



FORTH CRUISING CLUB

August 2003

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26/08/2003

www.forthcruisingclub.org

NEWS !

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SUBSCRIPTIONS 2003-2004

Subscription renewals are due on 1st September. Please pay promptly. If no payment has been received by the end of September it will be assumed you do not wish to renew your membership – a new application and joining fee would be required to reinstate you. Payment at crane-out is not acceptable. Boat owners must return their boat registration forms by the same date.

LIFEJACKET SAFETY WARNING

Following the death of a fisherman whose lifejacket did not inflate, a survey was undertaken of yachts competing in the Scottish Series on the Clyde. This produced the shock result that out of 100 boats checked 40 lifejackets were found which might not have inflated because the gas cylinders had become loose. Examine yours regularly to check the cylinder is tightly screwed in, so the firing pin can pierce the end seal. See notice in clubhouse or www.fyca.org.uk

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new members who have joined recently:

- Alan Browne and family – have Westerly Centaur “Comma” and Flying Fifteen “Boomerang”
- Graeme McKenzie and family – have Laser 16 “Dignity”
- Alistair Sibbald – who has been helping Alex Birrell work on his boat.
- Gerry Fitzgerald & family who have the Enterprise “Little Hippo”.



Meggie, Fyne Thyme & Louise competing for the Driftwood trophy with Kincardine Bridge in the background

SECURITY

There has been a tendency recently for the workshop (basement) door to be left open with nobody nearby. This poses a security risk to the dinghies and equipment stored inside. Any claims would probably be rejected by insurance companies. Please therefore close the door unless you are going to be in the immediate vicinity – you cannot monitor it satisfactorily from the harbour or working inside a boat. Similarly the clubhouse door should not be left open.

Forthcoming Events

Port Edgar Cruise	30th August
Subscriptions Due	1st September
Aberdour Cruise	6th September
Port Edgar Cruise	20th September
Blackness Cruise	5th October
Crane Out	25th October
AGM	TBA (late October)
Dinner Dance	15th November
Mulled Wine Night	6th December

DINNER DANCE

The Club's annual dinner dance & prize giving will be held at the North Queensferry Lodge Hotel on 15th November. Details to follow.

[News continued on page 4...](#)



A 9 boat turn out for the Aberdour Cruise

Cruising Convenor



Bo'ness - 20th April

The first planned cruise to Bo'ness was a non-event mostly due to the weather. Having sailed back on a rising tide from Port Edgar under foresail only, in a fairly strong easterly (8.4 knots SOG which was a personal record for Louise) I was glad there was little interest in shooting up to Bo'ness given the prospect of pounding back with the wind on the nose.

Blackness –27th April

The Blackness Cruise, traditionally the opening event, coincided with AI's 70th and came off second best - COMMA, LOUISE and CLOCKWORK ORANGE (John D and 1st mate Big Tam) did the business and managed a pint at Blackness Club having braved the white horses and gusts in Blackness Bay. A slab reef in the main and 5/6 turns round the jenny did it for me.

3rd of May and “Up the River”

I arrived at Capernaum 1405 and nobody in sight - wait...here comes Dan...there goes Dan! The Paterson's arrive about the same time as the blustery showers that drenched all. Despite the elements we (BANTIKI AND LOUISE) set off to make west of Bo'ness before a radio message from Davie “what's your intentions” - reply - “home” as grey clouds began to gather over Grangemouth. The foul weather continued and warnings of a Force 6 gave up the hope of the overnigher to Aberdour.

Pt Laing/Drum Sands—24th May

Saturday 24 May dawned and the planned cruise to Pt Laing/Drum Sands returning Sunday. Weather was fine (albeit a LOW was forecast – so what's new) so crew and I set off for the cruise muster at 0930hrs. Couple of boats already away so set sail with black skies in the west coming our way. Being the “FESTIVAL OF THE SEA” at Leith gilded us on with the sight of two harbour porpoise on the way - but no other club boats. We were off the port of Leith by 1300hrs with the wind dropping so it was back to port Edgar for the night with a Chinese meal for our efforts.

Anstruther—6th June

Friday 6th June and the club's first organised longer haul to the East Neuk. Boats attending - YVANA, ARMAGNAC, LOUISE. (For posterity my best friend “paddy” died yesterday so this trip was for her). A good breeze took us east with 8.6 knots clocked but light airs eventually forced firing up on the “donk”. Spent the night at Pittenweem where we slept like babies due to floating all night (honest). Anstruther via the May Island and Bass Rock on Saturday to spend another memorable night ashore (can't recall too much detail ?). Sunday, basically motored most of the way home.

Inchcolm—21st June

The 21st June saw the cruise to Inchcolm with incorporated the Masson Trophy. Peter was on his hols so yours truly organised things – no problemo – “take your own timings”. Brucehaven via buoy 9 finish buoy Mortimer's Deep. The wind ceased half way through the race and LOUISE, FYNE THYME were forced to give up (as the out going tide had us heading for Stavanga) crediting the honours to KATIE MOR.



Louise, Armagnac, Yvana at Pittenweem



Waiting for Crystal Clear to arrive at Aberdour.

Aberdour—26th July

Saturday 26 July the Aberdour overnigher. Boats attending – CORDELLE, FYNE THYME, SOLITAIRE, CRYSTAL CLEAR, BANTIKI, LOUISE, ARMAGNAC, SMUGGLER OF RHU, STELLA MARIS. An absolutely brilliant night but woke up with an aching head and a pocket full of beer mats?

More cruising anecdotes in next edition...
Willie McAlpine Tel. 01259 760934

Flags out during Anstruther muster



Rear Commodore Piers & Moorings

The summer has been good to us so far and has led to a lot of activity in the harbour at all hours and days of the week. A few reminders points should not go amiss meanwhile, to keep everyone happy.

Please try to keep the davit hooks out of the water as it washes the grease from the pulley bearings and makes it twice as hard to hoist up (and for me to re-grease. Oil just washes out with the rain and fouls the rope). The deepwater mooring has new chain and will hold any boat. Remember the small buoy is for pick-up only. Loop your warp through the hard eye on the 1" rope a metre from the buoy (if you can find it in the seaweed)!

The pontoons are very popular and to be fair to everyone, should be used sparingly. Only leave boats unattended, especially overnight, if weather conditions are favourable. Watch out for southerly winds as over Force 4 can cause you heartache. The Committee may soon offer some 'rules' on their use.

Some mooring chains are showing signs of wear mainly in the top ten feet. Please check. I will contact those who get below the Club rule of 1/4" minimum.

Enough of the nagging. A few activities will be happening during the remainder of the season:

- Green and white starboard hand poles are to be placed down the rock line to define the limits of the manoeuvring space in our crowded harbour for both us and visitors.
- More resurfacing of the car/boat park to get rid of puddles etc.
- Better fixing of ladders.

Phil Whetton Tel. 01383-872691



Officers of the day at the Regatta

Vice Commodore

First of all I would like to make an amendment to the Rae Trophy historical note which appeared in the last newsletter. I had mentioned quite inaccurately, that Willie Rae had donated the trophy to the Club. The reality is, and I hope I have recorded it correctly this time, that his mother donated the trophy to the Club in her son's honour/memory. My apologies if I have offended anyone.

On the one hand I am pleased to report that all races, with the exception of the novelty sternchase, have been run so far this year, although the numbers of boats participating or supporting the races has been particularly disappointing, especially considering how good the summer weather has been. My thanks to Jim Simpson in making the effort to sail to Limekilns for the sternchase event, only to find no other interested parties, apart from the Officer of the day.

The series race is now up and running and has been called the Admiral Cochrane Trophy. The number of club members electing to take part in this new event has again been disappointing.

FCC's own regatta held over the weekend of 12/13 July experienced probably the most glorious weather for several years. The turnout of 9 boats for the two classes says it all!

Please note that another new race was scheduled for Saturday 23 August commencing at 1100hrs. This was the single-handed race, which was introduced to provide the smaller to medium sized boats an opportunity to have a race without the big boys!

Peter G Gargett Tel. 01592 840553

MORE NEWS.....

FIRST AID

There is a first aid kit in the galley upstairs in the clubhouse and another in the Clockwork Orange.

The committee is looking into the possibility of putting on a basic first-aid course oriented to sailors as part of the winter activities. It would be intended to be for your personal benefit, not to place any responsibilities on you. It is probably the sort of thing many people think they really ought to do sometime but never quite get round to. If this sounds of interest please let a committee member know so we can gauge the level of interest.

There has also been a separate suggestion that we should have a list on the notice board of qualified first-aiders. Then, in event of an accident, should any of them be nearby, assistance could be quickly obtained. If you would be prepared to have your name on the list please notify a committee member.

CLUB CLOTHING

There are still a few club sweatshirts available at £20 and polo shirts at £16, though in limited sizes. Contact a committee member if you would like one.

CLUB TV & VIDEO

The club has installed a TV (video to follow) for members to use (yes, we also have a licence!)

LONDON BOAT SHOW

The dates the London boat show are 8th to 18th January 2004 and will be held at the London Excel exhibition centre. Excel is located in London's east side and a stone's throw away from Canary Wharf with easy access to the Jubilee line.

For more info. check out;
www.londonboatshow.net
www.excel-london.co.uk



CRUISING LOG COMPETITION

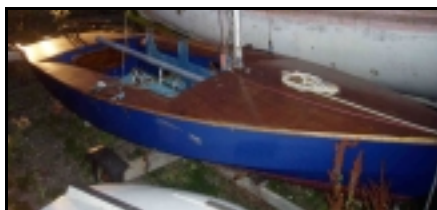
Remember there is a prize for the best log written up about a cruise undertaken this year. Remember the winner is the best log, not the best cruise, so you don't have to have done anything heroic! There have been no entries the last two years so please be encouraged to take up your pens.

FOR SALE!

LEISURE 17 "Monty II"

c.1980. Good sail w/drobe, anchor other extras.
 £500 ono. (new 5hp outboard also available, £TBA)

Contact: Andrew Griffiths Tel 01383 872305



SKUA

"Scaramouche"
 17' lifting keel day boat.

Sail No 51, well built and fast example of its class. New decks &

rigging 2001. 2 suits sails. Roller furling jib. New sheets and deck fittings. Trailer in good order, with lighting board. Very responsive but safe sailing. Outboard bracket for 2HP outboard (outboard being sold separately for £100). Selling due to family commitments. £750 for quick sale. Lying Forth Cruising Club.

Contact David Gray on 01383 872060

1979 WESTERLY CENTAUR "Askival"

Engine :- Volvo Penta MD11 25hp diesel.
 Inventory :- Nasa log & echo sounder, Seavoice VHF, radio telephone, FM radio with RDF, Sestrel steering compass, autopilot, misc charts, brass compass, barometer, comfort meter, 3 anchors, selection of warps & fenders, spray hood, cockpit tent, radar deflector, boarding ladder, whisker pole, two boat hooks, new cockpit dodgers, Yamaha outboard & new Zodiac dingy.
 £14,000 ono

Contact : Douglas Milne, Tel. 01383 880401, Mobile : 0780 3045227

Editor's note:

I am keen to get newsletter contributions from all club members, not just the committee. Please contact me if you would like to input to the next edition.
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