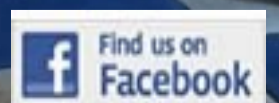


Cockle Island Boat Club Christmas Newsletter 2024

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
To all our Members



WWW.COCKLEISLANDBOATCLUB.COM
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Editors Seasonal Greetings



**Doesn't time fly by when your having fun! Speaking of which here I am earlier in the year down at Father Ted's house for a wee cup of tea unfortunately Mrs Doyle wasn't free as she was repairing some slates up on the roof !!!
2025 could be a difficult year as certain vital members are stepping down so don't be shy if you think you can commit to a role in the running of the club. Please let the Hon Secretary know before the AGM
Anyway a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.
Your long suffering editor.**

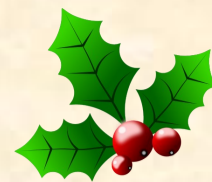


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A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE



It has been my honour and privilege this year to helm Cockle Island Boat Club during its 50th anniversary celebrations. From the rebranding, to the past Commodore's lunch in November, the calendar was jam packed with many, many super events and I think we can all rightly be proud of what was achieved.

I'd particularly like to take this opportunity to thank some people who have served this club with commitment over many years and are now 'retiring'

Thanks to John Cathcart for his many years of service as club secretary and race results compiler, and on a personal level for explaining to me why an occasional hairbrained idea of mine wouldn't work!

Thanks also to Gary Wilgar for all the work he has carried out on the sailing committee, including sorting out the wayward marks, tides and representing us with Belfast Lough Yachting Conference.

Thanks also to the many members who stepped up to help throughout the year and apologies to anyone I may have missed.

This leads nicely onto my last message for this year which concerns what makes a club a good club. It's stepping up to help. This is very important for any club and is germane to its smooth running and survival. I'd urge everyone to think carefully about this and to please, please take the time to ask yourselves if you can do something to help, then do it. It doesn't have to be anything as formal as joining a committee but by just coming along to help with the various tasks that invariably go to the running of a club, you'll be supporting the regular organisers. Any help is very welcome and appreciated.

Finally I'd like to wish good luck to all the office bearers and committee members for next year. I know from my own experience that everyone will give them their full support. Thank you for stepping up to the challenge.

Merry Christmas to you and your families and I wish all a happy and peaceful New Year.

Fair winds.

Harry Patterson
Commodore



Notice of Nomination at Annual General Meeting



This is the principal business occasion for the club, when members have an opportunity to question the outgoing Executive committee on their handling of the affairs of the Club during the past year and also to have the opportunity to make appointments for the incoming year and discuss and propose future activities of the club

Nominations

The following is a guideline concerning the nominations and elections for the Executive Committee.

- (a) Only FULL members may be appointed to office on the Executive Committee and only FULL members may vote thereon.
 - (b) No nomination should be made unless the intending proposer and seconder - after consultation with their prospective nominee satisfied that the person nominated will be willing and able to serve the Club in the capacity for which they are proposed.
 - (c) No person shall accept nomination unless adequate time, thought and energy can be spared to fulfil the duties involved.
- The full Executive Committee meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 19:45 hours.

Verbal nominations may be made at the AGM but it is preferable if nominations are submitted in writing and sent to the Hon. Secretary before the AGM



Neill
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NOTICE OF 50th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

You are invited to the **50th** Annual General Meeting to be held in the Boathouse, Groomsport on Wednesday 15th January, 2025 at 20.00hrs



Business of Annual General Meeting

To receive **the reports** of the Executive Committee for 2024.



Honorary Treasurer

the accounts for the financial year ending 31st December 2024.

The Honorary Secretary

Commodore's valedictory comments

To appoint office bearers and the Executive Committee for the year 2025. These appointments shall be made by and from full members as rule 7(a).

POSITION CANDIDATE PROPOSED BY SECONDED BY

Commodore GEMMA McCOUBREY

Vice Commodore John Cleary

Rear Commodore Niall Orr

Honorary Secretary Campbell Gardener

Honorary Treasurer Ron Hutchieson

Committee 1 Michael Arbuthnot

Committee 2 Richard Bunting

Committee 3 Brian Galbraith

Committee 4 Bryan Lawther

Committee 5 Lex McCoubrey

Committee 6 Gemma Trimble

ex officio Immediate Past Commodore Harry Patterson

Honorary Auditor Johnny Ritchie

to audit the accounts for the year 2025.

To transact any other business agreed by the Executive Committee. •

A member wishing to raise a subject for discussion shall give at least SEVEN days' notice in writing to the Honorary Secretary (Rule

7.5) • To discuss any business notified (as above).

Yours sincerely John F. Cathcart Honorary Secretary

PROPOSED MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS 2025



FULL MEMBERSHIP

£50

£45 if paid before the end of March 2025

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

£15

All pending ratification at the AGM

Note: Associate membership "Note See clarified wording as per the wording of the proposed Rule Amendment."

Payment of Subscription

**Subscriptions should be paid to the CIBC Treasurer,
Ron Hutchieson**

(Cheques made payable to Cockle Island Boat Club)

or by e banking Transfer to

Cockle Island Boat Club

Santander Bank

Account Number: 92039523 Sort Code 09-01-28

(Please ensure that you add your name as a ref)

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Cockle Island Boat Club

Proposed Amendment to Club Rules

Deleted words are highlighted by being struck through.
Inserted words or sentences are shown in italics and in shaded boxes.
The letters in the right-hand margin refer to the explanatory notes, on a following page.

1 MEMBERSHIP

By applying to become a Member of Cockle Island Boat Club individuals accept that, on election, they are assumed to have given their consent for their names and addresses and details of their boat to be retained in a data bank that will be used for communications within the Club and with the members themselves. Their names and boat details will be used in the Belfast Lough Yachting Conference Boat List but, otherwise, such details will not be provided to other parties.

Members, whose subscriptions are not in arrears, will also be entitled to be sent copies of the Club newssheet and any other correspondence or information as sent out by the Executive Committee, by post or electronic means.

There shall be ~~TWO~~ **THREE** categories of membership;

a

FULL MEMBERS (Members)

~~All~~ **Full** Members of Cockle Island Boat Club will pay an annual subscription fee determined at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). If this is paid in full before the 1st April there shall be a discount which shall be determined at the AGM.

b

Members, whose subscriptions are not in arrears, will be entitled to vote at any AGM or Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) called by the Executive Committee (or otherwise). They will also be entitled to stand for office on the Executive Committee.

Persons who are whole or part boat owners must apply for Full membership *unless they qualify as Associate Members (as set out below)*.

c

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Associate Membership will be available to a Full or Honorary Member's spouse/partner and/or family member under 18 years of age, *and who resides at the same address*.

d

A Full Member's spouse or partner may retain their category of membership in following consecutive years notwithstanding the death of the Full or Honorary Member through whom they originally qualified. A family member under 18 years of age who qualified as an Associate Member under these circumstances is entitled to retain their Associate Membership until the end of December following their 18th birthday. **f**

Associate Members shall pay an annual subscription, which shall be determined at the AGM. There shall be no discount and they will not be entitled to vote at an AGM or EGM except in regard to Associate Members' subscriptions ***nor will they be eligible to stand for office on the Executive Committee.*** **g**

HONORARY MEMBERS

Honorary Membership may be conferred on existing Full or Associate Members at the discretion of an AGM or an EGM, following recommendation of the Executive Committee. They shall rank as Full or Associate Members (as appropriate) but shall not be required to pay an annual subscription. **h**

(Proposed by the 2024 Executive Committee)

Explanatory Notes (to the proposed Rule changes)

- a** Previously there were two categories of membership, it is proposed that now there should be three.
- b** Change of "All" to "Full". This makes it clear that this section applies to Full Members only. There is still a separate statement made in respect of Associate Members.
- c** The existing rule requires that a youth owning even a small dinghy has to become a Full Member. The addition means that nobody can join as an 'unrelated' Associate Member, thereby preventing those from other Clubs joining CIBC as a 'cheap' way of participating in other Club's events.
- d** Makes it clear that this relates to Full or Honorary Members only.
- e** The inclusion of this phrase brings the Rules into line with the requirement that is currently made on the Membership Application Form. Although printed there, it was never actually enshrined within the Rules - and it should be.

f A new section which allows a Full Member's spouse or partner (or family member under 18) to continue as an Associate Member after the death of the Full Member. Note that this applies only if the period is "following consecutive years" so if there is a break in membership (for whatever reason) the spouse or partner would have to re-join as a Full Member. Also, by stating that the member through whom they qualified has to be a Full or Honorary Member means that they have to be fully "paid up" otherwise they are not a Full Member unless they are an Honorary Member.

f A new section which allows a Full Member's spouse or partner (or family member under 18) to continue as an Associate Member after the death of the Full Member. Note that this applies only if the period is "following consecutive years" so if there is a break in membership (for whatever reason) the spouse or partner would have to re-join as a Full Member. Also, by stating that the member through whom they qualified has to be a Full or Honorary Member means that they have to be fully "paid up" otherwise they are not a Full Member unless they are an Honorary Member.

That same rule now clarifies that a family member may continue after the death of the Full Member but only until the end of the membership year (31st December) following their 18th birthday.

Clarifies the already inferred restriction on Associate Members.

g Gives the power to confer Hon. Membership on Full or Associate Members, but only at an EGM or an AGM.

h

"Big John" Cochrane who sadly passed in November 2024 pictured in happier times.





CIBC Future of Sailing



The CIBC Summer Sailing Programme includes 2 mid-week and one weekend race, either a BLYC regatta or a club race, from 1st May to 30th September.

Although it did not seem so this year the number of races completed was similar to the numbers completed in 2023 and 2022.

The number of boats participating in races continues to decline, particularly in the Crowe Cup on Wednesday evenings.

This decline is partially explained by the reduction in the number of keel boats in the CIBC fleet as members mature, health issues arise and boat ownership ceases.

The low turnout for Crowe Cups is demoralising for the participants and the Race Officers and battery teams who give up their Wednesday nights to sometimes watch only 2 boats racing.

The incoming Sailing Committee may wish to consider options for the future format of the Summer Programme, including, but not limited to:

- .continue as is**
- .change the starting of the Crowe Cup to on the water**
- .move the Crowe Cup to Wednesday afternoons**
- .investigate the possibility of combining the Crowe Cup with RUYC Tuesday night sailing or BLYC Thursday night sailing**
- .change the number of races**

Following the grounding of a yacht during a Royal Cork Yacht Club race there is currently an increased focus in Irish sailing on safety. With safety in mind CIBC should probably review the future of the Portpatrick Race, which can no longer be regarded as an in-shore race because it is not completed within sight of land.

The Ocean Racing Club safety requirements for off-shore races are more stringent in terms of boat equipment, personal safety equipment and crew training, and far exceed those necessary for club racing.

If you have any views on the points in this article, or other suggestions please send them to honorary.secretarycibc@outlook.com



CIBC Sailing Trophies 2024



Crowe Cup 1st Bird of Sunset.T. Dynes

2nd Osprey K. Colville

Wrinklies 1st Maximoose B. Andrews

2nd Merryjack B. Lawther

RTL 1st Lara G. Larmour

2nd Maximoose B. Andrews

RTI 1st Lara G. Larmour

2nd Merryjack B. Lawther

Glenarm 1st Hecla K. Walsh

Portpatrick 1st Maximoose B. Andrews

September Series 1st Bird of Sunset T. Dynes

Pursuit 1st Hecla K. Walsh
Dynes

2nd Bird of Sunset T.

Duncan McInnes Cup Merryjack Bryan Lawther

Endeavour Cup Caterina Jackson Conn



CIBC Sailing Trophies 2024

Thanks to those Boats and Crew who did turn out to support the racing programme. The Sailing Committee would like to thank all those members who acted as Race Officers, especially those on the shore battery.



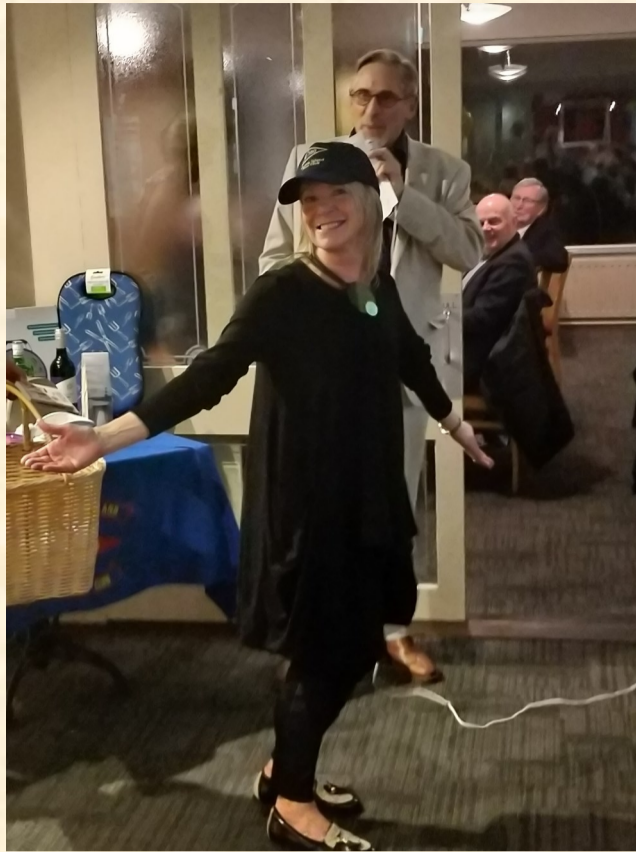
Some of the Sailors were not available on the night to accept their trophies

Cockle Island Boat Club 50th Anniversary Dinner and Prize Giving Evening At Clandeboye Golf Club 25/10/24





A few Ballot Winners





Log of Katrilli Cruise 2013 by Frank Smyth.



A quick dash to the Shetlands!!

This year we decided to go to The Shetlands, so the usual crew of Robert Hume & Roley Richards were joined by John Cochran who was only able to stay for ten days. It was agreed therefore that he would be put ashore somewhere and make his own way home. We set off from Bangor at 1600 on 31st May heading north. The intention was to do an all night sail. However by the time we were abeam of Muck Island the evening had become cold & with the wind in the North we



decided to put into Glenarm for the night. A good meal & a wee dram settled us down for the night.



Cockle Island Boat Club Winter Programme 2024/2025 Boathouse Groomsport 8PM



08/01/2025 **Committee Meeting 7:45**

15/01/2025 **AGM**

22/01/2025 Jimmy Nesbitt My journey to be a GP14 Champion

29/01/2025 Gary Hall Belfast Harbour

05/02/2025 **Committee Meeting 7:45**

12/02/2025 **Ian Wilson** a collection of Local Stories

19/02/2025 **Movie Night** The Last Cape Horners (Youtube)

26/02/2025 Byron Griffiths My Time as a CalMac Captain

05/03/2025 **Committee Meeting 7:45**

12/03/2025 **Brian Galbraith** A Motorcycle trip to the Dolomites

19/03/2025 **David Lennon** Musical Evening, featuring songs from around the area.

26/03/2025 CIBC Exec Committee **Pub Quiz Night**

02/04/2025 **Committee Meeting 7:45**

09/04/2025 Sailor's Meeting

Thanks to Campbell for his difficult task to fill the programme. **Can you help?????**