



# 'THE HARBOUR CHAT' BSC

(2, 2020)

If there is anything you wish to post in your newsletter, just drop me an email and I'll include it. [Mark.donnelly168@gmail.com](mailto:Mark.donnelly168@gmail.com)

## A Note from the Commodore

I firstly want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Yes, it's that time again and 2021 is rapidly coming to an end. It's been a mixed year with restrictions and harbour repairs still significantly reducing the club's activities. However, given all the challenges, we have actually maintained sailing and social events, slightly increased the membership and attracted new folk to the 707 group. We also took a boat to the Nationals in Edinburgh. And last weekend we had a wonderful prize giving and meal at the Town and County; great to be able to chat to everyone in face to face. Many thanks to Jane for holding her last raffle. She has done this for many years and raised £1,357 with raffles from 2010 to 2021. There was no raffle in 2020 because of covid.

So now I want to thank everyone, Committee and members, for making this year such a success. The club is strong and very active. It was great meeting new members at the prize giving meal. I know some may feel they are not so involved. Please talk to someone if you feel like this as there is plenty to do, we have lots of ideas and need all the help we can get.

There are currently training sessions happening monthly. I was sorry to have missed the first one, last Saturday and I heard it was a great success and very well planned. I hope to be at the next one and do some Christmas shopping in Banff.

I'm really looking forward to 2022 and some sailing further afield. We are continually applying for grants to upgrade our club facilities and boats so we can offer more. We are also actively planning the programme for next year; please email any ideas. Wishing everyone a healthy 2022 and lots of sailing on the water, hopefully from Banff harbour.

Helen

## Christmas Lunch and prize giving.

A great event with the opportunity to socialise over what is always a fantastic lunch at the Country Club in Banff. Despite interruptions to the sailing program by that pesky virus there were still lots of trophies to be awarded. This year they were well distributed amongst new and old members, which was great to see. Congratulations and well done to all the participants.

## Results

1. MOSQUITO CUP                      Team Predator    Best time from Portsoy to Whitehills
  
2. PORTSOY CUP                      Team Touchdown                      Best time from Whitehills to Portsoy
  
3. CONN CUP  
    Log Comp.                      Alison Mowbray - Taking delivery of Valda from Tayport to Peterhead
  
4. PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION    See below.
  
5. BLUE ANCHOR FIRE and SAFETY    *These are awarded to Banff boats entering Whitehills Regatta.*

<b>Class 1</b>	<b>Team Touchdown</b>
<b>Class 2</b>	<b>Ufor Ivor Clarke</b>
<b>707 Class</b>	<b>Team Touchdown</b>

- 6. CLASS TROPHY\_ for seasons combined sailing - dead heat and goes to Team Predator and Team Touchdown
- 7. R.N.L.I. Pennant This is awarded when a team or individual is to be recognised - man overboard. **Skipper Dave Goodwin and Team Touchdown**
- 8. ADDITIONAL AWARD Club Pennant goes to the **Team Predator** for their enterprising task to enter 707 Nationals at Port Edgar in August.
- 9. BEATRICE DASH Sunrise skipper James Cowie 4 hours.59mins.31secs
- 10. PURSUIT PADDLE Time trial from Gamrie to Whitehills Commotion skipper Rebecca Campbell
- 11. CRUISER CUP Sunrise skipper James Cowie
- 12. COMMODORES CUP This individual volunteered to undertake this task and with much patience kept to the rules and guidelines for COVID - NO EASY TASK Mick Bolger

The raffle was pretty good too. Well done to Jane.



### Sailing Club 2022 Calendars.

Congratulations to the winners of the photo competition and a big thank you from the club committee to all the contributors to the calendar in addition to the winners, as well as those who purchased them. As with previous years the contents is most attractive and well put together. There are still a few left, but they are going fast. So, if you have missed out, please contact me or Pam and we will secure some for you. At £10 they make great Christmas gifts and all proceeds go to much needed sailing club funds.

1<sup>st</sup> Prize

'Lossiemouth Lighthouse'

Helen Robinson



2<sup>nd</sup> Prize

'Sunset in the Bay'

Rebecca Campbell



3<sup>rd</sup> Prize

'Dreaming of the sun'

Mary Maycock



#### **What's been happening around the Harbour of late?**

Christmas is almost upon us, well the Christmas lights throughout the town are up and Tesco has started on the canned carols over the PA, so it must be. The Banff Harbour User Group, in the spirit of Christmas and not wanting to be out done, have set up a decorate your boat for Christmas in the harbour competition. This will be judged by Deveron FM about 7pm on the evening of the first of December. There will hopefully be a grand lighting up, so there should be lots of Christmas joy. Do come down and join in the fun. Marcia and Kevin have started early and what a splendid job they've done, thanks Marcia for the picture., as usual you have laid down the gauntlet.

#### **New contractor begins works on Banff Harbour repairs**

*The following is the news release from Aberdeenshire Council, Banff Harbours*

Works have resumed on vital repairs to Banff Harbour following the appointment of a new contractor.

Following the termination of the previous contract, Aberdeenshire Council is pleased to announce that Shearwater Marine Services Ltd are now on site to progress the project. The specialist company will initially be working on the East Pier to ensure its structural stability before winter. Work to complete the remainder of the repairs to the Railway Jetty and reinstate the masonry cladding to both the pier and jetty will then proceed.

Philip McKay, Head of Roads and Infrastructure, with responsibility for Harbours, said: "Shearwater have been undertaking dive surveys and inspections and are now mobilized on site, taking delivery of the materials and supplies required for this project much of which has been sourced locally.

"Perhaps most importantly, we have secured a supply of interlocking concrete blocks which, given a calm sea state, will enable Shearwater to create a new internal wall which will then be backfilled by the end of November. "

"As this new approach will see the wall built up in layers, with each new additional layer it further strengthens the pier which is a very positive and we are investigating a form of temporary deck to stop any over-topping from washing it out.

"Moving forward, we are continuing our discussions with both Shearwater and other suppliers to look at the rebuilding of the stonework of both the East Pier and Railway Jetty and we will, of course, provide harbour users with updates in due course."

Regards

Simon Jessep

### **Club Boat Maintenance**

A work schedule has been drawn up for the winter period for the club boats as well as the club house. The club boats are in dry storage in a local farmers barn and it's a great environment for us do the necessary maintenance. Any volunteers willing to help out would be greatly appreciated. We are all part of the club community and as the saying goes "many hands make light work".

### **Winter Sailing and activities.**

Club training nights. As with previous years we are running some inside training session until the season's sailing program starts next year. The first was on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November and was a recap on basic Navigation and passage planning. It's apparent from the comments on the Whatsapp page that it was well received and a great success. Our thanks go to Dave and the others for hosting this session.

The next event is scheduled for the 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2021 2pm. I believe the topic will be Collision regulations, lights and buoyage (as well as an excuse for a catch up and a bit of a social). There are others planned for January and February 2022.

The Sailing Program for next year is still in the planning stages. We hope to get some more cruising events scheduled for more variety. Hopefully some flotilla weekend trips further afield for example. Any ideas or suggestions, just let me know.

### **Navigation and other sailing tips.**

Mark up for the crane driver

**Do yourself a favour and mark your boat's lift points**



How many times has a crane driver who doesn't know my boat asked me where I want the slings when he's about to lift her out? Next time you're successfully hauled, make a note in the back of the logbook of where the slings landed. This might be in relation to stanchions, rigging or any other immovable reference point. When the time comes around again for the crane, stick an inch or two of masking tape at the right spot. The driver will be grateful, and you won't end up with a bent prop shaft and heaven knows what else in the way of collateral damage.

## Relieve the load



One of the ancient arts of the sailor is setting up a “stopper” to relieve a loaded rope without letting anything go. The classic use for a stopper is to take the weight off the genoa sheet when your crew has carelessly locked up the whole shooting match with an override.

A great solution is to use the stopper shown below. It takes the load at the turning block while the override is sorted out winding the sheet in a few inches on another winch to relieve the force on the stopper. Once sorted, remove it and sail on. To create a stopper that works, clap on a half-hitch before the rolling hitch as shown. You can see it doing the work, and it guarantees success. If you can't tie a rolling hitch, go to a previous newsletter where it is explained and learn how. You may need it sooner than you think.

Note that in the example above a half-hitch before the rolling hitch adds security to the system.

### **No Knots this publication.**

Keep practicing the ones previously published. Next month we'll try splicing. 😊

### **Items for sale.**

None posted.

It's almost the start of the festive season, so may I take this opportunity to be probably the first to wish you all a Merry Christmas and hopefully next year will be safe and prosperous and we'll all get plenty of time out on the water.