

Commodores Foreword

Looking back through years of Forewords it is clear that there is never really a quiet year certainly in the Club's recent history so it was perhaps naive of me to think that this year would be just because we do not have a major weeklong event planned.

Especially since our Race Officer has done his best to upset any ideas of relaxation, and this year's Regatta promises to be special, with at least 8 different Classes already confirmed as coming. We are also hosting two Laser training weekends, the Scottish Solo Championships, the RYAS Single Handed, the Europes and of course a Medina weekend.

Jane has thankfully set up the sail training schedule for this year before stepping back from the front line, but picking up the baton and maintaining the momentum she and her team have generated over the past few years will present a major challenge for the new Committee. Another challenge arising from the training scenario is that, despite the large numbers of trainees, the average numbers out racing on Saturdays has not significantly increased, and this is one area that we intend addressing. Racing may not be the only way to enjoy sailing but it does hone skills and a strong racing fleet is needed to maintain the high reputation of the club.

Four years ago a former Commodore spoke of resurrecting interest in the cruisers. Well we are still trying and initiatives from members like Robbie's Traditional Sail Weekend and a renewed interest in organised cruising all help to raise the profile of the yachts and there continues to be a small nucleus interested in racing.

With no major new initiatives planned, this year is an ideal opportunity to consolidate after the helter skelter ride of the last few years, to develop relationships with the Harbour Trust Association, and deal with new legislative requirements arising from the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 which will come into effect next year.

On the Social front, we again have no Social Convenor but have established a representative sub group who intend serving up the best of the old mixed with some new ideas and we await their offerings with interest. Please come and support their events.

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