

# **DEVA CANOE CLUB**

**A.G.M. 8th. JUNE 2005**

## **CLUB ANNUAL REPORT**

### Membership

The Membership continues to rise steadily. We had 84 members at the end of our 5<sup>th</sup> year which increased to 94 by the end of this year. We obviously had some natural wastage with people leaving the area or not rejoining but we gained 24 new members which is very encouraging. The number of coaches in the club has remained static at 45, which is a very high percentage of the membership. We already have 12 new members signed up for this year.

### Website

The club website has been updated into a new format. Many thanks to Matt for this. The club is getting a number of enquiries and new members coming directly from the website. We hope to be able to get the photo section of the site working so that members can submit their evidence of 'swims' for all to see!

### Equipment

The club is slowly building a stock of equipment which helps us introduce new members and guests to the sport.

At present we have 5 white water boats and 4 sea kayaks, together with spraydecks, helmets and buoyancy aids.

### The Riverside Centre

The club's use of the Riverside Centre as the base for the Thursday evening sessions ran very well last year with sessions being run every week from mid April until early September. We had a total of 342 paddler sessions which averaged out at about 16 per Thursday and we were able to run some sessions at Llangollen as well as at The Riverside.

There has been a major change in the administration of the Centre for this year. Instead of us paying £1 per head per session, the charge to the club is now a set £40 per session. In order to try and cover this cost we have had to increase the individual charge to £2 for members and £3 for guests. However, we would need to average 20 paddlers per session in order to totally cover the cost but we propose to cover any shortfall from club funds for this year.

### Community Champions Fund

In November we put in a bid to The Community Champions fund. We based our bid on activities to support and develop the coaches within the club. The majority of our

bid was accepted and we were awarded £ 1580. From this we have supported individual coaches improving their qualifications, subsidised an Aquatic first Aid courses and laid on a Coach Update Forum day. We also hope to subsidise a White Water & Safety course and other possible courses.

### Coach Update Forum

On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>. May the club laid on a Coach Update Forum at Winsford . Using the Flash for the coaching sessions and The Youth Centre as the base. Sessions in Open Boat skills and Safety & Rescue were provided by two excellent coaches and a Child Protection course was also laid on. This was a major venture for the club to try and everyone seemed to think that it proved very successful. It was only possible with the funds that we had obtained from The Community Champions Fund. However, it did enable people to re-validate and update their coaching qualifications, as well as having a very enjoyable and informative day.

### Club Dinner

A very enjoyable Pre-Season club dinner was held at Est Est Est in April. This was very efficiently arranged by Bridget, for which many thanks ! ..... members and partners attended.

### Club Newsletter

The monthly Newsletter continues to miraculously appear on a regular basis. Many thanks are due to Lyn for the hard work she puts into producing this document, which is our main means of communicating with members. We are very keen for members to submit short articles on trips, events etc. as well as photos for the website.

### Club Finances

The club finances continue to be reasonable healthy with a balance of about £ 1,600. We are always interested in suggestions and ideas for spending money. We continue to support courses and activities for the members as well as purchasing any equipment & boats which help the club.

We propose to keep the yearly membership fee at the level of £10 as this is bringing in about £ 800 per year.