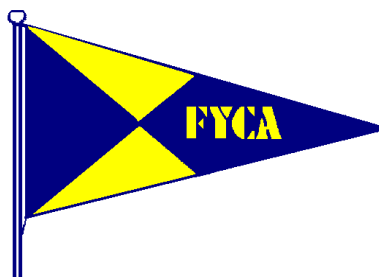


56° Forth



FORTH YACHT CLUBS ASSOCIATION

MARCH 2000

No.1

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E-mail – fyca@i12.com

Contact:- Helen Crossley, 48 Cowan Road, Edinburgh, EH11 1RJ

Tel:- 0131-337 5683. For comments, criticisms and contributions.

Chairman's Comments

Welcome to the first FYCA newsletter.

Your Association was formed in 1969 by Forth area clubs to represent the interests of the Forth sailor and to co-ordinate the activities of these clubs. The constitution recognised the need for the Association to report on it's activities and Club delegates are therefore given a biennial briefing on FYCA activities at spring and autumn meetings.

Two years ago FYCA published the first annual handbook to provide information on it's activities and to provide a source of useful information for cruising and racing sailors alike. The 2000 handbook will be available during March.

Nevertheless I believe that there is now a need to introduce more regular communication with members of constituent clubs and for information to be provided on a more regular basis and it is for this reason that we have introduced this newsletter.

FYCA has had an active year in 1999 and I expect that 2000 will be no different. Developments such as the reopening of the Forth Clyde Canal and the Granton Harbour development have kept us busy on the representative side.

Last years racing initiative resulted in a revised Regatta Series format and there will be two new major regattas on the Forth for this year. We hope to develop this series as a Forth championship. The proposed Fair Isle race has unfortunately had to be abandoned but a new offshore race to Eyemouth, which sounds very

interesting, is proposed as a replacement.

The new pilot book is proving more time consuming than expected and is still some way from completion. I have however seen some advance sections and believe that it will be well worth the wait.

Finally, can I take this opportunity to wish all those who sail in the Forth area a very happy and successful year in 2000. May all your sailing this year be in perfect conditions and may all your championship dreams come true.

Good Sailing,

Bill Cochran.

Chairman Forth Yacht Clubs Association

***'ou can now register for the FIG / FOG Series online at -
www.fyca.i12.com***

Cruising Capers

THE UPPER FORTH

The planned re-opening of the Forth and Clyde canal in May 2001 suggests having a sail in the relatively sheltered water of the Upper Forth to locate the mouth of the River Carron, ensuring no delay to one's future transit of the canal. Exploring as far as the Grangemouth Yacht Club is the present limit with mast stepped.

By car one may drive through Grangemouth docks to within half a mile of the entrance to the Carron (head for BioMar Ltd, North Shore Road – big chimney). A more informative recce can be made by taking the A905 to the Kerse Bridge at the edge of Grangemouth (Ordnance Survey National Grid Ref. NS 911823). This five arch masonry bridge is the principal limitation to access to the canal. Immediately on the North side of the Bridge there are tracks, one running west to the pipe bridge, motorway bridge and past the planned canal exit and one East towards "The Gantry" (another pipe bridge) and the GYC.

The industrial archaeologist might also visit the former site of the Carron Iron Works (now Carron Phoenix) NS 882824. The Carron canal which served the works has all been filled in and covered by new houses but an overgrown depression indicating its junction with the River remains. Attractive old stone bridges span the river at the works.

Paul Shave

Upper Forth Boat Club

Forth Focus

This section is intended to be a focus on a club or person on the Forth and since this is the first issue of the FYCA newsletter I am going to use the editor's prerogative and let you know all about the Forth Cruising Club.

The Forth Cruising Club is a small but friendly club situated at Capernaum Pier in the picturesque village of Limekilns. The clubhouse itself is a listed building and is part of the estate of Lord Elgin. It is small but provides wonderful hot showers and a cosy place to have social events. The view from the garden out over the Forth is stunning, as I am sure the picnickers from Port Edgar will testify.

Over winter the yachts are stored in the dinghy park which is crammed full of about 40 boats at the moment. We have moorings for about 30 yachts in the harbour.

The sailing programme offers a combination of racing and cruising. The main racing events of the year are the Driftwood Trophy and the Regatta. For the year 2000 there will also be the West Estuary Regatta which is part of the FYCA regatta series and is a joint regatta with Blackness Boat Club and Port Edgar Yacht Club.

The cruising programme offers members trips up and down the Forth to varied and interesting places such as Aberdour and Anstruther and normally ends with a little indulgence in food and drink.

The Forth Cruising Club is known locally is quite a social club. Our programme over the year includes such events as a Burns Supper with our home grown talent, a dinner dance, training courses and lots of BBQ's.

Canal Update

There will be a couple of talks from British Waterways' later on in the year on the progress of the canal, until then we will keep you informed through these pages.

The completion date for full city to city and sea to sea access is May 2001 but several long sections will be accessible for trailer craft from this Easter. It is intended that the main rigging facilities will be at Port Edgar and Bowling. The last major area for completion May 2001 is the Grangemouth connection to the sea. This will by-pass Grangemouth along a new route dropping through two locks to enter the Carron Estuary.

Events Roundup

What	Where	When	Who
ECSW 2000 Presentation	DBSC	7th April	01383 822758
Spring Delegates	ABC	13th April	01383 823373
Coastguard Roadshow	Port Edgar	15/16,22/23 & 29/30 April	0131-551 5737 Joe Mitchell
Bosun's Locker Trophy	PEYC	30th April	0131 337 2767
Bass Rock Weekend	Granton-Dunbar	6/7th May	0131 555 2987
Mickery Regatta	Granton	20/21 May	0131 552 1073
Over One Tide Race	Forth Area	27th May	01383 860097
Fisherrow Regatta	Fisherrow	3/4 June	0131 554 6946
Mazzoni Trophy	Burntisland	11th June	01592 871213
Bell Rock Race	North Berwick	16th June	0131 228 4247
West Regatta	Port Edgar, Limkilns, Blackness	24/25 June	0131 337 5683

Bits and Tackle

Forth Ports Authority is sponsoring places on the Winston Churchill or Brig 2000. For more information contact Sheila Bowes, Group Training Advisor, Forth Ports Plc, Edinburgh, EH6 7DB or at fptraining@ednet.co.uk.

FYCA Committee

Chairman	Bill Cochran	01592 890261
Vice Chairman	David Suttie	01383 822758
Hon Secretary	Willie Allan	01383 823373
Treasurer	Hugh Fisher	01592 873375
Cruiser Racing	David Suttie	01383 822758
Development	Jim Scott	0131 337 2767
Dinghies	Pete McLelland	0131 539 5880
Fixtures	Jim Scott	0131 337 2767
Forth Forum	Andy Carnduff	01383 860306
Handicaps	Oliver Ludlow	0131 331 2572

Inland Waterways	Andy Carnduff	01383 860306
Pilot Handbook	Tom Wilson	0131 669 8939
Publicity	Helen Crossley	0131 337 5683
RYA	Graham Crawford	0131 657 1012
Safety	Tom Wilson	0131 669 8939
Training	Cairns Birrel	01333 330418
ECSW Chairman	Alan Clarke	01475 626264
ECSW Secretary	Mel Farquharson	0131 5523452

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