



## October 2022

The 2022 season is coming to an end with the lake level still down around 13 metres, recent rainfall has not really had any appreciable effect on the level. Sailing activity ground to a complete halt some weeks ago with only the occasional canoe and paddle boarder out .

The extraordinary low level at the lake is comparable to 1976 and 1989, and has continued to attract a number of visitors to view the remnants of former family homes. You will have noticed the lake returning many objects once thought lost forever--- tools, hats, sunglasses, shoes and just recently a fishing rod which Nick Jones will try and restore.

There are always two sides to a story and the bonus here is that we have found ourselves with an opportunity to try and complete a range of maintenance activities .

With only a couple of week ends before winter closedown it would be great to see you on Sundays to help whittle away the jobs.



**Reminder - The Club Annual General Meeting** is booked for December 3<sup>rd</sup> , to be held in Llanidloes . It is hoped as many as possible can attend. Times, venues and menus to follow.

# Canoe Club

Richard Anderson

During October we successfully transitioned our Thursday evening sessions from the lake to Llanidloes swimming pool. We are now in our third week and sessions are well attended, with everyone developing important skills to take back out on the water next year. We will have everyone rolling by Christmas! Thanks to Tim for his great support and to Ted for being our demo bot and general helpfulness.



We also enjoyed a great day on Montgomery canal, paddling from Welshpool towards Pool quay. This is definitely something we will build more of into the calendar for next season. To which end, some of the leaders have also been busy scouting (playing?) local rivers to find suitable venues for club trips.



Back at the lake a small work party was formed to extend the canoe racking to allow better and safer storage for club boats, as well as providing extra capacity for member's own boats. Thanks to Des and Stuart for this.

## 2022 the Club working with the Community SUP – Canoe – Sailing a look back

Earlier this year Andy J cooperated with a charity working with young **Palestinians** and brought a group to Clywedog for a SUP experience. The session was so well received he has been asked to continue this again next year



The SUP club was also happy to offer on the water sessions to local **Scout Explorers, Guides, Rangers and Brownies**, this looks as though it will be a regular feature with these organisations, increasing the club profile and hopefully increasing our junior memberships.

We are also building a stronger relation with **Llanidloes High School**. For some years we provided a base for their Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, briefly paused during covid, we look forward to seeing them here regularly in the future. Through Richard Anderson the school was able to organise a highly successful multi activity taster day for fifth formers.



Lastly, we cooperated with **Powys CC** as part of their "Summer of Fun" by laying on a busy schedule aimed at introducing "first timers" to the water activities available at Clywedog.



## Sailing – the 2022 season -

Formal sailing has officially now finished, we can only keep our fingers crossed that the winter rainfall will suffice to normalise the water level for next season.

At this time of the year we have to winterize the club- for the boats this means a final check for any repairs, cleaning and inverting the hulls, dry and store the sails. The jetty will be disconnected and towed into the creek- level permitting – this gives it some protection from the winter storms.

All remaining boats should be off the water by 13 November, to avoid storm damage, dinghy owners are advised to take their boats home over the winter period.

The water level being where it is will mean some of this work may be delayed past the work party date, although these photos of Mark Owen's cruiser show how quickly things can change....



Halcyon days



Who pulled the plug ???



Its alright now..phew !

For **2023** we are putting together a sailing program for early in the New Year- if you have any thoughts on what you would like to see included let us know via email below – equally let us know if you can help support sailing in any way.

### **New Rib**

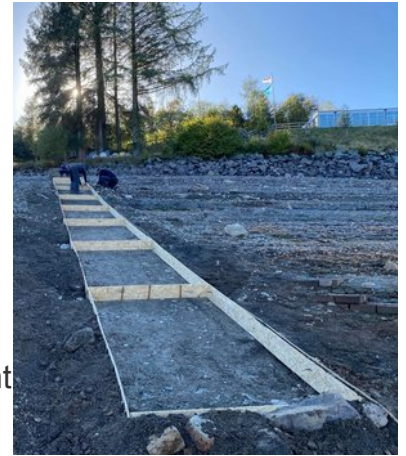
The Brig rib “No 2”, now 13 years old, is being retired, it will be replaced by a 4.6 metre XS brand rib, manufactured in Hull, a similar size and configuration. We are hoping to take delivery in March.

## **Sailability with Mick Crehan-**

Mick has been talking with the British Blind Society to see if we can engage blind and visually impaired persons in some of our water based activities next season. Our Sailability side has been quite limited for the last two years , so here's hoping we can look forward to renewing old acquaintances next year.

## CLUB MAINTENANCE New Jetty Access Path

Earlier this season Kevin Andrews suggested building a concrete path to improve access to the jetty particularly at times of low water level at the lake. Work started on the 15<sup>th</sup> October with excavation of the path. Over the following two weeks his idea became a reality, the ground whacked flat, shuttering put in place and the concrete poured in two batches to allow for the weather.



Kevin has driven this project, and would like to offer a big thanks to **Ryan Martin Agricultural Machinery**, and their staff for their sponsorship with equipment to help us up at the Club to put in this new access path which will help open up the sailing club to those with limited mobility.



Kevin *“All the local businesses, farmers and concrete suppliers have been so helpful and accommodating, without their help this project would not have been possible.”*

Special mention for Kevin with support from Doug, Jason, Richard and Stef who all pitched in to drive the work forward. Of course none of this could have been accomplished without Maggie, Sue and Tracey keeping the teams fed and watered.

Kevin *“Massive thanks to you all and look forward to seeing you up at the sailing club next summer at one of our barbecues. You will all be very welcome.”*



Over the last month members have also spent time collecting some of the amazing number of tyres that came to light with the receding water

now we need a plan to recycle them.....

Separately- while the water was so low we took the opportunity to look at the jetty control or “twinning” lines which had been in situ for around 20 years. The inspection showed that we needed to replace the two main anchors as well as the control lines. - all the parts are on site to be laid once the jetty can be moved to its winter storage.

## **CLUB HOUSE - HOUSEKEEPING.....**

We ask all members- and their visitors- to remember these few simple rules for everyone's benefit. Please **sign in** family or friends into the **visitor book** on the reception desk.

We all have to take responsibility for keeping the clubhouse and grounds clean.

Take home all rubbish you may generate

Wash, dry and put away any crockery and cutlery you may use, leave the galley clean.

If using showers use the mop or squeegee to dry off any water on the floor and

**PLEASE** only paper towels into the bin.

We are a volunteer club and everyone has a responsibility to keep the place clean, tidy and secure.

## **RNLI and CLUB ON THE WATER SAFETY ADVICE**

Although the club facilities will be closed after the work party on 13 November, weather conditions permitting you can still access the water. Conditions are now considerably cooler, so follow the lone sailing/paddling guidelines in your handbook.

If you get into trouble in the water, remember to **Float to Live**: lean back, using your arms and legs to stay afloat. **MOST IMPORTANTLY CONTROL YOUR BREATHING.** Then call for help or swim to safety.

## **Buoyancy Aids – reminder**

Please check your BA is fit for purpose, any tears, rips on the webbing or crushing of the internal foam can render it dangerous. Check your BA fits securely and any excess on the straps tucked out of the way so it will not snag.

Childrens BA's with leg straps - make sure they are attached.

# Calendar October onwards ...

There are no programmed events at club for the next three weekends, however if you have time to help we have a variety of jobs which can be done now and which will help take the pressure off the work party weekend.

Timings each day 1030-1100 onwards :

Oct 23

Oct 30

Nov 06

Nov12-13 Work Party Weekend- as many as can come to help close the club for winter.  
All caravans remove from club.

Dec 03 Club AGM details of time and venue to follow

**In the meantime when visiting club when there is no organised activity or when closed, please follow the guidelines for lone sailing and paddling**

**Be aware of the weather conditions and check the forecast.**

Wear appropriate clothing, a buoyancy aid and carry some means of attracting attention - there is actually a phone signal on part of the lake,

Let a 3rd party know your schedule, and have an emergency contact onshore.

Canoeists and Paddleboarders go out in 3's, and have an emergency contact onshore.

**There is an emergency phone in the yellow container on the wall outside the OD office.**

**The Emergency Services number is 999 or 112.**

**If asked the Club Grid Ref is 52°28'37.0"N 3°37'09.4"W.**

**Remember to lock up securely when you leave.**

**Any comments,suggestions send to myself below or to club secretary Gillian**

Useful Links:	
Club Website	<a href="https://clywedogsailing.org.uk">https://clywedogsailing.org.uk</a>
Members Facebook	
Newsletter: send any news and pictures to...	<a href="mailto:paulfeely@btinternet.com">paulfeely@btinternet.com</a>