



Bell Lawrie
A division of Brewin Dolphin



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- **Bell Lawrie Scottish Series 2008 adds additional race to line up**
- **New facilities planned for premier yachting event**

The Clyde Cruising Club and Bell Lawrie have today announced plans for the 2008 Scottish Series, including a new race and proposals for modernised shoreside facilities in Tarbert on Scotland's West Coast. The launch of Scotland's largest yachting regatta took place at the London Boat Show and is set to take place from Friday 23 May to Monday 26 May in Loch Fyne.

On the water

The introduction of the new 'Scottish Round the Island' Race is an exciting addition to the event for the CYCA fleet. The new race will take competitors around the outside of the two mid and south loch fleets and down Loch Fyne before returning to Tarbert for the finish. With an attractive prize for the overall corrected time winner and individual class prizes, this CYCA fleet has a race that is well worth winning. The organisers hope that this will see an increase in entries from CYCA boats, a class with minimal restrictions, and the absence of the overnight race in this category, provides sailors of any level with the chance to compete in the coveted competition.

The IRC, One Design and Restricted Sail classes also have much to look forward to at this year's event, continuing last years 100% success rate in these classes. The Inbound race feeders from Bangor, Northern Ireland (Wednesday 21 May) and Inverkip on the Clyde (Thursday 22 May) will continue, set to give competitors a final chance to get their boat and crew ready for the main Series.

At the harbour

Participants are also set to benefit from developments to the harbour planned to improve the facilities available to them. Tarbert Harbour Authority is hopeful that additional pontoons will be available in time for this year's Series, as part of their ambitious development programme to upgrade the facilities available to both racers and regular visitors. They are currently investigating the possibility of entering into an agreement with The Crown Estate to provide additional berthing and improved shoreside facilities. The intention is that plans outlining the developments will be on display during the Series.

An exciting and comprehensive line up is currently being devised by the Clyde Cruising Club, along with the Tarbert Enterprise Company and the Tarbert Harbour Authority guaranteeing an array of activities for spectators and participants to enjoy after a day on the water. As in previous years there will be a wealth of musical talent on show with a selection of top bands already secured to perform in the marquee. The competition won't be confined to the water, with a football tournament and a tug of war, set to provide battles on dry land.

Howard Morrison, commodore of the Clyde Cruising Club, said, "Yet again the Bell Lawrie Scottish Series will be a spectacular event and we look forward to welcoming participants from the UK and beyond. We're keen to make the competition as inclusive as possible and the CYCA class provides the perfect challenge for any level of sailors, as there are far less regulations to contend with. Participants will also benefit from the new facilities adding to the whole experience of taking part, whilst soaking up the vibrant and lively atmosphere in Tarbert."

Competitors are being encouraged to sign up early. Further details and race entry forms for this year's Bell Lawrie Scottish Series are available now from the Clyde Cruising Club website: www.clyde.org. For details on the title sponsors go to www.bell-lawrie.co.uk.

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For further media information please contact Viv Blair or Lorraine Alonzi at IAS SMARTS on 0131 555 0425

Notes to editors

The Bell Lawrie Scottish Series

- The Bell Lawrie Scottish Series has racing for 14 separate classes on three different race courses. There are also pre-regatta Tarbert Inbound Races, which sets off from Bangor, Northern Ireland and Inverkip on the West Coast of Scotland.
- The Bell Lawrie Scottish Series includes racing for the following classes: IRC Classes 1-4, CYCA Classes 6-10, Sigma 33, Impala 28, Sonata, Cork 1720, and Sportsboats.
- With easy flight links between Irish airports and Glasgow and Prestwick and marina berths at Troon, Inverkip, Largs, Ardrossan, there is the opportunity to base a yacht on the Clyde for an extended period and enjoy cruising around the islands too.
- The Bell Lawrie Scottish Series attracts around 200 visiting yachts to Tarbert, plus over 1,200 crew who bring the quiet village to life over the racing weekend.
- Bell Lawrie has been the title sponsor of the competition for the past eight years.

Clyde Cruising Club

- Clyde Cruising Club was established in 1909 and is the largest sailing club in Scotland with over 2,000 members.
- The club runs a full cruising programme and publishes the renowned Sailing Directions to the Scottish Islands and Coast, it operates a sailing tuition programme at Bardowie Loch near Glasgow and prestigious offshore and passage racing events in the summer months and a range of social programmes.
- The club has been organising the Bell Lawrie Scottish Series for 33 years since inception.

Bell Lawrie

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