

Up for ten

**Exmouth Gig Rowing
Club Newsletter**

Issue 10 - 2017

2017 promises to be a year to remember with the club receiving it's brand new wooden Pilot Gig, thanks to the generosity of One Family Foundation and all those who voted to help our project win funding for the new Gig! Our brand new Gig was built by Louis Hunkin in Fowey, Cornwall who also built gigs for our neighbouring clubs of Sidmouth and Teignmouth.

As this newsletter goes to print, I have just had the honour of seeing the new Gig roll into Exmouth ready for kitting out for the season of racing (and what a beauty she is!). I can honestly say that when the club first launched in March 2014 I never imagined that we would be taking delivery of our 3rd boat within the 3rd year of the clubs existence, but due to the hard work of our committee and members it has happened! This season should be exciting whatever your rowing goals, with lots planned on and off the water, racing, club/social rowing and trips up the river to the pub, plus public events and fundraisers.

A bit about boat logistics: The new Gig will be stored at The Sea Cadets yard and will be out on the water at least a handful

of times before we have the official naming ceremony on Saturday 25th March (just to familiarise ourselves with her). The new Gig will be shipped out to Scilly on 19th April. Rodney Bey will be situated on Shelly Beach to ensure He doesn't dry out too much and to get more used to rowing our race boats. Rodney is shipped off to Scilly on 31st March. Avocet is stored at The Sea Cadets Yard. We aim to run some sessions with at least 2 out of 3 Gigs on the water in the coming weeks (this obviously takes a bit of planning, so the more members we have on hand, the better during those sessions). We have also received a beautifully crafted set of new oars the same as last years new ones. With all this kit we may be calling upon more of our members to get involved in cleaning and maintenance sessions to take care of all this amazing kit!

The AGM is fast approaching, so with this in mind, have a think about whether you would like to get involved in the committee and bring a particular skill set to the organisation of the club. The positives you will bring to Exmouth and the members of the club are not to be underestimated and I thank all of you for your contribution and energy you bring to the club, whether you are a committee member, training sub committee coordinator or active club rower!

New Boat - Blessing ceremony



Saturday 25th March - Pirate Cove

The launch and naming ceremony of our new boat will be 11am Saturday 25th March at Pirate Cove (between the docks and Shelly beach.)

Members to meet at 9am at Shelly Beach to help get the 3 boats ready for the ceremony. We need as many members as possible to help. Celebratory drinks after at the beach pub.



www.exmouthgigclub.com

Dates for your Diary

The regatta season will soon be on upon us. To kick start things off here is a list of events we plan to attend. Keep an eye on your emails for updates on these events. This is a printer friendly page. Please check back on the events page on the website for events added since the time of this newsletter.

3 Rivers, Caradon

March 4th

Dart Regatta

April 8th

Isles of Scilly World

Pilot Gig Companionships

April 28th - 30th

Row to turf

May 6th

Exe Estuary Spring Clean

May 13th - 2pm

Weymouth Regatta

May 27th

Salcombe Regatta

June 4th

Sidmouth Regatta

June 11th

Caradon Regatta

June 17

Teignmouth Regatta

July 1

Bridport Regatta

July 2

Paignton Regatta

Aug 6

Lyme Regis Regatta

Aug 12



WPGC - IOS - Update (World Pilot Gig Championships - Isles of Scilly)

Hello Rowers!! Its been a busy couple of months with the weekend training sessions seeing our crews out on the water earlier than ever before. Thanks to everyone that has been involved in making these early morning sessions a success, and for those times you have supporting the running of the normal sessions that run immediately after.

With the World Champs on IOS now only 2 months its time to take it up a notch and we've got some exciting opportunities to look forward too before our boats head over to St Marys.

The club is taking part in the 3 Rivers Race for the first time ever the weekend. This will be a stern test for those attending with the course taking up to an hour to complete on the tidal Tamar. Those not rowing please feel free to head down and support our rowers.

Dart Regatta is taking place on **Saturday 8th April** and its another first for EGC. Plus our new boat will be put through her paces for the first time. If you want to get involved and row at this regatta be sure to put your name down on the clubs message board.

Evening training should start to become a possibility soon! This will enable our crews to train together more often and the crew coordinators will start to look at opportunities to make this happen.

Finally a few points regarding crews and coxswain info for IOS.

We'll be announcing final crews and coxswains at the start of April. We don't envisage any major adjustments but we need to ensure our crews are as effective as possible and that all rowers attending the World Champs do get an opportunity to row. We are happy to discuss this at any time so please get in touch or grab one of us on the beach for a chat.

Anyway, thank you again for the commitment with training, keep it up and we should be on track for our best ever IOS World Champs!!

Cheers

IOS Sub Committee -
Greg, George & Polly

Exe Estuary Spring Clean - This year's Spring Clean-Up of the estuary will take place at 2pm on **Saturday 13th May** at the Imperial Recreation Ground slipway in Exmouth.

Some gloves and necessary equipment are provided but it is important that volunteers wear sensible (generally warm!) clothing and footwear such as wellies or old trainers.

Also, bring a bucket if you have one, to safely carry sharp pieces of glass to the skip. Families are welcome (including friendly dogs on leads), but children must be accompanied by an adult.

Please check the events page for more details and how to book your interest with the Exe Estuary Partnership or visit www.exe-estuary.org/clean_up_events

Meet a club member

Name: Max/Mark 'Champs' Champion – Committee member

Who is the most famous person you have met?

Ummmm.... Tough one, I used to teach Chris Martin's mum to fly, does that count?

What first attracted you to gig rowing?

I had no choice but to start rowing! Growing up in Cornwall starting rowing was inevitable, I began in "flash boats" and migrating to gigs when Looe first got "Ryder".

What is your favourite film?

Probably "The 3 Amigos". Loved it as a kid.

What is your favourite TV programme?

I probably watch the weather the most but used to like "Spooks".

Do you have any other hobbies apart from gig rowing?

Plenty.... fishing, shooting, gardening, baking, diy, flying boating, just about anything that get me out of the house or involves me making a mess..

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

They would have to have a sense of humour, Mike Myers perhaps?!

