



## ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS AT FISHERROW YC

**F**ISHERROW Yacht Club (FYC), in East Lothian comes of age with a special jubilee anniversary marking 60 years since its inception in 1957.

Present members of the club felt that this was too important an occasion to celebrate with a simple birthday party, so have instead embarked on an ambitious programme of tasks and activities which will take the club forward ensuring a strong future for the next generation of sailors.

The significance of this jubilee year began with the newly designed commemorative logo donated by David McClelland, writes Inez Visser.

As well as the celebration of the club's history, the sailing committee is working towards Royal Yachting Association recognised training centre accreditation. This will make it possible for all those who undertake courses at FYC to be awarded official RYA certificates.

The sailing programme, published on the Fisherrow Yacht Club website: [www.fisherrowyachtclub.com](http://www.fisherrowyachtclub.com) offers a full programme of dinghy and yacht racing interspersed with fun, non competitive sessions. The FYC sailing calendar is always jam packed with events. The club is able to offer sailing opportunities to those who do not own their own

boats as a small fleet comprising four Laser Picos, two Toppers, two RS Fevas, a single 420 and one RS Vision, may be used by club members for an additional fee to their annual membership. There is also the opportunity to crew on yachts owned by club members.

Club veteran Ian Thompson has been collecting and recording an archive of past members, boats and activities which will be presented in both a jubilee anniversary book, also as part of a seven week exhibition from 15 June to 29 July in the Musselburgh Museum coinciding with the Musselburgh Festival.

Fisherrow Yacht Club has its roots in the local harbour and one of the purposes of the celebration is to bring awareness of the connection between the heyday of the fishing industry to the modern sport of sailing.

At the time of the club's inception in 1957 sailing enthusiasts bought decommissioned trawlers (*above*) to convert to yachts and many families tried their hand at making affordable self build dinghies. Old photos of Fisherrow harbour show a mix of commercial and leisure craft; now the harbour is mostly populated by leisure craft.

After the seven week slot in the Musselburgh Museum the exhibition will be located in the Brunton Theatre as part

of the East Lothian arm of the August Fringe Festival. Fisherrow Yacht Club is honoured that in recognition of the club's contribution to the heritage of the harbour, Musselburgh Common Good Fund has awarded a generous grant of £3,800 to support the exhibition costs.

The FYC club rooms now occupy the lower part of an historic property in Fisherrow, but at the time of purchase, in the early 1960s, the property was condemned, however, thanks in part to the determination of the then members and subsequent modernisation, the old 'Georgian' did not get pulled down, but a sensitively refurbished reception hall reflects the historic style of a Georgian era building.

This was achieved by donated time from the professional interior designer, Megan Anderson, and the volunteered hard graft of the members. Some of the historic artefacts from the exhibition will be showcased in the hall.

● The Fisherrow Yacht Club Jubilee exhibition and commemorative book will be formally launched on Thursday 15 June with a special reception in the Musselburgh Town Hall above the Musselburgh Museum. Anyone with connections to the club who would like to attend should contact the Jubilee Coordinator, Inez Visser at Fisherrow Yacht Club, 97 New Street, Musselburgh EH21 7RP, or email: [Inez@inezdemon.co.uk](mailto:Inez@inezdemon.co.uk)



## JUMBLE RETURNS TO ANSTRUTHER MUSTER

**F**OR THE 20th anniversary of the Anstruther Muster, the Boat Jumble is being revived.

This year's jumble will help to raise funds for the restoration of the Scottish Fisheries Museum's Reaper sailing drifter which suffered major damage last year. The Museum's Reaper Boats Club will be taking several stalls at the Jumble, selling lots of old gear from the Museum's boatyard, and sailing club members will be entering spare items.

To encourage the revival of the Boat Jumble, there will be no charge for taking a pitch at the Muster, although a donation to the Reaper restoration would be appreciated.

'For the 20th anniversary we've set the date of 27/28 May to suit tide times for boats travelling from around Edinburgh,' says ASC secretary Bill Kennaway.