

Fisherrow Yacht Club Newsletter Sept. 2009 (09/3)



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View from the Bridge Deck

This edition the view from the bridge deck has been a little foggy. This is in part due to being away and being more involved in building projects than sailing. We continue to have a bar licence due largely to the diligence of Gavin and the draftsmanship skills of Alistair. The front of the club is looking spectacular and so many have lent help to this effort it is difficult to single any one out without embarrassing - them so here goes, Carol for the garden and door and Norrie for organising the Thursday group in all the paint stripping and repainting (a labour of love) and all the other jobs. Needless to say my contribution to the frontage restoration was to remove the wooden plate at the door and in doing so managed to split it down the middle, so if you have a wee bit of teak lying around

As the daylight lessens thoughts turn to the crane out (17th Oct) , plans for work over the winter, my list already runs to 2 pages, and the winter social program. Its never to early to rehearse your party piece for the burns supper and of course the Ceilidh requires a fitness level I haven't achieved for a number of years. Its only 12 weeks to Christmas aggggh. Look forward to seeing you all at the Ceilidh and please take part in the consultation about your ideas for the development of the club house.

Next year I hope to continue the development of youth sailing and further joint programs with the RYA, the Grammar and the Active schools coordinator, getting more kids from Musselburgh and their families involved in the club.

A great feature of the club has been more and more music around the place, hopefully we can continue this as sailing and live music seem to go well together.

See you all soon
David

Annual General Meeting

Ask not what your club can do for you, but what YOU can do for your club! With many new members and plenty going on the club needs your support to run. The AGM will be held on the **Monday 30 November**. The bar will open at 7pm and the meeting at **7.30pm**. There will be plenty of opportunity to debate the burning issues, like where did next door go!, and also to stand for the committee and feel a bigger part of the club. All committee posts are up for election and more volunteers are definitely needed since four committee members (Chris Nicol, John McManus, Euan Thomson and Lene Binnie) are standing down this year. YOU could make the difference.

Prize Giving

The Prize giving will be on the 14th November. Get the date in Diary. It will be held at the Quayside with a Ceilidh to keep young and old jigging all night. So if you got pipped to the line all season, or just spent it sipping gin in your floating palace get your family and friends organised and get some tickets. You never know there might even be an award for you!



Photo competition

To all you budding Rankins out there. The club is running a photo competition with the best entries being displayed in a redecorated clubhouse and on the website. The photo's should be sailing and club related, nothing smutty please. So get looking through your photo collection. To submit an entry, just email it to the Google Group fisherrow@googlegroups.com. To avoid overloading peoples in-boxes, please keep the size less than 1 MB and only include one photo per email (though multiple entries are allowed). Mark the subject of the email

“Photo Competition Entry”. Entries will be posted on the website. So be David Bailey for a day, and famous forever.

eg. me in my laser!!!!!!



Pilotage support

Lovers of the exotic may want to check out <http://marinas.com/> which has an excellent collection of copyright aerial photos of harbours and marinas worldwide. The UK collection includes most of the harbours in the Forth though not Cramond. Some of the photos are more useful for pilotage than those in the current pilots. The photos are dated which is useful (?) bearing in mind the developments that have been taking place over the past few years.

Thanks Norrie?

Aberdour Muster Report

Friday 7th Aug – Sunday 9th August: Aberdour

Late on the Friday afternoon (well about 3.45pm) and dodging the harbour wall jumpers, Calypso headed off into the sun roughly in the direction of Aberdour harbour needless to say I was helming!! Sea state smooth, wind 4 knots and on the nose, so motor sailing and autohelm was the order of the afternoon. On arriving in the harbour we found Norrie already tied up with glass of wine in hand (sorry, should be Scarista tied up and Norrie with glass in hand!!) A pleasant evening was had sitting around on boats having a blether waiting for the other boats, Annie Laurie, Mrs Chippy, Sulimar, Midnight Blue and a new boat to this years ventures Countess Linda to come over on Saturday. (some having decided to stay to enjoy the Friday evening 'frisbee on the beach' session at the club).

Saturday dawned nice and bright which resulted in Calypso getting her annual deck scrub!! It was also the last full day of the Aberdour festival, so a wander round to the beach brought the delights of sand castle building, beach volleyball, puppet shows and various stalls along the front and very enjoyable it was too.

Whilst waiting for the other boats to arrive, it was heard over VHF radio that a group of people had become stranded on the causeway at Crammond, and for those of you who didn't read about it in the papers over the weekend, they were reassured by Stuart McD, Jed and Kevin who in their wisdom had decided to kayak across to Aberdour from Crammond rather than sail, just as well they did, and their efforts were highly praised by the Coastguard.

All expected boats turned up and for those of you who are wondering who sailed Mrs Chippy over, it was great to see Toby & Nicky Clark aboard, plus we also had the addition of Cameron Petrie who brought his boat Coconut round from Burntisland.

A table for 15 was managed to be booked at the Ceder Inn for dinner and about 10.30pm we headed back to Aberdour Boat Club, but they don't appear to be as hardy as us FYC sailors, the place was in darkness!!

Therefore the Celdidh and jam session took place on the harbour wall well into the wee small hours, it was nice to see Jed & Kevin managing to overcome their shyness and joining Charlie, Stuart and Bryan in making sweet music.

Sunday dawned brightly, early (8am) and noisily, Stuart deciding to recover from the night before and scrap Mrs Chippy's bum, much to the annoyance of Jane, Toby & Nicky. We where joined by Alyn & Elaine Smurthwaite who had come across in the train to sail back with us (Calypso) Lots a lazing around and chat took place over the rest of day before we headed back over to Fisherrow. Jed departed first deciding to kayak back to Portobello and boy what a time he did as well, 2hrs give or take a minute or two!!

The rest of us ambled back, again not much wind and on the nose, never mind there's always the next time!!

Jayne

Recycle the Fisherrow Way with Angus Forsyth!

Earlier this year I responded to an offer of a year's back-issues of Practical Boat Owner from Norrie Law on the group email forum. I've spent the last few months reading them from cover to cover and I've always tried to pass them on to somebody else when I'm finished. A couple of them ended up in the reception area at work and got more attention than "European Chemical News", as you might expect.

This summer we went to Madeira for a week's holiday and I took a PBO with me. When I'd finished reading it I left it in the pile of magazines in the hotel foyer hoping it would interest someone. It was gone within an hour and was replaced with a copy of "SKIPPER, Boote Und Yachting". I'd like to think that the PBO magazine is now somewhere in Europe doing it's third or fourth recycle.

Attached is a photo of Geraldine engrossed in an article about " Der Diesel Engineschaften".



Thanks Angus!



Whilst on a trip to compete in St. Andrew's Vets. Regatta Tim and Carol found this beautiful old boat propping up a wall. Beside it was none other than our very own dinghy renovation expert, Angus who was being assure by his wife that he definitely did NOT need another project. The garage is already full with one for this winter. Perhaps Carol (our gardener) would like it to put plants in.

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Race

"David P arrived late, sailing out of the harbour [still wearing] in his shirt and tie (and trousers too!). He hailed me to ask his start time! but I couldn't tell him on the spur of the moment [ROD totally confused by events!] so he did a U-turn and just got on with the race."!

Euan, maybe you can explain over a pint; u-turn back into harbour and got on with race?

Club Boats

New Battery Setup on Red Fox

Drivers will notice that there is a new battery master key attached to the keyring. Please keep this tied to the keyring as a reminder to all drivers, to take it off the boat after use. This master key fits the new switch next to the the steering wheel and replaces the original master switch inside the battery compartment door.

There are now 2 batteries on the rib:

- Battery 1 (Port side under console) is permanently connected so that the automatic bilge pump keeps the boat dry while on the mooring.
- The new master switch brings Battery 2 (starboard) online for starting the engine. This should still be charged even if Battery 1 is flat after lots of rain.

The master key should be left on when the engine is running so that both batteries get charged by the engine.

Red Squirrel.

The Mercury engine has been professionally repaired and is now back in the club ready for use. The fault was a siezed choke spindle inside the carb. I was advised that we need to keep the engine cleaner and to look after it better. There is sand and grot under the engine cover and surface corrosion on the engine. We should lightly spray the engine with WD40 every time we use it, and if it gets a bad wave over it when launching or recovering then we must clean out the debris that gets under the engine cover.

The club dinghies are also back up to full strength - 2 Lasers and 3 Picos ready for action.

Reporting Damage

In the absence of club equipment log books, can I ask that if any repairs are needed to the safety boats, drivers call me on 07810 055720 or email davidjamesbanks@gmail.com.

Dinghy Repairs

As stated in the club handbook, any damage to club dinghies is the responsibility of the member. Again, please contact me in the case of any damage.

Club Changes.

In case any of you, who haven't kept up with developments think next door has been ripped up by a twister and returned back to Kansas, yes it has finally been demolished over the summer. The implications for the club are that we'll have building work on-going next door with some minor inconvenience in lost space for a while. The initial demolition has impacted on the male changing rooms. Reinstatement work has been attempted, but discussions continue to ensure they are completed to the standards promised. We are also taking the opportunity to refurbish certain key aspects like the showers. Hopefully we'll have all works on our side completed in the near future. This then takes us to consideration of the most appropriate usage of the money received for the sale of the sail locker.

Club Capital Spend Survey

As you'll be aware the club has benefited financially from the sale of the sail locker as part of the redevelopment next door. How this money is spent over the coming few years is down to you. The committee will be seeking your opinions on how we can redevelop our own facilities, and make best use of the money we now have. A survey will be initiated in the near future to obtain your opinions. The format is still being decided but stay tuned.

Friday Frisbee on the Beach

Frisbay Friday took place on a fabulously still evening with lots of folk turning up to enjoy both BBQ and games. Not one frisbee was thrown but once the small children had enjoyed both the volleyball and swing ball the adults and teenagers made a take over bid as the wee ones headed for bed.



Great fun was had as the sun sank over the water creating a spectacular sunset. There were jokes flying fast, lots of banter and friendly rivalry culminating in a spot of judo between David and Stuart.

This was definitely a night to remember and although we had several Boul sets they did not get used. However there is always next year and I certainly am happy to organise again when events are so well attended as this was. The bar didn't quite run out of beer though.