



CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2011

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Kernow Kitesurf Club!

I can't believe it's that time of year again! Seems like it was only summer a couple of weeks ago, but it has been pumping so I guess that means its winter. I hope everyone had a great year kitesurfing in Cornwall and I'd like to thank you all for your continued support and membership which helps safeguard our amazing sport in the county for the future! It was great to see some new faces at the recent meeting and so good to hear that people want more gatherings and socials. The first of which is planned for the 14th Jan at Lodeys/Marazion. Also if you fancy putting on an après kite mulled wine/mice pie gathering at your local spot, please get in touch and post on our facebook page.

KKC members have yet again done very well on the competition scene throughout the year, with numerous titles in all areas of our sport, big congrats on their overall year results-

Denzil Williams (Par), BKSA Course Racing Champion (for the 3rd time)

Richie Sills (St Agnes), BKSA Wave Champion

Will Bennett (Watergate) 2nd BKSA Wave masters

Soukie Robertson (Perranporth) 4th BKSA Ladies Pro Freestyle

BKSA Course Racing South West Cup- 1st Denzil Williams, 2nd Lee Harvey (Penzance)

I have also been competing on the Wave World Tour which meant I missed most of the UK events and am currently ranked 8th on the IKA Official Wave ranking with only one event to go the KSP Ponta Preta Pro 2nd-12th Dec. You can tune in live and cheer me on at www.kspworldtour.com Hopefully we will get more amazing conditions as we had on the last two stops in Mauritius and Peru!

Thanks, have a great Christmas and be sure to make the most of these great conditions before it gets too cold. See you in 2012!

*Lee 'Pasty' Harvey
Chairman*

Area rep reports

Rory Jenkins- Club secretary/Perranporth

- a great season of kitesurfing by both twin tippers (mostly at Flat Rocks) and wave board riders (mostly at the Perran Sands, northern end of the beach). The village has seen the recent return to Cornwall of Mike Smith who was several times UK kitesurf champion.

Simon Crabb- Mid Cornwall

Once again the 'coast of dreams' has been pumping since September. Some banging Watergate sessions have gone down in the largest beach break surf in Cornwall ;) and for the flat-heads, the new 'secret spot' River Gannel is like liquid ice for those that can figure out the wind n tide combo you need.



Please can all members be careful when kiting at Fistral and avoid if its too busy with surfers even in the off season. It's getting crazy out there and we don't and issues. Other than that its all good with no incidents and some great kiting going down from waves to flat water.

Dom Moore is now European sales manager for Ocean Rodeo and signed Perranporth rider Craig Smith onto the team, so if you fancy a demo get in touch with one of them.

Denzil Williams- South Cornwall

Par continues to be the Par'badós' mecca it is, The national student kitesurfers returned there again recently for another slider event, they certainly put the effort in with floating kicker and slider but the wind had a lot of east in it which makes for very gusty conditions but this did not deter the crazy ones, Jet ski tow ons and winch pull, they brought all the toys along for a great event.

Pentewan had a bit of action recently with the easterlies, this is a great location to head for if its blowing from the east and you have a family! The new complex on the camp site is open to the public with fun pool, Lane swimming pool, big bar area and free soft play for the children (and bigger children) while all overlooking the beach. Nice.

Carlyon Bay still has free parking and is a good location from south east to south west winds but can have a killer shore dump at mid to high tide depending on the sea state.

Cheers
Denzil

Loz Smith- Treasurer/ West Cornwall

"Marazion has seen a great season of kitesurfing for locals and visitors alike. A fairly windless August led through to some epic days to be had in September and October although not as many as we would all like. There have been no major incidents or accidents to report and the beach owners and managers appear happy with the way the sport is conducted at Marazion and Long Rock. The new RNLI signs erected now mention to the public to be aware of kite and windsurfers, which is good move. There have been a few visiting kites determined to kite at high tide close to the sea wall at Marazion which many of us locals recognise is not the best practice especially with a bit of sea running and the subsequent shore dump. A friendly word suggesting waiting a while for the tide to drop would not go amiss if you see anyone setting up close to the sea wall.

Lodey Sails and Kite Loft teamed up with Dom Moore from Ocean Rodeo to hold a 2012 product launch/demo day of all the new 2012 Ocean Rodeo kites at the beginning of September. We had a great turnout and all kites were out on the water and put through their paces even the 17m beast of a kite the Flyte. Afterwards Lodey's hosted a BBQ and party at the Loft with a DJ on the decks and kite flicks projected on a big screen and plenty of beer was consumed. There was free camping available and a lot of people stayed over ready to hit the water at Gwithian the next day.

We are planning another get together on the 14th of January hosted again at Lodeys but with hopefully a lot more different brands with gear to look at and demo along with another boogie on down at Lodeys. All KKC members and spouses are invited and we will post more info as soon as we firm up details. Put the 14th of Jan in your diary as regardless of wind we will still have a great party at the Loft."

"Gwithian has been dishing out some fantastic conditions over the past few months as the surfboard riders down here will tell you. We've seen over 50 kites up at times along the length of Gwithian from the Bluff past Mexicos and up to Gwithian and Godrevy. Certainly not Tarifa numbers but the conditions outstrip Tarifa any day when 'its on' at Gwithian. Gwithian played host to the BKSA



Wavemasters in November which was well attended and delivered a variety of conditions for the competitors to ply their trade.

The summer restriction at Godrevy were relaxed this year with only guidance from the Council and RNLI to keep away from the Godrevy end during the peak summer months. There were no serious incidents involving kitesurfers apart from one rescue by the RNLI and on the whole the RNLI have been happy. There have been some comments from some of the lifeguards about kitesurfing through busy swim zones. Please respect these swim zones in the summer and keep well clear. You may be an excellent kitesurfer but everyone catches a rail now and again and if that happened right in front of a little kid and the board or lines hit them then we would have a serious situation on our hands. Now that we have the beaches to ourselves lets get out there and enjoy them at their best.

There are more and more people getting into our sport so please be aware of learners and help them launch and land if needed. We were all learners once and as an instructor I tell my students what a friendly sport kitesurfing is compared to say surfing where there is often a lot of competition for a peak etc. Lets keep it friendly and safe and look out for each other."

Cheers

Loz

Steve Townsend- "The Bluff - Nothing but Good News (Almost)

After years of strife and confrontation, the past 6 months have been as good a return to the good old days at The Bluff as its possible to get - the ban and sailing restrictions have been banished (but woefully my jet black mullet and athletic poise seem to have deserted me forever). In summary:

- In September the six month trial to remove the tidal restrictions was successfully concluded. Peter Haddock the Harbour Master received no complaints from vessels in that period and observed that kites were complying with the key element of the Code of Conduct ' to turn away from and remain 100m away from all vessels in the channel'. Good job.
- Holders of a kiting permit are now entitled to free parking at Harvey Towans Pay and Display car park. See the website for full details, but if you want a car parking pass for the remaining season till March you can get one from Lodeys, Westcountry Watersports or me. Next year parking passes will be provided when you buy your kiting permit.
- The recent BKSA Wavemasters Comp spent a day at The Bluff. Without going into detail I would say that this was a surprise development for everybody, but I would like to thank harbourmasters Peter Haddock and Ken Routledge for going out of their way to help ensure the event was successful.
- Hopefully this winter we will be able to update the out-of-date signs at Harvey Towans and on the lifeguard hut below the Bluff Inn . We also need to revise the design of the permit tags for harnesses- if anyone has suggestions for a kitemat-and-wave-pounding- proof design I would be delighted if you could share it.
- And finally an observation.....it has been delightful to see many happy kites enjoying all the fun The Bluff has to offer this year.....BUT there are still a significant proportion of individuals who have not bought permits. Hopefully a friendly conversation and a bit of peer pressure will persuade most people to fork out a fiver (or tenner) to keep everything sweet and harmonious. I hope to produce some fliers (waterproof) to share with those who are not aware of the current set-up. It is worth re-iterating though that the KKC has to raise \$500 (read dollars as pounds - there is no sterling sign on my keyboard!!) for the licence fee each year, plus the cost of harness tags and updating the signs. And perhaps more importantly, if one has not bought a permit then any liability insurance is negated. Hopefully a bit of peer pressure can bring on board the last of the late-adopters.



And finally finally thanks to the vast majority of kites for adopting the Code of Conduct and making The Bluff a happy place to kite again - bloomin` heck, I might even dust off that twin-tip now that the sandbars are back.

CheersSteve

Pete Stephens- After an exhaustive year in this role, I will stretch myself to incorporate the title of Social Secretary

The Club is looking forward to 2012 with a very positive outlook - Membership is growing and we are hoping to organise a couple of Social Kite events locally as well as taking us to new venues (possibly combining the venues with fellow south west kite clubs) - Feedback on whether anyone fancies a trip to North Devon (around Saunton / Westward Hoe or even as far afield as West Wales will help give us the direction to get these off the ground. Anywhere you would like to go? It is simple let us know. Group trip abroad

Starting the New Year we are looking forward to enjoying an evening get together in the Lodey Kite Loft, Marazion on Saturday 14th January - Keep an eye on the Club Website for the final details but weather permitting we will be kiting West Cornwall over the weekend too Hope to see you there....

Peter Stephens

Member Offers

For all of you wondering what to buy for Christmas? Remember all members get a discount at-

West Country Watersports in Truro

Freeriders Surf shop in Falmouth

Lodey in Marazion

Pasty Adventures BKSA Kitesurf school

So save some pennies and get that perfect gift for less!

STAY SAFE, HAVE A GREAT CHRISTMAS AND SEE YOU ON THE WATER IN 2012

The AGM is planned for mid march at Watergate. This year we are looking for some fresh faces to step up and take a place on the committee. All places will be up for election from the position of Chairman all the way down to beach reps, so if you are keen to push the club forward and have a little spare time, please get in touch in the New Year.