



ATYC NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2026

This is the ATYC Newsletter which will be sent out to Clubs on a regular basis for onward publication to all club members. It can be used as an ATYC Club Noticeboard and can carry such items as a Club's major event or a short news story. Contributions should be sent to me. Happy reading and stay safe.

Mike Chambers

PHYC BUILDING TO BE DEMOLISHED. The Penton Hook Yacht Club building is to be demolished with the work starting circa April. The Club has to pay for the demolition together with the checks for asbestos and bats. Planning permission for the work and for MDL's proposal to build a restaurant have yet to be agreed. It is likely that the Club will continue to operate albeit without a permanent premises.

Speed Boater in Court A motorboater who injured a teen kayaker in a “completely avoidable” collision has become the first to be sentenced under new The Merchant Shipping (Watercraft) Order 2023, which came into force in 2024. The powerboat was seen travelling at speeds of up to 25mph shortly before the collision with the kayak.

Swansea Crown Court was told how moments before the impact with a kayaker, motorboater Adam Russell had been seated steering a single-engine, duo-prop speedboat, *White Mischief*, upstream at up to 25mph which lifted the bow and obscured his vision.

The 15-year-old victim, had been coming in the opposite direction, in a group with his father and friends in brightly coloured kayaks and wearing red personal floatation devices.

The young kayaker spotted Russell’s vessel approaching near Rudders Boatyard, and tried to paddle out of the way but Russell, whose boat was carrying six passengers, including children, changed course and struck the kayak, driving over the victim and throwing him into the water.

The teen was left with cuts and bruising to his arms and lower lip.

Adam Russell, 28, of Murrays Mew, Burton, Milford Haven, was sentenced to 12 months in jail, suspended for two years, at Swansea Crown Court yesterday over the life-threatening incident which took place on 11 August 2024 on the River Cleddau.

Russell was also ordered to complete 15 hours of required activity; 200 hours unpaid work; and pay his victim a total of £1,676 in compensation for damage to property and personal injury, plus £3,000 prosecution costs.

SPRING BALL 28TH FEBRUARY. *Last call for tickets.*

With over 100 tickets sold we must very shortly confirm our final numbers to the hotel so please if you and your club are thinking of coming book and pay via our website without delay. Only 5 couples will make a club table. Please bring a burgee for your table and will each club donate a raffle prize to offset the cost of the evening (preferable not bottles). We look forward to seeing as many club members as possible. We will have card readers at the event no need for cash unless you prefer otherwise.

AGM AND SOCIAL EVENING. MONDAY 23RD MARCH 2026. We are bringing forward the date of this event to Monday 23rd March. This is to enable Penton Hook YC for the final time to host the event at their clubhouse before demolition starts in April. We also wish to give them our full support at this sad time and to wish them well for the future as well as our thanks for all the support they have given us in the last few years.

This event is open to all club members and apart from the formal business we will have a speaker on a boating theme as well as food and drinks.

Starting at 7.30 we should finish by 10pm. Please let us know of your club numbers for catering; email hon.sec@atyc.org.

RALLY 2026. Because of the uncertainty at Penton Hook Marina, we have notified the marina manager that we will not be taking his offer to host this year's rally.

We are fortunate to have 2 other offers to host this event at different venues from previous years and we are considering both carefully and looking at the details before making a decision which we will announce at the AGM. We are very grateful to both venues for their kind offers.