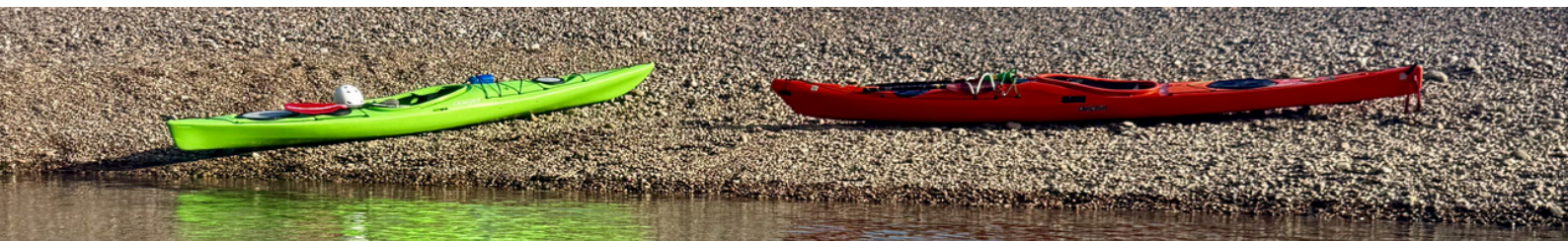




AXE VALE CANOE CLUB SUMMER NEWSLETTER



MAKING WAVES THIS SUMMER

What a start to the summer it's been! From blustery winds to soaring temperatures, the weather has certainly kept us on our toes – but we hope you've managed to make the most of every opportunity to get out on the water.

With a packed calendar of paddling, socials, and events ahead, there's plenty to look forward to over the coming weeks. In this edition, we've rounded up some of the latest news and a few highlights you won't want to miss.

- Open Canoe Weekend (plus social BBQ): **3 – 5 July**
- Kit Sale (forms to be submitted by **8 July**)
- Family Day: **11 July**
- Burgers on the Beach: **15 July**
- Summer Trip list (from **12 July – 23 August**)

– **Charlotte Bailey**
AVCC Publicity Officer

OPEN CANOE WEEKEND

Bob's Open Canoe Weekend returns 3 – 5 July, celebrating its 40th anniversary!

A firm favourite in the club calendar, the weekend brings together paddlers for a mix of coastal and river adventures, great company and plenty of time on the water.

Whilst bookings for the paddling aspect of the weekend are now closed, **all club members and their families are invited to the Saturday evening BBQ at Axmouth Campsite from 6:00pm.**

Please bring your own food for the BBQ, drinks and a camping chair. A small selection of beer, cider and Pimms will be available for a donation. You'll find us in the field beyond the caravans—please drive slowly through the campsite.



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SECOND-HAND KIT SALE – DONATE YOUR UNUSED GEAR!

Do you have paddling kit gathering dust? We're launching a Second-Hand Kit Sale to help newer members pick up quality equipment while raising funds for AVCC.

Smaller items can be donated, with all proceeds going directly to the club. If you're selling larger items (such as boats or paddles worth over £100), we'll help promote them through the sale, with a 10% commission donated to AVCC. Some surplus club equipment may also be included.

If you'd like to donate an item, please complete **the attached form** and return it to **Bev (email here)** by **8 July**. You're welcome to suggest a price, or leave it blank for Bev and the Treasurer to agree.

Items will be collected and stored at the club before a catalogue is shared with members and current course participants, who will then have the opportunity to make offers.



FAMILY & FRIENDS PADDLE – 11 JULY



*Why not share your love of paddlesports with family and friends? Join us on **11 July** for a relaxed afternoon on the water. Members are invited to bring guests along – children are especially welcome with their parents.*



We'll enjoy a gentle paddle up the river before heading back for a picnic at the clubhouse or on the beach (weather permitting). If the weather has other ideas, we'll move indoors for a picnic and some fun with games, including Giant Jenga!

The session starts at 2:30pm at the clubhouse. The club will provide all paddling equipment and drinks – just bring your own picnic, suitable clothing/footwear for the water, a towel, and dry clothes for afterwards.



Please book places for yourself and any guests via WebCollect so we know how many people to expect.



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PADDLE & SUPPER AT SPOT ON CAFÉ – 15 JULY

After Club Night on Wednesday 15 July, why not stay and enjoy a bite to eat with fellow members? Spot On Café, on the seafront near the clubhouse, is opening especially for AVCC from 8:30pm (off the water by 8:00pm).

Partners, and parents of junior members, are very welcome to join us for what promises to be a relaxed summer evening of good food and great company by the beach. If it's well supported, we hope to make this a regular event.

Food must be pre-ordered (drinks/ice creams/other refreshments can be purchased on the night). Please **email Bev** with your order and **make payment to the club**, using the reference "Spot + your name", by midday on 10 July.

Veggie Burger	£5.00	Bacon Bap	£5.50
Cheese and Tomato Toastie	£5.50	2 Sausage and Chips	£7.50
Cheese and Onion Toastie	£5.50	1/4lb Burger	£5.00
Chips	£5.00	1/4lb Cheeseburger	£5.50
Cheesy Chips	£5.50	Chicken Burger	£6.50
		Chicken Burger with Bacon and Cheese	£8.00





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CLUB SAFETY REMINDER

As we head into a busy summer, please take a moment to familiarise yourself with the club's fire safety procedures.

If you discover a fire, activate the nearest fire alarm call point immediately. **If the fire alarm sounds**, leave the clubhouse by the nearest safe exit (front or side door) and make your way to the assembly point on the Axe Yacht Club front patio. Please do not stop to collect personal belongings or re-enter the building until a club coach confirms it is safe to do so.

While you're at the club, please also help keep the site tidy. If you spot discarded water bottles around the grounds, either place them in the clubhouse bins or, if they're reusable, leave them on the sink in the clubhouse so they can be reunited with their owner.

Thank you for helping to keep AVCC safe and welcoming for everyone.

FEEDBACK WE'RE PROUD OF

We've been delighted to receive excellent feedback from course participants, Canoe Safari visitors and Paddle UK officials in recent months.

"Following my visit, I would like to say a big thanks and commend the club on its exemplary safety standards.

[...] Axe Vale CC is providing a benchmark for 'good practice' in the paddlesport community. It is clear that the safety of your members is in very capable hands."

- Lee Pooley, PUK Head of Safety, Learning and Development

"I've had the best time on the beginners intro course, the instructors have been awesome and we are learning so much! Highly recommend"

- 2026 Beginners Paddlesports course attendee

"I did this and it was an amazing experience. Really well organised and great fun"

- 2026 Beginners Paddlesports course attendee

"A big thanks to Wild East Devon and the AVCC for an amazing safari [...] and a big thank you to all the team from the AVCC who made us feel relaxed and were a very informative and a great bunch of people"

- 2026 Canoe Safari attendee

A huge thank you to everyone who helps make the club such a friendly, supportive and enjoyable place to paddle.



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BRUSH UP YOUR SKILLS

Looking to build your confidence on the water or refresh your dynamic paddling skills? Our Improver Course isn't just for new members—it's open to all club members who'd like to develop their technique.

There are still a few places available on our final course of the season, running on Tuesdays from 4 August to 8 September. If you'd like to take your paddling to the next level, we'd love to see you there! Secure your place on the course via **WebCollect**.

YOUR SUMMER ADVENTURES AWAIT

*We've got a fantastic line-up of paddles coming up—something for everyone, from relaxed scenic trips to slightly longer adventures to build your distance. Take a look below and get booked on early to secure your space! **Book via WebCollect to attend!***

12/07/26 - Sidmouth to Ladram Bay 6 miles

A friendly coastal paddle with stunning views, beach lunch, and a must-have ice cream stop.

19/07/26 - Teignmouth to Newton Abbot – Estuary Trip 8.5 miles

A gentle estuary paddle, perfect for all abilities with plenty of time to enjoy the scenery.

02/08/26 - Dartmouth Estuary & Coastline Explorer 10 miles

A full-day adventure exploring the estuary and coastline, with the option to visit the Mew Stone seal colony—plus a well-earned cream tea stop!

09/08/26 - Branscombe / Coast & Estuary Paddle (Short Trip) 6 miles

A relaxed ~6 mile paddle from the clubhouse, heading either along the coast towards Branscombe or Charton Bay, or up the estuary—route decided on the day to suit conditions. Perfect for an easy, enjoyable outing with great scenery.

23/08/26 - Stoke Gabriel to Totnes – River Dart 10 miles

A relaxed 10-mile round trip, ideal for building confidence and distance at a steady pace.

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU READ THE EVENT DETAILS, AND IF YOU ARE UNSURE IF THIS PADDLE IS FOR YOU, CONTACT THE EVENT ORGANISER LISTED ON EACH EVENT.