

**MYA Scottish District**  
**2021 AGM – 7pm, 26th October 2021**  
**Online meeting via Zoom**

**Minutes**

**1. Attendees and apologies**

- a. Attendees (\*\*\*) Club voting representative - one vote per club):

Name	Club
Ian Dundas ***	Aberdeen
Steve Taylor	Aberdeen
John Owens	Aberdeen
Bill Lees ***	Ayr Bay
Richard Rowan ***	Greenock
Malcolm Durie ***	Kinghorn
Nick Cowern ***	Levenhall
David Smith ***	Paisley
Brian Summers ***	Tayside
Graham Robertson ***	Wick

- b. Apologies were received from Lorna Rushton (Mid Argyll Radio Sailing)

**2. Confirm minutes of 2020 AGM ([click here](#)) (all)**

Proposed Brian Summers      Seconded Ian Dundas      Vote: Unanimous

**3. Matters arising from the 2020 minutes (all)**

- Carried over from 2020, cancelled due to Covid 19 – **Brian Summers** to organise a training event
  - Carried over from 2020, cancelled due to Covid 19 – **Brian Summers** to encourage clubs to organise open events
  - Ongoing – **All clubs** should ideally be in a position to host a SD event including providing a suitable Race Team
  - Ongoing – **All Clubs** to keep looking for new sailing venues
- All of the above were postponed due to Covid but are continuing actions in 2022.

**4. Review of spending in 2021**

- There was no spending in 2021.

**5. Reports by SD Committee Officials for 2021 (as read)**

**6. Reports by SD Clubs for 2021 (as read)**

**7. Draft racing programme for 2022 season**

- The draft 2022 MYA SD Racing Programme was presented by Brian Summers (MYA SD Racing Secretary). Most events have confirmed venues and host clubs.
- Of particular note is the introduction of MYA SD Championships for the DF65 and DF95 classes. This is in recognition of the growth of the number of boats in these classes now sailed by several Scottish District clubs.
- The 2022 MYA SD Racing Calendar was accepted.
- Bill Lees stated that the DF95 MYA National Championships might be held at Castle Semple in 2023. John Owens strongly recommended that bookings for Castle Semple and the Bowfield be made as soon as possible.

## Scottish District Sailing Programme 2022 (26<sup>th</sup> October 2021)

Date	Event	Venue	Club	Status
Sat. 26 <sup>th</sup> March	SD IOM Travellers 1	Ayr Bay	Ayr Bay RYC	confirmed
Sat 16 <sup>th</sup> April	SD IOM Wooden Hull Championship	Forfar	Tayside RSC	confirmed
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup> May	SD DF95 Scottish Championship	Greenock	Greenock MY&PBC	confirmed
Sat. 11 <sup>th</sup> June	SD IOM Travellers 2	Peterhead	Buchanness MYC	confirmed
Sat. 10 <sup>th</sup> September	SD DF65 Scottish Championship	TBC	?	?
Sat 24 <sup>th</sup> September	SD IOM Travellers 3	Kinghorn	Kinghorn RSC	?
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> October	SD IOM Scottish Championship	Forfar	Aberdeen MYC	confirmed

### 8. Motions raised by clubs and SD Committee

- a. No motions received.

### 9. Election of MYA SD Officers for 2022

- a. John Owens, District Chair; Brian Summers, District Racing Secretary; Cathy Reid, District Secretary/Publicity; Steve Taylor, District Senior Measurer all indicated their willingness to stand again.
- b. There were no nominations for District Councillor.
- c. There being no other candidates proposed, the four current committee members were elected to continue as the MYA Scottish District officials.

### 10. AOB

- a. **DF65 and DF95 class captains:** There has been considerable growth in the Scottish District of the DF65 and DF95 classes across several clubs and hence the introduction in 2022 of class championships. The advantages were therefore discussed of having Scottish District DF65 and DF95 class captains to represent their interests. This was accepted.
  - i. **Action: Brian Summers to liaise with Bill Lees and others to establish MYA SD DF65 and DF95 class captains.**
- b. **MYA SD IOM Travellers series:** The format has undergone a number of evolutions in the last 15 years. The current format is score best two results of three events. It was discussed whether the MYA SD IOM Championship should be added so that the format would be **best of three from four** (three SD IOM Travellers events and the SD IOM Championship).
 

Proposed: Brian Summers      Seconded: Ian Dundas  
 Votes: For – 5      Against – 1      Proposal approved

  - i. **Action: Brian Summers to update the MYA SD SSIs for 2022.**
- c. **SD Councillor role:** Per the Scottish District Constitution, the roles of the Chair and District Councillor are combined. As previously reported, John Owens formally resigned as Scottish District Councillor but volunteered to remain as Chair. The SD Committee have been seeking a replacement District Councillor. To date, nobody has volunteered or been identified to take on either or both roles. It was noted that the old SD constitution could be resurrected to accommodate split Councillor/Chair roles.

- d. **Zoom account:** The overall experience of this trial (free) AGM by Zoom seemed positive and definitely saved a lot of travel time and expense. In addition, it enabled inclusivity of geographically distant clubs. It was therefore considered worthy to see if a paid Zoom account would be useful to (i) the MYA (ii) other MYA Districts (iii) MYA classes?
  - i. **Action: John Owens to discuss the feasibility of a Zoom subscription account with the MYA DCO and MYA Treasurer.**
- e. **SD website:** Brian Summers talked about his ideas regarding the racing documents being moved to the tab for events in the SD website suggesting renaming the tab as "Race & Event Documents" to be consistent with the MYA main website. John Owens (as webmaster) requested this topic be fully discussed offline rather than solving it as part of the AGM.

## **2021 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM THE SCOTTISH DISTRICT CHAIR**

#### **MYA Scottish District Committee**

With Covid, it has been a challenging year. Behind the scenes, the 2021 MYA SD Committee (Brian Summers, Steve Taylor, Cathy Reid and myself) continued to put in a lot of effort on behalf of the clubs and their members in Scotland and Northern Ireland. I would like to thank them for their time and wise counsel. They will describe some of their work in their reports but this barely recognises the hours that they expended on activities in the SD and further afield.

#### **Interface with MYA Council on behalf of the MYA SD**

During the early part of 2021, I represented you (the MYA affiliated members and Clubs) in a timely manner addressing matters between MYA Council, its officers and yourselves as and when appropriate.

However, although my personal views aligned with the views of many I spoke to within the SD, they increasingly diverged from the direction and decision-making of MYA Council. As the MYA Council employs the principle of "collective responsibility". I was not willing to be associated with these Council decisions. Having discussed the matter with the SD Committee, on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021 I tendered my resignation from MYA Council as Scottish District Councillor (see attached letter). My resignation letter was also sent to all members of MYA Council, the SD Club Secretaries and it was also posted on the SD website.

As per the SD Constitution, the roles of SD Councillor and Chair are combined and I also offered to resign as Chair. The SD Committee sought a replacement for the Councillor role but nobody resident in the SD volunteered. Thus, I was requested to continue as SD Chair (and webmaster) which I continue to do.

#### **MYA SD affiliated members (as of September 2021)**

Since 2018, the MYA-affiliated membership of the Scottish District has continued to grow. In 2021, the membership has increased during the year by 18 to 184.

<b>MYA-SD Club</b>	<b>MYA affiliated members</b>
Aberdeen	5
Ayr	21
Buchanness	19
Carrickfergus	17
Greenock	10
Kinghorn	16
Levenhall	15
Mid Argyll	22
Paisley	12
Rhu	19
Tayside	16
Wick	12
<b>Total:</b>	<b>184</b>

It is noted that part of this increase may be due to the rise in popularity of sailing DF65's and DF95's in several clubs. This is acknowledged in the 2022 Racing Calendar where the opportunity has been created to have SD Championships for these classes.

## **2022 IOMGBR National Championships – Castle Semple**

The Scottish District has established a reputation for running high quality and enjoyable National and Ranking Race events. The SD had been invited to host IOMGBR Ranking Races in 2021 but these were cancelled due to Covid. IOMGBR then invited the SD to host the 2022 IOMGBR National Championships with the specific request for the venue to be Castle Semple. This is a prestigious event in the MYA and IOMGBR racing calendar and we are honoured to be invited to host the event.

I have volunteered to be the PRO and have begun to build a race team. However, more SD volunteers are being sought and I would be very grateful if members could contact me (tel 07530 153207). The event begins on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April and concludes on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2022 with the following schedule:

- Day 1, Friday 29th** 12:00 to 18:00hr Measurement, Registration and Practice.  
Informal evening social gathering at the Bowfield Hotel.
- Day 2, Saturday 30th** **Competitor briefings are scheduled for 15 minutes before the first warning signal each day.**  
08:00 to 09.30hr Final Measurement and Registration.  
10:00hr First Warning Signal.  
18:00hr No more warning signals. Any heat where the first boat has not finished by 18:30hr will be abandoned.  
Informal evening social gathering at the Bowfield Hotel.
- Day 3, Sunday 1st** 09:30hr First warning signal.  
18:00hr No more warning signals. Any heat where the first boat has not finished by 18:30hr will be abandoned.  
**PARTY NIGHT!** 19:30hr Event dinner at Bowfield Hotel & Country Club,  
Bowfield Road, Howwood, Johnstone PA9 1DZ
- Day 4, Monday 2nd** 09:30hr First warning signal.  
No RACE will start after 15:30hr. Any race where the first boat in A Heat has not finished by 16:30hr will be abandoned.  
**PRIZEGIVING WILL BE HELD ASAP AFTER END OF RACING**

## **2021 summary**

The first half of the year was challenging with sailing activities curtailed by Covid. As restrictions eased, both District and clubs gradually expanded activities as far as possible. Regrettably, we do not have District Councillor representation on MYA Council. It is hoped that 2022 will see a far less restricted sailing programme for individual members, clubs and Scottish District events.

Keep healthy, keep well  
**John Owens**

**Sent to:**

**MYA Scottish District Committee**  
**MYA Scottish District Club Secretaries to share with their members**  
**NB Also posted on MYA Scottish District website**  
**MYA Council members.**

**Resignation from MYA Council**

As part of my role as the Scottish District Chairman I am also the Scottish District Councillor serving on the MYA Council. With immediate effect, please accept my resignation from the role of Scottish District Councillor.

I would be grateful if fellow members of the Scottish District Committee could arrange a substitute to represent the Scottish District on MYA Council. I am still willing to serve as Scottish District Chair and webmaster.

A common question asked of MYA Council members, District Committees, etc. is, "What are the benefits of joining the MYA?" Right now, I am asking myself the same question.

To their great credit, some MYA Council members work very hard and are extremely effective in serving MYA members. However, I have lost all faith in others and do not trust their motivation to secure the future of an inclusive and vibrant association.

Regrettably, I have come to the conclusion that dysfunctional and disruptive behaviours are causing far more problems for MYA members than solutions. Some examples include the extremely poor understanding of the needs and desires of MYA members and classes by some Council members, systematic and unnecessary over-complication of burdensome regulation, a complete lack of leadership in amicably addressing the sail measurement debacle and the Class Owner Group framework for both IOMGBR (the MYA's largest class) and the Free Sailing class (the MYA's oldest group), etc., etc.

As a consequence, I am no longer willing to waste further time and energy, nor to be associated with the behaviours, the direction being taken and the negative consequences for MYA members.

With best regards  
John

John Owens, MYA Scottish District Chair

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## **2021 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM THE SCOTTISH DISTRICT RACING SECRETARY**

Covid restrictions again affected the early part of our race programme with the first event not possible until IOM Traveller 2 at Forfar on the 10<sup>th</sup> July. We did manage to run 4 one day events including the Scottish IOM Championship and the IOM Wooden Hulled Championship. This was a big improvement on last season when only one Scottish event was possible. As the season progressed further easing of Covid restrictions has allowed racing to get back to near normal.

Weed has again affected some Scottish District clubs which has precluded them from hosting events particularly with the schedule having to include the mid-summer months which we normally try to avoid.

Members from the Scottish District clubs competed further afield with some success in the 2021 IOM, DF95 and DF65 National Championships with a Scottish skipper (Tich Summers) winning the 2021 IOM National Veterans Championship at Lincoln.

#### **Summary of 2021 Scottish District Champions**

2021 Scottish District IOM Championship	Ian Dundas
2021 Scottish District Wooden Hulled IOM Championship	Ian Dundas
2021 Scottish District IOM Travellers Series (Overall)	Steve Taylor

## **2022**

Next year we plan to get back to our normal format with events being scheduled in the early and late summer to avoid the main holiday season and the worst of the weed problem. We are also including DF95 and DF65 Scottish Championships recognising that these classes are becoming very popular with some clubs in the Scottish District.

The big news is that the Scottish District has been chosen to host the prestigious IOM National Championship at Castle Semple over the 30<sup>th</sup> April and 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> May next year. The Principal Race Officer is John Owens who will be assembling a race team from members throughout the Scottish clubs.

## **Brian Summers**

## Scottish District Results

### Scottish District IOM Championship

Position	Skipper	No.	Design	Club
1	Ian Dundas	38	Corbie 6	Aberdeen MYC
2	Richard Rowan	85	Cheinz	Greenock MY&PBC
3	Tich Summers	07	BritPop	Tayside RSC
4	Stewart Campbell	50	Kantun 2	Tayside RSC
5	Colin McGinnis	45	Buzz 3	Tayside RSC
6	Dave Stewart	30	Corbie I	Tayside RSC
7	Ian Thomson	76	BritPop	Buchanness MYC
8	Bill Reid	57		Buchanness MYC
9	Tim Drysdale	36	Corbie 5	Levenhall
10	Ian Davidson	39	Corbie 5	Greenock MY&PBC
11	Alan McKechnie	59	Vision	Buchanness MYC

### Scottish District Wooden Hulled IOM Championship

Position	Skipper	No.	Design	Club
1	Ian Dundas	38	Corbie 6	Aberdeen MYC
2	Tich Summers	07	Buzz 3	Tayside RSC
3	John Owens	33	BritPop	Aberdeen MYC
4	John Taylor	28	Sushie	Greenock MY&PBC
5	Ian Davidson	39	Corbie 5	Greenock MY&PBC
6	Dave Stewart	30	Corbie I	Tayside RSC
7	Robert Rooney	71	Corbie 5	Paisley MYC
8	Gordon Alison	62	Tergo	Ayr Bay RYC

### SD IOM Travellers 2

Position	Skipper	No.	Design	Club
1	Steve Taylor	43	Corbie 5	Aberdeen MYC
2	Ian Dundas	38	Corbie 6	Aberdeen MYC
3	Richard Rowan	85	Cheinz	Greenock MY&PBC
4	John Owens	33	BritPop	Aberdeen MYC
5	Colin McGinnis	45	Buzz 3	Tayside RSC
6	Dave Stewart	30	Corbie I	Tayside RSC
7	Gordon Rae	36	Venti	Ayr Bay RYC
8	Sandy MacKay	58	BritPop	Kinghorn RSC
9	Ian Davidson	39	Corbie 5	Greenock MY&PBC
10	Bob Wilson	88	Buzz I	Tayside RSC

### SD IOM Travellers 3

Position	Skipper	No.	Design	Club
1	Ian Dundas	38	Corbie 6	Aberdeen MYC
2	Tich Summers	07	Buzz 3	Tayside RSC
3	Richard Rowan	85	Cheinz	Greenock MY&PBC
4	Dave Stewart	30	Corbie I	Tayside RSC
5	Colin McGinnis	45	Buzz 3	Tayside RSC
6	Bob Wilson	88	Buzz I	Tayside RSC
7	Sandy MacKay	58	BritPop	Kinghorn RSC
8	Stewart Campbell	50	Kantun 2	Tayside RSC

### Scottish District IOM Travellers Series – Overall Results

Position	Skipper	No.	Design	Club
1	Steve Taylor	43	Corbie 5	Aberdeen MYC
2	Ian Dundas	38	Corbie 6	Aberdeen MYC
3	Richard Rowan	85	Cheinz	Greenock MY&PBC
4	John Owens	33	BritPop	Aberdeen MYC
5	Dave Stewart	30	Corbie 1	Tayside RSC
6	Colin McGinnis	45	Buzz 3	Tayside RSC
7	Tich Summers	07	Buzz 3	Tayside RSC
8	Sandy MacKay	58	BritPop	Kinghorn RSC
9	Gordon Rae	36	Venti	Ayr Bay RYC
10	Bob Wilson	88	Buzz 1	Tayside RSC
11	Ian Davidson	39	Corbie 5	Greenock MY&PBC
12	Stewart Campbell	50	Kantun 2	Tayside RSC

The scoring convention in a normal season are for three Travellers events with the best two results counting. This year, only two events were sailed due to Covid. Furthermore, Ian Dundas scored a 1<sup>st</sup> (T3) and a 2<sup>nd</sup> (T2). Steve Taylor scored a 1<sup>st</sup> (T2) and was on the race team for T3 which scored him average points (= a 1<sup>st</sup> place). Therefore, Steve Taylor is the winner of the Sir Thomas Lipton Cup as the 2021 Scottish District IOM Travellers Series Champion.

## **2021 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM THE SCOTTISH DISTRICT SENIOR MEASURER**

During the early part of the year in lock down I engaged with the MYA Technical Officer (MYA TO) and provided commentary and photos for the IOM measurers' guide that was being produced and now published on the MYA website.

With both Scottish District Senior Measurer and IOMGBR Technical Officer hats on I have communicated to the MYA TO that there are three major elephants in the room regarding the envisaged measurer training:

- Measurers are volunteers and coming from usually a technical background over many years do not want to be subjected to tests and examination.
- The RYA sail measuring course has little relevance to measuring model yacht sails unless you wish to crease them!
- The continued requirement for RYA membership as well as the time, cost and travel that would be involved.

I have consistently stated that the practical way to move forward to maintain the cohort of measurers we have and attract new ones is to:

- Produce online guidance that current and would be measurers can read and take in and use as reference on top of the excellent check list sheets we already have.
- For the new measure, a practical session of boat and sail measuring with a senior local measurer within Districts with a hands on approach to demonstrate the necessary skills.
- Documenting and recording the above.

To this end during lock-down, I mapped out four guidance modules on Documentation, Sail & Rig Measuring, Hull & Appendage Measuring and Racing Requirements from Part C. Two have almost been completed (Documentation & Sail/Rig Measuring slides packs) with just video to be added.

The project is currently on hold pending the outcome of the COG agreement (this still has not been agreed or signed with the MYA as there is no agreement or consent on the authorities and obligations that will transfer to the COG). Thus, pending agreement I am not wasting time in an area where I currently have no authority.

During the year I solicited feedback from the current Scottish District Measurers (14) on the future training proposals. Four stated they would currently retire at year end as they had done enough, eight would not continue if future MYA proposals (RYA sail measuring) were implemented, one would continue and there was one no return. This review was communicated via John Owens to MYA Council.

Finally, as the sailing got into swing once more, new boats have been measured and our Travellers and Championship programmes have had weight checks of all boats.

As we move into 2022 I will continue (if re-elected) to push for a more pragmatic MYA approach on training to be realised and implemented from the end of 2022. We need new measurers in NI and in the SW part of the district and it is important we get this right.

**Steve Taylor**

## **2021 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM ABERDEEN MODEL YACHT CLUB**

In 2021 Aberdeen Club membership remained stable at five. The club continues to promote the building and development of wooden IOM's.

John Owens holds the post of Scottish District Chairman but resigned from the role of MYA Scottish District Councillor earlier in 2021. Steve Taylor holds the posts of both Scottish District Senior Measurer as well as IOMGBR Technical Officer.

In addition to local club sailing, three members have actively taken part in or been involved in the organization of Scottish District events. These members also attended the 2021 IOM National Championships at Fleetwood.

No suitable model yachting venues have been found local to Aberdeen to replace the club's previous venues of Inchgarth Reservoir (Aberdeen) and Knockburn Loch (near Banchory) so club members continue to regularly sail at the neighbouring clubs of Buchanness and Tayside.

**Ian Dundas**

## **2021 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM AYR BAY RADIO YACHT CLUB**

The club has again used two locations to sail, namely, Beach Park Pond, Irvine until end of April and then moved due to weed to Castle Semple.

We sailed at Castle Semple until mid-August and then weed stopped play and we are now awaiting to return to Irvine by end of October to start the laser winter series racing.

Our membership has increased to twenty-five members who all sail RC Lasers with a turnout of 10 - 12 boats racing on a Tuesday and Sunday and in addition 15 members also sail DF95 on a Thursday. Hopefully next year we will re-start sailing IOM on an ad hoc basis.

Due to Covid and weed we have not run any events in the past two years but hopefully we will host a Scottish District IOM Travellers as well as Scottish District DF95 and RC Laser Championship events in 2022.

**Bill Lees**

## **2021 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM BUCHANNESS RADIO YACHT CLUB**

Membership stands at 24 seniors and 2 juniors. Club sailing in line with Government requirements was halted for a period of time because of the Covid pandemic and has resumed following Scottish District guidelines. Through the summer months weed was not in any abundance and did not cause any problems.

Classes sailed in the club are:

- DF65 yachts sail on a Wednesday afternoon at 1400 which saw at one event all 13 yachts sailing. On average we would have around seven which gives good competitive racing.
- IOMs sail on Saturday mornings at 10am with 8 to 10 yachts giving good fast racing. We have seen over the weeks some very well presented wooden examples of the IOM and some of Ian Vickers V9, V10 and V11s making an appearance with more to come. Buchanness has a fleet of modern IOM and DF65 yachts.
- Fifies: probably suffered from a combination of Covid and poor wind direction. There are five skippers who sail these graceful craft but as you grow older they seem to get a bit heavy and access is on the difficult but next year we will give it a try again.

Some of us have been going into scale models in particular fishing boats and we hope to expand in this direction and have been in conversation with others in the town who have shown interest.

This year we have restarted the DF65 monthly event and that went well with Bill Odger winning the first one. We only had two or three Fifie races. As yet we have not restarted the IOM monthly which we may do next year. We did host the 2921 Scottish District IOM Championship which was a close fought regatta with Ian Dundas just winning.

In 2022, Buchanness will host a SD IOM Traveller event. We were asked to host (new to the district) a DF65 Scottish District Championship but we thought it would be better run by one of the clubs nearer the central belt with the focus on more access to numbers.

## **2021 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM CARRICKFERGUS**

The objectives of the Club are to encourage the building and sailing of model boats by holding meetings, holding or taking part in exhibitions or demonstrations, organizing model yacht racing or other competitions, and by any other means considered appropriate by the executive committee. That's the official bit. In reality while we do have power driven models, the main activity of the club centres around model yacht sailing and racing mostly, but not exclusively, in the IOM class. The racing is organized into seasonal events, spring, summer, autumn and winter series with occasional one-off events and a special regatta each year.

We have eighteen members of which only about eight could be considered as active. Generally, if six turn up we would consider this a good day. We meet in Carrickfergus harbour on most Saturday afternoons throughout the year. Carrickfergus is in Co Antrim, Northern Ireland and lies on the NW shore of Belfast Lough about six miles NE of Belfast. Our venue provides us with excellent facilities for sailing although in salt water. From time to time we do experience parking and access difficulties but we can mostly overcome these.

As an MYA affiliated club, we welcome new members and would extend a warm welcome to any visitors from across the UK, Republic of Ireland or indeed anywhere else. If anyone is in the area and would like to sail, we'll get you an IOM to borrow and you can join in with likeminded sailors.

**Jim Waddell**

## **2021 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM GREENOCK MY&PBC**

This has been another difficult year for Greenock. Although the easing of Covid restrictions has allowed more sailing, unfortunately we were unable to sail for a number of months as Murdieston Dam was accidently drained by Inverclyde Council. Thankfully the council eventually managed to organise water to be pumped in from a smaller dam otherwise, if we had had to rely on rain fall, we would probably still be unable to sail.

We have 37 members of at the moment which includes nine new members sailing DF65s on a Sunday morning. We also have a small group of up to seven members who sail DF95s on a Tuesday. These same members sail IOMs on a Sunday afternoon. We do have quite a number of members who, due to health reasons etc., very rarely sail and a small number of scale model members. We did not hold an AGM last year due to Covid but will hold a socially distanced AGM in the clubhouse on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021.

We successfully hosted the 2021 Scottish District IOM Wooden Boat Championships on Saturday 9th October 2021. Hopefully this next year will be a better year for sailing.

**Ian Davidson**

## **2021 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM KINGHORN RSC**

The Kinghorn Club has been active as far as possible this year in accordance with the MYA Scottish District and RYA Scotland protocol. We agreed the local arrangements in accordance with the owners of Craigencalt Farm. We operated 'a field of play bubble' to keep the competitors separated from the public by a mobile rope fence and signage until the national Covid regulations were relaxed.

The club has nineteen members and we have welcomed visiting skippers from other clubs on several occasions. We had two new members that joined the club this summer and to assist them in joining the club activities the club boat was loaned out and two training days were organised by Stuart Teasdale to supplement the help given by other club members. We carry out club sailing on Wednesday and Saturday Afternoons between 12 midday and 3pm all year round and we typically have six sailing on a Wednesday and up to ten on a Saturday.

We had some problems with weed in Kinghorn Loch this summer but managed to work around the problem by members clearing launching areas and marking the shallower section of the loch closest to the bank where most of the weed was located as being out of bounds, with small floats.

In recent months we have launched a club website with club information and contact details along with a new club email address. We have also had an article published in the local free newspaper and put up as poster in the loch information area about the club and our activities. We also had a social event in September this year a lunchtime barbeque that was arranged with the R + R Café from Craigencalt Farm and we had fourteen members and guests in attendance. We also managed to fit the club racing around the barbeque with twelve races completed by eight skippers.

**Malcolm Durie**

## **2021 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM LEVENHALL RYC**

The 291 season has been a dismal failure - we suffered some problems compounded by the Covid situation but the main and continuing problem has been the pond complete covered with weed.

We have been in regular contact with East Lothian council who own and maintain the pond to little or no effect. However, the weed was eventually cut in August leaving a further problem of floating weed again making sailing difficult if not impossible. It is not envisaged that there will be much improvement for the 2022 season although some sailing should be possible during the winter months.

Currently we have fifteen MYA registered skippers with only four or five active. However, it is anticipated that this number will reduce in 2022. In addition, we have six DF65 skippers who we would expect to see now that the "big" boat season is coming to a close.

Regrettably, we do not have sufficient resources and experienced personnel to hold any open/travellers competitions.

**Nick Cowern**

## **2021 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM MID ARGYLL RADIO SAILING**

The sailing season began late for us this year, partly due to the pandemic and partly because the water where we sail on Loch a Bharain, adjacent to the Crinan Canal, was very low. The canal was drained over the winter for essential repairs to some of the locks and that also left us with no water.

We have been able to enjoy sailing and racing our RC Lasers and DFs in a variety of conditions in the variable weather. There have been many lovely sunny, still days and also plenty with suitable wind. When there is little wind, it has pleased our member who has magnificent models of a variety of local Clyde steamers, including The Waverley paddle steamer and the King George V, as calm weather is best for them.

Since our sailing water is just beside the Crinan Canal, we have lots of walkers and cyclists passing on the tow path who stop to watch and talk, and sometimes have a go as well. We provide an additional interest as well as the beautiful scenery.

Our membership this year, our third season, has remained steady and we plan to do some marketing and encourage additional people to join our friendly group.

We have not run any events this year as we have been cautious about Covid 19. However, we aim to keep sailing as often as we can during the autumn and hopefully we will be able to arrange an open meeting in 2022.

**Lorna Rushton**

## **2021 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM PAISLEY MYC**

The Pond in Barshaw Park remained clear of weed until the middle of June 2021; unfortunately we were unable to sail until mid-April because of Covid restrictions but, as soon as we could, we resumed regular sailing in small groups, in generally favourable weather, until Blanket Weed appeared. A number of our members who were shielding or otherwise limiting their contacts with those outside their households have not taken part in any club activity.

We were programmed to host the first Scottish IOM Travellers of the year in June but withdrew because the Covid restrictions still in place severely limited the numbers who could attend - in a public space we could not offer an appropriate 'field of play bubble'. This turned out to have been a wise decision as the arrival of the weed would have severely compromised the event.

Immediately on the discovery of the Blanket Weed we held a discussion with officials of Renfrewshire Council and suggested a non-toxic treatment for the Pond that might clear it in two weeks. We believe that about two months later the Council did apply the treatment but they have not told us they had done so. In any event the Blanket Weed started to disappear but was replaced by a return of the Canadian Pond Weed of previous years. We are still unable to sail at Barshaw Pond but are hopeful that colder winter nights will hasten the departure of the weed and that we might be sailing again from the end of October.

Several members of the Club sailed with the Ayr Bay Club at Irvine Beach Park in April and May and at Castle Semple Loch in mostly shirt-sleeve weather during July & August - until the arrival of weed at each venue.

Our discussions with Renfrewshire Council on a permanent solution to the weed problem were shelved owing to Covid. The local MP intervened with the Council following a meeting held under the auspices of The Friends of Barshaw Park of which the Club is a member, however the response to his letter contained nothing beyond the usual platitudes.

As in 2020, local members able to take their prescribed exercise in the Park counted large numbers of swans on the pond in the spring. By the time the Blanket Weed arrived there were none. By late September they were returning in strength and the weed appears to be in decline. I conclude that they do not have much taste for Blanket Weed but I still have rather more faith in Messrs A. Swan & Co. for weed removal than in Renfrewshire Council!

**David L. Smith**

## **2021 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM RHU RADIO LASERS**

Rhu Radio Lasers have continued racing every Thursday afternoon over the last year. Initially only match racing (see attachments) but when the restrictions were eased in small fleets.

We have sadly lost one member but have gained several new members. We now have 19 paid up members. After racing we normally have coffee in Cafe Rhu at the Marina and discuss sailing matters.

**Iain Duncan**

## **2021 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM TAYSIDE RADIO SAILING CLUB**

Another year of Tayside Radio Sailing Club at Forfar Loch affiliated to Forfar Sailing Club. Membership remains health in the high twenties most of whom are from the Dundee area but other from further afield.

Again, Covid restricted our club sailing in the early part of the year but a full programme of racing resumed in late April as soon as restrictions were eased. We did have a great response from members with up to 13 skippers racing, particularly in our Wednesday meetings. We also sail on two Saturdays per month but these have proved less popular.

As the season has progressed most members have now been double jabbed and Covid restrictions have been further reduced allowing sailing procedure to get back to near normal.

This year we hosted a leg of Scottish IOM Travellers series in July which I was unfortunately unable to attend due to contracting Corona virus a few days before the event. Members stepped in to take control and ran a very successful days racing.

Very little weed has been experienced again this year with only two days of racing badly affected by floating weed coming down over the course apparently caused by large numbers of swans feeding to windward. The usual weed clearing at the launching jetties was required to gain access to the deeper water.

**Tich Summers**

## **2021 SCOTTISH DISTRICT AGM**

### **REPORT FROM WICK MODEL YACHT CLUB**

Once again Covid-19 had a negative impact on sailing activities up in the far north. Following the relaxation of restriction across the country the club resumed sailing activities in early May much to the relief and delight of the members. Unfortunately, after a few short weeks of sailing, the club suffered a huge loss with the passing of club stalwart Donald McWilliam who collapsed during a race and unfortunately never recovered.

Following a short break and with the support of Donald's family sailing activities recommenced for the remainder of the sailing season seeing the welcome return of a few old faces and the addition of a couple of new enthusiastic sailors which helped lighten the mood around the loch and resulted in us seeing some of the largest racing fleets witnessed in many years.

Due to the inevitable weed growth in the loch we were forced to conclude the clubs activities in mid-June with the final days racing activities followed by a socially distanced BBQ and some sociable "family friendly" refreshments giving members the opportunity to reflect, reminisce and plan ahead for next season.

The intention is to attempt to begin the 2022 season in January which is earlier than normal (weather permitting) to extend our sailing season by a few weeks with sailing taking place on Saturday afternoons.

2021.....some high's, some real low's but a year that will never be forgotten.

**Graham Robertson**