

NRC Executive July 2020

Recreational and Explore Rowing report

A draft of the revised Touring Handbook has been produced and is on the Recreational Rowing website at http://www.recrowing.org.uk/Touring_Handbook.html Any feedback can be sent to the secretary at secretary@recrowing.org.uk .

Tourers on the mailing list have been advised of the postponement of the 2020 British Rowing Tour on the Thames, with new dates now set for July 29th to August 1st 2021, the earlier than usual dates being necessary because of tides for the Teddington to Putney leg. This coincides with the dates of the Olympics but isn't considered to be a problem. The hotel has confirmed availability and prices will be held at this year's levels. Refunds will be provided for those who have already paid a deposit.

A 'virtual tour' has been published at <http://www.recrowing.org.uk/BR%20Tour%202020/Virtual%20Tour.pdf> in place of the real 2020 tour, including links to background information on points of interest along the route. Photos and videos are also being gathered and a virtual quiz is to be arranged for the evening of Saturday, August 29th, for which registration is now open on <http://www.recrowing.org.uk/> .

British Rowing is to be asked what funds remain in the Charles Stanley project fund and to give recommendations for how it could be spent. Priority for any new equipment looks likely to be given to areas where there is demand and available storage space. With crew rowing being unavailable it was thought there would be a desire to invest in single sculling boats, but the feeling is that clubs will prefer to have their own single sculls for use by their own members.

Clubs have adopted a variety of booking systems to limit numbers rowing at any one time. Many have experienced an increase in the number of daytime rowers due to workers being furloughed.

Various options have been identified for stable single sculls that can be recommended for recreational use and that can be obtained at reasonable cost that will enable more people to get afloat. The favourites are those supplied by Glide Boats, though the committee felt that the Glide Solo is preferable to the Glide One obtained already by DARC, feeling that the Glide Solo is more suitable for teaching beginners, whereas the Glide One is more or less a fine boat, although heavier than a racing boat, and so would be more suitable for experienced scullers.

Lite Boats are light in weight and were found in trials to be very stable but they are more expensive.

Tynemouth members have got afloat recently after trials using their Burgashell singles and it is hoped more will soon be able to take to the water within the established guidelines.

Learn to Row courses have been suspended this year and the question of whether they can be offered using single sculls has been raised. This will depend on whether British Rowing can agree proposals. It is also hoped that a solution can be found that will allow a resumption of rowing in coxed crew boats.

Development of a timetable for the 2021 Sunday League is progressing and we hope to have 8 rounds next year.

Colin Lawson

Recreational Rowing Co-ordinator