

From: Exmouth Gig Club exmouthgigclub@gmail.com
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To: ollieknights@me.com

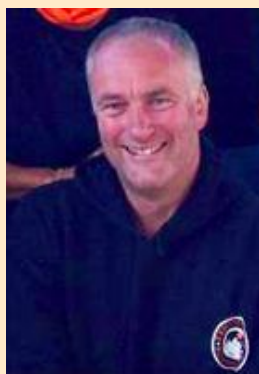
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Welcome to new Committee members

Sarah Boys and David Lomas who joined the Committee in October to take us up to our full complement of ten.

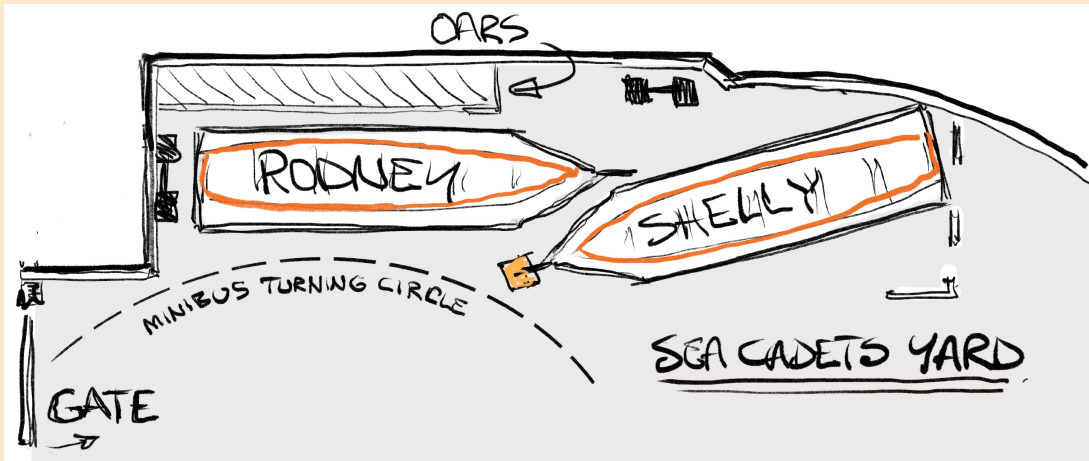
Sarah has taken on the role of New Members Secretary and has already organised Intro rows for several potential new members, a couple who have joined already. Our aim (as we have done already) is to organise Intro Days and get groups of interested rowers out a couple of times in one morning. We do shorter sessions and mix things up with our own members on the beach talking about the club. We have also put newbies in the pilot seat which they have said was very useful. After this, any competent new rowers will be integrated into club sessions.



David has volunteered to be our official Bosun, working with Pete, Sue and other suppliers. He has made an impact already by single-handedly building a mega new oar store. Our kit was suffering and in particular our oars. David is organising the process of refurbishing the oars, one set at a time. After which we are all responsible for looking after them as best as possible. *(Remember sand on the oars works like sandpaper as the concrete wall can scratch, ideally we should rest the oars on the wooden trestles on the beach so they are completely off the ground).*

David has also been investigating what we should and

can do with our boats, more on that later.



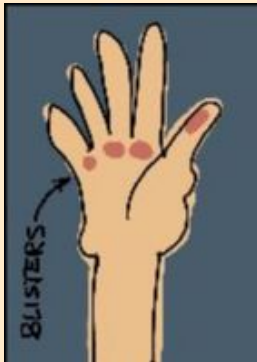
The Sea Cadets Yard

The Sea Cadets, have had a number of reasons complain about our presence in their yard over the last few months and we must all make efforts to keep our relationship friendly and civil. The root of the problems was us anyway but started with the Flood Defence Works moving the boundary fence 400mm into our space and therefore the Sea Cadets could not pass with their Minibus. We have now agreed a layout, the new store is narrow and tight to the fence. Rodney trailer then needs to be close to the store and Shellys trailer at an angle facing the road, so the back end is within the white lines on the floor. The trollys need to be either at back end of Rodney's trailer or on the fence side of Shellys trailer.

We love the Coop

For the last year, we have been one of the Coop's Local Community Groups. Every time a customer used their Coop Membership card and bought own-brand products the Coop donated 1% into a fund that was divided between three local good causes. That amounted to an amazing £6,547. Thank you to the Club members who were on hand to be presented with a big cheque and hand out cupcakes to customers.





Event and Regatta Coordinators

There will rarely be any reason for not going to an event if enough club members are interested, however as a club we cannot rely on the committee to plan and organise every detail. Therefore we want to emphasise the need, someone, to put their hand up and nominate themselves as an **Event Coordinator**. It's not a big job but an important one. Especially do this if you are keen to go to a particular event. Things to be organised include, a tower, what oars/radio/kit to take, that everyone knows where and when to meet, and register the club on arrival.

If there is an event you are interested in has not got onto the Messageboard then speak to Committee member or email the club.

Jurassic Umpires Meeting

The Jurassic Club had a meeting recently about Umpiring and the CPGA rules for racing (which can be found on our site under documents) - I'm waiting for the minutes from the meeting and will publish any news at a later date, suffice to say we will be inviting our club members to have a go as an Umpire at Jurassic Regattas, and maybe others. Those that had a go last year all enjoyed it and you get to see the racing close up.





Glastonbury Festival Donation

in November I received a message from our Treasurer, 'Hey someone has put £700 in the Club account with the reference Glastonbury - Do you think someone was trying to buy tickets and paid into the wrong account by mistake?'

Anyway after contacting a few of the Hippies in the Club it turns out those who volunteer to work at Glastonbury Festival can choose a cause for the organisers to make a donation. We would like to thank Matt, Tanya, Victoria, Saun and Friends for nominating us. What a lovely surprise.



The Last Committee Meeting

The Chairman's Ambition - Since joining the Committee nearly three years ago it has always been the plan of the Club to have a new boat built in 2020. In order to achieve this we had planned to sell Rodney and raise enough funds, our target being £25,000.

Well, a lot has changed in three years, its a good news, bad news story.

Good News

With this months bonus from the Coop and Glastonbury, we have reached our target of £20,000 cash just in time for 2020.

Bad News

Our first boat-builder can't fit us in for another 5 years, another boat-builder said 3 years and the one that could build a new boat in six months said it would be £32,000! That and the change in the rules at Scilly meant the Committee has had some serious thinking to do.

How often would we need two wooden boats at the same event?, Do we need a fourth boat, where would we keep it?

Bad News

The second-hand market for boats has been flooded and reduced chances of selling Rodney.

Good News

We could consider the option of buying a newer secondhand boat.

Bad News

We had Rodney valued ...at zero, in otherwords we could donate her to Exmouth in Bloom as a flowerbed.

Very Good News

Rodney was built by Ralph Bird and therefore is part of gig rowing history. Ralph's son Patrick who helped work on Rodney when he was a lad, can not just fix her, but do, as they say, a Proper Job of refurbishing her. Stripping, drying, repairing and repainting. It will cost a lot of money, approx £8000, take a long time, but her value afterward will be more than we spend, especially with Patrick's name on her service record.

She will come back, lighter and brighter and fighting fit!

We felt as a Committee we were in a position where we had no choice as we could not just scrap Rodney. So she will be going to Patrick and we can look forward to using her next year. We will be able to review her value and whether to keep or sell her at the end of next season.

Other money is being spent on oars and the trailers, saving any leftover, to go towards a Clubhouse and/or a fourth boat should we find a solution for either.

Race captain update:

Scilly selection is just around the corner so I thought you'd appreciate a quick update.

We have some draft crews already so if you haven't put your name down or spoken to your race captain about your plans do so ASAP. Our absolute deadline is New Year's Eve but if we are confident we have enough people who are strong enough to make competitive and balanced crews we'll let you know early. We are waiting on confirmation from a few 'maybes' and have requested some fitness measures from people who are currently not on our shortlist to see if we can offer them a place.

Obviously not everyone is going to Scilly in May, and I know lots of those who aren't will still want something to aim for while preparing for the season ahead. With this in mind the selection for Three Rivers will be done in parallel with the aim to put together crews made up of entirely different personnel if possible. These crews will also train together from January. Three Rivers is tough, so we will expect those crews to be just as committed as those attending the World Championships. To increase your chances of being selected, see the top of the thread on the notice board for recommended fitness measures.

That's all for now. Keep working hard in the gym during those dark mornings and evenings so you'll be able to hit the water running when the first crews of the season are announced!



Technical Email Issues Fixed

You may have noticed that the club email address has changed, below is an explanation

Q. What do I need to know?

A. The @exmouthgigclub.com emails are no more (including coxes@, secretary@, webmaster@ etc.). All correspondence should be sent to exmouthgigclub@gmail.com

Q. Give me the simple reason why.

A. It's easier to remember, not all club members could receive our emails and it means the website works properly.

Q. Okay I'm interested enough to want to know more.

A. Well, if you insist it's actually three reasons why we've had to swap. Strap in, this is riveting stuff...

1.) A few months ago Microsoft (including all @hotmail, @live and @outlook accounts) decided to tighten their security. We were essentially blocked from sending mail to these accounts. A big proportion of our membership use these addresses so we needed a work around.

2.) We can send a limited amount of emails from the @exmouthgigclub.com address per day. It's a maximum of 100. Subsequent emails don't get sent. Some members got important mail, others didn't. Gmail has no maximum number of emails so we don't have the same issue.

3.) The website works off a platform called WordPress. The advantage of this is that it is really flexible and you can add lots of "plug-ins" to accommodate things like booking sessions and message boards. It's also very affordable. The @exmouthgigclub.com addresses were causing issues with the automatic emails (e.g. booking confirmations) so again we needed to adapt.

Q. That's five minutes of my life I won't get back. Is there anything I should do?

A. As a member it's very likely you have already received an email from exmouthgigclub@gmail.com - if you haven't please check your junk mail and mark us as a "safe sender" (ask if you don't know how). Also, please update your address book and only use exmouthgigclub@gmail.com to get in contact.



Social Rows

Anna has recently taken on the role of supporting members with arranging social rows and extra sessions. Racing is important to Exmouth Gig Club, but equally important is ensuring rowers who do not want to race have equal access to resources and events.

Anna has organised a row to Topsham on Saturday 7th December, we usually do this on an occasional basis so if you couldn't make it this time, it will happen again! There will be a number of social rows/events organised by Anna through the year which are open to any and all members ('racers' included).

If people would like to organise their own extra sessions either through the week, or before or after a club session, and don't know where to start, then please speak to Anna and she will point you in the right direction. We'll be putting a process together soon too which should also have all of the information you need about what needs to be done.

MEET THE COMMITTEE...

1. Name?: **Sarah Louise Boys**
2. Also known as?: **Sarah B / Boysie**
3. What's your favourite position?: **I'm happy anywhere they put me.**
4. What other sports do you do: **what?!**
5. Your favourite TV/Box set/movie?: **Top Gun**
6. What Karaoke would you sing?: **South Australia!**
7. What do you order in a coffee shop?: **full-fat latte (and cake!)**
8. Top tip for new rower?: **Try and do 5 erg sessions a week! Just kidding! Relax, breathe and enjoy the amazing opportunity we have, oh and use those legs!**
9. Who would play you in a movie?:
(answered by Andrew) Jennifer Lawrence



Chairman's Note

Wow! Thank you for getting this far, we had a lot of news for you this issue and there is more to come regarding events and regattas next year, but I'll save that for the next issue.

Wrap up warm.

Gary



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