



# Isle of Man Yacht Club

Port St Mary

## MAINSHEET

Number 72

November 2018

### Commodore

Unlike one of my predecessors who seemed to enjoy “shirtsleeves order” weather and autumn sun to pen his end of season words, I seek inspiration in the grey skies we have this October. With the Laying-up Supper behind us, the few boats in the outer harbour are lifting out as XC Weather promises further autumn gales.

However, we have enjoyed one of the warmest summers on record but even then, the sailing programme suffered some disruption with the usual too much/too little wind on occasion. That said, we have enjoyed good sailing and the flexibility provided by gate starts and more turning marks ensured the keelboats made the most of it. The dinghies lost almost a third of their scheduled races.

We also enjoyed the reintroduction of the post-race supper on Wednesday evenings thanks to Breeshey Harkin, ably assisted by Jan. This proved to be a real hit with crews. Without a

repeat menu all season (despite the occasional request), it was great to see the club busy and buzzing after racing.

For me, it was just good to be back on the water and sailing again after an enforced year off - special thanks to Pete Barlow for allowing me back on Miss Herd, even if it was forward of the mast. Also, thanks to the guys and gal crewing Tan It with me in the Round Mann Race – what a great day out that was.

Sincere thanks go to our event sponsors this season: Excel Construction, Quinn Legal, Hartford Homes and Prosper2. The club really appreciates your generosity.

Ashore, much has been going on. Some much needed repair work to the external fabric of our clubhouse along with the “Great Wall of PSM” and its innovative and unique retrofit slipway hump. Whilst I am reliably assured this wall will not be visible from outer space, it can of course be viewed on the easterly flight approach to Ronaldsway on a clear day.

The recently introduced Webcollect system works to better manage membership data and facilitate mailing information to members about events. Bookings can also be made online. It is not yet possible to pay for events through the platform but the directors will have this facility installed as soon as an affordable method that will work on the IOM is identified.

Don't forget that you can stay in touch through the winter with what is going on at the club via Facebook and the website or just by coming down on Friday evenings and Sunday lunchtimes.

Financially, the year has proved to be another challenging one as you will already be aware after the unavoidable increase in subscription rates. Your club needs you. You can help by coming down for a drink and a chat as mentioned - and remember the clubhouse can be hired by you, your family or friends for private parties and other events.

I thank my fellow officers and directors and all the other volunteers, including those who sit

on the training, social and sailing committees for everything they do behind the scenes to help the club run smoothly. We could not do without them. Finally, special mention must go to two directors, who we are going to have to "do without"; who have chalked up over 70 years of membership between them so far and who, after decades of service as directors and flag officers are stepping down from the board: namely Mick Kneale and Chris Williams-Jones. Your contribution will be missed.

**Robert Floate**

### **EASYFUNDRAISING**

Please help club funds by logging in to: [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) Specify "Isle of Man Yacht Club" - then choose your retailer and carry on as usual. This is a painless way to accumulate admittedly small amounts of cash but every bit helps and it costs us nothing in time or money.

### **Social**

Once again, we've had a busy summer and thanks to everyone who has helped with any of the

events. The sailing season ended with the Laying-Up Supper, which was very successful and well attended. Late October, Helen Wilson ran another Gin Tasting Evening, which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

By the time you read this, the Annual Dinner and Prize Presentation will have taken place. No doubt, it will have been a very successful evening and huge thanks go to Jan Sidebotham for organising it all.

New ideas for different types of social events are always welcome, so please get in touch if you have any suggestions.

We are very much aware that we need events for the younger members, their support is the future of the club.

Sunday lunches continue to be provided by a willing band of volunteers, if you can spare a couple of hours on a Sunday between 12.00 and 14.00 to make a few toasties, sandwiches or heat up some soup, your help would be very much appreciated. Thanks to Pam for organising this for the last couple of years. Wendy Hill has now taken the

baton, so please contact her if you can help - phone 835646 or email [wendyhill@manx.net](mailto:wendyhill@manx.net)

Finally, as always, without the hard work of the Social Committee and helpers, none of these events could have happened. So many thanks for the invaluable support provided.

Social events for your dairy:

### **23<sup>rd</sup> November**

Film Night - THE MERCY  
Donald Crowhurst biopic

**9<sup>th</sup> December** - Commodore's  
Christmas Lunch, £15

**21<sup>st</sup> December** - Carols & Quiz  
with Crosby Silver Band, £5

**25<sup>th</sup> January** - Burns Night, £25

**17<sup>th</sup> March** - Victorian Breakfast,  
£20

## **The Social Committee**

### **Dinghies**

You couldn't make it up! Last year's sailing season was beset with a series of storms, only to be followed this year by a record breaking 7-week heat wave which, unfortunately, was

accompanied by mill pond conditions in Bay ny Carrickey. Although this proved the polar opposite in terms of weather conditions to 2017, it caused just as much chaos, losing 12 of our scheduled race days. Our hardy dinghy sailors are very adept at coping with big seas and strong winds but found themselves having to hone their "light to no wind" sailing skills like never before.

The usual season opener of the Easter Regatta at Ramsey had to be postponed because of poor weather but there was a great turnout of 18 boats when it was eventually run a month later. Conditions were perfect for the fast asymmetric RS400 and 200s - Russell and June marginally took the win from Phil and Ciara in the shortened one-day format.

The Laser Open was the next major event. Ben Batchelor swapped his 29er for a Radial and took the overall win, with Phil Hardisty in second and Dave Batchelor third, both sailing Standards. This proved a good warm up for Ben as he then

managed to win the IOM Youth Championship sailing his dad's Aero 7, with Peter Cope runner-up.

Then the heat wave arrived...oh dear! The MSCC Regatta and the IOM Dinghy Champs at Ramsey were the biggest casualties. Their regatta started promisingly but turned into a light and fluky affair, where the second day's racing had to be cancelled. The main overall dinghy championship brought conditions that would have tried anyone's patience, 1 to 20 knots of wind, back to 1 knot and quite literally from every direction on the compass! After three hours on the water and only one twenty minute race to show for it, there was no option but to abandon the event.

Conditions were better for the now annual, Yellow Peril Race on Tynwald Day and for the Laxey Regatta in August. The Yellow Peril race was won by Phil and Ciara in their RS 200, very appropriately flying their yellow kite. Matt Perry won at Laxey sailing his Radial.

The strange run of weather didn't however deter our sailors from travelling to a whole variety of events in the UK. Matt Perry, Mike Pridham and Simon Pressly, flew the flag at the Laser Nationals in Plymouth in July. This six-day event was reduced to four days and attracted a Radial fleet of 86 competitors. Matt scored two top 25 places and finished 54<sup>th</sup> overall and Mike had a couple of top 40 places, finishing 64<sup>th</sup> overall. Simon opted not to sail on the very light wind days but it wasn't just the weather that proved unusual, as it's not often that the SI's have to include warships and submarines!

Nikolas Ellis got his first taste of competition in a bigger boat when he crewed for dad, Antony along with Stu Brew at the National 18' championship, where they won the "Ultimate" section of the class.

Ffinlo Wright and Greg Kelly both sailed at the Aero Worlds in Weymouth. Ffinlo finished a superb 14<sup>th</sup> in the Aero 9 fleet, while Greg came an outstanding

19<sup>th</sup> in the Aero 7 Gold Fleet.

Ben Batchelor had an exceptionally busy year and it would probably be easier to list the events that he didn't manage to get to, sailing his 29<sup>er</sup>. His efforts paid off with some great results listed below but, probably the best, was his 26<sup>th</sup> place in the Gold Fleet at the Nationals held at Hayling Island.

Grand Prix 1 Weymouth 30<sup>th</sup>

Grand Prix 2 Grafham 22<sup>nd</sup> Grand

Prix 3 Rutland 18<sup>th</sup>

Grand Prix 4 Draycote 12<sup>th</sup>; Grand

Prix 5 Torbay 12<sup>th</sup>

RYA Youth Champs, Largs 14<sup>th</sup>

Here's to next year being a lot more "dinghy friendly"!

## **June Collister**

### **Keelboats**

Well, another season has passed and not without its fair share of drama. While the dinghies were plagued by light winds, the keelboats, at least in the racing, managed to get out more often than not. A small but high quality entry to the Excel Construction Round Mann race provided quite

the spectacle - 5 boats between 35 and 40 foot meant company all the way round, which makes a real difference.

Mike Stanton made it to the Clyde in his two week cruise and must have looked a bit dodgy as customs decided to question him while there. John Dowling and Mike Pollard also made it to the Clyde while Richard Baker made it to St Kilda - twice!

The First Class 8 fleet welcomed the addition of Russell and June Collister. It all went well except for the near catastrophe of two boats losing their rigs at the club regatta. Thankfully, there was a reasonably quick turn around and not too many races lost for those boats. Gary Proctor now has a spare boat, if someone would like to join the fun.

Albert Penguin seemed to have had the edge most of the season at home taking the lion's share of the trophies. The Penguin also won Douglas regatta, with Genesta II runner-up showing the Butties the way round. DBYC laid on a good effort - race marks with

no floating ropes and races just long enough in the decent breezes - not quite sure why they're so wed to starboard hand courses though. Genesta also made it to Peel for the PSCC regatta and proceeded to trounce that fleet in very light airs.

**Phil Hardisty**

### **Manx Youth Sailing Squad**

The squad grew to a team of 12 this year, which made training weekends pretty awesome for everyone. Many of the team's older hands (still all aged under 13!) competed on the UK circuit, while newer members found their feet locally.

The Start of Season champs were held at Northampton. Peter Cope finished 10th in the Pro fleet and Teddy Dunn 4th in the Sport fleet. The RS Tera Inlands were held at Burton SC in the Midlands. Overall Peter was 15th in the Pro fleet, Teddy 10th in the Sport fleet and Archie Dunn 3rd in the Regatta fleet.

The same trio went to the Nationals at Cardiff in June, with Peter finishing 20th in the Pro

fleet, Teddy steady at 10th in the Sport fleet and Archie bringing home the prizes coming first in the Regatta fleet.

Four Manx sailors competed at the RS Tera World Championship in Weymouth. Teddy finished in a very impressive 9th place overall in a fleet of 81 boats. Huge congratulations to the 13 year old who sailed a consistent series throughout and even chalked up his first World Championship race win.

The big news came in the Silver Fleet which saw Nikolas Ellis at the top of the podium in first place overall! 11 year old Nikolas has been sailing with the Squad for two years now. The win in the Silver fleet will be a huge boost to his confidence and a well deserved result.

Archie Dunn finished 21st in the Silver fleet and Oscar Jackson 53rd in the Pro fleet. We look forward to seeing these two improve their standings over the next couple of years.

Team Dunn have put some miles in this year, making appearances at events from Scotland to the south coast.

Stepping up into the Pro after the Worlds, Teddy has already made his mark. At a breezy Scottish Nationals in Dalgety Bay, Teddy finished 3rd in the Pro fleet!

Archie (who must weigh 3 stone wet through!) finished 5th in the Sport fleet, despite it blowin' a wee hoolie and his boat taking on some water.

To round off the season, Teddy won the Tera fleet at the RYA Championship at Ullswater.

The 2018 Tera Rankings have now been published and there, at 7th overall is Teddy Dunn, IOMYC.

The Squad is grateful for the generous sponsorship received from FIM Capital, the Isle of Man Steam Packet, and the Island's leading offshore law firm, Appleby.

**Jen Kneale**

## **Training**

IOMYC training had a fantastic 2018 season. In stark contrast to the dinghy racing fleet, we revelled in the light breezes and sunshine. Blessed with a myriad of challenges, from low tides to

big squalls, very little phased our intrepid trainees. This year, we pooled our resources and put everything into one Thursday evening per week. This gave us a wealth of crash boat drivers and an overwhelmingly energetic shore crew who were always at the ready to assist with hauling the flotilla ashore and provide warming hot chocolate afterwards.

We had a wide range of ages and abilities, from first time sailors to MYSS members and many youngsters who simply wanted to try out sailing as a hobby. It was superb to see was the camaraderie between these youngsters build through the season.

With a total of 22 signed up to sail, we were able to utilise all of the club's training boats, giving lots of experience in both single-handed and crewed dinghies.

Instructors Tim Cope and Ben Batchelor were superb with their relative groups although, most of the time, sailing was combined, all rotating in the same area, giving

plenty of close quarter boat handling practice.

Thanks go to John Dowling who acted as Bosun throughout the year and has given a huge amount of his time to the section over many years.

Best Girl:

Linde Osten

Best Boy:

Matthew Kerruish

Endeavour:

Alexander Shirtcliffe

**Chris Hill**

**Chief Instructor**

## **Editor**

My thanks go to our Mainsheet contributors. All done and dusted by mid-October as I'm away for a few weeks - just at the wrong time!

It is with sadness that we learned about the passing of Elva Killey - a member of well over half a century's standing. Elva was a lovely lady who did a huge amount of sailing with her husband, Ted from the 1950s in both National 18's ('Aces') and

cruising yachts. Both were stalwarts of the club for decades. See the photo on the next page.

Scanning through the old club newsletters, end of season reports always moan about the uncooperative weather but I do think this year was more extreme than usual.

All very well for the training section to swan around the harbour in next to no breeze (when it wasn't blowing old boots) but the dinghy racing did suffer a very stop/start season.

Keep calm and carry on - as we read everywhere these days!

I hear that James Walker has adopted yet another boat to fix up - a damaged Corby 30 this time. Will he ever learn?

The boat-park is now almost back to normal after a season of being hounded from pillar to post. Let's hope the tie-downs can take the strain. Pity they didn't reclaim all the drying area over the Little Carrick and create some desperately needed space ashore first. Ah well...

**Mick Kneale**

## 2018 Trophy Winners

### Keelboats

Round Mann	A Crewed Interest
May Series	Genesta
June Series	Albert Penguin
July Series	Albert Penguin
August	Albert Penguin
September Series	Miss Herd
Saturdays	Albert Penguin
Club Regatta	Tango
Bart's Bash	Tango
FC8 Regatta	Albert Penguin

### Dinghies

Laser Open, IOM Youth Championship & Bart's Bash:	Ben Batchelor
Yellow Peril Race:	Phil & Ciara Hardisty
Club Regatta, HR Gelling & Bromet Trophies:	Russell & June Collister
Laxey Regatta:	Matt Perry
Peacock Cup:	Mike Pridham
Murray Gawne:	Dave Batchelor
Dundas Cup:	Brian Quayle
Glenburn Cup:	Greg Kelly



This photograph was taken at a club annual dinner some time in the late 1960s. I'm not quite sure who the gentleman seated on the left is, nor the lady with the fur stole but I guess it's His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor Sir Pete Hyla Gawne Stallard KCMG, CVO, MBE and his wife who will have been the Guests of Honour. On the left, the tall man standing is Norman Quillin (club secretary 1957 to 1997) with Ted Killey (beard and spectacles) sat down. The ladies on the right are Margaret Quillin, Norman's wife and Elva Killey in the white dress.

# Close stuff at the leeward mark - First Class 8 regatta 2018



## **Drama indeed - Carrick Bay**

G8crasher fishing for herring with the spinnaker over Gunever (the reef on the NE side of the Carrick) on the 1st October - day two of the 2018 First Class 8 regatta. No fish were harmed in the making of this photo, the kite was retrieved in one piece and G8crasher rejoined the race.

