

Inchinnan
Cruising Club
Founded 1932

ISLAND LIFE

**In this issue:
Commodore's
Christmas
Message**

WINTER 2023

TAKE A LOOK INSIDE

We aim to publish a quarterly newsletter to communicate with the membership. The aim is not to replace our duty as members attending meetings or substitute the minutes of meetings but more a chance to communicate in more detail around the good bad and ugly within our club.

MEMBERSHIP

2023 saw the intake of three new full members & nine associates. Following our adoption of a data protection policy, the club will move to a secure online membership database. Invites will be sent from webcollect to allow each member to register with the club.

GOT A STORY?

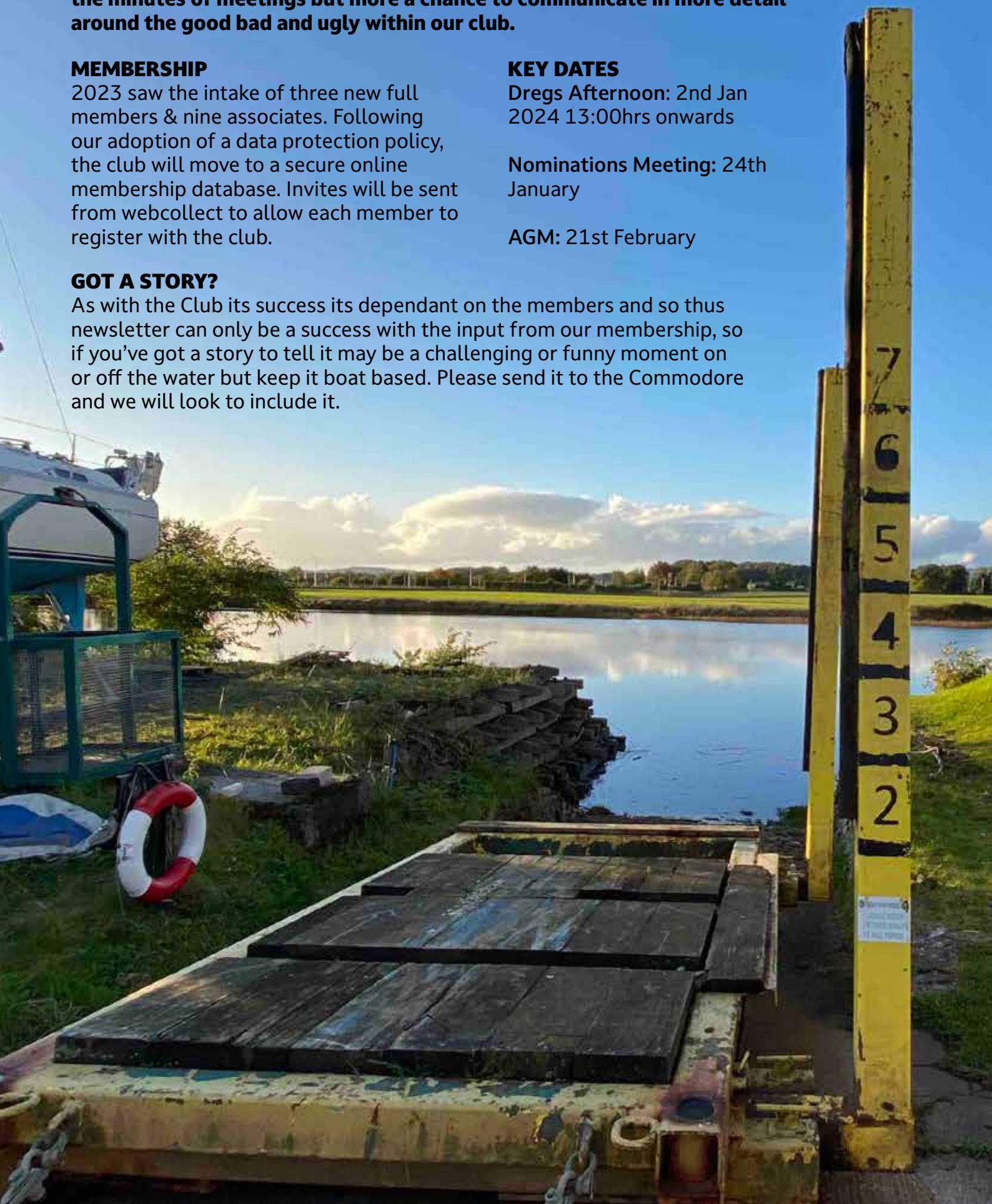
As with the Club its success its dependant on the members and so thus newsletter can only be a success with the input from our membership, so if you've got a story to tell it may be a challenging or funny moment on or off the water but keep it boat based. Please send it to the Commodore and we will look to include it.

KEY DATES

Dregs Afternoon: 2nd Jan
2024 13:00hrs onwards

Nominations Meeting: 24th
January

AGM: 21st February





A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMODORE

I hope this first edition of our new ICC newsletter finds you all happy and healthy enjoying some time with your families.

We've had a mixed bag through 2023 and that is just the weather! When sitting down to write this, the immediate thought is how do you summarise a full year into a few lines without going on and on so here goes.

Starting with a massive and sincere THANK YOU to the membership of our great wee club for all their input and activity throughout the year. We had some great successes that I hope you can join with me to reflect and celebrate.

Work party attendance was at an all time high with some members and associates attending almost every Wednesday night, this allowed us to complete many of the tasks we set out at the start of the year most of which involved reclaiming our precious Island from nature and the effects of the pandemic but that's just the start of the story we still have much to do. More will be communicated in the new year on winter work parties.

Plant and equipment is in the best condition it's been for as long as I can remember with significant effort going into every piece of kit and bringing it up to specification. We are now improving the training given to operators and assuring they understand their responsibility. 29 boats launched this year including several boats that had previously been under the 4-year rule so a great achievement by all to get them launched.

2023 also seen the departure of some of club boats that will likely never return to ICC. The saddest of these was my father's old boat "Buckie Lugger" and I have no shame in telling you all a tear rolled down my cheek as she left the Cart for the last

time, and I waved farewell to my childhood memories. New owners have arrived in the form of temporary membership to help breath new life into some of the craft that have not seen water for some years.

Club cruises were for me the biggest success and enjoyment of the year with 20+ boats turning out for Holy Loch and Rothesay. More on this below. All of this would not be possible with the dedication and commitment of our Committee so on behalf of the membership thank you to all

Its not all been smiles in the last 12 months and let's not forget those members that are no longer with us, unfortunately this year two of our full members passed away. Billy Burton of Temptress was one of our longest serving full members and a stalwart of ICC for many years and Ian Sharpe passed away late in 2022. I ask that we keep them and their families in our thoughts over the festive period.

I will stop there as I could go on and on. I on behalf of the Committee wish you and your families a happy and healthy Christmas and a great New Year I look forward 2024 as we continue to move the club forward and achieve all that is planned. Its less than 100 sleeps until launching begins so let's hope the weather plays ball.

Anthony Cameron Commodore



A MESSAGE FROM OUR RETIRING VICE COMMODORE

My first proper contact with Inchinnan Cruising Club was back in 2011 when I was approached by Tom Elder, who was Commodore at the time, to ask if I was interested in drawing up a new Club House and obtaining all the necessary Planning and Building Warrant consents. I, of course, replied that I would be more than keen to take on the project, provided I could become a member of the Club and so it came to pass.

I had known about the Club for a long time prior to that of course, having lived just along the road in the nearby village of Houston, and had passed it regularly on my drive into work in Glasgow.

However, my acquaintance with the Club stretches back even further, as far as 1956, when I was first introduced to sailing at the age of 14, on an old, converted steel ships lifeboat based in Grangemouth at the Eastern end of the Forth and Clyde Canal. She belonged to a friend of my dad and every year she would make the long journey through the canal to the Clyde to get to her mooring at Port Bannatyne. Our favourite harbour was, of course Rothesay, and it was common to see Inchinnan boats tied up in the Inner Harbour for the Summer. Indeed, the inner harbour used to fill up with Inchinnan boats at the Glasgow Fair as working-class families spent their summer holidays on their boats.

I had been invited to become a member of the Committee a few years earlier by Denize Hunter, who was then the Commodore, but alas I had to decline the offer as I had too many other commitments. It came as a surprise to be asked again last year by Anthony Cameron, and this time I agreed as my life was a lot less complicated, and I am pleased to say that I was duly elected at last year's AGM.

It has been quite an eye-opener to me to

be involved in the running of the Club, as there are so many widely different issues that the Committee had to deal with, ranging from membership applications, equipment maintenance, data protection and the amount of effort that goes on behind the scenes to organise Social Events and Musters! As an ordinary, full member I just hadn't realised how much work and responsibility the Committee had to carry out to keep a small club like this running!

Sadly, I decided to retire after one year as my hearing is deteriorating even further and, despite hearing aids, I have great difficulty in gathering all that is going on at meetings! I would strongly encourage all members to join the Committee, even if it is only for one year! It has given me a completely new insight into the running of the Club! Without an active and enthusiastic Committee, the Club will surely die off!

This small Club has an amazing history behind it! It is much more than just a yard for storing your boat in Winter! There should be a queue of members striving to join the Committee and help run the club!

May we all look forward to a new season in 2024 with fair winds, calm seas and a full Committee doing all the 'behind the scenes' work that our club needs to keep it running for many more years to come!

Peter McAlister Vice Commodore

Doon the Watter we go!

Our Club Cruises and Musters are a time honoured tradition and they are waypoints that mark out the sailing season for the Club. When taking part in one, you feel you are marking a course following in the wake of past Members and it is a truly wonderful way to be together with other members and share a sailing adventure. This year's Cruises and Musters have been no exception. So here is a summary of each one of the events below.



Our first Cruise of the year was the Mid Summer Cruise and we anchored at Swine's Hole in loch Goil for a day of Fun organized by our Plant Convenor and his wife.

Barbeques, Beer, Burgers and water-based activities was the aim, although not all in that order. With various prizes on offer such as best/worst anchoring, best paddle board dismount, there was something for everyone. Ensuring our younger members were involved on the water, paddleboarding and dinghy racing were organised (I'm sure the sale of Paddleboards peaked around mid-June). It turned out to be a great success with some of the older children/adults taking to the water.



We also had members braving anchoring for the first time which most of us take for granted but can seem daunting to those that have never laid a bit of chain. The only downside were the shouts from the shore about the Commodore cheating due to his wooden oars, REALLY!

Lots of great memories for our young folk.

Swine's Hole prize winners were:

Best dressed Boat: Union Jack, D&P Hunter

Best anchoring Entertainment: Annito, M Woodhouse

Best paddleboard Dismount: Paul Cameron

Dinghy Race: Dayspring Crew

Adult Paddleboard Race: Anthony Cameron

Doon the Watter we go!



We had an amazing Muster at Holy Loch organised and coordinated by our Launch Convenor, our Social Convenor and his wife.

Our Muster at the Holy Loch was a great success. During the day we mustered at the breakeater in Holy Loch and visited member's boats and caught up with each other surrounded by the stunning hills of the Holy Loch. Then, in the evening we all attempted a very challenging quiz and a packed to the rafter's Holy Loch Sailing Club saw the victors of the quiz be the proud winners of ICC engraved glasses.



After the quiz, the Pizza's and party food arrived and we all tucked in to the food washed down by many a tot of grog and catching up with old friends.

Thanks to everyone that participated and brought raffle prizes.

Holy Loch prize winners were:

1st Team Bam: Dayspring, Sionnach, Bamboo, Sapphire

2nd Team Rankin: Te bheag

Joint 3rd Team: Seol Na Mara & Team Jawz: Colonsay and Nuage

Doon the Watter we go!



We had a fabulous final Muster of the year at Rothesay organised and coordinated by our Launch Convenor, Commodore and his wife.

The muster to Rothesay had the Launch Convenor and Commodore panicking around room at the hall as the number of participants grew and grew. A hall that held 50 people managed to accommodate over 80!

I have to give credit to the Commodore's wife and a few other helpers for coming up with the kid's entertainment and



prizes, a sure fire winner in keeping these future members interested in boating (who says bribery doesn't work).

The Club putting on food seems to be a big winner as it relieves the stress of those having to cook and "bring a dish", it may be time to allocate a social budget for such events in the future.

Thanks to everyone that participated and brought raffle prizes.

Rothesay Prize winners:

Best Dressed Boat: Colonsay, P Cameron

Quiz winners: Dayspring and Sapphire



MAESTROS AT WORK

As you will all be aware the purpose of work parties is to help keep our fees as low as possible. This means each full member must complete a number of these throughout the summer months. Without this this activity we would have to employ professionals or companies to take on these tasks forcing our membership fees through the roof. Work parties are also a great opportunity to get to know about your fellow members how many of us walk up and down the island and don't recognize the faces we see. Work parties can bring us all together.

2023 has been great in terms of commitment from our membership and we as group achieved a great deal most of the activity as stated by the Commodore was fighting nature. Our resident womble continues to dedicate his spare time clearing rubbish from club grounds but a warning to you all, you are responsible for your own mess so get it cleared!! Lots of effort was put into the usual pot hole filling but the purchase of an industrial roller for this and levelling berths takes some of the hardship out of these tasks.

We managed to paint some of the hoist and still have bogie and other painting to be completed. New electricity meters were fitted to monitor electricity usage following the massive price hike late in 2022. South Island project- tree clearing was completed and just recently we have purchased the gates for access either side of the cycle path, all of which helps to secure our planning permission for future development.



We did suffer from a burst pipe in the Clubhouse early in the year but thanks to various members we have now insulated pipework to minimize that risk in the future. Our club house has a new

lick of paint with new benches and a BBQ hut for outside events (watch this space). We still have much to achieve and so it will come as no surprise we are continuing with winter work parties to finish of some tasks.



The slipway requires major work and more to follow on that but it seems that our members are hibernating for the winter with not many offering support for these tasks. Be aware with the volume of work required in 2024 we may need to up the required number of work parties from 5 depending on how much we achieve over the winter. We now have a plan and are working through the security camera replacement one of our potential new members is working on this and would certainly benefit from some help if anyone is available in the new year. The Club spirit is still in existence, but it seems to be the same names that offer help when the call goes out. Where are the rest of you after all its your club and your responsibility to make the effort for the benefit of all. Please get in touch and we can assign project or tasks that will be suited to ability and skillsets.

Gordon Hill Master of Works



CORONATION CUP 1953

The Coronation Cup was Presented to ICC by the Royal Scottish Motor Yacht Club to Celebrate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth in 1953. The Cup was presented annually to the club member that had logged the most nautical miles in a season up until the early eighties when the cup disappeared.

During 2023 the Cup reemerged in a sorry state and was refurbished and handed back to the club, coincidentally the year of king Charles' Coronation.

We now have the proud honour of presenting the Cup for the 1st time since the eighties. For those of us who rarely make it past the delights of Rothesay a cruise further afield or even a venture over the horizon may seem daunting but not for our retiring Vice Commodore who amazingly logged 1600 nautical miles in his Fastnet 34 Soel Na Mara, taking him as far away as the Hebrides by his own admission this was a quiet year and he had expected to cover more distance. The Cup will be Presented Formally to Peter at our AGM and an extract of his log sent to the RSMYC.

So what does 2024 hold in store for ICC. If only I had all the answers! What I do know is there is much to do within our club, and we have a number of challenges to overcome in the New Year including the Bridge Cottage legal issue that still needs to be brought to closure but rest assured the committee are working on that. We have a significant issue with the slipway rails that need immediate attention. More pressing than these is finding volunteers for the committee for the coming year and beyond. I sent an email a few weeks back and to date there have been zero replies.



We could be faced with the issue come nominations of not having sufficient members willing to dedicate time to running the club so where would that leave us? As I have said previously do not assume some one else is going to do it or you have not been a member long enough or I'm not sure what I would do on a committee. Trust me almost everyone on the committee has had the same thoughts at some point but one thing I have witnessed over my time as member when issues present themselves there are areas of the membership willing to step up. I am confident with the engagement of you all these challenges can be overcome but that takes YOU as a member to attend meetings and provide your input and feedback after all its YOUR Club!!!!

Anthony Cameron Commodore