

Hello everyone, the spring is just around the corner and days are certainly getting longer. If you haven't done so, it is time to check the boats, do a safety inspection and prepare for the season.

Current members should have received an email from Pam Peters regarding club membership renewals. The 2016 club membership fees are: Junior (£15), Single (£65) & Family (£80). After your renewal, you will receive your membership pack which includes the 2016 Yearbook. We welcome new members and if you need to introduce a friend to the club, we have placed 2016 membership application forms by the entrance of the clubhouse (folders by the wall).

Banff Sailing Club committee has put together an exciting 2016 program including technical talks, training sessions (both onshore and in the water), racing & cruising events and a social program.

There are many regular day sail cruising destinations and anchorages from Banff Bay; tick them off as we visit them throughout the sailing season! Aberdour Bay, Back O Troup, Banff Links, Bay of Cullen, Boyndie Bay, Calander, Crovie, Cullen Bay, Cullen Harbour, Dunnydiech, Findochty, Gardenstown, Greenside, Millshore, Pennan, Portknockie, Portsoy Harbour, Roseheart, Sandy EE & Sunnyside beach.

We have started the year with two interesting talks. Last January, Moira Moore showed us wonderful Greenland images and videos of polar bears which she took while she was working there last year, and we even got to hear whale conversations! In February, Peter Scott-Wilson took us through a historical tour of coastal castles since Pictish times.



The next talk will be on 'Outboard Engine Service' by Diane Mennie on Sunday 27th March at 1pm in the Clubhouse.

A 'DSC/Navigation refresher' talk by Ivor Clarke is planned for Saturday 16th April at 6pm also in the Clubhouse.

Please see further events in the table (next page).

On Saturday 27th February, we had a serious incident in the club house when one of the burners on the gas cooker was left on, but the burner was not alight, allowing gas to escape uncontrolled into the building. We were extremely lucky that the club members who did enter the club house at about 4 pm on that day recognised the danger (i.e. potential major explosion) and did not switch on a light, but immediately switched off the gas and opened windows to vent the gas from the building. The committee has already arranged for an engineer to fix a lockable isolation valve to the main gas supply pipe to the cooker. In order that this event can never occur again, only members of the committee will be able to remove the locking mechanism to allow the cooker to be used. We do recognise that this may cause some inconvenience to members who wish to use the cooker in the club house when a committee members is not present, however in the short term it is guaranteed to prevent a similar occurrence which could possibly result in loss of life and the destruction of the club house.

BSC program 2016			
Date	HW time/height at Banff	Event	Person in charge/OOD
Sun 31/01/2016	1pm	Greenland talk	MM
Sun 28/02/2016	1pm	Local Castles	PSW
Sun 27/03/2016	1pm	Outboard engine servicing	Diane Mennie
Sat 16th April	18:00:pm	DSC/Navigation refresher	Ivor Clarke
Sat 23/04/2016	6:30pm	Quiz/Pizza	L Campbell/R McKee
Su 08/05/2016	14:16/4.1m	Cruiser Cup Race 1	G Maitland
Sat 14/05/2016	06:40/3.3m, 19:26/3.2m	Day Cruise	L Campbell
Sat 21/05/2016	13:06/3.6m	PUSH THE BOAT OUT taster sessions	RM/MM/IC
Su 28/05/2016	17:37/3.3m	Wick time trial	IC/JC/AM
Sat 04/06/2016	12:12/3.9m	Cruiser Cup Race 2/BBQ	G Maitland
Sun 12/06/2016	06:05/3.3m, 18:44/3.2m	Day Cruise	Gary Jenkins
Fri 17/06/2016	11:06/3.4	Wick RNLI	IC/JC/AM
Sat 25/06/2016	03:53/3.7m, 16:32/3.6m	Portsoy Boat Festival/Portsoy Cup Time trial	IC
Sun 26/06/2016	17:18/3.5m	Cruiser Cup Race 3	A McK
Sat 16/07/2016	10:29/3.3m, 22:55/3.4m	Day Cruise	A Scott
Sat 23/07/2016	15:35/3.7m	Findochty Gala day	G Craigen
Sat 30/07/2016		Cromarty Regatta	TBC
Sun 31/07/2016	10:50/3.7m	Cullen Harbour Open day	C Clarkson
Sat 06/08/2016	03:04/3.9m, 15:30/3.7m	Gamrie Time trial	IC
Sat 13/8/2016	08:24/3.1m	Whitehills Regatta	JB
Sat 20/08/2016	14:38/4.0m	Gael Force Regatta	G Gordon
Sat 27/08/2016	07:54/3.4m, 20:39/3.4m	Rosehearty Harbour Open day	PH
Sat 03/09/2016	14:32/3.8m	BSC Regatta	All
Sat 17/09/2016	13:36/4.1m	Cruiser Cup Race 4	A McK
Sun 02/10/2016	14:05/3.8m	Marex Challenge	MM/AM/RM
Sat 22/10/2016		Food Night	RM/MM
Sun 30/10/2016		BSC AGM	All
Sun 27/11/2016		Xmas Lunch/Prize giving	
Please check all tide times with published Tide Tables			
Cruiser Cup events - There will be 3 races for 707s and 2 races for all other boats			
Notice of races and sailing instructions for each event will be given nearer the time.			

Banff Sailing Club and some of their club members have been nominated to receive some sailing awards and interim results are as follows:

**** 'RYA Scotland':** Banff Sailing Club were runners-up to the 'RYA Club of the Year Award', which was won by Oban Sailing Club. Mrs. Jane Bowie won the 'RYA Elizabeth Mackay Award'.

**** 'Aberdeenshire Sports Council':** BSC has been nominated in the category of 'Club of the Year' and Miss. Grace Campbell has been nominated in the category of 'Young Female Sports Person of the Year'. We will hear results at the Annual Sports Ceremony on Friday 18th March.

We intend to get some club burgees made; thank you for those (20 people) who replied to the survey. This will allow us to finalise the cost, which we will communicate soon.

On the 9th March, BSC hosted the NESS (North & East Scotland Sailing) AGM (Annual General Meeting), which was attended by a few BSC members. A RYA Scotland Strategic Review meeting will also be hosted by BSC on Thursday 14th April (7-9pm). The agenda will be circulated in the near future.

We look forward to a great year out sailing and socialising at the clubhouse. If you have any comments, feedback, suggestions, etc, please do get in touch with any member of the sailing club.

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