

Up for ten

**Exmouth Gig Rowing
Club Newsletter**

Issue 8 - Aug 2016

This summer has been one of great highs and lows for me, following our return from the Gig Championships. The need for an urgent operation wrote off my rowing season before it had begun, so some great news and happy events were just what the doctor ordered in the weeks following; and boy did they come thick and fast!

Getting to celebrate our wedding and being rowed out to our wedding reception was an obvious highlight of the year so far, but then 2 weeks later a rather significant phone call interrupted our honeymoon; with an excited Vice Chairman on the other end telling us that we had won £25,000 funding to buy us a brand new wooden Gig! I cannot emphasise enough what an achievement this is for the club and a huge milestone which

few have reached in their 3rd year as a club. Our members, your friends, family, colleagues and this great Gig Community rallied round and voted, putting in many dedicated hours of spreading the word about our bid and it paid off big time. A massive thank-you to all who got involved in this funding bid with special thanks to Nicola Price for putting together the application and her persistence.

With some time away from rowing, I am excited to come back to see our rowers progressing in skill, fitness and rowing related banter; I am ever grateful to all of my fellow coxes for keeping everyone on the water regularly. Onwards to my next exciting challenge of fatherhood this autumn which will top off an exciting, eventful year and all this before the end of summer party in October!

Ben Atkinson - Chairman

WINNERS! Vote, vote, vote, boat, boat, boat

Fantastic news for the club this month as it was confirmed that we were the winners of a £25,000 community award from One Family Foundation.

Nicola, who nominated the gig club for the award was overwhelmed by the support for votes she received from all the clubs members, friends and family and wanted to say a big thank you to everyone! It would never have been achieved if it wasn't for everyone rallying together which really demonstrates what a great bunch of members we have at the club.

We are delighted to announce that our new boat will be built by Louis Hunkin of Fowey. Louis was recommended to us by several

other gig clubs and other gig boat builders and his availability and timescale fitted with what we were after. We hope to launch the new boat in Spring 2017!

We are celebrating winning our funding on **11th August** at The BeachComber (function room upstairs at the Beach pub) from **3.30pm** onwards. We will be joined by James, Adam & Gemma from One family and have invited the Mayor of Exmouth, as well as Exmouth Journal, Express and Echo and Bay FM! It would be great to have as many of you, along with your friends and family, down there to celebrate! There will be a normal rowing session from 5.30pm on that Thursday too :)

SAVE THE DATE

**End of season social cruise
1st Oct 6.15pm-10pm**

At the end of last season, we enjoyed a lovely evening cruise to Topsham aboard the Stuart Line's 'Tudor Rose'.

The evening, which included a disco and BBQ, was enjoyed by everyone so much that it has been decided to do the same again this year. We were blessed with a 'balmy Indian Summer's evening' which enabled many members to spend much of the cruise, with the smells of the BBQ and a glass in their hands, on deck as the boat meandered it's way slowly up the estuary to Topsham.

It is a wonderful opportunity to see our estuary from a different perspective on the water (as the light fades and darkness follows), without having to concentrate on 'following the oar in front'!

It is also a great way to get to know other members in a very relaxing environment (unless you are in the disco!).

During the evening there will be a raffle and a fun 'awards ceremony' for members who have contributed to the 'uniqueness' of our club.

We hope that you will all be able to join us and we look forward to having a few drinks with you all.

Tickets are available now for **£23** from committee members. Available to all members and their respective partners (in the first instance). Further tickets may be available to friends and relatives at a later date.

Keith Cornish – Committee member



www.exmouthgigclub.com



Ummm... remind me how to do that again...?!

The club website is a constantly changing and evolving platform that we use to advertise the club and it's sponsors, book rowing or various types, communicate to members and store relevant documents.

I'm sure you will all be familiar with various different bits of the website but would you know where to look for a copy of the rowing handbook?

You may have noticed that the members area has been tidied up somewhat so that it's easier to get to the appropriate part of the site. Here are some tips and reminders about using the site.

Booking: Done in the members area through the booking form. Remember that bookings close **24 hours** before the start of a session, this is so that we can plan the crew's and delay members if needed.

If you have booked but can no longer attend you should cancel your booking. This is done in one of two ways:

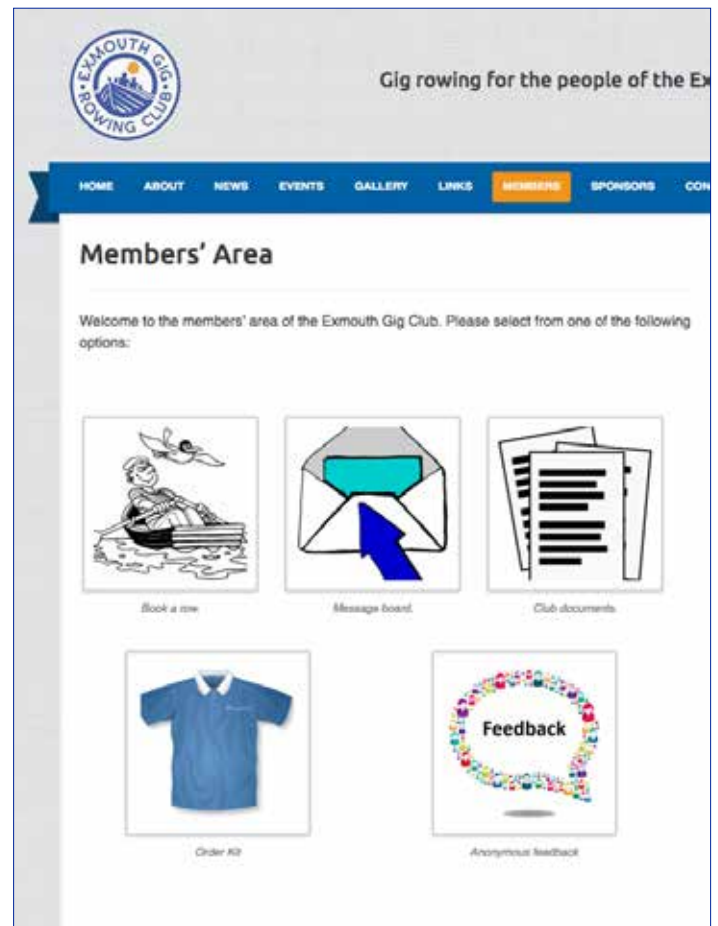
1. If it is before the 24 hour deadline then simply go back into the system and "re-book" but put a message saying that you're now not free.
2. If it is less than 24hours until the session start you should text the **Gig line** on **07582 642780** and net us know, remember to include your name in the text! These are the only two methods to cancel that ensure that the person running the session gets the message, do not simply email directly the person who you think might be in charge!

Email and Messages

So that we are not constantly sending emails about all sorts of random bits and pieces, and so that when you do get an email you know that it's worth reading, we have use the events page and message board more for things like regatta that we are planning to attend, extra rowing sessions, some social events etc... Please keep an eye on these pages and threads to ensure that you don't miss out!

Remember that you can subscribe to the individual threads on the message board by clicking "**subscribe**" at the top of the thread and ensuring the box is ticked to notify of replies.

The events page will have information about all sorts of events and some that are planned for a few months ahead, remember that these events are also displayed on the right hand side of the normal web page too.

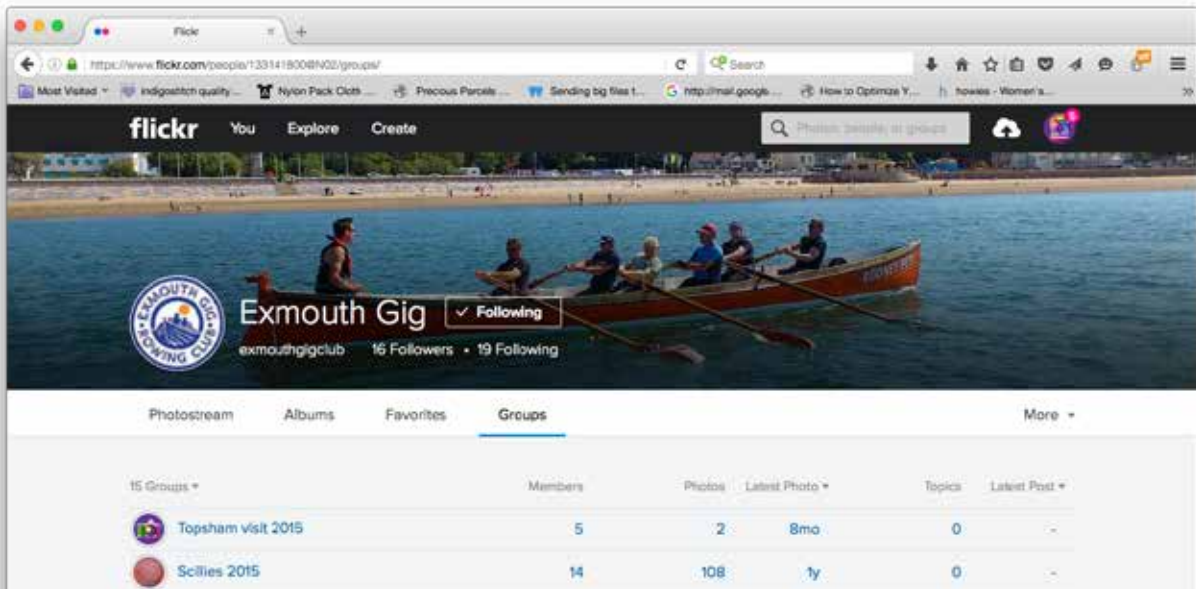


Extra rowing sessions

These sessions are open to all to attend. So far these sessions have primarily been in the evening however as the nights start to draw in there is nothing to say these can't be held during the day, just remember to follow the guidelines.

1. There should be one person responsible for the whole session (now a single row) and they should get prior permission from Ben/Max. This is to ensure that there is no clash with maintenance etc..
2. Put it on the message board for all to see. Please keep it simple and avoid using terms that might imply the session is only open to certain people, (e.g. "Mens crew training" or Prep for Newquay finals") The person organising the session can arrange crews to meet these kinds of objectives but remember the session is open to all and that should be obvious on message board. A suggested post would be... "Extra rowing session planned for X day at Z o'clock, please put your names down".





Flickr

We all have pictures that we take from various events that we'd like to share with the other club members. Also, those members who were unable to attend might like to see the pictures too! With that in mind we have set up a flickr account and add a new "group" for each event.

Following the event members will be invited to join the group to upload and view the pictures.

An Initial invite to join Flickr should have been sent to the email address that the club has on file, subsequent invites to join the groups will then be sent internally through Flickr.

If you have an account please check for invites. If you have not received an invite to join flickr full stop then please let us know and we can issue a new one.

Please use this facility, it was requested by members so that we can all enjoy pictures and memories from various events. If there is not enough use this facility will be withdrawn.

Updates!

As already stated, we are continuously changing and updating the site. Some of these updates might not be immediately obvious.

Some of the add-ons we use are not designed for gig rowing (apparently it's not a big enough sport to warrant someone making special programmes for us!) so we have to tweek various bits to achieve our aims. Whilst this works well it means that when we do updates sometimes things appear or disappear without us knowing. A recent example of this was the "password reset" function on the members area entry.

If you notice any changes or have any other feedback please do let us know when you see us or email webmaster@exmouthgigclub.com

Cheers!

Darts Farm's Green Valley Cyder Ltd Sponsor Club

We are very pleased to announce that Green Valley Cyder, who are based at Darts Farm and have been making cider from locally sourced apples for over 20yrs (very nice cider!), have agreed to a sponsorship deal with the club.

The agreement will see their logo (see photo) printed on 50 gig club tops over the coming months. Exmouth Pilot Gig Club is grateful to directors Chris Coles and Nick Pring for their generous offer and support for our club.

It is planned to publicise the agreement by taking Rodney Bey up to Darts Farm in the next few weeks where photos of the Green Valley Cyder team can be taken alongside the gig with our newly printed tops.

If you know anyone who may be interested in sponsoring our club, please contact any of the committee members who will be happy to discuss the possible options with them.

If you don't have a top and would like to order one, please see member's section on the club's website or speak to Matt. At regatta's it's really important that we all wear them. Not only does it make us look the part, but it may attract future sponsors.

Keith Cornish – Committee member



Meet a club member

Name:

Tanya Netherway – Committee member

Who is the most famous person you have met?

I met Kirstie Allsopp (in her undies) a few years back, when I was art directing a photo-shoot for a recycling campaign for Recycle Devon. She is really friendly and down to earth. As far as I know she never wears trousers! Always in a dress.

What first attracted you to gig rowing?

My husband made me do it... and I never looked back, that and the fact they needed another rower for the 2015 Scilly's Champs women's team. I think I had only done 6 sessions previously.

What is your favourite film?

I have so many favourites, Lord of the Rings trilogy, Star Wars 4-6, Shawshank, Star Trek movies old and new, Goonies, Labyrinth, Almost Famous and Jackie Brown to name a few, but my absolute favourite has to be The Gods Must Be Crazy 1 and 2.

What is your favourite TV programme?

This one's a bit easier as most of the stuff on TV these days is rubbish. Game of Thrones is pretty much the only thing I just have to watch every week. Great TV!! (didn't bother changing this from greg's 'meet a club member').

Do you have any other hobbies apart from gig rowing?

If I have any spare time I like to crochet, draw, typographic layout, block printing and sewing. I have a new toy, which my mum kindly bought me, an iPad Pro with the Apple pencil, so currently veg out and draw with that.

If a movie was made about your life, who would play you?

Er... Zooey Deschanel... great actress. Similar, weirdness, geekiness and humour.



RNLI Open Day on Sunday 21st August

This is a great opportunity to promote the Gig Club as well as raise funds by selling raffle tickets. We could use some help so if you could spare a few hours either in the morning **10 - 1** or afternoon **1 - 4pm** please let Sophie know **07460 618 818** or email **sophs6767@yahoo.com**. Please help us support the club. Many hands make light work! Thank you



Lifeboats

Open Day

Meet the committee

Chairman – Ben

Vice Chair – Max

Secretary – Phil

Health & Safety – Tanya

Treasurer – Greg

Other members, Sophie, Keith and Matt



Last word

A big thank-you to our sponsors/supporters for helping us to make this club a reality!

Green Valley Cyder

Websites and more

Sport England

Norman Family Trust



www.exmouthgigclub.com