

Commodore's Log – July

Cove Sailing Club



This spate of weather has been wonderful. Although the wind has been lighter than aged sailors remember it to be, it has encouraged outdoor participation and June was a characteristically busy month along at the ole sailing club.

The Annual picnic began the month of activities and a glorious day was provided to travel in convoy to Ardentinny beach where water sports, beach games, BBQs and banter were held all afternoon. The sun stayed out, the wind kept the midges off and a lovely day was had by all.



Picnic flotilla heading off



Powerboat experience for Josh



Heading to Ardentinny

Our regatta weekend kicked off with a special food night on Friday the 9th of June with Ross Hamilton cooking up some delicious Bao Buns to help wash the beverages down.



Saturday morning dawned with a light wind and 3 Pipers and 5 Flying Fifteens from Holy Loch Sailing Club arriving for a day of racing. They were joined by AOTW's Positivity and yacht Marisca. Racing commenced in light airs and spectator participation started growing on the patio. Racing was tight and the light airs made for some frequent changes of position. The Flying Fifteens took the first gun, followed by the Pipers and then the Loch Longs on a triangular course leading off to Strone Point, a mark not visited for awhile at this club. Three races were secured for the class boats and an afternoon coastal race between Marisca and Positivity took advantage of the wonderful weather provided



Loch Long start to the 1st race of the regatta

More Mischief led the Flying Fifteens home for class honours, as did Tom Piper for the Piper fleet, with Sula taking line honours for the Loch Longs with 1st place with Dolphin and Capricorn taking 2nd and 3rd. Marisca won the coastal race over Positivity, but the Positivity crew made up for it in securing a number of raffle prizes. Our cadets also participated in the sailing competition holding their own mini regatta closer to shore while the adult boats strayed further afield. Light winds and warm breezes helped make their day.



Cadets enjoying their day on the water

Our sponsor, Craig Reid of RB Marine, assisted the Commodore award the prize winners their trophies before everyone settled into a lovely Mexican pork wrap cooked up by Fergus Madigan, who kindly volunteered his culinary expertise to the club. The evening ended with music duo Rain of Animals singing the night away, with a little help from the Commodore and the dancing children. A huge thank you to Fergus, Rain of Animals, Craig and family, and all the entrants, volunteers, spectators who made this a great day.



Face painting always a treat



A full patio enjoying the prizegiving



Rain of Animals with guest

Racing continued through the month. The light wind and sunny evening scenario finally collapsed on the 23rd when the rain set in and followed the racers around the course. Their efforts were rewarded however as Moonshire secured her first win of the season. All the racers and shore support then enjoyed the delights of the wonderful Al Mitchell Music, who returned to the club for his second gig of the season following his introduction to us at Opening Muster back in April. Another guid night.

Our next big sailing event is Loch Long Week running from July 23-28. Several boats from Aldeburgh are expected up and furious shed activity continues locally to get boats ready for this annual special reunion of Loch Long enthusiasts

On the big boat front, two Cove boats were entered into the Sigma 33 National Championships held at Rhu Marina on the 15th-18th June. Light winds again made for extremely competitive racing and while the final honours went to RNCYC boat, Close Encounters, Cove's Leaky Roof 2 took 2nd place and White Lightning took 6th. Leaky Roof 2 will be the only Scottish Sigma 33 heading for the Dun Laoghaire Regatta in Ireland in July.

While all this outdoor fun is happening, there is much going on behind the scenes with the Committee. Our Sport Scotland grant application has been favourably received and they have advised us that further dialogue is expected to clarify and refine our submission before a final decision is made. The club has also been invited to submit a full application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund and the Open Community Fund after having received a favourable review of our expression of interest submission. The technical build subcommittee is also engaging local contractors to refine our build design and cost estimates. Finally we are calling all members to join a General Meeting on the 17th of July to support the Committee's proposal to change the structure of the club to a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) from its current status as an unincorporated association, a change that will provide a better structure for the club's growth and community engagement in the future. So in addition to our excitement about our current outdoor pursuits and activities, we are also excited and working hard on the club's future. It's a great time to get involved.

On the social side, Sunday Scrans are going very well and thanks to our sponsors, The National Community Lottery, the June Sunday Scran featured a family tie dye workshop as a family activity. Feedback was positively positive.

"Thanks for a wonderful afternoon. The food was great and my girls loved the tie dye art class."

Apparently we couldn't get folks out the door it was so popular. Great to see.

The Club was also proud to support the 1st Cove and Kilcreggan 10 K run with the use of the club grounds for parking and toilets for visitors and participants before the starting gun. A great event and a privilege to be able to support.

Dates of monthly Sunday Scrans and future events can be found on our website.

Our new webpage has now launched and can be found here and includes our annual calendar with all our key dates shown. <https://www.covesailingclub.co.uk/>

Contact the club secretary, Alison Robinson on secretarycovesailingclub@gmail.com

Get in touch, details on the webpage, www.covesailingclub.co.uk

Enjoy the weather
Get outdoors get wet!
Wells Grogan
Commodore