

It says a great deal for Club spirit(s) that so much work has gone on in the recent cold spell. Volunteers have attacked the chores allotted with vim and vigour probably to keep themselves warm as much as anything else but to their credit we now have a new club flagpole at the clubhouse; increased security at the yards with new sections of strengthened fence in position; a detailed harbour plan of the moorings area; and last but certainly not least a sturdy new workboat which was fitted out by members after she came over from the Walter and Watson Scott engineering shed.

Council has decided to make the naming of the vessel (after a distinguished former Secretary and Vice Commodore) a bit of an event and so if you are in the area of the North Yard/Public Slipway on Sunday, March 3 at about 12.30 p.m. then you will see what has been done in your name and with your money. The vessel represents some £10,000 of investment in the future of the Club and so will be named with due ceremony. At the same time our new fast inshore rescue boat which is required for the dinghy courses to be able to continue will be in the water and she will be named "RED LION" (after part of our club insignia) at about the same time. In recognition of all the effort made to purchase and equip her by members of all classifications, the Social Convener, Rab Paget and the doyen of the "Doc" men, Jim Smeaton, have agreed to experience a high-speed test run. Will they survive... will they throw up ... come and see the fun on March 3.

The new Commodore and Council of the Royal Forth have been elected and one of the first fruits of an informal meeting with Rear-Commodore Robin Fowler and their Vice-Commodore and former Secretary, Alex Flett, is the agreement that named boats may again use their ferry service for a fee of £25 per season. The one essential difference is that F.C.Y.C. members will be picked up at the slip and landed there. We will NOT enter their new and secure yard/clubhouse space. Entry to this is for R.F.Y.C. members only and is by card key. Council has been told at the same time that a limited number of moorings will again be made available to F.C.Y.C. by R.F.Y.C. and the management has reverted to us. We will pay them a block fee and then we will administer the recovery of monies from our members which should work out better than last season's ad hoc arrangement.

If you want a mooring this season you are reminded that these are given only to members in good standing who have put in a completed mooring application form and who can show a member of the Council or Harbour Committee a valid certificate of insurance. Translated this means .. pay your subs. (too many people have not); get a mooring application form filled in at the earliest opportunity (available from Messrs. Fowler or Milne); check your insurance and get yourself paid up (it is a Forth Ports rule that we cannot crane in any vessel that is uninsured). Reference the crance day, this remains unaltered at Saturday, April 20, but check and re-check the notice-boards for any late change to this.

While a lot of members have indeed put in a lot of work, there are still many who on joining swore to assist. Why not come forward now and ease the load on those who have already done so much and who may now need to give time and attention to their own boats?

The Social Committee continue to put on one major event a month and it would be nice to given them support. The Burns Supper was a great thrash and those who went were overwhelmed by the great variety of entertainment provided, not least the poetical debate between Carol and George Kemp/

Kemp in mock Burnsian style. The boat owners nights are still in operation and the next one is the inter-club nautical quiz on March 1st for a new trophy called Brainwaves, donated by Sailing Secretary, Tam Wilson. The one after that is a sailing seminar and is a good chance to pick up tips for the new season. The former is for entertainment and the latter for education, though we'd hope that there would be a bit of both in each!

Jimmy Massaro has been in hospital but is back in circulation as bold as ever; Former Commodore Colin Stoddart has had a "warning" healthwise but is recuperating OK; and a number of others have managed to come through the winter with various degrees of ill-health but most are now on the improving list. On the sailing side, Rear Commodore Graham Mitchell writes:

DINGHY SAILING/TRAINING 1985

1. First of all, doing what clipper helmsmen rounding the Horn were not allowed to do, and casting a glance behind us we see a moderate success in the 1984 season. Four of the dinghy sailing pupils have gained National Dinghy Sailing Certificates after a season of intermittent activity from May to October. This has been achieved with principally two instructors and a number of enthusiastic helpers, plus the two Mirror dinghies, and the Club GP14, together with a rubber dinghy as rescue boat and "KRÖMAG" as mother vessel and general support. In 1985 we hope to do better.

1985 SAILING

2. Our objective to 1985 is to run two courses over the course of the season together with more dinghy racing activity. A repeat of the National Dinghy Sailing Certificate Course is planned together with the, next in line, Seamanship I Certificate. The minimum time spent in teaching, sailing practice and shore drill is laid down as 50 hours by the R.Y.A. for courses held on weekends and odd days here and there as our course will be. We plan, therefore, to use the whole season in working individuals up to the required standard. It is hoped we can offer eight places on each course. The remainder of this note is intended to serve both as an advertisement of the places and a bid for help from all who can.

ARRANGEMENTS/FACILITIES

3. At present we have:
- a) three instructors (and contact with two others)
 - b) three mirrors (owners permitting one GP14 (Club boat) one Enterprise (winter refit permitting))
 - c) one (Tornado) rescue boat (thanks to the Vice-Commodore and many others)
 - d) three qualified rescue boat coxswains

Given the necessary demand from pupils we need in addition:

- a) more instructors
- b) more dinghies (Wayfarer, GP14, Mirrors)
- c) more helpers

At present we are principally interested in Mirror dinghies but anyone who knows of any dinghy that is available should get in touch.

HELPERS/

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4. We need help now from anyone who can spare the odd Sunday afternoon to supervise the repairs to the Enterprise dinghy. It needs some wood-work to repair delamination plus the usual painting etc.

When the season starts we need the following helpers:

- (a) Skipper and Mother Ship - anyone with a boat to anchor in Wardie Bay to act as base for the dinghies.
- (b) Rescue Boat Drivers and Crew: only R.Y.A. qualified drivers will be permitted to act as 'rescue' for dinghy sailing. Volunteers (unqualified) for crew are needed.
- (c) General Helpers
 - yard and breakwater to help with the launch and preparations ashore.
 - Bosun to help with the upkeep of dinghies.
 - afloat - crews for mother ship

5. The tentative arrangements for the season are shown in the attached sheet. We already have six youngsters from last season who will be going on to the Seamanship II stage. So we are looking for another 10 youngsters (and perhaps oldsters) who are keen to be trained this coming season. Anyone interested should write to me at Club or 'phone on any Monday evening. Similarly anyone willing to help should get in touch or call in at the North Yard on a Sunday afternoon.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>START</u>	<u>HW</u>	<u>COMMENT</u>
24.4	Racing	7.15 p.m.	17.57	<u>RACING</u>
4.5	NDSC (Training)	11.00 a.m.	15.00	Cadet Cup
8.5	Racing	7.15 p.m.	18.13	Best 5 Results
11.5	Racing	6.00 p.m.	21.15	out of 8
12.5	Racing	6.30 p.m.	22.28	Races
18.5	NDSC (Training)	11.00 a.m.	14.47	<u>TRAINING</u>
19.5	NDSC (Training & Racing)	11.00 a.m.	15.19	National dinghy
23.5	Racing	7.15 p.m.	17.45	Sailing Cert.
1.6	NDSC (Training)	11.00 a.m.	13.47	(Elementary)
2.6	NDSC (Training)	11.00 a.m.	14.36	
6.6	Racing	7.15 p.m.	18.02	
15.6	NDSC (Training)	10.00 a.m.	13.30	
16.6	NDSC (Training)	10.00 a.m.	14.13	
26.6	Racing	7.15 p.m.	21.56	
29.6	NDSC (Training)	9.00 a.m.	11.26	
30.6	NDSC (Training)	9.00 a.m.	13.28	
27.7.	Regatta (Team	9.00 a.m.	10.56	<u>TRAINING</u>
28.7	" Racing)	9.00 a.m.	12.13	Specially for
4.8	Picnic - Race to Inchcolm	8.00	05.33	Seamship I
10.8	Passage Plan and Preparation	2.00 p.m.	(Classroom)	Qualification
11.8	Cruise	9.00 a.m.	10.56	<u>RACING</u>
17.8	Training S.I	12.00	16.26	For Cup
18.8	" "	13.00	17.04	Details to
8.9	8 hr. Race	9.00 a.m.	9.02	be announced.
14.9	Racing - Training	12.00	15.25	
15.9	" "	12.00	16.02	
28/29.9	Assessments NDSC - S.I	12.00	Start	