



Newsletter of the Forth Corinthian Yacht Club, Spring 2011

# Dumbo special

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped to overhaul our two Club boats this winter, doing everything from engine maintenance, fitting a new exhaust and floorboards, making new signage, threading on new fenders, remounting the bilge pump, antifouling, and, of course, painting them a lovely Corinthian blue. Now that the Dumbos are looking so spruce, it's time to give them some TLC when operating them. Here are the full instructions, courtesy of George Mackay.



Joe's even taken to sleeping under Dumbo.



Wee Dumbo gleaming in Corinthian blue. Please don't cleat off the lines as shown.

## General points

- The Club boats *Dumbo* and *Jumbo* are for use by the membership for ferrying to and from moored craft in Granton Harbour and for starting races as stated in the FCYC handbook.
- The workboat, *Linklater*, is used to maintain moorings in the harbour. It should not be used as a ferry.
- Only current members of FCYC can be in charge of the Club boats.
- Members in charge of the Club boats must be fully conversant with the Rules of the Road and should be competent in the handling of the motor craft.
- Members must be fully conversant with the starting procedures for the Club boats they are in charge of. Instructions from experienced Club members designated by the Harbour Committee or attendance at organised training sessions is mandatory.
- The club boats must be treated carefully and not abused by over-revving and harsh gear changing. Checks for fuel and oil must be made before using the craft and replenished if necessary.
- The Club boats must be berthed or moored safely after use.

# Dumbo starting procedures

## Big Dumbo ('Jumbo')

Only proceed if you are competent and have had instruction.

- Check diesel and engine oil levels.
- Apply cold start procedures (very cold weather or first start of the day).
- Apply quarter throttle.
- Select neutral.
- Position the two decompression levers in the start position.
- Turn the engine rapidly with the starting handle.
- Move the decompression levers to the running position still turning the handle.
- If engine fails to start repeat procedures.

### To stop the engine

- Reduce revs.
- Select neutral.
- Pull engine stop cord.

## Wee Dumbo ('Dumbo')

Only proceed if you are competent and have had instruction.

- Check diesel and engine oil levels.
- Open engine compartment flaps.
- Turn the battery switch to on position.
- Disengage drive on gear/throttle lever and apply quarter throttle.
- Turn key in panel to start.
- Engine should turn and start.
- Move gear/throttle lever into neutral position.

### To stop engine

- Reduce revs.
- Select neutral.



- Pull engine stop cord.
- Turn battery switch to off position.
- Close engine compartment flaps.

### Manual start

- Check diesel and engine oil levels.
- Open engine compartment flaps.
- Turn the battery switch to on position.
- Disengage drive on gear/throttle lever and apply quarter throttle.

- Position the decompression levers in the start position.
- Turn the engine rapidly with the starting handle.
- Move the decompression levers to the running position still turning the handle.
- Move gear/throttle lever into neutral position.
- If engine fails to start repeat process.

## From the Commodore

A lot of effort and hard work by a dedicated team of members has resulted in our harbour launches being in first-class condition. I would ask all users of these boats to respect the work done to make them what they are and to give due care and attention to all aspects of their use. Moor them properly, carry out the engine checks and, importantly, check the fuel levels and replenish when necessary after you have used the boats.

The ethos of the Corinthians is 'affordable sailing for all' and this means that your participation in a

call for a workparty or some other aspect of Club life (behind the bar, helping in the kitchen, assisting in keeping the Clubhouse, yard and moorings in good condition) is part of the commitment of joining our 'self-help' Club .

Let's have a bumper season afloat and ashore in a safe, friendly and ever so slightly competitive manner, displaying seamanship, confidence and good manners as is the custom of the sea. To those of you going foreign, a safe and pleasant voyage and 'haste ye back' and to those plowtering round the door, enjoy your sailing. Have a great summer!

– Graham Crawford

# Workboat starting procedures

Only proceed if you are competent and have had instruction.

- Apply cold start procedures (very cold weather and first start of the day).
- Apply quarter throttle.
- Select neutral.
- Depress the starter button.
- Wind up starter until fully wound using handle (do not to over-wind).
- Push down the lever to release the starter.
- If engine fails to start repeat procedure.

## To stop the engine

- Reduce revs.
- Select neutral.
- Pull engine stop cord.



A Corinthian raiding party shows how to manouvre the *Linklater*.

**When using the engine water pump please ensure that you are familiar with the procedures. Do not use if you are unsure.**

## Get ready to race!

There will be a **Racers Pre-Season Meeting** at 1930 on Monday 18 April in the Clubhouse. The main purpose of this meeting is to brief all yachts and individuals listed in the handbook for race officer duties of procedures and duties. Can all skippers and crews intending to race this year please try to attend or at least have one representative attending? All members are welcome and all help appreciated.

You will see in this year's handbook an item 'Training on the Water'. This is a new venture introduced into the programme this year. The concept is simple – we want all club members, racers, cruisers, owners and crews alike, to sail together and share their skills and experience on the water. We have scheduled four sessions on Tuesday evenings, early in the season. Depending on turnout and weather, we will decide on

the night which of the nominated boats we will use and to which boats crews will be allocated.

There are a whole range of boat handling skills and seamanship which we may practice, e.g. spinnaker handling, heavy weather sailing, man overboard drills, short tacking, race starting, the list is endless! We may extend this programme if it proves popular, but its success is obviously dependent on members' participation. An open discussion on how we best develop this initiative will take place at the Pre-season Racers Meeting.

The **Friday White Sail Series** begins at 1830 on Friday 22 April. **Port Edgar Stern Chase** starts at 1000 on Saturday 23 April. Staggered start times will be calculated by me and will be posted at the head of the pontoon at least one hour before the scheduled first start. Participating yachts are encouraged to stay at Port Edgar overnight for a social evening.

## Opening Regatta and Parade of Sail ( 1300 Saturday 30 April)

The idea is to get every FCYC cruising and racing boat that floats on the water and to display our fleet with pride. The course is a simple triangle in Wardie Bay which we will sail round and round for approximately 3–4 laps then return to the harbour for a yard BBQ. The race is open to all club member boats. Don't worry if you don't have a handicap – if you start we will give you one!

## Bellrock Lighthouse 200th anniversary race

We are currently in discussion with Port Edgar Yacht Club who have several yachts who are interested in resurrecting a Bell Rock Race, which used to be a regular and popular event on the Forth, competing for the FCYC Bell Rock Trophy. The most likely date that this 'phoenix is likely to rise from the ashes' is 20–21 August. It would be helpful if any FCYC Yacht interested in competing could let me know!

– Frank Martin, Sailing Secretary

## Events

### April

**Mon 18 Pre-season Racers Meet**  
19:30 Club house

**Fri 22 Friday White Sail 1**  
18:30 Race officer: *Silver Dollar*

**Sat 23 Stern chase to Port Edgar**  
10:00 Self start

**Sat 30 Opening Regatta**  
13:00 Race officer: *Smij*

### May

**Sun 1 Afternoon cruise**  
12:00

**Fri 6 Friday White Sail 2**  
18:30 Race officer: *Eclipse*

**Sat 7 Anstruther Quaich  
& Sun 8 and Return**  
09:30 Self start

**Tue 10 Training on the Water 1**  
18:30

**Sat 14 Scott Shield**  
10:00 Race officer: *Misty Blue*

**Sat 21 Bass Rock and Return  
& Sun 22** 10:00 Self start

**Tue 24 Training on the Water 2**  
18:30

**Sat 28 Wilson Cup**  
18:30 Race officer: *Apparition*

**Sun 29 Bell block painting  
workparty and BBQ**  
10:00

## Bar rota

**18 Apr** Angela Coulter  
**25 Apr** Jim Brodie  
**2 May** Brian Pennycook  
**9 May** Simon Monard  
**16 May** Keil McLachlan  
**23 May** Peter Douglas  
**30 May** Eddie North  
**6 June** Heather Monard  
**13 June** Alec Martin  
**20 June** Jim Glass

The bar needs some more volunteers so if you can spare two Monday evenings a year for manning the FCYC bar (not an onerous task), please contact Jim Glass ([jcglass@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:jcglass@blueyonder.co.uk)). If you are coming by car, please take some of the bottle recycling with you. Thanks!



The flags are looking beautiful. Now the top container really needs to be painted!

# Flying the flag

Get those Corinthian burgees fluttering, says Paul Taylor

We have all done a lot over the past year to raise and improve the 'image' of the Corinthians. The workboats in their new liveries, the flags on the Square and above the Middle Pier and the repainted Bell block all contribute to an improved profile for the club at a time when we are engaging with Forth Ports and other bodies.

Members should be proud to reinforce this effort by flying/wearing the club's burgee on their boats. Very few of us can now fly burgees from the masthead so the starboard flag halyard is next best.

Burgees are available for members to purchase at the clubhouse. Just ask at the bar.

## Many thanks from the Vice Commodore

To all those who have done such a lot on behalf of the wider membership over the winter. It's a long and impressive list that includes all the labelling of the buoys, the installation of the CCTV, the erection of the extra security fencing, the putting in of the BT line, the mechanical overhaul of the Dumbos, sorting out the water supply, the rationalisation of *Wee Dumbo's* exhaust and the work that went with that, the repainting of the Dumbos, the erecting of three flagpoles, the work on the moorings, the repair of the bilge pump on the *Linklater*, being at the yard at 8.00 am to wait for deliveries, diving on lost sinkers, getting materials and making new floorboards for the Dumbos, fixing the pontoon water supply and organising the race marks...

Lots of people have done lots of work. Thanks and apologies to anyone whose contribution I have left out.

### Get involved!

There will be an opportunity in the next month or so, provisional date set for Sunday 29 May, for more members to contribute when we have a workparty to complete the painting of the Bell block.