



# ANNANDALE SAILING CLUB NEWSLETTER



*Lochmaben*

*January 2005*

IT HARDLY SEEMS LIKE YESTERDAY SINCE WE FINISHED SAILING FOR 2004 AND ALREADY THE 2005 SEASON IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER. BEFORE THAT WE HAVE A BUSY COUPLE OF MONTHS AHEAD WITH SOME ENTERTAINING SOCIAL EVENINGS AND SOME SLIGHTLY LESS PLEASANT, ALTHOUGH FUN, WORK PARTIES. THESE WORK PARTIES ARE NECESSARY NOT ONLY TO PREPARE FOR THE FORTHCOMING SAILING SEASON, BUT ALSO TO ACCOMPLISH SOME EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS AT THE CLUB. I ASK YOU ALL TO SUPPORT THESE WORK PARTIES IN ANY WAY THAT YOU ARE ABLE — OUR CLUB WOULD BE UNABLE TO SURVIVE WITHOUT SUCH VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS AND WE ARE MOST GRATEFUL FOR YOUR HELP.

THE FIRST OF THESE PROJECTS IS THE EXTENSION OF OUR BOAT HOUSE. THE PLANS ARE CURRENTLY AWAITING APPROVAL, BUT ALL BEING SATISFACTORY, WORK SHOULD START BY THE END OF JANUARY. WE PLAN TO EXTEND THE PRESENT BUILDING PARALLEL WITH THE ROAD TOWARDS THE VILLAGE AS WELL AS FORWARDS TOWARDS THE LOCH. THIS WILL CREATE AN AREA CAPABLE OF STORING FOUR BOATS AS WELL AS ALL OUR EQUIPMENT AND THERE WILL BE ROOM FOR A WORK BENCH AND MAINTENANCE AREA.

THE SECOND PROJECT IS THE REPLACEMENT OF THE JETTY. OUR PRESENT JETTY HAS SERVED US ADMIRABLY FOR FAR LONGER THAN EXPECTED AND IS AT THE END OF ITS USEFUL LIFE. WE FORESEE A PHASED REPLACEMENT WITH AT LEAST HALF OF THE EXISTING JETTY IN USE THROUGHOUT 2005. IT IS OUR AIM TO INSTALL A STABLE, FLOATING JETTY THAT WILL BE CONSIDERABLY EASIER TO LAUNCH AND RECOVER, REQUIRE LITTLE

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## NEW COMMITTEE

The AGM last month brought important changes to the club's Committee. Willie Patterson finished his two years hard-working and effective Commodoreship and Andrew Greenhalgh stepped up from Vice Commodore to be the youngest Commodore the club has seen. Carol Beattie, a sailor for most of her life, steps up to Vice Commodore and is replaced as Rear Commodore by Colin Midgely whose experience may be less but whose skills at the helm have developed in double quick time. These youthful and energetic flag officers will get an early chance to show their mettle with a raft of exciting developments on the horizon.

The committee will be strengthened by two new members, Derek Michael and Gordon Smith both of whom will bring a different slant and added vision to the team.

The down side is the loss of a number of valued members all of whom have contributed considerably over the years. Fortunately all are still to be members of the club. The retirees are : Allan Doyle, David Gemmell, Emily Inglis, Esther Armstrong, Graham More and Raymond Suszek. David and Raymond are, of course, past Commodores and long term servants of the club. Allan has gone off to pursue a degree in nautical science at university in Glasgow but will still be around from time to time. The club wishes him a fair wind.

## EVENTS DEAR BOY, EVENTS

It may theoretically be the close season but things are really humming on the social front. Time to get the shiny new diaries (or electronic thingummies) out!

Friday 14th January	Burn't Supper at 19:00	£5
	A slightly adapted Burns Supper complete with haggis and all the trimmings followed by a gentle quiz with a Scottish flavour.	
	Further details from Neill Smith 01387 810396	
Friday 11th February	Lockerbie Manor at 19:30 for 20:00	£TBA
	Always a good night with good company and fine food. Donations of raffle prizes would be welcome.	
	Tickets from Neill Smith 01387 810396	
Mid March	Ceilidh with the Ian Rankie Band	
	Yet to be confirmed but this great night is planned as the Fitting Out Supper. Further details will follow.	

There will probably be one or two work parties, possibly as early as this the middle of this month, to get prepared for the boat shed extension. Watch this space and keep an ear open for the clubhouse rumour mill.

## PRIZE-GIVING HIGHLIGHTS

As usual, the Prize-Giving Supper was well attended; in fact, it was stowed out and, had anyone else come, they'd have had to sit on the stairs. Fortunately, there was a mound of excellent food sufficient to feed the assembled company and also the ravening horde that descended on the club the following day to howl the jetty out in record time.

The prizes were well distributed between the newer and younger sailors and the experienced hands. It was particularly satisfying to see some of the youngsters getting into the general trophies. It bodes well for the future.

Among the trophy winners were:

Nick Beeby	the "Missing " Trophy for the Tuesday Helm Pursuit
Graham More	the Helm Handicap Trophy
John Rowley	the Laser Championship and the Laser Spring Series
Frank Gibson	the Thursday Handicap Championship
John Hugo	the Mirror Spring Series and, with Jessica Campbell, the Mirror Championship
Adam Firby	the Topper Spring Series and the Topper Championship
Alastair Smith	the Lockerbie Gala Cup
Dave Richardson	the RNLI Regatta with Nick Beeby
Allan Doyle	the Cadet Regatta
Gordon Smith	the Novices Regatta with son Ruaridh
Carol Beattie	the Ladies Regatta with Julie Osbourne

Two of the newer teams were represented with the award of the Absolute Beginners Trophy to Alistair and Rory Payne and the Capsize Cup to Gordon and Ruaridh Smith. For those who were not there and contrary to rumour, it should be pointed out in Gordon's defence that the Capsize Cup is awarded on very much positive grounds not for any record of capsizes. Who might win such a trophy if it existed is a closely guarded secret that not even the Freedom of Information Act could winkle out.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Duncan Johnstone Memorial Trophy and the club was honoured and delighted to have Honorary Life Member Billy Johnstone present to make the presentation. It's not so many years ago that Billy was last seen carving the loch up in his immaculate and speedy GP14 and it was good to see him back.

Despite some determined opposition, the trophy went to Andrew and Duncan Greenhalgh. Andrew's victory encompassed wins in the GP Championship and in the Early Bird, Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter Series as well as the Boat Pursuit. Frequently the boat was crewed by father Duncan but brother Mark and Colin Midgely also made appearances in the front seat.

It is hard to see any immediate challenge but a number of youngsters including Adam Firby, Blair Gemmell, John Beardon, Jessica Campbell and Rory Payne (all, it has to be said, trained by Andrew) perhaps show sufficient promise to give chase in the not too distant future.

OR NO MAINTENANCE AND HAVE A VASTLY GREATER LIFESPAN THAN WOODEN PONTOONS.

THE COST OF THESE PROJECTS IS CONSIDERABLE AND ALTHOUGH WE ARE APPLYING FOR ANY RELEVANT FUNDING, MUCH OF THE COST WILL HAVE TO BE BORNE BY THE CLUB. I THEREFORE EMPHASISE MY REQUEST FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE AT WORK PARTIES. I WOULD BE MOST GRATEFUL TO HEAR FROM ANY MEMBER WILLING TO VOLUNTEER SPECIALIST SKILLS. IN ADDITION YOU WILL FIND ENCLOSED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER A MEMBERSHIP FORM FOR 2005. THIS YEAR WE HAVE ADDED A SECTION FOR VOLUNTARY DONATIONS. ANY FINANCIAL GIFT, HOWEVER SMALL, YOU WISH TO MAKE TO OUR DEVELOPMENT FUND WOULD BE MUCH APPRECIATED. DUE TO THE COST OF THESE PROJECTS WE ARE POLITELY REQUESTING PROMPT PAYMENT OF MEMBERSHIP FEES THIS YEAR.

WE HAVE ALWAYS ATTEMPTED TO INCREASE OUR SUBSCRIPTION FEES BY NO MORE THAN THE RATE OF INFLATION, INDEED OUR CHARGES ARE RELATIVELY VERY LOW. UNFORTUNATELY ALL OF OUR COSTS HAVE BEEN INCREASING BY MORE THAN INFLATION FOR SEVERAL YEARS AND SOME SIGNIFICANT COSTS SUCH AS INSURANCE, POWER AND FUEL ARE RISING EXPONENTIALLY. YOUR COMMITTEE THEREFORE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO RECOMMEND SLIGHTLY HIGHER THAN NORMAL INCREASES IN MEMBERSHIP FEES TO THE AGM, THESE WERE ACCEPTED AND THE UNIVERSAL FEELING IS THAT YOUR SUBSCRIPTION STILL PROVIDES EXTREMELY GOOD VALUE FOR MONEY.

I'D LIKE TO CONCLUDE BY REMINDING YOU OF SOME GREAT SOCIAL EVENINGS OVER THE CLOSED SEASON. OUR INFORMAL TAKE ON BURNS NIGHT WILL BE HELD IN THE CLUBHOUSE ON FRIDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, ALTHOUGH KNOWN AS THE BURNT NIGHT, THE FAYRE IS ALWAYS EXCELLENT AND ALAYNE'S FAMILY FRIENDLY QUIZ IS NEVER TO BE MISSED. A NEW VENUE FOR OUR ANNUAL DINNER WILL BE THE LOCKERBIE MANOR HOTEL THIS WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY — PLEASE LET NEILL KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF YOU PLAN TO COME. FINALLY FOR OUR FITTING OUT SUPPER IN MID MARCH, WE HOPE TO HOST A NIGHT OF CEILIDH DANCING WITH THE EXCELLENT IAN RANKIE BAND. DETAILS WILL FOLLOW BUT I URGE YOU ALL TO SUPPORT THIS FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS. AS WELL AS BEING GREAT FUN, EVENINGS LIKE THIS ARE IMPORTANT IN RAISING OUR DEVELOPMENT FUND AND WILL BE A KEY ASPECT TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR AMBITIOUS DEVELOPMENT PLANS WHICH WILL MAKE AN IMMENSE DIFFERENCE TO YOUR CLUB.

ALL THE BEST FOR 2005

ANDREW GREENHALGH - COMMODORE