



CLUB HISTORY

Pre 2001

Two groups had limited access to the Sutton Bingham Reservoir:

The Scouts one evening a week on the West Pond (the small body of water on the right of the causeway) and **The Apollo Club** (linked with the Apollo Swimming Club) had limited access on Sunday mornings on the main reservoir.

A small club (**Airbourne Canoe Club**) operated as an off shoot from the Scout paddling out of the Huish swimming pool in Yeovil until it closed due to the Tesco and Golden Stones Leisure developments.

2001

Initial discussion held between Wessex Water, The Scouts and The Apollo Group on how to launch a club.

Early March and eight intrepid paddlers from the Scout and Apollo instructor groups met at the reservoir and paddled around a misty area of the lake that had been proposed as the Canoeing area for the club. This was the start of the Club.



A launch meeting for the Club was held on 29th April 2001 in the Flur-de-Lys on St. Michael's Avenue attended by 18 people, including **John Westlake** a representative from the British Canoe Union (BCU).

Chairman: **Nigel Bailey** (from the Scout group)

Vice Chair: **Trevor Jacklin** (from the Apollo group)

Treasurer: **Malcolm Campbell**

Secretary: **Keith Hoskin**

Also on the committee: **John Tippett, Ruth Davies, Lee Grinter, Max Woodbury, Andy Rossall and Ian Campbell.**

Sutton Bingham & District Canoe Club (SBDDC) was officially launched on 8th September 2001, by the end of the year end the club had a membership of 51. Photo is original image used for club Logo

2002

Club reached a new membership high of 112 paddlers

All the equipment belong to the Scout or Apollo Group and was stored at the Holy Trinity Scout headquarters on Lysander road then for 2 years on the drive of our then Chairman, **Trevor Jacklin** in East Coker and was transported to the reservoir for each session!!!



2003~04

Western Gazette reported club being run out of a briefcase, with well over 100 members the committee embarked on a scheme that would ultimately see the erection of the current boathouse

Plans were prepared, reject by Planning department, redrawn, resubmitted and finally approved. Grants were obtained from SSDC and Wellbeing of Yeovil.



6 Concrete garage were donated by Sherborne School to form the basis of the boathouse.

Original website launched by Trevor Jacklin.

2005~06

Works started in July on the erection of the current boathouse and were schedule for completion by October, however it wasn't until Christmas that the basic structure was completed.

Boat house was finally completed for an Official opening day on 29th April 2006

The club had 6 active coaches: **Keith Hoskin, Trevor Jacklin, Andy Rossall, Geoff Oliver, Nick Prince, Brian Phillips**, with **Rob Rooks** concentrating on the Slalom Paddlers (Sutton Bingham "Hotties").



Membership hits 189

2007~08

SBDC acquire an old selection of Slalom boats from Llandysul followed by K1 and K2 boats from the BCU as part of a development initiative.

2009

Sea Kayaking becomes ever more popular so the club invests in 2No. Esky Sea Kayaks ~ the fleet is further bolstered with additional Kayaks in 2011, 2012 & 2014

The club organised training the first group of 10 UKCC Level 1 coaches in April: **Sam Newton, Chris Harper, Sammy Vellum, Tracey Bradley, Ollie Ayles, Ben Crocker, Chrissie Stacey, Paul Evans, Nick Partridge** and **Simon Champion**

Membership hits 216

2010

First 24 hour paddle fund raising event run in support of Children in Need raising several thousand pounds.

Club members form part of GB Dragon boat team racing (and winning medals) in China, Hungary, Canada, USA, Czech Rep, Netherlands and various charity races in the UK, this continued through until 2017.

With growing interest in BCU 2* qualification *significant investment is made in expanding the number and range of craft available this included:*

- 5 Canadian Open Canoes (Mad River and Discovery)
- 3 Dagger G Force Play boats
- 4 Dagger GTX
- 8 polo boats
- scouts buy the Dagger Infra reds

2011

The club organised an assessment for a batch of 8 UKCC level 2 coaches - **Athol Petts, Andy Rossall, Brian Philips, Chris Harper, Dan Brown, Geoff Oliver, Roger Willoughby** and **Simon Champion**. This allowed a core of new coaches to coach and assess 1 and 2 star awards

2013

15 Club members in the National marathon championships at Pangbourne.

Pontoon launched complete with slalom gates which gave paddlers an extra dynamic when on the reservoir.

Membership hits 276

2014

Steve Cheleda obtained additional store shed from Wessex Water and erected to the North of the original boathouse providing additional kayak storage space and a further 8 Dagger Kayaks were obtained.

2015

5No. 'Sit-on Top' Canoes were acquired following recommendation from BCU that they were the "must train new boat"

2016

The Club obtained 2No. KataKanu's as a result of the growing interest in Dragon Boat racing since it launch in 2010.

2020

COVID Pandemic hit which saw virtual all club activity cease for most of the year and membership drop to 121

2021

Grant funding was obtained by the club to purchase 6 Stand-Up Paddle board enabling them to offer another form of paddle-sport.

Membership rose to an all-time high of in excess of 300.

'On The Pontoon' Monthly news-letter launched.

2022

A new online membership system was launched

2024

At the annual AGM it was agreed that the club name would be changed from Sutton Bingham & District Canoe Club to Sutton Bingham Paddlesport Club which would bring it in-line with British Canoeing's change to Paddle UK. In conjunction with this the Logo was change to more reflect the three main discipline run at the club.

