

## Commodore's Log – February

### Cove Sailing Club SCIO

As I write this, the roads are closing due to flooding and the wind is picking up again to wail away through the evening and into the night. Boat travel may come back in vogue here on the peninsula if this flooding keeps up.

As many of you may know, we were in receipt of some decidedly great news just before Christmas. CSC SCIO was successful in a grant application to the Community Ownership Fund and is to be awarded £428,000 project and £50,000 revenue grant for rebuilding its clubhouse. This is a huge step forward to allow us to create an open and accessible modern space that will not only provide wider opportunities for water sports training and events, but also broader community activities. This has been achieved through the efforts of members, the committee and particularly rear commodore Zoe Robinson Froid and fund raising manager Sarah Robinson Froid.

We are currently in the process of initiating a plan of action and will have a kickoff meeting with the Project Manager from the Community Ownership Fund to set out the practical details of managing the fund and overall project. Initial steps by the development team are prepping invitations to tender for professional services, discussions with local contractors and updating design drawings to enable us to update the project cost. Discussions are also ongoing with Sport Scotland as we are in the middle of another grant application with them. So it is a busy behind the scenes start of the year at CSC SCIO and we will provide regular updates and details as we progress.

The recent bad weather has also been a timely reminder of the current state of the existing clubhouse as a portion of the roof covering parted company with the roof this week. We'll have to wait for this wind to die down to effect a temporary repair to see us through the season.



Roofing panels and window damage to bridge this month. Work party list growing

To help us through these dark afternoons, our Annual Afternoon Tea, organised by Arlene McNeilage and assisted by Marianne McNeilage and our younger cadets kicked off on Saturday January 20. Families and friends sampled a delicious spread of sandwiches and cakes. Our young cadet crew kept teacups and plates full through the afternoon. Enjoying the delights was our RYA Regional Director, Laura Cowan, who came along to congratulate the team and get an update on our plans for the year.



Families Caldwell and Lee at tea

RYA Director Laura and Arlene with guests Youth Cadet servers

Our next major event will be our AGM on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February where we will update members on our transition to the SCIO organisation and our year's results, as well as the forthcoming plan of action for the year.

Sunday Scrans will continue to feature in 2024 as will our cadet training and racing programme. Additional training is being offered during this early season with First Aid, Power Boat and VHF Radio courses being offered. If you are interested let us know. Dates have yet to be finalised in February and March and all courses are subject to sufficient numbers.

A busy and exciting year is in store. We hope you will join us on the journey. If you are interested in volunteering please contact us. You don't need to go on the water to give a helping hand. Fundraisers, IT/social media wizards, management gurus, youth trainers, chefs and bakers, event organisation planners, electricians, plumbers, joiners and engineers are all welcome. We'd love to have you. Please get in touch with me or a member of the committee if you are interested in learning more. Details on the webpage link below.

Best wishes for 2024.  
Wells Grogan  
Commodore



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