



Editorial

Upgrading is not all it is cracked up to be I have discovered. Not only did I lose all the funny little drawings of boats and boating but also the fonts and programs that made it possible to put them and photographs in without the TellTale drowning in a sea of heavy Gigabytes. Too heavy to get through my very weak telephone-line broad band connection - or whatever. So the TellTale is back on my little laptop with limited picture power, but unlimited Quality.



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**Deadline for May
is 20th April**

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TellTale



Dinghy Points Racing
started on Wednesday April 1.
Also April 8. and 15.



Junior Learn to Sail
Saturday & Sunday, 18 & 19 April
and again Sat. & Sun. 25 & 26.



Flare and Lifejacket demonstration
RNLI Lifejacket Display and Clinic
Thursday evening, 23rd April



Brass Monkey, April 27
Also Keelboat Points races - See Handbook



Adult Learn to Sail
May Sat. Sun. 2-3 and May Sat.Sun. 9-10



Sail Cledonia, 23rd to 30 May



Corren Red, Sunday 24th May



Challenger Travellers weekend 30.-31st May



On Thursdays the Thursday Gang will continue to come out to play as long as the wine lasts.



Photo by Keith Falconer



Another date for your diary..

Please come along on

Thursday evening, 23rd April

when the Club will be hosting an RNLl **Flare and Lifejacket demonstration.**

Flare Demonstration

This demo takes place outdoors and will include the firing of live (in-date) flares in a suitable location.

RNLl Lifejacket Display and Clinic

The RNLl Sea Safety Department promotes the wearing of lifejackets and this presentation tells you why they have come to this decision. The clinic held afterwards will give club members the opportunity to

bring along their own lifejackets and have them looked at by a trained member of the RNLl team.

Many thanks

Abigail

Comment

The Fitting Out Supper.

Sat 28th March 1900 for 1930

A full House and an excellent supper. The guest speaker Donald Fraser - took us all on a Blue Water Rally Cruise round the entire planet Earth in his home-grown, self-built, boat Spirit of Africa.

The editor thought the talk was very enjoyable and was very impressed.

NB. If you have any comments about anything printed in the TellTale this is the place to put it, less than 50 words please.



Lochaber Yacht Club
Committee Meeting
Tuesday 7 April 7:00pm



Please let the editor know when something is sold, just phone 01 967 402 473

For Sale
4sail
Merrydancer GBR32

27'6" Soling conversion. Rigged for single handed sailing, but sails really well with two. Lots of sails. Compass. Outboard bracket fitted. 4 hp Johnson outboard (needs attention) with 10litre fuel tank. Anchor. Two berths. Lockers port and starboard. Fitted carpet. Single burner cooker. Clock and Barometer. Movable helmsman's seat. Launching trolley.

This boat has been beautifully converted into a well balanced, fast yacht and cherished by the present owner for the past twelve years. She has been raced very successfully at Arisaig Regatta for the past eight years, winning every year except once when she came a close second, having retired due to weather conditions. Merrydancer is much admired with very pleasing lines, easy to sail and gives tremendous performance. She has a fascinating history, and is the only soling to circumnavigate Rockall, and single handed at that!
New boat necessitates sale.

£3,250 ono for quick sale (A lot of boat for the money!)

Contact Simon Macdonald
tel 01687 470 266,
mobile 07824 633 130
Email: smokehouse@glenuig51.freeserve.co.uk

Wanted
Launching Trolley and Towing Trailer suitable for Mirror Dinghy.
Contact John Dougan 01397 701 071

For Sale
505 Sailing Dinghy
Combi Trailer, Cover, GRP with Wooden Deck
£500 ono
Kim Cameron 01397 703 766

Books for Sale.
Donated by a Vintage Member
Yachting World Handbook by Peter Johnson
ICE by Tristan Jones
The Incredible Voyage.
A personal Odyssey by Tristan Jones
Saga of a Wayward Sailor by Tristan Jones
ADRIFT by Tristan Jones
Weekend Navigation by Bruce Fraser
and
good for all the basics before electronics took over
The Ashley Book of Knots
(Some things never change)
Survive the Savage Seas by Dougal Robertson
(37 days adrift in the Pacific-incredible survival tale)
Fasnet a history of the race until 1979
(the year of the storm)

All books £2 each ono. Contact Hamish on
0787 9651851 or e-mail
hamloud@hamloud.plus.com

FOR SALE
„HUSSOLING” - SOLING GBR 51
Tyler Hull built 1970

2+ mainsails, 2+ jibs and spinnaker. Folding anchor and warp, 2 bilge pumps. Sept - 2006 fully galvanised 4 wheel braked road trailer by RM Trailers (as new) cost £3000.

Boat and trailer - £3500 ono
Contact - kfalconer@kfalconer.f9.co.uk (01397) 705176 for more details and photographs.



Photo by Keith Falconer
LYC caps available
.Allways available Contact Keith Falconer to order.
01397 7051776 or at
kfalconer@kfalconer.f9.co.uk



FOR SALE SOLING GBR 129
‘DIRTY HARRY’
GOOD SAILS AND TWO SPINNAKERS
GOOD ROAD TRAILER
TROPHY WINNING BOAT LYING L Y C
CONTACT HARRY 01397704030
£3000.00



RYA DAY SKIPPER THEORY COURSE AT LOCHABER YACHT CLUB

Seven local sailors have just spent the last three weekends studying for the RYA Day Skipper Theory Certificate at Lochaber Yacht Club. The course which culminated in a 3 hour written examination was run by Alec Blanc, a sail, powerboat and theory Instructor from Ballachulish based Lochaber Watersports assisted by Chris Stopford.

After the course, Alec said "at the outset we all agreed that our objectives were to have fun, to learn something and to pass the RYA exam. The candidates certainly achieved all these targets and their next task is to get some "hands-on" experience on real boats."

The participants were Miriam Iorwerth, Lewis Maclean, Helen MacLean, Ross Warner, Derrick Warner, Martyn Stott and Susan Nicol.

Alec Blanc Lochaber Watersports Ltd 01855 821391 / 07831846025
<www.lochaberwatersports.co.uk>

Welcome to new Members

The start of the season should see the following new members out on the water.

- David Bowen A country member from Cumbria
- Martin Wolfenden & Lisa Diggins. Now owners of "Freewind" the ex-club Kestrel
- Susan Nicol from the Outward Bound
- Helen & Lewis MacLean from Spean Bridge and currently on the Day Skipper course
- and last years "Learn to Sail" beginners will hopefully be there on the start line
- Victoria Kimber, Martyn Faryma, Hannah Bamber, Evelyn Larvin and Maureen McSherry

We wish them all fair winds and calm seas.

.....oooooOOooooo.....

**"Dirty Harry" in Sydney Harbour. Sold already?****A Protest Story**

Along with the Dirty Harry photo from down under - this wee story recounted in the local freebee sailing magazine:

„How embarrassing to be a serious campaigner with gung-ho crew to be nearly beaten by a an unknown low-budget boat from down the coast. Sailing comfortably towards the windward mark/island, beautifully positioned on port tack lay-line our crew of 6 women and 4 men sunning themselves on the windward rail. Now let's see, that makes 10, oh no that makes 12 with the helmsman and mainsail trimmer, ooops now that's not within the Sydney 38 class rules. Next thing is our enjoyable sailing is interrupted by an older gentleman on his yacht just ahead waving his arms and generally gesticulating and shouting „Protest! Protest!“ Observe - this is a lesson for for any young or new sailor - read your sailing instructions. With that performance over we round the island and run for home, close enough to our enthusiast to be getting a sore neck by continually looking back to see how close we were.

We all successfully cross the finishing line after a pleasant kite ride, our boat full of smiles and laughter but this doesn't seem to be so on the other boat. Back at the marina with drinks and nibbles on deck we are approached by this arm waving man and informed that he is going ahead with the protest, so off he trots to lodge his ill-researched protest. Our boat owner politely pointed out to the other crew that that we were not sailing under class rules as the local sailing instructions over-ride them - crew size is based on overall weight, not number of crew. Now this is a touchy subject, any man game enough to ask a lady her weight... but ask six women, that's toying with death! But that's what happened. All the crew were asked to attend the hearing to be weighed. How much do 6 women weigh? - not telling but suffice to say the full crew weight was under the max allowed. Protest dismissed!

So, read and know your sailing instructions, don't assume they are always the same and don't under-estimate your competitors, there are some good sailors out there who don't flaunt it and have fun doing so.”

Chris Strong - and thanks to Afloat magazine (afloat.com.au)
Then seen in the RYA magazine (and slightly adjusted)

Loch Linnhe Tides

When full or new
you see the moon.
The tide's far out
around about noon.

But when the moon's
At either quarter,
At six the beach
is under water.

Six hours the water
ebbs away
An hour later
every day

Get down to the
beach
as soon as you can
Time and Tide
Wait for no man.





Thursday Club Report

Thursday 2nd April 2009

Brian H was the very early bird and had the stove lit and kettle boiled before Hamish arrived. Joe and Adrian joined in time for the official coffee muster at 1000. Robbie would join us later at Wayfarer HQ. The roll call for absentees included workers Martin W, Brian F, Harry J. Paul was reported out walking but the Commode ? While Joe, aided by Adrian made adjustments to Mischief, Brian and Hamish cleared the Gents changing room of various items before all departed to Wayfarer HQ.

Islay was tackled first. The mast step was bolted down then the new catches were attached to the aft hatch and the rubber sealing strip glued in place. This completed all the essential work on the hull so the boat was loaded onto the road trailer ready for transport to the club.

On Jura only the repaired self bailer had to be fitted. Attempts to assemble this item were abandoned as the lunch hour approached! So, the team plus Islay headed to LYC where the mast was raised in Islay and the sails mustered. More about the sails later as two blasts on the race office horn by Peter meant that Beryl was about to start serving the potato soup. There was a wine crises but swift action by Robbie and Peter resolved the problem. Secretary Chris joined as did Pete Hyde who had been adjusting the many strings on the Laser 5000. After the usual second helpings of the soup then cheese and/or salami the Pie (rhubarb & apple) was cut by Peter and the custard monitored by Adrian. Hamish finished first in order to ensure his slice of fruit cake and, unlike last week, was able to report at first hand that the cake was excellent!! There was a severe attack of lethargy with the coffee. However, activity eventually resumed and Islay was fitted with a cover and found a space in the dinghy park. One mainsail was ditched and the other may require extensive repairs at Owen Sails?

Adrian had work to do on the Challengers and Brian was on an MOT appointment so Robbie and Hamish headed for the fire station and Wayfarer Jura. Remember the abandoned self bailer? A word of advice, better to buy new rather than try and fit spare parts!! But we managed. Adrian joined for the fitting of the bailer into the hull opening. This was another saga to be glossed over. Jura was then transported to LYC to be fitted with mast and boom. Just as Robbie and Hamish were congratulating themselves on the triumph over the bailer fitting it was decided to open said bailer to allow rainwater to drain from the boat. The bailer chute disengaged from the fixed frame!!!!!!!!!!!! reaction cannot be reported. New bailer being ordered. Still to be fitted, centreboards, rudders & tillers, mainsheets and sails. At least one serviceable mainsail required. A test sail is planned before the sailing course begins.

The cameraman forgot his camera.

