



June 2015

Registered Charity No 1154479

Stoke Gabriel Boating Association

Promoting community participation in sailing, kayaking, canoeing and rowing

SGBA News

The New Clubhouse - progress in pictures

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The New Clubhouse



In late October 2014 members started to remove the old clubhouse. Before it could be demolished all the equipment in it had to be removed and stored over-winter ready for the 2015 season.

By mid-November the demolition started in earnest and the Club was fortunate enough to find a buyer for the old building so adding a little more money to the Clubhouse Fund.



A few days later all that was left of the old Clubhouse was some unwanted rubbish.



The New Clubhouse

Even before the old Clubhouse had been completely removed a few of the more energetic members were turning to with a variety of dangerous-looking and heavy tools to clear the quarry face.

It was amazing how much was achieved by so few people and without as much as a cut or bruise.



But the time came when enthusiasm and raw muscle power was not enough and the digger moved in. For the first part of the work the approach to the site was evened out, then a lot of the large blocks were moved and broken up. The old saw bed proved too much however and it was time to get a serious nibbler.

The removal of the saw bed was soon completed and the Club became the proud owner of a lot of rubble. Now what?



The New Clubhouse



With the application of many hands and Neil's little digger, much of the rubble was moved to make a raised bank to the south west of the site. We hope that in the fullness of time this will grass over and provide a picnic spot for members watching the Sunday sailing.

No small boy can resist a fire and several members took on the onerous responsibility of keeping it going.



A well-earned tea break.

The New Clubhouse

With the site cleared and all the way-leaves in place it was now time to really get on with the job and in mid-May the first concrete was poured for the services block.



Levelling the base of the services block which will house the interface between the Clubhouse and the utilities: water, electricity and sewage.

The completed base ready for work to start on the services.



The New Clubhouse

Preparing the services block for the water and sewage pipes.



With the sheathing complete time for an "apple-juice" break.

The services' trench by the permissive path that runs above the foreshore to the quarry at Mill Point.

Although the Club used professional help to dig the trench, the water and sewage pipes were laid by club members. No mean achievement especially since South West water asked for the water pipe to be sheathed in a protective outer tube for half the distance where the base of the trench was particularly rocky and rough.

Fortunately the weather was good and Neil's team soon had the job done.



The New Clubhouse



Mid-June and the pipes are almost completely laid. Here the sewage pipe is joined into the mains drainage by Pump Lane.

At the other end of the pipes they have been brought down to the services block on an oak ramp made by Neil Millward and put into place by Neil and Robert Foster.



And the digger has started to back-fill the trench.

The way ahead

From the Commodore

Now that the services are almost complete the next phase is the construction of the Clubhouse itself. Whilst the main contractors will erect the building there are many other jobs to complete the building that will need the involvement of members. Some of the tasks include:

- Building block work walls up to 1m high, cutting and fitting timber cladding
- Creating gabions for walls
- Specifying floor and wall coverings for all areas including showers and locating suppliers/contractor
- Decorating, carpentry and finishing
- Cleaning the slipway, mud moving and washing

If you would like to help, even if it just a little bit, or just take an interest in the project please do not hesitate to get in touch with [Roger Stobart](#) or [Neil Millward](#).

Editor's note

As well as taking photographs of the work on the new Clubhouse, I have turned my hand to a little of the manual labour but nowhere near as much as the regular band of workers.

Looking at the photographs it is obvious that the same, small group of people are doing all the work. I know that many members are not able to help because of time constraints but I am sure there are lots who could turn their hand to something.

Another Sea Urchins Event

Following the Sea Urchins' session in the pool at Devon Hills in February Neil and Anne held a rowing session on the river in April where some of our younger members were able to develop their rowing and paddling skills.



The start of the session with everyone eager to get on the water



Look - I can row...



.... and so can I

Summer Sailing

Summer sailing started on Sunday 26 April from Mill Point then moved to the foreshore opposite the pontoon because of the building work on the new Clubhouse. Some boats - sufficient to meet expected demand - are stored there and other equipment (spars, foils etc) are available. When the early stages of building work have been completed, it will be possible to move back to Mill Point. Further information will be emailed and put on the website as soon as it is available.

The table, below, shows the proposed sailing dates for your diaries but remember, sailing cannot take place without an OOD and a Safety Boat crew.

The definitive status of a sailing day is shown on the [Sailing and Events web page](#)

Sunday 26 April	11:00
Sunday 10 May	10:00
Sunday 24 May	10:00
Sunday 7 June	09:30
Sunday 21 June	09:30
Sunday 28 June	14:00
Sunday 12 July	14:00
Sunday 26 July	12:00
Sunday 9 August	12:00
Sunday 23 August	10:00
Sunday 6 Sept	11:00
Sunday 20 Sept - Regatta	09:30
Sunday 4 October	10:00
Sunday 18 October	09:30

The SGBA can only work successfully if members play a part in helping to run the the Club's activities.

Nowhere is this more important than the Sailing Events which can only take place if we have the necessary people to run them i.e. OOD and safety boat helm & crew.

We need to find three names for each event before it can go ahead - so, if you can help, please contact the [Sailing Secretary](#).

Winter Talks

Winter talks will return in the Autumn. We are looking for speakers who would be happy to come along and talk for approximately 45 minutes on a topic that is related to sailing, or the river and the surrounding areas. Or anything that would be of interest to members.

Sarah Hunt is looking after these talks and can be contacted by email: sarah@daisyspath.co.uk

For Sale

"Boto" the well known Trout and Sons 20ft gunter gaff ketch is for sale.

At present she is lying at Baltic Wharf. Full details can be found [here](#).



If you are interested contact James Barrett: 07973 776951 / 01803 269039

Charity Concert

The next Stoke Gabriel Concert Series in support of Dart Sailability is on Wednesday 8 July, 7.30pm start in Stoke Gabriel Church.



*Susannah Austin
Guitar and Ukele*



*Stef Conner
Piano*

Singers/songwriters/composers

Admission £8.00 at the door - including a glass of wine.

U16s Free Entry

SGBA Committee and Trustees

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