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O'hoy

It's not all done and dusted just yet, there is still a bit of sailing to do for the very hardy. Aparently not everybody gets bone cold and wet while out on the brine according to some of the reports. And today the water has been dead flat, the sky bright blue and if you kept to the sunny side you could almost believe it was still summer. This old girl however, has climed back into her winter woolies ages ago and is now looking foreward to the AGM and meeting you all.

Britt

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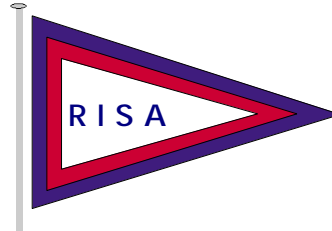
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TellTale



Future Events



**Road to the Isles Sailing Association
Dinghy Regatta 20 October 2007
13.00 to 16.00 at Arisaig Marine
Fun Races for all ages from 8 upwards**



**Lochaber Yacht Club
Annual General Meting
30th October 2007
in the new Club House**



**Dinner Dance
Saturday 17th November
In the Grand Hotel**



**New Years Day Sail
Tuesday 1st January**





Commodore's Corner

Well.....Don't say I didn't warn you!!! The end of the year is nigh!

The last scheduled club race of the year has been and gone - and in view of the unseasonal conditions it was (very sadly) completely ignored.....

The Challenger Weekend however, despite the conditions, was declared a success by all the brave competitors and their small army of helpers. Strong winds, low temperatures and the lack of a real clubhouse failed to dampen the spirits of 9 stalwart disabled sailors who braved the elements on a choppy and unfriendly Loch Linnhe to sail for the 2007 Lochaber Traveller. Racing in 2 fleets the trimarans did battle and by all reports thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

I never cease to be amazed by the dedication and enthusiasm of both the sailors, and, even more, their support teams who pitch in, rain or shine, to provide an inspiring spectacle for the rest of us, able-bodied sailors.

Unfortunately we were not in a position to entertain our visitors (or local disabled sailors) in the new clubhouse, but it is obviously not far from being finished - we are still hoping to be installed in time for the AGM at the end of October - keep watching this space. It would be good to see as many of you as possible at the AGM - there are still several decisions to be made regarding the new building - if you want to make your penny's worth heard, the AGM is undoubtedly the place to do it!

It has been an unusual season - we have had more 'proper' left-handed racing this season than in any year since I became a member - a reflection of consistently Easterly airflow over the country. Is this a sign of Global Warming?! If so - bring it on! I hope to take part in a few more races in the next season and am fully intending mounting a winter of secret training with my new secret crew.....don't watch that space!

Looking forward to seeing you at the AGM

Pete

The Overall winner and Scottish Champion:

GBR 170
Blackpool and Fleetwood Yacht Club
Helm: **Stuart Walker**, Middle: **Derek Priestly**, Bow: **Gary Adams**

Second Overall: GBR 157 Lochaber Yacht Club
Chris Dodgson, Liz Loudon and Iain Loudon.

Third Overall: GBR 161 Lochaber Yacht Club
Hamish Loudon, Paul Ventnor and Mark Brammer.

The Championships were a great success and the Club would like to thank all those who assisted in making the weekend so successful:

Race Officer: Paul Biggin

Saturday evening meal in the Marquee:
Simon, Cheryl, Rebecca and Joe

Saturday and Sunday Snacks in The Marquee:
Beryl, Liz, Jan and Carol

Recovery of Visiting Solings:
Richard and Land Rover

Trophies and Assistant Race Officer:
Roddy Campbell

Committee Boat and Assistant Race Officer:
Chris Strong

Mark Laying and Assistant Race Officer:
Donnie Meldrum

Registration: Jean and Bob Aitken

Marquee erection: The Thursday Club



Photo by Antony MacMillan Photography



Soling Scottish Championships

A very successful Scottish Soling Championships was hosted by Lochaber Yacht Club on September 1st and 2nd

Four races were sailed on Saturday in South Westerly winds of 15 - 18mph gusting to 25mph.

This produced very good racing with a 3 different winners leaving everything open for Sunday's three races to decide the Scottish Championships.

The format was Windward / Leeward courses with a beat of 1 mile.

Race 1 was a win for local boat **GBR 157** sailed by Chris Dodgson, Liz Loudon and Iain Loudon. Second was **GBR 170** from **Blackpool & Fleetwood Yacht Club** sailed By Stuart Walker, Derek Priestley and Gary Adams .Third **GBR 127** sailed by Douglas Paton, Rory Mc Whirr and Ally Paton from Inverkip

Race 2 was a win for the Inverkip crew in **GBR 127**, with **GBR 170** from Blackpool 2nd and local boat **GBR 161** Hamish Loudon, Paul Ventnor and Mark Brammer in third place.

Race 3 produced a win for **GBR 170** from Blackpool with Lochaber boat **GBR 157** second and another third place for **GBR161** Lochaber's Hamish Loudon.

Race 4 First and second place as Race 3 and third **GBR 169** Bass Fountain from Royal Northumberland with Keith Falconer Lochaber crewing.

Sunday dawned as a very different day with sun and a light WSW wind varying from 6-12mph

Race 5 Produced another win for Lochaber boat **GBR 157** Chris Dodgson, Liz Loudon and Iain Loudon with **GBR 161** Hamish Loudon, Paul Ventnor and Mark Brammer second and **GBR 170** Stuart Walker, Derek Priestley and Gary Adams third.

Race 6 saw **GBR 170** with a 3rd Win and **GBR 161** Hamish Loudon second and **GBR 157** Chris Dodgshon third.

Race 7 produced a fourth win for **GBR 170,GBR 157** Second and **GBR 161** third.



Photo by Antony MacMillon Photography

The Soling Scottish Champion

Stuart Walker the helm of **GBR170** was a member of the 1968 US Olympic team and an International dinghy champion. He is the author of several books on Advanced Racing Tactics and Techniques and is a recognised authority on Tuning of the International Soling One Design.

In 1964 Stuart Walker won the Prince Of Wales Cup. The first American to win the trophy.

The Prince Of Wales Cup races are the UK National Championships for International 14s

The Prince Of Wales awarded the Prince of Wales Challenge Cup to the International 14 Class in 1927 and it is the oldest trophy in dinghy racing

In keeping with the tradition of the class, the cup is still raced for in one extended race during Prince of Wales Cup Week. This year is the 80th Anniversary of the POW cup and the racing took place at The Royal Yacht Squadron Cowes. The winners of the POW Cup were Robert and Peter Greenhalgh and the Overall Winners of the POW Cup Week were Ian Pinnell and Ian Mitchell.

The Following was taken from the International 14 website describing the 1964 POW Cup Race:

The race was dominated by the one overseas competitor - Stu Walker - the man who, it is fair to say, rebuilt and re-inspired the American Fourteen foot fleet during the '50's and '60's. As Stewart Morris was the dynamo of the British fleet. Stu Walker was of the American. His boat Salute, was a Bolero hull with, for those days, an unusual extensive range of sophisticated sail and rig controls. With wind and tide conditions, most of the race was on the wind which was light N.E. Walker, crewed by Stovey Brown, went inshore on the first beat; led at the windward mark and was never seriously challenged. Stu Walker dived over the side as he crossed the line - the first American to win the Prince of Wales Cup.

Robbie Robertson



Welcome to new members
Stephen and Brenda McDonach,
Ian and Jane Strachan
and Junior members Craig & Ewan Paul.





For Sale

Topper 44505,
Turquoise deck, Good condition,
Fully raced rigged,
Ronstan centre main,
Carbon-fibre tiller extension,
Padded toe straps,
New lower section of mast
(new summer '05),
Top and bottom covers
(new summer '06),
Sail and foil bags included,
Trolley included
£1000

Contact: The Shepherds, 01397 722379,
clareshep89@hotmail.co.uk or
tonyshep@clara.net



Charts For Sale

Barrahead to Point of Ardnamurchan
Mallaig to Canna Harbour
Oben and Approaches
Firth of Lorne
Sound of Mull – Western Portion
Sound & North West Coast of Mull
Peter McLennan's charts were given to
me to dispose of so I decided, with
Rosemary's complete agreement, to
put them up for sale at £5 each to raise
funds for the club. They are Fathom
Charts and would make attractive wall
decoration if framed.
Contact Beryl Austin
01397.772473



FOR SALE

**one VHF set, NAVICO RT6500S.
complete with hand mic.
No external aerial. £50.
tel 01687 470 266, Simon Macdonald.**

**For Sale:
Drascombe Lugger.
1994, very good condition,
used only 10 days each year.**

**Never raced!. Full cover, spray hood, good
sails, mercury 4hp,**

**good road trailer, anchor, fenders, etc etc.
Price, £6500. Contact Simon Macdonald 01687
470266. info@smokedproduce.com**



Space to let



**The LYC Commettee meets
Tuesday 2nd October**

Request / Reminder – Safety Boats.

If you feel the need to use one of the safety
boats as a tender to your boat on a mooring
and are going to be away for a while, please
put the safety boat tender back on the shore,
so that in case of emergency one can still easily
get out to another safety boat.

On a recent occasion the RIB, Dory and tender
were all out on moorings and the Pioneer tied to
one of the trot moorings, with no one in sight.



Hello Ewan,
Your boat is safe on a mooring between Crannog and the Underwater Centre pier. I had a call from the Police at about 2100 this evening to say that a boat (pleasure craft) was adrift and passing the west end car park heading for the Crannog. As it was an ebb tide about then I knew there was no time to loose otherwise the boat would be aground on the rocky armour by the UTC pier. The Yacht Club safety boat was launched with myself and Joe Willetts onboard and we just managed to pull Eun Mara off the rocks by the UTC pier. It was a bit rough, wet and black but we managed to secure the boat to the mooring belonging to the Prawn Fisherman Ronnie Plunkett. His boat is on a mooring in Ballachullish Bay. Eun Mara should be OK there for a while but worth checking the securing arrangements in daylight. The cause of the breakaway was the failure of your picking up rope, still attached to the boat. As there is certainly no salvage claim (or even thought of one!) any donation should go direct to the LYC Treasurer as he still looking for money to buy chairs for the new clubhouse!
Yours,
Hamish



Report from a Country Member

Hello to all and thanks Hamish, for the Thursday Club emails. It's always good to hear club news and I'm hoping soon for an update on an opening event for the new clubhouse. That will be worth a run up the road from Cambridge. Anyway, just thought I'd pass on a contribution for the "More Uses For Umbrellas in Nautical Situations" column in the Tell Tale.

RS 600 sailing has been going well with my first ever trip to the National Championships at Royal Torbay, my first travelling event with the 600 since the LYC regatta last year. Unfortunately, the week in Torquay provided a light weather benefit event with winds never above force 3, so I missed out on learning wave and foot strap techniques (not really called for at the Grafham Water reservoir!). But the 600 fleet sailors turned out to be a really good fun bunch of people and the social events were up there with the best. The Karting evening provided the most hard fought racing of the week, but the fragile nature of some sailors the next morning may have been more due to the excessive "refreshment" time caused while waiting for 43 Indian meals to arrive at table in the right order. I think that particular restaurant took a night off the following day. Anyway, back to umbrellas: my fleet nickname is now "The Rainman" as one of the welds on a trailer mudguard supports failed on the way down and I arrived with it splinted with a large blue umbrella, which very effectively kept the mudguard off the tyre. I always knew it was useful to keep umbrellas in cars. Still, it got me there on time and also the 200 miles back to Grafham, with only the odd curious glance from passing constabulary to cause any real concern.

As to the dinghy racing, I managed to dance around the foredeck to good effect (while the heavyweights were sitting, bored, under some pretty black and extremely localised storm clouds which seemed to be caused mainly by 14 stone sailors trying to keep a 600 moving in 5 knots of wind) and came 4th, which was way above any expectations. It's now time to lose that extra stone I've been carrying for the past few years (dream on) and become a real light weather specialist. Mainly because I'm pretty useless when it blows hard and everyone needs to be good at something.

On which note I'll sign off and hope to see you all before too long, in the shiny new home of LYC.

David Goudie.



THE PURSUIT RACE

The traditional end of season event is our annual pursuit race and closing muster. On a sunny September afternoon this usually brings out a good selection of dinghies and keelboats for a relaxing race and social event. To close out the main part of the season. Whether it was the clash with the Mountain Bike World Championships at Nevis Range (which clearly excused the Austin's from participation in the pursuit race) or the dreich SW4 gusting 5 with the threat of rain, only the hard core of racers were to venture onto the waters of Loch Linnhe.

First to start was Malcolm Martin's Sailfish "Minuet" which bravely battled over the line albeit rather later than planned. After putting in several reefs Bob & Jean Aitken's Didima V ended up being first to start. Three Solings were due to follow but Pelorus broke her forestay and had to be towed home and Hamish Loudon and crew had the jib halyard jam on Solaris. Simon Macdonald and crew, who were borrowing Romance for the afternoon decided against going out at all, and having already broken Trilleachan and Dirty Harry on their previous outings, wisely decided against going for the hat trick.

In the end the race was shortened after one round given the number of participants and the weather. Congratulations to Didima V for winning and Minuet for a brave second place.

Hopefully with a new clubhouse and some better weather we can have a more successful pursuit race and opening muster at the start of next season.

Keith Falconer



RISA Dinghy Regatta 20th October
For more information call
Sue Barrett 01687 460002 or Emma Walters 01397 722447

Cruises in company (?) to Balnagowan and Loch Eil

Schönbrunn happened to have the opportunity to go away on these two particular weekends, so with Chris and Walter aboard and no other apparent "entries" for the Balnagowan - we sailed down to Ardgour on the Friday evening and on a fairly dreich Saturday sailed further on to the Port Ramsay east anchorage (the one where one's tidal calculations of depth in the entrance are quite important). A walk followed by a snooze in sleeping bags took us to the on-board bar opening time and a good cook up. Sunday was a splendid downhill run back with spinnaker up most of the way.



Then it was the LochEil cruise - again no other apparent entries (do you realise these are the only LYC events where there is NO entry fee !!) So, Chris and Sue went to - Balnagowan ! After another damp start the weather improved to a fine afternoon and evening just watching the seals around the edge of the inlet.

Sunday we motored down to Lettershuna and picked up a buoy for a cooked brunch on deck in the sunshine. Then had a good reach in a north-westerly back home, stopping for lunch on the buoy in Inverscaddle bay, and saw the first of the ships bound for Corpach with wind turbine towers on board (these particular bits are going to Skye) - and also it stayed dry all day! Chris