

# FA RWIND

Newsletter of the Forth Corinthian Yacht Club, February, 2001

## DIARY DATES

### 7-11 February Outdoors 2001

The camping, caravan and watersports exhibition with an enlarged sailing hall this year. Forth Yacht Clubs Association are on stand 320. SECC, Glasgow.

### Friday 2 March Racing Rules - Enlightenment!

A chance to find out more about the racing rules, including 'mock' protests for you to rule on, and lots of information and advice. Suitable for beginners and experts alike.  
7.30 at the Clubhouse

### Friday 23 March Boat Jumble Auction

Any sailing bric-a-brac welcome (please hand in the weekend/Monday before). Proceeds to club. Auctioneer Joe Ramsay.  
7.30 at the Clubhouse

### Saturday 24 March FYCA Annual Prizegiving & Frosty Ball

Tickets £15 per head from Graham Crawford or at FYCA website - [fyca.org.uk](http://fyca.org.uk)

### Friday 6 April Race Officer Training

Come and find out how to be a race officer for the club. It's simple, fun, and includes an introduction to the joys of Dumbo.  
7.30 at the Clubhouse

### Saturday 7 April LIFT-IN!



Sitting pretty on *Maxine* during lift-out, October, 2000.

## From Your Commodore

A belated happy new year to all 150 members, where are you all hiding? The club and yards have been quite deserted since lift out, maybe you are all better off than me and can afford to spend the winter in warmer parts!

The poverty stricken council 'we haven't been away' are busy as ever keeping the wheels turning, providing a winter social calendar, preparing the handbook, setting dates for the race calendar, and doing the ground work for the laying of the new swinging moorings for which you all voted at the last AGM.

But we really need more membership involvement if we

are to achieve all this and progress as a Club. Please come along on a Monday night and participate in the ongoing projects, and turn out for any harbour/moorings work parties for which Howard is currently setting the dates.

I have been in contact with FPA on a weekly basis regarding the North Yard issues of electricity and Gate Fobs. The first estimate to provide us with extra power was apparently 'too costly' and they are now looking at the feasibility of running a surface armoured cable to the container area - watch this space.....

The dredging of the pontoon area has been completed and is

reported to have been a much more efficient and successful operation than previously. The 'hump' at the pilot berth has been removed and, due to the contribution from ECSW Organisation of £500, a larger area has been dredged. We must now wait for low water spring on the 7th of February to survey the extent of the dredged area.

Please check the dates in Fairwind of planned sailing and social events.

Look forward to seeing you all around the club and harbour areas.

**Linda Pennycook**  
Commodore

# Corinthian goes from Sailing to Bowling

by *Melvyn Bond*

Faced with the expensive prospect of a winter at Inverkip, I was seeking suitable storage in the Clyde area, and being a typical Corinthian it had to be cost effective!

Informed opinion directed me to Bowling Basin which is the westerly terminal of the Forth and Clyde canal. Opened in 1790 things have changed little here since the last stagnant dregs evaporated from the canal in the 60s, leaving a wasteland of shopping trolleys and old tyres as yet

undisturbed by renovation.

Bowling is not the most salubrious of villages and is surrounded by the crumbling remnants of Scotland's shipbuilding heritage. When approaching by road the basin is difficult to find as it is poorly signposted and is approached by a tortuous narrow winding roadway. The approach by sea is quite entertaining as an obstacle course round a reef of sunken hulks has to be negotiated before the lock is reached.

On entering the outer basin however, things take a turn for the better! There are numerous vessels both old and new including steam yachts and houseboats - one old chap lives in an abandoned ivy covered signal box - whilst another's abode is an 18ft yacht!

The staff are helpful and friendly, providing craning, mast removal, stowage and high pressure cleaning as well as endless jokes and stories.

All you have to do is watch.

There are clean showers, toilets, water and electricity on hand, but no chandlers as yet. British Waterways issue a helpful booklet for prospective customers and this includes an entry sketch plan and locking times throughout the year.

This is an area of great potential for boat owners of all types with a view to the re-opening of the waterway. There are some great views over the river as far as the Cowal hills and I can recommend a visit as an interesting day out.



*Pontoon berths No.1 & 2*



*Some locks can be tricky at Bowling*

## Harbour Notes

All those fore'n'aft moorings which are being converted have been lifted. Howard will get in touch with members who are moving to swingers and arrange a time for them to come and help lay the new ones.

Everyone (ie, everyone on a FCYC mooring, not a RFYC mooring), should check their own mooring prior to lift-in on 7th April.

The workboat is available for

members' use. Contact:

Howard Thompson (665 4648)  
Ed North (552 4901)  
Phil Fennell (555 0853).

There will be a health & safety check by Forth Ports of their property on 12 February.

It may be necessary to move some of the boats beside the shed following this on 17 February.

**Contact Howard for details.**

## Worth a Look on the Web

**Robert Beatty writes:**

I have come across some pretty good web site's that people in the yachting fraternity may be interested in, for example,  
**[www.latesail.com](http://www.latesail.com)**

This is an internet-based web site offering discount

charter, it also has an auction section on its website.

The idea is based on if the yacht is in the harbor then its not bringing in revenue so make them an offer.

Yachts range from all kinds of size and the destinations are worldwide

**Come across any useful sailing websites?  
Mail the *Fairwind* editor at [sprice@icbl.hw.ac.uk](mailto:sprice@icbl.hw.ac.uk)**

# Granton Developments

by Graham Russell

Following the motion passed at the Special General Meeting in the autumn, your Council obtained legal advice about our situation in relation to Forth Ports as our "landlords". RYA Scotland passed us on to the RYA at Eastleigh whose legal specialist (Edmund Whelan) was consulted.

It seems that our only rights are those in any written agreement with Forth Ports or Forth Properties. We also investigated the charges made to us. An owner is able to charge for three things: the use of the water, including pontoons and moorings, rental for space on land and harbour dues. The money we pay for the first two appears to be about average for the UK. However, we pay no harbour dues. This is part of an explicit agreement in the case of the Edinburgh Marina Company and seems to be implicit in the case of the rest of the harbour. Although harbour owners are under a legal obligation to keep a harbour in an appropriate state of repair, they are also supposed to levy harbour dues to pay for maintenance. Paradoxically, it would probably be easier for the club to raise money for repairs than for Forth Properties since so much of the harbour is of listed historic importance. However, the short term nature of our lease inhibits any such action.

Scottish Natural Heritage has made a proposal to include the East Harbour in the Forth Special Protection Area for wild birds. This has some advantages to the club as it will protect the East harbour from deleterious development. We have negotiated with SNH and have now written to them formally, explaining the normal maintenance activities carried out by the club so they can be approved and we can continue doing what we have always done. Among the things we have done in the past, the only one omitted from our list is chemical control of weed on the slips. Having consulted the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, it is clear that herbicide applications are closely controlled by other legislation, and we can apply for permission to use a herbicide if it becomes necessary, although we would probably require professional help.

At the present date (03/01/01), staff of the City Development Department are taking industrial action and planning applications are not being processed. However, no applications have been received for the harbour area and the Environmental Impact Statement requested last January following the retrospective Planning Application for the West Harbour has still not been received.

## Cruising 2001

A new season approaching, and plans are being made for both a hectic racing schedule and an active cruising agenda.

As with previous years, we propose a number of cruises around racing venues. These include:

- **Cruise to Port Edgar** with the Port Edgar Stern Chase (28<sup>th</sup> April)
- **Cruise to Dunbar** for the Bass Rock race (12<sup>th</sup> –13<sup>th</sup> May)
- **Cruise to Anstruther**

for the Anstruther Quaich (23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> June)

- **Cruise to Inchcolm** with BBQ in combination with the Ladies Helm (29<sup>th</sup> July)

In addition to these dates, other Club events are proposed, such as:

- **Day cruise to Kinghorn** for a Beach Party (8<sup>th</sup> July)
- **Day cruise to Blackness** (excellent food and beer in the pub there!!) (18<sup>th</sup> August)

# Sailing News

by Malcolm Blyth, Sailing Secretary

May I wish all fellow members a happy New Year, and what a new year's sailing programme have we in store for you!!

I gather, through the grapevine, that the Harbour Secretary has arranged lift in on **Saturday 7th April**, so we will start the year off with our annual cruise up to Port Edgar on Saturday afternoon on the 28th April. The format to Port Edgar is that of a stern chase, followed by grub and the odd dram or two in the local pubs. An overnight stay and then a leisurely cruise back to Granton. This is a "must try" for all new members. A stern chase is where we set you off individually at the start dependent on your boat's handicap and hopefully we all arrive at the finish at the same time. No boats in close encounters and very few rules keep it simple. For the more serious racers, there is the first round of the FIG championship, the Bosun's Locker Trophy, on the Sunday from Port Edgar.

What would you like the club to organise? The club currently arranges a fair number of racing events, plus a few cruising events. The cruising events could be defined as the Port Edgar Stern Chase, our Anstruther muster and the barbecue on Inchmickery. Would you like more? If so where to? If you have anything you would like to see arranged, please contact me with ideas and I will do my best.

You can contact me by e-mail "malcolmb@primex.co.uk" or phone 0131 337 6618 or around the club

premises most weekends (*Blyth Spirit*) and on Monday evenings in the clubhouse.

Talking of Anstruther, Forth Yacht Clubs Association (FYCA) have arranged with Anstruther Community Council to have a muster of yachts in Anstruther on Saturday 8th September. Last year the council made the yachtsmen and women very welcome and provide them with supper (free). So put that one in your diary.

Now to yacht handicaps (a touchy subject at the best of times!). We intend to review the club handicaps in the next few weeks with the intention of giving new members more of a chance to compete on an equal basis with the more experienced members, based on last year's results. Having spent the last few months playing with the rolling handicap program, it is our intention to utilise this system this year. Using the Rolling Handicap system promises to even out the handicaps for every boat that competes regularly and has been proven to work at Port Edgar, encouraging more boats to the start line. It is certainly our desire to put on events in a style that encourages more boats to come out and participate. The one thing I would encourage you to do is to come out regularly. The more times you are out on the water the better your chance of being recognised at the annual prize giving!

Major events this year on the Forth for Yachts: *see back page*.

## WET PAINT

A nice sunny morning, warm and dry, just the time to consider giving the topsides a coat of 2 part enamel. You rise early, find the brushes, thinners, rags and paint, and off to the boatyard. Arriving about 9 you get out the gear, check the finish, a final rub down and commence with the task of applying the topcoat. 2 hours later all is well and the job is done, no runs and the boat looks like it just popped out the mould.

But what is that shadow over the sun, a cloud, it can't be..... but it is! 2 minutes later it's blowing a gale and the rain is horizontal.

Sounds familiar, does it not, could be early Spring in Scotland, round about mid April

Well this was not in Scotland and to add to the misery, the wind carried a load of sand as well as rain, Dubai, Persian Gulf, 2 weeks ago where it has not rained for 2 years.

Yuri Fadeev sails his Juno560 in the winter when the temperature drops to a comfortable 35 degrees Celsius.

The story came about by an exchange of e-mail about the Juno 560.

Graham Crawford

# VOLUNTEER BAR ROTA

## March & April 2001

Here's the volunteer bar rota for March and April. Thanks again to everyone who has volunteered to help.

If you are not sure about keys/bar etc, please come along before your stint and find out.

If you cannot manage "your" day or evening, phone someone else on the list to arrange a swap. It is your responsibility to arrange cover! (And to get the keys to the next person on the list.) If you have a problem transferring keys, you can leave them with Ed North, where they can be picked up by the next volunteer. Arrange this among yourselves. Ed is at 3 Trinity Court (552 4901).

Any real difficulties, phone Fiona McIntyre on 07710 545 164.

### BAR HOURS

Saturday 2-7pm  
Sunday 2-7pm  
Monday 6.30-11pm

Monday 12 February	Malcolm Blyth	337 6618
Monday 19 February	Jack Haldane	552 9995
Monday 26 February	Ian Hellewell	312 6336

Friday 2 March	Joe Ramsay	467 6142
Monday 5 March	Ted Stanley	669 5806
Monday 12 March	Melvyn Bond	345 0591
Monday 19 March	Caroline Hoffmann	552 8622
Friday 23 March	Fiona McIntyre	337 4879
Monday 26 March	Brian Pennycook	552 5886

Monday 2 April	Pip Hills	556 2026
Friday 6 April	Maggie Braid	551 1531
Monday 9 April	Stuart Coulter	443 9391
Monday 16 April	Willy Barr	554 2471
Monday 23 April	Howard Thompson	665 4648
Monday 30 April	Ed North	552 4901

### OTHERS AVAILABLE

Ernie Coulter	443 9391
Andy Macfarlane	468 0706
Graham Crawford	657 1012
Phil Chester	332 5767
Bob Beaty	665 9882
Brian Bathgate	667 0066
Derek Bathgate	449 2457
Ann McNeil/Tim Wright	556 1478

## Major events on the Forth in 2001

**29 April**  
PEYC Bosun's Locker Trophy (FIG)

**5 May**  
FCC Driftwood Trophy (FIG)

**12 May**  
FCYC Bass Rock (FIG)

**13 May**  
FCYC Bass Rock return (FIG)

**19 / 20 May**  
CBC FCYC RFYC Mickery Regatta

**26 May**  
FCYC Eyemouth Trophy (FOG)

**3 June**  
BSC Mazzoni Trophy (FIG)

**9 / 10 June**  
FCC BBC PEYC West Forth Regatta

**16 June**  
DBCS Gavin Adamson (FIG)

**17 June**  
DBSC Four Inches (FIG)

**29 June**  
ELYC Bell Rock Race (FOG)

**13 July**  
FCYC Bell Rock (FOG)

**14 - 21 July**  
East Coast Sailing Week (Granton)

**11 / 12 August**  
FCYC/RFYC Edinburgh Regatta

**25 August**  
FYC Over One Tide Race (FIG)

**1 September**  
FCYC Scotsman Trophy (FOG)

**8 September**  
RFYC May Island Race (FIG)

**9 September**  
PEYC Andrew Thomson Trophy (FIG)

**15 / 16 September**  
CBC Autumn Regatta

**23 September**  
PEYC Queen Margaret Trophy (FIG)

29 / 30 September  
PEYC Carl Dyson Yacht Regatta

### DATES FOR DINGHIES

**19 / 20 May**  
DBSC Dinghy Regatta

**2 / 3 June**  
ELYC Dinghy Regatta

**30 June**  
LBSC Dinghy Regatta

**18 / 19 August**  
E&ESC East Fife Dinghy Regatta

**25 / 26 August**  
PEYC Carl Dyson Dinghy Regatta

**15 / 16 September**  
Sea Cadet Nationals at Port Edgar

## Council Contacts

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See FCYC on the Web  
[www.fcyc.org.uk](http://www.fcyc.org.uk)

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