



BOATHOOK

The Newsletter of The Scottish Traditional Boat Festival

PLANS IN HAND FOR A GREAT WEEKEND!

Welcome to the first issue of Boathook in the lead up to the 14th Scottish Traditional Boat Festival. And firstly, a big thank you to everyone who made last year's event such a great success. More skippers and crews, more demonstrators, our biggest ever song, dance and theatre programme, the largest Food Fayre, more runners than ever before in the Follow the Herring 10K Road and Fun Runs and a brilliant range of activities for kids (of all ages) up at Loch Soy's Adventure Land. And the weather was splendid too, if somewhat testing for sailors on Saturday!

We're proud to confirm that for the third year we won the Aberdeen and Grampian Northern Lights Tourism Award for the best Community Led Tourism Initiative.

So now it's on to 2007 which we're determined will build on the best of what we've done before. More than anything else, we know that we're a maritime festival and that's where our focus will be this year. With that in mind we'd now like to extend the warmest of welcomes for everyone (and new friends too) to join us over the weekend of June 29th and 30th and July 1st.

Roger Goodyear, Chairman

Our Theme For 2007: The Moray Firth Flotilla



We are delighted to be hosting the finale of the fabulous Moray Firth Flotilla. Full details of this amazing project can be found on www.flotilla2007.co.uk, but what we can say is that its impact on Portsoy is going to be dramatic and colourful.



Starting at Wick on June 23rd, the Flotilla will be calling on Lybster, Helmsdale, Invergordon and Cromarty and Buckie prior to arriving at Portsoy on Friday June 29th. Vessels already registered include the Fifies *Swan*, *Isabella Fortuna*, *Reaper* and *White Wing*, plus a superb range of other craft: Loch Fyne skiff *Clan Gordon*; Cornish Shrimper, *Misty Morn*; English Smack *Johanna*; Stroma Yawl, *Bee*; Ness Scoth *An Sulaire* and from Portsoy, Fifies *Liberty* and *Black Gold* and *Scaffie*, *Obair-Na-Ghaol*.

It is anticipated that there may be as many as forty craft in the Flotilla, so their arrival around noon on Friday 29th, including warping some of these huge craft into the harbour will be a never to be forgotten sight. They will be joining the other guests with us at Portsoy and we anticipate a very full harbour over the Festival weekend.



This does mean that we are going to have to restrict registrations this year, so, Skippers: please get your registrations in as soon as possible as we are going to have to work on a first come, first served basis. It also means that we will have to work to a strict "Festival registered traditional craft only" policy over the weekend and there will be no room for visitor boats.

The Sailing Programme

There are some important developments for skippers and crews in 2007.

We are delighted to be introducing a new dedicated Crew Marquee where notices will be posted, all briefings will take place, the Saturday evening reception will be held (and yes, it'll have its own bar) and where crews can just meet and talk when they're not on the water. This will be located near the Salmon House and by the net poles area which will be dedicated to the storage of trailers.



We are also planning to introduce a separate dinghy sailing event to take place off the beach at the links. There will be a dedicated area for storing dinghies and trailers near to the Festival camp site. We are also improving the rescue cover for the sailing fleet.



Following its successful introduction last year, we will again be offering dedicated camp and caravan spaces by the Links with full toilet and shower facilities.

Please note that tide times for the weekend are posted on the Festival web site www.scottishtraditionalboatfestival.co.uk



Kathy Mansfield

The sailing programme will include:

- Friday** : arrival of the Flotilla
: an evening organized sail
- Saturday** : two "back to back" 90 minute races for small craft - a modified Olympic course outside the harbour.
: the Moray Firth Flotilla Race, also open to Festival registered cruisers - passage race, approximately three hours duration
- Sunday** : an All Classes Passage Race for all Festival registered craft.
: if unsuitable weather for smaller craft, a modified Olympic course outside the harbour

There will also be a modern dinghy racing programme operating from the Links beach throughout the weekend.

All sailing and courses are subject to weather and sea state and a bad weather programme will be developed.

From all of this we hope you will see that we determined to provide great facilities and good sailing for skippers and crews and lots of activity for visitors to watch.

Saturday Night Fever And Music, Music, Music

A major new element of the Festival planned for Saturday is an evening show by the harbour. Starting at about 10:00pm there will be a great live music performance by *Stephen Quigg* and *Gaberlunzie* on the harbour stage followed by a spectacular fireworks display. With the backdrop of the harbour packed with superb craft it will make for a fantastic evening.



BVI Bann

Moir Stewart is also putting together a wonderful programme of music over the whole weekend. Topping the bill at the Friday Night Showcase Concert will be *The Old Blind Dogs* while the harbour stage will feature a great non stop programme of musicians, singers and dancers plus Portsoy's own "Skip to the Beat". As in 2006 there'll be an international flavour: more details to follow. Saturday night's Ceilidh will feature the welcome return of *Makarakit*.

The Wally Green marquee will also be home to great music and dance over the weekend including a guest performance by local girl and national favourite *Isla St Clair* accompanied by *Elgin Strathspey and Reel* on the Sunday afternoon.

And There's So Much More . . .

The Food Fayre will again feature all that's best in Grampian food headed up once more by *Downies of Whitehills*.

The harbour will feature a great range of maritime activities and demonstrators and we plan to introduce an exciting new area dedicated to visual art with presentations by artists throughout the weekend. Entries will invited for the Fast and Furious raft race on Saturday morning.

Loch Soy will again be the home to Adventure Land with a great range of activities for children from nine to ninety including bungee trampolines, quad bikes, assault courses and much, much more.

Sunday morning will see the Follow the Herring 10K Road Run and 2K Fun Run, starting from the Playing Field.

Our Growing Range Of Projects For The Young

Friday afternoon will see the culmination of the Festival's Children's Music Project, carried out in conjunction with Aberdeenshire Council and the Youth Music Initiative. It's a not to be missed concert with the children from the Banff Academy catchment area primary schools performing the music they've developed over the four months leading up to the Festival.

Watch out for the exhibition of children's artwork produced in the lead up to the Festival on the subject of the Flotilla and on display will be the progress on the Faering project in which a team of local children are working to build a traditional North Sea Faering (which on completion they'll learn to sail).



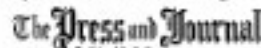
Roger Goodyear

Last and not least we are delighted that we will be joined by SPLASH who will be providing sailing opportunities for children and The Royal Yachting Association Scotland who will be with us for a third year training children to sail.

Keep In Touch With Us

Check out the website for constant updates on developments www.scottishtraditionalboatfestival.co.uk If you want to know more, call us on 01261 842951 or email us on contact@scottishtraditionalboatfestival.co.uk or drop us a line at the address at the bottom.

Important thanks go to . . .
The people of Portsoy and district
and our major sponsors including:



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