



photo by Tatyana Shingurova

Commodores Comment

Dear members,

It only seems a few weeks since we started sailing and suddenly the club has already moved to Stonehaven. It has been great to be back in the boat after last season's enforced absence. It has been a very encouraging start as far as the sailing is concerned. I don't have the official figures but it seems to me that the turnout is higher than the past few years. More importantly I think the overall standard across the fleet has risen meaning that a good proportion of the fleet are in contention. A quick look at the results so far shows that 12 boats have won at least one race and another few have had a best result of second. There are still some of the usual suspects who surprisingly have yet to win a race (no names!). This level of competition can only help entry levels as opposed to having a runaway winner.

The Open Day / RYA push the boat out was a great success. 50 people came in total and thanks to all those members who helped. I think all the visitors felt welcome and enjoyed themselves. The RYA helped with considerable amounts of posters etc but Ditta put in a huge amount of work to ensure all ran smoothly. I hope we get some new members from the day. If not there will need to be a debate about is the expenditure of effort (and some money) worth it for what is a PR exercise.

From the committee point of view thankfully we have had a quiet start to 2017 allowing membership numbers and finances to recover. Some jobs have been done which will be probably be invisible unless you look hard such as having the grass removed from the gutters at Stonehaven and a re-built AVON transom. Club members are busy doing the Scottish and indeed International circuit especially RS 400s, Solos and Skiffs. I think this is important as it gets ASYC noticed as an active club. It does raise problems though about the conflict between club racing and travelling. How we address this is something I want the committee to explore.

The next events is the social night on June 17th. See you all at Stonehaven. David Parkin



Dates for your dairy Summer 2017

Sa 17th June	Bring-a-dish social evening 7pm, Stonehanen club house
Saturdays in June	Racing, just like Sundays
Mondays till Sept.	Novice racing
Wednesdays	Evening sail with fish & chips
25th June	Ladies' trophy & normal sail
17-21st July	Junior summer week
23rd July	Catterline race & BBQ
19/20th August	Open Regatta

Bring-a-dish night Saturday 17th June 2017 7:00pm



Following the success of the Open Day at the weekend there will a great opportunity to get together on Saturday 17 June at 1900, everyone to bring a dish of food to share. **There will be an opportunity to bring unused/outgrown sailing kit to sell/swap on the 4th floor.**

Children welcome - **Rona will be running her awesome kid's club!**

All visitors to our recent open day have been invited. and the Ellen McArthur Cancer Trust boat is in town - we have invited the crew too - a great way to meet new folk.

The BBQ will be on for burgers and sausages and a soup will be on offer too and the bar will be open - who could ask for anything more. Please email Ditta or Nadia if you would like to come as will help greatly with planning. Thank u 😊



Meet the club: Saturday 13th May

ASYC sailing club held their annual Open Day as part of the RYA [#PTBO17](#) event on Saturday 13th May at our Loch of Skene base. The weather may not have been at its best, but the welcome to over 50 visitors was the warmer for it. Many club members helped to make everyone welcome and get nearly 40 visitors out on the water. Most visitors went sailing - often many



times over - in double handed dinghies crewed by experienced sailors. Some even had an involuntary swim. One of our safety boats offered RIB rides for the less confident and younger visitors. Smiley faces returned from the water to join club members to feast at the BBQ. There was also an opportunity to stroll through the boat park and look at the many different types of sailing dinghies sailed by club members - from Optimists and Toppers for our youngest members, to fast racing machines, to more traditional sailing dinghies.

A HUGE thank you to each and everyone who helped make this event happen. Rememebr, new members are always welcome. There are many photos of the event on the club facebook page "Aberdeen & Stonehaven Yacht Club" Courtesy of Rona Rose.

If you spot someone in the boatpark or club house you have not met before then please say hello and make them feel welcome. We hape many visitors will join us at the Bring-a-dish 17th June.





Novice racing continues



AST put on a fabulous series of Novice racing at Skene. These Monday evening sessions were very well attended (up to 10 boats on the water), expertly led by AST instructors. Most participants are ASYC members who want to hone their racing skills - as well as many Junior racers. Much fun was had by all with Dorien van Diemen taking first place, Neil Torrance and Hannah Ware joint second and Tom White third. Needles to say some more experienced racers were disqualified...

These races are set to continue on a Monday night in Stonehaven - weather permitting. The first session saw three boats surrounded by a 20 strong pod of dolphin for over an

hour, while the second session temped 10 boats out on the water. The races are about 15 minutes long and everyone is welcome. Any help to run these would be greatly appreciated by Ditta and Matthew McLulich. We hope to continue these until the nights draw in at the beginning of September.

All lub boats are available for hire at £5 for adults/students and free to Juniors. We also sk for a £2 coaching contribution per sailor.

Keep checking the facebook page on the day to see if weather stops sail

Loch Skene - please remove your boats



Following a very warm winter and spring, the waters at Loch of Skene have never been more tepid. The water started off beautifully clear, but by the last weekend everyone was glad that the club moved to Stonehaven. Since then the waters have been analysed and found to contain over the threshold amounts of blue-green algae. The loch is therefore now closed to any water-based activities. Even sessions run by AST and SPLASH have ceased and their boats have departed.

The weeds are sprouting like, well, weeds and the few remaining boats (11 in all) hunker down amongst the nettles, hoping to be re-united with their friends in the Stonehaven boat yards and sheds soon. Please give them a helping hand as soon as possible. - Yes, there is a Laser 4000 hiding amongst the weeds!



Lessons by AST

AST are offering a large number of other Junior and adult courses, including powerboat, VHS and First Aid - for more details check out their website. www.aberdeenshiresailing.org These sessions will be run from their bases at Knockburn Loch and Peterhead harbour since Loch of Skene is now closed for the remainder of the sailing season. This includes several summer camps for kids. Skene sessions will resume next spring.



ASYC Junior Regatta and Summer week

Junior regatta 28th May 2017

Sunday dawned to very blustery conditions. Forecast spoke of F4-5 NW winds with prolonged, heavy gusts. Not to be deterred, 27 Junior sailors and their families, including 3 visitors and almost all Junior instructors gathered at Loch Skene, ready for the 9th Junior regatta. The kids were initially split into three groups - the race group (Sunday racers), regatta (Saturday Toppers) and beginners (Oppi Saturdays and beginner Sunday group). The latter group joined experienced instructors in larger double handed boats. Gusts were more scary than forecasts, so Robyn and Ditta decided to only launch the race and general handicap group, leaving the regatta group on the beach for the first race. This proved farsighted, given the instant capsize and trials experienced by the regatta group. After the first race the safety boats raced to the beach, collecting the stranded sailors, redistributing them on the larger double handers and thus making them more manageable for the heroic instructors, battling to keep them under control. Wayfarers were singing and screaming (with delight) around the course while the RS200 and Laser2000 even dared to pop their spinnakers out for downwind planing. The three Fevas on the water tried heroically to keep their boats upright with particularly Alastair and Joe managing to get an extra wash on nearly every lap. The two Lasers with parent helms and very young crew found going tough, particularly Mark Webster and Duncan McKenzie. After 2 races everyone headed in for a well deserved BBQ feast.

Overboard

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Another 2 races in challenging conditions after lunch with intrepid India Smith joining the race team (slow handicap) rather than stay in the Wayfarer. The final results (including 1 discard) were:





Fast Handicap:

1st:	Robyn Phillips, Ross Beard, Finlay McGill	Laser 2000
2nd:	Matthew McLulich	Laser Full
3rd:	Rory Rose, Santiago Rivett / Nathan McCabe	RS200 on 29er handicap
	Dorien van Diemen, Oli Scaife	Laser Radial
	Hamish McLulich, Izzy Parnaby, Niamh Maitland, Kate McKenzie	Wayfarer
	Anna McLulich, Drew Webster, Rachel Jones, Lana McCabe	Wayfarer
	Katie McCabe, Lyall Webster, hazel Robinson, Lewis Carter	Wayfarer
	Mark Webster, Duncan McKenzie	Laser 4.7

Slow Handicap:

1st	Richard Carter, Isabel Paterson, Isla Colliar	RSFeva
2nd	Alastair Collair, Joe Roach	RSFeva
3rd	Leask Mairland	Topper
3rd	Lucy Hasler	Optimist
	India Smith	Topper
	Fraser Cowie, James Paterson, Alec Sweetnam	RSFeva
	Tom White	Topper
	Adrian Maitland	Topper



The Endurance trophy went to Mark and Duncan for perservering for 2 races in their bucking Laser.

Congratulations to all who took part - sailing was truly challenging on the day.

The day would not have been a success without the help of many, many parents and volunteers. Aberdeenshire Sailing Trust kindly allowed the club to hire all their double handed boats and RIBs. The rescue boats were manned by: Kenny, Rona, Ian, Gerry, Howard, Jarred, John, Tom and Tracey. The committee boats crew were Richard, Margaret and Ditta. Beachmaster: Alison with Marianne and Lynne. First Aid: Lucy. Catering: Susan and Elaine. Results: Neil Torrance, Games: Rona and Catrina. Photos: Rona and Jarred. Boat move coordination: Gerry

For many more photos of the regatta by both Jarred and Rona check ou the ASYC facebook page.

Summer week:

The fabulous, famous, most fun of all, summer week is planned for 17 - 21st July. Only kids currently in the Junior lesson program or with skills above Level 2 can apply. It will cost £75 per child and run daily from 9am to 4 pm, volunteers permitting. For an application form email training@asyc.org.uk



After the summer

More plans are afoot for a Junior race series (running at the same time as adult racing) for more experienced sailors as well as fun on the beach for the younger sailors. More details to follow.



Powerboats galore



Over the last year and a bit Colin has been working tirelessly making our safety boat fleet the best possible. Latest endeavours saw the transom of AVON cut out and a replaced with a newer, stiffer, dryer and less rotten one. All RIBs are in a most beautiful state of repair and all kit on board works - that is unless some careless person forgets to raise the props while driving out of the boathouse at Skene, forgets to pull the trunks up or even carelessly throws the anchor overboard without ensuring it is tied on first or not tying the boats up properly afterwards. Please take care when using the RIBs. We have only got one Colin and

he is starting to look worn, even with massive help from Gerry. If you have some time to spare and like boat or house bimbly then let Colin know. He needs all the help he can get.

Sail repairs

Do you have sails with holes?

The let former club member Ed Bissett and Jacqueline Miles give you a hand. Bissett and Ross, Sail and Tarpaulin Manufacturers are professional sail repairers who have been mending club sails for many years - even after they stopped racing in their Fireball. For expert - competition winning - repairs and a quote contact Bissett & Ross on 01224-580659 or visit them on Riverside Drive, Aberdeen, AB11 7SL



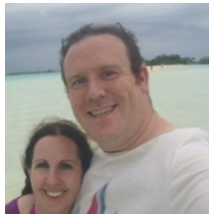










More volunteers are desperately needed

Do you have a wee bit of spare time and fancy getting involved more with the club? The club urgently needs help looking after club houses, sheds, boats and many other things. A new volunteer for our publicity bits (newsletter, fliers, posters) s also needed. Talk to any committee member to find out more.



Your Club Committee

	David Parkin Commodore Solo Commodore @asyc.org.uk		Francis Neill Vice- Commodore Blaze		Bob Yeamans Secretary RS400 Secretary @asyc.org.uk
	Phil Rose Treasurer RS200		John Deacon Sailing Secretary Blaze Sailing @asyc.org.uk		Colin Davies House & Grounds Blaze, RS400, GP14, Quiddich broomsticks & more
	Nadia McMinn Social Sec RS400		Alex Beane Membership RS200 Membership @asyc.org.uk		Ditta Neumann Principal & Training RS200 Training @asyc.org.uk
	Katy Heidenreich Welfare Officer		Fancy getting involved? We need someone to take on the publicity role		