

100TH A.G.M.

At the Centenary A.G.M. on Monday, 27th October the following members were elected to office:-

Commodore - C.A. Stoddart Vice Commodore - R.M. Sandison
Rear Commodores - K.G. Dressler and W.H.D. Smith. Hon Sec. - I. Hellewell
Hon. Treasurer - W.S. Oliver Dep. Treasurer - H. Drummond
Sailing Secretary - J. Gillies Harbour Secretary - R.W. Fowler
Committee members - C. Campbell, R. Campbell, G. Tait, A.B. McIntosh, J. Hughes,
J. Nicol.

There were lots of nominations for the various posts and the voting was close in every case. It is a healthy and gratifying sign to have such keen competition. The outgoing Commodore, Bill Oliver expressed his appreciation for the work done by the outgoing Council. A sentiment, I am sure, all the members endorse. Whatever the new Council achieve during the coming year, the sound work done by the members of the last Council will be the firm base upon which they build.

BOAT OWNERS NIGHT

The first Friday in every month is THE BOAT OWNERS NIGHT, you don't have to be a boat owner to attend, the object of these evenings is to bring together full members and guests for a nautical flavoured get-together. The first of these nights will be held on FRIDAY DECEMBER 5th at 7.30 p.m. and your host will be the new Commodore, Colin Stoddart. A photographic competition will be held, slides or prints. The pictures can be of anything connected with the Club or sailing but must have been taken during the Centenary year. In addition to the usual valuable prizes, we are looking for photographs that can be enlarged, framed and hung in the Clubhouse. Three photographs per entry for the competition but please bring along more, if you wish and if time allows they can be shown.

The Sailing Secretary, Jack Gillies, would like all boat owners to attend so that he can outline his proposals for the sailing calendar next year and also to seek suggestions about the type of races, cruises, etc. that the members would like him to organise. The opportunity will be taken to distribute handicap forms.

Please come along, ladies and guests are welcome and the bar will be open till 1.00 p.m.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Unfortunately, all the arrangements that Bob Sandison and I had so carefully made for the Centenary Dance were not carried out as smoothly as we had hoped. Our apologies to anyone whose evening was spoilt by poor service. We have made our protest to the Learmonth Hotel and I am happy to report that we were able to negotiate a substantial reduction in the bill. In spite of the earlier minor irritations I think everyone enjoyed the night, I know I did.

Mrs. Chrissie Drummond has again been appointed Social Convenor. She does a good job and I am sure the members will continue to support her. She and her Committee have the winter programme well in hand and here are the dates of the various events:-

Centenary Dance for Social Members - 12th November.
Old Age Pensioners Dinner - 3rd December
Childres Xmas Party - 13th December
Xmas Dance - 19th December. The details of these events are available in the Clubhouse.

A busy family the Drummonds. Chrissie's other half, Hughie has been appointed, House Committee Convenor. The decoration and upkeep of the Clubhouse takes up a lot of Council time and produces more arguments than almost any other subject. The Council felt that we needed someone to blame - hence Hughie's appointment. Seriously, there are innumerable jobs around the Clubhouse that need attention and Hughie and his Committee will oversee them and try to make sure they are completed quickly and to a satisfactory standard

SAILING

The last race of the season was the Wickes Stern Chase. An absolute dead calm at the start and end of the race upset the handicaps but there was some fierce competition between the various boats and the general consensus of opinion was that it was a good race. The results first - Ebony, second - Caprina and third - Sulinka.

Jack Gillies is currently planning next years programme and in addition to the usual races, a weekend cruise to Stirling in the Spring, a modified Fair Isle Race - finish at Fraserburgh are amongst the main ideas that are on the stocks. But come along to the Boat Owners Night so that he can ascertain the kind of sailing events you would like organised! The Club has donated £50 to David Mellor and Kenneth Harper of the Cramond Boat Club to assist with their expenses in the Hornet World Championships which are to be held in Perth, Australia, 1981. If any member wishes to make an independent contribution to help these chaps to put Forth sailing on the map their donations should be sent to the Cramond Boat Club endorsed the Australia World Championship Fund.

The F.P.A. have produced a booklet called the Forth Navigation Service which is primarily aimed at commercial users of the river but is of some interest to yachtsman. Copies will be held in the Clubhouse for distribution to the members.

HARBOUR

The new Harbour Committee consists of: W. Smith, Rear Commodore, R. Fowler, Harbour Secretary, A.B. McIntosh - Harbour Master, North Yard, J. Nicol - Harbour Master South Yard in the absence of Mr. R. Wilson, Mr. J. Haldane, Mr. J. Hughes, Mr. S. Stark. Grave concern was expressed by the members at the A.G.M. at the amount of pilfering taking place in the yard. The Harbour Committee have been charged with the task of examining the problem and reporting their recommendations to the boat owners at a future boat owners night. One of the breaches in security is the number of keys held by people who are not entitled to them. New locks are being fitted in the north yard and boat owners can obtain a new key (price 50p) from Colin Campbell who will monitor their distribution. We can all make pilfering more difficult by ensuring that the gates to the yards are kept closed AT ALL TIMES and that tools, rollocks and other usable valuables are kept out of sight and under lock and key. If you have any suggestions to make about security, please tell one of the Harbour Committee.

CENTENARY RACE

In the last Newsletter, I promised another adventure from the Centenary Race. This is Frisky's story.

Frisky skippered by Ian Warrach, had a disappointing race. After a good sail during the Friday night, Saturday afternoon found her becalmed in the inner passage of the Farne Islands with the tide steadily gaining strength. With all steerage way gone, Frisky was caught in a strong current which threatened to drag her backwards on to some rocks. The iron mainsail was bent on and Frisky was forced to retire. She reached Tynemouth in the early hours of Sunday morning and after a few hours sleep was sailed to Newcastle where the crew stayed for the week. It would take six newsletters to do justice to Ian and his crews social activities but finally it was time to head for home.

Charlie Penman's efforts were to have far reaching effects. Without an echo sounder they ran aground in the entrance to Holy Island. However, a rising tide put them right and they proceeded to paint the island luminous red which is the colour they should have painted their dinghy because after negotiating the cliff path in the dark they could not find it. When they finally fell over it, they rowed out to Frisky - second snag- they could not find her either. Just as they were about to settle down for a row to Norway, they bumped into something solid - Frisky! Their groundings were not over yet. The next day while entering Berwick Harbour, in an effort to avoid the breakers on the bar they slipped inside the starboard hand buoy and came to a sudden stop. A friendly motor boat pulled them off. On the way out from Berwick they were

determined to give the starboard hand buoy a good berth and kept well to the other side of the channel - too well.

I will not tell you how they got out of that but I will recommend that you read Ian's log. Not only is it factual, it is also very funny. All in all a worthy winner of the cup for the best log.

In the next newsletter I will reveal all about Gadie and Seapad unless they can produce a big enough bribe.

FUTURE EVENTS

In the next newsletter I will enclose a copy of the list of members and their boats. A Boat Owners night will be held on the first Friday in February 1981 when the Harbour Committee will outline their plans for the security of the yard and Gus Tait, last year's nautical mastermind, will organise this years quiz. More valuable prizes and cups to be won.

On Friday 20th February 1981 Mr. Richard Demarco will present an illustrated lecture on his round Britain cruise aboard the barque "Marques". Many members will have seen the "Marques" when she visited the Forth in the summer and many more people will know her from the television series "The Voyages of Charles Darwin"

The London Boat Show - Joe Nicol is organising a party to visit the London Boat Show. Prices are reasonable. Please see Joe if you are interested.

Gus Tait is trying to arrange a sailing weekend on Great Cumbrea at the National Sailing Centre. More details later.

A LETTER FROM COLIN STODDART

Dear Members,

I would like to thank everyone for the honour you have given me in appointing me your Commodore. I realise that I will have a difficult time matching the job done by my predecessor, Bill Oliver.

I am fortunate in having a good Council and we will work with the Clubs best interests in mind. It was decided at the A.G.M. that it should be our aim to try to purchase our own premises and while we keep this goal in mind we shall is possible keep our charges and subscriptions amongst the lowest on the Forth.

On the sailing side our Bass Rock race is the most popular race of the year and we will work towards making it an even bigger success in the future. The Centenary Race enhanced the Clubs reputation for hospitality and friendliness and we will try to keep this spirit going by running the Fair Isle Race next season.

I would like to end by wishing you and your families the very best wishes at the festive time and to hope that your sailing endeavours will be successful and enjoyable.

Yours sincerely,

Colin Stoddart
Commodore.