



# The Grumpy Commodore

Newsletter From Oban Sailing Club



## October - A Season of Change

Welcome October, the gateway to autumn and all its glory! As the air turns crisp and leaves transform into an explosion of colour, some adore the chance to walk among the falling leaves or drink hot chocolate, while others might need a little more convincing to face the chilly, dark days ahead.

But, at the Sailing Club, this is an exciting time of the year full of changes. Although on-water activities are wrapping up, there's a heap of exciting events to look forward to! Think social nights, the Annual Dinner Dance, and the AGM, where you can also throw your hat in the ring for different club and committee roles.

As the OSC Commodore, I encourage all members to join in the fun and soak up the season's offerings. It's also the perfect time to tuck your boat away with care, so it's in top condition when the new season comes around.

So, let's bask in the splendour of autumn and take on all these vibrant changes together!

Derek  
OSC Commodore



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# WE'RE BACK BUT WE NEED YOU!

Apologies for the brief hiatus in our "Grumpy Commodore" newsletters this summer. The season has been a whirlwind, and crafting these updates demands a hefty dose of energy, inspiration, and info, which, quite frankly, has been in short supply.



Ahoy there, adventurous souls! Come aboard our ragtag band of seafarers and land-dwellers for an enthralling voyage through the pages of our newsletter.

Our quest is to unveil tales of daring and wonder, and we're always on the lookout for the next great odyssey to keep our readers on the edge of their seats.

But here's the catch - we need your help! Have you ventured on a swashbuckling expedition recently that has left you spellbound? We want to hear every detail, from the crash of the waves to the salty sea breeze.

Step into the limelight and become the protagonist of our "Nautical Narrative" segment - your story could inspire the hearts of many.

So, hoist the mainsail and prepare for an adventure of a lifetime - with us at the helm, the possibilities are endless!

**Share your epic adventures and snapshots by emailing**

**[hannah@seagrassmarine.com](mailto:hannah@seagrassmarine.com)**

**or**

**sending a WhatsApp message to 07500 454908.**

**"Great stories happen to those who can tell them."**

**--**

**Ira Glas**

# NAUTICAL NARRATIVES

## Meet Elspeth, the toddler who's already tamed the high seas!

Her love for the water runs deep, and nothing beats the feeling of the wind blowing through her hair and the sun beaming down on her face.

Fearless and inquisitive, she's quickly become a beloved member of the sailing club community, always eager to explore the mysteries of the sea and its creatures.

From navigating tricky waters to soaking up stunning vistas, Elspeth's heart truly belongs to the open sea.



Get ready to buckle up for an epic ride, as Elspeth takes you on a summer adventure you'll never forget!

This girl sure knows how to live life on the edge, with a crazy schedule that'll make your head spin.

Here's a sneak peek of some of the incredible things she's accomplished:

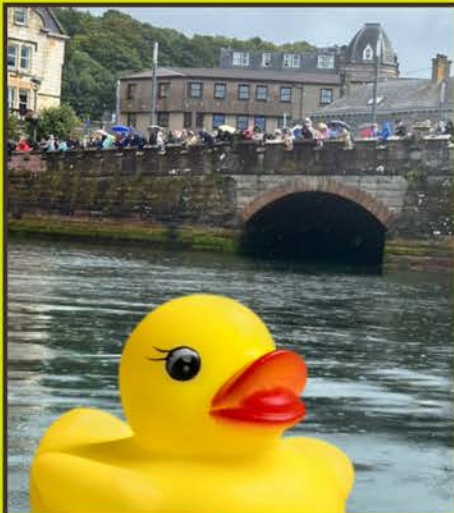
- Became the guardian angel of safety during the Oban Raft Race, even though she dozed off from all the adrenaline pumping.
- Took on the role of official duck wrangler in the Annual Oban Duck Race.
- Took a quick trip to Tobermory and (whispers) possibly celebrated her mum's 40th birthday.
- Teamed up with her dad to transport the boat back and forth to the marina, bailing out rainwater like a total boss.
- Threw the ultimate social nights at the club, where Elspeth was the life of the party, making sure everyone had a ball singing, dancing, and creating memories that'll last a lifetime.



Elspeth is a force to be reckoned with, and we can't wait to see what wild and wonderful things she's got planned next!



# WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?



Oban Sailing Club has been buzzing with activity all summer long!

We would like to express our appreciation to all of the club members who took part in the Round Mull Race and contributed to covering the cost of the Bunessan Buffet loss.

Our members had an exciting time during **West Highland Week**, as they spent the week sailing and socialising both on and off the water.

Kudos to the club's safety boat drivers and crews for rounding up all the ducks after the **Annual Charity Duck Race!** But, we might need to step up our game and bring a net next year?

The club also stepped up to the plate providing safety coverage and changing spaces for the **Round Kerrera Kayak Race**, but they also dove into the **Kerrera Swim**, with a number of members making a splash.

**Friday night socials** are still going strong, even though summer has tempted folks away. But hold onto your hats because we're spicing things up for autumn and winter with a social extravaganza!

The **Wee Peaks Race** was an absolute blast, with all our members revelling in the thrill of sailing to Kerrera and scaling the hills. We couldn't have done it without the fabulous volunteers who made this event possible. A big thank you to all the members who joined in on the fun!

The **Dinghy Shed** is looking good with a fresh lick of paint! A huge round of applause to all the kind souls who pitched in with their brushes.

Our trusty **keelboats and dinghies** have been working up a storm, with a range of races and events throughout the summer.

OSC on tour! Thanks to Steven and Julia for representing the club at the **Argyllshire Gathering** on a very wet day



Our club went all out on exploring the possibility of becoming a **SCIO**! Mike Geraghty and Laura Cowan provided an overview of the process and why OSC should consider it.

If you missed out on the action, don't worry, we've got it covered with a recording of the entire session. Find it on [YouTube](#).

If there are any sneaky bits that slipped under my radar, it wasn't on purpose, I promise! Just let me know about any missing pieces, and I'll be sure to pop them into next month's edition.

Hannah

## COMING SOON

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGM - SAVE THE DATE

Save the Date: November 6th at 7 PM for an engaging, interactive meeting!

It's that time of year again, and we're excited to announce that this year you have the option to either attend in-person or online. We'll be sending out formal notifications and full details later this month, so stay tuned!

All members are strongly encouraged to attend this meeting and play an active role in shaping the future of the club. This is the perfect opportunity to express your thoughts, share ideas, and vote for new committee members. You can also provide feedback on any proposed changes to the club's constitution and operations, including the decision to move forward with the club becoming a SCIO - Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

you can find more information about SCIO here

<https://www.oscr.org.uk/becoming-a-charity/becoming-a-scio/>

Don't miss out on this chance to connect with fellow members and make a real impact in the club.

### Want to get involved?

Please also consider joining the committee or taking on a new role within the club, the club needs new ideas and skills to steer it into the future.

We can't wait to see you there!

**A committee can't succeed if everybody's on board but nobody's at the wheel.**

— Kathy Griffith



OBAN SAILING CLUB

# 2023 DINNER DANCE

*You are invited to Oban Sailing Club  
Annual Dinner Dance*

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 4<sup>th</sup> SOROKA HOUSE  
18:00  
FOR DINNER AT 18:30

*TICKETS*

ADULTS £28  
CHILDREN £10  
INCLUDES DINNER AND CEILIDH

*RSVP before  
27th October 2023*

[mail@obansailingclub.org](mailto:mail@obansailingclub.org)





OBAN SAILING CLUB  
PRESENTS



# SOUND WAVES

*Music Night*

BRING YOUR INSTRUMENTS, YOUR VOICE  
OR JUST YOURSELF

FAMILY FRIENDLY AND ALL WELCOME

LAST FRIDAY IN THE MONTH

BAR OPEN 19:00-23:00

# 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

Cameron H

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

### Handicaps Committee

Billy Forteith

Colin Crawford

Andrew Chapman

**13th October**  
Friday Social Night

**20th October**  
Friday Social Night

**27th October**  
Sound Waves - Social Night

### Deadline for Dinner Dance Bookings

**29th October**  
British Summer Time Ends  
Clocks go back!



**31st October**  
Halloween



**4th November**  
ANNUAL DINNER DANCE

**5th November**  
Guy Fawkes Night

**6th November**  
Club AGM

**11th November**  
Remembrance Day







# THANK YOU!

To all OSC members and Grumpy Commodore readers!  
A big, thank you to all of you for your support.  
We're all about making the most of your OSC membership.

I'm all ears and ready to listen to your thoughts. So, here's the million-dollar question: What's your story? Why did you join OSC, and what can we offer you?

I'm not just saying this - I'm genuinely excited about your suggestions and ideas for upcoming club activities and events.

My inbox is always open, so don't hesitate to drop me a line.

Thank you for investing your time and energy in our club.

Cheers, 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:

- Committee Members
- 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!



Oban Sailing Club

[www.obansailingclub.org](http://www.obansailingclub.org)



Oban.Sailing.Club

[mail@obansailingclub.org](mailto:mail@obansailingclub.org)



Oban.Sailing.Club

**“Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can.”**  
—  
**Arthur Ashe**

Volunteer Sign Up Form



Oban Sailing Club  
Dungallan Park  
Gallanch Road  
PA34 4PD