



FORTH CRUISING CLUB

March 2004

23

14/03/2004

www.forthcruisingclub.org

NEWS !

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New Boats

No new members since last newsletter (though there are a couple of applications in the pipeline) but there are new boats, maintaining the moving upward trend. John Quinn has got a Princess 25 motorboat "Wandering Star" which will be kept at Charlestown and Alex Birrell has just taken delivery of a Pegasus 700 called "Sea Horse".

E-mail

In addition to the newsletter occasional items of news, reminders of events etc sent out by e-mail to those we have addresses for. It can get information out without having to wait for the next newsletter. If you have e-mail access but have not been receiving these it is because we have not been told your address! If you would like to be added to the mailing list please send a message saying so to:
rogerfcc@zetnet.co.uk

New Committee Member

Jim Simpson has become Vice-Commodore

Spring General Meeting

The date for the Spring General Meeting has been set - Wednesday, 31st March.

Village Beach Clean

The annual village beach clean takes place on the morning of 27th March, organised from the Scout Hut (where you usually get tea and biscuits after).

Contact Terry Salt for more info, 01383 872230
You can do your bit for the environment and community then feeling pleasantly knackered and very smug can stroll up to the clubhouse where you can settle down for beer and rugby for the rest of the day!

..See back page for Social Convener's report to find out more about the Rugby Day on 27th March.

RYA First Aid Courses

The club's first series of evening First Aid Courses finished in February. The RYA course was over three evenings throughout February, and run by James Urquhart of Port Edgar's sailing school.



The course was well attended by club members and for those who arrived before the 7.30pm start, a light refreshment was available from the bar!

The course included both audio-visual aids as well as a practical element. Topics covered ; artificial ventilation, CPR, drowning, choking, electrical injuries, heart attack, bleeding, burns, fractures and many more. Each topic began by defining what the subject was, recognition of signs and symptoms, and finished with treatment. James took every opportunity to reinforce the following procedure should an accident happen. His most popular acronym was 'DR ABC' - this stood for;

- D Danger** (remove casualty from danger)
- R Response** (check casualty for response)
- A Airways** (ensure airways are not blocked)
- B Breathing** (check if casualty is breathing, if not begin artificial ventilation)
- C Circulation** (check pulse)

Dates for your Diary—2004

Village Beach Clean	27 March
"Rugby Day"	27 March
Spring General Meeting	31 March
Crane-in	3 & 4 April
Driftwood Trophy	15 May
West Forth Regatta	19 & 20 June
Limekilns Regatta	28 & 29 August
Crane-out	23 & 24 October
Annual General Meeting	27 October
Dinner Dance / Prize-giving	13 November
Mulled Wine Night	4 December

Commodore's Column

Well, almost the start of another season. This means there is not long left to get the jobs on the boat finished or even help at the Sunday work parties. If you have been down to the club recently you will notice a few changes, a new back door, the patio is almost finished and the pier has been slabbed at the points where the new ladders are going. There is still plenty of work to do around the clubhouse and pier so if you can spare a couple of hours on a Sunday morning I know that it will help Phil and Ian improve the facilities for you.

On the social side, we now have a full license and the bar is open every Saturday night so why not pop in for an hour or two and catch up on the gossip. Don't forget Sat 27th March, it is the final of the six nations and the bar will be open with food on the go all day. Other social events throughout the year to look out for will include, the regattas, Commodores party, dinner dance, and Driftwood BBQ. Then of course there is the sailing to fit in. Willie McAlpine has put together an interesting cruising programme for the season, so if you are interested in cruising in company then remember Willie is the person to contact. I would also like to welcome Jim Simpson, our new Vice Commodore, to the committee. Jim has many year's experience of racing so I am sure that the racing will be well run and fun. If you have any questions regarding sailing or any points you would like to raise about the club, then don't forget the Spring General Meeting on Wed 31st March.

I am sure that everyone is now aware that we only have a three year lease and that this situation will continue for the future. As this is not a particularly secure situation to be in I have decided to start looking at the possible options we have to take the club forward. With this in mind I have set up a sub-committee with the remit to gather as much information as possible about what options we have and their implications. If any member has any information that they feel would be useful for this, then please pass it on to myself. I would like to stress that this committee is purely a fact finding group and will not be making any decisions. Once we have gathered all of the information, my intention would be to give everyone a copy of this and then have the opportunity to discuss it, probably at a general meeting, before taking a vote on which option the membership would like the club to pursue. This is not an exclusive group, the main committee are not involved, other than myself, but they are not publicising any findings at this stage, as we would not wish to prejudice any decisions made by the membership. In the meantime any questions will be welcomed at the spring general meeting. Hope you have a good season sailing.

Helen Crossley, Commodore

Cruising Convener

The sailing season is nearly upon us and with it many a weekend cruise down the river. 2003 cruises were a tremendous success due to good weather but more importantly a good turnout of boats from the club! The goal for 2004 is to build on the success of last year and stretch the cruising potential of club members with some more adventurous destinations.

A first cut of the cruising calendar for 2004 is as follows but as always it is the members who decide and therefore I shall be publishing a more comprehensive timetable at the Spring General Meeting (31 March);

18 April	Shake-out cruise to Bo' ness
02 May	Cruise to Blackness
08 & 09 May	Port Edgar
22 & 23 May	Aberdour
12 & 13 Jun	Inchkeith / Inchcolm
25 & 26 Jun	Elie / Anstruther, May Isle, Bass Rock
Early August	Forth-Clyde Cannel
Early June	6-7 day cruise to Holy Island / Lindisfarne

Comments on above or suggestions for alternative destinations?
Call me !

Willie McAlpine Tel. 01259 760934



Aberdour Cruise—2003

Rear Commodore Piers & Moorings

There's plenty of activity going on at the Club nowadays both during the week and at weekends. Launch day is fast approaching and the smell of paint is beginning to fill the air during all these recent sunny days.

Boats are being bought and sold ready for the coming season. I've carried out the dirty deed of allocating this year's moorings, with only 6 position changes, in an attempt to meet members requests and accommodate new/changes of boat. To save print costs the list is posted on the notice board.

Remember to check all mooring chains, sinker attachments, and ropes especially those of you who left their buoys on just to wear their chains and tangle the ropes. Any problems give me a shout --my charges are quite reasonable!

Work parties are still ongoing on Sunday mornings and are fairly well attended. Two big jobs in hand are the patio in the garden and the ladders. Other work including pier repairs and harbour stone/rock clearance still needs to be done so more volunteers are still needed - don't leave it to the 'chosen few' because you will all be using the facilities.



Crane-in is 3/4 April over two days but in the reverse order to crane-out. i.e. 'dinghy' park and pier side on Saturday and remainder including pontoons last on Sunday. Masts we'll do as we go. Also remember to remove all blocks/supports offsite by the end of the following week to keep the pier/dinghy park/carpark tidy because they'll mysteriously disappear!

I'm around most days onsite so shout if you need help etc.- don't spend all day moving/laying chains to then find a tap on the shoulder by me to be sadly informed you're 'one out'. It's also not the best way to plead ignorance in an attempt to 'bag' a better space.

Remember also the new Club Rules on the use of our much used pontoons. Good luck and a good Season.

Phil Whetton Tel. 01383 872691

Rear Commodore—Club Boats

Club Boats

For those that have no idea what is happening about the boat, we are expecting it around a week to ten days time, however, we won't be taking delivery until the end of the month.



As one can see, there are a variety of uses, and this is fitted out with the 40HP 4-stroke electric tilt Efi outboard engine, so there is plenty of power for towing and working.

The Basement

Many will have noticed the framing inside the basement. This is for the construction of a cage to house gas bottles and other flammables outside. As it is getting closer to crane-in day, we are all working flat-out to get the boats ready, so I would remind members to please stow your ladders away properly and ditch your gash.

Have a good season and happy sailing.

Alan Browne Tel: 01383 880385

Social Convener

NEXT SOCIAL EVENT - RUGBY SPECIAL

Saturday March 27th is "Rugby Day" with three internationals running back to back. The bar will be open all day from midday to evening, food will be available throughout and a very large screen TV will be installed. So come and watch some or all of the games in rather more style and atmosphere than in your living room.



Last Season

Last season's social events sailed along nicely and the clubhouse was stowed out to capacity for each event. The dinner dance was a complete success with 107 attendees. The last function of the year was the mulled wine and festive feast at the Clubhouse. The sherry, rum and brandy trifle caused a few of us to walk leaning to one side!

New Notice Board

A new notice board will be erected in the garden area very soon and forthcoming social events will be posted on the board, 4—6 weeks in advance. Also, prior to social events, the usual flyers will be sent out by post. It is not possible to plan further ahead due to other commitments.

Patio Area

Big thanks to Phil & Co for the new patio area, I will make good use of it this year for social events. Plans are underway for a Greek taverna with traditional food and music including table dancing and smashing of plates (bring your own plates!). Hopefully we will do this mid July.

Planning A Function?

The club has bar and catering facilities available for private functions. (Catering & bar —either we can do it or you can organise yourself). Please contact me to discuss further.

Situation Vacant

Part-time bar staff required! - NO pay, NO perks, NO training.

Club Bar

The bar is open 6pm—11pm on Saturdays. Once we recruit more staff, it will be open on Sundays as well.



Club House

Ian Maul and I, are working together to make the clubhouse more upmarket. Carpets are being laid in the hallway and on the stairs and a change of seating in the lounge will make it more comfortable. A new kitchen is in the pipeline!

Austen Gourdie tel: 0131 335 3923

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.

I also require photographs—I can take original photos or electronic versions. Thanks to Ken Bellini for some of the pictures in this newsletter.

Gavin Carter

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