

Newsletter

April 2001

Articles for the Newsletter to:
Roy Donn, 1 Sigurd Road, Thurso,
Caithness, KW14 7LP,
Tel 01847 895646, Fax 01847 802005
Email: roy@radit.org.uk
Website: www.radit.org.uk/pfyc

LETTER: KATIE JANE THE STRANGER

"I am writing this letter to you in the hope you will publish my journey in your monthly yachting newsletter. I had the luck to crew on John Faulds boat Katie-Jane in July/August bringing her home to Thurso and it would mean a lot to me to see this tale reach your readers. Thank you Angela Willans"

Katie Jane the stranger on the phone said "That's the name of my boat and you need to be in Denmark by the 23 July 2000". John welcomed me onto his yacht and we started the laughs on the first day. With my limited knowledge and his experience and tactful ways, our journey through Denmark was marked with good times, great scenery, bacon and eggs (for a few e breakfasts) and the competent crew getting plenty of practice. The space to go our separate ways at different ports was needed to start the next adventure afresh and as we three on board headed over to Norway we tacked our way into the tricky marina in Mandel at 3 am. I was dead excited and amazed to even be doing this trip and I think John could see my joy and let me skipper the boat into dock. Here was a girl from New Zealand heading for Scandinavia in a 28 Footer.

FANTASTIC!

The weather was shining down upon us and gave me the opportunity to try out the wonderful beaches in the area and walk through the forests (woods). Back on board our other crew decided, on a drunken night, to jump ship and bus it back to England. The two of us, confident but still learning to tie a bowline were ready to set sail (to reach Scotland in a few days. For two strangers who had only met 8 days earlier! Think we did bloody well. Passing oilrigs, enduring heavy seas and some hunger pains I managed to practice some navigation skills, make good use of the borrowed wet weather gear (thanks friend) and developed a few more grey hairs for my skipper. John never lost his cool with me, never made me feel inadequate and remained cool under some tough calls. I hope to one day soon have a yacht of my own and gained useful skills during this venture. My goal came a little closer with the help. When the incredible curves of Scotland surfaced I had not only had the time of my life, I had met a remarkable yachtsman and friend. Thanks for the good time John.

Angela Willans

DATES

23-24 June Mid Summer regatta

22-23 Sep End of Season regatta

COMPOUND

The compound is being cleared and extended to allow more boat storage. Please remove any of your old kit by end of May or it will be skipped. Thank you.

FOR SALE

5mm thick Wetsuit, to fit height 5' @ £50

5mm thick Wetsuit, to fit height 4'6" @

CALEY MARINA

Club members are reminded that they are entitled to a 10% discount on all goods purchased from Caley Marina in Inverness on production of a valid membership card.

RNLI NIGHT

The club raised £300 for the RNLI funds, thanks to all who supported this event.

LOCK UP YOUR CLUB

This is a reminder to users of the clubhouse and garage, lock the doors when leaving the club, and also remember to lock the compound gate. Think security.

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

The Club has a child protection policy in place. Further details to follow or see website.

WANTED

5mm thick Wetsuit, to fit height 5'3"

Contact: Martine Hughes, Tel.: 01847

894909

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OOD's

The format of racing is changing this year. Refresher training for OODs will be on 22 April in the morning. Guard boat crews are essential to a full sailing program, therefore we are seeking to expand the team. Guard boat training will take place after the guard boat is launched. Further OOD training aimed at novices to compliment 'on the job' experience is planned.

To book your place on the next courses
Malcolm Lord Tel: 01847 896885

TRAINING

FIRST AID COURSE

Do you need to renew your Certificate?

DINGHY SENIOR INSTRUCTOR COURSE

Calling all dinghy instructors, the club has identified a need for additional senior instructors (SI) to enable continuity of the club RYA Recognised Teaching Establishment (RTE), which is vested in the Principal (SI).

To book your place on the next courses
contact Steven Shanks Tel: 01847 895318

PONTOONS

Scrabster Harbour Trust are looking into installing pontoons in the harbour area, If you are interested please contact a PFYC committee member for inclusion on list. For further details
Contact: Doug Shanks Tel: 01847 895318

SCOTTISH TRADITIONAL BOAT FESTIVAL

Portsoy 7th/8th July

For further details

Contact: G Linekar Tel: 01847 895672

RACING

This year will be spilt into fast and slow handicap fleets, sailing Olympic (triangle and sausage) courses with average lap results. The fleets will use different upwind marks - this format worked well at the End of Season Regatta last year and was endorsed at the AGM. Copies of race programme are available on website.