



FAIRWIND

Newsletter of the Forth Corinthian Yacht Club. January 1999



The Way Ahead...

A new year, and a time for looking forward, not only to 1999, but to a new millennium.

The Club Council has been working hard to ensure FCYC not only survives, but thrives, in the future. In the short-term, steps are being taken to move the Club onto a more secure financial footing. This involves constant monitoring of income and expenditure, and tightening procedures.

In the longer term, the Council is determined that FCYC will be involved in, and benefit from,

any waterfront developments - with the members' interests, and the Corinthian principle of affordable sailing for all, at the forefront.

If you have an interest in the future of the Club - both short and long term, come along to the General Meeting on Monday 15 March when the only topic under discussion will be "The Way Ahead for the Forth Corinthian Yacht Club". It's the right time to think about the future - let's be positive.

New Year's Message from FCYC Commodore Paul Lough

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish all members a slightly belated Happy New Year. Here's to fair winds, and safe and enjoyable sailing in 1999.

We were disappointed to receive formal notification that our application for Lottery funding had been turned down. I find this a bit mystifying when you see some of the other (well-publicised) grants which have been awarded. We are not, however, giving up hope - we will continue to pursue other Lottery options. Stuart Crombie, (Royal Forth Commodore), Will Rudd, Consulting Engineer and Club Member, and myself will also be meeting with Forth ports Authority to try and find out what their plans are for developments at Granton. I'll keep you posted.

City of Edinburgh Council, one of the partners in Granton Dinghies have carried out upgrading work on the Bell Block installing new lighting, waterproof switches, extractor fans and mesh on the staircase - and there's still some joinery work to be done.

We have also contacted the dredging company to carry out maintenance dredging on either side of the pontoons, and up to the slipway at RFYC. We have requested this for the end of March, beginning of April.

We are also busy getting some of the club systems upgraded and updated. Soon, hopefully, a new membership database, the bookkeeping system, and harbour accounts will all be on the club's own computer.

We had some great social events over Christmas and New Year. Please continue to support the club in any way you can - at social events, or by helping in work parties, or contributing to Fairwind. Most importantly of all, have your say about the future of your club by coming along to the General Meeting on 15 March.

Got any bright ideas on how the Club should celebrate the millennium?
Let a Council member know.



Ian Helliwell and Jack Haldane taking their bar duties seriously at the Christmas Party. They diligently sampled the quality of the beer every thirty minutes.

Sailing News

Festive Forays

Those Boxing Day Gales didn't deter the bold owners and crew of *Belle Ile* who joined PEYC boats for an overnighter to Anstruther on 27 December. According to *Fairwind's* sources, the decision to sail was taken only after careful deliberation and a massive intake of fortifying ale in the Royal Forth. Joining *Absolutely*, *Allouette*, *Savitar* and a trimaran from Port Edgar, the Corinthians spent an enjoyable evening in the Ship Inn being entertained by "Rab", the RNLI guitarist.

On New Year's Day, *Smithereen*, *Maxine* and *Belle Ile* braved the bitter cold for the traditional Corinthian day sail, including a pub lunch in Burntisland. The only sour note of the day was when Ed (Neanderthal) North, spent the long beat back from the Dysart Wreck Buoy whining that his curry ("I slaved over a hot stove for three hours to make that") was getting spilt.

Racing

Sailing Secretary John McLaren is preparing next year's sailing calendar. It is hoped there will be more combined events in '99.

* Look out for a full race programme in the next edition of *Fairwind*.

Edinburgh Regatta

Plans so far include two (Olympic) races on Saturday 21 with an evening event in FCYC. There will be a longer race on Sunday, with the prize-giving at the Royal Forth. Further information from Tommy Wilson.

Edinburgh - Helgoland, May 1999

Every two years for the last 29 years, a group of German yachts have raced from Helgoland, a small island some 30 miles north-east of the mouth of the Elbe in Germany, to Granton, Edinburgh. During the early years, only a few boats took part and it was a very informal race.

In recent years, the average entry is around 50 boats. The race is now part of North Sea Week and forms the final race. For many years now, the German organisers have been trying to encourage Scottish based boats to join them for the return race but as yet, no one has taken part although a few individuals have crewed German yachts for the return leg.

The trip from Helgoland to Granton is just over 400 miles and on average, the yachts take between 2 - 4 days to complete the trip. For many German yachtsmen and women it is a two week holiday with a long weekend break in the middle.

What is proposed in simple terms is to go to Helgoland, starting from Granton on the weekend of 15th/16th May 1999. The race starts about a week before the start of the Helgoland - Edinburgh Race. This would allow the fleet ample time to race across the North-Sea, arriving in Helgoland in plenty of time to enjoy a short rest and plenty of hospitality before racing back with the German Fleet to Edinburgh, starting Monday 24th May 1999.

If you are interested in taking part in this race, then please contact Duncan Small at 4 North Fort Street, Edinburgh, EH6 4EX or phone him on 0131 554 6958 mail him on dunsmall@sqf.hp.com or duncans@librasyscom.co.uk.

Thieves visit Seaspan

Heartless thieves raided local yacht chandlers, *Seaspan*, on November 19, 1998.

Owner, John White, was devastated to discover the theft of thousands of pounds of mostly rigging equipment. Much of the equipment, apart from being indispensable for his means of making a living, also has a great personal significance for him: he has carefully accumulated the treasured specialised items over a number of years.

The following was stolen from *Seaspan*:

- a roll swage machine with all dies and pullers - this is used for putting the stainless ends on rigging wires - this a very rare machine.
- a 25 ton Talurit hydraulic press for putting on the copper ferrule type terminations on wire.
- 2 Felco wire cutters
- a Johnson 4hp outboard motor
- a Makita router
- Mr White's precious collection of router cutters which probably cost £4000 put together.

The rigging items are enough to start a good small rigging business since the thieves seemed to be very knowledgeable and made a big effort to steal everything that goes with the roll swager in particular.

As the owners of *Seaspan* had to buy new machines they can't now afford to have a stand at the *Scottish Boat Show* but people might like to know that from February 6 - February 20 they will be offering deals on antifouling, inflatables, some clothing and a few other things to match anything they might have offered at the Scottish show.

Forth Corinthian Yacht Club members offer sincere sympathy to *Seaspan* due to the reported theft. All members are encouraged to keep your eyes open and support your local business!

Obituary

Many Corinthians attended the funeral of **Dave Leask** on Monday 11 January at Fortonhall.

Dave, a Corinthian for 16 years, and Norrie Clark's partner in *Rollin' Stone*, died at home in Livingston on Tuesday 5 January, aged 55.

Dave, a builder for over 20 years, possessed a wide range of skills and a depth of knowledge which often proved invaluable to the practical boat-owner. That, and his willingness to help others, will be long remembered by club members. *Rollin' Stone*, their second boat, and built from scratch, is one of our most elegant and beautifully fitted-out yachts, though, as Dave was the first to admit, "could be a right pig to steer at times!" Dave and Norrie were also the most welcoming and enthusiastic of hosts, and many a good party and sing-song has been, and I'm sure will be, had on the *Stone*.

Several trips to Norway will be long remembered by Corinthian members, (or perhaps not, depending on the rum consumption). Many were introduced to long distance passage planning with the instruction: "Just miss Anstruther and head straight for Bergen."

Dave, a superb skipper, will be sorely missed. Not only for his vast sailing experience, but as one of the friendliest and genuinely warm sailors on the Forth. Our sympathy and best wishes are extended to Irene and the rest of the Leask family, and, of course, to Norrie. A fuller appreciation of the 'finer' points of Dave's life as a Corinthian sailor will appear in the next edition of *Fairwind*.

The Department of the Environment have produced new guidelines for those sailing in coastal waters to minimise disturbance to whales, dolphins and porpoises.

1. Refrain from chasing them.
2. Avoid those with young.
3. Allow groups to remain together.
4. Continue slowly at no wake speed on your intended route until well clear.
5. Avoid erratic movements.
6. Avoid approaching directly - let them approach you.
7. Move away slowly if they show signs of disturbance.
8. Always allow a clear escape route for the animals

Refrain from calling other vessels to your area.

10. Do not swim with, touch or feed.

(All of the above, of course, also applies to Corinthians under sail. - Ed.)

NOTICEBOARD

FOR SALE

(or possible half-share available to suitable person), TWILIGHT STAR, Hunter Delta 25, 1984, lifting-keel, good inventory, 8hp engine £10,500. Tel: 01875 815964

DUMBO

Repairs on *Dumbo* are now being carried out, but in order to keep *Dumbo* in working order as a Club ferry, members are being asked to pay **£20 per boat next season**. Any full member may operate *Dumbo*. If you'd like an introduction to the joys of *Dumbo* driving (or a quick refresher), ask any Council Member. Users will be responsible for oil/diesel checks, and reporting problems/repairs to Jack Haldane or George MacKay.

CLUB HANDBOOK

If anyone has any amendments, suggestions for changes, or new advertisers, contact Norrie Wilson on 0131 667 3114.

WINTER BAR HOURS

Monday - 5-11.30pm
Tuesday - closed
Wednesday - closed
Thursday - 5-9pm
Friday - noon-6.30pm

Saturday - 6-12.30

Sunday - closed

DRINKS

The Club has eventually been forced to raise bar prices in line with the last budget, but increases will be kept to a minimum. Look out for a revised price list in the club.

Memorial Trophy

Willie Allan of FYCA is looking for nominations for the Ian Crawford Memorial Trophy and young yachtperson. Further info from him on 01383 823373.

Don't lose your stuff!

All trailers, cradles, tenders, engines and other stuff lying about in both yards **MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED** with the owner's name **BY THE END OF FEBRUARY**. Any unmarked equipment remaining (unless the Harbour Sec is otherwise advised) will be donated to the Club's Boat Jumble Auction in March!



Stewart and Betty Boyd, with John Hughes, at the social members' highly successful Christmas do.

Date	Item	£££	Club	Notes
Jun 97	Dredging	4185	FCYC	half-bill
Jun 97	Dredging	4185	RFYC	half-bill
Oct 97	Fence Repairs	1375	FCYC	half-bill
Oct 97	Fence Repairs	1375	RFYC	half-bill
Oct 97	Water provision	419	FCYC	half-bill
Oct 97	Water provision	419	RFYC	half-bill
Mar 98	Retention balance	1035	RFYC	half-bill
May 98	Dredging	3760	FCYC	half-bill
May 98	Dredging	5029	RFYC	half-bill*
Jun 98	Retention balance	1035	FCYC	half-bill

EDINBURGH MARINA

Several members have been asking about the Edinburgh Marina accounts. Outlined left are the main accounts paid and monies received by both clubs involved in the management in the past year. **Ian Hellewell**, (Treasurer, FCYC & Edinburgh Marina Director), can supply a full detailed breakdown for any club member.

Total paid by FCYC - £10774
Total paid by RFYC - £12043

[* a higher figure is shown here for RFYC as they commissioned some extra dredging work]

	FCYC	RFYC
Aug 97	1601	1004
Apr 98	3172	4288
Dec 98	4500	4000

The table on the right indicates the totals received by both clubs from Edinburgh Marina Ltd

DIARY DATES

FEBRUARY

Tuesday 2

FYCA Racing Meeting

This meeting is open to all members interested in racing. It will review responses to the racing questionnaires sent out last year, look at racing matters in general, and consider changes to the current format of racing events.
8pm at the Clubhouse.

Friday 5, 7.30pm for 8pm, Clubhouse

Club Prize-giving

Sunday 7, 2.30pm at RFYC

Presentation on rolling handicaps

Friday 12, 7.30pm for 8pm, Clubhouse

Team challenge

Quizzes, food and fun.

Friday 26, 8pm Clubhouse

Confessions of Corinthian Sailors

A chance to share problems & solutions, with practical boat-owning tips & hints.

8pm at the Clubhouse

Saturday 27, 8pm at POLMBC

FYCA Prize-giving

Tickets from Willie Allan on 01383 823373.

Sunday 28

RYA Scotland Cruising Symposium

MARCH

Friday 12

Team challenge

Monday 15, 7.30 at the Clubhouse

General meeting

Open to all members, this meeting will look at the way ahead for FCYC.

Friday 26

Boat Jumble Auction

Clear out your garage and help club funds! Not to mention the chance to get some great bargains.

Stuff for auction to Linda Pennycook.

APRIL

Saturday 10

LIFT-IN!

South Yard first

AUGUST

Saturday/Sunday 21/22

Edinburgh Regatta

See *Sailing News*, this issue.

See FCYC on the Web at
<http://www.icbl.hw.ac.uk/~sprice/fcyc/>

Next Fairwind deadline:
5 March 1999

NEW MEMBERS

A very warm welcome to the following new members.

Chris Lee - crew member on *Belle Ile* and (much more importantly) South African wine importer!

Phil Fennell - has bought *Balintore*.

Dr Alan Watson - former FCYC member who has rejoined on buying a Jeanneau Sunway 21.

Bob Clelland - after dinghy lessons last year, has bought his first boat - a 17' day sailer.

Mark O'Hara - will be working on his classic wooden boat in the South Yard.

Say hello if you see them around the clubhouse or yards.

Big Thanks to Pat

Pat Calder, the Club's bookkeeper, resigned at the end of December to spend more time with her family. She has done this vital but often unrecognised job for eight years, in her own calm and meticulous manner.

The Club presented her with a Rennie Macintosh necklace in recognition of her service. **Ian Hellewell** (Treasurer), **Linda Pennycook** (Rear Commodore), and **Paul Lough** (Commodore) will take over bookkeeping duties for now.

Contacts

Commodore, Paul Lough, 0131 554 7078

Vice Commodore, Linda Pennycook, 0131 552 5886, sigma1st@aol.com

Hon. Secretary, Ann MacNeill, 0131 556 1478, mcneilla@wrbl.bae.ed.ac.uk

Sailing Secretary, John McLaren, 0131 339 3919, john.g.mclaren@bt.com

Harbour Secretary, George MacKay 0131 663 7194,

Membership Secretary, Fiona McIntyre, 0131 337 4879,

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