

## COMMODORE'S REPORT 2019

There has been a full year with many successes with both the sailing and the rowing section

### **Sailing**

**The weekly training** sessions have been well attended. Between 25<sup>th</sup> April -19<sup>th</sup> September.

**The RYA Push the boat out** had a good day with some 40 participants trying out sailing some of whom carried on.

We have been the venue for **Welsh Squad training**

Unfortunately the **Welsh Topper championships** were cancelled because of the lack of support

**The Welsh Laser championships** at the end of August were a success though the turnout was a bit disappointing but the racing was very good

**Regatta and Barts Bash** there was a good turn out with some 13 boats participating . Good sailing and well enjoyed by all. The total results are linked from the Club's Website

**RYA Training courses** there was a total of 48 hours for youth training

12 hours of Adult training

Powerboat and safety boat training some 32 hours. An overall total of of RYA courses delivered was 108 hours

### **Fishguard and Goodwick Jemima Rowing Club 2019**

The club has had a very successful season both in terms of numbers taking part in open rowing sessions and results in League and non- League events.

Membership has increased to 70 during the season, most of whom are active rowers. In addition it has a number of very active racing crews.

In August The Club was awarded The Disability Sport Wales Ribbon Award. This award recognises the clubs commitment to being all inclusive catering for a range of abilities and aspirations.

Rather than read the total results I have printed a few copies and they are available on request. This report will be on the website and the results are attached as appendices to that

However I would highlight some of the successes achieved: the men winning in Fishguard southern league event and the Juniors every league event by a clear margin. In the 22 mile Great River race from Canary Wharf to Richmond the crew in Ninja came second out of 314 boats, a great achievement, Congratulations to Jerry and Theo Owen, Ben Curtis, Harry Perry, and Owen Steel. In addition the mixed super vets (Candy Martha Mike and Derek) as mixed crew were 7<sup>th</sup> over the line.

Theo and Jerry represented the Fishguard Bay Yacht Club at the international event in Canada earlier in the year and will be going to Hong Kong on 23<sup>rd</sup> of this month. Well done to them and the best of luck in China

I would like to thank all the committee members and chairmen of sub committees for their work and support and also members of the club who help out with sailing and other help. I am also delighted that at last we have a bar treasurer with Martin and Yasmine Barlow, who are making their mark already, and grateful to those who are volunteering to help behind the bar.

I am stepping down as Commodore and the committee this year, and would just like to say how much I have enjoyed being a member of the club, which I joined some 13 years ago. It has developed substantially since then, there was little sailing and no rowing going on. There is now a thriving sailing section of enthusiastic dinghy sailing with over the years members reaching a very high standard. With Ngairi Strawbridge reaching the GB squad in 2006/7 followed by Ellie Meopham. Each year there have been many who have been in the Welsh Squad at present Tom Renny and Finn Robarts Freya Terry in the GB squad and represented in National and international events coming 1<sup>st</sup>

Many young people have found huge benefit from taking part, have developed not only their sailing and rowing skills but also their own confidence. A number are now contributing to the development of others, putting back into the club

what they have received here in the past. Evie Jones Tom Renny Finn Robart Freya Terry Ellie Meopham Francesca Murphy also on safety boats and teaching.

All this has been possible because of the only qualified Senior Sailing Instructor in the club Mathew Pritchard. His dedication has been exemplary and truly inspirational. His ability to help these young people to enjoy sailing to the full is amazing, and through his perseverance and skill the club is an RYA training centre.

I must also mention Trevor Morris whose commitment to the club is second to none. If there is a problem he solves it, he and Gail are the last people to leave the club after an event, cleaning up. Training young people, always there putting out buoys doing safety boat duties and well into his 70s. The club owes him a great deal.

Gail Strawbridge, who tried to resign two years ago, has now succeeded in doing so. I personally am enormously grateful to her as indeed is everyone else for the development of the club, the website, her dedication her diplomacy, always there at every event. A tower of strength After two years of trying and failing to find a replacement within the last fortnight three people offered their services and one has been appointed, with much relief and gratitude. Thank you so very much indeed Gail.

Over the years the club has received over £40,000 in grants £10000 of which is for the refurbishment, and we need to thank Jim Dale in securing that for the club. The rest has enabled the Club to develop not only its equipment but also training for first aid, safety boats, race officers, all of which is so vital to the development of the club and takes a great deal of organising much of which has fallen on Gail's shoulders

The refurbishment of the changing and toilet facilities will begin at the end of this month and will be completed by the end of February. It has not been easy to find a builder and money. However it does mean that members of the club need to help to achieve this. **The basis upon which the deal with the builder is was arrived at is on this help.**

**If the club fails to provide this the contract will fail.** I would therefore ask you all to put as much effort as you can to fulfil that responsibility. Martha I know has got it in hand, so please support her. It is your club and your help is vital.

The Club is in very good order and a great deal a better off than many other Yacht Clubs

Thank you Chairman

## **APPENDICES**

### **SAILING**

#### **FBYC: RYA course participation 2019**

##### **YOUTH SAILING**

2 x **stage one** courses were run (32 hours of training)  
13 attended in total

1 x **stage two** course was run. (16 hours of training)  
2 attended

##### **ADULT SAILING**

2 x Level 1 courses were programmed for May and August.  
Both were cancelled and replaced by taster sessions due to lack of bookings and bad weather (4 adults participated in total). (12 hours of training)

##### **POWERBOATING**

###### **Level 2 powerboat**

1x PB L2 course was run. 2 Youth members attended. (16 hours of training)

###### **Safety boat**

1 x safety boat course was run. 4 club members attended. (16 hours of training)

**Total hours of RYA courses delivered in 2019 = 108hrs**

##### **Informal training**

Thursday evening sessions ran from 25<sup>th</sup> April – 19<sup>th</sup> September.  
20 sessions were run in total (4 cancelled due to bad weather.) This amounted to c.100 hours of training.  
Sessions were attended by a membership group of 16 youth sailors and 4 adult sailors.

##### **Fishguard and Goodwick Jemima Rowing Club 2019**

The club has had a very successful season both in terms of numbers taking part in open rowing sessions and results in League and non- League events.

Membership has increased to 70 during the season, most of whom are active rowers. In addition we have a number of very active racing crews.

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## **Results 2018-19**

### **Welsh Sea Rowing Association League Races**

#### **League Races**

The club had crews competing in all of the south league races and two of the joint league races.

The mixed super vets crew won their category in each race and consequently won both the South League and Joint League trophies.

The recently formed ladies crew only entered four races and finished a very commendable 7<sup>th</sup> in the South and joint league

Novice Crew came overall 7<sup>th</sup> in the southern league

Ultra- Vets won the south league

Men came 5<sup>th</sup> in southern league and won Fishguard.....First Ever

Juniors won every race they entered by a clear margin

#### **Dinas Head Race**

Those who entered the race this year will be able to say in years to come, 'I rowed the Dinas Head Race 2019 and survived!'

Fishguard Men were overall race winners. Theo and Honor won the x2 scull. Mixed Vets also won. The roughest Dinas Head ever.

#### **Great River Race**

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September saw three crews from Fishguard and Goodwick Jemima Rowing Club compete in the 22 mile Great River Race from Canary Wharf to Richmond on Thames

Jerry and Theo Owen, Ben Curtis, Harry Perry and Owen Steel sculled in Ninja. They came in second out of 314 boats which was an amazing result.

In addition a great result was achieved by the mixed super vets (Candy, Mike, Martha and Mike). They finished 32<sup>nd</sup> overall, and were the seventh mixed crew over the line. The third crew were the Very Ancient Mariners with a combined age of 328. This crew have only been rowing for a year and are to be commended on their achievement.

### **National and International events**

#### **Coastal Rowing**

We are developing coastal rowing and were lucky enough to have raised money to buy Nicky, a Swift X2 Coastal Scull. This is having quite an impact on the club. This year we have seen 4 new coastal rowers competing. Next Season we are hoping to have a few more crews competing at a national and international level.

Jerry Owen, Theo Owen and Honor Bailey competed in the Swedish Rowing Coastal Championships against competitors from across the world.

Jerry rowed in the single scull race and made it to the final. This was a great achievement to be competing with the world's best when still a junior.

Theo and Honor just missed getting into the final of the mixed double scull by 1 place.

And it was great to see FGJRC up there amongst other world clubs.

#### **Beach Sprints**

There were four competitors in British Beach Sprints. Jerry won the Men's Solo, so will join Team GB to race in China in October.

Theo and Honor came away with a bronze medal and Ben Curtis came in 4<sup>th</sup> in the Men's solo

In October Theo, Jerry and Honor will represent Fishguard and Goodwick Jemima Rowing Club in the world rowing coastal championships in Hong Kong.

#### **Indoor Rowing**

Fishguard and Goodwick Jemima Rowing Club has attended 3 Indoor Rowing events have had competitors from 11 to 72 years of age. We have come away with a haul of medals.