

Cockle Island Boat Club 50th Anniversary Newsletter Issue 220



Editors Ramblings !



Well here we are again another year and another CIBC Newsletter but wait a minute! Its not just another year or just another Newsletter it is the 50th Anniversary Year Newsletter of our wee club.

From its humble beginnings way back on the 4th of March 1974 when the club was first formed to the present time.

The club has had many ups and downs over the years, people have come, and sadly gone, we have survived pandemics, Zoom, stewed tea and computerisation (just).

But what hasn't changed is the ethos of the club, to make it a friendly, social and welcoming place for members to meet to enjoy and promote all types of boating. I am proud to be a member as I know you all are so long may it continue.

Brian the Ed.

printplanet *Just a little of what we do...*

Business Cards | Letterheads | Compliment Slips | Brochures
Leaflets | Flyers | Booklets | Posters | Exhibition Displays
Vinyl Cut Lettering | Signage | Ballot Tickets | Gift Vouchers
Variable Data Printing

21 - 23 Church Road - Hollywood - County Down - BT18 9BU
028 9042 2040

WWW.COCKLEISLANDBOATCLUB.COM



A View from the Bridge



Thank you for giving me the privilege of helming Cockle Island Boat Club during what is its 50th anniversary year. My predecessors have set very high standards over the years, and I hope to maintain and promote these during my tenure as Commodore. I look forward to representing the club and its members at various events and functions both within the club and outside. This I'll do with pride and enthusiasm, promoting the many positive and unique features of the club.

Talking of predecessors let me say that it's with gratitude that I take over from Michael Arbuthnot (Buffy). He has handed me the tiller of the club with the wind on her quarter and a forecast of following winds. Thank you, Michael, you can officially relax. I'm now looking forward, to working closely with Gemma McCoubrey and Michael McSorley, as the respective Vice and Rear Commodores as we cast off for a new year. Thank you for stepping up and joining me on the voyage ahead. Thank you also to all the members working in the background. I'm talking about the individuals that make any club tick, the secretary, treasurer and committee members. These are the people, usually unseen by most members, to whom we all owe a great debt of gratitude, for without them there'd be no Cockle Island Boat Club. I never cease to be amazed by their knowledge, experience and ability when it comes to the managing of the club. I believe our team is extra special and I look forward to working with them and having their support, and patience, during the next year. On a lighter note, I hope they'll keep me right and make sure I don't get too carried away with over-enthusiasm.

As many of you are aware the celebrations have already begun with the launching of an anniversary badge showing proudly that the club is 50 years old, its golden anniversary. Along with the branded clothing and burgees we have anniversary trophies to be competed for during the regatta. Furthermore, there's a programme of 50th anniversary themed events, being compiled, and of course the regular events that the club runs so well. I'm hoping the Commodores Cruise will be special and I'd encourage those who don't usually cruise to think again and maybe join in. I hope to make it special cruise for the anniversary of the club. All will be revealed in due course. Finally, as the nights are beginning to brighten, and as we prepare to cast off for a new season, let's work together to make this year a memorable celebration of our club and of its unique place within the history of Groomsport and North Down.

Harry Patterson,
Commodore CIBC



Neill
ESTATE AGENTS

Sales - Lettings - Surveys
028 91 270283



Saint Kilda in Samavar 1986

By kind permission of Jane and Norman Adamson PART 1



The New Maiden

Sat 9th August 1986

It is in late morning by the time we leave Bangor. Passing close inside the Maidens we just miss a ragged patch of rock awash which gave us a little fright.



The Old Maiden

On to arrive in the evening at Ardminish Bay on Gigha after 60 miles over a flat calm sea. We go ashore for a quiet after dinner drink only to find half of Ballyholme Yacht Club sprawled throughout the hotel having a last long drink at the end of the West Highland Week. Not being as race hardened as they we did not stay long but left for the comfort of our bunks.

Sun 10th August

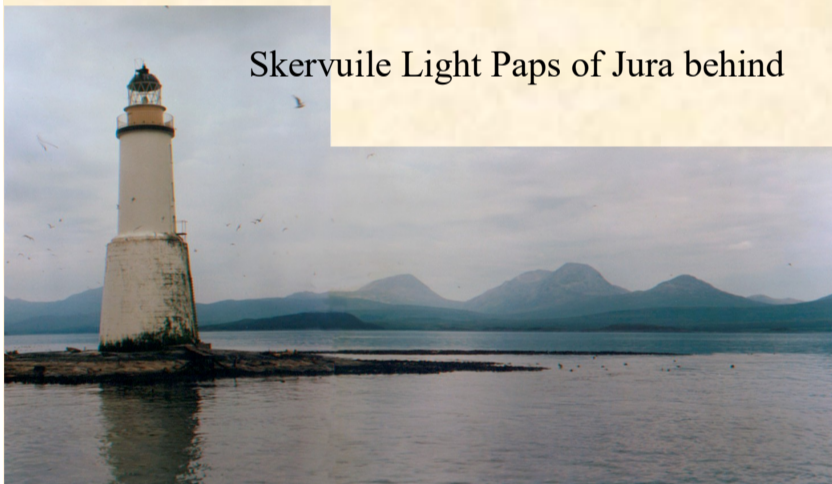
In the morning we go ashore where we hire bikes, from The Shop, to explore on. Manage to have a quick gawk at the tropical gardens.

Another bright sunny day. No wind. More Motoring. Having left Gigha behind us we potter over to view the Skervuile Lighthouse in the middle of the sound opposite Lowlandman's Bay on Jura. There were lots of seal on the rocks at the base of the light. We got too close and frightened them, almost all dived in. Sunshine and even

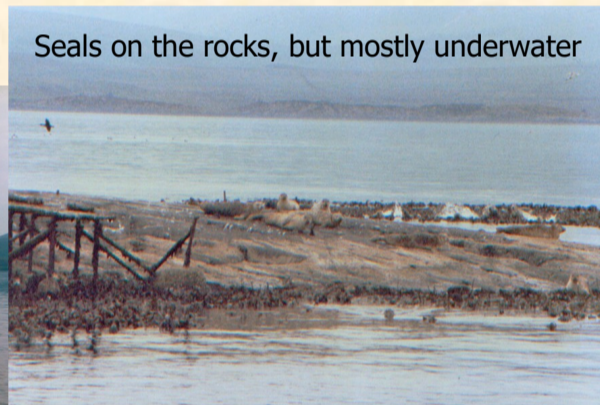


wind in the right di Jane and Hired bike. We never did get a photo of

Aileen



Skervuile Light Paps of Jura behind



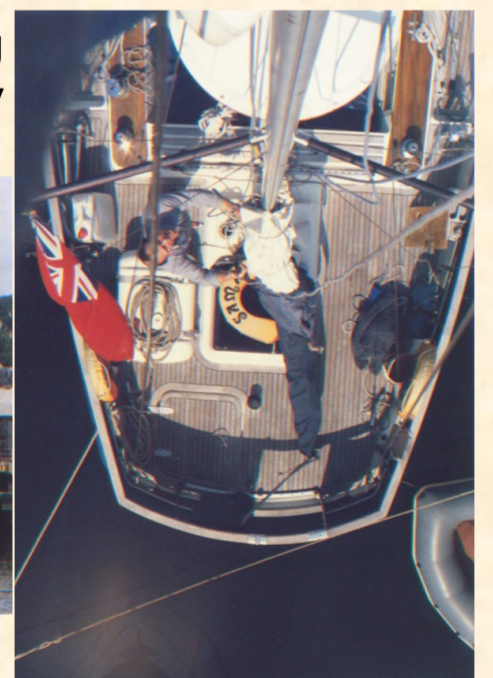
Seals on the rocks, but mostly underwater



Norman and Phil the old sea dogs

Up through the sound of Luing where the tide didn't know whether it was coming or going. On through Kerrera Sound to Oban. I manoeuvred the boat in to a very tight gap at the pontoon. Very pleased with myself. These pontoons in the corner of Oban harbour are a bit exposed to the NW and I believe that the harbour master has been known to ask you to leave if bad weather is forecast!

Oban from the top of the mizzen



It is peacefully calm tonight. Wind in right

direction. Going up the Sound of Mull we

photograph a neighbouring E. Boat. They took our photo.

We stop in Lochaline were that yacht is again. When we anchor for the night we exchange addresses. We sent them theirs, so what happened to ours?

Philip dragged both boat's crews over to the Hotel at Fishnish for a drink before bed. We literally dragged Dylan, Jill and dog Rover our neighbours as they had no outboard.

Tue 12th

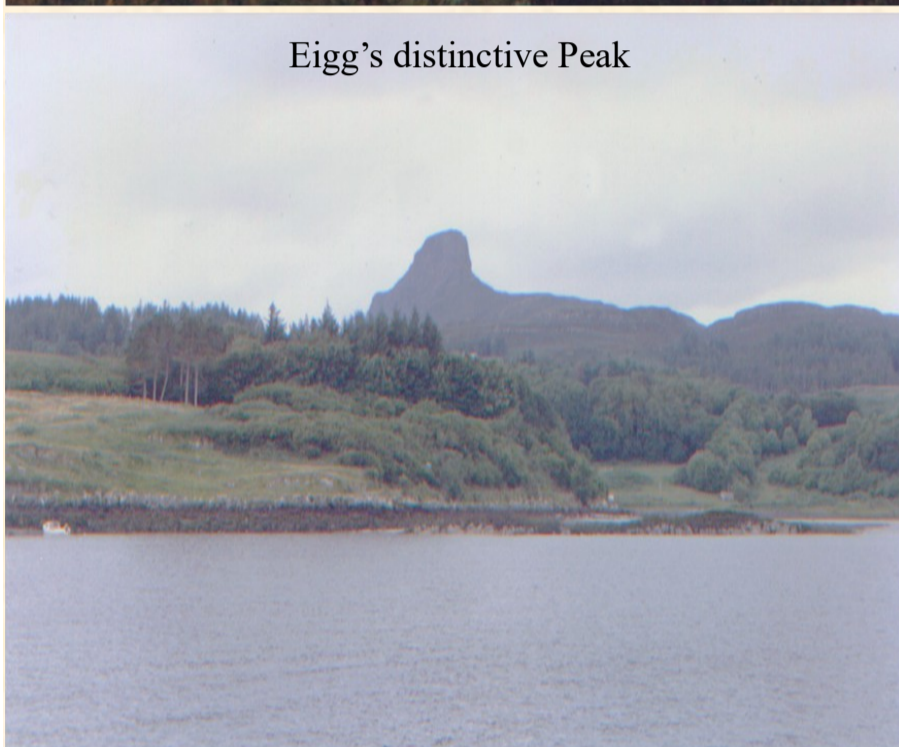
We left Lochaline, had breakfast underway and stopped in Tobermory for a dander.



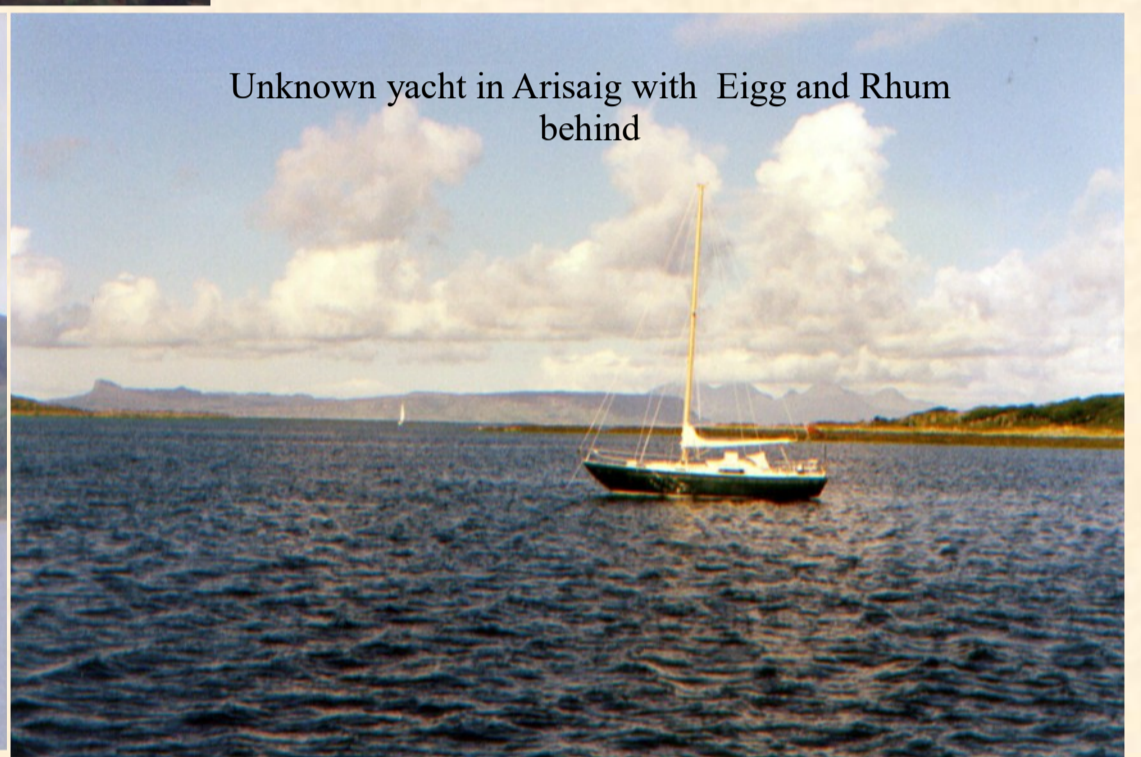
Tobermory



Jane and Ardnamurchan



Eigg's distinctive Peak



Unknown yacht in Arisaig with Eigg and Rhum behind

Setting of north again. The pleasant wind of the morning left and we were back to the engine again. Though the sun still shone! Round Ardnamurchan and up in past Samalaman Is. Into an anchorage at Glenug Bay. Not much here. There is a hotel. The Eigg ferry leaves from the wee jetty.

Wed 13th

Up at 2 in the morning to let out more chain as the wind came up a little.

Woke at a more civilised hour to the pouring rain as forecast. It is meant to clear up later. The novelty of rain soon wears off. Wait until the rain abates and motor out toward Eigg. Put up sails to enjoy a good sail out to Galmisdale, the south bay on Eigg. We go ashore just to say we have been there.

Underway again. Heavy Rain. Visibility poor and getting worse. Difficulty in seeing the grey cottage against the grey rocks which is the first 'mark' on the passage into Arisaig. Slowly through rocks. Arrive happily safe and sound. Put the anchor down for the night. It is only later we find that the moorings are for hire.

Go ashore for important phone calls. Gillian passed everything and Judith got that all important Maths. To celebrate we have dinner in the Arisaig Hotel. We have a frosty reception from the hotel staff but enjoy our reasonably priced meal anyway.

Thu 14th

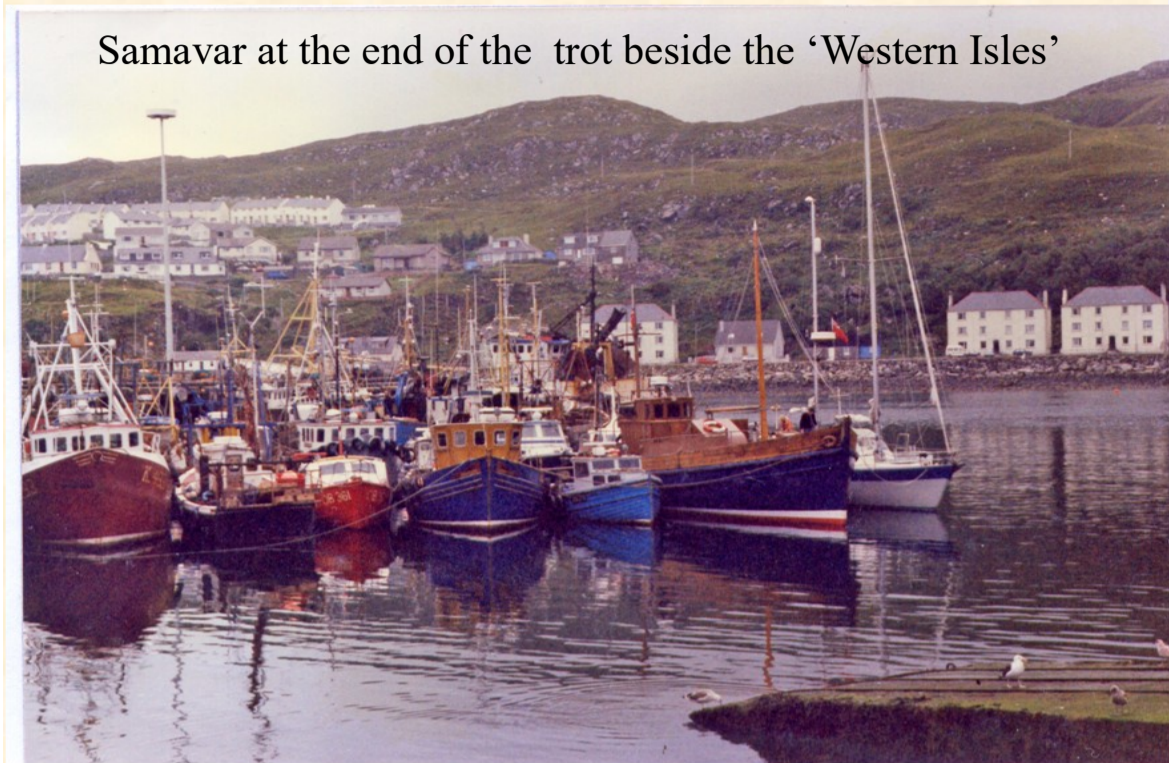
Slowly carefully out of Arisaig. All the rocks become invisible at high water! Motored on toward Loch Eishort on Skye. Stopped briefly for a walk ashore at Tarskavaig on Skye. Lovely old pier, almost deep enough for Samavar but we did not try it. Out and onward. Entering Loch Eishort. Lots of rocks, no perches - misjudged - BANG -!! Only a gentle grounding says the skipper. Scared me, but then I was steering. Continued in to a safe anchorage near a fish farm.

Philip keeps muttering about good fishing in Loch Eishort! He had managed to catch a mackerel at Tarskavaig.

No expeditions ashore tonight, everyone weary. Dine on 'fresh' scallops, bought in, frozen in Tobermory, in cider and cream sauce. Wash down with red wine, TORRES Gran Sangredatoro, much liked by the skipper!



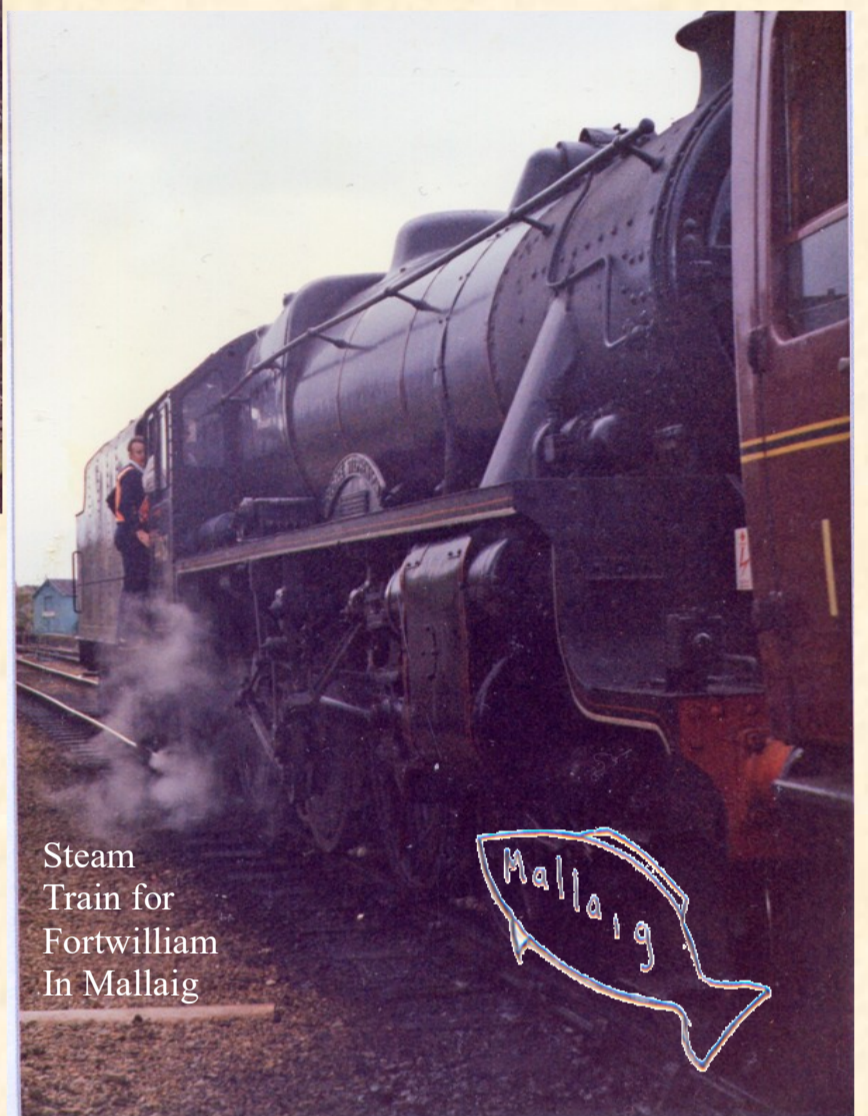
GRAN SANGREDETORO 1979
 Origin: Made from a selection of our best vineyards of Garnacha and Cariñena (traditional in the Low Penedès area), near Vilafranca del Penedès, about 35 miles from Barcelona (Catalonia, Northeast Spain).
 Climatic conditions: 1979 was a notably dry year with little rain. A mild spring was followed by a warm summer, but with irregular temperatures.
 Harvest date: Cariñena last week of September, Garnacha 1st week of October.
 Vinification and aging: Fermentation in 2600-gallon stainless steel tanks, with 12-15 days of skin contact to extract maximum color and tannin. Subsequent aging in American white oak casks for 24 months - 12 months in new oak and the rest in 3rd-4th year oak.
 Bottling date: November 1981
 Tasting notes: Deep dark-ruby color with golden traces. Dense and generous aroma, with good balance between the hints of wine and the new oak. After a first smooth and round sensation on the palate, the varietal notes from the Garnacha are displayed, enhanced by the oak aging, resulting in a wine of great character and long lasting aftertaste.
 Miguel Torres
 Imported by: DIRECT WINE SHIPMENTS BELFAST 1



Samavar at the end of the trot beside the 'Western Isles'

Fri 15th

Leaving Loch Eishort I hide in the cabin but there are no more bumps this time. Sail into Loch Nevis north of Mallaig. Go up as far as Tom McLean's place at Ardintigh. We could see his tiny red boat in which he crossed the Atlantic and the piece he chain sawed of the stern when he found someone had made it across in a smaller boat than his. He then did it all again. Heavy squalls from the mountains, beautiful day darkening up as evening falls. Weather forecast is for gales so instead of planned stop in Loch Nevis we motor round to Mallaig. At the end of a trot of fishing boats we moor alongside the 'Western Isles'.



Steam Train for Fortwilliam In Mallaig

The two people on board her are soft spoken, friendly and pleasant; true Scots.

Sat 16th

Aileen left on the 12:20 train sometime after 13:00. Sounds more like an Irish joke than a Scottish train timetable. We took Samavar round to the other side of the pier to fill with water and diesel. As we had a neighbour moored to us who wanted water as well we just took him with us. I do not think he was really happy to be towed alongside another boat going backwards.



Tom McLean's place on the shores of Loch Nevis

Buy more stores and some 'trophies', a plate and a picture. Lunch in the Tigh-na-clachan pub. Beautiful haddock and scampi. Norman smells rope burning. No it is a steam train on the move. We drop tools and dash across to the station to see it in. Philip, who had been holding the bolt under the deck, came up on deck to find us disappeared! Gerry Thompson, our new crew, arrived just in time for a last drink in the pub before closing.

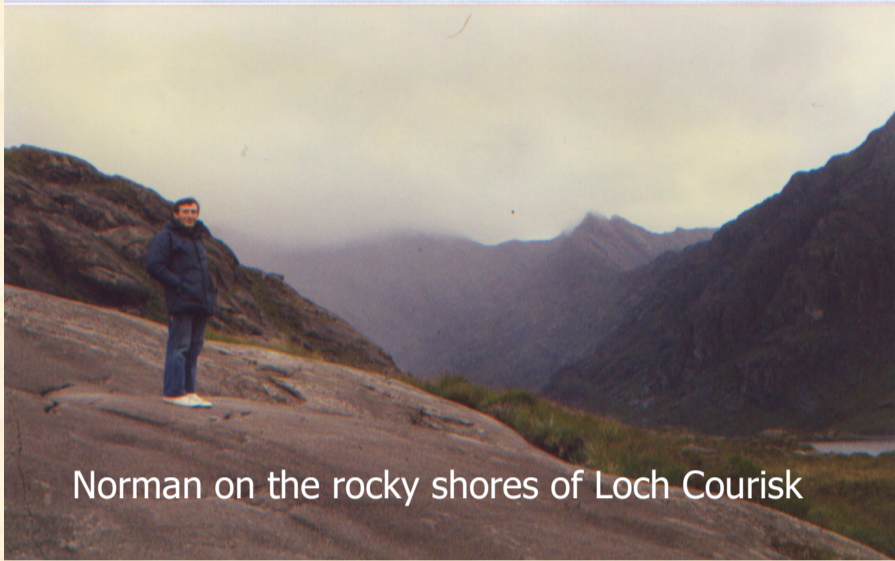
Sun 17th

On the way in to Loch Scavaig Philip and I are sent out in the dinghy to scout ahead for rocks, whats more we found some! No more bumps due to lack of perches for us. The mist is rolling down off the grey wet Cullins as we anchor in the old volcanic crater at their feet. Definitely dramatic scenery. We row ashore and trek up beside the river to the inland lake. Beautiful, wild, uninhabited, full of midges and mountain walkers. On the way back down Gerry and I are bundled up trying to evade those midges. Norman and Philip are lightly clad looking at us and laughing. It is not fair! We leave Loch Scavaig and its midges behind. Motor round into Soay Harbour on Soay Island. This is the site of Gavin Maxwell's ill fated ventures for a shark fishery. Anchor neatly in five meters, just inside the bar. We buoy the anchor as recommended because of all the old moorings here.

All ashore for a quick exploration of the old shark fishery. The boiler house and slip for hauling up the massive creatures are very evident. The old boiler and some of the vats are still there. They were used to render the fat down and to extract the oil from the liver. Poor old sharks. There are very few to be seen nowadays. After dinner we sit in the cockpit ad-



A rushing river connects Loch Courisk above to the sea loch below.



Norman on the rocky shores of Loch Courisk



This clinker built dinghy intrigued us. How did it get here?
By Helicopter?

Camera lessons?

miring the scenery as the sun sets, watching the tide stream out over the bar. The boat swings round but not back. Three men stand and scratch heads. I goes to bed. The men decide something is wrong. All other boats are lying to the wind. They investigate in the growing gloom and find that the anchor buoy rope has caught between the keel and skeag. Grapple iron, extra rope, buoy cut adrift. Up anchor and motor round in circles in the shallowing bay in the dark; Life times later drop the anchor in the right place and row out a stern anchor in the dinghy. In the excitement Philip discovered that his new shoes are waterproof. He had knocked out the bung in the rubber dinghy and only noticed when the water lapped round his ankles. We never did manage a photo of Soay.



Jane and Phil. Hope we were off watch!
Oh no, Norman snoozes below



Jane(me) & Gerry



It is OK Gerry is awake

PART TWO OF THIS ADVENTURE IN THE LATTER PAGES (SO YOU CAN HAVE A TEA BREAK)



MONTH	DAY/DATE	TIME	EVENT	H.W.	R/OFFICER	L.W.
APRIL	Wed 03-Apr	19:45	Committee Meeting			
	Wed 10-Apr	20:00	Sailors' Meeting			
	Sat 13-Apr	10:00	Sail measurement			
	Sat 20-Apr	19:30	Spring Supper DSC			
	Wed 24-Apr		Lift-in	12:31		
MAY	Wed 01-May	19:45	Committee Meeting			
	Thu 02-May	19:30	Crowe Cup 1	19:02	J. Cleary	01:15
	Sat 04-May	11:00	Round the Lough 1	08:40	B. Lawther	15:16
	Mon 06-May	14:30	Wrinklies 1	10:33	T. Dynes	16:50
	Tue 07-May	19:30	Crowe Cup 2	23:46	J. Howell	17:31
	Sun 12-May	11:00	Round the Islands 1	15:18	G. Larmour	21:16
	Mon 13-May	14:30	Wrinklies 2	16:09	B. Andrews	22:10
	Wed 15-May	19:30	Crowe Cup 3	18:03	S. Andrews	00:15**
	Sat 18-May	11:00	Round the Lough 2	08:27	R. King	14:51
	Mon 20-May	14:30	Wrinklies 3	10:12	T. Graham	16:16
	Wed 22-May	19:30	Crowe Cup 4	23:48	K. Walsh	17:24
	Sun 26-May	11:00	Round the Islands 2	13:44	B. Lawther	20:41
	Mon 27-May	14:30	Wrinklies 4	14:34	G. Larmour	20:41
	Wed 29-May	19:30	Crowe Cup 5	16:39	J. Bell	22:32
JUNE	Sat 01-Jun	11:00	Round the Lough 3	06:54	M. McSorley	13:40
	Mon 03-Jun	14:30	Wrinklies 5	09:16	B. Orr	15:34
	Tue 04-Jun	19:30	Crowe Cup 6	22:39	W. Wickens	16:23
	Wed 05-Jun	19:45	Committee Meeting			
	Sat 08-Jun		RUYC Regatta	13:27		19:25
	Mon 10-Jun	14:30	Wrinklies 6	14:49	E. Gwynne	20:57
	Wed 12-Jun	19:30	Crowe Cup 7	16:33	F. Gallagher	22:30
	Sat 15-Jun	11:00	Portpatrick Race	19:14	M. Arbuthnot	12:55
	Mon 17-Jun	14:30	Wrinklies 7	08:15	K. Walsh	14:48
	Wed 19-Jun	19:30	Crowe Cup 8	22:38	J. McKee	16:16
	Sat 22-Jun		EABC Regatta	12:17		18:17
	Mon 24-Jun	11:00	Wrinklies 8	13:41	B. Lawther	
	Thu 27-Jun	19:30	Crowe Cup 9	16:22	R. Armstrong	22:17
	Sat 29-Jun		Bangor Regatta	18:21		11:59
JULY	Mon 01-Jul	14:30	Wrinklies 9	14:09	M. Smith	20:26
	Wed 03-Jul	19:45	Committee Meeting			
	Thu 04-Jul	19:30	Crowe Cup 10	16:56	E. Upritchard	23:13
	Sun 07-Jul	11:00	Round the Islands 3	13:17	M. McSorley	19:11
	Mon 08-Jul	14:30	Wrinklies 10	13:57	M. Arbuthnot	19:52
	Tue 09-Jul	19:30	Crowe Cup 11	14:36	J. Cleary	20:30
	Sat 13-Jul	11:00	Round the Lough 4	17:31	K. Walsh	10:49
	Mon 15-Jul	14:30	Wrinklies 11	19:16	K. Colville	12:35
	Wed 17-Jul	19:30	Crowe Cup 12	21:10	J. Howell	14:55
	Sat 20-Jul		DSC Regatta	11:19		17:20
	Mon 22-Jul	14:30	Wrinklies 12	12:45	T. Dynes	18:45
	Wed 24-Jul	19:30	Crowe Cup 13	14:16	K. Walsh	20:15
	Sat 27-Jul		CIBC 50th Ann Regatta	16:51	J. Cleary	10:28
	Mon 29-Jul	14:30	Wrinklies 13	18:48	B. Andrews	12:32
	Wed 31-Jul	19:30	Crowe Cup 14	21:07	J. Bell	14:53



MONTH	DAY/DATE	TIME	EVENT	H.W.	R/OFFICER	L.W.
AUGUST	Sat 03-Aug		RNIYC Regatta	11:40		17:34
	Sun 04-Aug	11:00	Round the Islands 4	12:24	K. Walsh	18:15
	Mon 05-Aug	11:00	Glenarm Race	13:03	S. Andrews	
	Tue 06-Aug	19:30	Crowe Cup 15	13:37	J. Bell	19:25
	Wed 07-Aug	19:45	Committee Meeting			
	Sat 10-Aug		CAYC Regatta	15:56		09:22
	Mon 12-Aug	14:30	Wrinklies 14	17:24	G. Larmour	10:43
	Tue 13-Aug Wed 14-Aug Thu 15-Aug	11:00	Commodore's Cruise to Strangford	05:36	H. Patterson	18:26 Strangford Bar
	Sat 17-Aug		CSC Regatta	09:00		16:19
	Mon 19-Aug	11:00	Wrinklies 15	11:45	T. Graham	17:45
	Thu 22-Aug	19:30	Crowe Cup 16	13:43	F. Gallagher	19:40
	Sat 24-Aug		BYC Regatta	15:29		09:07
	Mon 26-Aug	14:30	Wrinklies 16	17:15	K. Walsh	10:49
	Wed 28-Aug	19:30	Crowe Cup 17	19:29	E. Upritchard	13:26
SEPTEMBER	Sun 01-Sep	11:00	Round the Islands 5	11:28	K. Colville	17:24
	Mon 02-Sep	14:30	September 1	12:07	T. Dynes	17:57
	Wed 04-Sep	14:30	September 2	13:12	B. Orr	18:54
	Wed 04-Sep	19:45	Committee Meeting			
	Sat 07-Sep	11:00	Round the Lough 5	14:32	T. Graham	08:10
	Mon 09-Sep	14:30	September 3	15:40	K. Walsh	09:20
	Wed 11-Sep	14:30	September 4	17:21	G. Larmour	10:50
	Sun 15-Sep	11:00	Round the Islands 6	19:49	B. Orr	16:00
	Mon 16-Sep	14:30	September 5	10:43	B. Andrews	17:23
	Wed 18-Sep	14:30	September 6	12:03	T. Dynes	18:01
	Sat 21-Sep	11:00	Round the Lough 6	14:15	B. Orr	07:54
	Mon 23-Sep	14:30	September 7	15:54	T. Graham	09:26
	Wed 25-Sep	14:30	September 8	17:48	K. Walsh	11:34
	Sat 28-Sep	14:30	Pursuit Race	09:33	H. Lysk	15:29
OCTOBER	Wed 02-Oct	19:45	Committee Meeting			
	Sun 06-Oct		Church Service			
	Tue 08-Oct		Lift-out	16:05		

DISCARDS

** next day

Wrinklies	16 races	best 11, 5 discards
Crowe Cup	17 races	best 11, 6 discards
Round the Islands	6 races	best 4, 2 discards
Round the Lough	6 races	best 4, 2 discards
September Series	8 races	best 5, 3 discards

STARTS

All races EXCEPT Crowe Cup and Pursuit Race will be started on radio Channel 77

RESULTS

Race Officers to forward details of boats starting the race and finishing times to John Cathcart, john.f.cathcart@outlook.com or 07803 004902, within 6 hours of the race finishing.

If unable to officiate nominated Race Officers are asked to arrange an alternate and inform Gary Wilgar – 07834 766075, or John Cathcart.



What is a Cruising Log?



A cruising log is akin to a captain's journal. It serves as a detailed record of a voyage, chronicling every aspect of a sailing adventure. The cruising log becomes a treasure trove of memories, an invaluable resource for future trips, and a powerful tool for improving your sailing skills.

The Anatomy of a Cruising Log

A well-kept cruising log typically includes the following essential elements:

1. **Date and Time:** Start each entry with the date and time to create a chronological record of your journey.

2. **Location:** Note your vessel's position using latitude and longitude or a description of the area. This information is crucial for navigation and sharing your experiences with other sailors.

3. **Weather Conditions:** Record the weather conditions at the time of your entry, including wind speed, sea state, and any notable changes. This data aids in making informed decisions during future voyages.

4. **Course and Speed:** Log your course headings and vessel speed to maintain a record of your navigation. This helps in analyzing your route and optimizing future trips.

5. **Observations:** Share your thoughts, observations, and anecdotes from the journey. This personal touch brings your sailing experiences to life and makes your log more engaging.

6. **Maintenance and Incidents:** Record any maintenance work, repairs, or notable incidents that occur during the voyage. This information is essential for keeping your vessel shipshape and learning from any mishaps.



DMC
DAVID MILNE CARS

New & Used Vehicles
Supplied
Servicing & MOT Preparation
07802 471500

7. Crew and Guests: Don't forget to mention the names and roles of the people on board. Their contributions and experiences are an integral part of your sailing adventures.

8. Pictures and Sketches: Visual aids such as photographs or sketches can add a vivid dimension to your log, capturing the beauty of the sea and your surroundings.

Benefits of a Well-Kept Log

Why bother maintaining a cruising log, you might ask? Here are a few compelling reasons:

1. Safety: A well-documented log can be invaluable in emergency situations, helping rescuers pinpoint your location.
2. Navigation: Reviewing past logs can aid in planning future routes and learning from previous mistakes.
3. Storytelling: Your log is more than just data; it's the narrative of your adventures on the high seas. It becomes a valuable source for reliving and sharing your experiences.
4. Legal Purposes: In some cases, a cruising log may be required for legal purposes, such as customs and immigration.

Tips for Maintaining Your Log

To make the most of your cruising log, here are some tips:

- Be consistent and make entries regularly. Don't rely on memory alone; it's easy to forget details after a few days at sea.
- Keep your logbook in a waterproof and durable container to protect it from the elements.
- Use a pen with waterproof ink to ensure your entries stay legible.
- Invest in a logbook designed for sailors, with pre-formatted sections for key information.

Conclusion

A sailboat cruising log is more than just a journal; it's your navigator's companion and storyteller on your maritime journeys. Whether you're a seasoned sailor or a novice, the log becomes a treasure chest of memories, wisdom, and maritime tales that will stay with you long after your sails have been stowed.

So, grab your logbook, set sail, and let the adventures begin, for every log entry is a new chapter in your seafaring story. Happy sailing!

Harry Patterson
Commodore.





Cockle Island Boat Club 50th AGM



A good turnout of members attended on the night. Proceedings went ahead without a hitch in the capable hands of Jim Howell as presiding officer. The outgoing Commodore Michael Arbuthnot delivered his final speech and wished Harry Roberts the new Commodore for 2024 his best wishes for the year ahead. The flag officers and Committee for 2024 are as follows;

Commodore Harry Patterson
 Vice Commodore Gemma McCoubrey
 Rear Commodore Michael McSorley

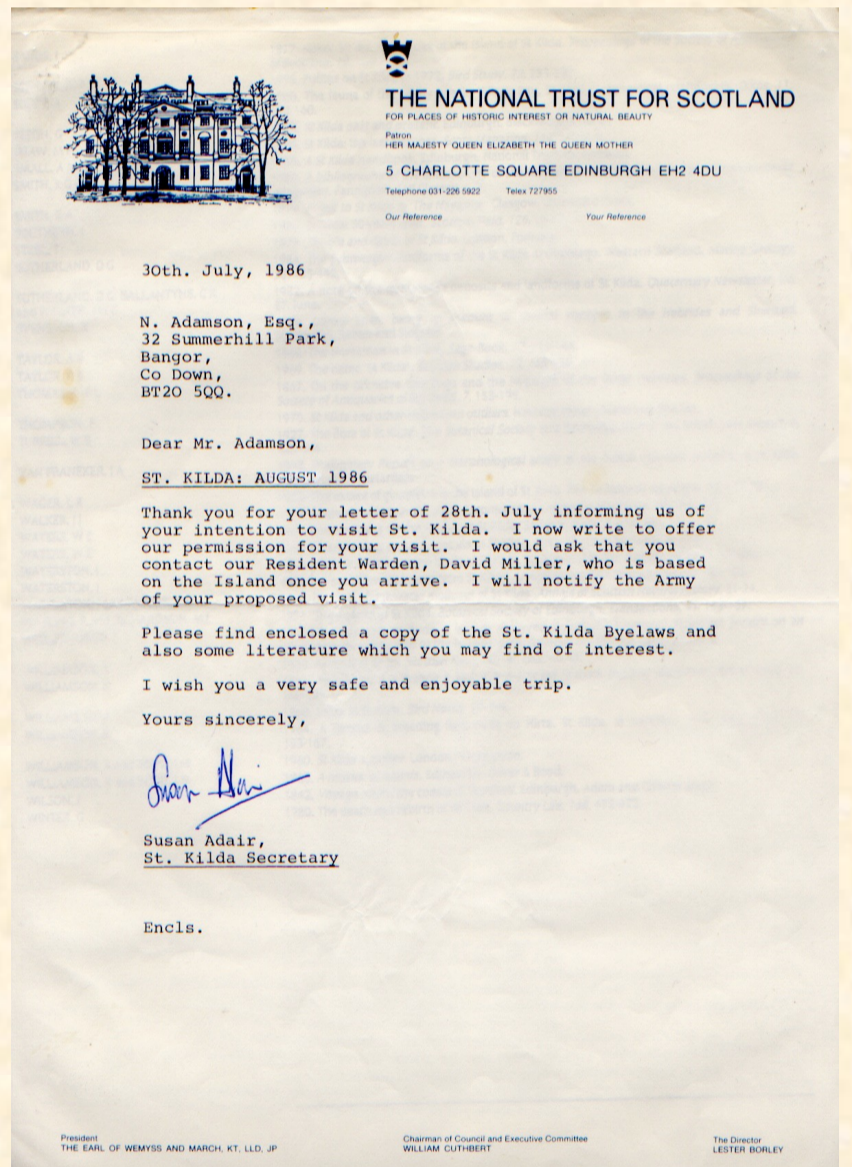
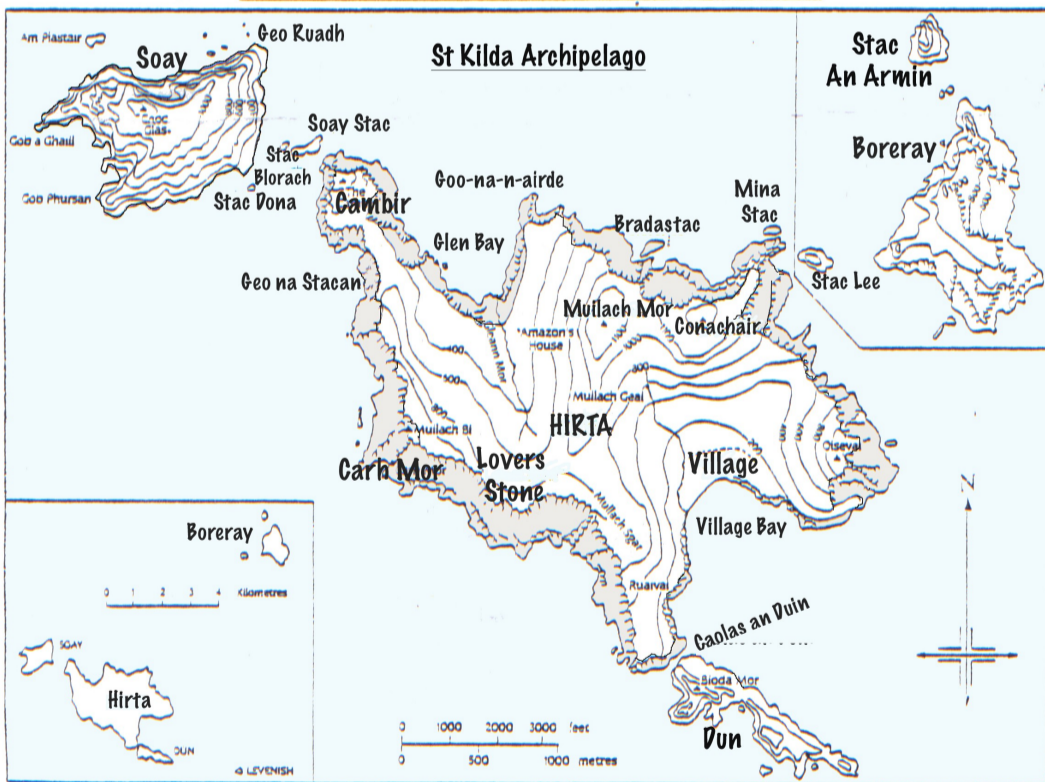
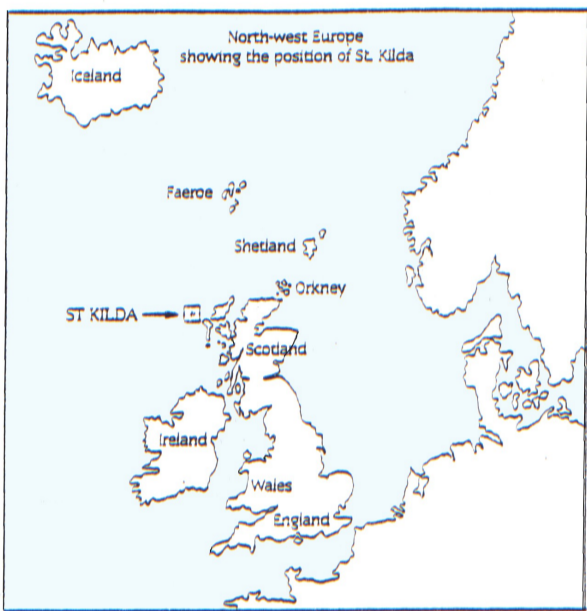
Hon Secretary John Cathcart
 Hon Treasurer Ron Hutchieson
 Hon Auditor Jonny Ritchie

Committee
 Campbell Gardner
 Richard Bunting
 Gary Wilgar
 John Cleery
 Michael Arbuthnot
 Brian Galbraith



Mon 18th

After a bad nights sleep everyone up very early to catch the tide. Beautiful day motoring up the west coast of Skye. Norman, Phil and I sound asleep. It is all right though as Gerry keeps watch. We spy the conning tower of a sub way up toward Harris going south. Took some time to identify what it was as the hull was not visible. Old eagle eyes Phillipson made it out. Left turn at Neist light toward the sound of Harris. Flat clam. I am at the helm. Echo sounder not reading. Steamed out the Sound between the channel markers with no trouble. Norman tells me afterward how shallow it all is! He had turned off the echo sounder so as not to frighten the crew! Leaving Lewis and Harris behind us we could just make out the black bulk of St Kilda, it was almost a disappointment to be able to see it over 40miles away. Steamed on through the moonlit night over the gentle swell. An awesome but magnificent sight St Kilda by moonlight. Arrived in Village Bay Hirta in the dark. Drop the hook close in near the pier.



The crew poses to show that we really landed on Hirta in the St Kilda Archipeligo



The army base on Hirta

Tue 19th

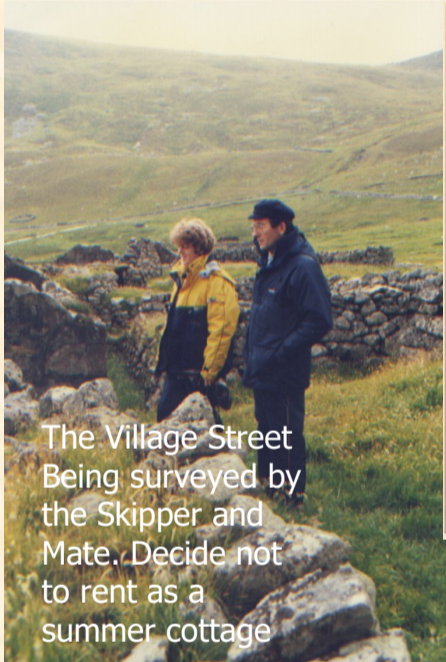
Everyone but Philip slept the sleep of the dead for a few hours. Up again and dinghy in to land in the fabled Hirta. Just as we land it starts to bucket down. Walked into the army camp and said hello to the OC. He warned not to try to walk up to the top as there is low cloud and they do not want to have to rescue us. Stroll along the village street, visiting the museum and graveyard on our way. Met the National Trust Warden. A very pleasant and friendly guy. He said we could do as we wish. Soon back to the army camp where we can buy postcards but can not post them as the appropriate person is not there. This is a shame as I do not expect never will I ever get here again.



The Village street at end closest to the pier. Note the refurbished roofs on some. All the work of the National Trust.



The Village Street with the Cleitean on the mountains behind. These were used as store houses to dry fulmar and gannet meat and peat for the fire.



The Village Street Being surveyed by the Skipper and Mate. Decide not to rent as a summer cottage



Back aboard to sail out of Village Bay into the Atlantic swell.

Wed 20th

After a long and tiring all night sail down the Hebridian islands we approach the headland of Ardnamurchan. Thus on into Tobermory. Landing in Tobermory for lunch in the Mishnish. (The yacht in the background is the N.I. Ocean Youth Club boat Masterbuilder) Spend a few sunlit hours in Tobermory. Lunch in the Mishnish hotel on smoked mussels or crab. On again down the Sound, yet another lovely day takes us in to Oban at last.

Gerry strolls off up town and comes back to tell us all about the Harbour Inn which has a great jazz band playing but the boat is in darkness. We are all asleep!



Sun sets behind us.



Oban in sight rest at last!



Tobermory for Lunch

Thu 21st

Up early again as the tide dictates. Out of Oban and down past Kerrera. Left hand turn into the sleigh run of Cuan Sound. Philip at the wheel but I don't think he had quite believed us when we told him how bad the gyrations of the current in this sound could be. One minute the boat is straight down the sound, next straight for the bank.; exciting! Put on more power the Skipper cries and we get the steerage back. Gently on and up into Loch Melford. I navigate which gives me indigestion with terror. Everyone else seems happy enough. We lift a mooring at the Camus Marine's place. Row ashore and tramp a mile and more to the Cuilfail Hotel. There we have a lovely drunken lunch and stagger all the way back. Quietly off again and round into Croabh Haven Marina. Dinner in the Lord of Lorne. Croabh Haven gets better each time we call. The houses are quaintly beautiful with interesting nooks and crannies. Each is painted in a different pastel shade. Crew threaten mutiny if required to get up before 10am. Skipper subdued and allow crew to rest.

Norman said he'd smoke a cigar if we made Kilda!



Fri 22nd

No one got up early, not even the Skipper. After showers all round breakfast is eaten in a leisurely fashion about 11am. There is a nice gift shop so Norman and I spend some time and money in there. Fuel up with diesel then leave Croabh Haven. Motor south through the Dorus Mor. Philip better prepared for whirlpools this time. We get through slowly. One minute standing still, next travelling at a great pace. Gerry takes us in toward Crinan. I am landed at the pier and sent to scout ahead. The lock keeper is very helpful and opens the sea lock for us alone. Philip has had to helm the Samavar into the first lock as Norman had his head in the loo! No he is not sick. He had blocked it with a piece of kitchen roll and had broken it while trying to unblock it. Another lesson learned, never put any paper but loo roll down the loo! He took it apart and thankfully was able to fix the thing.



Sat 23rd

Philip and Gerry are up bright and early this morning trying to be first at the lock. We do well as we are fourth at the lock gates. The lock holds the four of us, just. The first lock is exciting with boats swinging round everywhere, except the Moody who had obviously been through before. The next lock is more controlled and by the time we reach the 15th we consider ourselves experts. Today has been a glorious day with brilliant sunshine and no wind. Travelling through the countryside in a boat on a sunny day takes some beating.



Sun 24th

Leave Campbelltown in glorious sunshine. Motor out round the Mull of Kintyre. Drop anchor off Sanda.

We are about four hours later than our original ETA at Bangor so we must have an extra unplanned meal onboard. Horror of horror we have run out of wine.

Arrive at Bangor and pick up our mooring in the harbour. Say farewell to Samavar or is it Au Revoir ??



Thanks to Jane and Norman for a great log of a marvellous cruise.



Cockle Island Boat Club Cruising Spring Supper Donaghadee Sailing



Club 7 for 7.30

Saturday 20th April 2024

£25 PP Cash only

7pm

Starter

Vegetable soup

Prawn, Celery and Apple Cocktail

Grilled halloumi with an orange and
mint fresh salad

Main

Roast Beef, Yorkshire pudding, champ
and seasonal veg and gravy

Pan seared chicken set on champ with
fried onions, peppers, bacon & cheese
and covered in a pepper sauce

Vegetarian lasagne with summer mixed
salad, coleslaw and garlic bread

Dessert

Profiteroles and ice cream

Lemon meringue.

Tea and Coffee



Contact Gemma with your choices before 13/04/24

By email gemmaf@hotmail.co.uk or 07738237294

Spaces fill quickly so don't miss out!