



The Grumpy Commodore

Newsletter From Oban Sailing Club



May- The Season of nurturing!

The month of May arguably gets its name from Maia, the Roman earth goddess renowned for nurturing and developing. The sailing club is officially open for business, and the first events of the season are well underway, however it is essential that we continue to focus on nurturing and developing the club and its membership as we move through the season.

As a club we want to encourage existing members to actively engage with club events. We also want to provide a warm welcome to new members and we are delighted to have had some new faces on race nights . If there is anything that we can do to support you with this please do get in touch.

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

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

Derek Grier
OSC Commodore



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WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?



LAUNCH SUPPER

The Sailing Club hosted the first Launch Supper since pre-covid times on 15th April

It was great to welcome so many members back to the club.

A great curry, provided by Kebabish, was enjoyed by the 40+ people who attended.

The competitive side of the club came out during Finlo's famous quiz, conducted *in absentia*, due to other commitments.

"Team Bar" took the closely fought win.

Cameron Harris won the members raffle - which was well deserved as Cameron has been working very hard in the background to ensure the success of Monday Mayhem.



Many thanks to everyone who supported the event on the night.

A special thanks to Steven Fortieth for arranging the food and for everyone who washed up, cleared up and served behind the bar on the night.





WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

SAILING PROGRAMME

On Saturday 6th of May Oban Sailing held the annual Round Kerrera race, it was great to see some new faces joining the regular crews.

With a 2pm start giving crews enough time to catch the Coronation then head out for an early season race.

The breeze was light and variable all day with Colin Crawford's Dawn Seeker leading off the line heading out the North entrance of the bay.



As the wind eased, the fleet compressed with Shadowfax (B.Forteith) and Kittiewake sailed single handed by Chris Dowd all coming back to Dawn Seeker.

Once round the back of Kerrera the breeze picked up and a short beat took the boats to the bottom end of Kerrera. Sails were eased and spinnakers hoisted for the run back up the sound to Oban. As the wind eased again, Shadowfax managed to break away to take the win, with Dawn Seeker not far behind. Unfortunately for Kittiewake the wind completely died and Chris had to retire.

Saturday 13th May was due to be the round Lismore race, but with another light wind forecast, the fleet opted for the shorter distance round Kerrera.

A good turnout of 6 boats with results below. Patchy winds hampered progress with Wee Toddy eventually taking the win followed by Maggie May and Elixir of Lorne.

Next up is the Loch Aline race / cruise with company weekend 20/21st May.





WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

It was great to see a competitive fleet of dinghies take to the water for the first cup race of the year on 1st May.

Chris Dowd took the win in the full rig laser. Ewan Dowd took second narrowly beating Gerard Hoen on handicap, with the solo closely following in 4th.

Good to see the RS700 out playing as well

Next up for dinghies Monday Mayhem starting Monday 15th May.

YOUNG PEOPLE ON THE WATER

Oban High School have started their Learn to Sail programme, with sessions running Wednesday evenings into June.

Great to see so many youngsters interested in getting out on the water. Thanks to Chris Dowd and Steven Forteith for getting this up and running.

Finlo and Derek ran a Level 1 Powerboat Course on 14th May, congratulations to Sam, Cecilia, David for getting their certificates.



Volunteer Spotlight

The spotlight this month is on Steve Wilson for his dedication to club activities and events.

Steve does so much around the club, some seen by all, but lots done behind the scenes which is time consuming and sees little reward.

Thank you so much Steve for everything you do, it is very much appreciated.



THE ART OF THE MAYDAY MILE



Picture courtesy of Fiona Campbell holding one of her Watercolours in Front of the Oban Lifeboat.

At the beginning of May the RNLI started a month long fundraising campaign called The Mayday Mile.

OSC member Fiona Campbell has committed to walk at least a mile a day as well as produce a watercolour sketch, for the Oban Lifeboat.

Oban Lifeboat have a new Shannon class lifeboat coming later this year, and have already recruited six new crew members who have to be kitted out and trained.

Look out for updates and sketches on the JustGiving page and also on

Fiona's Instagram
@wildplacespainter

Would you be willing to give a donation?

Just use the link below to go to Fiona's dedicated Just Giving page and follow the instructions there.

The money you give will be credited direct to Oban Lifeboat.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/wildplacespainter-1682623800567>

I'VE RAISED

£716

Can we get to **£1000?**

THE MAYDAY MILE

WILL YOU SUPPORT OUR MAYDAY MILE?

THE MAYDAY MILE

I'VE STARTED!

31

MILES SO FAR

TARGET 100

A mile a day throughout May

THE MAYDAY MILE



STARTS THIS WEEK!

We are delighted to confirm that Monday Mayhem will be starting this week (15th May - 18:00-21:00).

Please report to the club house every week for registration (not the dinghy shed)

The group is being led by Cameron Harris supported by Finlo and a fabulous team of volunteers, many thanks to them all. Volunteers should have received a request for PVG/update if required via Irena Chapman. If you do not hold a PVG for Oban Sailing Club and need one, please get in touch with Irena. Thank you Irena for completing this mammoth task.

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 15th May**

Want to be involved?

Please get in touch mail@obansailingclub.org



SOCIAL SCENE

Friday Night Social events are still up and running and we are seeing mixed success depending on the evening, weather, other things going on.

This week we put the flags up and had a silly Eurovision Song Contest themed quiz, which highlighted that the club has a "closet" Eurovision Superfan in the form of Eric Chapman, who knew the majority of the answers to the questions. Congratulations on your win this year Sweden.

Fancy a drink and a chat in the club house on a Friday Night? It has probably got one of the best views and sunsets in Oban.

Why not come along to our Fish Supper Night on 2nd June? See poster

The bar is open every Friday night from 19:00 until 23:00

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.

We can run bar training if you need it, if you are interested please contact Hannah Grier - Hannah@seagrassmarine.com 07500 454908

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 of the Month



OBAN SAILING CLUB
PRESENTS



SUPPER NIGHT

Fish & Chips

JOIN US FOR AN INFORMAL FISH SUPPER AND SOCIAL NIGHT

FAMILY FRIENDLY AND ALL WELCOME

£10 PER PERSON

PLEASE EMAIL, CALL OR MESSAGE HANNAH GRIER TO BOOK BY TUESDAY 30TH MAY

HANNAH@SEAGRASSMARINE.COM

07500 454908

FRIDAY 2ND JUNE 2023

FROM 19:00



MAY

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: 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

May 15th

Monday Mayhem

May 16th

Tuesday Night Racing - Junior Cup

May 19th - 21st

Scottish Islands Peak Race
(bar open Thursday 18th)

May 19th

Friday Social Night 7-11pm

May 20th

Cruise in Company/Lochaline Race

May 22nd

Monday Mayhem

May 16th

Tuesday Night Racing - Elis Tankard

May 26th

Friday Social Night 7-11pm

May 27th

Saturday Racing - Average Lap Series 1

May 29th

Monday Mayhem

May 30th

Tuesday Night Racing -
Summer Series Race 3

May 27th

Saturday Racing - Round Inch Race

June 2nd

Friday Social Night 7-11pm

June 5th

Monday Mayhem

June 6th

Tuesday Night Racing -
Summer Series Race 4

June 10th-11th

OSC Regatta

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 of the month




It's Mental Health Awareness
Week

Seagrass Marine are offering a
FREE Awareness of First Aid for
Mental Health course on
Tuesday 16th May 10:00-13:00

Contact Hannah to Book

hannah@seagrassmarine.com
07500 454908



Is anyone able to lend
Andrew Chapman, doing the
Scottish Islands Peaks Race
on Elixir from this Thursday,
a 6 man Life Raft. He's happy
to pay the next service fee as
a thank you.
None available to hire in
Scotland. Can collect!



THANK YOU!

As always, a personal thank you to all involved in club activities.

The ones who are visible and the ones who are not.

Oban Sailing Club could not function without you.

A special thanks this month to "The Pied Piper" of Oban Sailing Club for dealing with the unwelcome pitter patter of little mouse feet.

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!



“Every person can make a difference, and every person should try.”

~

John F. Kennedy

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



Oban.Sailing.Club