

Racing to the Pageant

Back in February the Boscastle & Crackington Gig Torrent was badly damaged on the beach at Crackington. It was our first, and as it turned out, last, training row in her before heading off for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Pageant. Brian Nobb's, master boat builder from St Giles on the Heath, took on fixing her, but none of us knew if it would be achievable before June. After months of his careful work, replacing 24 ribs and 13 major planks, she was nearly ready, there was just the minor matter of scraping off all her paint and getting her re painted and varnished and fitting her new jubilee flag pole.

She went into Brian's shed on the 7th of February and was rolled out on 31st of May. That was the Thursday evening, just time for a quick practice row in the sea before heading off to London on the Friday. Inevitably after all that work and drying out we found a leak when we were out in the sea! A quick repair in London and we were ready for the jubilee.

We were one of a thousand boats taking part. The rain was not able to dampen the spirits of the crew and passengers. Torrent rowed proudly in the first squadron of boats, flying the flags of St Piran and the Queens Jubilee. It was a great day, everyone was freezing cold, but no one would have missed it for the world. It is only a shame the club's singing ability in the bar that evening could not match their rowing ability during the day!

There are more adventures coming up, the long row to Lundy, a return to London for the Great River Race and regattas across Cornwall. New members are always welcome, you can get in touch via facebook <https://www.facebook.com/BoscastleCrackingtonPilotGigClub> or our website <http://www.boscastlegigclub.org.uk/>

Jim Connelly-Webster

The crew picture below is of (left to right)

Sue Stickney

kimTester

Maureen Connelly-Webster

Phoebe Millar

Francis Hegarty

The cox at the front is Nick Holmes

Also in the crew, but not in the picture was Lucilla Spencer-Phillips



