

**Stoke Gabriel Boating Association***Promoting community participation in sailing, kayaking, canoeing and rowing*

SGBA News



A new era for the SGBA

From here:



In this issue

The New Clubhouse	1
Junior Sailing	3
Devon Air Ambulance	5
Committee Posts	6
Future Events	7
The SGBA Wayfarer	8
For Sale & Wanted	9
Ten Years Ago	10
Committee & Contacts	11

To here



The new Clubhouse is up and running

After eighteen months of hard work the SGBA got the Clubhouse sufficiently finished for the building inspector to allow its use for Junior Sailing on 28 May. It was a close-run thing with the yellow edges to the access steps being painted late on the previous Wednesday.

Since then the access stairs to the loft, the front balcony and the fences closing off the rear compound have been completed and we have applied for our completion certificate inspection.

All that remains is some minor woodwork on the exterior cladding and some small interior fittings.

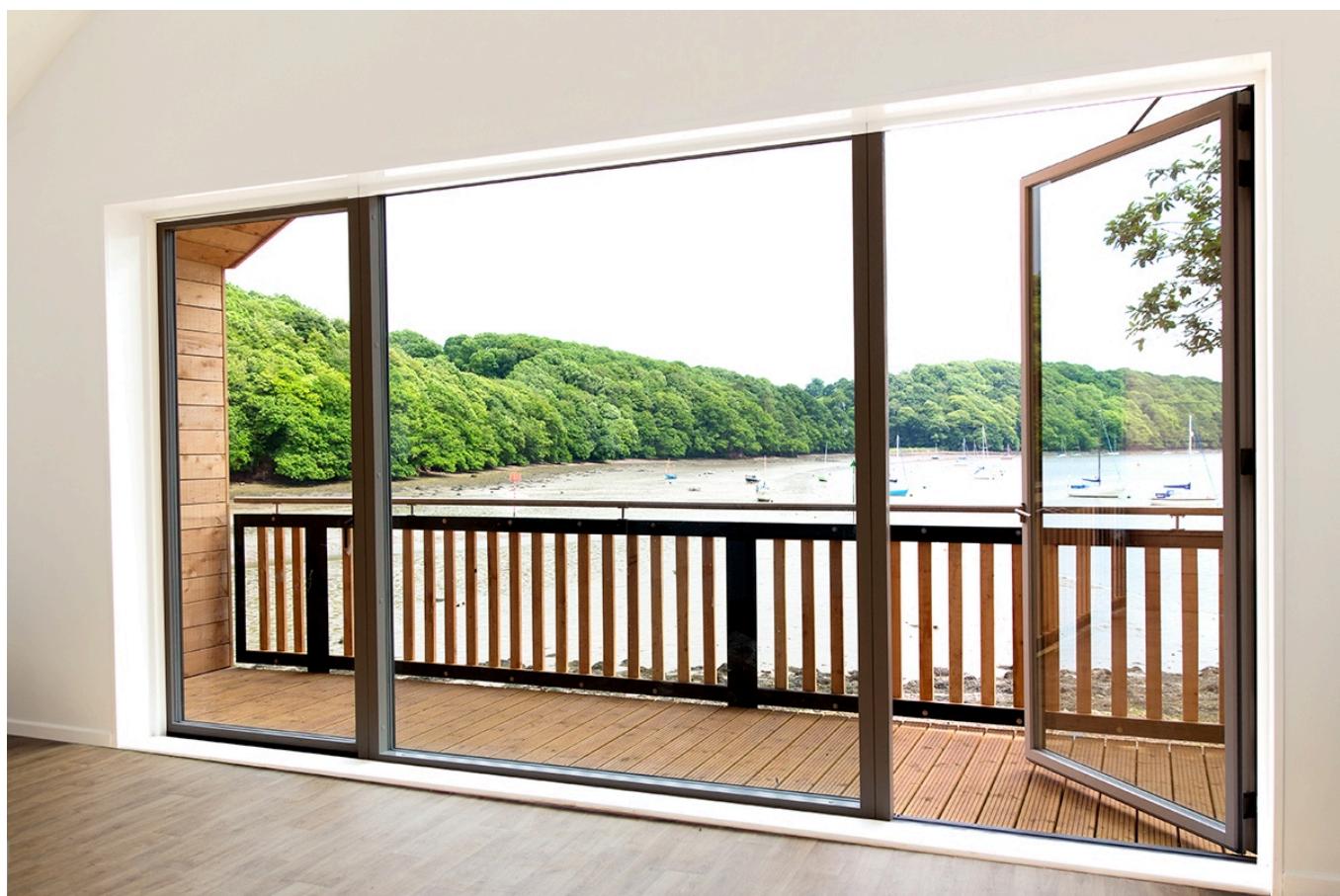
For a small Club to have achieved this is a reflection of the energy and dedication of its members. It is always dangerous to highlight individuals but three people must be singled out. Without our Commodore's vision and energy this would never have come about. There were times when Roger's ambitions seemed to stretch the imagination but he got us there. Not only did he draw up the basis of the project but he worked tirelessly on many aspects of the building itself.

But a project like this needs more than energy; it needs money and the Club is indebted to Julian Williams who raised over £100,000 from Sport England and various donors.

And I must record the work of our architect, Club member, Michael Simmons who not only worked on the plans on a *pro bono* basis but also joined the team of roofers to get that difficult task completed in a narrow slot of good weather.

Finally how can we ever thank sufficiently the dedicated band of volunteer workers who did so much from digging and painting to block-work and carpentry.

A magnificent view from the Clubroom over the Dart



The new style Junior Sailing

The Club held an enormously successful Junior Sailing course at the end of May and the beginning of June.

With the Club's new facilities, it was decided by the Committee that the event should be run within our own capabilities and not use Sandridge. Anne Davis undertook the task of developing the new format which was then taken up by Andrew Morrell as coordinator. Well done them for enabling a successful Junior Sailing course from the new Clubhouse. Thanks also to all the mums and dads and grandparents who helped out during the course and to Sam Sale-Parkes the RYA Senior Dinghy Instructor who, as always, did a superb job.

Congratulations to the prize winners Leilah Poulain and Arthur Gillmore.

The next course runs on July 16 & 17 and July 23 to 25.



Junior Sailing



And there are lots more pictures [here](#)

SGBA assists at medical emergency

We featured the Devon Air Ambulance in the last newsletter with the hope that we would never need it but all of us who go out on the river might just be grateful for the service it offers.

On the second day of Junior Sailing there was a serious incident with a canoeist (not a Club member) and the Devon Air Ambulance flew in to assist. The Club also helped by taking two police officers to the site in an SGBA Safety Boat and moved the police car back from Mill Point to the quay before it became trapped by the incoming tide.



Some skill to land here

You can support the DAA by going to Stoke Gabriel Community Concert Series which has the DAA as this year's charity. The last concert given by a local jazz group, *Smooth Operators*, was superb with a wide variety of traditional favourites.

The next concert on Saturday 16 July will be given by Exevox, a magnificent choir from Exeter. The concert starts at 19:30 in the Church. Admission £8.00 including a glass of wine. Under 16s get free entry.

New Quartermaster Needed

Our Quartermaster, Alan Willson has had to resign because of work pressures and the Committee has decided to re-organise the way in which the Club looks after its fleet of boats. River Lovejoy will maintain the sailing boats and Mark Taylor, our Oars and Paddling Officer, will look after the canoes, kayaks and rowing boats but we need someone who has experience in maintaining and managing craft like our safety boats to look after them.

We would expect this person to act as a focus for, and keep an overview of, all matters relating to the maintenance of our fleet and to serve on the Committee as Quartermaster.

The new Clubhouse has water and electricity and will have a small workbench and there is scope for a Quartermaster's store. After a year without much use the boats are in remarkably good condition although

we did need a few running repairs to keep Junior Sailing going.

If you are interested in playing a bigger part in the SGBA, are good with your hands and want to join a group of enthusiasts please contact the Commodore.

Facilities Management

As well as having to maintain a fleet of boats we have a clubhouse and some land of our own to look after. We need someone to form and lead a small team which will oversee housekeeping, bookings for Club meetings and ensure we do not run out of hot showers. They will also have an important role in facilitating events at the new clubhouse.

We also have trees, fences, rock-faces, walkways, a slipway, foreshore areas and permissive paths all of which need monitoring and occasional attention.

Meet the Committee

Mark Taylor is our new Oars and Paddling Officer. He is very excited to be starting this brand new role within the SGBA which he sees as promoting the use of our kayaks, canoes, and several rowing boats. Although not an expert kayaker (with just a BCA 1* to his name) his real qualification for the job is that he loves being on the water and strongly believes that paddling is for anyone, regardless of experience and ability. Mark is very keen to get the boats into good condition; checking and repairing any that have damage or thin keels from excessive wear. He also wants to get some social events going where members can paddle in groups on regular basis on a summer's evening. If you are interested or have any ideas that how we can best use and enjoy the kayaks, canoes and rowing boats drop Mark a line on m1taylor@mac.com.



Future Events

Date	Start	Event
Sunday 26 June	09:30	Club Sailing
Sunday 10 July	09:30	Club Sailing
Saturday 16 July	TBA	Junior Sailing Course
Sunday 17 July	TBA	Junior Sailing Course
Saturday 23 July	TBA	Junior Sailing Course
Sunday 24 July	TBA	Junior Sailing Course
Monday 25 July	TBA	Junior Sailing Course
Saturday 30 July	TBA	Social Event
Sunday 31 July	14:30	Club Sailing
Sunday 14 August	13:30	Club Sailing
Saturday 10 September	TBA	Regatta and Clubhouse Opening
Sunday 11 September	11:00	Club Sailing
Sunday 18 September	13:00	Middleback Cricket
Sunday 25 September	12:00	Club Sailing
Sunday 09 October	09:30	Club Sailing
Sunday 23 October	10:00	Club Sailing

Sunday Sailing

We still have a full programme of Sunday sailing ahead of us. But remember, sailing can only take place if we have an Officer of the Day (OOD) and safety boat helm and crew.

So, please check the website and the [Sailing and Events Support Site](#) to make sure the requisite officers are in place.

Summer Evening Drinks Party

Last year Neil and Pam Millward opened their garden in support of the SGBC so it is with pleasure that the Club advertises a *Summer Evening Drinks Party*, in their garden with refreshments, in support of the Friends of Stoke Gabriel Church.

Wednesday 6 July at 18:00; all welcome, tickets £6 from Ian Jones, 782641.

Social Event 30 July

Members may have been looking forward to the Grand Fete that was being planned to take place at Sandridge Park on 30 July. Its cancellation was due to the almost zero response to the call for volunteers to assist at the event, sent to all members by email on 20 May. Although we have over 300 adult members, only one person responded to offer help. Faced with

that lack of interest, the Executive Committee had no option but to cancel. This is a sad reflection on all of us. Let us hope that having the new clubhouse will prove a spur towards more enthusiasm to pull together better.

But we will be doing something at the Clubhouse instead. More information by email and the website.

Clubhouse Official Opening 10 September

The Clubhouse will be officially opened on 10 September following the Regatta.

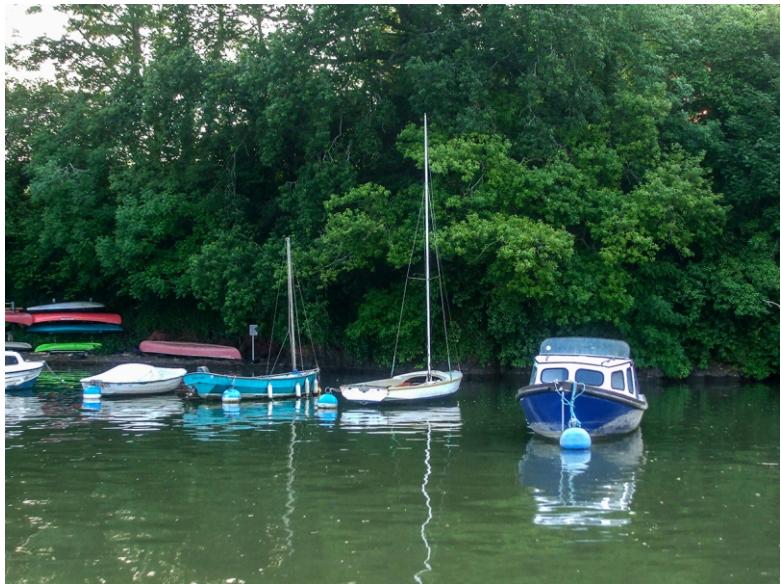
The SGBA Wayfarer

The Club was given Cygnet last year and members have worked hard to get her into a good condition. She was built in 1974 and is 16ft long and stable.

She is available anytime to members who have paid the £30 non powered club boat fee. There is no booking system.

Cygnets will take two adults and two children without problems. There is storage space in the stern locker. She is on a mooring to the right of the Pontoon in the creek, just off the cove. She is afloat roughly 3hrs each side of high tide.

River Lovejoy has produced a guide to using Cygnets which can be found [here](#).



Cygnets on her mooring at high water



Showing the handling buoy



..... and the stern buoy

3 OUTBOARDS FOR SALE

- Yamaha 2.5 hp/4 stroke 2006 - short shaft £325.00

- Johnson 8 hp/2 stroke 1997 - long shaft £450.00

Excellent auxiliary engine, separate tank

- Honda 2.3 hp/4 stroke 2014 - short shaft £450.00

Air cooled/lightweight, as new – 12 hours only

All engines professionally serviced and maintained and in excellent condition.

Alun Jenkins 01803 782094 07543292107

WANTED Old sails – any condition

Alun Jenkins 01803 782094 07543292107

Big BBQs Wanted

From time to time we will hold barbecues at Mill Point. The club does not own (and cannot yet afford to buy) any suitable large BBQs to use at such events. In the short term it is hoped that one or two members might lend their big BBQs for such events. The Club can provide transport to and from Mill Point. Members willing to help with this please respond to the Vice Commodore at julianw2011@yahoo.co.uk

Plus ça change

My neighbour, Nick Wilson, used to edit the Newsletter and he gave me some old copies. I was amused by the spring 2006 edition:

"No Pay, No Prospects, Not Much Pleasure"

Not on the face of it an advert likely to generate a positive response, but it worked for Bill Tilman when seeking crew for his legendary ocean voyages and mountain climbing expeditions. So although not comparable to Bill Tilman in any other way I am adopting the same technique to recruit crew to man the good ship SGBA.

However we are at risk of contravening the trade description act:

"No pay" – true, but plenty of rewards of the non-monetary type.

"No prospects" – definitely not true. My experience on the SGBA committee featured in a recent successful interview for a consultant's post. So you never know where the SGBA will take you!

"Not much pleasure" – actually the complete opposite is the case. There is a genuine pleasure in seeing members of all ages enjoying the events and activities the club organises.

This is my final season as Commodore and if I could make a request it would be for fine boating weather for all! The only cloud on the horizon is that no members came forward at the AGM to join the Committee, so currently there are no apparent successors for the Commodore-ship or for any of the other Officers who would like to stand down in 2007. Working on the assumption that a volunteer is worth ten pressed men or women, in the first instance the Committee is appealing to any members who can assist with the running of the club to come forward. There are plenty of roles that need to be filled (see elsewhere in the newsletter), none are particularly onerous and many involve simply messing about with boats – what could be better! Volunteer now before we send out the press gang! I note that the SGBA has never had a female Commodore or Vice-Commodore – will that be changed in 2007?

Finally on behalf of the club I would like to thank a couple of stalwart crew who are "retiring". Over the past few years Niki Wilson and Pennie Lindeque have been highly valued instructors on the sailing course. Their enthusiasm and willingness to lead by example (especially in teaching capsizing drill) will be much missed! Lookout for Niki blasting down the river (to Dittisham for a coffee) on her Laser! Pennie will be rowing for Salcombe in the World Pilot Gig Championship this May on the Isles of Scilly – good luck!

Matt Halkes

SGBA Committee and Trustees

Committee

Commodore	Roger Stobart	782434	roger.stobart@btinternet.com
Vice Commodore	Julian Williams	782774	julianw2011@yahoo.co.uk
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Quartermaster	Vacant		
Assistant Quartermaster	Bernard Cockfield	782994	f.bc@hotmail.co.uk
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Social Secretary	Anne Davis	782235	sailing@annedavis.me.uk
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Oars and Paddling Officer	Mark Taylor	01364 642225	m1taylor@mac.com
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Dinghy Park Officer	River Lovejoy	07526 948240 Text during office hours	r.lovejoy@open.ac.uk
Committee Member	Nick Ager	782234	nick.ager@gmail.com
Clubhouse and Facilities	Vacant		

Assistants - not generally required at Committee meetings

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