



## End of 2024 season is nigh.....

### Hi Everyone

We are almost at the end of this season.

Last weekend- 20<sup>th</sup> October- we had the AGM at the clubhouse- despite every thing Storm Ashley could throw at us there was a good turnout. Thanks to Des for chairing and steering the meeting to a speedy end in time for lunch. Also thanks to Gillian taking the minutes and also to all other members who have contributed to the running of the club over the season.

As always there is a plea for more assistance from the membership for support with the myriad of jobs that require attention plus with the running of activities and events- all of which are appreciated but do need arms and legs to make them happen.

**This weekend 27-28th-** we have the work party close down where the clubhouse, grounds and club kit is broken down and safely stored for the winter period. There is a lot involved , a list of jobs is published in the clubhouse. It would be great to have as many helpers as possible over the 2 days .

That said, although the club facilities will be limited, you are still welcome to use the lake in line with the **Paddling and Sailing Safety Guidance and Club Lone Activity Policy** at the end of the newsletter.

# **CANOE CLUB** Richard Anderson

Richard will be in touch regarding winter pool sessions. These are quite expensive so will require minimum numbers with commitment .

## **Cruiser Corner and Boat Park**

An increasing number of boats and canoes are left at the club and never used. Whilst there is sometimes a good reason for this , it is not within the spirit of the club and restricts availability of space for new members. Club rules call for all craft to be seaworthy, a number of stored craft are now not in good condition and the owners are being contacted to remedy this.

A gentle reminder that boat **road** trailers should not be left at the club.

## **Clubhouse Galley and Security**

Remember if you have used the galley facility then please wash up, dry and put away everything you have used.

If you are last to leave the clubhouse, make sure the water and all lights are turned off, the front door locked and both car park gates are closed and locked.

**A calender will come out soon for 2025.**

**Hopefully see you at the workparty if not look forward to meeting up again next season.**

# BUOYANCY AIDS (BA's) REMINDER

**Please remember** that at all times on the water and on the jetty you should be wearing a properly fitted buoyancy aid that is in good condition is a good fit, and preferably with leg straps. There have been recalls with certain imported brands so make sure your BA is also CE certified, Any doubts ask. SUP waist aids are not acceptable.

Juniors should wear a buoyancy aid if they are near the waters edge. We have already had to ask people to leave the water because they think they know better.

This is a no exception rule and is part of the agreement with Hafren Dyfrdwy granting us use of the lake.

## POLICY for LONE ACTIVITY SAILING and PADDLING

Hafren Dyfrdwy/Severn Trent has asked the Committee to advise members and visitors to follow guidelines to promote a safer environment for sailing/paddling without wishing to prohibit activity. Clywedog is a remote location so these precautions are in your own interest and will satisfy the Water Authority to allow us to continue to provide access.

Members choosing to use the lake when there is no scheduled safety cover must take into consideration the weather conditions and evaluate their abilities to handle an emergency situation without support.

### **This means:**

- Be aware of the weather conditions and forecast.
- Wear appropriate clothing, a buoyancy aid and carry some means of attracting attention - there is some phone signal on the lake
- Let a 3rd party know your schedule, and have an emergency contact onshore.
- Canoeists and Paddle boarders are recommended to go out in 3's, and have an emergency contact onshore.

# PADDLING and SAILING SAFETY GUIDANCE

On a bright day the lake looks inviting, if you intend going on the water then look at the advice from Canoe Wales GoPaddling.

This advice echoes the Club lone sailing policy emphasising that with a bit of extra planning you can safely enjoy your paddling .

Their top tips are :

- 1. Check the weather, check the water**
- 2. Plan your session**
- 3. Be prepared for cold water and dress appropriately**
- 4. Be a social paddler**
- 5. Wear a buoyancy aid- make sure it fits, no rips or damage, CE mark.**
- 6. Take a phone or VHF radio**
- 7. Take spare clothes**
- 8. Think about food and drink**
- 9. Stay hydrated**
- 10. Enjoy your paddling!**

Follow their link to look for more detail...

<https://gopaddling.info/blog/tips-and-advice/warm-up-for-paddling-this-winter/>



# USE OF CLUB EQUIPMENT POLICY

The Use of Club Equipment policy is intended to support members safely in the early stages of their sailing and paddlesports development.,

The club maintains a fleet of craft, including sailing dinghies, paddleboards, and kayaks as well as a selection of personal equipment for member's use during club instructor-led activity sessions. The club fleet is also used to run community-based events such as open days and taster sessions.

**For the 2025 season there will continue to be no charge for member's use of club craft and equipment during club sessions.**

Club instructor-led activity sessions, when there are appropriate qualified instructors and safety measures in place, are primarily:

- Sailing – Sundays
- Kayaking – Thursday evening canoe club
- Other ad-hoc and programmed events which will be communicated in advance

The club sessions are designed to provide a pathway for new members, those wishing to develop skills in the various disciplines, gain qualifications, progress in their chosen discipline, e.g., racing, or just to enjoy the activity as part of a group session. As such club craft and equipment are not generally available for casual use outside of the prescribed activities.

Use of club sailing dinghies is only permitted when safety cover is active on the lake, provided by a club helm who holds at least RYA PB2 certificate.

**Members wishing to enjoy the activities on the lake outside of the club-led sessions are expected to follow the club lone sailing/paddling guidelines and to have a level of competency in the respective activity, be confident in their ability to self-rescue and to rescue others in their group, and to provide their own craft and personal equipment.**

## REMEMBER:

**A proper fitting buoyancy aid is mandatory for all activity on the water .**

**Waist belt buoyancy aids are not permitted for use on the lake.**

Complete the relevant equipment log book so we have a record of usage.

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

Original Graphics – thanks to Chris Dartnell