

FAIRWIND

Newsletter of the Forth Corinthian Yacht Club, March, 2000

GRANTON HARBOUR EMPTY!

Yes, but not for long. Lift-in is on 15th April.

See inside for report by **Howard Thompson**, Harbour Secretary.



Flag Officers' Foreward

As I write this, the Commodore, Rear Commodore and Treasurer are sailing the seas off Thailand. Since the last Fairwind the club has held several successful events including the Christmas party (and we have the photographs to prove how well it went), the Burns Supper, a quiz night and a whisky tasting. Thanks to all who made them happen or who took part. Monday evenings are usually healthily busy. All members are encouraged to come along to discuss club business with Council members or to ask advice (and get several different answers?) and in particular to increase the bar profits. Revision of the handbook is now underway (new A5 format, like Port Edgar's) and it is not too late to let Norrie or myself know if there is anything you feel should be there but is not. As you will see elsewhere, we have arranged for the RNLI to come along on the morning of April 29th to carry out safety checks on boats. This is an excellent scheme, which costs you

nothing and which can give valuable advice that you may be thankful for one day. After a short discussion at the London boat show I was given some helpful tips about how to improve safety in Nokomis and now I just have to get rid of the out of date flares.

The main item occupying me since last Fairwind has been the continuing saga of Granton development. The current (18/2/00) situation is that plans for developing the East harbour have been withdrawn and a retrospective planning application (00057) has been made for the in-filling of the West Harbour by Forth Properties. Objections or commentaries on this must be received by the City Development Department by March 3rd. Individual members are encouraged to look at the plans and comment if they feel it is appropriate (see the club web page). Your Council intends to send in a commentary pointing out that now that the infilling has taken place, proper sea defences need to be erected urgently

to prevent further siltation of the West Harbour. We will also draw attention to the problems caused by the infilling. Please contact me if you wish further information. The outline plans submitted last July are still in play, minus the East Harbour bits, but nothing can be done till the Environmental Impact Assessment is received. Mean while the City has released the Waterfront Granton Master Plan, which is currently in draft form and will be open for public consultation later. There is an outline environmental scoping study which has been sent to the club, amongst others, and which will form the basis for the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Waterfront Granton proposals (that is a dif-

ferent EIA from the one above!). By the time you read this there will have been a meeting with the consultants at which I intend to argue forcefully that certain issues important to us (effect of buildings on wind patterns, danger of silting up etc.) should be included in the EIA. I hope you understand all that because I am not sure I do.

Graham Russell
Vice-Commodore

The Granton Waterfront Plan is open for consultation till the end of March. The exact details are a bit unclear. However, there will be an exhibition and public meeting at:

Royston & Wardie Comm. Centre 2 March 7 pm

Muirhouse Library 8 March 6.30 pm

Drylaw Community Centre 16 March 6 pm

Leith Library 22 March 6:30 pm

Travel Inn, Newhaven 29 March 7.00 pm

Please forward comments to the FCYC Council so they can be taken account of in our response.

Boat Jumble

Two of our West Coast-based members decided to try dry land navigation last month. **Ralph Forbes** and **Willie MacLeod** entered in the Monte Carlo Rally and though they weren't placed in the prestigious international event they thoroughly enjoyed speeding (and slipping) over mountain roads following the field. Though the car entered managed to come off unscathed and the only major alteration they had to make to their vehicle was the addition of some more ice-friendly tyres, the back-up estate car driven by Ralph's wife **Linda** had the misfortune to attract unwelcome attention and while she and Willie's spouse **Diane** were enjoying a well-earned pit stop vandals and/or opportunist thieves stove in the back window and fled the scene with all the luggage belonging to the intrepid foursome. If you see someone wearing a MacLeod kilt somewhere in the vicinity of Monte Carlo please tell Willie.

Not long after this Ralph suffered the indignity of collapsing at a very fine restaurant and was whipped off to the Princess Grace Memorial Hospital where they decided that his sugar level was too low and the recommended cure was to go right back to the restaurant and finish his meal. He lived to tell the tale and says he's prepared to give it another go!

Still in that general area **John Forsyth** has finally decided - after many months of thinking about it- to buy a ginormous wooden vessel, have it shipped to the CTK and spend some 15 months reinstating her to her former glory. To get her over to the IJK part of the taffrail will have to come off else she won't get under the French Motorway bridges!

Never one to shirk a challenge, John, at time of writing is in Spain making arrangements for the sale of Alb in which so many members enjoyed the opportunity of sharing in part of the RAF Yacht Club's Trade Winds Round the World Rally. The new venture will certainly take up any spare time he might have thought he had since returning to the UI~ for an extended break.

Congratulations are due to our near neighbours, **Trinity Sea Cadet Corps**, who have been again awarded a pennant for efficiency. Through their Vice-Chairman, **Graham Crawford**, and other adults FCYC and the unit are working closely together. The Burns Supper saw Lieutenant Tait, the CO and friends join in the fun and on the water they have been granted permission by the two clubs to drop their very own moorings. Mysterious packages have been seen being hoisted aboard **Early Bird**. Rumour has it that one looked suspiciously like a state of the art toilet bowl. Other suggestions are that a new Vetus engine is on order. Watch this space.

Derek has worked in all weathers to restore *Argosy* and though the work is progressing slowly it is progressing!

Alistair Main, who had his car nicked from outside his house, has just taken delivery of the replacement of which he is justly and inordinately proud. This allows him to get back

on track with his refitting on which he still spends a couple of hours a day.

Those in the 'new' **North Yard** are still experiencing difficulties with their £10 pass keys. Pete Sherlock has the matter in hand so if you are one of the sufferers please see him.

It is with regret that we record the passing of yet another old member. **Angus "Gus" Tait** died at his home at Temple (the second house he had there). Gus had not been well for some time. Older members will recall that he was a keen dinghy sailor and indeed was an outdoors pursuits instructor for East Lothian before he retired. He and **Jim Johnstone** the Scottish Country Dance Band leader were great mates when they both worked out of the Brunton Hall, Musselburgh.

Planning for the **Edinburgh Regatta** - run jointly between ourselves and RFYC - is well under way. This year sees somewhat larger prizes envisaged for the feeder races to encourage a larger out of port entry. The joint committee is indebted to Isle of Skye blended Scotch for their continued support of the event.

If you saw the great lengths of exhaust material lying under **Finn Fargo** you would be correct if you thought that the entire exhaust piping was being renewed. **Bill Lees** is nothing if not thorough.

Forth Yacht Clubs Association is making every effort to produce the revised (and A4) edition of the **Pilot Handbook** for the end of the season. The peg on which to hang this sudden rush of activity is the forthcoming visit to Edinburgh of the International Sailing Federation (ISAF). It is

hoped to be able to present copies to the Presidents of each country (who number among them our own dear Princess and a couple of European Kings). The circus will be in town based on the EICC from November 3-10.

The club owns the two **containers** in the Middle Yard. If we succeed in selling the rib, these can probably both be used for something else. Council is reluctant to sell them until harbour developments are clarified. Suggestions for use from any members welcome.

The government's proposed new **legislation on alcohol and sailing** is now out for consultation. This includes a proposal to introduce laws similar to those for drink-driving, though there are many questions about who and how this will be enforced. Sailors are encouraged to respond to the proposals. The Club will formulate a Club response at the next Council meeting. You can see the document on the club noticeboard, or at <http://www.shipping.detr.gov.uk/consult/alcohol/index.htm>

A team of Forth Corinthians won the **STA Dinghy Rigging Competition** held at the Outdoors 2000 exhibition in Glasgow recently. Despite a virtually non-existent knowledge of the dinghy species, Willy Barr, Fiona McIntyre and Lynne Brunton managed to rig a Laser from scratch in 50 seconds! Coming second with a respectable (surprising?) 54 seconds was the Corinthian B Team - Paul Lough, Rachel Grant and Leeann Liddel.

Dougal Bruce has resigned from Council due to work commitments abroad.

Sarah Price had been co-opted in his place.



Dredging again: the pontoon at the end of February, 2000



CLUB SECURITY

Since the last edition of *Fairwind* there has been a spate of theft and break-ins on club property. Sadly, an outboard engine was taken from the engine store in the Middle Yard. Sad, because this can only be opened with a club key.

Please be extra vigilant when in and around the yards and report anything suspicious to the Harbour Secretary, Howard Thompson. A few boats have also been broken into in the South Yard. The Council has written to the local police suggesting a meeting to look at better prevention/security. Another concern is cars inside the yards. It is understandable that owners are concerned about potential vandalism, but if cars are seen to be inside the yards, so can trailers, and trailers can leave with boats!

Please, unless in extreme circumstances, leave your car outside.

Harbour Matters

Lift in has been arranged for 15th April, starting in the North Yard at 7.00 a.m., proceeding via the Middle Yard to the South Yard. All help appreciated and needed.

The work boat has been welded but now needs to be painted, turned, painted again and refitted inside. This may take a couple of weeks, which leaves us very short of time to fix moorings. Any volunteers to expedite this activity will be very welcome. I ain't doing it all myself and I don't see why the usual reliable few should have to either!!!

Moorings will be allocated soon and members advised individually. Remember you are responsible for

checking that the sinkers, chain and risers are all in a condition to keep your boat (and the boats around you) safe for the season.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that an outboard motor has been stolen from the "secure" store in the middle yard. There is no sign of a forced entry and so the thief would have had a key. A club member? We should all get into the habit of asking even our friends if the equipment they are removing from the yards is their own. There is no reason to be offended if someone asks you this. Remember, it is for your security that they are asking!

Howard Thompson

The Trinity Cadets

Many of you will have seen the Trinity cadets rowing or sailing in the harbour. They have now had to leave their base above the old RNR slip and have successfully negotiated space in the Middle yard to keep their boats and the use of the cadet hut.

The unit goes back to the 1930's and at present there are two officers, two petty officers and one adult instructor and 27 enrolled cadets. An average of about 20 turn up to drill nights and the cadets have been on the water most weekends since the turn of the year, which is more than can be said of most of the rest of us.

Cadet activities include sailing, rowing, canoeing, adventure training, first aid courses, seamanship, engineering, cookery, electrical engineering, stores accounting, attending RYA qualification courses, ceremonial parade training, military band courses, ship visits and residential courses on Naval establishments. All travel is paid by the MOD, uniform is free, and cadets are charged a nominal sum for food when on course. However, the management committee of seven have to raise funds to pay for the unit activities and to provide all the extras like moorings, boat storage, repairs to boats and replacement gear. A cadet recently went to Bermuda on an exchange visit, and several have been on TS Royalist in the past two years.

The cadets have often helped the club, for example by providing runners for East Coast Sailing Week in 1998 and more recently by moving heavy items in the South Yard. The Unit currently has one motor boat, two ASC's, three Bosun dinghies and two Toppers, which means that the whole unit can be afloat at once, at least in theory.

Please make them welcome. The leaders are already FCYC members. Offers of assistance would be welcomed by Graham Crawford, particularly from female members as the unit is now mixed, as would suggestions of tasks that could form training exercises.

STOP PRESS

Dave Griffiths has recently taken over from Martin Wilson, as the **rescue boat co-ordinator** for Port Edgar Yacht Club. Although he appreciates the season is barely beginning, he is already anxiously looking for rescue boats and crews for the **Carl Dyson (Dinghies)** on 9 and 10 September.

This year, with the yacht and dinghy regattas split, he is expecting more boats than last. More particularly, the cat travellers are planning the 4 inches on the Saturday and will need at least 3 RIBs dedicated to them.

This is, therefore, **a request for help or even a contact in FCYC who may be able to help.** Dave hopes that someone in FCYC can respond and assures us that, if we also have a regatta, he may be able to return the favour. Phone him on **0131 331 4696**

Free safety check!

Many of you will have heard about the free boat safety checks offered by the RNLI. We have made arrangements for checks to be carried out in Granton Harbour on the morning of Saturday April 29th. The checks can take up to 45 minutes and will provide you with advice. If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity (and the Council members hope you will) please write to me c/o the clubhouse or e-mail (g.russell@ed.ac.uk) me giving your name, contact details, boat name and type.

If we are overwhelmed by applications it will be first come first served. Members not having a boat or not wishing to be inspected will be welcome to come along to see what is involved. The checks are based on the RYA Cruising booklet C8/98 Yacht safety sail and power, which you are recommended to read for more detailed explanations. The recommendations given below which are for sailing boats in category C (i.e. inshore) waters have been derived from that publication. There is a shorter list for dayboats cruising only waters within about an hour of shelter.

- A storm trysail or deep reef
- A battery solely used to start the auxiliary engine or a means of starting it by hand
- Two anchors with an appropriate length and diameter of warp and chain
- A stem fairlead capable of being closed over the anchor warp or chain
- A strong point, e.g. a mooring cleat, on the foredeck
- Two buckets of between 9 and 14 litres capacity, with lanyard and strong handle, for bailing
- One hand bilge pump discharging overboard
- All through hull fittings able to be closed and with softwood plugs adjacent to them
- A radar reflector
- Correct navigation lights
- Motoring cone
- Anchor ball and light
- Foghorn
- Two water proof torches, one powerful enough for signalling
- Pyrotechnics (in date!): 4 hand-held red, 2 red parachute, 2 orange smokes, 4 white
- Fire blanket (if cooking equipment is carried)
- Two fire extinguishers (minimum rating 5A/34B)
- Jackstays and clip-on points
- An inflatable dinghy sufficient to carry everyone on board
- An emergency grab bag
- One horseshoe life belt with drogue and self igniting light
- A 30 m buoyant heaving line
- A boarding ladder
- A marine-band VHF
- Up-to-date charts of all areas the yacht may go under stress of weather, tide tables etc.
- Steering compass that can be lit at night
- Hand-bearing compass
- Navigational instruments
- Barometer
- Lead line and echosounder
- Watch or clock
- Log
- First aid kit
- Emergency tiller (for wheel steered vessels)
- Towing warp (if no anchor warp)
- Mooring warps and fenders
- Tool kits
- Bosun's chair

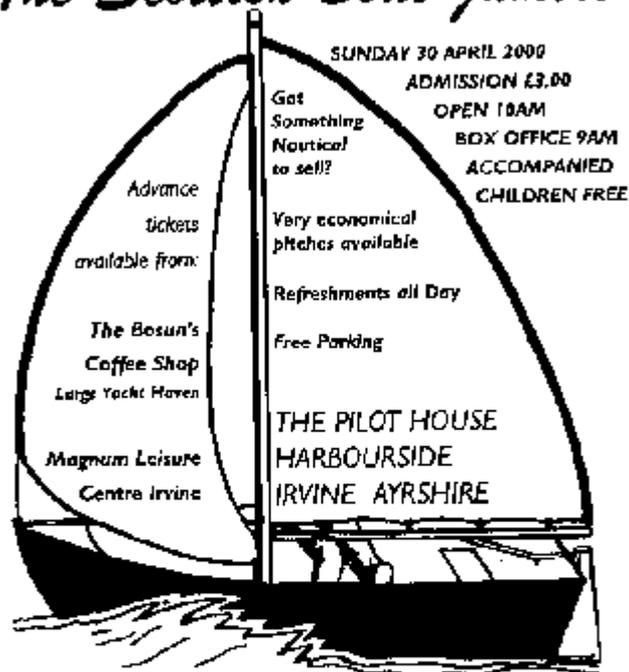
For each person on board

- Warm clothing, oilskins, seaboots and hat
- Lifejacket (150 Newtons)
- Safety harness

The deadline for the next issue of *Fairwind* is 30th April. To submit writings, please contact: **Sarah Price** (0131 229 0029 or sprice@icbl.hw.ac.uk) or **Fiona McIntyre** (0131 313 2488 or FionaMcIntyre@compuserve.com).

Contributions should be on disk (PC) or emailed. If this is not possible, please phone to discuss and send your writings to the Clubhouse.

The Scottish Boat Jumble



If you do it in, on or under the water there is sure to be a new or used bargain:
Chandlery, Fishing Tackle, Water Ski, Sub Aqua, Canoeing, Rope, Pairs, Yarnish, Anti-fouling, Dinghies, Tools, Covers, Sails, Clothing, Electronics, Flags, Boats etc... **NEW NUMBER IN APRIL 07721 888789**

For further information, telephone:
0421 888789 or Facsimile 01294 552417
or email: John.boatjumble@btinternet.com

A Member of the RYA Group of Clubs

Council Contacts

Commodore Linda Pennycook 0131 552 5886	Secretary Fiona McIntyre 0131 337 4879	Minute Secretary Phil Chester 0131 332 5767
Vice Commodore Graham Russell 0131 229 8959	Membership Tim Wright 0131 556 1478	Phil Fennell 0131 538 4632
Rear Commodore Ed North 0131 552 4910	Harbour Secretary Howard Thomson 0131 665 4648	Melvyn Bond 0131 346 0591
Treasurer Pete Sherlock 0131 334 7775	Sailing Secretary Ian Dawson 0131 555 2987	Sarah Price 0131 229 0029

See FCYC on the Web:
<http://www.fcyc.org.uk>

To add your email address to FCYC internet news mailings, please mail sprice@icbl.hw.ac.uk
Official Club email address: fcyc@talk21.com

DIARY DATES

- Sat 11 March - FYCA Ball
- Fri 17 March - Members' social in the clubhouse
- Fri 31 March - BrainWaves - interclub nautical quiz
- Sat 15 April - LIFT IN
Free soup and rolls all day. Curry evening - £5 per head