

The logo for LYC, with the letters 'L', 'Y', and 'C' in a stylized font. 'L' is red, 'Y' is blue, and 'C' is red.

Telltale January 2016

From the Commodore

Although there has been no sailing since the last issue of Telltale quite a lot has been happening.

Starting with a well attended AGM where three new committee members were elected plus a new Commodore and Vice Commodore. There was a Christmas party with mulled wine and mince pies in the clubhouse. The New Year's Day sail did not take place as there was no wind but the members present "rescued" a very large tree for stove fuel. A new Pioneer craft has arrived along with a new outboard engine.

With only eight weeks to go until the opening race of the season (Sunday 27th March) it's time to refurbish the nine race marks and the associated ground tackle. Then the first dinghy points series begins with races on a Sunday afternoon during April. It's hoped that this change will encourage more members to take part in dinghy racing in the early part of the season.

Recent Events

Our annual prize-giving dinner was held in the clubhouse on 27th November, and was attended by about 40 members. The event was free this year, which aroused the suspicions of some folk who were sure there was a catch somewhere, but just proved that the phrase "there's no such thing as a free meal" is not always true. Tim was in charge of the catering, and the baked potatoes and trimmings met with general approval, as did the free beer.

The prize-winners were as follows:

Frostbite Shield (Dinghies): Michael Campbell

Dinghies(Series 1) Vice-Commodore's Cup: Ian Fleming & Keith Falconer

Dinghies (Series 2) Merlin Trophy Tim Sims & Hamish Loudon

Dinghies (Series 3) K K Cameron Trophy Tim Sims & Hamish Loudon

Black Rock race(dinghies) : Ben & Joe Lennon

No Duffers Cup (1st racing season) Kenny Clark

Commodore's Prize (Loch Eil race, dinghies): Tim Sims & Hamish Loudon

St. Christopher Trophy (Pursuit Race) Ian Fleming & Keith Falconer

Falconer Trophy (Best Crew): Tim Sims

Endeavour Trophy : Richard Rumney

Brass Monkey (Keelboats): Andy McKenna & John Wilson

Glenlivet Malt: (Services to club) Harry Jeffrey



Some of the prize-winners:

L to R: Keith Falconer ,Kenny Clark, Hamish Loudon, Harry Jeffrey, Beryl Austin, Tim Sims, John Wilson, Mike Campbell, Adrian Hope



Two of the club's long standing members were awarded Honorary Life Membership in recognition of outstanding service to the club over many years: Adrian Hope and Beryl Austin, pictured left.



The Thursday club's Christmas lunch was held at the Crannog restaurant on 17th December, when Santa put in an appearance, and gifted flowers to Beryl Austin, Cheryl McIntosh, and Sine Montgomery, in appreciation of their culinary skills during the year. Those of you who read the Oban Times will have noticed that Cheryl was awarded the Queen's Long Service Certificate by the Queen's Nursing Institute for Scotland at a recent ceremony in Edinburgh



**Cheryl McIntosh
pictured at the
Christmas lunch.**



Members were at the clubhouse on December, to assist with Christmas decorations, and raising of the Christmas tree, kindly supplied by Richard.

A plentiful supply of mince pies and mulled wine was available, and disappeared like snow off the proverbial dyke.

Hamish is pictured adding the final touches to the tree.

Future Events:

Our Fitting Out dinner is on the Friday 19th March, and the speaker this year is John Grant, from Glencoe Boat Club.

John will describe his voyage from South America to South Africa, during which he had to abandon his yacht. A cheering tale for the start of the sailing season !

The club handbook is being prepared and will be available at the fitting out dinner. For those of you who like to fill in your calendars/diaries as soon as possible, here is a list of up-coming events .

Date	Event	Start Time
MARCH		
Saturday 19	Fitting Out Supper	CLOCKS!
Sunday 27	Frostbite (D)	14:00
APRIL		
Sunday 03	Dinghy Points 1(1)	14:00
Sunday 10	Dinghy Points 1(2)	14:00
Sunday 17	Dinghy Points 1(3)	14:00
Thursday 21	first Club Night	18:30
Sunday 24	Dinghy Points 1(4)	14:00
Wednesday 27	Dinghy Points 1(5)	19:00
Thursday 28	Club Night	18:30
MAY		
Sunday 01	Locheil Race (D)	13:00
Monday 02	Soling Sailing	19:00
Wednesday 04	Dinghy Points 1(6)	19:00
Thursday 05	Club Night	18:30
Saturday 07	Adult sail training	
Sunday 08	Adult sail training	
Monday 09	Soling Sailing	19:00
Wednesday 11	Dinghy Points 1(7)	19:00
Thursday 12	Club Night	18:30
Saturday 14	Adult sail training	
Sunday 15	Adult sail training	
Monday 16	Soling Sailing	19:00
Wednesday 18	Dinghy Points 2(1)	19:00
Thursday 19	Club Night	18:30
Saturday 21	Adult sail training	
Sunday 22	Adult sail training	
Monday 23	Soling Sailing	19:00
Wednesday 25	Dinghy Points 2(2)	19:00
Thursday 26	Club Night	18:30
Saturday 28	Sail Caledonia launch and race	
Sunday 29	Brass Monkey (K)	14:00
Monday 30	Keelboat Series 1(1)	19:30
Tuesday 31	Dinghy Hill Race & BBQ ??	

Date	Event	Start Time
June		
Wednesday 01	Dinghy Points 2(3)	19:00
Thursday 02	Club Night	18:30
Friday 03	Oban-Glencoe passage race (K)	
Saturday 04	Glencoe Regatta	
Sunday 05	Pursuit Race (DK)	14:00
Monday 06	Keelboat Series 1(2)	19:30
Tuesday 07	Dinghy Hill Race & BBQ ??	
Wednesday 08	Dinghy Points 2(4)	19:00
Thursday 09	Club Night	18:30
Saturday 11	Keelboat muster	
Sunday 12	Keelboat muster	
Monday 13	Keelboat Series 1(3)	19:30
Wednesday 15	Dinghy Points 2(5)	19:00
Thursday 16	Club Night	18:30
Saturday 18	Corran Red (K)	10:00
Sunday 19	Black rock (D)	11:00
Monday 20	Keelboat Series 1(4)	19:30
Wednesday 22	Dinghy Points 2(6)	19:00
Thursday 23	Club Night	18:30
Monday 27	Keelboat Series 1(5)	19:30
Wednesday 29	Dinghy Points 2(7)	19:00
Thursday 30	Club Night	18:30
JULY		
Friday 01	OSC Round Mull Race	
Saturday 02	OSC Round Mull Race	
Sunday 03	OSC Round Mull Race	
Monday 04	Keelboat Series 1(6)	19:30
Wednesday 06	Dinghy Points 3(1)	19:00
Thursday 07	Club Night	18:30
Monday 11	Keelboat Series 1(7)	19:30
Wednesday 13	Junior sail training	
Wednesday 13	Dinghy Points 3(2)	
Thursday 14	Junior sail training	
Thursday 14	Club Night	18:30
Friday 15	Junior sail training	
Saturday 16	Junior sail training	
Sunday 17	Junior sail training	
Monday 18	Keelboat Series 2(1)	19:30
Wednesday 20	Dinghy Points 3(3)	19:00
Thursday 21	Club Night	18:30
Saturday 23	Balnagowan (K)	
Sunday 24	Balnagowan (K)	
Monday 25	Keelboat Series 2(2)	19:30
Wednesday 27	Dinghy Points 3(4)	19:00
Thursday 28	Club Night	18:30
Saturday 30	West Highland Yachting Week to Fri Aug 5th	

Date Event Start Time

AUGUST

Monday 01 Keelboat Series 2(3) 19:30
Wednesday03 Dinghy Points 3(5) 19:00
Thursday 04 Club Night 18:30
Saturday 06
Sunday 07 No Duffers (D) 14:00
Monday 08 Keelboat Series 2(4) 19:30
Wednesday10 Dinghy Points 3(6) 19:00
Thursday 11 Club Night 18:30
Saturday 13
Sunday 14 Dinghy Crews Race 14:00
Monday 15 Keelboat Series 2(5) 19:30
Wednesday17 Dinghy Points 3(7) 19:00
Thursday 18 Club Night 18:30
Saturday 20 **LYC Regatta**
Sunday 21 **LYC Regatta**
Monday 22 Keelboat Series2(6) 19:30
Wednesday24 Dinghy Points 3(8) 19:00
Thursday 25 Club Night 18:30
Monday 29 Keelboat Series 2(7) 19:30
Wednesday31 Dinghy Points 4(1) 19:00

Date Event StartTime

SEPTEMBER

Thursday 01 Club Night 18:30
Saturday 03 **Corran Red ALT (K)** 12:00
Sunday 04 **Black Rock ALT (D)** 13:30

Monday 05 Keelboat Series 3(1) **19:00**
Wednesday07 Dinghy Points 4(2) 19:00
Thursday 08 Club Night 18:30
Saturday 10 Junior Keelboat Helm 14:00
Sunday 11 **Locheil Race ALT (D)** 14:30

Monday 12 Keelboat Series 3(2) **19:00**
Wednesday14 Dinghy Points 4(3) 19:00
Thursday 15 Club Night 18:30
Saturday 17 **Keelboat muster**
Sunday 18 **Keelboat muster**
Monday 19 Keelboat Series 3(3) **19:00**
Wednesday21 Dinghy Points 4(4) 19:00
Thursday 22 Club Night 18:30
Saturday 24 **Challenger Travellers**
Sunday 25 **Challenger Travellers**
Monday 26 Keelboat Series 3(4) **19:00**
Wednesday28 Dinghy Points 4(5) 19:00
Thursday 29 last Club Night 18:30

OCTOBER

Sunday 02 **Closing Muster**
&Pursuit Race(DK) 14:00

Points to note:

Soling sailing starts on May 2nd, with the other keelboats starting on 29th May (Brass Monkey) followed by the start of Series One racing on Monday 30th May. The idea is to give everyone more time to get on the water before racing starts.

A couple of keelboat musters are planned for this summer, possible destinations are Loch Creran, Port Ramsay, or Loch Choire . Further suggestions welcome !

Please check the keelboat and dinghy O.O.D. rotas in when you receive the handbook. The keelboat rota has changed, in that (almost) every member who has a keelboat is being asked to do one O.O.D. duty. The advantages are that no-one will need to do more than one rota, and more crews will be able to race. An added benefit is that more folk will get involved in club activities, and learn a bit about the racing scene.

The disadvantage is that those who have never been involved in O.O.D. duty may feel somewhat apprehensive about taking part.

If you come into this category, please feel free to contact me, and I will arrange to show you the ropes, or for someone else to give you a bit of basic tuition. (Contact 01397 712182, e-mail monty712@btinternet.com)

Dons Sottise cruise 2014

Here is another instalment of Jim Douglas' log from his west coast voyaging.



Scalpay North Light by Stevenson in 1788

Thursday was a run ashore around the West side. I say "run" cautiously as the automobile was granny's automatic Yaris piloted by advanced Police ex drug squad driver Peter, more used to undercover Q cars, while the collective weight of the crew was a challenge to all 1,100 Japanese cc's the Toyota could muster.

Callanish, The Carloway Broch, Lunch at the Gearranan Black house village, The Arnol Black and White houses. Then the art gallery and cafe at Shawboost raised the debate over conceptual art at the muffin stage. The West Side of Lewis was in all her glory on sunny summer day with the machair, crofts and Atlantic sea views.

The final stop on the West Side is "40 North Bragar". A complete foody paradise in the remotest part of Scotland that would put Byres Road to shame. A third cousin of Christine had returned home with an amazing cooking talent which you can "take away". The family gathering in the cockpit of Dons Sottise was entertained by nephew Norman, the sea captain, who is now driving an oil exploration platform for work and the Stornoway lifeboat when he is home.

Friday and the crew divided into family visiting duties and the "Stornoway Black Pudding Challenge". It is somewhat ironic that the fare of the poor in the Black house has now been elevated to cult status with Michelin star chefs. Charlie Barley, MacLeod and MacLeod and MacDonalds are the local front runners; but I have to advise you that other brands are available. A blind tasting with Islay Ale to cleanse the palette. Spicy, bland and onion tasting notes for the connoisseurs rivalled a Classic Malts tour of the Hebrides. So which was it then? Well MacLeod and Macleod had an edge over Charlie Barley with MacDonalds the bland one for beginners. A bit like a clear and crisp Speyside malt up against the Islay Bruladdich 10 which was resting in the cabin bottle locker.

I fully plan to have a temper tantrum in the Michelin star when the chef has selected a MacDonald's or even better can't give the tasting notes for a selection (joking!).

Off to the new Stornoway airport for the crew change. They now have large wooden Lewis Chessmen presiding over the baggage collection conveyer and the whole welcome to the UK thing seems better than T5 Heathrow. Speaking of which, the whole of Lewis was a guaranteed "yes" judging by the flags and pompous assumptions of Wee Eck. However the silent majority of the Western Isles quietly said "nope". There was even puff about hidden oil to the west of the Western Isles which in the grandest conspiracy theories had been "kept hidden by the Tories"! Shame about the oil price 3 months later!

My 40 year take on the Western Isles was that it was looking pretty spruced up and some clever marketing of Harris Tweed handbags was doing well as a remote corner of UK PLC.

The harbour has a deli and boaties in the know make a pilgrimage to the Fishermans Coop to buy fresh lobster, clams and herring at an amazing price. The Stag bakery is another reason for a foodie pilgrimage. The captain has a new addiction to Staggie Seaweed biscuits.

Our evening entertainment on the back of the boat was the Stornoway Tattoo. So forget the Edinburgh esplanade in August and go for the real deal in the castle grounds of Stornoway. This one had added Vikings from Shetland!

We had dressed overall including the LYC burgee in pride of place under the spreaders. We were in prime position in the marina to see 70 Vikings join the special Ness Yawl under the guidance of Guisar Yarl. They proceeded across the bay to light torches and do a bit of light pillaging in the Castle grounds. The massed pipe bands included the famous Simon Fraser band from Canada along with the Lewis and Uig pipe bands. The finale was a fireworks display over the harbour which put Sydney harbour into silver place for the Commonwealth Harbour Fireworks 2014 competition. Most spectacular were the special fireworks which shoot over the water like the skimming slates of Easdale.



Stornoway Marina with Dons Sottise dressed overall for the opening and Normans big boys toy

Wishing everyone fair winds for the coming season

D.S.M.