

Great Tyne Row - Steering Group

Note of Zoom meeting - 21 January 2021

Present: Claire McGuire, John Mulholland, Carol Singleton, Colin Percy, Pam Walton, Alex Shiel.

The meeting was called to discuss the likelihood of the event happening given Covid and, if a fair chance, looking at a date and then other details. It was agreed that given a fair wind with the vaccine and infections falling generally then it might happen. It was agreed that on balance unlikely to happen in full, but to be hopeful and start planning.

Date

The event had usually been in September before, but once or twice in August. Clashes with GNR and other events meant September was not always good, but usually best for tides. It had been agreed many moons ago to look at August for 2020, but obviously this had not happened. Colin had circulated tides for 2021 (see extract at end) and he came to the conclusion that in August and September only Sunday 1 August was OK; and no other obvious clashes that day. However there were good tides in July too. It was agreed to progress with 1 August for the time being.

Booking of key requirements

Port of Tyne and Sea Cadets had already said they were OK with this date. However Red Seal had not come back yet. *[N.B. They came back soon after the meeting and said they were in Bassenthwaite for the annual sailing week camp that day, so **not** available - see note at end].* Of key pre-bookings that left the one with NT Council for the car park at Tynemouth; Claire would make a provisional booking. None of these bookings would require money up front, so planning could progress with a firmer decision in a month or two. But all depended on Covid.

Virtual alternatives or add-ons

As a back up in case the event could not be run for real and a virtual event had to be created instead (and maybe worth doing in any case), it was agreed to look at how to create a visual run through of the route, using video, virtual reality or whatever. This could be linked to historical information, including rowing. It was agreed everybody would look at this (see end for list of initial contacts).

Links to first rowing race 200th anniversary

Alex Shiel from TURC had been alerted to the first ever formal race on the Tyne being 200 years ago on 1 August (quite by chance re GTR date). He thought TURC and TARC might join together to commemorate this that day, either in conjunction with GTR or separate if GTR not running. TARC might even move their regatta. It was agreed in principle this sounded good, but to put it back to TURC and TARC to consider further. *[N.B. Death of James Renforth in Canada on 23 August 1871 - 150 years ago - was later noticed too].*

Other links

In relation to a virtual event or virtual backup to a real event, possible links to provide more substance or expertise were mentioned. These would be followed up:

Michael Chaplin, author of Tyne View - <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Tyne-View-Michael-Chaplin/dp/0956655165> - Colin to follow up

Ian Whitehead, formerly of T&W Museums re his 1821 race information etc – Alex to follow up - <https://blog.twmuseums.org.uk/the-development-of-the-racing-shell-tyne-innovations-by-ian-whitehead/>.

Ed Waugh, author, and Jamie Brown, actor, re Haddaway Harry – Claire to follow up - www.hadawayharry.co.uk/cast-and-creatives.

Any other thoughts welcome!

CP

Note as at 01-02-21: Given the non-availability of Red Seal on 1 August then things are back in the melting pot and a further virtual meeting w.c. 1 or 8 February is being arranged. Need to look at other dates or change plans for 1 August or

Tides for candidate dates for Great Tyne Row in 2021:

Jul-21

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Notes
Sun 04	12:00 AM BST 3.86 m	6:02 AM BST 2.03 m	12:08 PM BST 4.04 m	6:42 PM BST 1.63 m		TT Reg Sat
Sun 11	4:59 AM BST 4.67 m	11:24 AM BST 0.97 m	5:26 PM BST 4.56 m	11:38 PM BST 1.25 m		
Sun 18		4:05 AM BST 1.68 m	10:17 AM BST 4.46 m	4:51 PM BST 1.30 m	11:07 PM BST 4.16 m	
Sun 25	4:47 AM BST 5.14 m	11:19 AM BST 0.49 m	5:23 PM BST 4.95 m	11:35 PM BST 0.99 m		

Aug-21

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Notes
Sun 01		3:51 AM BST 1.96 m	10:10 AM BST 4.08 m	4:34 PM BST 1.76 m	10:57 PM BST 3.79 m	
Sun 08	4:03 AM BST 4.63 m	10:28 AM BST 1.02 m	4:31 PM BST 4.64 m	10:43 PM BST 1.22 m		
Sun 15		2:38 AM BST 1.41 m	8:48 AM BST 4.73 m	3:17 PM BST 1.21 m	9:28 PM BST 4.29 m	Aquathlon
Sun 22	3:50 AM BST 5.00 m	10:23 AM BST 0.63 m	4:26 PM BST 4.91 m	10:39 PM BST 1.07 m		
Sun 29		2:12 AM BST 1.65 m	8:26 AM BST 4.36 m	2:43 PM BST 1.61 m	8:57 PM BST 4.00 m	GN Bike Ride

Sep-21

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Notes
Sun 05	3:00 AM BST 4.45 m	9:26 AM BST 1.21 m	3:30 PM BST 4.58 m	9:44 PM BST 1.37 m		
Sun 12		1:27 AM BST 1.05 m	7:34 AM BST 5.09 m	2:00 PM BST 0.98 m	8:04 PM BST 4.64 m	GN Run
Sun 19	2:51 AM BST 4.75 m	9:26 AM BST 0.87 m	3:30 PM BST 4.77 m	9:44 PM BST 1.29 m		TSSH Sat
Sun 26		1:00 AM BST 1.33 m	7:07 AM BST 4.67 m	1:21 PM BST 1.38 m	7:27 PM BST 4.39 m	