



FORTH CRUISING CLUB

www.forthcruisingclub.org

July 2005

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22/07/2005

NEWS !

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FIFE HARBOUR VISITOR PASSES

Fife Council is this year implementing a scheme to encourage visitors to the harbours it runs. Books of vouchers are available as follows:

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------|---------|
| | 7 day | 14 day |
| Vessels under 8 metres | £45.00 | £84.00 |
| Vessels 8 metres & over | £54.00 | £100.00 |

Vouchers will allow free movement between the participating harbours listed on the vouchers and will remain valid for the whole season.

SEWAGE TANKS

The many hours and reams of letters battling with Scottish Water seem to be finally bearing fruit. They are to soon start work modifying the tanks, which they say should end the problems experienced. Given the history we will not believe this until proved, but it is at least an advance on their attitude at the outset which was that overflows could not possibly happen.

CRUISING LOG COMPETITION

The committee has decided that the prize for this should now be awarded at the Commodore's Party in the spring rather than the Dinner Dance. This gives the winter for people to write their entries, so hopefully more logs will be submitted. But do keep it in mind as you sail around during the summer.

TELEPHONE

The clubhouse payphone died recently. It was virtually never used and as its replacement would be costly in addition to the high rental charges the committee proposed that it should be done away with. The safety element is covered by there being nearly always a mobile phone available on the pier, and in extremes there are the neighbouring houses. This was endorsed at the Spring General Meeting.



Club boats at Eyemouth

Al enjoying an early G & T while passing Fidra— Lindisfarne 05



SMOKING

Following analysis from the questionnaire returns of the 2004 Members' Survey, it was revealed that 73% of those responding agreed with a ban on smoking within the clubhouse. Therefore at the SGM a new club rule banning smoking was proposed and approved (18 votes for, two abstentions and 1 against).

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Following queries by some members, the Secretary has researched the implications of H&S legislation and its relevance to the club's responsibilities and hence to issues of Insurance. Except for a 'general duty of care' and the strictures placed on all members not to interfere with equipment provided for their safety, the HASAW act did not apply to the club as it was an entirely voluntary organisation and no one was at work. He also indicated that while it was recommended that Risk Assessments be undertaken, these were very onerous and demanding tasks and should not be entered into without committing to continuing these into the future. Our Insurance covers us for virtually all reasonable risks to club members and the public, and as long as we took sensible steps to preclude obvious hazardous situations and practices, we would be safe from prosecution.

Dates for your Diary — 2005

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Masson Trophy | 30 July |
| Cruise to Aberdour | 6 August |
| Blackness Boat Club Regatta | 20 August |
| Ladies Race | 21 August |
| Anstruther Muster | 27 August |
| Cruise to Port Edgar | 10 September |
| Cruise to Crammond | 17 September |
| Carl Dyson Regatta | 24 September |
| Closing Cruise to Blackness | 2 October |
| Crane-out | 15/16 October |

Rear Commodore Piers & Moorings

Mid season already, with our sailing well underway, hence not much happening on the pier with improvements. All moorings seem to be working well with some boats sold on and other new faces arriving with their craft. Don't forget to give a helping hand and the usual 'expert advice' on how to navigate our somewhat difficult close layout of boats.

The pontoons were late in getting to their usual positions as they are being modified by strengthening their chain fixings. This will be completed shortly with a little welding still to be done.

In addition all three pontoons will have special non slip matting added shortly to make them safer when wet. This is expensive but is a must to improve the Club's facilities especially if used by visitors who are unaware of any hazard. Please take care not to damage and do not drag heavy items such as non rubber dinghies along them.

Don't forget to regularly check chains and ropes for wear and tear especially chafing. Good sailing for rest of season.

Phil Whetton Tel. 01383 872691 (phil.whetton@btinternet.com)



A selection of photos from social events—The Limekilns Regatta where John Dougal entertains us with his piping and a behind the scenes shot with the galley team.

Vice Commodore

Race results to date:

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Rae Trophy | Meggie—Gordon Bell |
| Everett Trophy | Panache—Helen Crossley |
| Driftwood Trophy | Fin keel: Katie Mor—Jim Simpson |
| | Bilge keel: Fyne Thyme—Phil Whetton |
| Regatta Pa Billings Trophy | Fin keel : Katie Mor-Jim Simpson |
| | Bilge keel : Panache—Helen Crossley |

Jim Simpson Tel. 01383 872758



Driftwood Trophy

Cruising Convener

“Shake out Cruise”

The good old Scottish April weather had a miserable effect on the first “shake out” cruise but the following Saturday evening CORDELLE, FYNE TYME, SAMSPAN and LOUISE ventured out for the first organized sundowner cruise. As the sun set (we assume it must have, as it was no where to be seen) the air cooled and uplifting spirits warmed the night.



Blackness Cruise

Traditionally the Blackness cruise is our first outing. This year it fell third within the agenda and was planned for the fairer temperatures of the month of May. However somebody forgot to organise this fair weather and an ‘orrible north wind kept the event at home!

Lindisfarne Cruise



The Lindisfarne trip saw CORDELLE and LOUISE leave limekilns within two hours of each other late afternoon on Friday 27 May. SMUGGLER OF RHU left early that evening. YVANNA was at Port Edgar where Louise joined her after turning back at Hound Point getting nowhere in rough seas with the wind on the nose. Cordelle ploughed on to Granton as did Smuggler despite a forecasted NE 6/7 (see what big engines and props can do for you). We all caught up in Granton on Saturday where we were holed up by strong winds. A fifth boat did leave PE with the best of intentions but feel foul of the weather. The adventure resumed at 0830hrs on Sunday and we arrived in sunny, warm Eyemouth about 1730hrs. On

Monday after a bit of shopping to replenish ships stores three boats slipped about 1230hrs for the Farne islands (time restraints saw Cordelle heading north again). We all made the Kettle about 1830hrs and spent a superb short spell in this magical place before heading north for Holy Island. The Ship Inn was closed for meals but open for refreshments, “we’ll eat later on board” and preceded in a little malt tasting exercise on an empty head. After dark, on returning to the boats, John H made supper. Apparently the sea temperature is not that cold after you get used to it ? On our

return journey back up the coast we encountered dolphins which stayed with Yvanna and Smuggler for almost two hours - fantastic. 1st of June and out of Eyemouth at 0930hrs with a strong wind warning: SE 4/5-6 rabbits rabbits rabbits. We all shot up to the Bass Rock under foresail in about 4 hours then it went quiet and wet. Tied up in Granton 1830hrs. Poor Smuggler pressed on as they had to get home, so they missed good food at the Old Chain Pier. Yvanna and Louise safely home Thursday 2nd. As Parahandy would say “a great trup”.



Aberdour Cruise

The Aberdour trip on Saturday 11 June was shortened to PE at the last minute where FYNE TYME and LOUISE enjoyed a convivial evening in the Hawes Inn. An early rise the next morning and back home before breakfast.



Sunset drinks at *The Kettle*—Inner Farne

Editor’s note:

I am keen to get newsletter contributions from everyone. Please contact me if you would like to input to the next edition. I also require photographs. Thanks again to Ken Belinni and John Johnson for photographs in this newsletter.

Gavin Carter Tel: 01383 873077 Email: smugglerofrhu@tiscali.co.uk

Rear Commodore—Club Boats

Would you like to buy a burgee?



If so, please note your name down on the list in the clubhouse notice board. The more we buy the lower the cost!

If you can't get to the clubhouse, give me a ring.

Kenneth Belinni tel: 01383 872866

New Members

Welcome!

We have had a number of new members recently. So a warm welcome to the club to:

Neil and Kath Schofield - Dollar
 Erik and Katie Thomson - Charlestown
 Ian H Smith - Edinburgh
 Chris Ravey - Bridge of Allan
 Kirsty Maguire - Bridge of Allan
 Collin Passe - Tillicoultry
 Joe Swankie - Limekilns (Re-joining)

The Bell Trophy

The Late George Bell was an active cruising member for many years with Forth Cruising Club. The Bell family in memory of George's happy sailing days have presented the club with a trophy to encourage and promote cruising. To this end a number of questions about the River Forth and its estuary have been devised the answers to which are out there.

1. What is the name of the boat moored at North Queensferry whose name rhymes with an old girls school?
2. How many permanent wall ladders are with in the outer harbour at Bo'ness ?
3. What predominant shape is the wreck south of Inch Mickery ? (a sketch will do)
4. Looking south from Inch Keith you see a golf ball – how many cylindrical shapes to the east ?
5. What letter is the nearest racing mark to the harbour entrance, Granton ?
6. How much is the overnight dues at Aberdour ?

Answers should be accompanied with a short abstract from your cruising log of amusing incident, funny one liner or sightings of whale, shark, dolphin, seal, seaweed in order we can select a winner from all correct entries.

Answers on a post card to me before end of September 2005 or e mail willmcalpine1952@aol.com
 Willie McAlpine, Cruising Convener.

Sailing Today

MORE NEWS !

Sailing Today are again this year giving us a complementary copy of the magazine. This is put into the clubhouse (strictly for reading on the premises only) often before it appears in the shops.

FYCA Forth Pilot Handbook

A revised entry for the FYCA Forth Pilot Handbook is available on their website, covering the refurbished Bo'ness outer harbour, Grangepans and Carriden. The new yacht berth with new ladders and bollards is available for use. Also available is a new chartlet showing the extended pontoons at Anstruther. Go to www.fyca.org.uk and select pilot book from contents list on left.



Mud, mud, glorious mud.

For information on the major harbour development at Bo'ness see www.bo-ness.org.uk/html/news/ForeshoreInitiative.htm