
Isle of Man Yacht Club
MAINSHEET

Port St. Mary, Isle of Man . www.iomyc.com

Number 61

MARCH 2013

Commodore

A new year and a new sailing season to look forward to, with some good sailing weather, hopefully. In anticipation, we have put together a full programme of training, dinghy racing and cruiser/keelboat racing. This year the First Class 8s will have their own class racing as well as joining the cruisers around the cans.

Last year, the motorboat/RIB programme was badly hit by the weather so we have decided not to define a specific programme - instead it will be ad hoc; so if you wish to join in, please keep Dermot Shimmin up to date with your phone number and e-mail address so that events can be arranged at short notice when the weather is suitable. It could be a day trip to Strangford or a beach BBQ somewhere on the Island. As usual, we will keep you up to date with all the happenings, social and sailing via e-mail but mainly on the website.

Have you had any adventures during the winter, sailing or otherwise, that will interest other members? Please send photos for the gallery and tales or reports for the website.

Monthly winning framed photos will be presented and copies hung at the club, courtesy of sponsors, Simcocks Advocates.

The club continues only with your support, both financially with your fees and most importantly, with your volunteering to help with the many aspects of the operation of all the sailing events. Many of you are safety-boat drivers but we also need Race Officers. It is not a difficult task and can be very rewarding. Suitable training will be given, so please let us know if you are interested.

We need to continue to find ways of raising money to maintain, repair and replace equipment, boats and to maintain the clubhouse. Membership fees, bar profit, social functions and sponsorship continue to keep us afloat.

Now, there is another way of providing a small but useful income and that is by using Easyfundraising. Links on the website will take you to Easyfundraising, where at no cost to you, a small donation to club funds will be made by Internet traders. Amazon, Tesco Direct, M & S and many other household names are signed up to the scheme. Please sign up and add a little more.

The crane lift days and forms are on the website. Bookings are primarily for club members but are available to others, so book early to be sure of a position.

I wish you all a successful season and hope to see you at one of the many functions during the summer.

Philip Scott

Commodore

Training

Courses for the sail-training season, which starts on Monday April 22nd are all in hand. The parents' night is Wednesday April 17th starting at 7.30pm. There are a few places still available, so please register your interest with Sue Shute on: iomyctraining@gmail.com

We are very fortunate that many of our instructors are willing to teach again and give so freely of their time and we welcome Emily Inglis, Tim Cope and Ron Spencer to the team.

We intend to arrange two adult courses - one for beginners and one for stage 2 over two separate weekends. Please let me know if this would be of interest to you.

Our VHF/DSC instructors Mark Pendlebury and Dermot Shimmin held two successful courses over the winter and may run another in the next few weeks, if enough people are interested, so please register your interest with me. Dermot has also run a diesel engine course and we are taking names for the next one in the autumn - please contact Dermot or myself. Steve Upsdell is running another first aid course on Saturday April 6th. If you are interested in any of these courses please email me and record your interest on wendyhill@manx.net.

Once again, many thanks to all instructors for giving your time - we couldn't do it without you. We are also planning a powerboat course over the April 6 -7. Chief Instructor Phil Adams will be needing other instructors to help him with this course, please. Anyone interested in learning to powerboat, please contact me to book a place. We need more drivers so please volunteer your services.

The RYA Northwest regional training conference takes place at the club over the weekend of April 13 -14, when Sally Kilpatrick will attend. All instructors and training personnel are urged to attend.

The Manx Youth Sailing Squad has been busy training throughout the cold winter months and we thank everyone involved both on and off the water with this highly successful group. We look forward to following their progress through the season. Come on kids, keep sailing: all MYSS members are IOMYC juniors, so keep going, trainees - this a goal for you all.

2103 diary dates:-

April 17	Parents' Evening
April 22	Training begins
May 5-6	Appleby RS Tera open
June 23-24	IOM youth championship
July 20	Training ends
Sept 21	Junior Prize Presentation
Sept 22	Pico Challenge
Nov 3	Topper Challenge.

I end by thanking my hard working team of Principal Brian Partington, Secretary Sue Shute and Chief Instructor John Dowling who are all working hard to achieve a successful season.

Wendy Hill - Chairman

SAILING SECRETARY

In 2012 we enjoyed a nice dry, warm month of March. Let's hope for a repeat so we can get our own and the club boats ready. This year, however, we'd like it to stay dry and warm all summer, please - whoever's in charge of these things....Please!

The First Class 8 fleet grew by one over the winter - Don Finlay, making use of the Mike Wilson family boat transport service, imported a boat from down Cornwall way. Seven of these on the start line should be fun.

A couple of extra cruiser race marks will be set, one off Poolvaash and another just NW of the Carrick, so we have the option to set a small course and get a finish on those light airs evenings that the bay regularly serves up. Mike Wilson is class captain for FC8s and Mike Stanton is cruiser captain - please call them if you want to sail - all boats need more crew and you will be very welcome.

The sailing programme looks rather busy but we hope that people will be able to make plenty of time to get out on the water and take advantage of the excellent facilities the club offers afloat and ashore.

Major events this year include: the Appleby sponsored RS Tera open regatta and the Cadogan sponsored Round Mann race. Grateful thanks go to our sponsors - it is very encouraging (and financially vital) to have their support.

It is our turn to host the IOM dinghy championship along with the annual club regatta, IOM junior championship and Pico challenge. The dinghies also have two additional weekends with a Saturday afternoon session connected to the Sunday morning one, the next day. These will be run as mini-

regattas with a trophy for each. Chris Hill is dinghy class captain as well as a sailing instructor - busy boy!

We will be training up race-officers at the beginning of the season, so please let us know if you fancy a go at this vital job. It's all jolly fun in the Yellow Peril and very satisfying to help our sailors enjoy their racing. The plan is to do a quick presentation ashore then spend time hands-on, afloat. After that, recruits will be able to accompany experienced ROs over a few races to get the hang of it.

We will be experimenting with large floats (30-inch yellow fenders, really) instead of the dan-buoys as race marks in the committee boat. They should be much easier to handle and even match the colour of the boat - very trendy!

Cruiser feeder races have been programmed to Peel and Douglas for their respective regattas. This year, the Queenie Festival tent-fest is being confined to the area at the root of Alfred Pier (like lifeboat day), so both the Saturday and Sunday racing should be unaffected - and the festival organisers will be pleased to see lots of sails in the bay!

Motorboat/RIB events will be arranged when possible, rather than formally programmed like last year. It didn't work as the weather was always rubbish.

The Manx Youth Sailing Squad will be spending half their weekends away sailing and we wish them well. These kids (and their parents!) are great ambassadors for both the club and the island.

The club and all its activities depend entirely on members' voluntary effort. On the sailing front, we thank all safety-boat crews and race officers, without whom no sailing could take place. Ben Hellowell has kindly agreed to run the safety-boat rota again this year and he needs your help to

cover the extensive training and racing programme. Please respond to Ben when he contacts you and if you are not on his email address list, get in touch; his contact details are in the club programme booklet.

Michael Kneale

Editorial

Many thanks to all contributors for this, the March Mainsheet that welcomes a new season, at a time of blooming daffodils and anti-fouling replacement.

Regrettably, copy is a little sparse for this issue, but I'm sure that the other sections will be reporting anon, when time permits.

Not merely to allay the scary spectre of seemingly acres of white space, I would much appreciate hearing from members who might like to share some of their nautical adventures with us. Of course, stories of land-based excursions would be equally welcome, especially when undertaken from a new or distant harbour.

Be assured that proposed, edited contributions would be re-presented to you the author, for approval or comment, before publication.

Very best wishes to all for a successful season, with fair winds and reasonable weather, and a snug berth when the long trick's over.

Bob Hunt

Editor

ARE YOU PLANNING FOR

A

BIT OF A 'DO' ?

Birthday ?
Wedding ?
Christening ?
Barmitzvah ?
Anniversary ?
Award Ceremony ?
Coming of Age Party ?
A Right Royal Knees-Up ?

Then please remember, the Clubroom is for hire.

A COMFORTABLE VENUE WITH D.I.Y. KITCHEN

HARBOUR VIEWS

LICENSED BAR BY ARRANGEMENT

OUR CLUB BENEFITS !

(AND YOU WILL NOT BE BORROWING CHAIRS FROM THE NEIGHBOURS!)

Please contact Fiona, at the bar