

# News Update

Issue 2 March 2015



We would like to welcome all friends and supporters of Islington Boat Club to our second quarterly email news update, letting you all know what is happening at The Club at the moment and spotlighting some of our achievements.

## Club improvements getting underway

### Re-fit for the Water Gipsy - at last!

We are very happy to announce that our main internal space and club house, the wide-beamed Water Gipsy barge, is about to have a full professional refit. This can be seen as the first phase of our plans for the re-development of The Club which will, we hope, include in the next few years the building of a completely new club house.

The process of securing grant funding for the re-fitting of the barge has been long, with a lot of hard work from our fundraising team. We send our sincere thanks to E B Moller Foundation, Morris Charitable Trust, Worshipful Company of Basketmakers, Worshipful Company of Clothworkers, Bernard Sunley Foundation and Islington Council for their generosity in making this possible.

Alongside the work to the barge we are also re-fitting our canteen and changing rooms so that the facilities at The Club will be vastly improved in time for the school summer holidays. Work will begin after Easter and is scheduled for completion by the beginning of July.

### Temporary youth club closure

While this work is going on we will have to run a reduced service as The Club will effectively become a building site. We apologise for the fact that this



will therefore mean there will be no youth club sessions after Easter until the summer holidays (*see elsewhere in this news update for our Easter programme*). Keep an eye on our Facebook page and on our website for updates about how the work is progressing and for announcements about future opening times.

When we do re-open in late July, we look forward to launching our new fleet of sailing boats, stand up paddleboards, floating stage and slide for what promises to be the most exciting summer yet at The Club!

### New funding challenge

We will be spending the time while the re-fit is going on in energetically seeking funding to enable us to run the best possible youth programme when we re-open in the summer.

This has become necessary as Islington Council has, unfortunately, had to withdraw the core funding for the youth club as part of the cuts they have been obliged to make to youth services across the borough. While this clearly presents us with a significant challenge, we are very confident that we will manage to find alternative sources of funding through a combination of fundraising and income generation.

Our great success in fundraising to pay for the re-development work provides a solid basis for our confidence that we will meet this challenge.

Through a variety of means we intend to generate the income we need to allow us to continue to offer an exciting youth club programme that is affordable by all young people in Islington - whatever their means.

### Courses still operating April - July

Although the youth club will not be operating whilst all the work is being carried out, we will still be offering Royal Yachting Association inland waterways and crew courses, Level 1 & 2 powerboat courses, CEVNI tests, sailing courses, kayaking and mountain biking.

**Don't hesitate to get in touch with us if you would like to make bookings for any of these.**

# Barnaby's Story

*Fifteen year old Barnaby Rooney, one of our current members, tells how his life has changed since he discovered Islington Boat Club*

I've been paddling for three years and I am now starting youth freestyle, and youth river running competitions in and around the UK.



## How I got started paddling



So I was going for a walk down Regent's Canal taking pictures and saw two sit-on-top kayakers paddling down the canal. At this time, I didn't actually know what a kayak or a canoe was so I caught up to them and asked them.

After a long conversation I decided I really wanted to try and have a go myself. After a search on the internet I found a few clubs but decided Islington was the one I wanted to try and on my first day I met new people and the instructors. Then John, one of the instructors, helped me get on to the water. I wasn't sure if to be happy or scared. Sure enough, I was slightly scared but calmed down after a game on the water. From then on I was hooked. Paddling was the one thing I always wanted to do and to this day my love for the sport grows more and more!



## Discovering different aspects of the sport

After a year of paddling a kiwi I decided to look at different types of paddling such as freestyle so I had a go. After a year of trying and trying and being coached I learned to roll and do small tricks. Now, after being coached at IBC for the past year, I'm paddling Class 4 rapids and do freestyle at a flow team level and It's all thanks to this amazing club!



Thank you for all the support you have given to this club to keep it open to give young people such as myself a pastime and, in my case, a future in watersports.

[www.islingtonboatclub.com](http://www.islingtonboatclub.com)



# IBC Easter Programme 2015

Open to all from age 9-19 • You can join any day you visit

	Monday 30 March	Tuesday 31 March	Wednesday 01 April	Thursday 02 April
Morning 1100-1300	Drop in youth club Kayaking session	Drop in youth club Kayaking session	Drop in youth club Kayaking session	Drop in youth club Kayaking session
Afternoon 1400-1600	Drop in youth club Kayaking session	Drop in youth club Kayaking session	Pool session	Pool session

All drop in sessions are £3 and are open to all abilities from age 9 to 19. All equipment is provided including buoyancy aids.

Please bring a full change of clothes including shoes and a towel. Places on the pool sessions are limited and need booking in advance at a cost of £5. Food is not currently available on site, but there are plenty of shops and cafes within a short walking distance.

**Islington Boat Club • 16-34 Graham Street • London N1 8JX**

**(t)** 020 7253 0778 • **(e)** leocollier@islingtonboatclub.com • **(w)** www.islingtonboatclub.com • **(Facebook)** Islington Boat Club



Contact us at  
The Boat Club if you  
are interested in our  
RYA narrowboat helm  
and crew courses




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BOAT CLUB**

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www.islingtonboatclub.com



# Launch of our new sailing fleet

With tremendous support from our sponsors Mount Anvil, October saw the long-awaited launch of our new fleet of sailing dinghies which are now bringing colour to City Road Basin

The article below, by Alina Polianskaya, was published in the Islington Tribune October 31 2014

THERE was splashing and sailing galore at Islington Boat Club when a new fleet arrived. The sailing boats were launched in the traditional way – by cracking open a bottle of champagne on the hull – by Islington Mayor Theresa Debono last Thursday.

Amanda Corcoran, of Islington Boat Club, said: *“I would like to say thank you so much to the supporters that have helped us reintroduce sailing, after so many years, to Islington Boat Club. Without Kevin, from developer Mount Anvil, who gave us the money to purchase sailing boats and to take on a part-time sailing instructor, this wouldn’t have been able to happen.”*

Mount Anvil has paid £17,000 for the sailboats as part of a planning deal for a high-rise tower of flats and offices near City Road Basin. The event saw youngsters enjoy a day paddling around in canoes and kayaks.

The club provides water sports lessons for young people and schools and runs a youth club as part of the programme.

Volunteer Tracy McCoy, whose son Luke has been coming to the club for seven years, said the extra skills and qualifications he had gained helped him tremendously when applying to study at Exeter University. She said: *“The Islington Boat Club is like one big family. Everyone is welcome here. It has opened door after door for Luke.”*



**Islington Tribune**

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# So long and thank you to Paul Anderson

It is with great regret that we are saying goodbye and thank you to Paul Anderson - our Club Director. For personal reasons, he has decided to move on to pastures new.

Paul's association with the Boat Club goes back many years to the time when, as a ten year old, he enjoyed many hours as a member of the youth club. More recently, he has of course been the Director/Leader of the Boat Club, a position that has required all his skills honed over the years to keep the Club going in very difficult times. Paul's original training in art and design has given him the ability to find creative solutions to the challenges that a charity faces in its growth and development. Over 15 years experience of working as a manager in play, youth work and specialized areas of alternative education provision plus the ability to teach in over seven disciplines has helped to ensure that IBC has been able to offer exciting, high quality services to all young people.

We owe him a big debt of thanks and he will be much missed!

Leo Collier, his current deputy, will be taking over the Director's position as of April 1st and we wish him every success.



[www.islingtonboatclub.com](http://www.islingtonboatclub.com)

# Become a Friend of Islington Boat Club



The Friends of Islington Boat Club act as ambassadors to help spread the word about what we do, and encourage young people to get involved in our activities. We also keep our Friends up to date with all our latest news, and invite them to join us for social events at the Club. If you are ready to become a Friend of Islington Boat Club and want to join our mailing list, or if you would like to learn more about becoming a Friend, please email us directly at [newsletter@islingtonboatclub.com](mailto:newsletter@islingtonboatclub.com) or complete and return the form on the back of this sheet.

By becoming a member of our dedicated group of supporters, you can help make a difference to young people living in Islington. You can also visit our website [www.islingtonboatclub.com](http://www.islingtonboatclub.com) to become a Friend or make a donation to The Club.

## IBC Friends Membership Scheme

There are now three categories of membership to choose from:

**AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP** (for individuals) £10 per year (minimum fee)

- Get to stay in touch and keep up with the club via our e-newsletter
- Attend the IBC annual general meeting (AGM)

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP** (individuals and not for private profit organisations) £100 per year

- Get to stay in touch with The Club and
- Attend the IBC annual general meeting (AGM)

In addition, associate members:

- Get to attend an annual Boat Club reception on the IBC barge and narrowboat

**FELLOWSHIP** (for individuals and not for private profit organisations) £300 per year

- All the benefits of affiliate and associate members.

In addition you

- Have a chance to become a qualified narrowboat helm or skipper and a Powerboat driver. In the second year of a fellowship, you would have one day's access to the narrowboat for you and your friends and family.

For details of how to make a donation to Islington Boat Club, please see below.

**You can download a PDF version of the Friends application form from our website.**



# IBC Friends Membership Application Form

Name/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I should like to take out:

AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

FELLOWSHIP

## How to pay:

You can make payments to Islington Boat Club in the following ways (please tick):

- by cheque made payable to 'Islington Boat Club'
- via our website [www.islingtonboatclub](http://www.islingtonboatclub) - Click on 'Make a donation' on the home page.
- via Paypal
- by making a BACs payment via your online banking
- by standing order or Direct Debit mandate

## Our banking details:

Islington Boat Club • Account No 14623507 • Clearing code 16-00-58  
Royal Bank of Scotland plc, 40 Islington High Street, London N1 8XJ

### GIFT AID

Tick the box below if you are a UK taxpayer and you agree to us claiming Gift Aid on your contribution. We will send you a simple form to complete

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Please do not hesitate to contact us directly on the contact details above if you would like to discuss further ways in which you could support The Club. **You can download a PDF version of the Friends application form from our website.**

**Thank you. Melanie Aust, Chair**