
BCCC Matters! March 2019

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BCCC Matters!

March 2019

Here's a round-up of what's happening here at B3C...

View from the chair

This from James...

Spring seems to be sneaking up on us. For those who've been down to the canal you'll have started to see bulbs flowering and the trees starting to bud up. With the nights getting longer as well we head towards our 40th summer season – which is really exciting. We'll be getting ready for this over the next month, with a barn tidy, new boats arriving and older boats being checked over. For the racers, the season is in full swing and we are halfway through both the Waterside and Thameside series' – more on that from Tina. We've also agreed our first set of courses for the year. With the changes to the British Canoeing qualifications these are a little different – more details on the courses to follow. We'll also be running taster sessions on the first Saturday of every month, to help more people discover what we love about paddling. Finally, as this is our 40th year we are organising lots of events to bring the club together and celebrate – see 'Put this on your Calendar' below.

See you on the water soon!



B3C Racing News

This from [Tina Looi...](#)

Winter and [Devizes to Westminster](#) Challenges

The winter races are in full swing. The **Mytchett Barbarians** had a good start in [Waterside](#) A (13.5 miles 21 portages). **Mike Rees-Clark** and **Edd Dobson** (Devizes) secured a podium finish in the K2 Senior group at 1:46:34. **Liz Murnaghan** and **Vicky Metcalf** (Pangbourne) were the fastest ladies in the Canadian doubles at 2:24:10- shaving 10 minutes off their personal best as did **Sarah Francis** 2:39:38. Good performances from **Rob Ames** (2:57:0) in K1, new entrants **David Everest** (2:25:26) and **Hannah Gallagher** (2:35:53) – third fastest junior in the K1 Ladies and from **Nick Hobley** and **Chris Davidson** (2:30:17) in K2. Brilliant performances from Sarah Francis (2:16:56) and K2 crew, Nick Hobley and Chris Davidson (2:03:13), who took part in [Thameside](#) 1 (12 miles 12 portages).

In the past 3 years, **David Howie** has been the main coach to our affiliated members, Lord Wandsworth College (LWC) preparing the juniors for the DW Challenge. This year **Mike Rees-Clark** and **Paul Batchelor** continued B3C's association with LWC supporting the coaching of their DW team. Five K2 teams and one K1 took part in Waterside A. Great performance from K2 Junior crews - William Bruce & Jack Griffin (2:14:20), William Banham & William Carver (2:46:43), K2 Junior Ladies – Allegra Cooper & Josephine Laking (2:35:23), Zoe Baker & Sophie Wilkinson (2:48:30), K2 Junior Vet crew, Molly and Neil Wilson (2:49:47), K1 Oliver Fulford (2:43:50).

Well done to all who took part!

Forthcoming winter races

10/03/2019	Waterside B	Newbury to Aldermaston and back 17.5 miles 19 portages
17/03/2019	Thameside 2	Reading CC - Reading to Marlow 19 miles 8 portages
24/03/2019	Waterside C	Pewsey to Newbury 23 miles 35 portages
07/04/2019	Waterside D	Devizes to Newbury 34 miles 35 portages
07/04/2019	Deadline for DW entries	http://dwrace.co.uk/
19/04/2019 -22/04/2019	Devizes to Westminster Race	125 miles race 77 locks

DW Volunteer call

If you'd like to volunteer during the Devizes to Westminster Challenge over Easter, please contact [Rachel Dennis](#).

DW Support Request

If you are planning to spectate at any points along the route, supporting in the races or gaining insight into the race, and can help [Dave Everest](#), a B3C DW competitor, please [contact him](#).

This from Dave Everest...

"I'm doing the DW this year over the 4 days in a K1 and although I've pretty much sorted the drop off & pickups, I'm a bit lacking on any support team during the race. My main concern would be getting a fluid top up about half way through each day - so I wondered if any members who may be following or supporting in the races would be willing to carry a spare bottle to top me up at some point; and that's pretty much all the support I'm aiming to need."

B3C Hasler and Hasler Races

It's approximately 9 weeks to the B3C Hasler which takes place on Sunday 19th May 2019. The B3C Hasler marks the start of the Southern Regional Hasler season after the winter break. As the days are getting longer, now is a good time to start your training. If you are looking for a group to train with, there are groups who train mainly on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings. It is not coach-led, it is peer training. If you'd like to join these groups, please contact [Rob Ames](#) or [Tina Looi](#).

If you'd like to receive race related news like the forthcoming Haslers, please update your email preferences – link can be found at the bottom of the newsletter.

Stop press - Waterside B

This via Sarah Francis...

[Results are up](#). Racing we had Mike and Edd, Liz and Vicky, Dave E, and myself. Extremely challenging winds to race in, with 45 mph gusts, and a strong base wind, making the race very hard. Portaging a K1 in those conditions is much harder than portaging a K2, and I don't think portaging a C2 would be much fun either! Every single finisher is to be commended. Pictured: me portaging (ed. the weather looks fine! whats the problem!).





For the Freestylers

Have you seen George and Isabel out at the canal doing some awesome tricks with their playboats - spinning, cartwheels, flips and somersaults in a kayak? The competitive side of playboating is called freestyle kayaking. Next weekend there's the oldest and biggest freestyle kayaking festival in the world on Hurley Weir. The [Hurley 30 Paddlesport](#) Festival takes place on 16th and 17th March 2019. There are workshops, live coaching, trade stands, and lectures – plenty to get involved in...

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<https://www.thehurleyfoundation.co.uk/hurley30>

Free Slalom kayak and Paddle

We have been offered a free Ziggy slalom kayak. Good condition for it's age. If you want an old style 4 metre slalom boat you just need to arrange collection from North Warnborough. Narrow hips/small bum a must!
Email [Liz Murnaghan](mailto:Liz.Murnaghan) for details.



Sea Trips

From Brian Biffin...

At last I have been able to put together a plan for a sea trip off the Gower Peninsula.

Details below:

The campsite, [Skysea - Port Eynon](#). You will note that they do not accept groups. The rule will be waived in our case! Feel free to book yourself in but add the letters "KC" after your name (denotes kayak club).

Cost / night: Tent + 2 : £25 Really big tent : £30. EHU available at extra cost. Indoor accommodation available right next door at the [Youth Hostel](#). There is more luxurious accommodation available, such as The [Rickyard B&B](#). Hearty evening meals available at the Ship Inn.

So here is the plan:

Saturday 22 June: Have a good shakedown paddle in the afternoon: Paddle out to Port Eynon Point. Surfing / rock dodging, depending on conditions. Observe the strength of the tidal stream at Port Eynon point! Option to arrive Friday if you wish.

Sunday 23 June: launch 9am, arrive Oxwich Bay 11am, option to paddle on a bit before turning back and landing by hotel. Perhaps some folk would prefer to be self contained and not have lunch in the hotel. This would save having to hike all the boats off the beach and park them in the hotel garden for security. We would have all afternoon to enjoy the overfalls off Oxwich point and return to Port Eynon. (7Km each way).

If the weather conditions/sea state are poor on the day, it should be possible to just explore Port Eynon Bay itself. If weather is really bad, there is an excellent coastal path to Oxwich Bay. Paddling standard: Confident 2* and above, please.

Full size sea kayaks only.

[Please contact](#) me directly if interested.



Checkout our [calendar](#) on our website. Did you know you can subscribe to the B3C calendar? Just click on the Subscribe button at the [B3C Calendar page](#) to show B3C events in your own calendar.

Saturday 16 March, from 9.30am (and every third Saturday of the month).

Hare and Hounds. Adjust your preferences (in the footer to this email) if you want to receive racing notices. [Tony Gallagher](#) is organising.

Saturday 13 April, 7pm until 10pm – **Quiz and Chips!** At the Canal Centre, Mytchett. This will test your general knowledge, that of the Canal, and maybe some questions on the club. **£5 per person**, to cover your fish and chips and soft drinks. [Book online at Eventbrite](#). Feel free to bring your own drinks.

Saturday 20 April, 10am onwards - **Barn Spring Clean.** All hands welcome, even if you can only spare half an hour. The Barn has suffered over the last year while we have concentrated on the new cabin. It's desperately in need of a spruce up. We'd also like to clear as much space on the right hand side of the barn so that we can install some cushion matting and a bit of a gym. Strategically planned for after the usual hare and hounds. Contact: [Bill Hansell](#)

Saturday 27 April, 10am - **B3C Elimination Race.** We've all seen the cyclists do it, where the final racer at the end of each lap is eliminated! The B3C race will have a shorter course for GP/Tourer and a longer course for racers, but all on the water at the same time in the same event. **This event is free**, with tea and toast in the clubhouse after. More details to follow. Again book online at Eventbrite. Contact: [Pina Napolitano](#)

The club now has its introduction to kayaking courses in the diary. These will follow the new British Canoeing Discover syllabus. The cost is £35 per person, for 5 weeks coaching. **Course 1 runs from Tuesday 23 April, and Course 2**

from 11 June. Both courses start at 6pm, ending at 7:30pm. Contact: [Pina Napolitano](#).

First Saturday of the month from May. **Taster sessions.** This is aimed at those who've not paddled before and the sessions follow the British Canoeing Start Syllabus, with an emphasis on fun and enjoying being on the water. [Book online at Eventbrite](#).

Sunday 18 May, from 9am – **B3C Hasler race** - see earlier

June (TBC) – **B3C Cardboard Boat Race!** Can you make a boat from cardboard/paper and paddle it over a short course? Costs, date and rules TBC. I'd also like some volunteers to lead on this one – please get in touch with [James Freemantle](#).

Saturday 20 July, from 10:45am - **B3C Summer Shindig!** This 40th Anniversary Shindig will hopefully be the biggest yet! Taking place after the Hare and Hounds (do come down and give it a go), this will be a celebration of the club over its 40 years. BBQ and on/off water games as usual, and **hopefully an opportunity to get all our club boats on the water at once!** If you'd like to volunteer to help with this event, please let me know. We are very much hoping to have many of our founder members attending, so put this date in your diary now!

So a full schedule for the next few months. If you have ideas for events, or would like to support them in any way please let [James Freemantle](#) (our intrepid chairman) know. Our club is only as good as it is as people give their time to help!



Club Kit

There's no excuse not to be blinged up to the eyeballs with B3C branded kit. It's really good stuff and the editor highly recommends the B3C bobble hats.

Here's the link to our supplier [Granite Sports](#).



Your chance to contribute to the Newsletter.

Have you got something of general interest to the B3C circulation? A trip, race or competition report? Something you've been up to in a boat? Some good pictures of our paddlers or waterways? An event you think would be good to attend? [Let us know](#) and we'll get something in the monthly newsletter.



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