



LARGS SC NEWS - June 2016

- **quiz night THIS Friday, 3rd June**, to avoid a clash with an event in the clubhouse on 10th June. Quiz nights will **resume in September**, after the summer break
- **cruising group** - the season started with two very popular weekend cruises in company; **extended cruising is now starting**. The next weekend cruise **2nd/3rd July**
- **safety boat course** - THIS weekend, 4th/5th June
- **dinghy sailing** - update on recent racing, special racing (with trophy!) on Sunday 22nd May, Devoti open weekend etc
- **major events - volunteers** - we need lots of help with our major events over the summer, continuing with the **Osprey and Laser Traveller** events on 18th/19th June*. All help welcome - see more information in the following pages - and remember to put our big event of the **Optimist Nationals (30th July to 5th August)** in your diaries!
* - due to this event, there will be *no club racing* on Sunday 19th June
- **Largs Regatta Week** - we welcome CalMac as sponsors for this year's event
- **clubhouse opening hours** - a reminder that we are now on summer hours, open every evening during the week, and for lunch Wednesday-Thursday-Friday, plus most of the day on Saturdays and Sundays

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 summer is here!

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, 3rd June

June's quiz is **THIS Friday**, to avoid a clash with an event in the club on Friday 10th June.

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.

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 May winners were Gordon Cochrane (£60), Joyce Anderson (£40), Alistair Mackay (£30), and Carolyn Elder (£20).

The next draw will be at the June quiz night, 3rd June.

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](#).

LATE NEWS!



Our major event, Largs Regatta Week, has a new sponsor, Caledonian MacBrayne.

Welcome aboard!

Congratulations to John Kent and his crew for winning their class at last weekend's Scottish Series at Tarbert. Full information [here](#).



SAILING

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

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

The **cruising group** cruises in company were well supported in May, with very popular and enjoyable weekends in Portavadie, and Arran.

There is more information on the **extended cruises** below.

CLUB RACING (from Howard Smallwood)

Congratulations to Willie and Dom Todd, winners of our 'one off' Sunday Race for the 'African and Eastern Carlsberg Cup'! The race took the fleet over to the Cumbrae Shore, circling around the Devoti and Vortex dinghies racing in mid channel. This was a busy day at the club, with all the RIBs in use - many thanks to the maintenance team who pulled out the stops to get all four boats operational - at one point on Friday, we were down to one!

The RS200 and Laser fleets are consistently getting good numbers afloat and the club now has three very proud owners of gleaming new Devoti D-Zeros - hopefully a new fleet developing?

The boat park seems full of potentially very fast catamarans, however, the numbers who get afloat are disappointing - come on guys!

Wednesday evening races are proving the most popular at the club, with 26 boats participating on one particularly beautiful but frustrating evening ... (the wind coming in fits and starts from every direction, usually from where I was trying to go !) (This evening's "wind" looked equally fitful - below is the view from our house of the fleet almost stationary in mid channel - Gordon.)



Just a reminder that there is **no club racing on the 18/19th June** as the Laser Scottish Grand Prix and Osprey Travellers are coming to Largs. But that's not to say you can't get afloat!! If you are interested in helping on the ribs or committee boat please give David Kent or myself a call.

EVENTS

The first of this season's major events saw a good number of the new Devoti D-Zeros battling it out for the Northern Championships, with Largs SC's Martin Latimer a close third behind visitors Ben Ratcliffe (Scammonden SC) and Mike Pridham (Isle of Man SC). (For more information - see [here](#).)



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.

Our major event this year is 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.

Before this, we have the **Scottish Laser and Osprey Championships in mid-June**, which will need 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 would like some additional RIB crew and Mark Layers (howard@coastworks.co.uk), and
- David needs 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 all who have successfully completed their training courses.

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 covers basic boat handling, high speed manoeuvres, regulations, LSC members are eligible for a lower course fee. For more details, and to book, see [here](#).

FULL ...



CRUISING GROUP - from Marilyn Robertson and Gordon Cochrane

Weekend cruising in company - the **weekend programme** has begun, with the mid May excursion to Portavadie and its spa and infinity pool enjoyed by 10 boats, and ably catered for in a group meal at The Lodge:



Last weekend, there was an **Arran invasion** by a number of boats. Several boats set off on Friday, and had a night in Kames, then we all mustered in Lamlash, with 7 boats and 14 of us enjoying a social meal in the Pierhead Tavern in Lamlash.

The fleet split on Sunday, with some boats heading back to Largs, but others for Lochranza, and the others anchored off Holy Isle, to do the ridge walk in brilliant sunshine (*fantastic* views from the summit), then well earned refreshments on Night Owl afterwards!



For those not familiar with Holy Isle, there is a very good dinghy pontoon beside the big accommodation building and café on the NW corner of Holy Isle, and a level footpath down the west side of the island towards the south lighthouse. The area around the south lighthouse is occupied by the Buddhist retreat, and visitors are asked to respect the privacy of this area.

You can continue to walk round the south side to the east lighthouse, or if you are a bit more adventurous, there is a great walk up the ridge to the summit, where there are the most fantastic 360° views, over Ailsa Craig, the island of Arran, Bute and the Cumbraes, and the Ayrshire coast. This took Ann and myself just over 3 hours, including a half hour picnic and viewing stop at the summit. Others may do it more quickly!



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

- **Western Isles** - some members have already headed out there, others will leave as various commitments allow, so there is a high probability of meeting fellow LSC members somewhere up the west coast! A series of social gatherings west of Kintyre will be organised, so even if you are unable to join the whole cruise, do sign up for notification of musters by joining the club cruising group, by contacting Marilyn Robertson (corshyecan@gmail.com).
- Other members have already departed for, or will be heading for Northern Ireland, or the Isle of Man, or the Caledonian Canal, so who knows where you might meet fellow Largs SC members! We accommodate all tastes and schedules!
- Looking further ahead, there will also be an **extended cruise** in **late August**, starting on Saturday 20th 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.

SAIL TRAINING / SAFETY BOAT COURSE

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 a **safety boat course** on **4th/5th June** (the **powerboat course** on 11th/12th June is fully booked). Courses can be booked online - see <https://webcollect.org.uk/lsta>.

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