



Telltale November 2003

Published by Lochaber Yacht Club

Commodore's Corner.

Now that the sailing season has come to an end and the AGM has been held, the new committee is busy setting up the sailing programmes for next year. The fact that it is a very special year in the history of the club makes it even more important that the events are what members wish and are well attended. I will be reminding everyone of this message throughout 2004.

There are dates to remember in November and December which do appear in other places in Telltale but a brief reminder here will do no harm. The Dinner Dance, Grand Hotel on Saturday 22nd November. Thanks to Pete for arranging the venue. There is also the Christmas party on Saturday 20th December followed by the New Year Eve celebration on the 31st December.

I would like to thank the workforce who turned up a few weeks ago to help Hamish lift marks and bring the Pioneer into its winter storage. As usual it was the same old faces. It takes a lot of manpower to cut up the logs which keep the clubhouse warm throughout the winter. Thanks also to Beryl who kept the workers fed and watered. New volunteers would be very much appreciated.

As this will be the last Telltale before Christmas I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Cherryl

New members 2003

It is great to see new members joining (or re-joining) the club and this year has seen the addition of the following people:

Fiona Gunn and family	Tony Shepherd and family	
Stewart Blair and family	Tom Wynne and family	
Brian and Carol Fallows	Jane Blanchard and family	
Mathew Groves and Jennifer Abell		
Clive Talbot	Carrie Reid	Michael White
Carol Lang	Jo Roberts	Lilian Campbell
Richard Lucas	David Manson	Gavin Eardley
Patrick Manson	Liam Moynihan	Jan-marc MacDonald
Alan Struthers		

Those of you who came through the training courses are to be congratulated on completing your first hurdle into a new sport. We hope you have all enjoyed your early experiences with the club and look forward to meeting you all at social events over the winter.



**Dinner dance - Saturday
22nd Nov - If you want
to go and do not have
tickets - phone Cherryl
now!**

www.lochaber-yacht-club.co.uk

www.lochaber-yacht-club.co.uk



Safety Boat Course

The Club is in need of more qualified safety boat drivers.

These individuals are needed to help on the safety boat rota during dinghy races or events. To this end we propose to run a course which leads to safety boat qualification. The course should involve one evening session of class-room work and two half-day sessions of practical boat work.

No specific date has been set. This will be decided when numbers for the course are known.

If you are interested in taking part please contact Richard Rumney on tel: 702272 or by e-mail: richard@glasdrum.com

LYC Committee for 2004

Commodore - *Cherryl Allan* 01397 702814
 Vice Commodore - *Simon Macdonald* 01687 470266
 Treasurer and membership- *Bob Aitken* 01855 831357
 Secretary - *Chris Strong* 01397 772361

Committee:

Dinghy Convenors - *Ian Fleming and Martin Faulkner*
 01397 700757 and 702724

Telltale Editor and Development Plans - *Marian Austin*
 01397 772926

Keelboat Convenor and WHISCA Rep - *Hamish Loudon*
 01397 702370

Catering - *Sandy Lorimer* 701184 and *Simon Macdonald*
 General Committee - *Pete Hyde, Liz Paul, Brian Fallows, Harry Jeffrey*

Junior Reps: Beccy Hyde and Dawn MacRae

People with extra responsibilities

Publicity and Handbook - *Ian Fleming*

Property maintenance - *Cherryl Allan*

Rescue Boat maintenance - *Chris Strong*

LYC web site - *Andy McKenna*
woodside@fortwilliam.net

WE WOULD ALL LIKE TO THANK RETIRING COMMITTEE MEMBERS LYNNE WILSON AND DAVID CAHILL WHO HAVE WORKED SO HARD FOR THE CLUB FOR THE LAST 3 YRS. YOU WILL BE MISSED!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Nov 22 Dinner dance and prize giving.
 7.30 at the Grand Hotel

29/30 - North of Scotland Sailing Squad
 training days. Catering volunteers welcome - contact Sandy Lorimer

Dec 20 - Christmas Party (adults) 19.30
 Supper provided at club house £5.
 Santa will be in residence so bring a wrapped present (worth about £5 and marked 'his' or 'hers'). BYOB

31st - Hogmanay Bonfire 10pm
 Start the 40th anniversary celebrations early. Club will have a licence and hot snacks will be available.

Jan 10 - Telltale deadline

Mar 27 - Fitting Out Supper

Subscriptions for next year

- Single membership £65
- Family membership £85
- Under 18's, students etc. £22
- Country member single £32
- Country member family £35

Families include spouse and children under 15 on 1/1/04.

Country = resident outwith 75 miles

Boat storage

- dinghies and tenders under 12' £32
- junior boat storage £16

Race fees

- dinghy - single race £3 - series £12
- junior series £6
- keelboats -single race £6 - series £18

Getting started.....

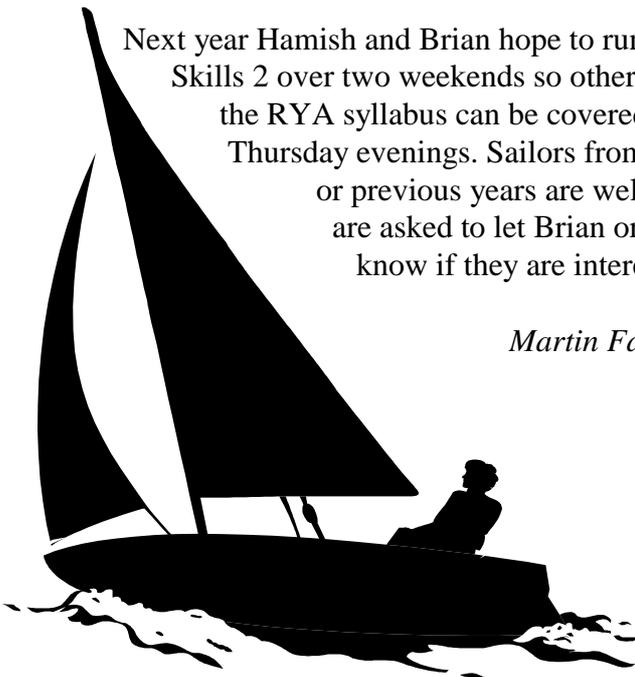
“This is really fun!” - music to a sailing instructor’s ears. Even more so because Lillian (one of the adult trainees this year) said it in the middle of an interesting squall with her crew fully hiked-out. These courses must be something else since Lil drove from Glen Lyon every week to be there.

By the sounds of it the rest of us (Richard, Carol, Jo, David, Jane and Martin) thought so too, and want to thank Brian and Hamish for their encouragement and frequent doses of patience.

Apart from the basic skills and that sailing is fun, what else did we learn? That a Bosun hums when it planes, but that this is nothing to worry about unless you are approaching the slipway to land. That quite a lot of water can come over the stern during a gybe without the crew noticing. Being determined to finish the race accurately is more likely to win than being determined to win. That after the full course, capsizing deliberately feels very strange but is not alarming. And finally sailing develops a raging thirst.

Next year Hamish and Brian hope to run Basic Skills 2 over two weekends so other parts of the RYA syllabus can be covered on Thursday evenings. Sailors from last year or previous years are welcome and are asked to let Brian or Hamish know if they are interested.

Martin Faulkner



Bonfire night

Who needs fireworks when the bonfire is so enormous that it can be seen from outer space?

No Mirror dinghy to top the conflagration this year, but a spectacular blaze greeted those who ventured to the club on 1st November. Despite the rain, a barbeque sizzled under the canopy and for those who wished their comforts the stove was lit inside the clubhouse providing fire inside and out!

Topper Sailors at Home

The topper sailing started this year with the beginners course open to first years at the High School. Eight attended, 5 of whom are still sailing, and over the season they have progressed really well. As usual we had the 3 points series with about 5 toppers consistently attending them.

In July the Dinghy Regatta took place alongside the Laser Traveller with only 3 toppers participating – 1st Becky, 2nd Dawn, 3rd Robert – it was still competitive even with the 3 of us racing. But it was quite disappointing that no one else in the club’s topper fleet wanted to race at the regatta.

In August Becky, Robert and I ventured into solings for an afternoon to sail in the Junior Helm. Becky sailed in ‘Just Gonnie No’ with Liz L and her mum, Robert sailed in ‘Romance’ with Hamish and his dad, and I sailed in ‘Hussoiling’ with Ian and my dad. It was a great afternoon and there was even sunshine. It started off calm, but the wind picked up gradually causing some excitement going around the leeward mark. In the end Robert came 1st, Becky came 2nd and Dawn came 3rd.

To round off the season 3 toppers participated along side 6 other boats in the Closing Muster and Pursuit Race – Patrick, Jessie and Dawn. The race started off quite windy so Jessie and Patrick had to put in reefs. They both did really well keeping their boats up and not capsizing and also managing to sail a larger course than they are used to. The final results were Dawn 6th, Jessie and Patrick 7th.

Overall it has been a great season here for the topper fleet. Well done to all the topper sailors who have won races and participated in the club’s events. Hopefully we will have another great season next year. *Dawn MacRae*

CONGRATULATIONS TO CRAIG PAUL FOR GETTING INTO THE BRITISH JUNIOR SQUAD