



The Harbour
Fortrose
Ross-shire
IV10 8TP

training@chanonry.org.uk
www.chanonry.org.uk

TRAINING REPORT FOR AGM 2014

This year's training highlights were the acquisition of 3 more dinghies for the training fleet, the running of an adult Level 3 dinghy course & the Dinghy Day Sailing course (firsts for the club as far as I'm aware) and the hosting of a RYA Dinghy Instructor course; more on these activities below. We've also provided a busy programme of dinghy formal training, coaching, power boating and shorebased winter courses and supported Highland & Moray Sailing coaching.

I reported last year that we had acquired our first used Wanderer dinghy ('Lake Tekapo') assisted by a 50% grant from **The Highland Council Ward 10 Discretionary Fund**; while the boat had arrived by the AGM, technically the purchase was in this FY. The club then purchased outright a second used Wanderer, 'Minstrel' and both boats have provided sterling service this year facilitating an adult Level 3 course and a RYA Dinghy Day Sailing course and were used extensively for an adult Level 2 course and, most importantly, for the DI course. I bid successfully for another **Eric Twiname Trust** subsidized Tera dinghy (around 40% off the full price) and this brought our Tera fleet to 6 dinghies which is an ideal number. The Tera hull with the broken mast pot has been converted in to a rowing boat and was useful as a RIB tender for those occasions when the RIB needed to be anchored off the harbour. The 3 Optimist clones remained serviceable after some re-rigging. The sea scout owned Topaz were showing their age and in agreement with 'Skipper' I carried out a series of repairs which were funded from the income raised in their use for recreational sailing or racing. The 4 Topaz are in need of new sails and covers and I will see if we can find a way of moving this ahead with the sea scouts.

The DI course, filled by 6 of our Youth Sailors (Natalie Dunton, Thomas Hardie, Magnus Henry, Georgina Lloyd, Charlie Wilson & Malcolm Wilson), took around 6 months to plan to ensure that all 6 started with their supporting certificates

(PBL2, First Aid) and that we had a pre-assessor, tutor and moderator lined-up. We also did some Wanderer sessions in preparation for spinnaker work and rudderless sailing etc. I bid for a grant to off-set course fees (while seeking individual contributions and some in-kind support from the club) and was successful in obtaining money from the **Prince George Gift Fund via Foundation Scotland**. Dominic Lloyd earned his Assistant Dinghy Instructor certificate after assisting with the stage 2/3 training week.

I should mention at this stage that tragically our first aid instructor, Willie Wilson, died unexpectedly earlier in the year after a short illness. Willie delivered excellent courses for us which are essential for instructors and coaches and even when he was in Raigmore we were exchanging texts to try to find a substitute instructor for a couple of our aspirant DIs. Willie took his responsibilities very seriously and is sadly missed. Barbara Jones has now stepped-up to deliver first aid training and has been accredited to the RYA.

Junior uptake on dinghy courses has been good but adult beginner numbers were down although we received several queries late in the season. I will try to schedule a Level 2 course later in the season next year and over 2 weekends rather than 5 consecutive Saturdays. However, the lack of adult beginner numbers was compensated to some extent by the Level 3 and Day Sailing courses. I issued 11 x Stage 1, 6 x Stage 2, 1 x Stage 3, 2 x Level 2, 3 x Level 3, 3 x Dinghy Day Sailing, 1 x ADI & 9 x Taster certificates.

On the power boating side, Helen Jenner issued 12 x PBL2 (including 3 for Nairn SC) and 6 x Safety Boat (including 1 for Nairn SC). There are 2 PBL2 assessments for Loch Broom SC pending.

The club provided opportunities for practising newly acquired skills plus race coaching for juniors and youths. The SIs provided new Stage 1 & 2 sailors with the chance to practise under the helpful eye of instructors on Tuesday evenings as Chanonry Dolphins. The next stage, to learn about racing and making the boat go faster was led by Richard Evans through Chanonry Champs on Thursday evenings. As sailors improved their skills they moved up to the Race Team events on Sunday mornings when they were encouraged to become self-reliant and in fact to self-coach as skills were honed. Race Team was also led by Richard E.

Nine Champs sessions involving 6 sailors (2.8/session) and 7 Race Team sessions with 11 sailors (including 3 adults and 4/session) took place.

The last couple of years have seen a dip in numbers coming through to Race Coaching from Dolphins but those that have were very keen showing great promise. The Race Team this year has seen basically the same group as last with sailors taking part in Scottish and UK national events for their classes and showing improvement on every occasion.

Looking forward, I'm interested in demand for winter shorebased training and request that any members wanting a course, formal or informal, contact me. I hope next season that we can further utilize the Wanderers to run more advanced modules. Lastly, I would like to thank all that have helped deliver training this year (it's a pleasingly long list) but I would like to highlight that the position of Assistant Training Principal remains open and I should appreciate some help with training administration.

Richard Jenner
Training Principal