



PPCA Newsletter

July 2024

Introduction

Welcome to July's Newsletter. This month we have news of the summer social (hopefully in time, if not apologies to Sarah, my fault entirely), some congratulations and Adam keeps people safe if wet.

Editorial

Firstly, apologies for the lack of a June Newsletter. Basically, nobody sent anything to put in it other than Sarah's notice about the Social, so nothing appeared.

As promised in last month's cliffhanger - news on the editorship. August will mark eight years since I took on the editorship and this seems an appropriate time to stop so August will be my last edition as editor. Assuming I have anything to print, of course.

Ivor Jones

Newsletter Editor



PPCA SUMMER SOCIAL



BEACH BBQ

SATURDAY
13th July

16:00 onwards after the paddle,
on Mountbatten beach

Please BYO disposable BBQ, food, and drinks

Let's all get together for an afternoon and into the
evening!



Congratulations to Lisa by Clive Ashford

Congratulations to Lisa Curtis on passing the Advanced Sea kayak Award. I have no idea what the Advanced Sea Kayak award entails but I can guarantee that it wasn't easy. It's nice to think that there will be someone to look after me as I approach my dotage!

Mountbatten Fees by the Mountbatten Centre

We are writing to inform you of an upcoming change to our membership and boat parking fees. As of your next invoice, there will be an increase in these fees of 15%.

After careful consideration and evaluation, we have determined that this adjustment is necessary. The rising costs due to inflation and other contributing factors have made it imperative to update our pricing.

We understand that this change may raise some concerns, and we want to assure you that this decision was not made lightly. If you have any questions or need further clarification, please do not hesitate to reach out to reception on enquiries@mount-batten-centre.com.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Features

PPCA Sea Kayak Safety and Rescue Course by Adam Coulson

Well done to all the members who recently spent their Tuesday evenings falling out of sea kayaks, climbing back into sea kayaks or helping others back into their sea kayaks. The syllabus was covered either by discussion, demonstration or simply getting on with it, which usually involved getting wet.

We covered various items of equipment that sea kayakers should consider carrying for both their own and other's safety on the water. Perhaps more importantly we put the kit into practice, remembering the well known expression "All the gear but ...!" Safe trip planning was also discussed including all of the factors that should be considered.

However, at a pretty early stage we got straight onto one of the most important rescue skills (for both the "victim" and the "rescuer"), the Deep Water Rescue. Following this we came to one of the low points of the course as many of the learners rather struggled with different "Self Rescue" techniques. However, on the following week those lows were turned into highs when the group performed much better at all forms of rescues due to some practice, a positive mindset, and gritty determination (or sheer bloody mindedness as one put it).



The course is not a qualification as such, but designed to get paddlers discussing what they might do in the case of an incident at sea and the chance to try it out. Like all skills, they need to be practiced on a regular basis to ensure they are acquired and then maintained.

Many thanks to our team of intrepid learners who threw themselves into the course. Judging by the smiles, I think everybody had a good time. Thanks also go to Rick for overseeing the course.

Adam

PS Some great artwork by one of the learners, although I think some artistic license used for the sea conditions!



I demonstrated a technical landing and various learners had a go, either stepping out onto the rocks or swimming in with kayak in tow. We ran demonstrations on how to rescue an unconscious or injured paddler, both in or out of their kayak. Having talked about equipment at an early stage we then both discussed and performed practical tasks on how to deal with broken equipment like damaged boats, lost hatch covers and flooded bulkheads, all sorted on the water.

The group worked well together for several team exercises where they had the opportunity to discuss how to deal with various scenarios and then got on and did it. It was great to see learners working as a team.

Exchange and Mart

Discounts and Offers

A selection of discounts and offers are available on the PPCA website. [Click here to see them.](#)

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

As ever, I have plundered Facebook for the cover photos - my thanks to all concerned.

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