



# Eddylines

Port of Plymouth Canoeing Association

Newsletter 09 July 2015

Welcome to the July edition of Eddylines. It is a bit thin on the ground with not many articles coming in from the membership, with the exception of a short article below from our Equipment Officer and a Paddlepower update from Linda Brady (thank you both). I have bulked the pages out with a few bits and pieces from recent paddles I have been on. Please send some articles in about your recent exploits and help support your newsletter.

## *Booking club sea kayaks (Alan Ede - Equipment Officer)*

Can all club members who require club sea kayaks for the sea kayak paddles please book them before the date required. They can be booked with the Equipment Officer, Alan Ede, by a text to 07799 556876 or an e-mail to [alancede@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:alancede@hotmail.co.uk)

## *Midsummer Camp at Ayrmer Cove - 2015 (Terry Calcott)*

The instruction from Joy our trip leader for the Saturday morning at Mount Batten was make sure you are ready to paddle for 10:00. Having done a few of these camps before I knew that it would take me a fair while to cram everything into my sea kayak, so I arrived at 09:00. I had a new tent much smaller and also lighter which I was keen to try out and see how much space it saved me. This slotted easily into my boat along with everything else required for an overnight camp. The only perplexing decision was how much water to carry, I decided on 4 litres plus a few bottles on my deck for drinking during the paddle. I was easily ready for the 10:00 start and it was not long after that we set off.

Ayrmer Cove is around fifteen miles from Mount Batten, quite a long paddle with fully laden boats. Ten paddlers in total headed out into a calm and relatively windless Sound. The aim was to make for the outside of the Mewstone and then across the Yealm mouth onto Stoke beach for lunch. We made good time with a bit of a following breeze and arrived at Stoke after about 3 hours of paddling. Refreshed and rested the final stretch to Ayrmer Cove took us closer in shore for a leisurely and picturesque paddle across the Erme mouth and the impressive cliffs leading up to the cove. On arrival we could make out Clive on the beach, although he had done the original planning and booking for the trip he was unable to join us for the paddle. We could also make out what looked like tents already pitched on our Cove. These turned out to be the tarps of a survival course who were camping out for a few days.



*The campsite (photo from Terry Calcott)*

Once ashore the task of unloading all the kit and setting up camp followed. There was a green patch of what was Sand Spurrey, an ideal site to build the tented village. All except that tent pegs were useless so rocks had to be used for securing the pegs and guys. Before long people were settling down to a brew or

something stronger and the talk turned to the evening meal. It is a delight to see all the various stoves, pots and pans come out and the end product served up in no time. I have learnt over the years that splitting the meal with friends makes for an interesting and tasty spread. Iced sloe gin and tonic cocktail to start followed by a mezze of olives, peppers and bread. Then the main meal of lemon chickpeas with spinach followed quickly by a lovely plum sponge pudding with custard. Mm yum I was stuffed. With it being the longest day some paddlers went for a walk up the track to find the pub. Others went on a fire wood forage and a few climbed the hill to take in the view of the surrounding countryside. Clive gave a demo in setting up the perfect camp fire, and we sat around it and chatted and laughed for a couple of hours.



Sunday morning dawned and I could hear the wind. The sea state had also become a bit livelier. Once we had eaten breakfast, mine consisted of granola with fresh sliced banana, blueberries, apricots with chilled milk and lashings of hot sweet tea to wash it down. Boats packed and launched we headed out of the shelter of the cove and pointed towards Stoke beach which we could make out on the horizon. My fully laden sea kayak loved the swell and sea state which was a little confused but generally from the South West. The wind was another matter and made for a long old slog to make lunch at Stoke beach. A few Barrel Jellyfish were sighted as we paddled along but any time spent looking at them meant you drifted back down the paddling track quickly. Finally we landed and our leader decided that we would have our lunch and head for the Yealm steps as our final destination and exit point.



*Stoke Beach (photo from Terry Calcott)*



Once out of the shelter of Stoke Point the full force of the wind and sea hit, but surprisingly this was an easier paddle than the first stage from Ayrmer Cove. It was a great bit of sea paddling into the wind with the paddler and sea kayak relishing the conditions in the bright summer sun. I think the lunch refuel hit the spot and the energy level was at max. Once into the shelter of the Yealm estuary the concentration relaxed and a steady paddle up to the Yealm Steps followed. The onerous task of hauling all the kit up the steps to the awaiting cars was the only downside. Thanks to Bob F and all those drivers who helped out in the shuttle to get cars sorted.

Many thanks to Joy and Clive for the leading and organising and my fellow paddlers Mark, Merryl, Mary, Banjo, Mike, Bob, Alan and Jane for making the weekend so special.

### *Paddlepower 2015 update(Linda Brady)*

Paddlepower has been running for seven weeks now and is a lot of fun. We have ten children in the group aged between 8 and 12 years. The children have experienced paddling kayaks and canoes. Paddlepower children are learning to move the kayaks using forward, backward and draw strokes. They can turn the kayak around using sweep strokes. Last week they progressed to capsizing and exiting the kayak as this is an essential skill. Team building is a huge part of Paddlepower. The children learn to trust each other. They look out for each other on the water and on the dock. It is lovely to watch as friendships are formed. Just look at the smiles as they learn through play! Ian, Paul, Alan, Louie and I enjoy playing too!!







*Paddlepower photos (from Linda Brady)*

### *Plotting Plymouth's Past (Terry Calcott)*

I recently went for a paddle up the Plym with a few friends to record and photograph some of the GWR Boundary Markers in the Embankment area. Why you may ask, well because someone from PPP (Plotting Plymouth's Past) had asked me some time ago if I could try and locate some which had not yet been recorded. So armed with my camera and GPS we had an enjoyable afternoon locating and recording around seven of the boundary markers. The aim of PPP is to make a record of boundary stones, milestones and other markers in the City of Plymouth. Boundary stones, milestones and other markers add great interest to the local heritage landscape. There are estimated to have been over 1,000 stones in the Plymouth area. However, many stones and markers have been lost through redevelopment. The majority of the surveying took place between November 2012 and the summer of 2014. For more information and to see the database of records please follow the links below.

<http://www.oldplymouthsociety.net/>

<http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/boundarystones>



*Close up of a GWR Boundary Marker (photo from Terry Calcott)*





*Row of GWR Boundary Markers in the Laira mud (photo from Terry Calcott)*

### ***Roseland 2015 (Terry Calcott)***

This was the clubs 10<sup>th</sup> year of organised trips to the Roseland Peninsular staying at the Outdoor Centre at St Just. I have been to all of these trips over the years and each one has been a great weekend of paddling and socialising. This year was another fantastic occasion and the weekend ran effortlessly and to plan. Mainly due to all the hard work of the organisers and all those who pitched in to help out. Mary for planning and organising the date and venue, Linda for organising all the food, Clive for the traditional Friday evening soup. This year was even more special being the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary so it was nice to have lots of old Roselanders plus some new paddlers, Bekky, Adam, Karen and Lisa along to enjoy the occasion with us.

Roseland is not just about the paddling but also a chance to visit a lovely part of Cornwall and relax and build new friendships and socialise. I carried out some analysis of the past 10 years and although there is a dedicated core of paddlers that go each year around 70 different club members have sampled the delights since 2006. The Centre is a superb venue and we have unrestricted use of it over the weekend. I had better mention something about this year's paddling. The numbers are kept to around 20 paddlers on the water, although a large group of mixed ability there is always a core of experienced sea paddlers to assist and watch over the group.

The nature of the coastline makes for some interesting paddling. I do not usually decide where we are paddling until the last minute and the weather has firmed up, this year was no different. The forecast for the Saturday was for a stiff SW breeze so I decided on my favourite beach to launch from at Pendower and have a sheltered paddle down the coast past Portscatho and Killigerran Head towards Porthbeor Beach. A lovely relaxing trip with some pleasant scenery and a mix of sea conditions enabling a bit of rock hopping. Lunch was at the infamous 'Killer Beach' and a seal kept watch over us from just off shore. The paddle back was via the same route, on seeing Pendower Beach it was obvious that the surf had got a little larger and the anxiety level of a few of the paddlers had also risen. Eventually everyone was safely ashore and could relax again.



*Killer Beach (photo from Terry Calcott)*



Once showered and kit washed there was time for a walk down to the church at St Just before supper. As this was the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary we celebrated with some fizz out on the lawn then back inside for a magnificent buffet which everyone had contributed to. The centrepiece being a towering fruit pavlova made by Mary.

Sunday morning dawned and a quick check of the weather confirmed my suspicions that the wind was increasing and the sea state increasing. A paddle along the coast was out of the question so we went for a lovely explore of the Percuil river launching from St Mawes. Although it was a falling tide we made it virtually to the top of the Trethem Creek. A beautiful, peaceful stretch with just some company from the Herons and Egrets roosting in the trees. Lunch was on a sheltered North-Hill Point on Porth Creek a small shingle beach which with the tide falling turned to mud when we launched. Lunch time entertainment was from Bekky and Linda enjoying a swim and a walk through the mud! A short but stiff paddle into wind followed back to St Mawes.



*The launch site at St Mawes (photo from Terry Calcott)*



*St Mawes (photo from Terry Calcott)*

The weekend had drawn to a close and once cleaned up and cars loaded it was time to head home. Thank you to everyone for making it such a memorable weekend, the lovely company, the fantastic food and great paddling. Roll on next year.



*The Roseland crowd 2015 (photo from Terry Calcott)*

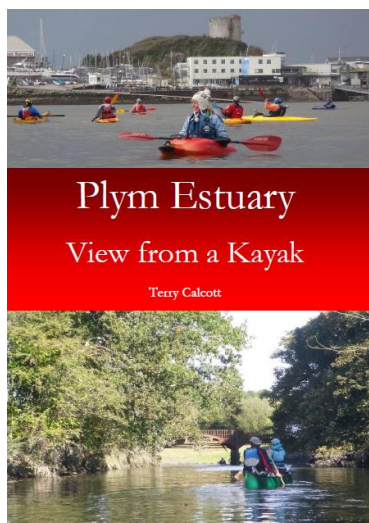
## *Newsletter Editor (Terry Calcott)*

When I took on the role as Newsletter Editor I said I would do the job for a year then decide if I would carry on past that date. I am now into the last quarter of the publishing year and have already decided that I pass the baton onto another person. If there are any aspiring Editors who would like to take on the post please let me know. My final edition will be 'Eddylines 12' published in October. The new Editor will be responsible for the November edition onwards.

## *The Plym Estuary View from a Kayak (Terry Calcott)*

I am now taking advance orders for my next book 'The Plym Estuary' which is now being printed. It is a follow on from the previous book about Plymouth Sound but exploring that sleepy backwater of the Plym and all its hidden gems.

Price £6 a copy with all profits going to the Plymouth RNLI. If you would like to secure a copy please email me at [terryc1@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:terryc1@blueyonder.co.uk)



## *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% 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.

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

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

*Wild Things, Redruth,* 10% to club members.

## *Club Officers*

President	Terry Calcott	07828652775
Chair	Mike Scott	01752 295478
Vice Chair	Jenny Nicholls	01752 952628
Club Leader	Andy Nicholls	07801367363
Asst Club Leader	Jane Hitchings	01752 691274
Secretary	Bob Grose	01548 821018
Membership Sec	Paul Hewson	07870276748
Treasurer	John Elworthy	01752 823381
Equipment Officer	Alan Ede	07799556876
Publicity Officer	Pete Anderson	07958694434
Welfare Officer	Joy Ashford	01752 344425 07891221781
Introductory co-ordinator	Tracy Jones	01752 510653
Youth Development	Damean Miller	01752 492761 07736033316

Club e-mail: [PPCA@ppca-canoe-club.org.uk](mailto:PPCA@ppca-canoe-club.org.uk) (e-mails to this address goes to the club secretary).

## *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.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Type of paddle</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Session leader</b>
<b>July</b>			
Thur 2, 18:00	1 Star course	Mount Batten	Clive Ashford 01752 344425
Sat 4, 09:30	1 Star course	Mount Batten	Justin Frost
Sat 4 / Sun 5	Roseland Sea Kayaking weekend		Mary McArdle/Terry Calcott
Mon 6, 17:30	Paddlepower	Mount Batten	Ian Brim/Linda Brady
Tue 7, 18:00	2 Star 3 Star Open Rec paddle	Mount Batten	Jenny Nicholls/Brian Taylor Ken Hamblin Martin Mills Terry Calcott
Thur 9, 18:00	1 Star course	Mount Batten	Clive Ashford
Fri 10, 18:00	Open boats	Mount Batten	Ian Ruse 07980355019
Sat 11, 09:00 10:00	Active Devon Rec paddle	Mount Batten Mount Batten	Doug Sitch 07980355019
Mon 13, 17:30	Paddlepower	Mount Batten	Ian Brim/Linda Brady
Tue 14, 18:00	2 Star 3 Star Open Rec paddle	Mount Batten	Jenny Nicholls/Brian Taylor Ken Hamblin Martin Mills Terry Calcott
Thur 16, 18:00	1 Star course	Mount Batten	Clive Ashford
Fri 17, 18:00	Open boats	Mount Batten	Ian Ruse 07980355019
Sat 18, 09:00 10:00	Go Canoeing Starter Rec paddle	Mount Batten Mount Batten	Clive Ashford 01752 344425
Tue 21, 18:00	2 Star 3 Star Open Rec paddle	Mount Batten	Jenny Nicholls/Brian Taylor Ken Hamblin Martin Mills Terry Calcott
Thur 23, 18:00	1 Star course	Mount Batten	TBA
Fri 24, 18:00	Open boats	Mount Batten	Ian Ruse 07980355019
Sat 25, 10:00	Rec paddle	Mount Batten	Ken Hamblin
Tue 28, 18:00	2 Star 3 Star Open Rec paddle	Mount Batten	Justin Frost/John Mitchell Ian Brimacombe No Open Canoe training Ken Hamblin
Thur 30, 18:00	1 Star course	Mount Batten	TBA
Fri 31, 18:00	Open boats	Mount Batten	Ian Ruse 07980355019



## August

Sat 1, 09:00	1 Star course	Mount Batten	Tony Blackmore
10:00	Sea kayak trip	TBA	Ian Brimacombe 07720957304
<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 <a href="mailto:alancede@hotmail.co.uk">alancede@hotmail.co.uk</a></i>			
10:30	Short Rec paddle	Mount Batten	John Mitchell
Tue 4, 18:00	2 Star 3 Star Open Rec paddle	Mount Batten	Justin Frost/Ian Brimacombe Clive Ashford Ian Ruse Joy Ashford
Thur 5, 18:00	1 Star course	Mount Batten	TBA
Fri 7, 18:00	Open boats	Mount Batten	Ian Ruse 07980355019
Sat 8, 09:30	Go Canoeing Session	Mount Batten	TBA
10:00	Rec paddle	Mount Batten	Ian Brimacombe 07720957304
Tue 11, 18:00	2 Star 3 Star Open Rec paddle	Mount Batten	Justin Frost/Alan Ede Clive Ashford Ian Ruse Joy Ashford
Thur 13, 18:00	1 Star course	Mount Batten	TBA
Fri 14, 18:00	Open boats	Mount Batten	Ian Ruse 07980355019
Sat 15, 10:00	Rec paddle	Mount Batten	Doug Sitch 07980355019

**The 10 edition of Eddylines will be published on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August. Items for inclusion to be received by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August. E-mail articles to [newsletter@ppca-canoe-club.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@ppca-canoe-club.org.uk)**

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