

A warm welcome to all our new members. We have some great paddling scheduled this year so we hope to see some of you at our outdoor sessions soon.



A couple of pictures from our Tyne trip from St Peter's Basin on 22nd Jan and a great turnout (18 paddlers) even though it was very cold. Well done to our juniors for turning out and braving the awful weather. Thanks to Joanne (Dixie's Mum) who took the photo on the right from the Millennium Bridge. Definitely a trip we would like to do again but with some warm sunny weather hopefully.

Here's Dixie's record of the day:-

I was tucked up in bed and I didn't really want to go but dad looked very sad, so I agreed. We arrived at St. Peter's Basin first but parked in the wrong place, but that was OK as it meant we could eat scotch eggs and chocolate for breakfast before we met up with everyone else and got wrapped up warm ready for the paddle up to the Millennium Bridge and back. For little arms it is quite far to paddle and I had a bit of a grumpy face some of the time but we made it to the bridge in time to see the rest of my family waving at us all from the Quayside. It was really good to see the buildings and the bridges from the river, they look so different. The paddle back was a bit quicker because it is down-hill on the way back. I am really glad that I went, it was a good experience but best of all we had some scotch eggs left for the drive home.

High Borrans 17th – 20th November 2017

Thank you to everyone for making a commitment and paying your deposits for our annual adult's only kayaking weekend to High Borrans. We are now full. Please remember your final balance of £112 is due by 9th September. Payment can be made in instalments, in cash or by direct debit direct to the clubs account. Please get in touch with Andrea by email to jabrownless@btinternet.com or 07768 217009, if you need any further details regarding payments.

Overseas trip 2018

Most of you are aware that we are trying to organise an overseas trip next year. We know how important it is to have as much advance notice as possible in order to book time off. So as soon as we have got information on dates and prices we will let you know. Partners can come as well even if they don't intend to paddle.

If this is something you may be interested in please let me know either by e-mail annbrandon81@gmail.com or text 07729 620357.

Another outdoor session in January was Hayden Bridge to Acomb. Although this is an easy stretch of river, grade 2, the fact that it had rained previously changed it into a fast flowing river. One of our members, Chris Hughes, has kindly offered his views on the trip:-

Haydon Bridge to Warden Trip

For some reason, I woke up on a cold, grey, rainy morning and thought it would be a good idea to get out of a warm bed and kayak down a river. The club had sent an email the previous day saying that despite the fact there was little water in the rivers that we would try and have a nice easy paddle, trying not to scrape where water was low.

I arrived at Hayden Bridge to admire a river that could be described as "in flood". It had been raining all night and the river levels had changed "a bit". I nervously unloaded my boat and put it beside the river after being berated by a local for walking up their newly constructed flood defences. Note to self: Make sure you consider all aspects of local environment when entering and exiting the river.

We had a pep talk by the coaches who were very good and re-assured us that the river, whilst running quick, had very few obstacles. The coaches checked our experience, kit etc. and gave us a good safety briefing.

We entered the river and made our way downstream, practicing eddying in and out as we went and keeping the group together. It was quite exhilarating and not as challenging as it had looked. The coaches looked after us well. Thankfully, I am an exceptional Kayaker and never fell in once... Ok, that's a lie. I managed all the hard bits and then took a swim trying to pull in to a really easy eddy. The coaches assisted me to the shore and Ann recovered my paddle as it floated off downstream. However, if anyone sees a shoe (somewhere near Amsterdam by now probably) then please get in contact.

Thanks Chris, at least you weren't the only one to swim that day, if that's any consolation.



A special mention to our coaches, Laura Burns and Veronica (Ronnie) Edwards, who stepped in at the last minute to run the Hayden Bridge river trip. All our coaches put a lot of their free time into running the pool sessions and the Sunday river and beach sessions and the club just couldn't run without them.

**Congratulations to Laura who has recently achieved her
Level 2 coaching qualification.**

Reminder dates for your diary

Please keep an eye on our website <http://tynemouthcanoe.co.uk> for changes to the paddling calendar, due to weather conditions and available coaches, as planned events could change.

Family Camping/Caravan/Kayaking Weekends:

Pooley Bridge Parkfoot, Ullswater: 23rd – 25th June
Sleningford Watermill, Ripon: 14th -16th July

3* Surf Course 29-30 April 2017

Thank you to Simon from CBK for organising this course. Please be advised that this course is now full. Good Luck!

Facebook

Did you know we have a Facebook page? Find our page 'Tynemouth Canoe & Waveski Club – Members Group' – request to join and Andrea will add you to the group.