

# Commodore's Log – October

## Cove Sailing Club

The sun was sheltering behind a cloud as the gathering collected on the patio. Anticipation mixed with consternation seemed to weave its way through the conversations. Will we or won't we? Depending on your point of view the game was up or one last crack at the prize was possible.

As it turned out, the game was up. The last Loch Long race of the season was cancelled as someone forgot to invite the wind. "It wasnae me!" And so the flag was lowered as the sun peeked from behind a cloud and the crowd began to migrate to the bar somewhat earlier than usual for a Friday evening. The season's racing closed for yet another year, now time to tote up the race results and identify the winners. Prizegiving will be held on Oct 27<sup>th</sup>, with a bring a dish pot luck supper. We hope to see you there.

All was not lost however, as a windless night proved an ideal opportunity for some cadet wet and wild water play, and so they did, well into the evening before the sun finally sank below the hill over Blairmore. Maybe us big people should take a leaf out of the little people book and take the opportunities as they come for water fun, when wind fun is absent. We'll have to work on that.



All aboard, plenty of room



Sunset fun for end of season cadets



Rafting up and learning to drift

All was not lost as Al Mitchell, local troubadour, sang through the night to keep the gathered crowds merry and soulful. Another great evening from Al to end the summer.

The cadets have had a great year with plenty of fun and opportunity for learning, development and confidence building. To cap off the season of home loch learning, four cadets hightailed it to James Hamilton Loch in East Kilbride on Sunday 3 September to take part in RYA Scotland's OnBoard West Festival.

One of three events organised by RYA Scotland this summer, the event gave our cadets the chance to get together and sail alongside cadets from other clubs in a fun, festival atmosphere away from their home port.

The cadets were asked for their feedback. Cadet Kelvin said “ Thanks to all the instructors for producing such a great sailing event. I got to meet a lot of new people and even got some experience on a Pico. A great way to finish the Cadet sailing season.”

Cadet Eleanor responded, “ I really enjoyed meeting new people”

Cadet Libby really enjoyed jumping in the water and relay racing. “ I enjoyed the team building to meet new people and we got to use Picos”

Cadet Fergus thoughtfully replied, “ being able to do lots of gybes.”



Sailing on James Hamilton Loch



Cove Cadets loving the RYA day



It's not always about the sailing!

September's Sunday Scrان saw a return of the Pitter Patter Potter gang to see the results of their previous months artistry. In addition to a light bite of lunch the judging of our local artists ceramic painting was the order of the day. Well done to Higgy and Libby for winning the best decorated mug. All the mugs turned out amazing and thanks to everyone for taking part. A special thanks to @pitterpatterpottercraftstudio for making this event happen.



The Pitter Patter Potter Artists Collective at CSC

On September 11, Cove Sailing Club was honoured to be able to provide a venue for family and friends of HMS Vigilant to welcome home one of their submarines from a long patrol. A loch side greeting after a long stint at sea was a special treat. We are very privileged to be in a location to be able to support in that way.

A final event to close out September was Quiz Night held on 22 September with a pie and a pint available to hungry and thirsty quiz goers. A rather quiet evening due to the impending Real Ale Festival the next day and other local events, but the teams dived into the competition, crafted by member John Robertson. His experimental quiz format taxed the competitors such that a pie and pint break was needed at the halfway point. An enjoyable night had by all, with team Bar Flies coming out on top of the pile to win the coveted prize. A rematch is being muted for later in the year.

Behind the scenes the club committee has been continuing its development plan work. At the end of August our application to become a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) was submitted. As this goes to press it is my privilege to announce that our application has been accepted by the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) and CSC is now registered as a SCIO. There is still a fair bit of work to do to formally transition into that new organisation and I'll update you all next month. A more formal announcement will be coming soon.

Social programmes will continue through the autumn, including our Sunday Scran, back again in November with a Harry Potter theme. Come and join the fun. Get in touch, details here and on the webpage, [www.covesailingclub.co.uk](http://www.covesailingclub.co.uk).



The image is a graphic titled "CSC EVENTS 2023" with a red and white pennant logo on the right. Below the title is a table with three columns for the months of October, November, and December. The background of the table is a light blue and white wavy pattern representing water. In the bottom left corner of the table, there is a small logo for the "COMMUNITY FUND" with a hand icon.

OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
27- Prizegiving, Supper and live music	5- Sunday Scran 5- Harry Potter Potion Making 17- Social Night	3- Sunday Scran - Christmas activities 15- Christmas Cocktails

Best wishes for the autumn

Wells Grogan  
Commodore Cove Sailing Club