



Wey Kayak Club

Bulletin Christmas 2007

www.weykayak.co.uk

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

First of all, I want to thank Peter, Allan, Amanda and Cathy, along with all the other helpers for laying on a ready enjoyable evening at the Commodore's Dinner. The food was excellent and plentiful, and Paul W did a great job, standing in for Hobo, who was still recovering from his stag night!!!! It was nice to see some of the GB team paddlers there as well. I think there were very impressed with our excellent facilities.

We can reflect on another successful season at the Club. Once again our coaching staff have provided a solid background to all our activities, and we thank them for this. As a club with BCU 'Top Club', and Sport England 'Club Mark' status, the canoeing world recognises the high standard of coaching and club structure that exists at Wey. I am pleased to say that we recently passed a Top Club audit after 3 years in operation. The requirements for this were much higher than first time round and reflects Sport England's push to increase standards, and safeguard youngsters. All our coaches have been asked to put themselves forward for a CRB check.

We have to make a 6 monthly return to Sport England as part of our contract for the funding we received, and our Top Club status. It would be very helpful if you can tick/fill in the boxes in the **Sport England** block on the Membership Form.

I have been delighted to see the Gym being put to such good use, and the MSTG gaining real benefit from it. You may be approached by outsiders to use the Gym, when they realise we have such an excellent facility. All Gym users must be a member of the Centre Clubs, i.e. WKC, BSCA or MSTG. So if you know of somebody who wants to use the Gym, they must join us as a full member.

With winter training well under way, please be aware that at this time of year, conditions on

the river can be difficult. Do not forget that Juniors can only paddle if they are under a coach's supervision, and should never go on the water alone, especially in difficult conditions.

The AGM is set for March 6 2008 at 20.00. Please note in your diaries.

At the AGM we will of course be presenting the Club Trophies. Will all the winners from last year please return these to Jim or leave with Peter Morley by the Hare and Hounds on **January 13**, so we can get them engraved.

In providing the excellent facilities we now have, The Waterside Centre Management Committee stretched its resources to the limit, and this included taking out loans to close on £100k. Most of these loans are with the membership Clubs. The GWC are contracted to pay a reasonable rate of interest for these loans and the funds for this need to be obtained from fund raising and/or increased contributions from the Member Clubs. The Wey KC Committee have decided that the Club should make an additional payment of £5000 to the GWC in 2008, to help pay this interest. This will come from increased fees and reserves.

The 2008 Membership Form is attached. The fees reflect the opportunities and facilities the Club and the GWC has to offer. I am sure that you will agree that you are receiving very good value for money. Do not forget that the Club pays for your Wey Navigation river licence, in the fee we pay to the BCU. It also pays for the Youth section registration, so that all junior beginners are covered by the BCU insurance, without having to pay an individual membership fee. We do also have to pay a fee for all non-BCU senior members, so that they are covered by the BCU Third Party insurance. This sum has been added to the Fees. Please remember, if you have not paid this small extra amount, and you have any problem while canoeing, or are on

Club activities, you will not be covered by the BCU insurance. If it helps, you can pay your fees with up to 4 post dated cheques.

Will ALL Juniors please get their parents or guardians to complete the back of the Membership Form. This is a condition of membership.

Many of our new members will have taken out membership of the Club during 2007, and paid a full year's fees from the month when you joined. To bring you in line with the Club's year to the end of 2008, you will only be asked to pay a balance of the 2008 fees. Those who fit into this group should have an additional form with this bulletin. Please complete this form and return with the Membership form and the appropriate reduced fees.

You will notice on the bottom of the Membership Form, a change to the Club's **Child Protection Officer**. Norma Parlane has held this post for many years but now feels it is time for a change. We are very grateful to Norma acting in this very important role, and are delighted that she will remain as our Membership Secretary. Annie Welch, who holds a similar position at the school where she works, has agreed to take on the position and we thank her.

The coaches have decided to continue with the more formal approach for those coming to the club for the first time. We have set up a

programme of 4 weeks initial training, with small targets of achievement, on a structured basis. This will allow more helpers to fit in on the day.

WANTED...

The coaches are happy to relieve anyone of unused "flat" paddles or boat seats that may be lying about in your garages or sheds. They can be put to good use!

Would all juniors please make sure that your parents read this newsletter, so that they know what is happening at the Club.

Do not forget the Boxing Day Paddle - ideal way to blow away the cobwebs! Meet at the Club at 10.30 for an 11.00 departure and a paddle up to The Parrot, Shalford.

In 2008 we will be posting the Newsletter on the website, and not sending it in the land mail. Please make full use of the website. It is continually updated by Richard Cawthorn. Have a look at the Dinner photos. www.weykayak.co.uk

The Commodore, and all the Committee, wish you an enjoyable time over Christmas, and the New Year, and we look forward to good paddling, and a great facility in 2008.

Calendar '07-'08

26th Dec. - Boxing Day Paddle

6th Jan. - Frank Luzmore

13th Jan. - Hare & Hounds

27th Jan. - Waterside A

3rd Feb. - Thameside 1

10th Feb. - Hare & Hounds

10th Feb. - Waterside B

17th Feb. - Thameside 2

24th Feb. - Waterside C

6th March - AGM / Presentations

9th March - Waterside D

16th March - Royal

21st - 24th March - Devises to Westminster



FANCY DRESS PADDLE!

SATURDAY 22ND

DECEMBER.....

**SEE MIKE WALSH - SOCIAL SEC.
OR LOOK OUT FOR POSTERS.**

Sale! January 13th at Hare & Hounds. Boat Shed Clearance. Pick up a bargain!

[Have you ordered your new WEY top? See details in Club or on the Website](#)