



All change at the SGBA

Since the last Newsletter the Club has held its AGM and Julian Williams became the Commodore. As well as a new hand at the helm we have a new RYA Principal, Anne Davis; a new Social Secretary, Pam Page; and an additional committee member, Brian Deacon. A complete list of Committee members is on Page 12.

From the Commodore

Well, I'm two months into the role and my feet have hardly touched the ground. I have really enjoyed meeting so many members in the last few weeks.

Your Committee has scored several successes recently. The Boat Jumble and Silent Auction run by the Club at the village's May Day Fair raised £450 for our funds. The Open Day on 6 May, led by Nick Ager, was well organised and will serve as a useful template for similar events in future years. Nick also led a much-enjoyed "Know Your River" session on 20 May, which included both the safety boats taking Dart novices on an educational cruise in local waters. The same day also witnessed the first hiring of the Clubroom for a full day, which brought in a small fee and will, I hope, be the first of many. The first of this year's Junior Sailing Courses has once again demonstrated the beneficial impact of sound administration and many willing volunteers.

Sailors who want to get afloat as a family are now spoilt for choice. Our Wayfarer is back in commission and on its mooring near the Pontoon. The Club's

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Wanderer is now on an easy-use launching trolley next to the Clubhouse. A second Wanderer, 'Bagpuss' will shortly join our flotilla again, on loan from Neil Millward, as in previous years. It will be moored just off the end of the DHNA pontoon on mooring number SM58. Paddlers are equally well served: we have bought two new Double Sit-on-Top kayaks, one of which has been delivered and the second will come shortly; and the number of Single Sit-on-Tops has been boosted by one. They have all been in great demand on recent summer evenings.

We have a waiting list of members wishing to take an Adult Sailing Course. We are trying to make arrangements to satisfy this demand, and will contact those on the waiting list once we have found a solution.

The Committee is working on an initiative to increase the number of members qualified to helm our safety boats at Club events. This places less emphasis on the two-day PB2 course, by accepting alternative qualifications and by introducing practical assessments for experienced boat users which allow for award of the PB2 certificate without the need to pay for the full course. This should not only ease the task of filling the duty roster for Sunday sessions, but also permit a larger number of members to access Blue Hills and Michael B for personal use, for training and recreation. Details will be promulgated by email later this summer, when we have finalised the details.

Our new Social Secretary, Pam Page, has already set up a musical evening at Mill Point (on Friday 16 June; details elsewhere in this Newsletter); there will be more BBQs there too. She has promising plans in hand for a programme of winter talks, as well - but let's enjoy the summer before looking that far ahead.

Many members will remember with a smile the Club's involvement in the village carnival in past years: 'The Millpool Challenge'. We want to revive it this year, to include at least a Duck Race, canoe and kayak races, and maybe the Zorbing Balls. We can't do it without a team of volunteers, of course. It would be great to see some new faces helping with this: Nick Ager will be pleased to hear from you (nick.ager@gmail.com).

Do enjoy our lovely river and our super Clubhouse this summer – remember, as someone once said, 'Life is not a dress rehearsal!'.



Julian Williams - Commodore

Some members are understandably surprised that our new Commodore does not own a boat – not a gin palace, not a yacht, nor even a dinghy – although he does own a small Zodiac. But he is far from being a land-lubber. Julian started sailing as a CCF Naval cadet at the age of 16, in yachts run by the London Sailing Project. This sparked an ambition for a career at sea, which he achieved by serving 33 years in the Royal Navy on Destroyers and Aircraft Carriers.

Having crewed in cross channel races in his teens, Julian took part in the Fastnet in 1971 and two years later crewed a Nicholson 36 in the Plymouth to Gibralter race. Since coming to the village in 2011 Julian has been fortunate to race in Dartmouth Regattas in some very competitive yachts – but he finds that each year the bruises are bigger than the year before. He now greatly enjoys racing in RDYC's Wednesday evening series in SJ32 yacht, Seajade. So he seems to have done well sailing yachts owned by other people – some might say he's no fool!

Many members will remember first meeting Julian when he was in charge of the fund raising for the SGBA's new Clubhouse. We all know what a remarkable success that was and we look forward to his tenure of the Club's helm.





On the Water 2017

Junior Sailing

The first Junior Sailing Course for 2017 ran from 30 May to 3 June with eighteen kids out on the water every day. The Club is truly grateful to all those who helped make it a tremendous success. It would be untoward to single out any one of the people involved but the Course Coordinator is not only present all week but has spent weeks beforehand putting everything into place; so well done Bridget.



The photographs can be found [here](#)



The Wayfarer

In 2014 two members of Dittisham SC, Mr and Mrs Benns, donated a Wayfarer to the SGBA with the intention that it should introduce some of our younger members to sailing larger boats. It was declared "first-rate" by the, then, Quartermaster but needed some work to strengthen the foredeck and required fittings for a fore-and-aft mooring. The work duly carried out in early 2015 gave the Club two excellent seasons of sailing in this delightful boat.

At the end of 2016, it was beginning to look tired again but with the marvellous advantage of the workshop in the Clubhouse it was completely re-furbished over the winter. The hull was cleaned, filled where necessary and epoxied; a new centre board was made; and the foredeck filled with foam between the skins.



The Wayfarer is available to all members who have paid the additional boat fee. It is moored on the beach beyond the DHNA pontoon. Like the Wanderer, Bagpuss, which is on mooring SM58 it is easily accessible by rowing the Club's rowing dinghy, a blue Bonwitco boat, berthed on the Commercial berth - the last berth on the left-hand side of the pontoon before the hammerhead. There is thus no heaving of a heavy boat along the foreshore or up the slipway and no wading in cold muddy water. Civilised dinghy sailing awaits!





Test Rigging Day

In the middle of April the Quartermaster (yachts), River Lovejoy, organised a test rigging and general information day at the Clubhouse. The idea was to rig as many of the boats as possible, to identify and fix any problems and for anyone not familiar with the boats to find out more about them.

There was an excellent turn out and most of the fleet of 24 boats was checked; large amounts of shock cord replaced and most of the boats pressure washed. We even got as far as greasing several partially-seized trailer wheels.

It was a tremendously useful day because over the past couple of years the Club's focus has been on the new Clubhouse and the fleet had become a little neglected. Now we have a well maintained fleet.

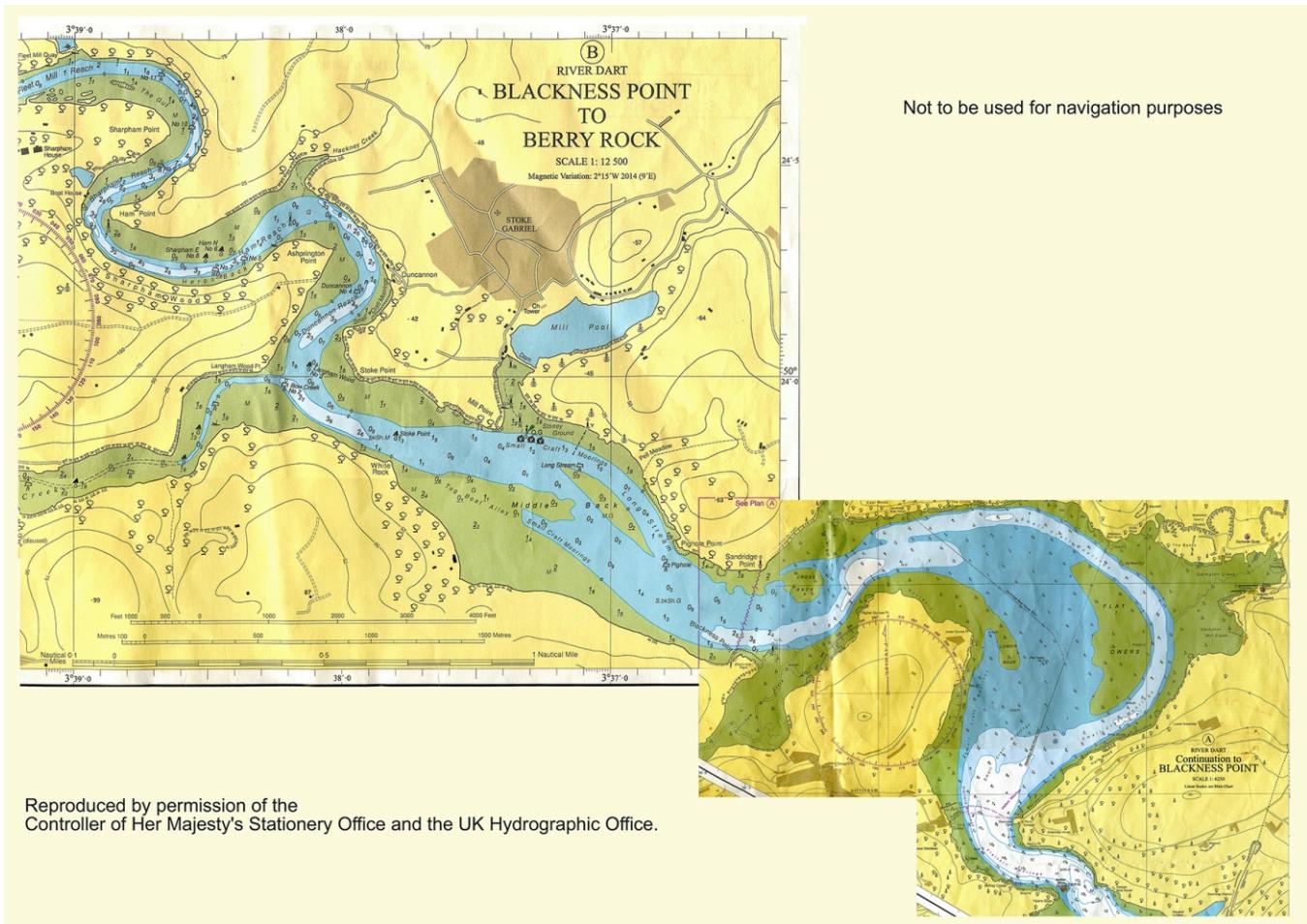




Know Your River

Nick Ager ran a session on 20 May in the Clubhouse and on the River for people wanting to get to know more about the River Dart.

The onshore part of the day used a chart made by scanning and printing in A4 tiles to give an A2 chart. We now have permission to print this chart on A2 so long as it used strictly for teaching purposes and not for navigation. If a member needs a copy for this purpose please contact sgba@gpocock.co.uk.





Social Programme

First of all a warm welcome to our new Social Secretary, Pam Page, and our thanks to Anne Davis who has given us an excellent social programme over the past few years.

Go Sailing

Anne's last activity was "Go Sailing!" - an afternoon of boaty activities with a team quiz for kids aged 6 - 11 which was held in the SGBA Clubhouse in mid-March. This was a great success with the participants learning about navigation, wind and tides, how to tie knots, how to use an outboard motor and how to rig a dinghy.



Learning about outboard motors



Learning to tie knots



The winning team

The May Fair

Under the guidance of Brian Deacon and Pam Page the Club ran a stall at the Stoke Gabriel May Fair. The customers were offered a wide range of boat jumble and a number of valuable prizes in a silent auction. Clearly there had been a lot of garage tidying and the Club was able to put on display a range of sailing clothing, rigging spares, books and electronics.

Despite the weather, which varied between wet and very wet, the total takings after the £10 admission fee was £510. The Club was very happy to make a £60 donation towards the new south porch of the church which left £450 for the SGBA.





Social Programme

Upcoming Events

On 16 July we will be holding a Summer Solstice Jazz and Pimms night at the Clubhouse. Club member Neil Maya is a jazz saxophonist and he will be joined by a duo to play jazz standards. The BBQ will be available for members to cook their own food.

Adults are requested to make a minimum donation of £5 per head.

The Neil Maya Trio

Cool jazz and pimms!

Friday 16th June 6-10pm (Live jazz 7-9pm)
@SGBA boat house
Suggested min donation £5. Glass of Pimms on arrival



JIM MARTIN RAF CBE, Commodore SGBA 1995 - 1998

It is with regret that we have to report the sad death in December 2016 of Jim Martin, the former Commodore and Treasurer of the SGBA.

Jim and Meta came to Stoke Gabriel on his retirement from the RAF in 1990 following a long and successful career that saw him promoted to Air Commodore and the award of the CBE when he became Head of the RAF Dental Branch.

Long before, in the early 60's, a neighbour suggested that he come for a day out to try sailing. This ignited a passion which became a key element in Jim's life: firstly as a very proficient dinghy sailor and racer; and latterly in cruising his beloved yacht Slioch either up and down the English coast or over to the Channel Islands and France.

On moving to Stoke Gabriel Jim and Meta joined the SGBA and he enjoyed teaching the children to sail in the Oppies. He became Commodore of the Club in 1995. During his time the lease of the former Clubhouse at Coppice View was renewed and he and the Committee worked with Andy Bibby to facilitate the provision of a small, wooden boat store in the Mill Point quarry, built by Club members. Despite some local opposition, planning permission was granted and the seeds were sown for the eventual gift of the land by Andy Bibby to the Club in 2009 and the erection of the existing Clubhouse in 2016.

SOCIAL SAILING AND PADDLING

We learned from the Survey earlier this year that many members prefer to sail or paddle when others will be on the river, rather than on their own. So we have set up a *What's App* group through which members will get alerts when others are going afloat and through which those in the group can make arrangements with each other.

To join the group, text your name and mobile number to:

River Lovejoy on 07523 544986.

A THIRD TOASTRACK

We will shortly construct a third toastrack at Mill Point, with capacity to store five inflatables. It should be ready by the end of June (to be confirmed by email to all members in due course). The charge for each slot will be only £20 for the remainder of this season.

Members wishing to reserve these slots should apply to River Lovejoy at r.lovejoy@open.ac.uk - first come, first served.

ACCESS TO THE CLUBHOUSE

All members have access to the first floor of the Clubhouse - go and enjoy a coffee on the balcony (please put some coins in the collecting tin). Members who have paid the fee to use Club Boats have access to the ground floor store, and those who have paid for a locker or outboard storage have access to the locker room. Door codes are available from Gaye at gaye.astley@btinternet.com if not already known.

HAVE A SUMMER BBQ AT MILL POINT

Members are reminded that they are welcome to use the gas BBQ stored in the ground floor of the Clubhouse. It burns propane – find and use the small gas bottle in the quarry.

Use it at least 12m away from the building - definitely not in the quarry. Please clean the BBQ after use, and dispose of all rubbish. There is no booking system.

For indoor events, members can hire the Clubroom for modest fees. Details from Georgina at fossword@gmail.com.

NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE

These online Newsletters have been produced since 2012, with 29 editions so far. Before that, newsletters were in printed form only. We have an archive of hard-copy editions extending back to 1979 (albeit not a complete sequence). This treasure of news, memories and events is vulnerable to accidental loss - a risk that we could much reduce by scanning each document and saving it in pdf format. Is there any member, who has a scanner and with time on his or her hands who would be willing to take on this important task? If so, please pass your contact details to sgba@gpocock.co.uk.



MOORING SURVEY

Hannah Wilson, a Marine Science postgraduate student at the University of Plymouth is currently conducting her masters research project in collaboration with SeaTorbay, looking at the social responses of recreational boat users to the deployment of a trial mooring in Torbay this summer.

Members might like to help Hannah by answering a few social survey questions for her as part of a national online survey.

The Survey can be found [here](#).

All answers are completely anonymous and the final results of the national survey will be used to ensure that boat-user feedback is used to develop future mooring trials introduced locally and nationally. Hannah will be acknowledging all participating organisations in her thesis and published results too.

As an added thank you for anyone willing to take part participants will have the opportunity to WIN champagne, a hamper and 4 free tickets to Living Coasts in Torquay.



SGBA Committee and Trustees

Committee

Commodore	Julian Williams	782774
Vice Commodore	Roger Stobbart	782434
Secretary	Lesley Jenkins	782094
Treasurer	Andrew Morrell	01803 550066
Membership Secretary	Gaye Astley	782152
Quartermaster (sail) and Boat Park Officer	River Lovejoy	07523 544986 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	Pam Page	01803 863220
Facilities Officer	Georgina Foss	782018
Communications Officer	Geoffrey Pocock	782044
Junior Sailing	Vacant	
RYA Course Principal	Anne Davis	782235
Committee Member	Nick Ager	782234
Committee Member	Brian Deacon	782582

Assistants - not generally required at Committee meetings

Lockers	Gaye Astley	782152
Bosun	Tom Morris	782702/07799 403788
Feva fleet	Charlie Gillmore	782340
Powerboat Chief Instructor	Vacant	
Legal	Anthony Prowse	782442
Independent Examiner	Peter Waite	

Trustees

Chairman	Neil Millward	782981
	Julian Williams	782774
	Robert Foster	782788
	John Bradbury	782012 / 782010
	Matthew Halkes	782063
	Roger Stobbart	782434
	Anthony Showell	782940



SGBA EVENTS CALENDAR

Date	Day	Start Time	Safety boat	Event	Lead	Information
04-Jun	Sun	1330	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
09-Jun	Thurs	1800.00	No	Social Sailing	Club members	No paddling support
09-Jun	Fri	TBA	No	Dinghy Course - Adult Beginner & Improver	Roger Astley	
16-Jun	Fri	1800-2200	No	Live Jazz at Mill Point Neil Maya trio 7-9pm	Pam Page	Suggested donation £5 per adult. Glass of Pimms on arrival
17-Jun	Sat	TBA	No	Toffinue Rally	Neil Millward	
18-Jun	Sun	1100	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
19-20 June	Mon-Tues	0830-1630	Yes 2	PB2 Training course	Bernard Cockfield	
22-Jun	Thurs	1800.00	No	Social Sailing & Paddling	Club members	
02-Jul	Sun	1200	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
06-Jul	Thurs	1800.00	No	Social Sailing & Paddling	Club members	
16-Jul	Sun	1000	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
16-Jul	Sun	1100.00	Yes 2	SGBA Open incorporating RS TERA traveller series - also open to Toppers & Fevas	Charlie Gillmore	
18 & 19 July	Tues-Wed	0830-1630	Yes 2	PB2 Training course	Bernard Cockfield	
22-Jul	Sat	TBA	No	BBQ	Julian Williams	
26 -30 Jul	Wed - Sun	all day	Yes 2	Junior Sailing course	TBA	
04-Aug	Thurs	1800.00	No	Social Sailing & Paddling	Club members	
13-Aug	Sun	0930	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
19-Aug	Thurs	1800.00	No	Social Sailing & Paddling	Club members	
27-Aug	Sun	0930	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
07-Sep	Thurs	1800.00	No	Social Sailing & Paddling	Club members	
10-Sep	Sun	0930	Yes	Club Sailing & Boating	Roger Astley	
16-Sep	Sat	1430.00	Yes 2	SGBA Regatta	TBA	
21-Sep	Thurs	1800.00	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 Christmas	TBA	

For Club and Social sailing events - Always check the Sailing Events Web site for the latest information.

For Social Sailing & Paddling events the SGBA 'Oars & Paddles Officer' or assistant will normally be on hand.