



February Newsletter

2025

Message from the Chair:

How can we really be in February already! Too late now I think to say Happy New Year, but maybe ok to say Happy Valentines - sending you all Lots of Love!!

The year has got off to a busy start what with teams starting their Worlds' race training and the maintenance wizards working their magic in Lizzie's mum's garage. Our membership numbers stay strong and we already have a short list of prospective members waiting for a taster session. Whether your interest is racing, social rowing, quizzing, gardening, or making and eating cake, the club has something for everyone. There is at least one committee member in the Sailing Club every Saturday, so feel free to come along and chat.



Maintenance

Both boats are being given a refit this year, touching up the paintwork and varnishing where required. Hugh is also making and fitting a new rudder design, to make it easier to attach the rudder and to lift it when needed when going on to a beach. One boat at a time will be off the water and in Lizzie's mum's garage. A maintenance schedule has been put up on the website, so please sign up for a session when you can. No previous experience is required - someone will be on hand to give direction.

The Website

You might have noticed that our website has had a bit of a refresh. Many thanks to Iain Reekie and our 'web wizard', Stuart Turner of GreenMan Web Design for making it happen. When on the website, please note that 'galleries' and 'videos' pages have been added to the 'Membership' drop down menu, where pics and videos of events on and off the water, can be viewed. These will be updated at regular intervals.

I am sure that you often have friends who say that they would like to join the Club. It is best to direct them to the 'get in touch' button, where they can e-mail us to sign up for a taster session. If you need to cancel a booking, then through the 'book an outing page', please use the e-mail booking@firthofclydecoastalrowingclub.com to cancel your place.

Jacqueline's Fitness Challenges.

Jacqueline is determined to knock us all into shape. If you are in a Worlds' team, Jacqueline's view is that races are won in the winter! So have a look at the challenges on the Whatsapp group, and challenge yourself.

Social events

John will be continuing with the Village Inn quizzes on the third Wednesday of every month, 7.30pm for an 8pm start. All welcome, bring your friends.

The club is affiliated to Largs Sailing Club, and all Foccrs are welcome to attend the events hosted by LSC, including their winter talks series, and regular social evenings.

We will forward any messages from the sailing club announcing the events, and how to book for them.

“Soup and Safety” 15th March, 12.00-3,00 pm, in the HK room upstairs in Largs Sailing Club.

The training and safety team have pulled together an informal afternoon to provide a refresher on safety aspects of rowing. The main topic will be the use of the VHF radios and Ross Ritchie from OYT Scotland is going to give an overview of how to use the radio and using the training radios, you will be able to have a go at actually using one. Soup and crusty bread will be on offer, so please sign up on the events page and let Jacqueline know if you have any dietary requirements. All members are very welcome, so come along and catch up with your fellow members, over a bowl of lentil soup.

Regattas

FOCCR Regatta, 10th /11th May

Our annual regatta is planned for May 10 /11th. It will follow the usual format of 1500m sprints on the Saturday and a picnic row to Wee Cumbrae on the Sunday. So far six clubs have accepted our invitation but hopefully we can fill all eight spaces. Any new members wishing to participate should go to the Regatta page in the members area, select their name and tick the appropriate box. Some training is recommended to give members a taste of competition rowing.

Other Clubs Regattas

There are also a few regattas available to attend prior to the World Championships being held in Stranraer, all on the regatta page.

Viking Regatta 6th September

Following the success of last year's Viking v Scots regatta, we are planning to hold a re-run, on Saturday 6th September, the last day of the Largs Viking Festival. Plenty time to choose a side and get a costume ready.

Skiffie Worlds Sunday 6th until Saturday 12th July in Stranraer

If you are signed up for taking part in the Worlds, you know all about it already and should be well into your training programme. But Stranraer is close enough to come down for the day to spectate and participate in some of the on-shore activities. We will share more information nearer the time.

Weekly rowing sessions.

Over the winter, there will be regular weekly rowing sessions posted for Saturdays, just for one boat, as we refit them each in turn. We will move to mid-week rows in the Spring. However, if there is a break in the weather mid-week and you fancy a row, then feel free to post one up, message out to see who else is interested and find a cox to come with you.

Youth Update.

Many of our older youths have now left home and continue to row at their new locations. They will try to row together when they can. They loved the Christmas row and are keeping up their training for the Worlds. We are recruiting new younger members, anyone aged 12 or over and a couple of our youths attended a recent careers fair at Largs Academy handing out leaflets. If you have young family or friends who you think may be interested, then please get in touch with Drea our youth officer and she can arrange a taster session.

Remember for ongoing up-to-date information please read the Minutes of each Committee Meeting, posted monthly on the website and come to LSC for a coffee on Saturday mornings.

