



TellTale

Editorial

The committee is in need of ideas for a good speaker for the Fitting Out Supper. If anybody have heard of, or seen somebody they liked and who was interesting(?!) as well, let any member of the committee know. -Of course I know what I would like, but that would be asking too much.

Merry Christmas
and
Happy new Year
one and all.

Britt

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Future Events

New Year's Day Sail
1st. January 2007
and Presentation of
Plans for the new Club
House



Lochaber Yacht Club

Committee

Meeting 9 January
NEVIS BANK HOTEL



FITTING OUT SUPPER
31st March 2007

venue not yet defined

Presentation of Cruising Log Trophy



Commodore's Corner and Junior Training



Where have all the young ones gone?

In response to several jibes (not the sailing type!) about the youngsters of the club deserting it to compete elsewhere, I felt it was time to explain our side of the equation.

Several years ago we persuaded Becky to have a try at sailing and she duly signed up for the Level 2 course offered through the High School with Donnie. After a couple of years she was getting really good at swimming to catch up her Topper! Memorable moments included capsizing on the start line at the Club Regatta and still being there as the Solings began. Drifting off along the loch to be rescued by Kim C who was hopping mad – there was a nail in his foot! The 'mega-gust' capsize (again in front of Kim!) which sent running along her sail to the masthead with the force!

Then, along came younger brother Robert on the scene – his swimming rapidly improved too. Thanks to the support of the older children at LYC (big ones, in the NoSSS and Scottish Squads, to whom they could look up) they both somehow got the bug to compete on a bigger scene. Being selected as members of the Gael Force Ten sailing scheme gave them a chance to have additional training and some financial assistance to attend the big events. So we suddenly found ourselves away at Inlands at Grafham, Nationals at Sunderland and Plymouth, Worlds at Carnac plus the Scottish Travellers Series. All the time helped along by the older LYC Squad members - LYC was a name on the circuit!

Both missed Scottish Squad places in their Toppers, the age limit was reduced, both had begun sailing too late and being small were still swimming rather than sailing. They still managed to hold their own as the sailing year progressed mainly thanks to being able to sail so much at home on Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

Robert followed Becky into the Scottish 420 Sailing Squad and for a time we were back to attending the same events, before Becky hit the 29er scene. The list of venues continued to grow and included the Tiger Trophy at Rutland in February, The National Youth Championships at Pwhelli, Largs (our home event?) and Weymouth, European Qualifiers at Swansea, Hayling, Weymouth, Sunderland and the 420 National Championships at Falmouth, Weymouth and Llandudno, plus the Scottish Travellers Series. 29er Nationals at Paignton and Hayling, plus Worlds at Weymouth. Also on the must attend list was the End of Season Event – always in Darkest England-shire! Another not to be missed event is Keil Week (Scottish squad dads flock to this event – don't tell Hamish about the beer!)



All the time the children have been proud to have Lochaber Yacht Club down on their results sheets and entry forms, and the Scottish Squad jackets are the envy of all even those with GBR jackets!

They have also been around to compete at Lochaber, managing to gain a few trophies along the way, and have really valued the extra training and facilities they have been able to use just down the road.

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Becky is still sailing whilst at Portsmouth and Robert is looking for a committed crew for his last youth year. Becky and Robert as well as Pete and I have been able to make many friends all over the British Isles. Everyone is always interested in where we have travelled from and we have already received many messages of support following 'the fire' from visitors to the club over the years.

This is not intended as a 'look at what we have done' piece - merely as a 'thank you' for the support and interest we have received as a family from some of the club members. It might also help some of the youngsters and their parents to understand that there is life after doing the Level 2 at the club. Yes, it can be tiring and it is certainly expensive, but look at what your children stand to gain from it. The club also receives national (and international) recognition. With grants from Lochaber Sports Council, which were supported by the club, Becky and Robert are looking forward to another year competing at Club, National and International level.

If you are interested, information on the Scottish Squads can be found on the RYAS website.

Happy sailing!

Pete and Alyson Hyde

Scottish Squad Parents - FAT Squad
(Finance And Transport in case you're wondering!)



Photos by Dawn and Pete

RYA Training

Jo is organizing a RYA 1 day course on Diesel Engine Maintenance and is looking for more people to take part. It will either be in Fort William or Oben and will happen on a Saturday or a Sunday sometime in March, that's definite. For more information and signing on please contact Jo Willetts
Tel 01 397 701 113



Cruising Logs

Should be submitted to the Commodore ASAP so that he can choose a winner
The Trophy will be presented at the Fitting Out Supper on March 31



Hamish's Sinking Soling



BE WARNED

Check your stern tank!

The small bow in the background of the picture was my borrowed Soling, eventually sank. The one in the foreground could have been saved if a tow had been secured but it was left as we had to rescue another crew. Wind speed at this point recorded at 45 knots. Naturally I rescued the lady middleman from number 36; Naval Officers specially trained for such emergencies.

Yours,
Hamish



Home is a tin can;

Our New Club House

Any time now it will be fitted with all mod cons,
and we can all have the pin for the pad-lock.

What did you do last summer?

That's easy. Roy sailed up to Lochaber from Wardleys near Fleetwood on Yanni a Westerly Solway ketch. A fairly uneventful trip calling at Isle of Man, Port Patrick round the Mull and up to Ghia Island, then to Crinan through the Cuan Sound up to Oban. The weather was superb but then again he didn't have Dial a Gale with him (his wife)!

A detour was arranged to make the most of the weather across the sound of Mull into Lochaline where a sample of beer was necessary. Then up to Tobermory to see if the beer there was up to the same standard.

The next day back down the Sound of Mull then up Loch Linne to Fort William. A perfect trip all round!

The return trip however was not quite the same. After taking the grandchildren to Balamory and being a touroid for a week it was decided to return to wilder waters.

The family were despatched at Port Patrick not too far really to get back maybe, 15 hours sailing at the most. One thing was different on this trip though, the wife was with him this time, whose nickname is mentioned above. Set off in force 4/5 sw hard on the wind but layable ----- then it freshened, that's when the air turned a little blue. Never mind love he said only 4 hours to get to the Isle of Man, we will be home tomorrow!

10 days later after constant forecasts of winds of 6,7s and 8s there appeared to be a window of opportunity for a reasonable sail back. Yanni set off in force four but of course it freshened and a veerrry fast trip was not enjoyed by Dial a Gale.

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LYC have the following items for sale:

Avon Redstart inflatable tender, bagged and boxed,

Avon Rover RIB R3.10, 10' 2", oars and "dolly wheels",

Seagull 40+ outboard engine, 2 - 3 hp, water cooled, 2 stroke,

Metal -Nickel Aluminium Bronze propeller right-hand folding, 18inch dial, 14 inch pitch, 1.75 inch bore STD.TE taper, Made by Teignbridge Engineering Ltd, weight 5.5 Kg

Boat Jumble

10 Flush Spring Catch, chrome.

6 Jib Hanks, bronze c:a 60mm.

1 Snap Shackle, bronze, 75mm with 150mm wire strop.

3 Snap Shackle, bronze, 75mm.

1 Snap Shackle, bronze, 65mm.

8 Parafil Terminals (+Parafil).

50 (circa), Worm Drive Clips, s/s asstd.

1 Safety Harness & Line.

2 Lifejackets, Crewsaver "Seasafe"

1 Boarding Ladder, collapsible, plastic.

Lots of Plastic tool clips(?) various.

For Sale

Boat Jumble

Further details from and offers to Chris Strong for consideration by the Committee. 01397 772361, sec@lochaber-yacht-club.co.uk



Hunter 707 Sail no 7066

In good overall condition with all the tweaks the one design rules allow.

Main and jib 2000
New main little use 2004
2 x spinnakers 2000 & 2004
Raymarine ST40 bidata
Outboard, trailer and some safe kit
£7,995.- ono
Contact Chris on mob 07887885598
<chris@sunbirduk.com>

For Sale

The editor needs to know if a For-sale-notice is to be continued or not.

All for sale notes are free but printed at the discretion of the committee

Email to Britt Kisby
bkesby@toucansurf.com
Tel. 01 967 402 473

What did you do last summer

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..47 miles in just under 7 hours with 6 hours of that with the tide against us. One comment from the wife was "Do you never get sea sick?"

"No " Roy replied "I always said you were an animal" said his beloved.

Roy spent all night on anchor watch with the boat tucked under the lee of Peil Island with 30 knots of wind whilst his wife recovered from being in the washing machine. Yanni and crew had a reasonable trip home., but I think it may be the last trip for his wife in the Irish Sea.

Roy and Alyson Manifold



Butter would melt on the deck!

Photo by Pete.

Extract from a knitting book I have been writing for the last 30 years -

My father used to sail a lot. I think my mother would have been happier on shore knitting, but she got dragged along. She used to describe herself as a hen who hatched ducklings.

They were coming back from a regatta-week in the next town, towing a dinghy behind a little diesel motor boat. My father had to be back at work in the morning, so they were travelling over night. You can do that in Norway in the summer, it just doesn't get dark. It was a beautiful, clear, calm, still as a mirror night. Open ocean all around, mother on the transom with the tiller between her knees, compass, chart and knitting pattern on the engine box in front of her, totally engrossed in her knitting. My father had gone below to sleep.

Because of the engine noise she did not hear the fishing boat coming up behind her so she got quite a start when it arrived almost alongside, but that was nothing to the astonishment on the fishermen's faces finding a little grey haired, old lady, alone it appeared, in the middle of the ocean, at 4 o'clock in the morning - knitting.

Mother however, with not a mean sense of humour herself, could see the funny side so when they called across if she needed any help, answered with as straight a face as she could muster: "No thank you I have the pattern here."

Britt