



# Tell Tale

## Editorial

Mrs Dirty Harry started giggling when I told her why I could not come sailing, that is now nearly several Mondays ago. I am a lot better now, thank you, in case anybody offered any sympathy.

All the good weather has gone too, it seems.

1<sup>st</sup> of August my family gathered from around the world, the washing machine broke down and the PDF writer froze the computer. The recovery will now take a little longer.

*Britt*



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## Soling British National Championships at Edinburgh

The Soling Nationals were held at the Royal Forth Yacht Club on July 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>. The sleek keelboats were craned in, having travelled from Scotland, England and Wales. One team – the World and European Champions Roman Koch and crew – flew in from Germany bringing their own new sails to use on Hamish's *Romance*.

There are some regattas where things come together to produce a really enjoyable event: the venue, the weather, the race organisation and the good fellowship after sailing. This was such an event.

The first day saw GBR 170 *Foxy Cockatoo* winning all three windward/leeward races on the Forth in sparkling sunshine and interesting, shifty westerlies. This team of Bryan Bottomley, Mike and Ron Preston has led the British Soling fleet for some years, and it was good to see them back in action after Bryan had taken time off to get his knee replaced. The Welsh boat GBR 171 *Seven* was not far behind with two 2<sup>nd</sup> places. Owner Mark Fisher has been an anchorman for Solings in Wales for the past two years and he sailed consistently fast throughout the three days of racing.

Day two dawned murky with sea mist lying across the firth. No worries, we thought as we headed out of Granton Harbour: this cloud will burn off and the light easterlies will be boosted by the sea breeze that the sun will create. Now the racing hotted up: *Seven* won a race, as did GBR 160 from Blackpool and Fleetwood Yacht Club. Hamish also won in GBR 161 *Solaris* (his championship Soling – the one he saves for events). The weather, however, did not hot up. The fog drifted back in and the third race was sailed in impenetrable murk with the fleet using compasses less for tactics and more to stop themselves getting lost. Not only were both shores of the Forth invisible; both windward and leeward marks vanished into the grey and Solings emerged from the drifting curtains of mist like ghost ships. Towards the end the last boats going up the beat peered anxiously into the gloom hoping to see the leaders coming back down the run – at least that would give us some idea of where the mark might be found.

Continued on page 2

**Soling Championships** Continued from page 1

Day three brought no such problems: a 10-13 knot westerly and a clear day. Hamish and Mike Preston both won a race; the German champions continued with their consistent thirds. The results were that Mike Preston's team won overall with Mark Fisher second. Roman Koch won the Classic Boat trophy for the best Soling over twenty years old with his third place overall; and Hamish was the Masters' Champion in fourth.

The Royal Forth ran an excellent event – the happiest Soling Nationals for a few years. Edinburgh was a lively venue, giving us lots to do and see. But of course you weren't there: only one Lochaber boat travelled. (Hamish's second boat doesn't count. It was disguised as a boat from Germany.) I have to say that it is getting a bit difficult to explain to people why no-one ever enters Soling events from Lochaber when Blackpool and Fleetwood YC can enter five boats and people can travel from Stuttgart to sail. So come on, people: let's get some LYC Solings to **Kielder Water on October 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>**. The Soling fleet is coming to LYC to race the Scottish Championships in 2007; we need to get some boats to travel to events to make it fair; we can't always expect them to come and play at our house if we don't go to play with them.

Photo by kind permission of  
[www.hallmarineimages.com](http://www.hallmarineimages.com)

**Commodores Corner**

The month started off with the Scottish S/H Championship. Unfortunately there were only 6 entries. The wind was good on Saturday and the entertainment factor of watching the International Moth (photograph at speed) made up for the low numbers. The catering became a little difficult but Saturday evening saw a long table with a real party atmosphere for the 20 guests. Sunday wind was satisfactory and all necessary races were sailed. Thanks to everybody who helped with the event.

Details of the other sailing events this month will be found elsewhere in Telltale. The Keel Boat and Dinghy Points Series continue to give some exciting moments, so if you have the odd hour please come to your Club and watch the racing.

There has been some very pleasant weather and a number of boats have ventured to other areas. We hope for their cruising entries in Telltale later this year.

West Highland Week should be a good event and we wish any members who are competing, the best of luck.

Richard Rumney  
Commodore

## Events August and September

### Every Wednesday

Dinghie Points Racing

Starts 1930, at 1900 from the 16th Aug.

See Hand Book for RESCUE BOAT and OOD

02-Aug 3:3 driver P.Biggin OOD M.Austin

09-Aug 3:4 driver A.Hope OOD Daw.MacRae

16-Aug 3:5 driver D.Meldrum OOD J.Douglas

23-Aug 3:6 driver H.Loudon OOD K.Falconer

30 Aug 3:7 driver D.Warner OOD A.Hyde

06 Sep 3:8 driver K.Cameron OOD Dav.MacRae



### Alternative Loch Eil

Saturday 5 August

1300

Rescue boat Driver TBA



The Loch Swim is cancelled



### Every Monday

Keelboat Points

starts at 1930, 1900 on 14 Aug

07Aug 3(2) OOD TRILLEACHEANN Duty DIRTY HARRY

14Aug 3(3) OOD DIRTY HARRY Duty TRILLEACHEANN

21 Aug 3(4) OOD J.G.N. Duty HUSSOLING

28 Aug 3(5) OOD HUSSOLING Duty R.E>CAMPBELL

4 Sep 3(6) OOD R.E.CAMPBELL Duty J.G.N.



Alternative

Black Rock

Saturday 12 August

Starts at 1300 hours

OOD and driver TBA



Alternative

**CORREN RED**

**13 Aug start at 1400**

OOD SERENDIPITY



**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> Aug**

**No Duffers**



**26/27 Aug. Laser Traveller**

£20 early entry fee, £25 on the day

Pete will put together the 'team'.

We have a drinks licence.



**Novice Helm(K)**

Thursday 24 August



**420's Traveller**

**9/10 September, small fleet expected,**

**Pete to organise the team.**



**PURSUIT RACE**

Sunday 10 September

All boats, every thing that floats

And closing muster

Driver E.LOUDON OOD and Start TBA



**Challenger Travellers**

14 & 15 September

more details when available

**Tear this page out of your Telltale, or  
Print it up and display on your fridge door**

**"Sea Cadets**

Dell Quay Dory 11' For Sale on behalf of  
Lochaber Sea Cadets.

"Dory 11"

Serial Number 4353.

Made by Wadham Stringer (Dell Quay) Ltd,  
Southbourne,  
Nr. Emsworth,  
England.

Outboard motor:-

Yamaha 20CM,

Serial number:-

6A9 L 312750

Yamaha Motor Co. Ltd.,  
Japan.

Motor checked by Ron Thompson, Caol, Fort  
William.

To be sold with Barras fuel tank and a trailer.

Hull painted last winter with International  
'Prekote' and 'Brightside' paint.

All to be sold as seen.

The dory is currently on the forecourt of Innes  
Chisholm's Car Sales, Ballachulish.

Asking price £1,299, ONO.

Contact: Jim Blair, 01855 821305,  
Vice-Chairman, Lochaber Sea Cadets Unit  
Management Committee.

**Combi Trailer**

Made by Hayling Trailers

Suitable for Topper, Laser or up to  
250Kg

Price New £470

**For Sale @ £235**

Contact: Paul Biggin 01 397 772 459

**Hunter 707 Sail no 7066**

In good overall condition with all the  
tweaks the one design rules allow.

Main and jib 2000

New main little use 2004

2 x spinnakers 2000 & 2004

Raymarine ST40 bidata

Outboard, trailer and some safe kit

**£7,995.- ono**

Contact Chris on mob 07887885598

[<chris@sunbirduk.com>](mailto:chris@sunbirduk.com)

**For Sale**

The editor needs to know if a  
'for sale' notice is to be continued or  
not.

All for sale notes are free  
but printed at the discretion of the  
committee

Email to Britt Kisby

[bkesby@toucansurf](mailto:bkesby@toucansurf)

Tel. 01 967 402 473

I would like to thank everyone who helped with the Kitchen & Catering Side of the Regatta - especially Li, Louisa. It is a big effort & the help is greatly appreciated.

Much of the food was donated; for which —  
thank you. It was delicious & was

praised - especially by those who came from other clubs. (The locals are used to it!)

The other aspect of the club which was commented upon was the feeling of togetherness & support by members. Hamish's fire has made an enormous difference in making the Clubhouse a club.

Thank you again.

Beryl

## Past events

**Arisaig Regatta** was won (again) by Simon Macdonald's "Merrydancer", GBR32, the long range soling with fitted carpets and bar!. Conditions for the famous "Eigg and Spoon Race" on Sunday ranged from 34 knots of wind SW to 15 knots on a fabulous reach all the way back to Arisaig. In addition to the Arisaig Marine Trophy, "Merrydancer", crewed by Simon and Ken Jerram, won the "Luinga Trophy" for best boat under 30 feet. Three bottles of single malt, a bottle of vintage port and a 40 ounce bottle of the "Dew of Ben Nevis" whisky were included in the array of prizes won by Merrydancer to help fill the trophies and replenish her bar... Thirsty work racing a soling offshore!

Report by Simon Macdonald

**Selected comments from Committee Minutes**

**Regatta:** successful, no real issues except that there was a relatively low entry list but the evening meal was close to capacity. Discussion centred around entry numbers and getting commitment before the event by the use of a premium on the entry fee for "on-the-day" entries. Committee should be getting the advertising arranged early in the new year and consider specific invites particularly to Oban and Glencoe keelboats.

**S/H Championships:** - after a potential of 30 boats was suggested only 5 entered with no local entries. RYA and Sail Gaidhealtachd Sailing have offered some compensation for the lack of entries,

**Tobermory:** didn't really happen - foul weekend: Nyali attempted a departure on Friday and returned, Schönbrunn got as far as Lismore!

**From Race Officer Paul Biggin**

Scottish Single Handed Dinghy Championship.

Over the weekend 1st/2nd July we have hosted an excellent event. We had good weather, no rain, no midges, interesting winds, just the usual for Lochaber! The great shame was that there were only six entries and **no local boats**. Many thanks to the race team that helped make the event run smoothly.

Beryl & Liz & Co on catering

Hamish & Richard & Chris on committee boat and rescue boat organisation

David, Robbie, Bob & Jean, Ali on entries, flag waving and timing

Derek & sea cadets, John(OB), Joe, Tony, Robert, Jim D, on rescue boats

Pete on prizes

and thanks to others who chipped in - apologies to anyone I have forgotten

On Saturday with winds gusting to 23 mph, amongst other things, we were treated to the sight of an International Moth flitting across the water. When the hull is two foot out of the water all there is between 30 mph plus and a crash dive is a twitch on the rudder elevator - we have it on video!.

On Sunday in just enough wind we could see just how much acceleration you can get from a good roll tack. A few topper sailors with local knowledge could have given the national champions a good fright. With average lap racing - something the club should try - handicap racing seems to be much more inclusive.

Between Saturday evening and Sunday morning mark Y was cut loose - yes cut! - anyone any ideas. This nearly caused an embarrassment with the fleet heading towards the non existent mark on Sunday morning. Some rapid Lochaber Magic solved the problem.

Paul

LYC Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, 8 August  
@ 19:30 (7:30 pm)

