



Sleaz Paddlers

SPRING 2014



Rapid Times

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Welcome.

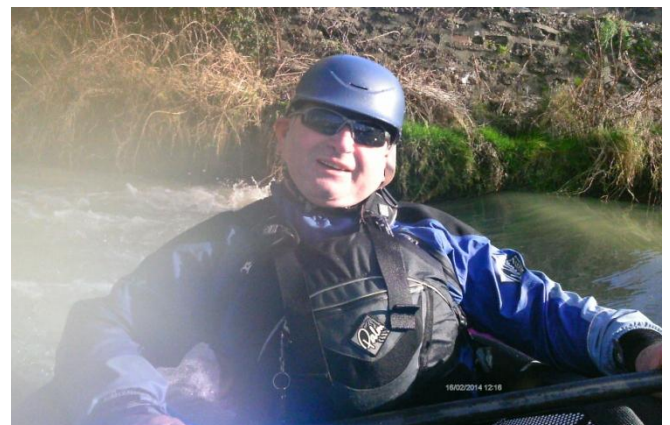
Welcome to the Spring newsletter for 2014. With the mild winter over we can hopefully look forward to a glorious summer? April sees our pool sessions finish and we once again move outside to the River Witham at Kirkstead Bridge for our regular Sunday morning paddle.

Club Mark

As you can see from above and as some of you are already aware at the beginning of this year the club was awarded club mark status. This is a great achievement for the club and shows that the club meet a high standard in all the required areas. The canoe development officer from canoe England commented that "he had rarely seen a club so well managed". Compiling all the required evidence took some time to complete and a big gratitude of thanks goes to Barry for all his hard work. This does not mean all the hard work is over, as for us to keep the club mark status we have to continually prove that the club meets the required standard.

Congratulations.

I am sure you wish to join me in congratulating Jon Hird (*below top*) and Steve Callaby (*below bottom*) in successfully completing their assessment for their level two coaching. There is a great deal of work that has to go into becoming a level two coach before they even turn up for the assessment. Well done to both for all their hard work.



Paddler of the year.

As of this year, we are pleased to announce the opportunity for all club members to become 'Paddler of the Year' and also participate in nominating who they think should deserve this prestigious award. There are no fixed boundaries or categories (you do not even have to be a paddler). All you need to do is make a nomination along with a short supporting note to describe why you think that nominee deserves to be named "Paddler of the Year 2014". All nominations will then be put forward to a judging panel who will decide on the overall winner. The successful candidate will be announced at this year's AGM on the 15 November and presented with an individual trophy with their name placed on a winner's annual shield. We'll be looking for nominations around September so in the mean time enjoy your paddling. For any further details speak to coach Paul Pattinson.

Alps trip

The youth committee are in the early stages of planning a trip to the Alps in 2015. The plan at the moment is to hire a mini bus and a van to put all the canoeing and camping equipment in. This trip is aimed at anyone who wishes to go. You do not have to be a paddler to attend. All of the river trips will be lead by a guide who has local knowledge of the area. Those that do not wish to paddle will be free to spend their time however they wish. This will be a first for the club and is entirely being organised by the youth committee. If you have not already let them know that you are interested in attending please contact a member of the youth committee or myself.

Youth Committee

The Youth Committee recently asked the club to purchase a Pyranha Burn kayak to enable club members to progress on to white water. They also asked for a Go-Pro camera. This water proof camera can be mounted on a boat or a helmet. The camera will be used to promote the club and has already been put to good use recording club members on a recent trip to the River Washburn. This means we will have some film to watch at this year's AGM.

Future events.

17 th /18 th May	Llangollen
24 th May	Come & try day
14 th /15 th June	Lower Tees / Tees barrage
20 th June	Social Evening
6 th July	Beach Day
13 th July	Sleaford Carnival

Come & Try day.

As part of Canoe England's national go canoeing week the club will be holding a taster session on the River Slea at East Gate Car Park. The idea is to introduce people into the wonderful sport of canoeing and kayaking. It would be great to see as many members there on the Saturday to support the club and encourage people to have a go!!

Sleaford Carnival.

This year the committee have decided to enter a float in Sleaford carnival on the 13th July. As well as having a float we will also be having a stand on Boston recreation ground. This will be a good opportunity to showcase the club to the local community. If you have any ideas or would like to get involved in helping out with the float or with the stand please feel free to contact Alison or myself.

Website

Please take time to check out the website which has all the up to date information on what the club is up too. A big thanks go to Barry for all his continual hard work and time spent in keeping the website updated. Barry has recently added information about buying a kayak and what to wear on a river trip.

If you have any pictures or articles you would like adding to the website please forward them to Barry.

If there are any articles you would like to see in YOUR "Rapid Times" please email your articles or ideas to

kevandtrish@btinternet.com

Happy Paddling, Kev.