

Transcription of video posted by Phil Aspinall.

On behalf of the commodore and the flag officers I have been asked to do something, in what are unprecedented times. Which is give an update by video to the membership on what the Royal Corinthian are doing.

From what we have heard our our members have stayed safe, we have heard of some people contracting the virus and some being ill with it and some being serious ill with it, but so far it seems everyone has come through, which is great. The other people to talk about are the staff, what we have done there is keep Kate on, so the office is manned remotely, and we have furloughed everyone else that were eligible to furlough, that being the permanent staff including Simon chef and Tony, but also any of the staff that were on zero hours contracts and work behind the bar and support us regularly, we have covered all of those as best we can.

What are we as the flag officers doing, well we meet and have our own mini COBR meeting every week, but we are now working to fortnightly as we came to terms with doing what we needed to do, to do what we felt is the right principle, which is to stay within the government guidelines, but to do whatever we can to trade and to keep the members happy. We have put a lot of those things in place now and I will talk about those in a minute. But I think that one thing that everyone will be interested to know is what will that do to our finances and what will that do long term to our Club. Well at the moment the finances are of course not good, but we are ok and we will get through this and with what the government is offering through grants and through furlough we think we can manage for this year. Of course it is going to make a dent on our cash and of course it is going to have some long term implications, but what we also want to make sure at this stage is that we don't do anything silly with the membership like making demands and asking for money, when it would be inappropriate, when others are suffering in different ways across the place.

What I also want to do is give you a bit of an update on what we would have been enjoying, it is a bit like bullseye being Jim Bowen from the past and saying here is what you could have had. For premises and moorings perspective we had just started the work on getting the moorings ready, and the field had just been cut back and the crane serviced, everything was ready for us.

We had also re tiled the balcony that was ready to go and I guess one of the good things is that we're absolutely certain the glue has set on those tiles on the balcony. And then the other things that was a big project over the winter was to get the changing rooms refurbished. That has gone really well and they look very good, we have had our first Optimist event and the feedback was really positive about these great new changing rooms, and that was all down to the great work done by Nigel Cole, in organising that refurbishment and it is great to hear that he and Wendy are getting back to full health.

We move more to house now, and one of the major changes that 50% of the membership will enjoy is the refurbishment and redesign of the ladies downstairs toilets. I have been in them for the first time and they are pretty good toilets, I'm amazed at how bad they must have been for a good few years and a bit of an apology from the Flag Officers that we never got round to doing anything with the toilets before but now I am sure that many of our lady members will sit there and think they are so much better. You will also see when you come into the building for the first time

that the hall and staircase have been redecorated and do we are looking pretty pristine and it was all looking pretty good for the start of the season and sailing, which unfortunately just hasn't happened.

Talking about the sailing, what we are talking about is following the guidelines, the river is really out of bounds, the guidelines says lets not go out there, lets not go out there, lets not risk doing too much social contact. What that means is that a few people are moving to do E-sailing, and virtual regattas. The Otters have done that and have set up a series now for the rest of the spring to see if they can keep going and learn more about the tactics they should be following when they are in the boat. Even the Squibs managed to pursue their cheeseboard event, using Virtualregatta. Unfortunately I came near the back and Petru, who probably by his own admissions would say he isn't the greatest sailor, but is very very good at IT, won. I am really pleased that we will be able to share a bottle of port with him when we do open again.

I think the other people to talk about are again the Otters, who are doing great things, they have done their Otter Challenge and done the pass the toilet roll thing (a viral video challenge online) I'm glad that hasn't impacted me sat here in the garden.

So we are getting there, we are trying to keep you all updated and we are all waiting for the glimmers of hope that we might get back to some kind of normality in the next few months and maybe even weeks, lets hope it comes fairly soon.

What I will commit to do on behalf of the Flag officers, if you find that this has been useful, is to provide further updates like this, as we make changes to react to whatever decisions the government make.

That just leaves me to wish you all well and hope you stay safe as we say now and I hope you enjoyed watching 'The Quiz' on TV- it's the only time anybody has enjoyed seeing a cough in the last few weeks!

Stay Safe, Be good and I look forward to welcoming you back to the club as soon as I possibly can, thank you.

Phil Aspinall, Vice Commodore.