

## Sailing & Boating Report AGM 2020

### SAILING:

**Sailing Taster Sessions:** another three sessions of the extremely popular Sailing Taster Sessions were run last August for members' children, grandchildren, and younger members. Sadly, we doubt they will be run in 2020 due to the current situation and the slow easing of restrictions. It is very encouraging that demand continues for these starter courses. The project for the Club to facilitate Water Based Activities has stalled mainly because of the sparsity of a suitably qualified person to head this project up.

The demand for places for our Sailing Taster Sessions from new and past participants is not matched by an increase in owned dinghies. It would be a welcome sight to see more owned dinghies venturing out into the estuary helmed and crewed by children.

**Sailing races:** When the tide and weather permitted, we ran as many sailing races as possible including the ever popular Hann Trophy on the Bank Holiday Sunday. The Sandra Thomas Passage race was well attended and wind conditions predictably difficult rounding the starboard mark at Cwm yr Eglwys.

We will make every effort, when allowed, to run some sailing races this August.

### ROWING:

The end of last year's season saw a magnificent win for Newport Ladies team, Merched Trefdreath. They came first in the Welsh Sea Rowing Association (WSRA) league winning a superb array of trophies. Everyone who took part in the rowing season had a great time, despite some of the wet and windy weekends. NBC was the overall Club winner in the WSRA league.

Training went really well throughout the winter period. We were extremely fortunate to hire four Concept 2 rowing machines this year and the members thoroughly enjoyed training as teams. We had circuit nights and it was great to see the machines used near enough every night from November to February – even Christmas and New Year's Eves!

The Rower's put together a wonderful Valentine's evening, raising money towards the hire of the rowing machines including a surplus which hopefully will be put towards purchasing two Concept 2 Rowing machines. With a magnificent fund raising 'Mock Wedding' we had wedding guests bringing presents to raffle off, a delicious buffet of treats supplied by the rowers and a great evening of fun, raucous laughter and even tears! We raised a fabulous sum of money and will continue to do so until we can purchase the machines.

Despite the current situation, we have a Rowing team full of enthusiasm that has continued to support one another during lockdown. Since we have been unable to train on the water, the members have done everything in their power to keep spirits high by taking part in numerous virtual events.

Our competition during June was to record the distance on your daily erg, run, walk or bike and send your miles in as a team. The first team to record 1046 miles (which is the distance in miles around Wales) wins. The teams have been so competitive that we are already on our second tour of Wales and intending to complete 3 rounds before July.

Unfortunately, we are still waiting to hear of the date when we can get back in the boats. Everyone is primed eager and ready, and I am sure there will be queues for the boats especially if the perfect weather conditions continue. A large majority of the races have been cancelled due to the Coronavirus lockdown so there is nothing to report so far for 2020.

The Rowers have not attracted any new members this year, but we have a lovely group of people who welcome anyone who would like to give it a go!

Laura Rees & Doug Williams 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020