



**GREEN DIAMOND CLUB
JUNE 2021
ISSUE 62**

SUMMER IS HERE!

A word from the Chairman:

I am so glad that Summer is finally here, and we can enjoy our outdoor pursuits without standing out in the freezing cold.

We have had huge enthusiasm for the canal narrow boat this year which is great to see. We welcome back faces from the past who have become active members again together with new members who have recently joined us.

If you want to try water skiing, do get in touch with Lottie, because it is your club for you to use! She can either introduce you to a weekend leader or can set up a date to suit you when we can provide boat drivers and tuition, as needed.

There are new Special Events and if you are interested, please book quickly as places will be in demand; we are all so desperate to get out and socialise once again after a very long Lockdown!

Please do send any photos of your GD experiences this summer to Steven as we love to keep the website up to date with the 2021 adventures.

Hopefully, most of our members have now had at least the first dose of their vaccine but we are not quite out of the Pandemic so please be careful and stay safe and well.

Amanda James

Canal Section:

As you probably know, Tara's a very popular GD asset and with good reason. Especially with the appeal of the 'staycation' this year has seen demand for her increase massively. You only have to take a look at her availability to get an idea of how busy she's been and is going to be

- <https://www.keepandshare.com/calendar14/show.php?i=2832912>

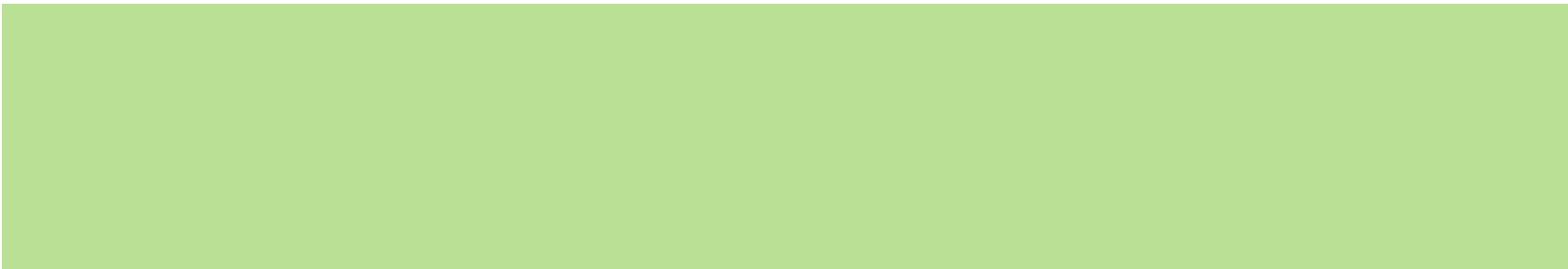
During the winter months she had many improvements to her electrical system to enhance reliability and ease of use. She now has new leisure and starting batteries, both alternators have been overhauled and she has had some high output solar panels fitted on the roof. This last fix means you won't have to run the engine to charge her leisure batteries and in theory, neither the starting battery nor the leisure batteries should run out of power providing both isolators are disconnected when she has finished her shift.

She is also due to have the stern gland replaced which is a 'no maintenance' silicon affair – no more lifting the engine hatches to turn the grease screw! Unfortunately, the spare part needed is stuck in a warehouse in Holland so, although we cannot blame the Suez Canal debacle for the delay, no doubt Brexit and/or Covid will take their share of the flak. The bilge pump was replaced last week so the engine bay should no longer resemble a murky hot tub (in case you were tempted).

There are still plenty of good value slots left and, with the promise of more fine weather to come, have a look at the diary and book your place.

Many thanks,

Kav



Water ski section:

It feels like it has been a long time coming, but we are very excited for it to be summer!

The boat was launched onto Ivy Lake, Chichester, back in April and was given a final check over by Ski Nautique, who travelled down from Birmingham to give us peace of mind after all the troubles last year. Thankfully we can say that the boat is working well – hurrah! You can see Amanda's face below of just how exciting it is to have a boat that works!

We had the first successful “big” weekend over the May bank holiday, obviously subject to the current covid guidelines with no more than 30 outdoors. We hope that the restrictions will ease soon to allow for a more relaxed atmosphere and to get lots of skiers or wakeboarders on the water.

We have had a good up take of our “Give it a Go” day on 12th June, but we still have spaces on 31st July, so please email Lottie (Lottie.james.93@gmail.com) if you would like to book a slot.

Likewise, we are keen for new weekend leaders so please do contact Lottie if you are interested (available weekends can be seen on the calendar on the website) and she is happy to organise drivers for you and help you with any logistics. We still have big weekends (for over 15 people on site) available in September and October (for those of you who are brave!), but also smaller weekends where we will have a limit of 15 on site (including drivers and non-skiers) at any one time.

Please do not hesitate to get in contact with any questions!

Lottie



Special Events:

After the long lockdowns, we have 2 events to look forward to at the latter end of 2021. We all enjoyed the gin tasting via Zoom back in March, but it is now time for us all to see each other in person again!

Pottery Experience at Token Studio, SE1 2BE – Saturday September 4th – 13:00

Members = £36

Non members = £38

There are two large sections (Making & Painting) and several little steps in this ultimate pottery experience:

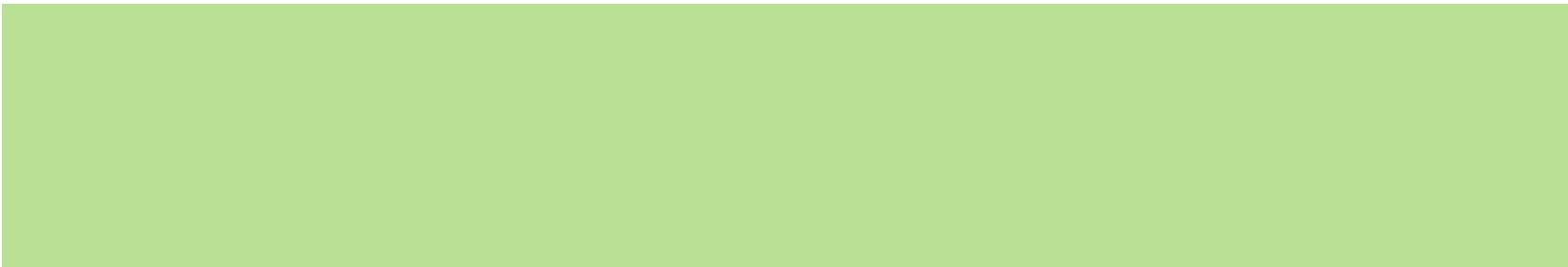
Firstly we will be given a tour to the studio to see the whole process of how ceramics are made in the kiln. You will then experience how to throw a potter's wheel in the standing position, "Fire" your creation by your own with the special technic. Creations can be anything from a mug to a cake stand, so bring your imagination!

After the firing, we can enjoy a very relaxing painting session (but what is ever relaxing with the GD's present?!). At the end of the session, you can decide to bring the piece of your creations home to air dry or you can leave it to Token studio professional team to fire it and glaze it in the kiln, please be aware that the kiln firing service costs £10 for your first creation. Your pottery will be ready to collect in 3 weeks.

Additionally, we have been allowed to bring our own drinks, so please feel free to bring your tipples of choice.

There are limited spaces so bookings will be taken on a first come first served basis.

To book your space or if you have any questions, please contact Amie – amievjames@gmail.com



Pre-Christmas Lunch, Davy's Wine Vaults SE10 8JA - Saturday November 13th – 13:00

Members = £50

Non members = £65

Too early to be thinking about Christmas? With many places already getting booked up, we wanted to secure a private dining area for us all to be reunited again.

Including a 3 course set menu meal (to be pre ordered), pay at bar and entertainment, it is the event not to be missed!

Individual bookings or tables of 4, 6, 8 or 10 (tables can be pushed together for large groups if requested) are available.

Please note there are limited numbers and therefore bookings will be taken on a first come first served basis.

To book your space or if you have any questions, please contact Amie – amievjames@gmail.com

A weekend in Dorset and Wiltshire on 7th/8th August 2021:

Saturday 7th August 2021

We will go to the Compton Abbas Airfield “Vintage Saturday” Fly In. The airfield is near Shaftesbury in Dorset. It is one of the most scenic airfields in England. This is a popular event for pilots and non-pilots alike.

You can go dressed in your vintage period clothes (anything pre 1970). You can bring your classic car, or hire one for the occasion.

Come and enjoy the atmosphere and watch the planes flying in from other airfields.

Book in advance, a flight with an instructor to fly one of the Compton Abbas aircraft.

Have a picnic lunch in the airfield car park or go to their café.

In the evening we can have a meal somewhere between Shaftesbury & Salisbury if we know numbers well in advance.

Sunday 8th August 2021

A tour of Salisbury Cathedral & Magna Carta and a pub lunch near Salisbury.

In the afternoon you can visit Stonehenge, 8 miles north of Salisbury (Free to English Heritage and National Trust Members).

If you are interested, please contact

laurence.ying@googlemail.com.



Committee Contact Details:

Amanda James (Chairman) 07808 474523 Amanda.james@acjames.co.uk	Nigel Pay (Treasurer) 07956 367098 nigelpay@outlook.com
Euan Stokes (Membership) 07478 435343 euanstokes1@hotmail.com	David Kavanagh (Canal) 07898 172402 davidkavanagh@thehomesteaduk.com
Lottie James (Water Ski) 07597 567424 lottie.james.93@gmail.com	Amie James (Special Events) 07732 179493 amievjames@gmail.com
John Varian (Maintenance) 07889 473375 John.varian@btinternet.com	Steven Morris (Website) 07973 523160 steven@stevenmorris.com

