



The Grumpy Commodore

Newsletter From Oban Sailing Club



April - Spring has sprung!

The month of April arguably gets its name from the Latin word *aperire* meaning "to open" reflecting the many flower buds beginning to appear. There are definite signs of spring and new life in our surrounding countryside, with calves and lambs being born, presenting both challenge and joy for our farming community.

The Sailing Club is also emerging from its winter dormancy with members putting their boats in the water, the dinghies and clubhouse all tidy and prepared for the start of the season, and plans afoot for the delivery of the sailing program, Monday Mayhem and social events.

It's going to be a great season, so please do get involved.

I wish you all a happy Easter and "*fair winds and following seas*" for the coming season

Derek Grier
OSC Commodore



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WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?



Volunteer Afternoon

Our volunteer afternoon on 11th March was a great success, with a good number of people coming to support the club. Thank you to all who came and supported the event.

The volunteers got stuck into de-icing and rig checking the club dinghies and ensuring they are all ready for the season.

There were some amazing conversations focused on the vision for the club in the season ahead including the format for Monday Mayhem.

Four members did their mandatory bar training and there was even a little bit of sailing, although the cold temperature halted the planned wild swim.

We're always on the lookout for volunteers, get in touch if you are interested in helping out.

UHI Wind & Wave Social Night

Our newly trained bar staff put their skills to good use, manning the bar at the UHI Wind and Wave Social night.

Around 40 SAMS students enjoyed a night of socialising, Giant Jenga and a few drinks.

A good night had by all. We look forward to the next one.





WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

Oban Spring Clean 2023

Club members armed themselves with gloves, litter pickers and rubbish bags as part of the Keep Oban Beautiful Spring Clean 2023.

It was actually a really quick job with just 3 bags of litter being removed from around the club house, the slip way and along the wall in about 30 minutes.

The lack of rubbish is a credit to members and people using the park.

It was quite a different story for our friends and neighbours Adventure Oban, who had the unenviable task of clearing the Black Lynn of all its tyres and shopping trolleys.



Brendan O'Hara, the Scottish National Party politician and elected Member of Parliament for the constituency of Argyll and Bute, joined us for a much needed coffee and cake in the clubhouse after his involvement around the town with the spring clean.

He was really impressed with the work of the club, it's plans for the developments of the park, and the vision for longevity as a sailing and water sports club for the community.

Volunteer Spotlight

The spotlight this month is on **Andy Campbell** for his good humour and dedication to the club.

He has stepped in to do repairs and maintenance around the club, while Eric is recuperating, supported club activities and made everyone feel welcome at the Social Nights.

Thank you Andy.



NOT NAGGING REALLY!

Membership Fees 2023

It's that time of year again when we have to remind people to get their membership fees paid.

It's not really nagging, but!

It is important for the club to know how many members, so that we can budget and plan all the activities and resources that our members use and enjoy throughout the season.

We understand that money is tight for some at the moment and do not want membership fees to be a barrier to anyone being a member of the club, so please do contact us if you would like to discuss your fees further.

Alternatively if you no longer wish to be a member, we will miss you, but please can you let us know by emailing mail@obansailingclub.org

MEMBERSHIPS

Family Membership	£163.00
Full Member	£105.00
Concessionary Member	£61.00
Associate Member	£61.00
Junior Member	£53.00

EXTRAS – STORAGE

Tender Storage in Shed	£33.00
Locked Locker in Shed	£33.00
Open Locker in Shed	£14.00
Outboard Engine Storage	£14.00



To provide just a little bit more incentive, if you pay your membership fees before the Launch Supper (15th April) you will be entered into a raffle to win a prize

Renew Online Here

<https://www.obansailingclub.org/renew/>



A group of members have been meeting regularly with plans to revitalise Monday Mayhem, ensuring it provides for everyone's needs and is run in a safe and sustainable way going forward.

The group is being led by Cameron Harris supported by Finlo and a fabulous team of volunteers, many thanks to them all.

If you want to be involved the group would welcome new volunteers to support the sessions throughout the season.

You don't need to be a sailor, you could help out with shore based support, supervising participants or helping sailors get ready to go on the water.

More details to follow about format and exciting activities planned, but first session is scheduled for **Monday 17th April**.

Want to be involved?

Please get in touch mail@obansailingclub.org



SOCIAL SCENE

Our Friday Night Social sessions continue to attract a range of different people and provide a great opportunity to chat, have a drink and play some games.

We hosted the second in our series of "Sound Waves" events at the end of the month where a number of our members turned up with their instruments and played the evening away. Thanks to Steve Wilson, who not only brought the whole family along and played his guitar, but also rigged up the technology to get some music up on screen so everyone could join in.

The group successfully managed to fulfil the "Commodore's Challenge" by playing "Tune for a found harmonium" last week, and have been set the new challenge to learn "The Hen's March" for next time.

The bar is open every Friday night from 19:00 until 23:00 (Except Good Friday)

There is now a stock of non-alcoholic beers and ciders in addition to all your usual favourites. If we don't have your preferences, just let us know and we will get some in, it's your bar!



We really do need some people who are happy to do an occasional bar shift, cover for special events etc.

New to the bar or in need of a refresher? Please come along to cover the mandatory legal training needed to work the bar. No previous experience necessary (over 18s only)

We will run some additional bar training over the next few weeks, if you are interested please contact Hannah - Hannah@seagrassmarine.com



OBAN SAILING CLUB
PRESENTS



LAUNCH SUPPER

Curry Night

CELEBRATE THE START OF THE SEASON AT OUR ANNUAL
LAUNCH SUPPER

FAMILY FRIENDLY AND ALL WELCOME

£14 PER PERSON

PLEASE EMAIL STEVEN FORTEITH TO BOOK BEFORE THURSDAY 13TH

OBANAT22@HOTMAIL.COM

SATURDAY 15TH APRIL
FROM 18:30





UPDATES

SAILING PROGRAMME

We promise that the Sailing Programme will be with you very shortly, please watch this space for details.

TRAINING PROGRAMME

Thanks to Julia and Steven the training timetable for the coming season, is live - with a wide range of courses running throughout the year, including:

- RYA First Aid
- VHF SRC
- Safety Boat
- Various RYA Dinghy Courses
- Power boat
- Bar training
- Safeguarding

You can find out about upcoming courses [here](#)

WANT SOMETHING INCLUDED?

We love hearing what are members are up to,
special events or activities,
or even Anniversary or Birthday celebrations.

Want to nominate someone for the Volunteer Spotlight?

If you have news for next month's edition of the Grumpy Commodore,
please email your information to
mail@obansailingclub.org
by 28th April.



MAKING WAVES AT RYA SCOTLAND



As many of you will already know Finlo has been appointed as Chief Executive Officer for RYA Scotland.

Finlo will bring a really great set of skills and vast amounts of experience to RYA Scotland and I am sure that you will all join me in sending congratulations to him on this appointment.

We are of course not losing him from the club and we fully expect to see him manning the BBQ, taking part in Monday Mayhem, playing quiz master and all the other great things he does for the club.

Congratulations
From Derek & The Club



April

**What's
Happening?**



OSC Crew for 2023



Office Bearers

Commodore: Derek Grier
Vice Commodore: Finlo Cottier
Hon. Secretary/Membership: Andy McPherson
Treasurer: Gerard Hoen

Committee Members

Andrew Chapman
Chris Dowd
Steven Forteith
Eric Chapman
Julia Pollard

RYA Centre Principal: Andy McPherson
UHI Link: Janne Bruhns
Junior Rep/Bar Convenor: Ruby Howard

Non Committee members

Welfare: Irena Chapman
Oban High School Liaison: Iain Fulton/Murray Hamilton
Social Convenor: Hannah Grier

Round Mull Race Committee

Billy Forteith
Steven Forteith
Jim Tolmie

Handicaps Committee

Billy Forteith
Colin Crawford
Andrew Chapman

April 7th

Good Friday (Public Holiday)

April 9th

Easter Sunday

April 10th

Easter Monday (Public Holiday)

April 14th

Friday Social Night 7-11pm

April 15th

OSC Launch Supper

April 15th -16th

RYA Adult beginner dinghy:
Start Sailing
places still available

RYA Powerboat Level 2

April 17th

1st Monday Mayhem of the Season

April 21st

Friday Social Night 7-11pm

April 22nd

Earth Day

April 23rd

St George's Day

A UK-wide of the life-saving public
Emergency Alerts system will take
place at 3pm.

April 25th

World Penguin Day

April 28th


Story Telling Night
more information to follow

THE NOTICEBOARD


Got something for sale?
Need something for the boat?
Looking for some crew?
Want someone to sail with?

please email your information to

mail@obansailingclub.org
by 28th April.



Many Thanks to Billy
for donating a
dehumidifier to the
club,
Much appreciated.



Does anyone have a 6, 4 or even 2
person liferaft which could be
borrowed for the Scottish Island Peaks
Race
From 18th May for about a week?

John & Mandy Peden

Please contact John direct
john@askival-oban.co.uk





THANK YOU!

Once again, I would personally like to say a massive thank you to everyone who helps make our club a success, including all those who quietly run things in the background for example, safety boats, training, club development, repairing the building/boats, washing up and keeping the clubhouse in good repair, all our volunteers and finally to our dedicated Committee members.

Oban Sailing Club could not function without you.

Each one of you plays an important role in our club and its future and I hope you continue to support the club in 2023.

Thank you.

Derek Grier

GET INVOLVED

Volunteers make OSC work, without them it would not be possible to run the many events and activities which take place every year.

The club are always on the look out for people to volunteer for different things including:

- Monday Mayhem
- Bar Staff
- Social Activities
- Race Officials
- Safety Boat
- Shore Support
- Social Media and Marketing
- And many more

Whether you are available for one afternoon or more regularly there is an opportunity for you, please get in touch!

“The heart of a volunteer is never measured in size, but by the depth of the commitment to make a difference in the lives of others.”

~

DeAnn Hollis

Volunteer Sign Up Form



Oban Sailing Club
Dungallan Park
Gallanch Road
PA34 4PD



Oban Sailing Club

www.obansailingclub.org



Oban.Sailing.Club

mail@obansailingclub.org



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