



## PRESS RELEASE

2<sup>nd</sup> February 2012

### **Torrent confirmed to take part in the Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant**

The afternoon of Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June will see a thousand boats gather on the river Thames in celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. It will be the largest flotilla in modern times on the river with rowing boats, working boats and pleasure vessels of all shapes and sizes beautifully dressed with streamers and Union Jacks, stretching for an estimated twelve and a half miles.

It has proved extremely popular with three boats applying for every place. The pageant organisers and representatives from the river community were involved in the selection process which included considering safety, fitness-for-purpose and range of vessel type as well as exploring whether the vessel was of historical significance or had an interesting story to tell. At the end of 2011, organisers confirmed to applicants the lucky boats who will take part in this historic event.

Boscastle & Crackington Haven Gig Club is delighted that Torrent has been selected to take part in the Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant. The final crew will be selected by ballot at the club's Annual General Meeting at the Cobweb in Boscastle on the 24<sup>th</sup> of February. Torrent is one of several gigs from Devon, Cornwall and Wales which will be travelling in the flotilla.

Nick Holmes who arranged for the club's entry said "We love taking Torrent to London; since her launch in 2006 she has taken part in the Great River Race on the Thames almost every year, she is the only vessel that has won her class three years in succession. On her last winning run, her rudder pin broke on the start line and she still went on 21 miles with a broken rudder, to beat all comers in her class. The pageant will be the first time we will be in her on the Thames and not racing full on!"

Every vessel will proudly take its place in the flotilla alongside Her Majesty the Queen and other members of the Royal Family aboard the Royal Barge, *The Spirit of Chartwell*. It will be a once in a lifetime moment for the rowers on Torrent as part of this glorious moment in our rich royal history.

Torrent is currently at Crackington Haven waiting for full training to start as the weather settles. The crew will be training in her and the club's other gig, Rival, at Crackington, Boscastle and Port Gavern. The club welcomes has active men's and women's teams of all ages. New members are welcome and full details can be found at [www.boscastlegigclub.org.uk](http://www.boscastlegigclub.org.uk).

**-ENDS-**

**For further information regarding Torrent and the Boscastle &Crackington Gig Club,**

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