

FORTH CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB - NEWSLETTER

SUMMER SPECIAL

Don't anyone dare complain about this summer! Records prove it has been one of the best for 20 years. For the club too it has been a very good time.

The return of one gnarled and bronzed exile [Ian Hellewell] has been marked by the departure to Las Palmas of our energetic Harbour Convenor, Robin Fowler. While one was concerned with communications above ground as he helped plan the future telephone needs of the British Virgin Islanders [not to be confused with virgin British Islanders] the task of Robin is underwater to help recover sunken vessels used in the oil business. I am sure his time in the mud at Granton will serve him well.

The work on the clubhouse is now complete and members will be pleased to learn that as a result of negotiations masterminded by our astute Treasurer, Bill Oliver, most, if not all, of the cost has been met by a deal with one of our beer suppliers. It just means that we will all have to drink an extra pint per visit!

Despite deafening shouts of "Please don't go" and "What would we do without you?" your Council comes to the end of its life soon and you are reminded that at the Annual General Meeting to be held at No. 1 Granton Square at 7.30 p.m. on October 11th all the usual posts are up for grabs. Social members have also to elect their Convenor at that time.

A good turn-out and keenly-contested elections are a sure sign of a healthy club whose members care about its future. The reverse is equally true. Now it is up to you.

To vote, of course, you have to be in good standing [i.e. paid up - all of it!], and too many people have not settled their affairs. As Council budget on everyone playing the game so that the Constitution can be upheld it seems likely that in order to stop the Harbour Account going into the red by over £2000 the new Council will have to have a sudden and dramatic inflow of cash from the backsliders or else, mooring, winter storage and related charges will have to be raised by some 33%. We are not in business as money lenders giving interest-free loans which is the effect you get when those that DO pay find that they [however unwittingly] are carrying the burden for those who don't [or won't]. That said you should note that Council will endeavour to strike an accommodation with anyone who can show, in confidence, that they have genuinely struck a hard patch [it can happen to anyone!] otherwise the policy is to take legal action at the expense of the member concerned to recover debts due to the Club.

On a happier note I have to tell you that the social event of this winter will be the Annual Dance, now confirmed for the (rebuilt) Merlin, Morningside Road at 7.45 p.m. on November 26th. Tickets £6 from Bar or Council. Bus £1 a skull leaves Clubhouse at 7.15 p.m. sharp this year. Total number of places will again be limited to 120 so First come; First served.

We have again had to bring in the police in relation to thefts and vandalism to boats on the moorings. If you see anyone involved in this don't hesitate to get a Council member (or a cop if you're feeling soft-hearted for most sailors would like to damage the damagers).

The club has had its share of visitors and these included the returned sisters of Chrissie Drummond (they made the "Evening News") and some of the young men who upheld British traditions in the South Atlantic. Well done boys, we're proud of you!

The "Golden Hind" made a welcome visit to Leith and soon the Inca and the Marques which are involved in the Clipper Challenge will be in.

The police inform us that due to the Edinburgh Marathon on September 5th, they will close Granton Square (and effectively the harbour) to vehicular traffic from 9.00 a.m. until all runners have passed (approximately 12.30) that day. Parking, they suggest, should be on both sides of Granton Road uphill towards RFYC. Tides are rotten that morning anyway!!!

The Harbour Committee would like the lift-out to be on October 16th so mark your diary. If there is to be any change it will be posted on boards in both yards. The South Yard could do with a good tidy up. Volunteers should see Joe Nicol. Applications for Winter Storage should be made on the form provided and no later than September 15th. Vessels with unpaid accounts cannot be considered and will have to be sailed off elsewhere. The lift-out will be charged on the time-unit employed basis as usual.

Since our last newsletter a considerable part of the sailing calendar has taken place.

Ladies Race - Weather - wind N/NE force 3. Boats entering - Aquila, Jura, Eala Bheag, Sulinka, Caprina, Barbey, Mara Too, Rosala and Keda. With plenty wind which in itself is a novelty for this race the fleet was quickly broken up. Aquila, Jura and Eala Bheag in the first group and crossing the line in that order, Aquila having taken just under 1 hour. The second group comprising Sulinka, Mara Too, Barbey and Keda. The relative positions of which changed continuously during the two laps, finished in the following order: Sulinka, Keda, Mara Too and Barbey [Barbey having jammed a sheet in a block]. Last over the start and finish line was Rosala who not strictly rated as a starter took two hours to complete the course. Caprina having retired before the start. The final result on handicap was:-

	<u>Boat</u>	<u>Elapsed Time</u>	<u>Corrected Time</u>
1st	Aquila	59m 30s	49m 58s
2nd	Jura	1h 05m 00s	53m 18s
3rd	Keda	1h 33m 00s	57m 39s
4th	Eala Bheag	1h 11m 00s	58m 55s
5th	Mara Too	1h 36m 00s	1h 09m 36s
6th	Sulinka	1h 32m 00s	1h 14m 24s
7th	Barbey	1h 39m 00s	1h 18m 30s
8th	Rosala		

After the race the traditional presentation of prizes, to all ladies entering, took place in the clubhouse.

Bass Rock Race - After a week of easterly winds culminating in Force 4/5 E/NE for the Inner Forth and E/NE Force 4/5 rising to 6 forecast for the Outer Forth, heavy rain, stories of winds gusting to 8, 15/20 ft waves and 5 ft. swell at Dunbar, weather forecasts were obtained from the sub-rescue centre at Crail, the Met. Office the Harbourmaster at Dunbar, the Forth Pilot Service and Radio Forth Sea Watch, all of which indicated the possibility of deteriorating conditions and a dangerous entry at Dunbar, the race was delayed 0900 hrs. BST Saturday morning. Alternative shortened courses were considered but finally abandoned and the race cancelled. The dance at the Victoria Ballroom, however, went ahead and could be considered a success.

Wardie Bay Points - Boats entering Aquila, Briganti II, Sulinka, Shikari and Whimbrel. At the first mark Aquila was in the lead followed by Briganti II, Sulinka, Shikari and Whimbrel. At the second mark field was still close together after the run, however, after the turn Sulinka was overhauled by Shikari and the leading three boats opened a gap and finished in the following order: Aquila, Briganti II, Shikari, Sulinka and Whimbrel. Race result was:

	<u>Boat</u>	<u>Elapsed Time</u>	<u>Corrected Time</u>
1st	Aquila	1h 06m 30s	55m 51s
2nd	Briganti II	1h 09m 20s	57m 03s
3rd	Shikari	1h 13m 28s	57m 40s
4th	Sulinka	1h 20m 15s	1h 04m 12s
5th	Whimbrel	1h 25m 25s	1h 08m 19s

Jubilee Race - This being Corinthian's year to organise this event, which is held on alternative years by the Royal Forth, we had a reasonable turn out. In that we had a fleet of 5 boats entered and the Royal Forth 6. They beat us 5 - 0 in that they took the first 5 places, however, in disqualifications for failing to sail the correct course we soundly thrashed them 3 - 1, in that 3 of our boats and 1 of the Royal Forth boats were disqualified for not leaving the last mark of the course, Buoy U, to starboard. Predictably the Royal Forth Solings and IOs led all the way and the final result was never in doubt. The result was:

	<u>Boat</u>	<u>Elapsed Time</u>	<u>Corrected Time</u>
1st	Saltire	3h 44m 05s	3h 29m 25s
2nd	Three Chiefs	3h 37m 30s	3h 39m 41s
3rd	Skaggerack	3h 42m 27s	3h 44m 42s
4th	Kis	4h 00m 47s	3h 45m 02s
5th	Gem	4h 05m 00s	3h 48m 58s
6th	Keda	5h 59m 00s	4h 12m 49s
7th	Seapad	5h 54m 00s	4h 24m 11s

The following boats were disqualified: Pintas II, Aquila, Briganti II. and Jura.

Bell Rock Race - In a year with poor attendance of F.O.G. series events being experienced throughout the Forth since most of the regular competitors are either on the west coast or not in the water this year, coupled with the fact that we were forced to go into competition with ourselves by holding the Radio Forth Race on the day after the proposed date for this event due to late inclusion in the FYCA calendar, we were regrettably forced to cancel this event due to no entries being received.

Radio Forth Race - This event also clashed with several other major club races on the Forth due to its late inclusion in the FYCA calendar, but mainly due to the support of club boats achieved a respectable entry as the club would like to take this opportunity in thanking all owners and crews for their support. This thank you is extended to those owners and crews who arrived on the day but did not take part because of mechanical failure, weather conditions etc. The success of the day extended beyond the race itself to the barbecue and here again the club would like to thank the many individuals whose combined effort contributed to this very successful occasion.

Radio broadcasts commenced at 0900 hrs. BST with an announcement that the race was to take place. By 1000 hrs. BST the Radio Forth team, comprising Tom Steel - Programme Director, David Johnstone - Presenter and Ian Simpson - Engineer, were installed with their transmitters aboard Paddy Fulton's boat 'Argosy'. At 1044 hrs. BST Radio Forth announced boats making their way to the start. At 1100 hrs. BST Gus Tait assisted by Angus McIntosh started the race from the east breakwater. Radio Forth were unable to broadcast the start due to a technical hitch. The start was impressive in view of the bit of sea that was running at the time. The boats held fairly well together on the run to the first mark, but on the second leg of the course the fleet became spread out and the Royal Forth Soling 'Elspeth' took a considerable lead. The following group comprising Aquila, Jura and the Burntisland boat Waarlør without any chance of line honours but with their hopes pinned on handicaps pursued the Soling round the course in close competition with each other and eventually crossing the line within a 5 minute span. The Soling who had crossed the finishing line some considerable time prior to that had unfortunately not sailed the correct course in that she did not leave the last mark to starboard. Protests were lodged by Jura, Waarlør and Aquila and Elspeth retired. Jura was then awarded first place.

Further back in the field but worthy of a mention were the boats sailing her first race, Bonny Jean, whose performance was remarked by many, sailed single-handed by her relatively new owner in his first race, Shikari - fast becoming a veteran in her first racing season. Whimbrel sailed by her husband and wife team and Eala Bheag sailed by Mr. Brown Jnr.

Radio Forth broadcast at half-fourly intervals throughout the day, Pat Fulton and Gus Tait were both interviewed live.

Race results were as follows:

	<u>Boats</u>	<u>Elapsed Time</u>	<u>Corrected Time</u>
1st	Jura	2h 15m 0s	1h 52m 30s
2nd	Waarlord	2h 19m 0s	1h 59m 49s
3rd	Aquila	2h 14m 0s	2h 02m 56s
4th	Briganti II	2h 25m 0s	2h 06m 05s
5th	Shikari	2h 44m 58s	2h 11m 58s
6th	Vixen	3h 00m 0s	2h 12m 21s
7th	Caprina	2h 42m 0s	2h 12m 47s
8th	Keda	3h 14m 0s	2h 16m 37s
9th	Sulinka	3h 02m 30s	2h 32m 04s
10th	Bonny Jean	3h 24m 00s	2h 36m 55s
11th	Whimbrel	3h 18m 0s	2h 45m 0s
12th	Eala Bheag	3h 42m 0s	3h 08m 08s

Elsbeth and Patald retired.

The barbecue commenced at 16.00 hrs and took place in the north yard and was well attended by race crews and associate members. Mr. Douglas Boyd brother of our secretary, was the honorary chef and had a continual stream of customers. No one seemed to mind the downpour of rain and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Tom Steel of Radio Forth presented the trophy during the proceedings and concluded their programme at 1800 hrs by broadcasting the race results.

Inchcolm Picnic - In spite of short notice a picnic on the 7th August took place on Inchcolm and was attended by 4 boats - Caprina, Sulinka, Keda and Aquila.

Anstruther Race - The Quaich race to Anstruther took place in a force SW wind, sea state 2 thus giving a fast run all the way down. There was a little bit of excitement on the way down when Sulinka picked up a call on the VHF originated by the Commodore via the Forth Pilots advising that a small craft warning had been issued. Sulinka radio-d back the position of all the boats in the race. If anything the weather improved rather than deteriorated and we all arrived at Anstruther in bright sunshine. The race result was:

	<u>Boats</u>	<u>Elapsed time</u>	<u>Corrected Time</u>
1st	Jura	3h 24m 32s	2h 47m 43s
2nd	Keda	4h 33m 10s	2h 49m 21s
3rd	Sulinka	3h 32m 04s	2h 49m 39s
4th	Briganti II	3h 28m 20s	2h 51m 27s
5th	Aquila	3h 26m 50s	2h 53m 44s
6th	Bonny Jean	4h 20m 00s	3h 01m 59s

We are now down to the last two races in the season. These are the Wickes Stern Chase on 29th August, H.W. 11.52 hrs BST, first start at 10.00 hrs BST., and the R.N.L.I. Cup on 11th September, H.W. 08.53 hrs BST, first start 10.00 hrs. BST and second start 11.00 hrs BST.

Best Newcomer - There will be a prize for the best newcomer, i.e. the best boat in her first season's racing. This will be decided on the 100 series points and there are a number of boats in contention for this prize so it is important that these boats attempt the last two races.

Best Log - There is also a prize for the best log for the 1982 season. Regardless of whether you race, cruise or potter around and whether your log is leather bound or a school jotter please have a go and submit them to the Sailing Committee by 17th September.

Boatowners' Nights resume in October 8th and thereafter every first Friday of the month until lift-in. A full list will be available shortly but the first evening will be a Photo Night when we want to see your slides, films and stills taken this season. To start the ball rolling we'll have a feature film then it is over to you. You don't have to own a boat to come, anyone interested (including friends if properly signed in) are welcome.

Socials will be held as appropriate and may I suggest that all members give their support. It is all the one Club after all !!!

Council has confirmed Sylvia and Margaret in their respective posts and I am sure you will join in wishing them well.

The club most urgently needs a harbour launch/rescue vessel which has been estimated at just over £8000. Council has deputed me to raise the money so be prepared to stand and deliver. I am out for every penny I can get and I promise to be ruthless, charming or plain downright sneaky in order to fulfil this commission. P.S. I also beg!