



The Solway Yacht Club

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, held on 18th November 2017 at 2pm in the SYC Clubhouse.

Present: Ian Purkis (Chair) and 50 members attended.

1. **Apologies** were received from:

Stewart & Emily Biggar, Tony Walker, Nigel & Cheryl Christian, Robert Simpson, John & Maureen Colbeck, Richard Colbeck, Julian & Theo Stanning, Duncan & Trish Gillespie, Alastair Dinwiddie, Charles & Louisa Birdsall, David & Deirdre Harding, Jamie & Jane Gascoyne, Greta McElvoy, Frances Henderson, Anne Clark, Nick Keane.

2. **Minutes of AGM of 19th November 2016:**

This was voted a true record, proposed by John Clark, seconded by Chris Nurney

- a. **Matters arising:** Item 9; The Committee has reviewed the boat storage and parking charges , and in particular the point raised by a member last year as to why £40 was charged during the summer for a cruiser's tender, whereas it was not charged if the boat was stored at SYC during the winter. This point had been discussed at September's committee meeting. It was decided to continue the present charging system for a further year, which had initially been decided upon by an independent sub-committee, and hold off possible discussion until then.

3. **Obituary:**

Ian Purkis informed the membership of the sad news that Kerry Hartshorne had died recently. Kerry had been active in the SYC, and had been one of the members instrumental in developing the pier.

4. **The Commodore's Report for 2017** was presented by Ian Purkis. A précis of his report is given in bulleted-format below:

- a. The year started with a new initiative, which was an Annual Prize-Giving, held in Kippford Village Hall, with games and lots of hilarity included.
- b. Work parties had been particularly successful and well-attended, with much tidying up of SYC premises.
- c. A highlight was the very generous gift of the new galley by Howdens Joinery. This refurbished kitchen has been much appreciated by all members. During fitting, inspection of the electrical wiring revealed faults, which have now been fully remedied.
- d. Thursday evening sailing was introduced, and had been reasonably supported. It was hoped to continue this, keeping it on a regular evening during summer months.
- e. A Challenger Open weekend was held, with Peter Hammond as Event Principal, the Shore Force in attendance, and Poppa & Dom (Messrs Patterson & Gillespie) doing the catering for all. It was an extremely enjoyable weekend, backed up by a willing army of volunteers, but with one omission – no sailing!! The wind precluded that part, but, nevertheless, everyone had a great time.



- f. Cadet Week was likewise a highly successful time, with a record number of 70 Cadets taking part, split into 'Kepis' levels depending upon ability and experience, and all ably organised again by Willie Patterson, our Cadet Officer



- g. Kippford Week was similarly well supported, albeit with some strong winds.



- h. Few boats managed to appear at the Junk Rig Rally because of inclement conditions on the way here, but participants and others enjoyed the social element.
- i. A good number of entrants took part in the Laser (Sat. only) and National-12 (Sat. and Sun.) Open Competitions, the latter combined with the Palnackie Pursuit. A social evening on the Saturday night was a happy affair. John Colbeck cared for a sailor injured by his Laser's boom, ferrying him to D&GRI. This chap had two less-than-able supporters with him; the incident brought to the fore the fact that disabled access would be a boon, and almost a necessity, for the Clubhouse. Discussion on this is on the agenda.
- j. The 'Craning-Out Supper', although a smaller event, was a good social evening.
- k. The Project Manager for Grahams, the contractor for the new Dalbeattie Learning Campus approached SYC in September, to ask if a boat hull could be purchased. But SYC gifted a Laser dinghy, from a boat donated by Steve Taylor, and which was brilliantly restored and brought back to life as a static playground feature for the Primary School by our bosun Kevin Paul. The gear from the boat is being used on other Lasers in the club. The Lord Lieutenant Sir Malcolm Ross, with his wife Lady Susan, attended the 'launching' ceremony on 9th November, naming this boat 'Everest Skye', a name originally chosen by the pupils. It is intended to restore another Laser in identical colour scheme, name this 'Everest Skye 2', and have it sailing regularly at Kippford. Dalbeattie youngsters may then identify with it, and eventually aspire to sail at Kippford themselves.



- l. SYC have submitted a grant aid application to the Holywood Trust, with the intention of purchasing a Laser Bahia and 2 Laser Picos for the Club. The Commodore and Hon Sec met with Clare Hanna from the Trust on 9th December, and are optimistic that SYC's application may be successful.
- m. The Commodore is in discussion with the 'Active Schools' project, and hope that this initiative may also help to grow the membership of SYC.

- n. SYC is one of the clubs taking part in RYA's Focussed Support initiative. Until now, there has been one meeting with Robin Nicol of RYA and SYC Committee. This was considered productive by those who had taken part

The commodore expressed gratitude and thanks to the following:

- a. **Howdens** for the extremely generous gift of the new galley



- b. **Kippford RNLI** for their support (and happily no rescues) during the year
- c. **RYA Scotland** for the loan of their safety boat during Cadet and Kippford Weeks
- d. The whole committee and membership for their support during his term as Commodore
- e. The present SYC Committee
- f. Retiring Committee members: Chris Nurney as very effective Principal Training Officer, although he will continue as PRO, and support Pip Benson who will take over as PTO); Nigel Christian as Cruising Secretary ('Fair Winds' wishes go to Cheryl and Nigel for their proposed British Isles circumnavigation); Ross Kennedy for an outstanding stint as Safety Boat Officer. SYC wishes Ross great success as Leader of the Dalbeattie Pipe Band in 2018. Ross has indicated his willingness to consider returning to SYC Committee in the future as Rear & Vice Commodore, and ultimately Commodore, a most welcome prospect for the future.
- g. David Henderson for collating and organising SYC's annual yearbook
- h. John Colbeck as Trophy Secretary
- i. Deirdre Harding as SYC's Archivist
- j. Jim Holland for his work as Bar Steward, Webmaster and past-Commodore
- k. Willie Patterson as 'Cadet Officer Extraordinaire'. At this point, Willie was presented with a golden cap (Kepis d'Or) with the words 'Cadet Hero' on it, by Cadet Captains Hamish and Hugh Williams, and Philippa Howie

A slide show of sailing days, social events and volunteers busy at their tasks was shown.

The Commodore hoped to see everyone at Kippford Village Hall in January for the RNLI SOS lunch, and the SYC Annual Prize-Giving afterwards, where the theme will be 'The Great Scottish Bake-Off'.

5. Treasurer's Report:

Douglas Waddell presented the 2016 financial summary. On the General Account, member subscriptions and pier charges were up to £15,748 (from £15,108). Large depreciation was due to 'Roary', the new RIB. Water charges had been previously overpaid, so that item showed a net income due to a reimbursement. Electricity outgoings were large, so a new supplier was being sought. Repairs and maintenance were high due to fitting of, and electrical refurbishment in, the galley, and also a new shower unit being fitted in the men's changing room.

Both Cadet & Kippford Weeks showed a healthy profit financially, but this year ALL entry fees at the Regatta went to the RNLI, rather than just the profit. Visitors' marina fees are up, as the monies had not been collected for some time.

Pier account: The foreshore lease had two payments reimbursed as two annual standing orders had not been cancelled. This was more than countered by the cost of new electrical cabling and outlets on the pier for the cruisers.

Nevertheless, despite heavy spending, there was still a positive balance of £27,375 in the bank.

Thanks were given to Farries, Kirk & McVean for compiling the annual accounts.

The accounts were proposed as a true record by Gordon Daly, and seconded by David Henderson

6. Appointment of Compilers for the SYC Annual Accounts:

It was mooted that Farries, Kirk & McVean continue as the compilers of the Annual Accounts. This motion was proposed by John Clark and seconded by Chris Nurney.

7. Subscription charges:

A motion was forwarded that annual subscriptions increase by approximately 3%, as previously published, in line with the current Consumer Price Index, for 2018. The motion was proposed by Chris Nurney and seconded by Jim Wilson.

8. Election of Office-Bearers for 2018:

John Sproat, Hon Sec, read out the nominations for SYC Office-Bearers and Committee members, with proposers and seconders. The nominees had indicated their willingness to serve for 2018, and, there being no contested positions, the committee was voted in *en bloc*. The Office-Bearers were duly appointed as below:

Commodore	Ian Purkis
Vice-Commodore	<u>Vacant</u>
Rear-Commodore	Robert Dinwiddie
Hon Secretary	John Sproat
Hon Treasurer	Douglas Waddell
Membership Secretary	John Clark
Sailing Secretary	Lindsay Tosh
Cruising Secretary	<u>Vacant</u>
Principal Training Officer	Philippa Benson
Cadet Officer	Joanne Harris
Safety Boat Officer	Peter Hammond
Powerboat Officer	Denis Latta
Pier Master	Charles Elliot
Bosun	Kevin Paul
Bar Manager	<u>Vacant</u>
Clubhouse Convenor	Maureen Scott
Committee Member	Duncan Gillespie
Committee Member	Deirdre Harding
Committee Member	Rebecca Davison
Non-Committee posts:	
Webmaster	Jim Holland
Trophy Secretary	John Colbeck
The SYC Archivist	Deirdre Harding

The posts of Vice-Commodore, Bar Manager and Cruising Secretary remain vacant, but volunteers are to be welcomed.

9. Any other competent business:

- b. John Sproat raised the point as to whether the AGM should be at a different time than 1400hrs on a Saturday. A show of hands indicated that only a minority wished to change the time, so the motion was defeated.

The Commodore welcomed the new members to the Committee and those taking on new roles, in particular Robert Dinwiddie as Rear Commodore, securing the longer-term future of the office. However, if no one comes forward in the next year as Vice Commodore, the Club will have to find a way of running without a Commodore in 2019.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded at approx. 1515 hrs.