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Isle of Man Yacht Club  
**MAINSHEET**

Port St. Mary, Isle of Man . [www.iomyc.com](http://www.iomyc.com)

*Number 62*

*NOVEMBER 2013*

**Commodore**

The outer moorings are empty and the boat park is full - the final sign that the season is over and winter approaches. It's now time to do all those jobs, while it is still relatively warm, but no, they will be postponed until spring when it is still cold from the winter. The time has also come for me to retire as Commodore - my two years are done. I have to admit that I started out with much trepidation, but as time moved on, I found that I was enjoying the position. Although I have been a member of the club for many years, it wasn't until my term as Commodore that I became better acquainted with the dinghy section. My thanks go to the other directors who have assisted me throughout my time, especially David Hill, Mick Kneale and Russell Armstrong, whose knowledge of things Club

is inexhaustible. My anxiety at public speaking has reduced although my jokes haven't improved!!

The strength of the club relies on the members. Many thanks to all the willing volunteers who keep the club going. Without them, the club could not function but we must not rest on our laurels. Our younger members are rather transient as they move on to university etcetera, so replacement trainers and budding trainees are always needed

Congratulations to all our successful sailors this year, both at home and abroad. Details can be seen in the sailing and training reports and much information is also available on the website. Finally, I wish my worthy successor as enjoyable a time as I have had these past two years and I hope to see you all, regularly, in the bar. Season's greetings to all.

Phil Scott

## Training

44 youngsters took part in a very successful summer training programme. The weather was kind after about week two and the instructors ran extra sessions to complete all courses. Grateful, sincere thanks and congratulations to all

our instructors, assistants, safety-boat crews and shore-side helpers who worked so very hard to make it all happen. We welcomed back Ron Spencer as a senior instructor. Tim Cope and newly qualified Emily Inglis also joined our willing group of instructors. Congratulations to James Kelly and Aimie Shute who qualified as dinghy instructors in July - we look forward to having them teach next year.

A successful adult course was run with 2 students gaining level 1 and four students achieving level 2. We hope to see them in the dinghy racing fleet. We will do an "adult" course next year, so please let me know if you are interested.

The race-training group completed a great programme under the supervision of S.I. Jen Kneale, assisted by Chris Hill, Dave Batchelor and Emily Batchelor. Most of the group competed in the club racing, with some excellent results.

The IOM youth championship for the Tomlinson trophy (open to 19yrs and under) was won Ben Batchelor with Greg Kelly runner-up. We hope for a bigger entry next year, with many up and coming youngsters now sailing Teras and Fevas. Many thanks to Mick Kneale for a superb job as Race Officer. The Pico Challenge was run for the maximum 16 competitors,

in late September but with light airs. It was a fantastic event, kindly sponsored by Felix & Wanda McHenry on behalf of the Royal National Mission for Deep Sea Fishermen. Many thanks go to Russell & June Collister for organizing the challenge. Ben Batchelor was the overall winner and best junior, with James Walker runner-up.

The Manx Youth Sailing Squad is going from strength to strength and congratulations to everyone connected with it. In recent years, they have done many intensive training weekends, mostly across, and have competed in 7 RS Tera National, 4 European and 4 World championships.

Congratulations to Ben Batchelor and Ffynlo Wright who won the Northern UK championship in the Tera Sport and Pro class respectively and again to Ben as runner-up in the Tera Sport Inland UK championship. Come on kids - keep sailing: all these achievements can be yours if you work hard. All the squad members learned to sail with us and you are all the future of the club.

Thanks go to our powerboat instructors, CI Phil Adams, Mark Pendlebury, Pete Ashurst, James Walker, Ben Hellowell and Robert Floate, who have all helped with courses this

season. I also take this opportunity to thank Ben Hellowell for another brilliant effort running the safety-boat rota this year. This is not an easy task and without the safety cover, the courses could not run. We are always looking for more safety-boat drivers, so please let me know if you would like a place on the next course.

Steve Upsdell has run two first aid courses this year and another is planned for the spring. Please email Steve at [smu@manx.net](mailto:smu@manx.net) to register your interest, or write to the Training secretary at IOMYC. This is a very good course and well worth attending. Thank you Steve - much appreciated.

We plan to run a series of courses during the winter months. Dermot Shimmin will run a diesel engine course. Please ring Dermot on 833589. Mark Pendlebury together with Dermot will run a GMDSS/VHF on 23rd/24th November. Please register your interest with me: [wendyhill@manx.net](mailto:wendyhill@manx.net) or with Mark at [mpendlebury@manx.net](mailto:mpendlebury@manx.net) for further details. My grateful grateful thanks go to all the instructors who are giving their time and expertise.

We were very pleased to welcome Juan Watterson MJK at the junior presentation, where he handed out prizes and

certificates. Juan was very impressed with the club's training effort - and was surprised at our levels of activity.

The major awards within the training section were:-

|                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Juan Kelly Cup</b>     | <b>Ben Batchelor</b> |
| <b>Girl of the Season</b> | <b>Erin Murphy</b>   |
| <b>Boy of the Season</b>  | <b>James Arnold</b>  |
| <b>Rowany Cup</b>         | <b>Ben Batchelor</b> |

The final event of the junior season is the Topper challenge, at Mooragh Park, Sunday 3rd November. This is a team racing competition between IOMYC, KWC, MSCC, 7th Wave and the Venture Centre. Competitors are 16 and under on the day. It is always a brilliant event and thanks go to Ali Hinds for organizing it and to Simon at the Venture Centre for the use of his boats.

We are now planning the 2014 season and are very fortunate that some of our instructors are willing to teach again next year. We say a big thank you to Jen Kneale, who has given so much time and effort with the race training but is unable to fully commit for next season and to Chris Hill, who has gone to university. We all appreciate your time and effort,

so freely given. Anyone interested in becoming involved in any way please contact [iomyctraining@gmail.com](mailto:iomyctraining@gmail.com) We always need more dinghy and assistant instructors, so if any club member is interested in gaining either of these qualifications, please contact me. We also thank John Dowling, our dedicated and hard-working chief instructor for another year of commitment and time. John has been fantastic - and after 22 years, is making noises about retiring at some point but, fortunately for us, he is staying for next year.

Finally, I thank our Principal Brian Partington, who is always so supportive and many thanks also to Sue Shute, who has done an amazing job as training secretary.

### Wendy Hill

### Sailing Secretary

The nice warm, dry March I requested failed to materialise, so our dear old Yellow Peril didn't quite get all its customary TLC. We bought this fine tub second-hand in 1967 for £160 and bringing her round from Derbyhaven was quite an adventure. The old outboard had a blackout in the tideway

off Dreswick Point and you've never seen such a good impression of a very drunk spider from the four very amateur rowers on a roly-poly platform!

Another First Class 8 has appeared since March in the capable hands of Brian (Yogi) Quayle who has also seen the light and moved house to PSM. Yogi brought the boat from Dublin in an uncomfortable Northerly breeze.

The Cadogan Round Mann race was again affected by changeable weather: too windy in the run up for all the entrants to get here and then flat calm on the day! PJ Hinds and crew won by hours, trickling the First Class 8 "Headfirst" over the line in time for a beer or two. In the MSCC Round the Island race, earlier, another of the 8s, "Albert Penguin" took the honours in but in somewhat tougher conditions.

The experimental extra keelboat race-marks at Poolvash and the Carrick proved useful and the larger yellow floats for dinghy racing worked well, so we'll be sticking with them. Some of the Tera sailing kids are moving into Fevas as they emerge from the Manx Youth Sailing Squad. Club dinghy racing has been rather thin this season with patchy weather and turnouts affected by the amount of off-island sailing



going on. The "squad kids" (and their long-suffering parents) put in incredible efforts to attend events, the sailors competing at the highest level in their respective classes.

The club hosted the Appleby Tera Open Northern Championship early May. A good weekend with local winners in each class: Ffinlo Wright (Pro) and Ben Batchelor (Sport).

As well as many weekends away training, squads of our Tera sailors also entered the Southern Championship at Christchurch, the Nationals at Portland, the Worlds at Portland and the Inlands at Bewl Valley. Full results will appear on [www.iomyc.com](http://www.iomyc.com) and it's worth noting the progress of Ben Batchelor sailing his Tera Sport. His results have improved steadily and he was runner-up in the late season Inlands. Ben also won our own Pico Challenge against all comers. Hannah Howitt represented the IOM in the Island Games in Bermuda, acquitting herself very well, considering she is a bit light for the Radial.

Russell and June Collister won the IOM dinghy championship (for the 11th time) and travelled to Mounts Bay for RS200 Nationals, finishing 34th in a fleet of 96 boats. James and Greg Kelly have also been racing Fevas, travelling

to the Worlds in Italy, the Nationals in UK and other grand prix events.

Mike Pridham has again been globetrotting to Laser Masters events in order to qualify for the 2014 Masters' Worlds at Hyères, France. This year, he has travelled to championships at Brightlingsea, Lyme Regis, Highcliffe, Borstahusen(Sweden) and is going to Oman in December. Meanwhile, he made time to win the Travellers' Trophy for best performance in all the local regattas. No wonder the dinghy fleet is so often depleted! Chris Hill has gone back to Uni and Dave Batchelor (Ben's dad!) has kindly taken on the job of dinghy class captain. So there's plenty of quality sailing going on - just not all of it in our bay.

The 2014 programme will be arranged to suit the widely varying needs of the fleets - fitting everything in when people are available is going to be a challenge.

Heartfelt thanks go to Ben Hellowell, safety-boat co-ordinator and his team of drivers. Without them, we'd all be stuck on the boat-park looking very silly.

**Mick Kneale**

## First Class 8's

The first full season of racing the 8's is complete and no doubt everyone enjoyed it. Turnouts have fluctuated but all eight boats have been sailed. Two new boats joined the fleet this season: Don Finlay's "Lazy Bones" and Brian Quayle's "Upd8" - who'd have thought it? It's great to have these extra two aboard. Don definitely needs some crew, so if you're interested give him a call. In fact, all boats need more regular crew - come and join the fun!

Early season was disappointing, with generally late launching and then some races lost to poor weather. The September series was very successful, along with the end of season regatta. Unfortunately, we only got one day of racing at the regatta but, what a day - the best day's sailing all season for me! Thanks from the whole fleet to Mick Kneale who was R.O. for all of September and to Davy for bringing his camera to the regatta - it should have dried out by now...

The programme needs some fine-tuning - this was always going to be the case. I think it will take us a year or two to find out what works, and then to ensure we get the

variety of racing that suits everyone. By the time you read this, I hope we will have had our end of season owners' meeting and come up with a plan for 2014.

The club open day was a resounding success. Well done to Mike Stanton for all his hard work. It did bring some new blood into the 8's and crew numbers are building. If we keep up this momentum, I'm sure we will attract more people. There are even more boats available out there if people are interested - one went on E-bay last month, I'm not sure of the end price, but it was reasonable.

If you want to keep up with us, please join our Facebook page (First Class 8's). I was reluctant to join FB at first, but finally signed up and have been pleasantly surprised. I like it!

Antony Ellis

## A View from the Safety Boat

"Do you fancy doing the Level 2 Safety Boat course?" enquires James, tentatively.

"You'll love it!" assures Wendy. Wendy's prediction proves to be correct, and after successfully completing the course at the end of 2012, Lynn Howitt signs up for the 2013 safety

boat rota, often accompanied by James as Level 3 .....

As a newcomer to the safety boat rota, it has given me a chance to see the training sections in operation and to be close to some very exciting racing whilst also getting to know many of you on the water. It's been useful to benefit from tips of the experienced drivers (special thanks to Jen here). Safety boating has been a real mix this year, from sunshine and very little wind to challenging conditions (IOM Dinghy Championships come to mind when two safety boats were kept fully occupied for all three races on the Sunday).

We were also lucky enough to travel to Bermuda for the Island Games Sailing at Spanish Point and volunteered to run the mark boat for them. "It'll be easy" said James, "All we have to do is lay the course and then we can sit and sunbathe".

The sailing venue was beautiful with the course set fairly close to shore, avoiding the shipping lane. On arrival, we were presented with a 21 foot speedboat with a 150hp engine and were told this was our boat for the week - it's a hard life! Practising in the IOMYC ribs hadn't really prepared us for this, but off we went with Tom on board as extra "muscle".

After re-laying the course six times the first morning,

with very short time-scales to get the marks up and re-laid to compensate for wind shifts, it was apparent that this was not going to be quite the relaxing role that we had envisaged. The large speedboat was not really ideal for this duty. However, we acquitted ourselves well, and were treated to an amazing day out on the Race Officer's boat as a "thank you".

Safety boating is a great opportunity to get close to the racing and see what 's happening and generally get to know people. I can recommend it to anyone and will definitely be volunteering again next season.

Finally, we would all like to give our thanks to Ben for once again doing such a great job with organising the safety boat rota. Thank you, Ben!

Lynn Howitt

## Cruisers

The whiteout in March made the preparations for lift-in a real last-minute rush and it was almost a month before all the outer moorings were occupied. The racing got off to a good start and was generally well supported throughout, dominated by the First Class 8s and "Genesta II". Antony will

no doubt cover the 8s in his paragraph. I can say that from the rear of the fleet, it looked like the competition was close but friendly and that a good time was had by all.

The Cadogan Round Mann race in May was blighted by light airs, so deep respect to those who stuck it out, especially Pete Hinds in his FC8 "Head First" who managed to be the first of only two finishers to drift home.

Cruising champion this year was clearly Richard Baker sailing "Shellan". He has managed to lose himself (along with razor and hairbrush, judging by his appearance on return) in the Scottish Highlands and Islands for much of the summer.

Mike Pollard is enjoying his retirement, literally sailing "Shearwater" where the wind takes him.

The crew of "Sorcery" enjoyed a number of shorter outings around the Irish Sea, with the highly memorable overnight sail to Scotland during Tynwald weekend being my personal favourite. This was in addition to regular relaxing warm sunny days, sailing around the Island and stopping off for lunch in one of our numerous picturesque bays.

Our "Open Day" on 4th August was a great success with over 30 fresh faces turning up at the club to be introduced

to, or reminded of, the joys of sailing. Conditions were ideal, so most visitors managed a sail on one of the range of boats that had volunteered. The real measure of success is that much of the racing fleet has benefited from at least one new crew member. However, there is always room for more, so watch out for a land-based recruitment event prior to next season and a "Try-a-Sail" day in the spring. A core of enthusiastic regular crew is building but we always welcome more, so if you haven't already done so, do come along - also tell your friends about these events.

My thanks go to all skippers, crews and especially race officers Phil Scott and David Hill, who contributed greatly to making 2013 the most successful season in recent times.

Whilst we on "Sorcery" have enjoyed following the racing fleet around this year, we are on a programme of intense self-improvement and will be poised to strike next season.

So, FC8s - be afraid - be very afraid!

**Mike Stanton**



## Social

The year started with the annual Treasure Hunt in January, won by the Shimmin Family who will be setting the next one in January 2014. The inter club darts nights also started in January with visiting teams from Ramsey, Peel and Douglas and throughout the early months, we went to their clubs, enjoying great hospitality. These evenings are always good fun and it is an ideal opportunity to meet others in the sailing community after the winter months.

February saw Craig Whalley from Manx Marine give an exciting talk on extreme kayaking around the island. His slide show about the local sea life was fabulous and his camera work above and below the water was brilliant.

In March, Susan Woolard took us to base camp Everest, sharing her experiences of pre-departure, training, primitive accommodation and the lovely Nepalese guides.

Later that evening, Susan was joined by Howard Green MBE, who gave an inspirational talk about his work with the Pahar Trust, which builds schools in remote areas of Nepal.

Once the sailing season got underway, the Social Committee came into their own with catering and barbecues for the Tera weekend, Irish Rib Raid, Cadogan Round Mann, Regatta, Youth Championships and Dinghy Championships, etal. And then, in the blink of an eye, we had the laying up Supper. This was catered by Patchwork and over 50 people attended.

We also had Quiz Nights with Fish and Chip Suppers which have been great fun and well attended. I am not sure that the quiz setters had quite as much fun as the rest of us, as they did tend to get some gentle barracking - all in the best possible taste, of course.

The Annual Dinner and Prize Presentation was held at the Falcon's Nest on the 9th November, more convenient for most as they could get the bus home!

Christmas festivities begin with the Commodores Lunch on the 8th December but numbers for this popular event are very strictly limited, so ideally you should be in the Club to see the notices. On Friday 20th December it is our annual Carol Night with the Rushen Silver Band. There will be a quiz, mulled wine and mince pies. This is always a lovely evening, so please come along in full voice and enjoy the atmosphere.

Sunday lunches have been available throughout the year and we are always looking for volunteers to come onto the rota. If you can make a sandwich, open a can, create a salad and have about 2 hours for 3 or 4 Sundays a year to spare, please let me, or anyone on the Social Committee, know.

Finally, a big thank you to all committee members, partners and friends for their unstinting support throughout the year, these events have only been possible because of your input and this is very much appreciated.

Ann Scott

### Club Dinghy Trophies

|                               |                          |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Thelma Cup                    | Dave Batchelor           |
| Murray Gawne Cup              | Mike Pridham             |
| H.R. Gelling (Travellers)     | Mike Pridham             |
| Peacock Cup                   | Mike Pridham             |
| Bromet Trophy                 | Peter Whipp              |
| Dundas Cup                    | Russell & June Collister |
| Qualtrough Cup                | Angus Jolly              |
| Glenburn Cup                  | Mike Pridham             |
| Wilson Cup                    | James Kelly              |
| Alice Cup                     | Russell & June Collister |
| PSM Regatta (Williams)        | Russell & June Collister |
| Pico Challenge                | James Walker             |
| MYA Manx Dinghy Championships | Russell & June Collister |

## Junior Club Trophies

|                                |               |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Regatta under 18               | Greg Kelly    |
| Juan Kelly                     | Ben Batchelor |
| Rowany Cup (Junior Regatta)    | Ben Batchelor |
| Best Boy (Partington Cup)      | James Arnold  |
| Best Girl (Partington Cup)     | Erin Murphy   |
| Pico Challenge                 | Ben Batchelor |
| Tera Regatta Sport             | Ben Batchelor |
| Tera Regatta Prosail           | Ffinlo Wright |
| MYA Junior Dinghy Championship | Erin Murphy   |
| IOM Youth Championships        | Ben Batchelor |

## Cruiser Trophies

|                          |                |                              |
|--------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| McArd Cup                | Genesta II     | Michael Kneale               |
| Peyton Memorial Cup      | Genesta II     | Michael Kneale               |
| Strangford Lough Cup     | Albert Penguin | Heck Syndicate               |
| Brunt Memorial Cup       | Jesticul8      | Michael Wilson/Peter Ashurst |
| Jubilee Cup              | Headfirst      | Peter Hinds                  |
| Metropolitan Regatta Cup | Genesta II     | Michael Kneale               |
| Aldrich Cup              | Headfirst      | Peter Hinds                  |
| Corlett Cup              |                |                              |
| (Line Honours Cadogan)   | Headfirst      | Peter Hinds                  |
| Cadogan Round Man        |                |                              |
| (Division 2)             | Headfirst      | Peter Hinds                  |
| Viking Glazing Cup       |                |                              |
| (FCB Series)             | G8crasher      | Jason & Debbie Corlett       |
| Commodores Cup           |                |                              |
| (FCB Championship)       | Albert Penguin | Heck Syndicate               |

### Editor's Note

Answers to the somewhat less than successful Crossword Competition (MS No.60)

(Never a cross word in the "Mainsheet" !!)

AC. 1) AGM 3) EAU 5) LEAKS 8) HALT 9) WHISTLER 11) RIDING TERN 13) OOZING  
14) FENDER 17) MAINSHEETS 21) AZIMUTHS 22) MESS 23) SPUME 24) RIB 25) SOL  
DN. 1) ABHOR 2) MELODIZE 4) UNHATS 5) LASER 6) ABLE 7) SPRUCER 10) ANON  
12) ADHERERS 13) OILCANS 15) ECHO 16) ANCHOR 18) AZURE 19) SISAL 20) SITU

Best wishes for a Merry Christmas ! Ed.