



Gairloch Boat Club 2015 Annual General Meeting. Secretary's Report.

This is my first Report as Secretary. I have enjoyed it but it has been "challenging" (business speak). This Club couldn't exist without the fantastic support of ordinary members and believe me, there is nothing ordinary about any of you. You are all *extraordinary*.

GBC Activities last year have resulted in a number of successes:-

- 1 **Greater Interest** Increased Community interest engendered in water-based activities.
- 2 **Courses** Successful year of training based on RYA Training Methods taught by Rob Bashford, RYA Senior Instructor. 7 Adults on Improvers Course; 9 Juniors on Beginners Course. All well received and with fantastic support from parents and participants; including Ewan McLellan, Chris Barratt, Meredith & Rob Adam & all the helpers during the week.
- 3 **Leisure Centre** Leisure Centre Anniversary - Promotion of Boat Club. Thanks to Gordon for bringing & setting up his Topper.
- 4 **New Outboard** New Outboard engine bought & fitted to RIB.
- 5 **Juniors** Juniors - 4 Sail & Dinghy Racing days; Junior Fun Day.
- 6 **Big Boat Event** Big Boat Charity Event for Highland Hospice. Saturday Social evening at the Shieling Restaurant. Sunday: Presentation of Trophy with BBQ at the Badachro Inn.
- 7 **Midsummer** Midsummer in the Minch Sail with Skye Boat Club.
- 8 **Keel Boats** Keel Boats - increased number of Races during the Season.
- 9 **Challenge Regatta** With great support from other local Sailing Clubs us well.
- 10 **Gunn Trophy** Gunn Trophy Loch Carron - 2 Juniors took part & enjoyed the experience.
- 11 **Weekly Sailing** Sailing Sessions - weather vagaries & other factors affected numbers.
- 12 **Pre-Season Social** Pre-Season Nosh-up at the Golf Club. Great food & company. This coming year we plan to have an Annual Calendar of Social Events which everyone can plan for.
- 13 **RYA** We have started the process of getting recognition as a RYA Training Centre and have met with the RYA Development Officer for Scotland, who is keen to see such a Centre in this corner of Scotland.
- 14 **Work Party** Sunday March 22nd. 17 stalwarts helped to prepare the Safety Boats, Club Boats and the Club House for the busy season ahead, topped off by a great BBQ.
- 15 **Thanks** Thanks are due throughout the Community for the fantastic support during the year; including Aultbea Butchers; Shop at the Pier; Myrtle Bank Hotel; Badachro Inn; The Shieling Restaurant; Golf Club; HM Coastguard. Everyone who helped put out Race Marks & those who lent launches for Race Days.

On a personal note I would like to thank everyone who has helped during the year, especially all those who have baked, made soup for our hungry sailors and cleared up afterwards!

Finally, I hope 2015 is a really good year for the Boat Club. If the New Programme lives up to its billing, it should be a great year.

Phil Youell, Honorary Secretary.
24 March 2015