



Port of Plymouth Canoeing Association

Wet News 89. March 2014.



Club Officers

President	Terry Calcott	07828 652775
Chair	John Mitchell	01752 219246
Vice Chair	Ian Ruse	07980 355019
Club Leader	Chris Doidge	07973 285969
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Secretary	Buck Taylor	07717 821934
Membership Sec	Tracy Jones	01752 510653
Treasurer	John Elworthy	01752 823381
Equipment Officer	Alan Ede	07799 556876
Publicity Officer	Andy Nicholls	07801 367363
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Introductory co-ordinator	Jenny Nicholls	07740 103398
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E-mail:	PPCA@ppca-canoe-club.org.uk	
(E-mails to this address goes to the club secretary).		

Tel

April edition of Wet News.

Items for inclusion in the April edition of Wet News to reach the editor, Clive Ashford, by 21:00hrs on Sat 5 April please.
Publication date Sun 6 April.

E-mail address:

cliveashford-newsletter@yahoo.co.uk

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.

Having been productive in the kitchen I had to clean the hob. Gentle readers, if you feel the need to undertake such a procedure then may I suggest that you allow the hob to cool down first?

Roseland Weekend, 11 – 13 July. (Mary McArdle).

This is just to let everyone know that the Roseland Weekend is now booked for the weekend Friday 11th July - Sunday 13th July, 2014 and it would be great to have your company. Please also pass this onto anyone you think may be interested.

The cost will be £38 per person + VAT + catering costs. £10 deposit secures a place. Terry will be kindly leading the sea paddles and Linda will equally kindly be sorting out the catering.

Please let me know if you wish to reserve a place as there will be a limit on numbers on this trip. Please contact Mary McArdle, 01752 881166 or marymca@btinternet.com

Editors footnote.

For those that don't know the Roseland Peninsular is a sea kayaker's paradise that is just 60 miles away. The area boasts rugged cliff, picturesque coves, historic fishing villages and large sandy beaches and as a bonus it is fairly quiet. Our accommodation is in the St Just Outdoor Education Centre located in the village of St Just in Roseland. (Don't forget to visit the beautiful St Just churchyard). Sleeping is in bunk beds in dormitories or you can bring your own tent. This will be our 9th Roseland weekend and if it's anything like the last 8 fun is guaranteed.



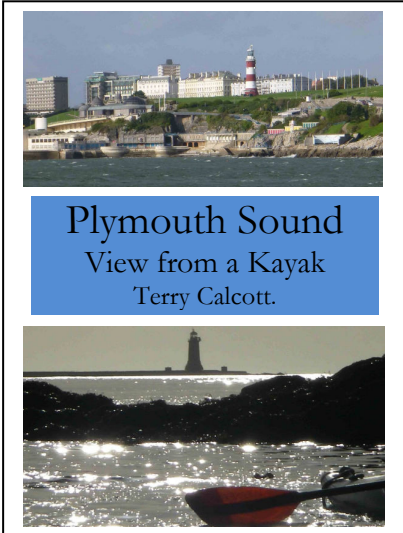
PPCA courses.

Dates have been set for all our Go Canoeing, Paddle Power and 1 star courses. Posters and application forms are now available from our website & facebook pages and I have attached copies with this newsletter. Please feel free to put these up anywhere that you are able to. Details of our Sportivate will follow in due course.

River reading, Sun 16 March.

Rolling on white water is an excellent skill to acquire but in truth the need to execute such a manoeuvre is a sign that either your paddling skills have failed or that your river reading skills have failed. To help people with their river reading skills I am going to walk down beside the river Walkham from Grenofen Bridge to Slot & Drop, talking about how to decide what constitutes a good line and which bits to avoid. If you want to listen to my pearls of wisdom meet at B&Q at 09:00 wearing suitably warm clothing and footwear. (It will be muddy). We should be back at B&Q by 13:00. No paddling gear required.

Plymouth Sound 'View from a kayak' (Terry Calcott).



Over the past few months and with the enforced no sea paddling for nearly a month I have been busy writing a booklet. At nearly 100 pages it is a mix of history, nature, geology, paddling and photos, with as the title suggests what you can see from a kayak within Plymouth Sound.

The first limited print run is now with the printers and should be available very soon. To secure your copy e-mail me at terry1@blueyonder.co.uk

This is non profit making and a donation from each copy sold will go to club funds.

PPCA History Project. (Terry Calcott).

A couple of years ago I started looking into compiling a record of the club's history to coincide with the 40th anniversary celebrations. Time has marched on and I have been bogged down with other things.

I am now reinvigorating my efforts to finishing off the history project this year. It is hoped to have a powerpoint presentation ready in the next few months, this will consist mostly of photographs from over the years. I am also compiling a record of all the club documents (Wet news / Committee minutes etc), a list of award winners and committee members over the years. Most of the information, photos I have received so far has come from just a few people, many thanks to those who have come forward with their own photos, newspaper cuttings etc. I don't know why but like all projects of this type it has been a struggle gathering information and some members seem reluctant to share their knowledge of the club's history.

Please please if you have any knowledge about the club's early years or have any paperwork / newspaper clippings / your own early star certificates / photos / absolutely anything then let me know. I will scan them and let you have them back or email me at terry1@blueyonder.co.uk

The river season.

The club river season will come to an end next weekend but what a great season we have had, our white water warriors seem to have been smiling all winter. Thanks to all our coaches for keeping the season going back in November when there was hardly any water around, (hard to believe that now isn't it)? and thanks to those same coaches who made sensible decisions about where and when to paddle during our recent monsoon. Here's looking forward to October.

Having had such a wet winter and with more rain in the forecast it's quite probable that the rivers will remain at reasonable levels for some time, so why does our season end now? Historically it was perceived to be illegal to paddle on rivers without permission and as there is an access agreement on

Photo by Joy Ashford



Sophie shows excellent colour co-ordination

the River Dart that ends on 14 March our season ends at the same time. In recent years Canoe England have challenged this legal position and have found no law that prevents us from paddling rivers all year round, indeed Canoe England believe that there is a historical right of navigation over any navigable water way, but land owners / riparian owners dispute this. The fact is that neither side are 100% sure about the legal situation and we are awaiting a court case to decide. In the mean time you are welcome to paddle our rivers all year around on the understanding that you may well meet less than friendly anglers and that you may become part of that court case. These laws only apply to England and Wales.

One of the reasons that Anglers object to us paddling is that we disturb the fish. This may well be true but I can't see that we disturb our fishy friends as much as the anglers do!

Star test awards.

With Tuesday night training sessions just around the corner I thought I would give an overview of the 1 - 3 star test awards.

1 star. This is the minimum requirement to become a full member of the PPCA. The 1 star is a basic award designed to be delivered in 6 hours. Contrary to common belief this award can be taken in a single craft and can include; Solo and crew boats of all descriptions, all competition craft, sit-on-tops and stand up paddle boards. No doubt if you could get a bath to float you could also take the award in a bath.

2 star. The aim of the 2 star is to learn fundamental paddlesport skills on flat water to control movement of both canoes and kayaks, and have an understanding of how the paddle, boat, and water interact. I know because it says so on the Canoe England syllabus. This award has to be taken in both kayak and canoe. Interestingly enough there is no mention of paddleboards or sit on tops in the 2 star syllabus.

3 star. At 3 star the paddler has to choose their discipline. The BCU seem to invent a new 3 star award every year, the current list comprises; Sea Kayak, Surf, Open Canoe, White Water Kayak, Touring (kayak or canoe), Freestyle (kayak or canoe) and White Water Racing. So that's a total of 9 x 3 star awards that you could go for. The PPCA provides training and assessment for Sea Kayak, White Water Kayak and Open Canoe 3 star.

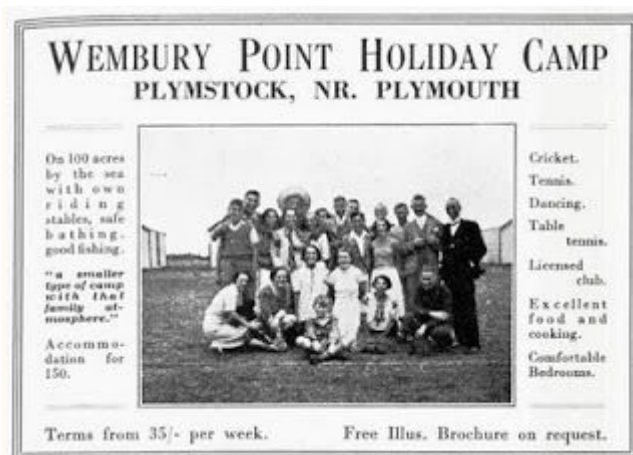
Thank you.

Joy Ashford says "thank you" to all those who contributed to her birthday present last month and points out that 50 isn't old. Joy is sorry that she failed to organise decent weather for her birthday paddle but hopes to join you all on the water again once calmer condition prevail.

Wembury Point Holiday Camp, 1930s.

From Derek Tait's Plymouth local history website. <http://plymouthlocalhistory.blogspot.co.uk/> and reproduced with permission.

Many people who go for a walk at Wembury Point will know that the area once incorporated HMS Cambridge but perhaps they won't know what the area was used for in the 1930s. There are clues to be found on the foreshore including the remains of an old swimming pool.



Before the Second World War, the area was the location of a busy and very popular holiday camp. The Southern Railway Handbook of 1936 carried an advert for the camp at Wembury Point. It was described as, 'a smaller type camp with that family holiday atmosphere.'

The camp boasted that it featured a licensed club, excellent food and cooking and comfortable bedrooms. Pastimes included cricket, tennis, dancing and table tennis. The advert also stated that the camp was, 'on 100 acres by the sea with its own riding stables,

safe bathing and good fishing.' There was accommodation for 150 and the cost to stay started at 35 shillings a week. (£1.75p).

It all seemed to come to an end at the beginning of the war. In 1940, a Gunnery Range was established at Wembury and the whole area was later acquired by the Navy in 1950.

The holiday camp and all the fun that was once had there, seems to be long forgotten but here are a few rare photos that show what the area was once like. These are the only pictures that I've ever seen of the camp in use although I'm sure there must be many more tucked away somewhere. Older residents of Plymouth may remember visiting the camp when they were small or will have photos of their parents having fun there.



The photos featured here show an advert for the camp, people roller skating on the roof of the main building, a group photo taken in 1938, exercising on the grass and the bar which doubled as a games room complete with table tennis tables. How times change!

Old Nosey, our roaming reporter...

...likes to think that people learn from their paddling errors, therefore Old Nosey has come to the conclusion that when open boating the correct way of running Broken Weir is backwards. Isn't that right Jenny?

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 Mark Porter



Sleeping beauty.

**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
March.			
Mon 3, 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 8, TBA	Open boat river trip	TBA	Ted Fearon 07973 964433.
<i>Please check the website forum closer to the date for details.</i>			
<i>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 £10 per boat.</i>			
Sat 8, 10:00	Recreational paddle	Mount Batten	Terry Calcott 07828 652775.
Sun 9, 09:00	Intermediate 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 15, 10:00	Recreational paddle	Mount Batten	Terry Calcott 07828 652775.
Sun 16, 09:00	River reading skills.	River Walkham	Clive Ashford 01752 344425.
<i>Walking beside the River Walkham learning about how to read the water. Meet at B&Q car park ready to leave at 09:00.</i>			
Sat 22, 10:00	Recreational paddle	Mount Batten	Neville Cannon 07773 342787.
Sat 29, 10:00	Recreational paddle	Mount Batten	Joy Ashford 01752 344425.
April.			
Sat 5, 10:00	Sea kayak paddle	Mount Batten	Ian Brimacombe 07720 957304.
<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>			
Sat12, 10:00	Recreational paddle	Mount Batten	Ken Hamblin 01752 365404.
Sat 19, TBA	Easter paddle	TBA	Terry Calcott 07828 652775.
Tues 22, 18:00	2 star training	Mount Batten	Justin Frost
	3 star training	Mount Batten	Ken Hamblin
	3 star plus	Mount Batten	Clive Ashford
	Open boat training	Mount Batten	Ian Ruse
	Recreational paddle	Mount Batten	Joy Ashford
Fri 26, 18:00	Open boats	Mount Batten	Ian Ruse 07980 355019.
Sat 26, 09:00	Taster session	Mount Batten	John Mitchell
Sat 26, 10:00	Recreational paddle	Mount Batten	Clive Ashford 01752 344425.
Tues 29, 18:00	2 star training	Mount Batten	Justin Frost
	3 star training	Mount Batten	Ken Hamblin
	3 star plus	Mount Batten	Clive Ashford
	Open boat training	Mount Batten	Ian Ruse
	Recreational paddle	Mount Batten	Joy Ashford
May.			
Fri 2, 18:00	Sportivate (a)	Mount Batten	Sammi Pluckrose
Fri 2, 18:00	Open boats	Mount Batten	Ian Ruse 07980 355019.
Sat 3, 10:00	Sea kayak paddle	Mount Batten	. Neville Cannon 07773 342787.
<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>			

May (continued).

Sat 3, 10:30	Intro rec paddle	Mount Batten	John Mitchell 01752 219246
Mon 5, 18:00	Paddlepower	Mount Batten	Ian Brimacombe / Linda Brady
Tues 6, 18:00	2 star training 3 star training 3 star plus Open boat training Recreational paddle	Mount Batten Mount Batten Mount Batten Mount Batten Mount Batten	Justin Frost Ken Hamblin Clive Ashford Ian Ruse Joy Ashford
Fri 9, 18:00	Sportivate (a)	Mount Batten	Sammi Pluckrose
Fri 9, 18:00	Open boats	Mount Batten	Ian Ruse 07980 355019.
Sat 10, 09:00	1 star course	Mount Batten	Tony Blackmore
Sat 10, 10:00	Recreational paddle	Mount Batten	Joy Ashford 01752 344425.
Mon 12, 18:00	Paddlepower	Mount Batten	Ian Brimacombe / Linda Brady
Tues 13, 18:00	2 star training 3 star training 3 star plus Open boat training Recreational paddle	Mount Batten Mount Batten Mount Batten Mount Batten Mount Batten	Justin Frost Ken Hamblin Clive Ashford Ian Ruse Joy Ashford
Fri 16, 18:00	Sportivate (a)	Mount Batten	Sammi Pluckrose
Fri 16, 18:00	Open boats	Mount Batten	Ian Ruse 07980 355019.
Sat 17, 10:00	Recreational paddle	Mount Batten	Doug Sitch 07966 740025
Mon 19, 18:00	Paddlepower	Mount Batten	Ian Brimacombe / Linda Brady
Tues 20, 18:00	2 star training 3 star training 3 star plus Open boat Recreational paddle	Mount Batten Mount Batten Mount Batten Mount Batten Mount Batten	Jane Hitchings Andy Nicholls Doug Sitch Martin Mills Terry Calcott
Thurs 22, 18:00	1 star course (a)	Mount Batten	Chris Doidge
Fri 23, 18:00	Sportivate (a)	Mount Batten	Sammi Pluckrose
Fri 23, 18:00	Open boats	Mount Batten	Ian Ruse 07980 355019.
Sat 24, 09:00	Taster session	Mount Batten	Andy Nicholls
Sat 24, 10:00	Recreational paddle	Mount Batten	Ian Brimacombe 07720 957304.
Mon 26, 18:00	Paddlepower	Mount Batten	Ian Brimacombe / Linda Brady

Advanced notice.

Fri 11 – Sun 13 Roseland Weekend St Just in Roseland Mark McArdle 01752 881166
 See March newsletter / website forum for details of the sea kayaking weekend.

Sept 26 – 28 Sea symposium Mount Batten
 Details TBA