

This summer (I use the term loosely) has been a very active one for the Club, in both sailing and social events. Much has happened with plenty yet to come, but before I start I would like to introduce myself. I'm Bob Fleck and I'm taking over as Hon. Secretary from the Vice Commodore, Stewart Boyd. I hope I can do as good a job as he has done and I would like to thank him and all the others who have given me their help and support in settling into the job.

Could I also please remind you that Annual Subscriptions were due on 1st September. Still only £17.25 for Full Members.

The main event of the season has, of course, been the Regatta which, despite the appalling weather, was an unqualified success. Thanks are due to all those who turned up to clear the North Yard in the by then familiar downpour. They are too many to mention by name but it is gratifying to get support from both sailing and social members. As Tom Wilson will report both races had an excellent turnout with 29 entries for the Radio Forth Race on the Sunday and a most popular winner of the Evening News race on the Saturday was Ian Inglis in "BONNIE JEAN". Despite Ian's tactical advice from the vicinity of the bar, the Dragons from the Royal Forth took the honours the next day. The sun made a surprise appearance on the Saturday evening just in time for the festivities. The marquee was packed to capacity, and a great time was had by all who were present. (Murmurs of revolt from the toilet detail fortunately came to nothing!) Special thanks are due to Jim Smeaton and his crew for the superb job they made of the bar and to Sylvia for the catering. Visitors from other clubs enjoyed themselves so much that we can be sure of an even larger contingent next year. All in all a great success and everyone who took part in the organising is to be congratulated. With what we have learnt this year, next year promises to be even bigger and better!

Other sailing events have had an encouragingly high number of entries and we hope this will continue next season. Those who entered the Ladies Race and barbecue on Inchcolm enjoyed a lovely day, proving the meteorological office wrong for once. (A note to all yachtsmen visiting Inchcolm - the island does not open to the public until 2.00 p.m. on a Sunday as was discovered when, after landing at 1.00 p.m. after the Ladies Race, the Club received a bill for the caretaker's overtime!)

The Quaich trophy, ending in Anstruther, was again bedevilled with light winds and unfortunately there were no finishers within the time limit. This did not effect enthusiasm for the rest of the evening which ended aboard "TIA TIMU" (thanks to Hugh McGuire for his hospitality) and resulted in a reluctant departure very early the next morning.

As many of you will know this year saw the centenary year of the Royal Tay Yacht Club with celebrations going on for a week. The Club organised what turned out to be the largest feeder race, from the Forth to the Tay via the Bell Rock. 5 boats from the Club entered and wind and tide proved perfect for our entries and we had 4 boats in the first six. This included a superb win for Brian Pennycook and Eddie North in "BALINTORE". Through cunning tactics and skilful sailing (at least that's what they told me) they outwitted some very high class opposition and collected the Scotsman Trophy, a beautiful cut glass engraved bowl and plinth, that will be competed for on the Forth every year.

A creditable performance was put up by the four boats that remained for the week and although we had no more race winners we managed to make our presence felt elsewhere. I personally managed to collect the coveted "yellow jacket" for the biggest boob of the day for a brave attempt at walking on water and the week also saw the formation of the F.C.Y.C. offshore team. This disreputable bunch shipped aboard "TIA TIMU" and entered Wednesday's offshore race which began with no wind and the strongest ebbtide any of us had ever seen. 40 boats crossing the start line backwards and sideways and doing 3 knots to boot, has to be seen to be believed. Luckily the wind picked up and in between arguing over which course to steer and consuming the day's vittles

at the clubhouse (in wellies and dripping jackets) just in time to deliver our entry to rapturous applause and to take first prize!

The whole week was greatly enjoyed by everybody and the Royal Tay are to be congratulated for their warm hospitality and excellent organisation.

May I also take this opportunity to remind you that entries for the best log competition and for the photographic competition should be in by 26th October.

On the subject of photography, the competition for the best caption to accompany the photograph of Jim Smeaton and Rab Paget that was in the bar was won by Kenny Dick but it is too rude to be reprinted!

Members may be interested to take note of an article that appeared in the Pendennis column of The Observer that discloses some of the curious habits of our southern cousins:

"Apart from the racing there will be the usual full social programme during the week, with the Royal Yacht Squadron, The Royal London Y.C. and the Royal Corinthian Y.C. holding their members' balls."

The Club is again entering a team in the McEwans RNIB Quiz which will take place on Wednesday 6th November in a venue yet to be announced.

May I remind Members that lift-out day is 26th October!

TOM WILSON WRITES:

All this season's races have now been completed with the exception of the Wickes Stern Chase which had to be cancelled due to adverse weather conditions.

The new date for the Race is Saturday 28th September - Start 13.30 H.W. 15.35.

The Evening Points Series was won by "AMRON" and the Long Series by "STORM CLOUD". Congratulations must go to Ed. North and Brian Pennycook of "BALINTORE" who won the Bell Rock Race and the prestigious Scotsman Trophy.

We intend to hold a Closing Muster on Sunday 13th October - Start 12.30 H.W. 14.54. It is not known yet what form this will take but it is hoped to have all the Club boats on the water that day.

T.W.

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The following are some dates for your diary in what is going to be a very full winter programme. Some dates and events have still to be finalised and notification of these will be at a later date.

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| 7th October   | A.G.M.               | 7.30 for 8.00 Clubhouse.   | May I remind you that only <u>paid up</u> Full Members are entitled to attend.   |
| 28th October  | Fashion Show         | 7.30 for 8.00 Clubhouse  |  |
| 8th November  | Boat Owner's Night   | 7.30 for 8.00.   | A lighthearted start with a showing of that classic comedy "WHISKY GALORE" and a talk about whisky, with samples, from Pip Hill. |
| 22nd November | Annual Dinner Dance. | This is going to be held this year in the Berry Suite, tickets £6.50, will shortly be available from the Clubhouse and any Committee Member. Could you please apply for tickets as early as possible so we can have an idea of numbers likely to be attending. |  |
| 6th December  | Prize Giving         | 7.30 for 8.00 Clubhouse.   | A standing room only   |

- January            London Boat Show.    We are trying to organise a coach to the Show with an overnight stop in London. Details are not yet available but would anyone who thinks they might be interested please contact myself.
- 7th February      Boat Owner's Night.    To be arranged
- 7th March           Inter Club Quiz
- 4th April           Boat Owner's Night.    To be arranged.

ROBERT FLECK,  
Hon. Secretary.

P.S.            I take this opportunity to bring to your attention the RYA Cruising Symposium to be held on 7th December, 1985, at the Inverclyde Leisure Centre, Largs - tickets £3.50 including lunch. If there are enough members interested we will organise a mini-bus.

, R.F.