

Sustainability Town Hall

Wednesday 24 February | 1830hrs | Regatta Room

Members of the Sustainability Working Group (SWG) are always getting comments and suggestions from members about things that concern them. Can the Club do...! What are you doing about ...! We should be doing more about...!!

The Club has had a significant sustainability programme for quite a while, but in recent years members are demanding we do better. The current SWG has had many proposals accepted by the General Committee and progressively being put in place. But do members really know what is going on?

We think it is time to share some of our ideas and programmes, and get input from members as to what is of interest to them.

We also want to share some of our problems and see if you can help the SWG move something forward that you and we are concerned about.

So join us on the 24 February in person or on Zoom for our first "Sustainability Town Hall and let's talk about the:

1. Clean Regatta Programme
2. Carbon Reduction – Solar Energy Project
3. Preventing Single-use Plastics
4. Problems with Recycling – from plastics to sails
5. Pick Up Plastics Campaign – where we can do something different
6. Kellett Island Marine Ecology Study – we need some help!
7. Sustainable Ship Shop – new products and Sustainable T-Shirt Design Competition.
8. Monitoring the Clubs Performance – Sustainability Reporting
9. Sustainability Policy – where should we be looking at next?
10. And anything else?

Sustainability Really Matters Free to all members and their guests. Please book online so we know how many are joining in person and online.



Lessons in Resilience: Rowing the Northwest Passage

Wednesday 17 February | 1830hrs | Tones Room

Join ocean rower Mark Agnew for a talk on February 17 on his journey from the Atlantic to a world's first attempt in the Arctic.

A team of adventurous rowers are embarking on the challenge of a lifetime in 2021 – rowing the Northwest Passage, the Arctic route that links the Atlantic and the Pacific. Among the crew is Mark Agnew, a member of RHKYC. If the team is successful, they will be the first to navigate the Northwest Passage by human power alone in a single season. Sadly, the feat is only possible due to climate change as the

ice is disappearing, rendering the passage open for longer each year. To that end, the team will collect data for climate scientists at New York University and support Big Blue Ocean Cleanup, a plastic pollution NGO.

Despite the warming sea temperatures, the expedition will be brutal and one of the hardest ever undertaken. The crew will face frigid winds, icy temperatures, encroaching icebergs and polar bears. They will row 24 hours a day in shifts – two hours on, two hours off – for around two months to make it from Pond Inlet to Point Barrow.

Join Mark as he describes his journey to the Northwest Passage. Mark has attempted to row the Atlantic twice, each one ending in failure. After he returned from the sea the first time, Mark found his name splashed across the British tabloids. The shortcomings may have been too much, but he overcame the disappointment and set off for another attempt.

Once again, Mark came up short. With everything meticulously prepared, failing again was a big blow. The second expedition left him devastated, bankrupt and distraught. Mark was so passionate about rowing an ocean but



his drive had gone. He was at rock bottom and could see no way out. Mark hoped that time would heal all wounds, but eventually he realised it would take a more proactive effort when the utter misery started to spread to other aspects of his life. During the talk, Mark will discuss the mental framework he put in place that lifted him out of the hole and eventually put him back in a place to row the Northwest Passage. It is a framework that can be applied to every walk of life.

Fee: \$70/person. All the money raised from the talk will go towards the expedition and the research fund.

Please check our website for more details and book online.

