Paddles.
Kate Brady,	£100 K and P voucher.	Donated by Kayaks and Paddles.
Chris Doidge,	2 medium sized soft dry bags.	Donated by A and S Watersports.
Paul Hewson,	50 litre dry bag.	Donated by Nookie.
Jenny Nicholls,	Large sweat shirt.	Donated by Nookie.

Well done to the lucky winners and a huge thank you to the local firms who donated such useful prizes.

Photo competition.

Terry announced the result of the 2013 photo competition. The quality of entries was as high as ever, well done to all those who submitted photos and thanks to those who voted.



1st prize.
I can see you.
Photo by Joy Ashford.



Second prize.
Polar reflections.
Photo by Merryl Docker.

PPCA Introduction to Sea Kayaking, Sat 16th November. (Terry Calcott)

The club will be running another all day session on Saturday 16th Nov for any budding NEW sea kayakers. If you have wanted to try sea kayaks out but never had the opportunity now is your chance. The session is aimed at those who are paddling around 2/3 star standard and are novice sea kayakers. It will cover some theory and a lot of practical aspects of sea paddling, culminating with a sea paddle somewhere in the sound. It is about transferring paddling skills that you already have and not a full on coaching session teaching you basic skills.

Club sea kayaks are available for use or bring along your own if you have one, if you would like to book a place and a boat or have any questions please let me know by email terryc1@blueyonder.co.uk or telephone 07828 652775.

Safeguarding Salmon on the River Dart. Mon 18 November.

Mike Maslin, the environment Agency water bailiff for the River Dart, will be giving a lecture titled: Safeguarding Salmon on the River Dart and how canoeists can behave responsibly to aid this. The lecture is on Monday 18th November at Mountbatten in the Waterfront room, start time 7pm. This free lecture should be of interest to all white water enthusiasts and any other paddler interested in the environment. It is open to all, not just PPCA members, so feel free to spread the word among the wider paddling fraternity.

A glimpse of Greenland, Wednesday 4 December.

I have attached a couple of adverts for a lecture that Andy Stamp is going to deliver about a kayaking expedition to arctic Greenland. The lecture will take place at the Tamar River Sailing Club, which is located on the Devon side of the Tamar close to the Tamar Bridge, (PL5 1JY for those of you who need such things), will start at 20:00hrs on Wednesday 4 December and is free to enter. To make it just about as perfect as possible the bar opens at 19:30 hrs. The lecture is being delivered by Andy Stamp. Andy doesn't do anything by halves. It will be good.

Smile please. A typical PPCA weekend, 19 & 20 October.

Here's what the club got up to over the weekend of 19 – 20 October.

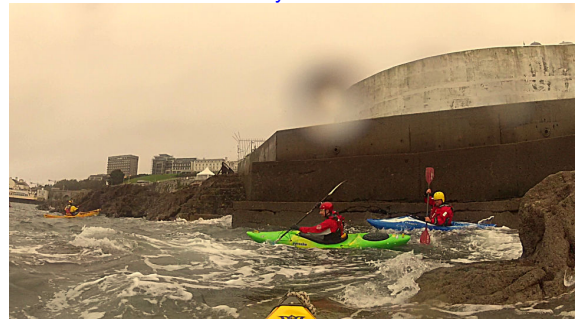
Photo by Bob Frost



The PPCA makes an old man smile.

15 intrepid paddlers took to Plymouth Sound for a blustery Saturday paddle on 19 October. We were treated to choppy and sometimes interesting conditions but the paddle was deemed to have been a success, so good in fact that all 15 of us retired to the Mount Batten bar afterwards for a bit of social discourse. (I ran this trip and claim that the crowded bar was down to my natural charisma and magnetic personality, I'm sure that you all concur with this opinion).

Photo by Bob Frost



A choppy Plymouth Sound

On the same day 10 other club paddlers could be spied running the fearsome rapids of the Baby Dart, (the section from Buckfast to Staverton), learning river running skills in open boats. By all accounts a good time was had by all but Old Nosey, our roaming reporter, has a few observations. You may like to view his piece at the end of the newsletter.

Photo by Banjo Mark.



The PPCA makes the young ones smile as well.

Then on Sunday 20 October 20 paddlers took part in the club beginners' river trip on the Lower Dart. River running logistics necessitate there being a group of vehicles at each end of the trip, the ones at the lower end being used to store snugly warm dry clothing so that our intrepid white water warriors can quickly get warm and dry at the end of a trip.

KickarseKate looked somewhat sheepish when she realised that her snugly warm clothes were in a

vehicle at the wrong end of the river. Brrrr.

Photo by Andy Nicholls.



(Soon to be) Expert open boaters.

I will save your brain cells by doing the sums for you. In total the club had 45 paddlers taking part in a diverse range of club activities over the weekend. That's 45 people outdoors, grinning widely in weather conditions that may have had "normal" people hiding in front of the telly. I picked this particular weekend

Photo by Andy Nicholls.



Playing on the Tamar.

because I happen to know exactly how many people paddled on each trip, but if you look at our diary dates for the next few months you will find that this weekend was nothing exceptional. Activities on offer include: recreational paddles, introductory recreational paddles, sea kayak paddles, introductory sea kayak paddles, beginners river trips, intermediate river trips and open boat river trips. Oh, and then there's our eagerly anticipated Christmas paddle on 21 December, details of which will appear in due course. That's quite a lot of paddling available to you, our members, to keep those winter blues away. There's no excuse to be miserable so wrap up warm, keep paddling and let those smiles grow.

The BCU, bless 'em.

The UK governing body of our sport is the British Canoe Union, (BCU), which in my little world is interpreted as meaning Basically Completely Useless. As part of the BCU's constant program of mindless meddling and interference they have again revised the star test awards as of 1 November. Gentle readers, having looked at the revised star tests I can report that I have no reason to change my opinion of the BCU, but only because the initials of Not Fit for Purpose don't spell BCU. Of course this just my personal opinion and is very definitely not intended to represent the PPCA's position.

White water.

The white water river season is now well under way and I would imagine that you flat water and sea paddlers are wondering how it's all been going. Well, Joy pointed out a Facebook posting by youth member Kate after her first river trip with the club.

Wow today was the BEST DAY OF MY LIFE!!! I went down some rapids= FUN. I capsized once. My partner was Buck. But most of all I had a great day. (I can't wait to go next week. Please rain).

So it's going pretty well then, even the Mount Batten Squid appears to be enjoying itself by making the odd, and sometimes unwelcome, excursion into fresh water. Paddlers beware.

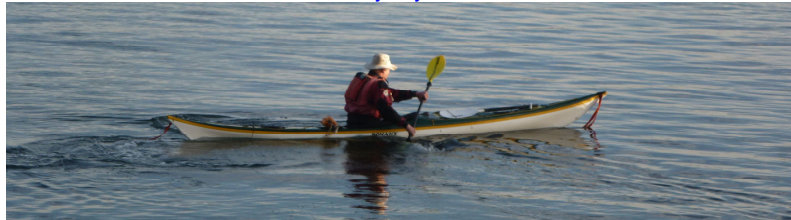
Old Nosey, our roaming reporter...

...would let it be known that Ted Fearon shook hands with the Mount Batten squid during the open boat river trip of 19 October.

Old Nosey, our roaming reporter, has also heard that on the same trip the River Dart Pixies made mischief with some open boat paddles. Old Nosey believes that Chairman John can be approached for clarification.

Finally Old Nosey, our roaming reporter, was going to report on certain senior club members turning up for river trips minus vital pieces of equipment, but with his recent track record your favourite editor feels a bit uncomfortable casting that particular stone.

Photo by Joy Ashford



And relax.

Discounts.

The following traders have been known to give PPCA members discount. If you know of any more, or find any of this information to be incorrect, please let your editor know.

AS watersports, Exeter. 5% or 10% dependant on what you are buying and on production of your PPCA membership card,

Camel Canoe & Kayaks, Wadebridge. 10% on production of PPCA card.

Cotswold Outdoor. (Plymouth branch only). 15% on production of your PPCA membership card.

Endless River Adventure. 10% Until 1/9/14 on orders over £30 and quoting reference ERPPCM10

<http://www.endlessriver.co.uk/>

Kayaks & Paddles, Plymouth. 15% on production of PPCA membership card.

Marine Bazaar, Sutton Road. "What he feels like" for mentioning PPCA.

Mount Batten Bar. 5% on production of current Mount Batten membership card.

Wild Things, Redruth. 10% to club members. Tel 01209 211977 <http://www.wildthings-canoes.co.uk/>

Picture Bazaar

Photo by Jonathan Haigh



Elephant in the room!

That's all folk; see you somewhere cold and wet. Good paddling, Clive.

Diary dates.

These diary dates are correct at time of going to print, please check the website forum or speak to the session leader for any changes nearer to the event.

Date	Type of paddle	Location	Session leader
November.			
Mon 4, 19:30	Pool session	Plympton Pool	Zoe Boyle 07814 131654.
<i>Please see website forum for details on booking a place on these sessions.</i>			
Sat 9, TBA	Beginners river trip.	TBA	Chris Doidge 07973 285969.
<i>Meet at Plympton B&Q car park ready to leave at the time advised on the website forum nearer to the date. Please allow time to swap boats around to take as few cars as possible to the river.</i>			
Sat 9, 10:00	Recreational paddle	Mount Batten	Terry Calcott 07828 652775.
Sun 10, 08:30	Intermediate river trip.	TBA	Clive Ashford 01752 344425.
<i>Meet at Plympton B&Q car park ready to leave at 08:30. Please allow time to swap boats around to take as few cars as possible to the river.</i>			
Sat 16, 10:00	Recreational paddle	Mount batten	Neville Cannon 07773 342787.
Sat 16, 10:00	Intro to sea kayaking	Mount Batten	Terry Calcott 07828 652775.
<i>See November newsletter / forum item for more details.</i>			
Sun 17, 09:00	Beginners river trip.	TBA	John Elworthy 01752 823381.
<i>Meet at Plympton B&Q car park ready to leave at 09:00. Please allow time to swap boats around to take as few cars as possible to the river.</i>			
Sun 17, 08:30	Open boat river trip.	TBA	Ian Ruse 07980 355019.
<i>Meet at Mount Batten ready to leave at 08:30.</i>			
Mon 18, 19:00.	Winter lecture	Mount Batten	
<i>Lecture by ??? from the environment agency about salmon in the river Dart and our impact on them.</i>			
Sat 23, 09:00	Beginners river trip.	TBA	Doug Sitch 07966 740025.
<i>Meet at Plympton B&Q car park ready to leave at 09:00 Please allow time to swap boats around to take as few cars as possible to the river.</i>			
Sat 23, 10:00	Recreational paddle	Mount Batten	Joy Ashford 01752 344425.
Sun 24, 08:30	Intermediate river trip.	TBA	Ken Hamblin 01752 365404.
<i>Meet at Plympton B&Q car park ready to leave at 08:30. Please allow time to swap boats around to take as few cars as possible to the river.</i>			
Sat 30, 10:00	Recreational paddle	Mount Batten	Ian Brimacombe 07720 957304.
December.			
Sun 1, TBA	Beginners river trip	TBA	Chris Doidge 07973 285969.
<i>Meet at Plympton B&Q car park ready to leave at the time advised on the website forum nearer to the date. Please allow time to swap boats around to take as few cars as possible to the river.</i>			
Mon 2, 19:30	Pool session	Plympton Pool	Zoe Boyle 07814 131654.
<i>Please see website forum for details on booking a place on these sessions.</i>			
Wed 4, 20:00	A glimpse of Greenland Tamar River Sailing Club, PL5 1JY		
<i>An account of Andy Stamp's sea kayaking exploits in Arctic Greenland. See November newsletter / forum for details.</i>			
Sat 7, 08:30	Beginners river trip	TBA	Clive Ashford 01752 344425.
<i>Meet at Plympton B&Q car park ready to leave at 08:30. Please allow time to swap boats around to take as few cars as possible to the river.</i>			
Sat 7, 10:00	Sea kayak trip.	Mount Batten	Joy Ashford 01752 344425.
<i>The club sea kayaks can be booked with the Club Equipment Officer, Alan Ede, by a text to 07799 556876 or an e-mail to alancede@hotmail.co.uk</i>			

December (continued).

Sat 7, 10:30 Intro rec paddle Mount Batten John Mitchell 01752 219246.

Sun 8, 09:00 Intermediate river trip. TBA Julie Elworthy 01752 823381.
Meet at Plympton B&Q car park ready to leave at 09:00 Please allow time to swap boats around to take as few cars as possible to the river.

Sat 14, 08:30 Open boat river trip TBA Ted Fearon 07973 964433.
Meet at Mount Batten ready to leave at 08:30. Ian Pitchford

Sat 14, 10:00 Recreational paddle Mount Batten Neville Cannon 07773 342787.

Sun 15, 09:00 Beginners river trip. TBA John Elworthy 01752 823381.
Meet at Plympton B&Q car park ready to leave at 09:00. Please allow time to swap boats around to take as few cars as possible to the river.

Sat 21, 09:00 Intermediate river trip TBA Doug Sitch 07966 740025.
Meet at Plympton B&Q car park ready to leave at 09:00 Please allow time to swap boats around to take as few cars as possible to the river.

Sat 21, TBA Christmas paddle TBA Terry Calcott 07828 652775.
Details TBA via forum.

Sun 22, 08:30 Beginners river trip. TBA Ken Hamblin 01752 365404.
Meet at Plympton B&Q car park ready to leave at 08:30. Please allow time to swap boats around to take as few cars as possible to the river.

Sat 28, TBA Intermediate river trip TBA Chris Doidge 07973 285969.
Meet at Plympton B&Q car park ready to leave at the time advised on the website forum nearer to the date. Please allow time to swap boats around to take as few cars as possible to the river.

Sat 28, 10:00 Recreational paddle Mount Batten John Mitchell 01752 219246.

Sun 29, 09:00 Beginners river trip. TBA Julie Elworthy 01752 823381.
Meet at Plympton B&Q car park ready to leave at 09:00. Please allow time to swap boats around to take as few cars as possible to the river.

January.

*The program for our **January white water kayak trips** has not yet been finalised. This will be published in December's Wet News, in the mean time the website will be updated once details become available.*

Sat 4, 10:00 Sea kayak trip Mount Batten Ian Brimacombe 07720 957304.
The club sea kayaks can be booked with the Club Equipment Officer, Alan Ede, by a text to 07799 556876 or an e-mail to alancede@hotmail.co.uk

Sat 4, 10:30 Intro rec paddle Mount Batten John Mitchell 01752 219246.

Sun 5, 08:30 Open boat river trip TBA Ian Ruse 07980 355019.
Meet at Mount Batten ready to leave at 08:30.
Club open boats etc. can be booked with the Club Equipment Officer, Alan Ede, by a text to 07799 556876 or an e-mail to alancede@hotmail.co.uk There will be a hire charge of £5 per boat.

Mon 6, 19:30 Pool session Plympton Pool Zoe Boyle 07814 131654.
Please see website forum for details on booking a place on these sessions.

Sat 11, 10:00 Recreational paddle Mount Batten Terry Calcott 07828 652775.

Sat 18, 10:00 Recreational paddle Mount Batten Joy Ashford 01752 344425.

Sat 25, TBA Open boat river trip TBA Ted Fearon 07973 964433.
Please check the website forum closer to the date to confirm details.
Club open boats etc. can be booked with the Club Equipment Officer, Alan Ede, by a text to 07799 556876 or an e-mail to alancede@hotmail.co.uk There will be a hire charge of £5 per boat.

Sat 25, 10:00 Recreational paddle Mount Batten Neville Cannon 07773 342787.