



From the Commodore

This will be our first full season with the new club house in full operation and it already looks like a busy season. The 2017 events calendar can be found at the end of this Newsletter; you will see that it includes not just our normal club sailing events but also a series for kayak and canoes. We also aim to include a short series of dinghy club racing events, aimed more at fun than outright speed! The increase of 'on the water' events means we need more PB2 qualified helms to provide essential safety cover, fortunately we now have a PB2 trainer who will operate out of Mill Point.

We also have some priority tasks to undertake that will make boat launching and recovery at Mill Point safer and more easily managed. We are organising some working parties (see below) to get the works completed so please come along and help if you can.

Last year we had several thefts of boats and equipment from the creek and our Parish Council responded by installing CCTV as a deterrent but we should still take care in securing our boats and equipment. Partly due to the thefts we are relocating the members' kayak and canoe rack down to the cove in sight of the CCTV whilst the club kayaks and

canoes will be located in the secure store at the rear of the club house.

Please help with any or all the following, some of the Exec team will be on hand, great to have many helping hands so we can get all the work out of the way and just enjoy our boating through 2017.

Working Parties

Sunday March 12th 0930 - 1300. To improve clear access to launch boats into river/creek, relocate winch, install benches. Tasks include moving stones and debris on the foreshore, making concrete base for benches (electric mixer on site), tidy up around dinghy park. Rebuild stone around the new quay.

Sunday March 26th 0930 - 1300. Modify launch area by club house for boat scrub and safer launch access. Inserting plastic gravel traps to make smooth launching access from boat park by club house. Modification to boat park wall. Rebuild stone around the new quay. Clean slipway using pressure washer.

Contact Roger Stobbart for more information if you can help. 01803 782434

In this Issue

From the Commodore	1
Social Programme	2
On the Water	3
The Quay	5
Membership	6
The SGBA and the Village	7
For Sale	8
Committee and Trustees	9
2017 Events Calendar	10



Cleaning the slip - mud, mud, glorious mud

The 2016 - 2017 Social Programme

As the sailing season creeps up on us so the winter social programme draws to an end. This winter has seen a particularly well-filled and varied programme. We have had three excellent talks from Club members but we began with a delightful illustrated presentation from Joslin Fiennes entitled "Dartmouth: a History through Art". This was followed a talk describing a long-distance yacht cruise entitled "Home from Estonia" by Clive Britten.

The third talk attracted an enormous audience which was perhaps a little surprising as it had nothing to do with sailing. But it had everything to do with excitement as Anthony Showell gave a talk illustrated with slides and videos describing the London to Sydney Marathon which he won in 1993.



The wining car

Finally, another well-attended talk was given by Nic Compton on the subject of: Photography on the Water: a practical guide. Nic very modestly said he was not a professional photographer but his photographs were superb. And his ability to get equally good pictures from a very expensive SLR and a GoPro was remarkable.

As always, the Social Secretary organised a Christmas dinner at Emmas and the ever-popular Ceilidh. And, or course, Santa visited the quay.

Still to come, we have an afternoon of boaty activities with a team quiz for kids aged 6 - 12 in the SGBA Clubhouse on 12 March and we hope to arrange a Sea Urchins session on the creek to teach some of our younger members how to row.

Social Secretary required

After four years as Social secretary, Anne Davis is transferring to SGBA post of RYA principle leaving a vacancy for a new Social Secretary and team to create the SGBA social events program for 2017 onwards. The Social Secretary creates and manages the Club's social activities diary, assisted by their own team of helpers, they create a range of social events from BBQ's on the foreshore to talks, laying up supper, the Christmas party and more. If you enjoy organising events please contact Anne Davis for more information, 01803 782235.



One of Nic Compton's marvellous photographs



On the Water 2017

Junior Sailing

We now have a volunteer to coordinate Course B; our thanks to Sophie Lonsdale-Eccles for taking this on.

The dates for the course B are as follows:

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

The start times getting progressively later from 07:30 on day one to approximately 10:00 on the last day.

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.

Sophie 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 Sophie at the following email address to register your interest in the course and to request application forms: sgbalonsdale@gmail.com

NOTE: Please contact Sophie only about Course B. For anything relating to Course A please see [Website](#).

Club Racing

A number of members have expressed an interest in setting up a series of club races organised in parallel to the club sailing days. If you have experience of organising club racing or would like to participate in such racing or help Roger Astley and Roger Stobbart initiate a trial program please contact either of us, we need the help! 01803 782434

Power Boat Training

There are 2 levels of Power boat training, PB1 for helming under supervision (aged 11-14) and PB2 as competent helm. We will be offering PB2 as a two-day course at Stoke Gabriel for £150pp. Priority bookings will be given to members committing to provide safety boat support at club boating events. First available course will be on Thursday and Friday 18-19 May. Contact Bernard Cockfield for bookings and more information. 01803 782994



Sunday and Summer Evening Sailing and Boating

The first Club Sailing & Boating Sunday will be April 16th. All the Sailing/Boating event dates are on the website under Summer Programme - Sailing and Events Support Site. Or, you can use this link <https://sites.google.com/site/sailingeventsrja/events-calendar>.

Help, please.

For each event we need an Officer Of the Day (OOD) and Safety Boat Helm & Crew. We need to get names in all the empty slots on the events list, so please offer your help if you can. The priority now is to get the early events covered, so if you can fill one of those dates it would be much appreciated as it saves a lot of phone calls!

The OOD job is described on the website (Summer Programme - Guidance for running SGBA events). To be safety boat helm, you need to be on the SGBA Register of Powerboat Helms and have RYA Powerboat Level 2 - and, if you can find your own crew, that works well.

Social Evenings

While on the above site, have a look at the Social Sailing & Boating page. What used to be Thursday Evening Sailing hasn't happened for the last two years. This year the dates are being suggested as an opportunity for members to get two of the things they asked for in the recent survey - more social activity at the clubhouse and knowing when others will be on the water.

The dates have been chosen for the tide times as I'm hoping to get a few members sailing. But this isn't only for sailors. Come and take out a kayak/canoe/paddle board, bring the family, have a barbecue Just don't wait for the club to organise it!

Sailing Contact Group

Do you prefer to sail when others are on the water too? Let me know if you're interested.

Roger Astley, Sailing Secretary



The Quay

Parking by the quay

The parking area of the quay and lawns around the Mill Pond are privately owned and operated as a business.

The operator kindly allows local residents to park for limited periods on the quay side free of charge during normal working days of Monday to Friday. However, at high season weekends and Bank holidays the operator applies their normal rate to everyone, local and visitor. Should you need regular parking on the quay the most cost effective option may be to purchase a season ticket from attendants for £75, which allows unlimited parking on any day of the year.

CCTV

Last year the Stoke Gabriel boating community suffered several engine thefts from boats on the pontoon, the creek and foreshore. Our Parish Council promptly responded by installing 24/7 CCTV to cover the creek, foreshore, pontoon and all access routes, a costly investment by the Parish Council.

If your boat is a victim of theft or vandalism you should contact the Parish Council Tel 782690 and the local Police on 101. The CCTV coverage should identify the culprits.

Stoke Gabriel is the first village on the Dart to introduce security dedicated to the boating community, we should appreciate the Parish Council's initiative and investment. A modest donation, perhaps £10 per boat, towards the cost of installation and operation would help ensure the longevity of the system for the protection of our precious boats and our peace of mind.

Donations to Parish Council of Stoke Gabriel, Lloyds Bank Plc., Totnes branch. Sort Code: 30 98 69. Account number 00148551.

Members' Survey and Open Weekend

The Survey

As many of you know, we ran an online survey in January with an incentive of three free membership subscriptions drawn at random from those who participated. The winners are:

Ethan Maya
Guy Gillmore
Alun Jenkins

We received a fantastic 138 responses to the survey with many thoughtful comments as well as many offers to help out. Members of the executive and trustees are working their way through the comments and are contacting those members with specific queries or offers to help. Some themes clearly emerged from the answers and comments with the following already in hand and other activities to follow:

- Hold an annual members' open weekend. See below for details of this year's meeting on 6 and 7 May.
- Organise social events at Mill Point throughout the summer. This year there will be BBQs on 6th May, 27th May, 24th June (tbc) and 22nd July.
- Provide more courses, especially at weekends, for PB2 and Safety Boat qualifications. Dates to be announced.
- Improve the canoe rack in the Cove; in hand.
- Introduce a messaging service to alert members to others' intentions to get afloat, e.g. Thursday evening racing; in hand.
- Organise collective paddling sessions/outings; in hand.
- Make use of Wayfarer and Wanderer easier (access/launch/recovery); in hand.

Members' Open Weekend

There will be a shore based members' open day on 6th May, followed by Sunday sailing on 7th May. The open day is a chance for members (new and old) to see all the boats available to those who have paid their club boat fee and to learn how to rig, launch and retrieve them.

Members unfamiliar with the Clubhouse will be able to take a tour around the Clubhouse and ask any questions about its use (e.g. making refreshments, booking private events, etc).

There will be an opportunity to sign-up to planned courses: adult beginners, PB2, club powerboat induction.

The shore-based programme on 6th May will start from 11am and will conclude with a BBQ ready for you to cook your own supplies. HW 16:16

On 7th May Sunday sailing starts at 14:30, HW 17:10. A chance to get afloat in the boats learned about the previous day.

Annual General Meeting

The SGBA AGM is being held on Thursday 23 March 2017 in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

Documents have been sent to all members by email. A printed copy of the Annual Report and Accounts will be made available by exception. Any request for such should be directed to the Secretary.

The Club always needs new blood on its Committee and its Board of Trustees. Members are urged to consider volunteering for these important and rewarding roles – you have been sent a Nomination Form.

We look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

School Visit

Stoke Gabriel Primary School came to visit the clubhouse on Friday 10th February.

Thirty excited children aged 8 and 9 used the balcony as a look-out point for their participation in the 'Great RSPB Schools Birdwatch'.

The Schools' Birdwatch is an educational activity that gets children closer to nature. It takes just an hour and works for all ages and abilities. Observations from the whole of the UK are brought together. Last year the blackbird triumphed once again, securing the top spot as the most-seen bird, cropping up in 87% of schools.

After spending ninety minutes bird watching the children were shown our range of dinghies, canoes and kayaks at the end of their visit - all part of our recruitment effort.

We hope there will be many more visits in the years ahead.



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.

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.





SGBA Committee and Trustees

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	
Assistants - not generally required at Committee meetings		
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	

Trustees

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

SGBA Summer Programme 2017

Issued 22 Feb 2017 v1.3

Date	Day	Start Time	Safety boat	Event	Lead	Information
12-Mar	Sun	0930 - 1300	No	Foreshore working party	Roger Stobbart	Clear access to launch boats to river/creek, relocate winch, install benches.
12-Mar	Sun	1330 - 1630	No	'go sailing' (For kids aged 6-11) - Clubhouse	Anne Davis	An afternoon of boaty activities with a team quiz.
23-Mar	Thurs	1930	No	SGBA AGM	Julian Williams	In village hall
26-Mar	Sun	0930 - 1300	No	Foreshore working party	Roger Stobbart	Modify launch area by club house for boat scrub and safer launch access
01-Apr	Sat	1230	Yes 2	Head of the Dart Race	Roger Stobbart	Starts at Totnes to Dartmouth
13-Apr	Thurs	1800	No	Social Sailing & Paddling	Club members	
16-Apr	Sun	0930	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
27-Apr	Thurs	1800	No	Social Sailing & Paddling	Club members	
30-Apr	Sun	930	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
6 & 7 May	Sat & Sun	1000 -1500	No	Members 'Get to know the club Day' - Club House - includes BBQ pm Sat'	Julian Williams & Nick Ager	Meet the SGBA team, our boats and facilities
07-May	Sun	1430	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
11-May	Thurs	1800	No	Social Sailing & Paddling	Club members	
18 & 19 May	Thurs & Fri	0830-1630	Yes 2	PB2 Training course	Bernard Cockfield	
20-May	Sat	pm		RDYC Mini-Rally to Mill Point		
21-May	Sun	1300	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
25-May	Thurs	1800	No	Social Sailing & Paddling	Club members	
27-May	Sat	TBA	No	BBQ	Julian Williams	
30 May - 3 June	Tues - Sat	all day	Yes	Junior Sailing Course	Bridget Barrett	
09-Jun	Thurs	1800	No	Social Sailing	Club members	No paddling support
04-Jun	Sun	1330	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
09-Jun	Fri	TBA	No	Dinghy Course - Adult Beginner & Improver	Roger Astley	
17-Jun	Sat	TBA	No	Toffinue Rally	Neil Millward	
18-Jun	Sun	1100	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
22-Jun	Thurs	1800	No	Social Sailing & Paddling	Club members	
24 or 25 June	Sat/Sun	1230	No	Middleback Cricket vs DSC	Roger Stobbart	Boats out to Middle back then tea in clubhouse
02-Jul	Sun	1200	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
06-Jul	Thurs	1800	No	Social Sailing & Paddling	Club members	
16-Jul	Sun	1000	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
16-Jul	Sun	1100	Yes 2	SGBA Open incorporating RS TERA traveller series - also open to Toppers & Fevas	Charlie Gilmore	
21-Jul	Thurs	1800	No	Social Sailing & Paddling	Club members	
22-Jul	Sat	TBA	No	BBQ	Julian Williams	
26 -30 Jul	Wed - Sun	all day	Yes 2	Junior Sailing course	TBA	
04-Aug	Thurs	1800	No	Social Sailing & Paddling	Club members	
13-Aug	Sun	0930	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
19-Aug	Thurs	1800	No	Social Sailing & Paddling	Club members	
27-Aug	Sun	0930	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
07-Sep	Thurs	1800	No	Social Sailing & Paddling	Club members	
10-Sep	Sun	0930	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
16-Sep	Sat	1430	Yes 2	SGBA Regatta	TBA	
21-Sep	Thurs	1800	No	Social Sailing & Paddling	Club members	
24-Sep	Sun	0930	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
01-Oct	Sun	1400	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
15-Oct	Sun	1330	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
29 Oct	Sun	1100	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
24-Dec	Sun	TBA	Yes	Father Xmas	TBA	

For Club and Social sailing events -Always check the Sailing Events Web site for the latest information on start times
For Social Sailing & Paddling events the SGBA 'Oars & Paddles Officer' or assistant will normally be on hand