



## Looking back and looking ahead - from the Commodore

We have had a marvellous year to look back on: a new Clubhouse, a very successful Junior Sailing in its new format and many applications for membership. But now it is time to look forward.

With the club house now built and operational we can turn our attention to the serious business of organising our boating activities for 2017. But, if you're keen there is no reason to wait - taking a boat out on a crisp winters day can be quite a pleasure.

There have been some changes in the Executive Committee. Peter Dingley-Brown has been our Treasurer for several years, expertly guiding us through the funding of the clubhouse, our operational costs and keeping our insurances and club administration in order. Peter has now decided to move on and we all thank him for his valuable contribution over the years. Peter has handed over his role to club member Andrew Morrell. We are grateful to Andrew for taking it on.

The post of Quartermaster has been vacant for over 12 months now. The role is to oversee the maintenance of our fleet of 50 craft so they are in good, safe working order for members to use. To get past this vacancy we have split the role into three. From now on Mark Taylor will be QM (non-sail craft), River Lovejoy will be QM (sail craft) and Bernard Cockfield will be QM (Power boats). If any boat is in need of repair, please ensure you note it on the Boat Users' Log in the club house and let the appropriate QM know about it by email or a phone call - even if you do fix it yourself.

Our Sailing Secretary, Roger Astley, is well into the planning of the 2017 events diary, with dates now set for Sunday and evening club sailing. Dates are also being included for a repeat of the Junior RS Tera, RS Feva and Topper open meeting. Check out the calendar on the website.

Our safety boats will be back in full use next season for members who are registered helms. The boats' role is specifically to ensure the safety of our members who are on the water at club events. We cannot operate any on the water events without attendance of competent safety boat helm and crews. We need more of these qualified helms, so we will be organising training at RYA PB2 level in the Spring as well as some workshops on techniques to assist boats and crew in difficulties.

Over the months we were working on the construction at Mill Point there were many conversations about what activities and events the club should run, to make best use of our new facilities. But such discussions were amongst a small sample of our membership and even within families there was quite frequently a noticeable difference of opinion - by age and gender. The Executive team would like to understand more about what our membership expects from us, so we will be inviting every individual member, regardless of age, to respond to a survey that will help us understand where we should be going, and the priorities. The survey is in an advanced stage of development (thank you, Nick Ager) and will be available on line in January. We will alert you.

Talking of work at Mill Point, we have a number of small projects in mind which will - for instance - upgrade the slipway areas and access to the river to reduce the risk of damage when launching and

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recovering boats. We will call for volunteers for occasional weekend work parties over the winter (January – March) and will hope for a strong response.

## Employment Opportunities – Available now!

There is some manual work that needs doing:

- An indoor job: A quiet job, Apply a coat of sealer to the floor of the sail loft in the clubhouse. Contact: Commodore
- A sociable job: Scrape off the old paint on the hull of the Wanderer, ready for repair and repaint. Contact: Boat Park Officer

### And we need an independent examiner

Charity Commission regulations require that the annual accounts of a charity as small as the SGBA just need to be reviewed by 'an independent person with the relevant ability and experience' (although neither of these qualities is defined).

This 'independent examiner' would be asked to check through our 2016 accounting records over a couple of days in the second half of February 2017. Full guidance will be provided. The Examiner must be independent of the Trustees and the Committee. Willing volunteers are asked to contact Julian Williams, Vice-Commodore, on 782744 - don't all rush at once!



*Clubhouse opening and celebratory glass*

## Social Programme

As always, our Social Secretary, Anne Davis, has put together an exciting programme. We have already had a fascinating talk from Joslin Fiennes entitled "Dartmouth: a History through Art", and the Club's annual dinner at Emma's was held on Sunday 11 December and, judging by the noise of the conversation, was a great success.

### Santa on the quay



The SGBA will be bringing Santa to the quay on Christmas eve after the Crib Service.

Father Christmas needs your help to get ashore!

He is asking for

- 6 volunteers to marshal the crowds
- 1 volunteer qualified first aider... just in case

Volunteers to be available 1630 – 1800 on Christmas eve. Day glow jackets provided + a small reward!

Please volunteer now - call Barbara Deacon on 782582

### First talk of the New Year

Thursday January 12th, "Home from Estonia". Story of a yacht cruise by Clive Britten.

19:30pm, Old School Room, Stoke Gabriel. £2 with a glass of wine. **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE.**

### The SGBA Ceilidh

The Club will once more be inviting the Village to join our Ceilidh on Saturday, 28 January at 19:30 in the Stoke Gabriel Football Club. Tickets will be available from Roz's store: £8.00 adults and £3.00 for children.

### A talk by Anthony Showell

Tuesday 7th February, "The 1993 London to Sydney Car Rally (And winning it)".

19:30pm, Old School Room, Stoke Gabriel. £2 with a glass of wine.

### A talk by award-winning author, Nic Compton

Thursday 2nd March, "Photography on the Water: a practical guide".

19:30pm, Old School Room, Stoke Gabriel. £2 with a glass of wine.

### Further ahead

Feb/March 2017

Sea Urchins indoor rowing/boating session for children. Date and venue TBA.

Sunday 12th March

"Go Sailing!". An afternoon of boaty activities with a team quiz.

For kids aged 6 - 11. SGBA Clubhouse.



## Junior Sailing 2017

### Course A

Tuesday 30 May  
Wednesday 31st May  
Thursday 1st June  
Friday 2nd June  
Saturday 3rd June

start times getting progressively later from 0830 on day one to approximately 1230 on the final day.

### Course B

Wednesday 26th July  
Thursday 27th July  
Friday 28th July  
Saturday 29th July  
Sunday 30th July

start times getting progressively later from 0730 on day one to approximately 1000 on the last day.

The good news is Bridget Barrett has volunteered to coordinate the first of next year's Junior Sailing Courses.

The Senior Instructor for the course will be Pete Joscelyne.

We can accept up to 18 children on the course ranging in experience from zero to working towards RYA Level 4. Ideally, children will progress through the first four levels within the SGBA over four consecutive years or combine the SGBA courses with training gained elsewhere working towards the same goal.

Children must be aged eight or over on the first day of the course.

Parents must be able to offer help in some form to assist in the running of the course.

The course will cost £100 per child. RYA logbooks and reading material will be available to buy at additional cost.

Applicants will be accepted on a first come, first served

basis relating to received, completed forms returned to the Coordinator.

Bridget will require a volunteer to coordinate all aspects relating to safety boats to assist her. Please indicate your willingness to help in this way on your initial contact with her.

Please contact Bridget Barrett at the following email address to register your interest in the course and to request application forms: [bbarrett@waitrose.com](mailto:bbarrett@waitrose.com)

**The bad news is that, as yet we do not have a volunteer to coordinate the second course.**

This course, if it is to run will require a Coordinator and a volunteer to arrange all aspects of safety boat cover to assist and will need to be set in motion as soon as possible.

If you would like more information about coordinating course B please contact me at: [sgbamorrell@gmail.com](mailto:sgbamorrell@gmail.com)

Please do not contact me about places on course A for your children; contact Bridget as above.



Junior Sailing 2016

## SGBA Membership - what amazing value

Compared with other local sailing clubs and boating associations the cost of belonging to the SGBA is very modest: just £110 a year in 2017 for a family to have access to any of the non-motorised boats.

We have a splendid new Clubhouse with changing facilities, hot showers and a kitchenette. Our fleet includes 23 dinghies, 2 kayaks, 5 canoes and 3 rowing boats and it is continuously being improved.

Throughout the spring, summer and early autumn we have a programme of Sunday sailing. Members can just come along to Mill Point, rig up and take out an SGBA sailing dinghy, rowing boat or canoe, or join us in their own boat.

The Club runs Junior Sailing Courses which are an opportunity for your child to learn to sail whilst having a huge amount of fun on the river. Children will develop water confidence and river safety, and may also get a sailing qualification.

And we run a sailing course for adult beginners and improvers.

In the winter months when sailing might not be quite so attractive the Club has an active social programme with a dinner, a Ceilidh and a series of evening lectures.

### Membership Renewal 2017

Just to remind you - membership fees are due by 1st March 2017. An email will be circulated early February.

If you have a standing order set up, please note there is an increase in fees:

Family	£60	After 1st March	£70
Joint	£55	.. ..	£65
Single	£45	.. ..	£55
Non motorised club boats			£40
Dinghy Park			£55
Rack			£30
3ft Locker			£25
6ft Locker			£45
Outboard rack			£30

### Membership Survey

The SGBA committee is keen to learn what Club members think of our current facilities, how we can encourage more use of the Club and where we need to focus our energies.

The Commodore has already referred to the online member survey. It will be run between 2 and 31 January. To encourage participation, SGBA are offering 3 free memberships<sup>†</sup> for 2017 drawn at random from those who provide their identities when responding to the survey.

Full details about the survey will be issued by email in due course



*Learning to sail a Bug*

<sup>†</sup> Limited to the subscription element only - i.e. waiver of subscription of £55, £65 or £70 according to the type of membership of the winners.

## Stoke Gabriel Tide Tables

Since October 2010, Stoke Gabriel (Duncannon) has had its own official tidal predictions and these have been published on an annual basis by the SGBA in booklet form.

### Stoke Gabriel Tides 2017



plus  
**A guide to  
tidal phenomena  
in Stoke Gabriel Creek  
and the nearby River Dart**

As in the previous six years, the tide tables consist of the official UK Hydrographic Office predictions of the times and heights of high water and low water for Stoke Gabriel (Duncannon). They are adjusted for British Summer Time and presented in a reader-friendly format.

The 2017 booklet includes more than just the times and heights of High and Low Water. There are the online addresses of websites that give the actual and predicted tidal curves for Stoke Gabriel as well as a Flood Alert page, listing the dates of all High Waters that reach 4.8m or more. Pontoon users should note that at 4.8m above Chart Datum the official DHNA access to the pontoon via the parish slipway involves wearing waders and stepping up 15 inches in water that is 30 inches deep. The Parish Council has lobbied the DHNA about this problem and there is a glimmer of hope that it might be resolved in the near future.

The tide tables booklet sells for a modest £2 per copy. It is produced by the SGBA and, thanks to our advertisers (who cover the printing costs), all proceeds go towards the SGBA, helping to maintain its splendid new clubhouse at Mill Point and its fleet of 50 boats.

The Stoke Gabriel Tides 2017 is now available from the Village Stores (Roz's) and the River Shack as well as at SGBA events.

### The village stores (Roz's)

Not only does Roz help the SGBA by selling the Tide Tables but she also sells tickets for the Ceilidh and puts notices of Club events on the shop door.

Roz does this for all the activities in the village run by groups of enthusiasts.

And she runs the Post Office and a store which houses an Aladdin's Cave of goodies from fresh vegetables, quality groceries, toiletries and household goods.

Just as we believe that the SGBA is an asset to the village so is Roz's stores an essential asset to all of us who live in Stoke Gabriel. So when you make your shopping list don't take it straight to Sainsbury's, buy as much of it as you can in Roz's first of all.

### Kindling for Sale



£3 per bag, delivery included

All proceeds to the SGBA

Call 782744

### Commemorative tumblers for sale



These tough and re-useable polycarbonate tumblers were distributed at our New Clubhouse Opening in September. They are ideal for picnics and stack conveniently in a rucksack or hamper. A happy memento of a joyous occasion. £1 each or £5 for a set of 6.

Please contact Anthony Showell on 782940 or Neil Millward on 782981.



## Committee

Commodore	Roger Stobbart	782434
Vice Commodore	Julian Williams	782774
Secretary	Lesley Jenkins	782094
Treasurer	Andrew Morrell	01803 550066
Membership Secretary	Gaye Astley	782152
Quartermaster (sail) and Boat Park Officer	River Lovejoy	07526 948240 Text during office hours
Quartermaster (paddles) and Oars & Paddles Officer	Mark Taylor	01803 866547
Quartermaster (Power)	Bernard Cockfield	782994
Sailing Secretary	Roger Astley	782152
Social Secretary	Anne Davis	782235
Facilities Officer	Georgina Foss	782018
Communications Officer	Geoffrey Pocock	782044
Junior Sailing	Andrew Morrell	550066
RYA Course Principal	John Bradbury	782012 / 782010
Committee Member	Nick Ager	782234
Committee Member	Vacant	
<b>Assistants</b> - not generally required at Committee meetings		
Work Parties	Neil Millward	782981
Lockers	Gaye Astley	782152
Bosun	Tom Morris	782702/07799403788
Feva fleet	Charlie Gillmore	782340
Powerboat Chief Instructor	Vacant	
Legal	Anthony Prowse	782442
Independent Examiner	Vacant	

To contact a Committee member by email please use the [contact form](#) on the web site.

## Trustees

Chairman	Julian Williams	782434
	Roger Stobbart	782744
	Robert Foster	782788
	John Bradbury	782012 / 782010
	Matthew Halkes	782063
	Neil Millward	782981
	Anthony Showell	782940