

LARGS SC NEWS - Easter 2016

After a great series of social events over the winter, we now look forwards to spring, and getting back out on the water. Some of our dinghy sailors (and indeed keelboat and motor boat sailors) have of course continued through the winter, but most of us are made of softer stuff!

Anyway, the main social events over the next few months are quiz nights, on the second Friday of the month, so April 8th, May 13th etc.

The real focus moves afloat, with:

- [regular club racing starting](#) soon (Sunday 3rd April, Wednesday 6th April)
- [cruising group planning meeting](#) this Saturday, 26th March, and the (rescheduled) winter [talk](#) on [Sunday, 10th April](#)
- [LSTA sail training](#) (all ages, 8 and up), and all abilities - beginner to advanced - [starting Saturday 23rd April. Adults particularly welcome - encourage your friends!](#) Come to the [information evening](#) on [Thursday 21st April](#), or (ideally) [pre-register on the LSTA web site](#) (link available soon). Also [powerboat training](#).
- [clubhouse opening hours](#) will expand as these activities start
- we seek a [volunteer](#) with experience of [building cost estimating](#)
- also, 50:50 winners, comments on possible EU legislation and DIY antifouling, new door code, subscription renewals (now overdue!) etc

Finally, my thanks to Marilyn Robertson for compiling the February edition of the e-news in our absence on holiday.

Remember there is much more information about the club on our [web site](#), including the new "[Socials](#)" tab added to main menu bar. Also [Facebook](#) page - have a look!

[Scroll down](#) for much more detail on all these topics, and more.

Gordon Cochrane
Membership Secretary

THE SOCIAL SIDE - CLUBHOUSE OPENING HOURS etc

We had some great social evenings through the long dark nights of January and February. In addition to the regular quiz nights, we had:

- a further instalment from **Stuart MacDonald** on his epic **round the world voyage**, this time filling in the details of New Zealand and Fiji
- **Brendan Bocker** describing (in his own inimitable style!) to an overflowing clubhouse how he and Jen **sailed to the Med without murder or divorce!**
- a very successful **boat jumble**, organised by **Alex Rhind**.



We are now moving into the sailing season, so apart from the regular quiz nights (second Friday in the month), the social side takes a back seat, as hopefully we'll all be out on the water, or watching the water based activities from the clubhouse.

CLUBHOUSE OPENING HOURS - MOVE TO SUMMER HOURS

This weekend is **Easter Weekend** (and remember the clocks go forward on Sunday morning!!), and the clubhouse will be open as below, including Easter Monday:

- Easter Saturday, 26th March - 11:00 to 17:00
- Easter Sunday, 27th March - 11:00 to 17:00
- Easter Monday, 28th March - 11:00 to 17:00

Weekend of 2nd/3rd April:

- Saturday, 2nd April - 11:00 to 17:00
- Sunday, 3rd April - 11:00 to 17:00

Summer hours will be phased in as follows from Wednesday, 6th April, as the season's activities start:

Lunchtimes - Wednesday, Thursday, Friday - 12:00 to 14:00

Weekends - Saturday - 11:00 to 23:00
- Sunday - 11:00 to 20:00

Evenings:

- from Wednesday 6th April - 17:00 to 23:00 (midweek club racing starts)
- from Tuesday 12th April - 19:00 to 23:00 (FYC racing starts)
- from Friday 15th April - 17:00 to 23:00 (open Friday 8th for quiz night anyway)
- from Thursday 21st April - 17:00 to 23:00 (LSTA training information evening)
- from Monday 25th April - 17:00 to 22:00 (LSTA training starts)

The bar will serve coffee, drinks, and bar meals during these times (no alcohol on Sundays before 12:30).

We will open on Friday evenings for quiz nights and other functions, please refer to [Socials](#) tab on the LSC web site.

QUIZ NIGHT - Friday, 8th April

The regular and very popular quiz nights continue on the second Friday of each month. Buffet from around 7:00, quiz starts 8 p.m. Come and eat beforehand, and make a full evening of it!

To ensure your food order, please book with Avril on 01475 670022 (answerphone), or by e-mail to club-steward@largssc.co.uk.

Quiz nights continue as usual on the second Friday of the month, so Friday 13th May etc etc.

CRUISING GROUP - FINAL WINTER TALK - DATE CHANGE to SUNDAY, 10th APRIL



The final winter talk has been rescheduled to Sunday, 10th April, starting at 2 p.m., and finishing around 4 p.m. Come along from 12 and enjoy a pizza, panini, soup or hot dish and meet the speakers and other club members!



There will be talks and demonstrations from experts in injury prevention and treatment (Pamela Couper, Optimal Physio), basic first aid (Kate Bird), and sports nutrition and hydration (tbc).

CLUBHOUSE MAINTENANCE - COST ESTIMATING - CAN YOU HELP?

The Club is looking for a volunteer to assist with preparing building cost estimates for maintenance and minor works.

This will involve a short term commitment until June 2016.

If you are able to assist please contact Matt Mochar, e-mail mmochar@btinternet.com.



50:50 CLUB - EXTRA PRIZES!

As we have new members for the 50:50 club, **more money is available for prizes!** We now award a fourth prize, so the prizes are now £60, £40, £30, and £20.

The following winners were drawn at the recent quiz nights:

		<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>
1	£60	Martin Faulkner	Gordon Cochrane	George McCree
2	£40	John Connelly	Carolyn Elder	Hilary Connelly
3	£30	Henry Wilkinson	Chris Nichol	Tom MacFadyen
4	£20	Chris Evans	Matt Mochar	George Hutchison

Why not join the 50:50 club? Better odds than the National Lottery, or Ernie! It could be YOU next month! You have to be in it to win it! A membership application form and a standing order mandate can be downloaded from the web site's [publications page](#).

SAILING

The first dinghy racing series of 2016 reaches its climax this Sunday, with regular Sunday and midweek racing starting soon. Volunteer training is ongoing, the LSTA's sail training programme kicks off at the end of April, and the cruising group is planning to get out on the water.

More generally, we make you aware of possible EU antifouling legislation, and how former LSC junior member Dan Smith is second overall in the Clipper RTW race.

BARTON "WARM UP" SERIES - SUNDAY 21st FEBRUARY to SUNDAY 27th MARCH

This Sunday, Easter Sunday, sees the final races of the 6 week LSC Early Spring Series, sponsored by Barton. The series has had a great turnout of around 20 starters most Sundays, including a number of visitors, and our growing band of competitive juniors.

It's close at the front of the fleet, with lots of potential winners - and LSC sailors presently occupy three of the four top spots, with Josh Kerr / Fenella Corlett first, Martin Faulkner / Bill Forsyth in third, and Andrew Corlett / Callum Forsyth in fourth place.

Come down and watch the final races start at 11 o'clock, have lunch, and then see the prize giving early afternoon.

Photo - David Boden.



CLUB RACING

- Sunday Spring Series - from Sunday 3rd April - Sunday morning club racing
- Wednesday Early Series - from Wednesday 6th April - Evening Racing for Fast and Slow Handicap

CLUB RACING - VOLUNTEERS (from Freddie Moran, Events Convenor)

Our volunteers are crucial to almost everything we do in the club, and this was recognised with the recent wine tasting afternoon, when we also asked for new volunteers. A good number of members added their names to the lists for slipway cleaning (both the club slip and the big championship slip), and to help at events. We even had a member volunteering his digger, and an industrial power jet used for cleaning his cowsheds! We will certainly be putting them to good use early July and getting in contact with all the volunteers as we prepare for the UK Optimist Nationals later in July.

Fundamental to running club racing and major events is manning the course laying and safety RIBs, and a training day was held in VERY challenging conditions, with force 5/6 winds and Baltic temperatures, a few weeks ago. Despite this, we did have fun!

Many thanks to our instructors Stuart White and Tom Thurlow, also Julia for arranging.



Left to right - Hugh, Cameron, Freddie, Jacqueline, John, Niall.

SAFETY BOAT TRAINING COURSE - 7th/8th MAY

There will be a two day course at the beginning of May. Booking details will be available on the LSC/LSTA web sites in due course, but for general information on these courses, see [here](#).

SAIL TRAINING - INFORMATION EVENING THURSDAY 21st APRIL (from John Scott)



As in previous years, our colleagues in the Largs Sail Training Association will be running sail training courses through this season, **for all ages** (8 and upwards), **beginners to advanced**.

We are particularly keen to see more adults participating, so if you have any members of your family, friends, neighbours, e work colleagues etc - encourage them to take up this great sport

Come along to the information evening on Thursday 21st April to learn more, and enrol.

Sail training begins on Saturday 23rd April, with a format similar to last year:

- adults and senior cadets (14+) on Mondays
- cadets (<14) on Thursdays and Saturdays
- supported racing on Wednesdays

The final dinghy training calendar is attached to this e-news.

Training will be available to book on WebCollect very shortly for all returning cadets and adults and **we would encourage you to book a place as soon as possible**.

New beginners are asked to contact Julia in the office (secretary@largssc.co.uk) before attempting to book a place.

- There will be no "Active Schools" funded beginner places this season.

- We are not planning to offer regular **windsurfing training** this season due to minimal interest over the last two years. We will aim to run taster sessions and a weekend course if there is sufficient interest.
- There will again be one **Youth Sailing Week** course on 8th-12th August. We had hoped to run two but this has proved impractical due to the timing of the Oppy Nationals.
- We are looking for **volunteers** to help with boat maintenance, registration, slipway control, website maintenance, RIB crew, social media.... No sailing experience is necessary for most roles so if you can help, and it's a great way for parents to get involved, please contact Johnathan Briggs or Julia.

Powerboat training: We are organising a number of RYA powerboat level 2, RYA safety boat and LSC safety boat update courses. As these are necessarily small group events, please contact Julia if you are interested in doing some power boat training. These courses are great fun and definitely make you a better and safer RIB driver.

(PS - LSTA Principal John Scott is active in other areas, and he will be performing as Magaldi in Largs Operatic Society's Evita, at Barrfields Pavilion, 30 March to 2 April. In addition to John, other LSC members or former members have key roles - former cadets Ruth Hutchinson and Jamie Thomson star as Eva and Che, and LSC member David Edwards is the musical director.

Tickets sales are going well (about 85% full) but there are still a few seats available for each show at <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/largsoperatic>.)

CRUISING GROUP - SUMMER CRUISING PLANNING MEETING

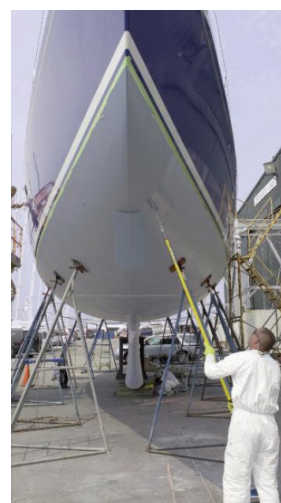
Marilyn Robertson suggests that we meet **this Saturday afternoon (time tbc), 26th March (Easter Saturday)** to discuss the summer cruising programme. This will discuss our plans for weekend cruises in company, and the longer cruises. In previous years, we have targeted a 2-3 week (or longer) cruise to Tobermory (and beyond) in June/July, and a "round the Mull of Kintyre" in September. However, all this is up for discussion on Saturday! **All members interested in the cruising group are very welcome to attend.**



After the meeting, the proposed programme will be posted on the cruising page of the web site - see [here](#).

ANTIFOULING AND POSSIBLE EU LEGISLATION (from MR, GC)

At this time of year, antifouling is very much at the forefront of the minds of keelboat and motorboat owners. So, it may be worth reminding everyone of a possible EU ban on DIY antifouling highlighted in Yachting Monthly and the [RYA Cruising News](#) last September/October. The British Coating Federation carried out a survey at that time, of how boat owners used antifouling, and many of you may have taken part in this. The results were intended to provide data to policy makers within the EU considering a ban on biocide substances which could lead to a **ban on the DIY application of antifouling**. This would mean *all antifouling would need to be applied by trained professionals* - at appropriate cost ...



We have not seen any follow up to this survey yet on EU, BCF or RYA websites, and it is likely that any legislation change would be a lengthy process. Meanwhile, it is perhaps timely to remind all members to be aware of the hazards of antifouling, and emphasise the importance of following all product safety instructions. These include wearing protective kit when working with antifouling products, avoiding dry sanding, and cleaning up rigorously.

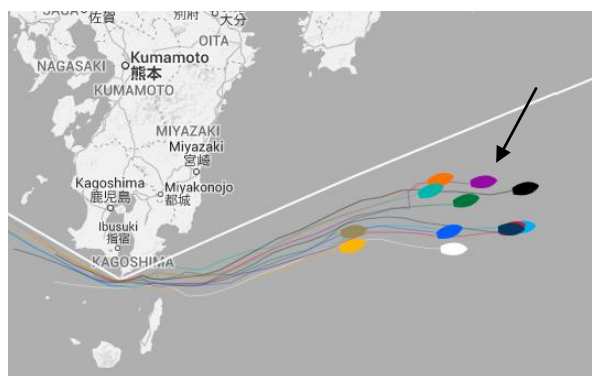
CLIPPER ROUND THE WORLD RACE - DAN SMITH



Former Largs SC junior member and Cumbræes Watersports Centre instructor Dan Smith is skipping Derry-Londonderry-Doire in the Clipper RTW Race, and is currently in second place overall.

Eight legs have been completed so far, with Dan and his crew taking two leg wins and two second places. The boats are currently (24.3.16) three days out of China, passing south of Japan, heading for Seattle - only (!) another 4,600 miles to go!

From Seattle, there are race legs to Panama, New York, Derry-Londonderry, then north about Shetland to the race finish in Den Helder in the Netherlands.



You can follow Dan's progress on the [race web site](#). This includes daily bulletins, and live position / course / speed information. Dan's boat is arrowed in the screen snip above.

OTHER BITS AND PIECES

SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS

We have had a good response to the request for subscription and berthage renewals for 2016, but there are a fair number of members who haven't yet renewed.

Subscriptions are actually due by 31st January, and reminders would normally have been sent out before now, but I've been on holiday, so this hasn't happened yet. Reminders will be going out in the next few days, and I would ask you to renew promptly.

If you are definitely *NOT* going to renew your membership, *PLEASE* let me know (largssc.membership@gmail.com), and I will remove you from our database. Members may not appreciate that we pay a fee to WebCollect that depends on the number of members (and ex-members) listed on our database, but I don't want to remove people who just haven't got round to renewing yet ...

To renew, most members seem to be using WebCollect reasonably comfortably, but I've had to help a number of members with issues which mostly would have been answered if they had read the guide I will be attaching to the renewal request e.g. they have opened completely new memberships, rather than renew their current membership. We obviously don't want two entries for one membership, and merging the two entries is quite time consuming. Sometimes this arises because members can't remember their e-mail registered with the club - but it's simple - it's the e-mail address on which you receive e-mail from the club!

Anyway, if you have any problems, please first read the renewal guide (included on the publications page of the web site - see [here](#)), or contact me.

Gordon Cochrane
Membership Secretary

Links // Contacting the Club, the LSTA, and other links:

LSC office: 01475 670000

LSC Lookout Lounge / Bar: 01475 670022

LSC general e-mail: secretary@largssc.co.uk

LSC web site: www.largssc.co.uk

LSC Facebook: www.facebook.com/largssc

FoC Coastal Rowing Club: see [here](#)

LSTA general e-mail: info@lsta.org.uk

LSTA web site: <http://www.lsta.org.uk/>

LSTA Facebook: www.facebook.com/largssta

Scottish Sailing Institute: see [here](#)

SSI **webcam (new)** - see [here](#)

LYH/LSC **webcam** – see www.largssc.co.uk/web-cam