



TellTale

The Not Quite So New Commodore's 2nd Sad Corner!

Hello Sailors, supporters, friends and anyone else who reads this!

Firstly, thank you to all those members who responded to the call for suggestions regarding the future shape of the clubhouse – all have been noted and as many as is practically possible will be included in the re-development. When the Phoenix finally rises, it should indeed be a thoroughly well – evolved animal!

It is now almost three weeks since 'THE FIRE' and as you are all probably aware our clubhouse really is, like the Lochaber in the Proclaimers' song, 'NO MORE'! All we have now to call home are the 2 dinghy parks and a concrete slab, which may yet need to be broken up and removed, depending on the surveyor's findings.

Apologies to all those (and I am one of them!) who feel that things are moving slowly, but to date the Police and Fire Brigade are 'continuing with their enquiries' and upon those findings to some extent the Insurers final decision will depend. The Police are still regarding the fire as 'suspicious' but have no further concrete information as of 22nd November. Without the go-ahead from the Insurers we cannot really make any real progress toward rebuilding though I can assure you we have not been resting on our laurels – or any other part of our corporate anatomies!

The 'Flag Officers' (That's me, Jim, Bob & Chris) met on Tuesday 21 November to review progress and to consider the suggestions mooted by the individuals. None of them are outrageous or even expensive and it is to be hoped that most will be incorporated into the new building. The first comment was 'Get on with it quickly!' and we will move as quickly as we can. The timetable as we see it currently will hopefully see some outline plans presented to the full committee on 5th December, ready for perusal by the full membership on either Boxing or New Year's Day at a club event and to be presented to the Planning Board at their January. Hopefully too by that time the insurers will have reached a positive decision and as soon as permission is granted, tenders considered etc. building will commence.

In the meantime the club has been receiving messages of sympathy for its loss from all sorts of sources from individual competitors (young and not so young!) who have enjoyed our hospitality at Travellers to RYA Scotland, from

A formally-penned expression of sympathy from Loch Venacher SC (who incidentally also have a lovely new clubhouse!) to normally very unsympathetic locals who suddenly miss the sight of the old clubhouse as they drive into town from the South.

What we haven't received yet are any offer of grants, funding or other financial support, though there are a steady trickle of ideas forthcoming.

If you have any such ideas, however novel, please make them known to someone on the Committee, similarly the cover is not yet closed on the 'ideas for the clubhouse' book, so if you have any strong feelings or really practical (and preferably cheap!) top-tips, please communicate them to our Secretary as before.

Thanks for your patience - the final date for the perusal of the plans will be broadcast along with information about venue etc as soon as possible after the 5 December. Keep the ideas coming in and keep your eye on next season's sailing.

Pete