

SPRING EDITION

Apologies for the delay in sending out this number but there has always seemed to be a good reason on someone's part (not least mine) for putting it off!

Most of you will have read or heard about plans by a new company, Granton Development Company, to erect a marina village on infilled land at the south end of the East Harbour. The firm has asked for the agreement of the tenants - Royal Forth and ourselves - to give up our leases on the North and South Yards and on the water so that the scheme may proceed. Your Council set up a working party and co-opted "men of skill" - an accountant, an architect and a lawyer - and thoroughly investigated the matter. As a result you are hereby notified that a **Special Meeting** will be held in the Club at 7.30 p.m. ~~prompt~~ on Monday 1st APRIL 1982

As any decision will affect the club in almost every possible way a good turnout is requested and voting will be trade union style - by show of paid up membership cards (which will be checked before the start). The future is in your hands!

Robin Fowler, Harbour Secretary, has decided ~~that~~ the lift in will be on Saturday, 3rd April. Applications for moorings will be accepted only under new conditions which are:

- 1) They must be lodged within 14 days of receipt of the form at your address
- 2) Owners must show to the Harbour Secretary, a member of his committee or any member of council an insurance cover note for the new season.

The usual drill for the lift in applies. We want plenty of willing hands to turn up good and early to take down fences and to generally clear up. The crane will be charged in the usual way and the slicker the operation the lower the bills for all of us. Watch for details on the yard notice boards or see Robin, Angus, John or Joe. Before the lift-in you are again advised to haul and check your mooring.

The Royal Forth launch service is again available this year but at the increased sum of £25 per boat. Anyone wishing to avail themselves of the service should pay RFYC direct through the Secretary, Mr. Bill Titterington. Conversely there are dinghy racks in both our yards!!!

Security remains a problem. In the yards locks on the gates are meant to be used. Already this year the Royal Navy have lost a dinghy trolley. Don't leave tools out. Secure your vessel ashore or afloat and take all demountable items ashore/home. If you see someone in the yards who is not known to you ask them their **business**. You may either make a new friend or frustrate a thief. Either way it is in your own interest.

Bob Campbell, Sailing Secretary (Tel. 0387 24292 (work) or 58 36733 has completed his preparations for new season. Sailing information is on stencil and will be made available at the March Boat Owners evening on March 5th when the subject will be a talk by a representative of International Paints with examples. Our major race, the Bass Rock, will be held on June 26th and we have a new date on the calendar, the Radio Forth race which will be held on August 1st and which is to have live coverage on air and the local station are to provide a new trophy for this. Radio Forth are also taking steps to (hopefully) introduce a local weather forecast for the Forth and if present indications become reality it will be in two forms - Upper and Lower Forth and will be broadcast every third hour during the week and every second hour at the weekend. If successful our Club can take all the credit. If not ...

A team from the Club took part in the Guinness Quiz for the Blind and though not too successful it was fun and if all the sponsors would give their money we would be able to send a cheque to Junior Chamber Edinburgh who organised it. For the record we did score over 40 points on both our excursions.

The OAP dinner was the usual success with some members showing more agility in the "Birdie Dance" than many of the younger and supposedly fitter members. The children's party was memorable for the amount of lemonade and crisps that vanished down eager throats and the appearance of Santa nearly brought the house down. Older children were taken to the Pantomime and from all accounts thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

There has been a regular pattern of social events at the Club including very successful Christmas and St. Valentine's Day dances. The Council Dinner was held in the Dragonara Hotel at the Dean Village and the Commodore gave a much-applauded display of table dancing while Hughie Drummond entertained so effectively that Kenneth McKellar and others had better look to their laurels.

A full complement of members and guests attended the annual dance at the Merlin in Morningside Road which was delayed a little by the late arrival of the bus carrying the non-drivers and non-beetotal contingent from Granton Square. The evening was enjoyed by all and complimentary remarks were made by our principal guest, Lord King-Murray, the judge and former MP who is an honorary member.

The clubhouse is undergoing some much-needed joinerwork and it is intended to start a proper library so that the upper lounge can be used as a reading room. The council are again in contact with the landlords with a view to purchase if terms are offered that we can meet.

Jack, our quiet but popular steward, has left to return to his own trade as a TV mechanic and on your behalf he was given a small presentation. Sylvia is now to be found in Jack's usual spot. Your Council has applied for reregistration of the club and to get this has had to make some minor alterations to the constitution to satisfy the Lothians and Borders Police Licensing Department. The Sheriff Court will hear our application for renewal and extension of our drinks licence on March 29th. The police will be unlikely to oppose this always provided that guests are properly signed in (a maximum of three per member on any one occasion and they must leave when the member does) and that the general conduct of our club is above reproach. That is up to all of us. We shall have to tidy up and to install a two-bell fire alarm to satisfy the local Fire Prevention Officer and work is in hand.

All this costs money and while the Treasurer reports that we are in the black there have been mutterings about the pressure that had to be applied to get some members to pay up. The constitution is clear about when the money is due and when membership lapses through non-payment. While no-one wishes to cause hardship it has to be remembered that:

a) our membership fees are NOT high in comparison to other places (and your council has to bear in mind the constitution with regard to keeping the prices reasonable) and b) the membership fees, mooring charges, yard charges and power usage fees are all carefully calculated on the basis that they are paid on time.

If members cannot or will not pay up on time then in order to have an income the sums will have to be increased to cover the gap.

Ian Hellewell has sent more postcards from exotic places - with terrible timing he sent a cracker at the height of the great freeze up - and he should come back with an enviable tan.

As the new season approaches with ever-increasing speed and we decided to put off till next season all those little things we were sure we'd have done by now, may I, on behalf of the Council, wish you all a safe and superb sailing season and a summer to make up for what has been a pretty dreich winter.