



# AUGUST 2025

## Hi Everyone

The season is now well under way, we have had some brilliant weather leading to excellent sailing and paddling days. The lake water level has been at an all-time high but is now being dropped in response to the drought conditions further downstream. Currently the lake level is further down at -3.2 metres, that is 3 metres lower than this time in 2024. You can check the level in real time on the Natural Resource Wales website [Clywedog Lake level](#)

Fingers crossed we do not have a rerun of the mud bath that was 2022 !

and...Oh Yes... **OnBoard** is back !



## What's been happening..

**3<sup>rd</sup> May** the clubhouse was busy as we again hosted a marshal check point for the **HOWUM Ultramarathon**.

The 30 mile circular route starts and finishes in Llanidloes.

It is a great local fixture that raises the club profile.



## June

We enjoyed another Social Sunday with plenty of good paddling and sailing combined with a BBQ.

Thanks Maggie, Diane, Richard and Kevin.



## JUNIOR SAILING

In July we have been really pleased to start “**Get Onboard**” training sessions for junior beginner sailors.

The RYA Get Onboard scheme is designed to introduce children and teens aged 8 to 16 to sailing in a safe, fun, and structured environment.



We have welcomed six juniors to the course so far and, led by Keith as Senior Instructor, everyone has learnt the fundamentals of sailing between two points, tacking, rigging boats, and understanding wind direction and boat control.

Everyone is doing really well and in Keith's words "the group are well engaged and learning fast and a joy to teach". Thank you to our junior sailors for your enthusiasm and great effort on the water. We look forward to seeing everyone develop further over the next few weeks.



Thanks also to Paul, Stef, and Selina for providing additional support and instruction.

**21 June** Rob Fearn was able to launch his 50 year old converted Drascombe Drapper for the first time this year , he enjoyed a beautiful morning sail on an empty lake and posted this to share his experience.



**Other background but necessary jobs** .....

**22 June** Committee meeting.

**24 June** Boiler servicing.

## **12-13 July Visit from Telford Sailing Club.**

A long awaited visit from Telford SC, coordinated by Gavin.

The weekend started during the July heatwave, but cooled down allowing for plenty of activity including ,for the first time in years. a windsurfer. We were treated to the beautiful rare sight of three Flying Fifteens showing their heels.



All in all a great weekend for our visitors and club members.



We look forward to their return visit !

## CANOE CLUB

Richard Anderson



The canoe club has been meeting regularly Thursday evenings, and encouragingly numbers are up!



Thanks to Elaine for stepping in to cover and to Mike for his photo coverage.

## SAILABILITY

Club welcomed a small group from Borth for a sailability day session. It was a great success and the group will be returning in August.



Thanks Keith

## Cruiser Corner and Boat Park

Severn Trent has started to release water to alleviate water shortages downstream. We are not given notice of release so can cruiser owners keep an eye on the lake water level and adjust your mooring as necessary. If you reduce the length of the mooring in any way please DO NOT forget to return it to the original length as season end.



Check the water level in real time on the Natural Resource Wales website [Clywedog Lake level](#)

## Upcoming

**3<sup>rd</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> August** Junior Onboard sailing continues.

**10<sup>th</sup> August** Committee meeting- let us know if there is anything you want to raise

**22-25th August CVRDA weekend**, all members are welcome to join in this weekend of sailing celebrating vintage sailing dinghies.

The CVRDA is an association for boats built before 1990 and designed before 1965.

The association comes regularly to Clywedog and provides a fantastic opportunity to see some beautiful boats at close quarters.

There is a loose format over the weekend, where we aim to put on a number of races and all club members are welcome to participate.



## 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.

The new code will have been sent out with your membership renewal. A reminder that empty boat trailers should not be left at the club.

## The provisional calender for 2025 is available on the club website.

We welcome your assistance with running the events on this calender.

# 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. Also please remember there is no swimming permitted in the lake.

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. On water activities only during daylight hours.
- 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 British Canoeing and Atoll SUP boards.

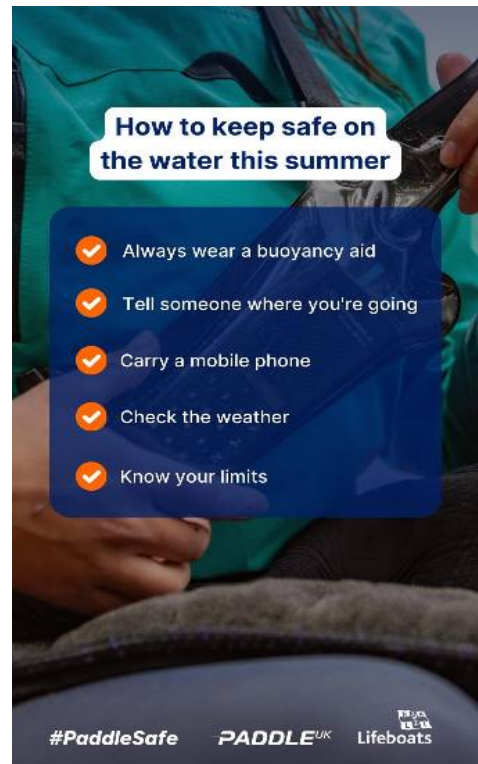
This advice echoes the Club lone sailing policy emphasising that with a bit of extra planning you can safely enjoy your paddling .

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 the link to look for more detail...

<https://atollboards.com/how-to-dress-for-cold-water-paddling-even-if-you-dont-have-a-full-wet-suit/>



# 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.

Don't forget: **Complete the relevant equipment log book so we have a record of usage.**

**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.**

<b>Useful Links:</b>	
Club Website	<a href="https://clywedogsailing.org.uk">https://clywedogsailing.org.uk</a>
Newsletter: send news and pictures to...	<a href="mailto:paulfeely@btinternet.com">paulfeely@btinternet.com</a>
Original Graphics – thanks to Chris Dartnell	