

23rd May 2020

Dear CCC Member.

CCC Update – Season 2020

This weekend would have been the 46th Scottish Series, Scotland's premier sailing event and part of the CCC's 110th year of celebrations.

As I looked out of the window yesterday across the river to Greenock and today, with the rain lashing on the windows and strong gusts of wind, let's hope at least we are getting the bad weather out of the way this year and hopefully glorious weather in 2021.

Despite the adverse weather, it is with considerable sadness that we will all be reflecting, I am sure, on how our lives have changed from the living rooms of our homes on the Bank Holiday weekend. My biggest reflection is how much I miss the camaraderie of the Scottish Series, from a personal perspective it has never just been about great racing but also that deep kindred spirit of friendship with fellow competitors and sailors in a unique location.

We remain optimistic that at least some boats will be launched this year and hopefully families at least may enjoy the freedom of our waters. We continue to remain hopefully that the North Clyde Regatta (GSS) may yet be run but right now we can only dream of being able to indulge our passion.

Glenn Porter and the Regatta team have set up some great social media footage celebrating previous years' Scottish Series and I would urge everyone to take a look, it does bring back some wonderful memories with a number of virtual pontoon parties and virtual regattas organised over the weekend you can share your stories by including "scottishseries" in your posts..

Planning has already started for the Scottish Series in 2021 with reservation already open. We hope to make this a bigger event than ever particularly with the resurgence of One-Design racing but hope also to maintain strong IRC, RC35 and CYCA classes, including the introduction of a 2-handed class. I also hope that we might have some participation from our Dinghy Section members at this great event.

I would also like to thank the Vice Commodore, Geoff Crowley for sharing so much knowledge, information and wisdom to Club members in the form of a series of talks, newsletters and quizzes, I truly believe he has found a new vocation in life and the Club owes him a great debt. If you haven't yet had the chance to participate, I urge you to try, we have had great feedback from members. Also this is a plea for old articles or photographs, please do pass them on to Geoff to include.

I have tried to avoid mentioning C-19 but the Club continues to manage it's financial position prudently:

1. Jennifer Rolland remains on furlough, but we look forward to her return in the next few weeks.
2. We have applied for the Government grant based on the rateable value of the Club premises – this is in progress.
3. We plan to vacate the CCC Office in Glasgow in the coming weeks, the Club assets will be stored at Bardowie and Jennifer will continue to work remotely, she has managed this so far extremely effectively.
4. The Dinghy section continue to manage their expense base most prudently and are hopeful of a return of some Summer School activity.
5. We will likely merge the Journal and Yearbook in to one publication as we navigate through C-19 this year, saving a significant amount on printing and posting costs

I thank the Committee for their support in making these difficult decisions, but I believe as well as seeing the Club through 2020, it will emerge in a much strengthened financial position in 2021.

We of course will have challenges moving forward but the Club is weathering the storm well so far. We will be re-visting our sponsorship programme from racing events in 2021, sponsorship and support is so important to enable the Club to run such professionally organised events and we hope our existing sponsors can continue to help and to add some new sponsors.

And of course, we will be celebrating the Club's 111 years with a number of events from Musters to racing to cruising in company with family and friends.

Let's all reflect quietly on the value and fun the Scottish Series has brought to us all for a great many years and what it means to Scottish Sailing. Thank you to every one of you for your support, loyalty and friendship, enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend and stay safe.

Kind Regards,



Alastair Torbet

Commodore – Clyde Cruising Club