

LARGS SC NEWS - May 2016

- **clubhouse opening hours** - we are now on summer hours, open every evening during the week, and for lunch Wednesday-Friday, plus most of the day on Saturdays and Sundays
- **quiz night this Friday, 13th May**. Please also note the June quiz is the *first* Friday, 3rd June, to avoid a clash with an event in the clubhouse on the 10th
- **cruising group - cruise in company, this weekend - Sat/Sun 14/15 May**. Meet in clubhouse 0930 Saturday to decide destination
- **more information** - **new moorings** in Millport, **summer extended cruises**
- **LSTA sail training** - 82 juniors and cadets and 10 adults in training
- congratulations to Kes Khaliq, Dougie Colquhoun, Calum Little, Howard Smallwood, and Cameron Milne, for successfully completing their safety boat course last weekend, in a rather fresh (to say the least!) easterly. More safety boat and power boat courses in June
- **dinghy sailing** - update on the Sunday and Wednesday series, special racing (with trophy!) on Sunday 22nd May
- **major events - volunteers** - we need lots of help with our major events over the summer, starting with the Scottish Windsurfing Championships this weekend. Come and help - see more information in the following pages
- want to try **sea kayaking**? Join our group members Castle Craigs Canoe Club on their Tuesday evening paddle.

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 are now on summer hours, as the season's activities are in full swing:

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

Weekends - Saturday - 11:00 to 23:00

- Sunday - 11:00 to 20:00

Evenings:

- Monday - 17:00 to 22:00

- Tuesday - 19:00 to 23:00

- Wednesday - 17:00 to 23:00

- Thursday - 17:00 to 23:00

- Friday - 17:00 to 23:00

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, 13th May

The regular and very popular quiz nights continue this Friday, 13th May. 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.

June quiz night - Friday 3rd June - quiz nights are normally on the second Friday of the month, but we have an event in the clubhouse on Friday 10th June, so the quiz will be a week earlier, on Friday 3rd June.

Volunteers for quizmaster - we are always looking for volunteers to set the questions - and maybe get your revenge on all the too difficult / too easy / too many soap opera/film/sport / not enough "young" questions etc. If you fancy a bash, please contact Alex West, alex@westlord.co.uk, 01294 829286, or 07793 264518.



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 next draw will be at the May quiz night, 13th May.

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](#).

SAIL TRAINING

The LSTA has a total of 92 people in training this year so far - 82 younger members, and 10 adults. Most courses are full, or nearly full - contact Julia (01475 670000 or secretary@largssc.co.uk) if you still want to participate.

There is a Youth Sailing Week from 8th-12th August, and also powerboat and safety boat courses in June. These can also be booked online - see <https://webcollect.org.uk/lsta>.

SAILING

Club racing is now in full swing - read more in Howard's update below.

We need lots of **volunteer support** for forthcoming events, s listed below. Can you help, please? Get in touch.

The **cruising group** have cruises in company through May, and there is more information on the **extended cruises** below.

CLUB RACING (from Howard Smallwood)



Summer seems to have suddenly appeared - so no excuses will now be accepted from those who have yet to get their feet wet!

Many thanks to the **non-racing volunteers** helping this season with our race management and safety cover. Their assistance is greatly appreciated and lets us get more boats afloat.

The **Sunday Spring Series** is drawing to a close, so far thirty crews have participated with average fleets of twelve to thirteen boats afloat. Series leaders are currently Martin Faulkner and Bill Forsyth (RS200) with one of our younger sailors, Innes Stewart (Laser Radial), in a strong second place.

The **Wednesday Evening Racing** has again seen over thirty crews competing. Josh Kerr and Fenella Corlett (RS200) are leading the Fast Handicap fleet. Innes Stewart has a good lead in the Slow Handicap division.

During the weekend of the **Devoti-Vortex Open Meeting**, on **Sunday 22nd May**, we are planning to run a one-off club event. We have even found a trophy! The magnificently named '*African and Eastern Carlsberg Cup*'. Racing will be run from the clubhouse at the normal start time with a briefing at 10.30. Course F will be used, chosen from the fixed marks shown in the Club's Course Charts. Again, any volunteers will be very welcome to assist as the club will be very busy running two events on the same day. Please contact me if you can help.

We now have club racing on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. All are welcome and there are plenty of club members available to help those just wetting their feet!

For the latest results, see <http://www.largssc.co.uk/racing>.

MAJOR SAILING EVENTS - HELP, PLEASE! (from Freddie Moran)

We run a number of events through the season, and we can only do this with the great support we have from our fantastic group of volunteers.

We have two imminent weekend events in May (see below), then an event in mid June - then the big one - the **UK Optimist Nationals** spanning the end of July into the beginning of August. Can you help - ashore or afloat? Jobs for everyone, and it's a great craik - be part of the team that has seen us win the prestigious Yachts and Yachting "[Event of the year](#)" in recent years.





Scottish Windsurfers this coming weekend, 14th/15th May



DZero/Vortex weekend, 21st/22nd May

Then we focus on the two major mid-season events – the **Scottish Laser and Osprey Championships in mid-June** and the **UK Optimist Nationals at the end of July, into August**. These will need considerable volunteer support from the club. So dates for your diary, even just one or two.

Scottish Laser and Osprey Championship – 18th/19th June

We expect about 40 entries in total and will use the main club slipway which will need a “final” clean a few days in advance, contact Julia (secretary@largssc.co.uk). On the weekend itself:

- Ewan is looking for 3/4 volunteers to assistance him on the slip over the two days (ewan.macpherson@btopenworld.com)
- Howard some additional RIB crew and Mark Layers (howard@coastworks.co.uk), and
- David people for the committee boat (david@scottishsailinginstitute.co.uk).

All assistance welcome even if for only part of a day, or the full event. Please contact the relevant person.

Championship Slip Clean – Tuesday 12th July @ 10.00

This is going to be a major challenge and needs to be in pristine condition for the UK Optimist Nationals as it will be the main slip for the event. Many hands make light work, and in this case essential – I would like to think we can get at least 20 volunteers for a couple of hours – retired types, active racers, youths, etc. Just bring yourself and a spade, hoe, brush, etc. We will have assistance from LYH with their tractor, also a member who has volunteered his farmyard cleaning equipment. Can you drop me (Freddie Moran freddiemoran@btinternet.com) or Julia (secretary@largssc.co.uk) an e-mail confirming you are coming at 10.00.

UK Optimist Nationals – 30th July to 5th August

We expect in the region of 250 boats and families for this event, with them starting to arrive in numbers from the Friday. So, we're going to need lots of help:

- George (hutch694@yahoo.co.uk) is going to need a big “Meet/Greet” team for the first few days and ongoing parking support for the rest of the week
- Ewan is looking for 8/10 volunteers to assistance him on the slipways over the week (ewan.macpherson@btopenworld.com)
- Howard lots of RIB crew and Mark Layers (howard@coastworks.co.uk), and
- David people for the committee boat (david@scottishsailinginstitute.co.uk).

The clubhouse is also needing lots of support, so please get in touch with Eileen (eileenmochar@btinternet.com) to volunteer.

I know this event is some time away but planning has already started and we need to get some ideas of how many volunteers we have lined up so please get in contact, also in your diary. All assistance is very welcome, even if for just a day, or the full event – this is our premier National Event in 2016.

SAFETY BOAT TRAINING COURSE - 4th/5th JUNE

We can't run the racing, cadet training etc without suitably experienced and qualified volunteers, so many congratulations to Kes Khaliq, Dougie Colquhoun, Calum Little, Howard Smallwood, and Cameron Milne who successfully completed their course last weekend in what were pretty challenging conditions, with the Largs east wind blowing its hardest! The course was taken by Alastair Leicester.

There is a further course in early June. This two-day course provides the skills required when acting as an escort craft, safety boat or coach boat for a fleet of dinghies, windsurfers or canoes, or for racing or training activities. It includes rescue techniques and elements of race management and mark laying. For more details, and to book, see here.

Largs Sailing club members who are willing to commit to helping with safety cover at events may be eligible for reduced course fees. Please talk to Julia in the LSC office.



RYA POWERBOAT LEVEL 2 TRAINING COURSE - 11th/12th JUNE

This two-day course provides the skills and background knowledge needed to drive a powerboat and is the basis of the International Certificate of Competence. It includes close quarters handling, high speed manoeuvres, man overboard recovery and collision regulations. LSC members are eligible for a lower course fee. For more details, and to book, see here.



CRUISING GROUP - from Marilyn Robertson

Weekend cruising in company - this weekend, Sat/Sun 14/15 May - cruise in company to somewhere, depending on the forecast, and the consensus. Meet at 0930 in the clubhouse to decide. Portavadie and its spa and infinity pool a suggestion.

Extended cruising - for anyone looking to sail beyond the Clyde, there will be plenty of opportunities for extended cruising in company this summer:

- our popular **Western Isles cruise** will leave Largs during the **second week of June**, making the passage through Crinan to "Atlantic waters".
- there is also an earlier cruise to **Northern Ireland** planned, leaving Largs during the **last week in May**.

Following on from last year's successful muster programme, a series of social gatherings west of Kintyre will be organised as part of these cruises. So even if you are unable to join the whole cruise, do sign up for notification of musters by joining the club cruising group.

Looking further ahead, there will also be an extended cruise in August, just before Regatta Week. Depending on weather and tides, this could take in Islay, Gigha and Rathlin or more extended cruising around the Clyde and its sea lochs.

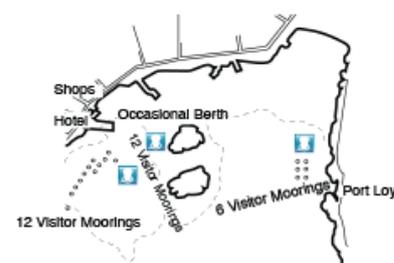
Please contact Marilyn Robertson (corshyecan@gmail.com) who will provide updates on cruises and musters and link you up with cruise leaders.

Remember the full **summer cruise in company programme** is on the LSC web site - see www.largssc.co.uk/cruising.

Additional moorings in Millport etc - North Ayrshire Council have laid a further 18 moorings in Millport, 12 to the west of the pier, and 6 in the east bay - see chartlet:

There are also new moorings on Arran, in Whiting Bay (6), Blackwaterfoot (3), and two at Pirnmill (just south of Lochranza). For full information, see the NAC web site, [here](#).

MILLPORT

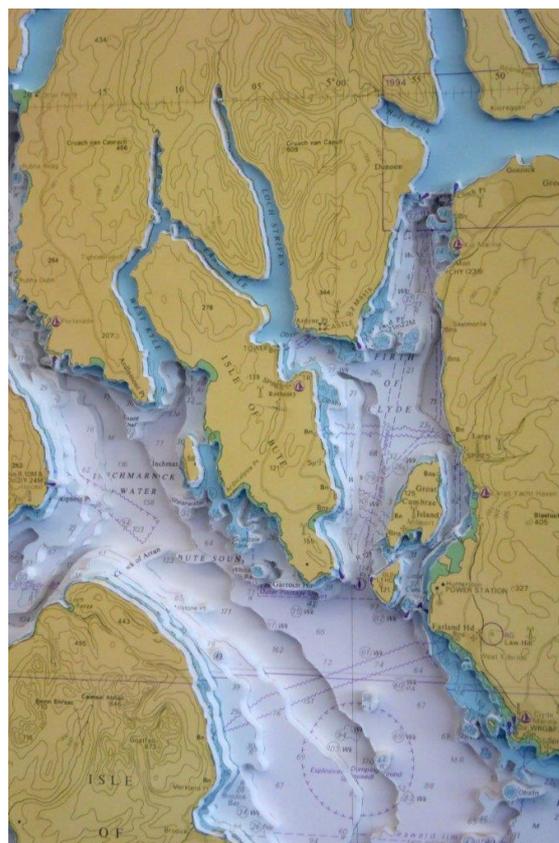


NAC ask that you make a donation (£5 for day use, or £10 for overnight) to the running and maintenance costs of these moorings. There are honesty boxes ashore.

For more details of the moorings, and general information on sailing in North Ayrshire, see [here](#).

Three dimensional chart - the creator of the astonishing three dimensional charts, John Wilson, has generously donated a chart of the south west of Scotland and the North Channel, and this is now mounted in the Lookout Lounge.

You can see more about John's work on his web site, <http://www.nautical3dcharts.co.uk/>.



TRY SEA KAYAKING! - from Stuart White

Our friends and group members the **Castle Craigs Canoe Club** ask if you fancy trying some sea kayaking?? If yes, why not come along to see us. We meet at Largs Sailing Club on a Tuesday evening (the only weekday evening when no LSC sailing happens!!).

Ayrshire's longest running sea kayaking club are looking for some new members aged 14 and over!! We launch from Largs Sailing Club on a Tuesday evening - 6:30 for 7pm.

The club has an extensive range of equipment - everything you need to begin kayaking. We have a variety of boats for the sea, as well as related kit such as paddles, spray decks and buoyancy aids.

Why not come along and give it a try! It's a great way to keep fit and enjoy some social fun!!

Email : Castlecraigscanoec@outlook.com or call 07577 201127

Website: <http://castlecraigscanoec.wix.com/the4cs>



OTHER BITS AND PIECES

Dinghy park - we have an **unknown Pico** in the dinghy park. If this isn't claimed (contact Julia in the office on 01475 670337, or secretary@largssc.co.uk), it will be removed next week.

Internet reception on boats - there is an interesting article on internet boosters and routers in the June edition of Yachting Monthly

May's RYA cruising news - articles on:

- the consequences of "Brexit" for boating - see [here](#)
- counterfeit charts - see [here](#).

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

This is *your* newsletter, and I welcome material on anything related to the club that might be of interest to members - open meetings, cruising destination, kit etc, so please let me your contributions, to largssc.membership@gmail.com. Photographs are good - they don't need to be massive file size - just relevant to your contribution.

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