

Fisherrow Yacht Club Newsletter Autumn 2025

pr@fisherrowyachtclub.com

Welcome home: John Fitzgerald

John gave up a place on a summer cruise in Brittany to sail, sometimes singlehanded, his new boat home to Fisherrow.

Extracts from his blog:

“But recently a chance came up to buy a small boat of my own – not too complicated or expensive, but ideal for sailing around the Firth of Forth. And as it turns out, the perfect example was away down in the South West of England, near Plymouth. She’s a 23ft bilge keeler, ideal for cruising around the Forth, and the Western Isles too”



“Taking on a very long day of sailing after little to no sleep isn’t ideal, and I was struggling with being knackered and feeling quite daunted by the long passage across the Wash and wondering if we’d ever get to Yorkshire, never mind Scotland”

Read the rest of the blog:

<https://johnfitzgerald.wordpress.com/2025/08/27/sunny-southwold-wrung-out-in-the-wash/#jp-carousel-970>

World Champions: just not in sailing

Adam Wilson and David Wilkie, well-kent members of FYC took part in the 2025 Skiff Rowing World Championships held in July at Stranraer.



This is Adam’s report of the event:

“SkiffieWorlds 2025 was one for the history books, as Eskmuthe Rowing Club secured its first-ever medal at a World Championships from the Under-19 Mixed crew, who delivered a thrilling row to finish 2nd overall, winning silver and earning Eskmuthe a place on the podium for the first time at this level. It was an emotional and proud moment for the club, after lots of hard work by cox Gaynor Allen and the crew of Rhona Mylne, Logan McLeod, Adam Wilson and Lily Henderson who was the youngest competitor in the championship being only 13.”

Still Game: David Wilkie



“Another well-known member from Fisherrow Yacht Club also competed in the championships - David Wilkie who raced in the 60+ men and 280+ men’s race, a category where all rowers ages have to add up to 280 years or more, placing 31st and amazingly coming 9th (out of almost 80 boats) in the 280+ race, a massive accomplishment for both the club and David who has only recently started rowing again and who loves to complain about his bad back!”

For your diary the forthcoming social events

- Saturday 25th October
End of season supper and prize giving
- Friday 21st November
AGM wine & cheese
- Friday 19th December
Christmas Evening in the Bar.
- Thursday 1st January
Celebrate 2026 New Year Day in the bar, 12.30 till 15.30
- Saturday 24th Jan 26
Burns Supper

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FYC 2025 Regatta Results September 6th and 7th Overall Winners Table: Full results on website

Rank	Fleet	Boat	Class	SailNo	HelmName	CrewName	PY	Reg 1.1	Reg 1.2	Reg 1.3	Reg 2.1	Reg 2.2	Reg 2.3	Total	Nett
1st	Longhorn	B-Witched	RS200	782	Colin Robertson	Stephanie Robertson	1050	(3.0)	1.0	2.0	(3.0)	1.0	1.0	11.0	5.0
2nd	Greenhorn		Laser		Jacob Webber		1104	1.0	(4.0)	(3.0)	1.0	2.0	3.0	14.0	7.0
3rd	Silverhorn		Laser		Walter McDonald		1104	(6.0)	(3.0)	1.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	17.0	8.0
4th	Silverhorn		Laser Radial		Karen May		1154	2.0	2.0	(4.0)	(2.7 RO)	2.7 RO	2.7 RO	16.1	9.4
5th	Silverhorn		Laser		Simon Talbot		1104	(4.0 RO)	(4.0 RO)	4.0 RO	4.0	4.0	4.0	24.0	16.0
6th	Silverhorn		Sprint 15		David McDonald		924	4.0	(6.0)	(7.0)	5.7 RO	5.7 RO	5.7 RO	34.1	21.1
7th	Silverhorn		Laser 4.7		Belinda Guo		1216	8.0 DNS	5.0	5.0	(12.0 DNC)	(12.0 DNC)	12.0 DNC	54.0	30.0
8th	Greenhorn	PSKC	RS Feva XL		Innes Reid	Dylan Lewis	1244	5.0	9.0	6.0	(12.0 DNC)	(12.0 DNC)	12.0 DNC	56.0	32.0
9th	Greenhorn		Tandem Island Hobie		Bart Pander		1104	7.0	7.0	9.0	(12.0 DNC)	(12.0 DNC)	12.0 DNC	59.0	35.0
10th	Greenhorn		Pico		Bipul Choudry		1330	(12.0 DNC)	8.0	8.0	(12.0 DNC)	12.0 DNC	12.0 DNC	64.0	40.0
11th	Silverhorn	Woose	2000		Alan Thomson	Linda Sheridan	1121	8.0 RO	10.0 RO	10.0 RO	(12.0 DNC)	(12.0 DNC)	12.0 DNC	64.0	40.0

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FYC Silent Art Auction “Fisherrow” by Rosemary Forbes



This painting titled “Fisherrow” was donated by the family of Rosemary Forbes of Longniddry.

It is painted on hardboard and measures 46 by 60 centimetres. Date probably mid-20th Century.

The committee agreed it would a good idea to auction it towards club funds.

If you would like to bid email your offer to pr@fisherrowyachtclub.com The amounts will not be disclosed.

The bidding will close on March 1st and the highest bidder will be notified.

Forth Yacht “Clubbing” Gigs

Club Rooms TLC: November Coffee mornings

The last major club room refurbishment was the rebuild of the porch. The club premises and the yard need maintenance too. Please help out on November Saturday mornings 9.30 with coffee and cake break. Overhaul your overalls make our fixer upper - **fabulous**.



- **Ladies Day from Nov 1st**

A new toilet is finally installed in the ladies and now the ladies changing room needs a lot of repairs: wall plastering, flooring around the new toilet, painting. These renovations probably go on for most of the November.

- **Lick of paint**

Front door, gate and windows all need painting (weather permitting).

- **Dinghy repair and yard clean up. Date TBC**

Regatta Pics



Ross & Will



Chris & Paul



Hille & David

Holiday snaps:

Trevor thought he had found the perfect FYC rib replacement.....



...but then he saw the price tag



Yes, for €54,575 the rib could be ours.

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FYC Kinsmen Trip to Port Edgar, Saturday 2nd

August 2025: Katy Lou's account of the day.

What an adventure! This trip had it all ... from meticulous planning, early mishaps, actual sailing, sunshine, quick thinking, teamwork, laughter and a successful arrival. And to top it off ... a dolphin!!!

The original idea had been to take the two club Kinsmen (Wee Jo and Wee Mo) up to Port Edgar and back. The club members who sallied forth on this trip were Ross, Mark Morrison, Katy, Nils, Jose, Cristella, Jacob and Belinda. Ross did a fab job of pre-planning the trip and a small team of 3 gathered on the Friday night to gather resources (fuel, anchors, warps, paddles etc) and prep the Kinsmen.

Saturday 2nd August dawned with a wind of 10-15 knots from the West and sun and cloud. The team gathered at 0900 hours. Sea Horse was joining us on the trip to make sure we had enough space for us all.

With a little time pressure to get out of the harbour before we lost water, we got ready to get underway. A quick crew swap around and Wee Jo led the way out of the harbour ... and then back in again! The 2 stroke engine being a bit unhappy right at the harbour entrance, the crew made a quick decision to jump ship and take Mark Morrison's Grey Whaly, a motor boat. Now the trip had a support vessel!

With its 30HP engine, Grey Whaly

was able to go ahead and pop into both Newhaven and Granton harbours. Spotting a Forth Boats vessel ferrying cruise ship passengers from mid-Forth to Newhaven, we also saw another Kinsman in Granton harbour, before looping back to check on Wee Mo.



And this was not the only time our fleet "were a bit out of place"! Whilst passing the marine platforms to the East of the Forth Rail Bridge we picked up a tail. First one, then another green vessel appeared and started following us. It was a bit unnerving! With lots of familiar vessels going up and down from Port Edgar, we guessed they found our "stealth" coloured Grey Whaley and rainbow clad Wee Mo crew member suspicious! (Maybe not so surprising set against the fact that Greenpeace had only just closed down the Queensferry Crossing the week before.) We were eventually hailed on the radio - "May we be of assistance? You look a bit out of place here!" A very polite way of asking us who the hell we were and what the hell were our intentions! Just after this event, Wee Mo needed to top up its fuel tank so Grey Whaley rafted up with her and Ross refuelled. Just at this point, whilst rafted up, Mark got the fright of his life. Whilst bent over Wee Mo's engine ... something jumped out of the water to Mark's right.

A dolphin!!! A magical interlude took place whilst this fabulous creature swam around and around the rafted boats ... jumping up, showing off and generally being so playful. A little concerned about starting the engines up again in this creature's presence we headed off slowly with the dolphin following us ... going from boat to boat for a good 10 minutes!

With so much excitement already experienced the sinking packet of wine gums and hat rescue no 1, paled in comparison. Finally, we arrived into Port Edgar ... navigating a fleet of small humans on dinghies right at the marina entrance. With a little bit of work, we puzzled out the pontoon letters and numbers (most numbers are missing, just to add an extra level of problem solving on an empty stomach to our day!)

Big lunches were ordered at "Down the Hatch" followed by a wander around the chandlery, toilet stops and a look at all the Hunter 707s, now berthed post racing.

Time to head back down the Forth to Fisherrow. Sails went up under the rail bridge and both sailing vessels sailed home. Grey Whaley surfed back in the sunshine, spotting seals lounging on the buoy platforms.



Well done all and thank you, Ross

