

All-Aboard wins Eddystone Lighthouse Challenge!



A team of staff, trustees and volunteers from All-Aboard Watersports won the Eddystone Lighthouse Pursuit Race on 17th June. Gill, Ronnie, Simon, Nicola, Duncan, Sarah, Glyn and Tilly certainly showed what All-Aboard can do, as over 120 charities competed for the title, '2017 Winner of Eddystone Lighthouse Pursuit', in the South West's largest charitable sailing fundraising event. This event raised an incredible £73,565.12 for charities which '*benefit the human condition*'. Thanks to your generous donations, we raised over £4,000 for All-Aboard Watersports! This will help us to purchase the latest wheelyboat model and retire 'Aiming High', continuing our regular harbour trips for schools, dementia homes and Sailability groups. Well done to the team and thank you for your support!



School Games Regatta!

On 20th June, the sailing, rowing and canoeing skills of 10 schools were put to the test in the School Games Regatta. Since April these schools have been learning sailing, rowing and canoeing at All-Aboard! in preparation for the regatta, where all the schools competed in each sport.

It was great to see the students mixing with other schools and students from different backgrounds and abilities. This regatta is



unique in its inclusivity as each mainstream school must have at least 3 students with Special Educational Needs (SEN). In addition, two of the schools were SEN Schools, increasing diversity and the range of abilities and strengths amongst the students further.

One teacher said *"This is a great programme. The students are learning all sorts of skills and the students with SENs are participating with their classmates in sports, which would normally be difficult"*.

All students were awarded medals and had a great time thanks to the hard work of our instructors and volunteers who worked non-stop to deliver a faultless day. Thank-you to all volunteers for your hard work during the programme, helping us deliver a great School Games.



[A Busy Month](#)

With the School Games coming to an end, the after-school club selling out each week and a rise in Sailability activities, it certainly has been a busy month. We have had 1,568 attendances with 777 people visiting our centre. Out of the 855 people, 85 were 55+ years old, 557 were under 18 years old. In our Sailability sessions, we had 223 attendances from 141 people, 64 of whom came more than 3 times and 4267 hours of activity were delivered. So it has been a busy time.

After-School Clubs: After -School clubs on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays are bookable online.



These clubs are very popular so we advise that you book ahead as we are only able to take 18 children on the water. If you are unable to book online, this means all the spaces have gone for your selected date. We will not be able to include your children if you bring them along without booking, due to safety reasons. Thank you for your co-operation.

The Mathew Tow: 'The Matthew' is a representation of the Tudor carvel boat which was constructed between 1994 and 1996 to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the original 'Matthew' which made the historic trip from Bristol, across the Atlantic to Newfoundland; captained by John Cabot. To mark the anniversary, our 55+ rowers joined in arms with other Gig clubs to TOW 'The Matthew' in our hand-crafted boats. Yes, TOW! This was the traditional method to get large boats out of the harbour, thus is the method the original 'The Matthew' would have started her voyage in 1477.



This is quite a feat so congratulations to all who took part. To see their adventures, you can visit our YouTube page or visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=vKtwAemXg0k.

Staff Changes: Sadly, Harry Coulton decided to leave his post as an Administrator. However, we are delighted to welcome Sam Fawcett into the team (see photo). Sam will be acting as an Administrator on Fridays and Saturdays and will be responsible for staff rostering on additional days. Sam is well known to the centre and understands All-Aboard's unique ethos and work, as she was previously our British Rowing representative. Welcome Aboard, Sam!



Merchandise: Need a lanyard for your keys or a bag to put your things in? Why not get one of our great All-Aboard bags or lanyards. For just £6.50 you can purchase our All-Aboard bags or £1.50 for our white lanyard. **See the office to get one now!**



Volunteer and Staff Meetings: All-Aboard will be holding monthly 'Training and Update Evenings' for staff members and volunteers on the last Tuesday of every month. These meetings will also involve opportunities to try out Stand Up Paddleboarding, team games and other activities. We ask you to attend at least one every 3 months.



Generous Donations

This month we received two generous donations to fund a new pioneer boat for disability watersports sessions.

David Bowers, a member of Chew Valley Sailing Club, approached All-Aboard at the beginning of the month to give a charitable donation of £10,000 funded by his previous employer's charitable trust, to be used for disability watersports. It was agreed by David and the Trustees that this generous donation would be used to fund a new and much needed Pioneer powerboat. These powerboats have a drop down front, allowing wheelchairs users and individuals with limited movement to easily come aboard and enjoy our harbour trips. These boats are a fundamental part of our fleet, so the new addition of this boat will enable us to deliver more trips to meet the growing numbers in disability watersports and reach more groups in the community.



David kindly handed over a large cheque during the School Games and presented the medals to the children.

Andy Holmes, previous owner of Wet and Windy, and his family recently gave a generous donation to Sailability. Andy worked closely with All-Aboard (previously WESSA), for over a decade through his business by providing discounted boats and equipment and donations. Now as a Sailability service user Andy and his family continue to support our work, so we are delighted to announce that their contribution will be used for an engine for the new Pioneer; reflecting the driving force he has been over the years.



Paddle for Progress – 100 Km Kayak Challenge in Bristol Harbour

In August, Blaire Hannan will be embarking on a 100Km kayaking challenge to raise money for 'Funding Neuro' to thank her medical team.

She plans to kayak 25Km over 4 days (over 4 weekends), finishing on 3rd September. Stay tuned for more information on plans for the finishing day.



If you feel that you would like to sponsor Blaire, please visit www.justgiving.com/PaddleforProgress or for more information visit www.paddleforprogress.co.uk. Thankyou.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Holiday Club begins!

On Monday 17th July our holiday club will begin. It will run every week day until Friday 1st September. We offer Sailing and Multi-sports. The Multi-sports club offer rowing, sailing, canoeing, raft-building, powerboat trips, and Stand-up paddle boarding! If you would like to book please visit our website www.allaboardwatersports.co.uk or phone 0117 929 0801.

DATE FOR THE DIARY: Cerebral Palsy Plus Party – 3rd August, 9.30 – 3.30

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This day is a fantastic day to be part of! Families who are affected by Cerebral Palsy come to our centre to enjoy a day of watersports, face paints and socialising. Last year we had over 80 people down, we need all the help we can get. If you are able to volunteer please let the office know. We ask that you arrive at 9.00 to help set up. Thankyou!

If you have anything that you would like to be considered to go into the newsletter – please send to admin@allabardwatersport.sc.uk by the 21st of each month.

Check up to date with the latest news by subscribing to our Facebook page!