

Fisherrow Yacht Club Newsletter 09



VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE DECK

Well this is my first newsletter (John's really) and already it seems as though I've hardly had time to draw breath since November. The sailing committee has come together under the leadership of David Banks and has produced an adventurous and challenging programme for the season. The handbook is being printed as I write (I hope!!) and the Burns supper seemed to go down well. The website and Google group seem to have been successful ventures into the electronic world and useful and relevant information is available on both. The lively debate regarding the BT landline at the club continues to exercise a variety of views and the committee is looking to find a reasonable compromise that will take the club forward.

We have started negotiations with the RYA, the Musselburgh Grammar School, East Lothian Council and ourselves to build a programme for developing youth sailing at Fisherrow. The RYA is being enormously supportive, the school is very positive and East Lothian Council have good safety equipment to offer. I am hopeful that we will be able to develop these discussions into active participation on the water and look forward to a new dimension in the club's sailing activity.

A lot of hard work is currently going in to the cruisers at the harbour and although the weather is less than helpful, I see that the march towards crane-in day helps focus thoughts and energies of the season ahead.

A GREAT START TO THE SEASON - Something to look forward to 'The Commodore's Party' - will be held on the **28th of March** at the clubhouse when there will be a Feast of food, drink and entertainment, fun and laughter et al for all members and guests who wish to partake. Please let me know if you intend to come. There is a list on the bar or an email will do. There is no charge but if I know numbers it will help judge the food.

From the perspective of the middle of a very cold February it will only get better and I'm looking forward to an excellent season on the water, visiting new places, and making new friends. Hope to see you at as many of the activities that you can make.

Membership fees: credit crunch support from Fisherrow.

Your club although one of the sailing bargains of the Forth, if not the whole of the UK, is proud to support you all through these unsettling times. So to help, you can sail with us for exactly the same low costs as in '08. All we ask is that you help us by getting your fees in on time and not leaving anyone in the horrible position of having to chase you with a baseball bat.

REMEMBER: Paying before 31 March "saves" you £10, the clock is ticking..... (late fees, always read the small print)

Sailing calendar:

The sailing sub-committee have excelled themselves. They have considered the tides available at length and as highlighted at the AGM have looked at how best to serve the sailors we have and how to help you get the most from the club. The '09 calendar for the dinghy section focuses on a range of fun, social, family and racing events. So hopefully more of you will sail more often this year. For the Cruisers there is a suitable range of racing activities and as before many activities will be informally organised for suitable tides, weather etc.



This year sees many opportunities for bragging about your sailing in the bar, with a number of Friday night sails. So get your underside clean and swap a wee drink and a big story. As well as the calendar being in your handbook, we've attached one to this newsletter and you can find a copy on the website, www.fisherrowyachtclub.com/calendar.html.

Social Calendar:

The evening of Saturday 24th January 2009 saw yet another successful Burns supper at the Club. Attended by approximately 45 people, it would be fair to say a great evening was had by all. The evening was kicked off with our new commodore, David Wilkie, welcoming everyone with a wee dram. The traditional menu, Commodore's cockaleekie soup followed by haggis, neeps and tatties, then some rather delicious and well designed trifle and cranachan was enjoyed by all. The address to the haggis was superbly delivered by Carol Stewart, whilst Gavin's toast to the lassies received rapturous applause. The reply by Jane MacDonald most definitely settled the score. David Petrie did us proud, not only with the immortal memory, but after many requests his Ode to a F**t rounded off the speeches for the evening. This was followed by some fantastic highland dancing, led by Lene Binnie. Stuart MacDonald, Bryan Tierney and Charlie Harrison then treated us to some fine live music, a bit of a sing along and no night would be complete without a couple of jokes from Charlie. A huge thank you to all who helped prepare, cook and serve the food, the speakers, the highland dancers, and to all members who came along and supported yet another great Burns night at FYC. Go to www.fisherrowyachtclub.com/Burns2009.html for more pictures and video footage from the night.



24th
another
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Building:

This year is likely to bring a lot of upheaval to the club as the building work commences for our neighbours. We'll keep you up to date with any news through the club email group and through our newsletter.

The committee have identified and prioritised a number of projects to be conducted over the coming year. As we are a small club in many instances you'll need to support your club with some painting decorating and minor building work. We hope many of you will join in when requested to spread the burden.

All the W's, Check it out:

The FYC website has been updated for 2009 and will continue to serve a twofold purpose - to keep members updated and to advertise the club to the outside world, e.g. to attract new members. It will advertise forthcoming events, show the latest version of the calendar, post race results and much else besides. The site is at www.fisherrowyachtclub.com

and can also be accessed at

www.fisherrow.org.uk

David Banks will be looking after the calendar and race results pages and Chris Tierney, who set the site up in 1996 as one of the first in Scotland and indeed the world, continues to be able to update the site. However Malcolm Stewart should be contacted in the first instance with suggestions, amendments and new content.

Googling around

Most members will now be familiar with FYC's Google group, which allows members to email each other on any topic relevant to the club. By

default members are enrolled in this, though they can of course opt out if they wish. Email addresses are never passed to third parties and only members can send emails, which should be sent to

fisherrow@googlegroups.com. The number of messages is small, say a couple a day, so you won't be deluged

A few extra features are available if one actually joins the Google group, e.g. you can look back at the archive of messages and view files that have been uploaded such as minutes of meetings that are not appropriate to publish on the open web. To join the group, go to groups.google.com/group/fisherrow and follow the instructions.

Musselburgh Festival Harbour Event:

Last year's Musselburgh Festival Harbour Event was considered to be a great success, so it is back on the HTA calendar this year. It is planned for Thursday 23rd July at 7:30pm - see <http://www.honesttoun.co.uk>.

At the last FYC committee meeting we discussed how to support this event and promote the club to the public visiting the harbour that evening. High tide is 16:41 BST so any water based activity in the evening will not be possible unfortunately, so we need to compromise slightly. We are in touch with the HTA, but before we agree to anything we would like to understand what we can offer.

Suggestions so far are to welcome visitors aboard the yachts for a quick tour - flyers with information about the club would be available. Also, some dinghies on show with sails up (club members standing by to answer questions), safety boat on show, etc, should attract some welcome attention to the club.

Firstly, if you own a yacht and would be prepared to tie up alongside overnight on July 23rd, and are willing to welcome public aboard for a quick tour, please let David Banks know.

Secondly, if you have a dinghy and can show it that evening, please get in touch. We also need some volunteers to rig club dinghies and show them. If you can help in any of these three areas, please email David at davidjamesbanks@gmail.com or call 07810055720.

Other suggestions including offers of help are very welcome.

Camping weekend:

Over the last few years a few plucky members have braved the frozen north and have returned with many tales of great bravery and hilarious fun. Volunteers are being sought to sound out interest in repeating this almost traditional event for 2009. Please feel free to self-start planning for this event on the FYC on the Web chat group or over a warming beverage on a Friday at the bar.

Club Phone:

Well, well, who would have thought something used so little would cause so much commotion. No, not the words of our commodore but a reflection on the intensity of debate regarding the clubhouse phone. The phone costs around £300 p/a to keep for almost non-existent usage. Other options are being explored but the intense debate remains. Stay tuned for more news on the Phantom ringer of Fisherrow.

2009 Sailing Calendar

Date	HW (GMT)	Height (m)	Start (BST Unless Otherwise Stated)	Event	Race Officer	Safety Boat
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Sat 21-Mar	10:35	4.0	09:00 GMT	Dinghy Maintenance in Yard. Finish 13:00 GMT		
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Sat 04-Apr	09:39	4.4	09:00	Dinghy Maintenance in Yard. Finish 13:00		
Fri 10-Apr	-	-	19:30	Pre Season Briefing		
Fri 17-Apr	19:59	4.0	19:00	Friday Fun Sail		Alyn Smurthwaite
Sat 25-Apr	14:41	5.7	13:30	Handicap Series 1	Chris Tierney	Angus Forsyth

Fri 01-May	19:48	4.5	19:00	Friday Fun Sail		Chris Tierney
Sat 09-May	14:37	5.4	13:30	Handicap Series 1	Gavin McDowall	David Banks
Fri 15-May	18:31	4.4	18:30	Friday Fun Sail		David Wilkie
Sat 23-May	13:29	5.4	12:00	Pirates Day	Graham Crawford	Dixie
Fri 29-May	18:35	5.0	18:30	RNLI / Joe Wilson Sternchases £5 entry	Euan Thomson	Iain Binnie

Sat 06-Jun	13:33	5.0	12:30	Stern Chase	Carol Stewart	Jim Aitken
Fri 12-Jun	17:27	4.7	18:00	Friday Fun Sail		John McManus
Sat 13-Jun	18:06	4.6	17:00	Handicap Series 1	David Tollervey	Keith Christie
Sat 20-Jun	12:07	5.0	11:00	Regatta Weekend	David Wilkie	Malcolm Stewart
Sun 21-Jun	13:08	5.3	12:00	Regatta Weekend	David Banks	Stuart McDonald
Fri 26-Jun	17:30	5.4	16:30	Friday Fun Sail		Sylvia V.B
Sat 27-Jun	05:37 / 18:18	5.6 / 5.2	08:00	Over One Tide Race Eric Rankine Trophy	Dennis Walton	
Sat 27-Jun	18:18	5.2	17:00	Handicap Series 1	Carol Jones	Uta Binnie

Sat 04-Jul	12:25	4.6	11:30	Fun Sail		Alyn Smurthwaite
Mon 06-Jul- Fri 10-Jul	-	-	-	East Coast Sailing Week Royal Tay YC		
Sat 11-Jul	17:03	4.9	16:00	Ladies Races	Cameron Petrie	Angus Forsyth
Sat 18-Jul	10:32	4.7	09:30	Handicap Series 2	David Banks	Chris Tierney
Thu 23-Jul	15:41	5.7	19:30	Honest Toun's Festival Harbour Event		
Sat 25-Jul	17:11	5.6	16:00	Old Codgers One Design	Chris Nicol	David Wilkie

Sat 01-Aug	11:01	4.2	10:00	Handicap Series 2	Stuart McDonald	David Banks
Sun 02-Aug	12:08	4.3	-	Burtisland Regatta		
Sat 08-Aug	16:05	5.2	15:00	Aberdour Regatta		
Sat 08-Aug	16:05	5.2	15:00	Sternchase	David Petrie	Dixie
Fri 14-Aug	20:07	4.4	19:00	Friday Fun Sail		Iain Binnie
Sat 15-	08:46	4.5 /	09:00	Anstruther Muster		

Aug	/	4.4				
	21:29					
Sun 16-Aug	10:18 / 22:51	4.5 / 4.6	-	Anstruther Muster		
Sat 22-Aug	16:04	5.8	15:00	Sternchase + BBQ	Uta Binnie	Jim Aitken
Sat 29-Aug	09:03 / 21:41	4.0 / 4.0	-	FCYC/RFYC Edinburgh Regatta		
Sun 30-Aug	10:39 / 23:06	4.0 / 4.1	-	FCYC/RFYC Edinburgh Regatta		

Sat 05-Sep	15:06	5.4	14:00	Fun Sail		John McManus
Sat 05-Sep	15:06	5.4	-	CBC Regatta (Y&D)		
Sun 06-Sep	15:38	5.4	-	CBC Regatta (Y&D)		
Fri 11-Sep	18:36	4.6	18:30	Friday Fun Sail		Keith Christie
Sat 19-Sep	14:58	5.8	14:00	Handicap Series 2	Tim Jones	Malcolm Stewart

Sat 03-Oct	14:02	5.3	13:00	Handicap Series 2	Chris Tierney	Stuart McDonald
Sat 17-Oct	13:52	5.6	13:00	Fun Sail		Sylvia V.B