2017 Commodore's Report

Trevor Morris

Current membership

178 Adults

23 Cadets

These figures represent our baseline membership from which all other activities flow.

Our other major source of income is that generated by the bar through the activities of the Entertainments Committee. I am sure that the Treasurer will expand on this in his report.

My thanks therefore to Paul Booth who this year has taken over as Events Manager and, with the help of his committee, has been responsible for arranging a number of fund-raising activities which include Bingo evenings, the Six Nations Finals viewings, the Laying -Up Supper and later this year an event to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the founding of Fishguard Bay Yacht Club.

In addition Jo, who runs the cafe, has also arranged a number of well-attended barbeques throughout the summer season which, together with the Cardboard Kayak Competition generated greater footfall and therefore increased income for the club.

My thanks are extended to all the volunteer members who give their time to assist both behind the bar and in helping to organise these events.

SAILING REPORT

In spite of one of the worst summers in the last 30 years which resulted in many of our training sessions being curtailed, the club has achieved some notable results.

In December we hosted the Regional Topper Squad with 14 boats.

In February we received the Welsh National Laser Squad with 10 boats.

In June the West Wales Optimists with 14 boats.

In July we were the host club for the CYRC with some excellent results for our young sailors:

Amelia Grant-Jones took 1st place Optimist, Daisy Terry 2nd in the Silver Fleet and Huw Davies 1st in the Training Fleet.

Also in July Finn Robarts took part in the World Topper Championships held this year in Loctudy (Fishguard's twin town) where he came a very creditable 30th out of a fleet of 100 boats.

We were due to host the Welsh Feva Championships in August but the event was sadly cancelled due to a lack of entries.

September began with Bart's Bash, a charity fund raiser. We fielded a total of 16 entries, the Senior event being won by Tom Renny and the Junior by Evie Jones. £69 was raised.

Our sailing season was capped off when the club hosted the Welsh Zone Championships. With over 100 entries this represents a major event in the Welsh Sailing Calendar and we were privileged to have the opportunity to stage this prestigious event.
It was a spectacular sight to see th ebay filled with over 100 sailing dinghies. The weather once again played its part with racing almost being called off on the Saturday with winds gusting force 5, all credit to the young sailors who successfully completed the course. On Sunday, a complete contrast with not only very light winds for the 1st race but with fog rolling in or the second abandone only to be reprieved as a sudden clearance allowed us to turn the fleet back, reset the course and finish the series.

Owing to the logistics of the event with over 100 dinghies and a dozen safety boats and the sailing split into 2 fleets it was not possible to run the event from the club in Lower Town so the Phoenix Centre became the logical place to stage the event. There were some difficulties with the venue but for all who were involved it well be, like Atlantic Challenge, an event to be remembered.

The results for our club were impressive, Huw Davies came first and Jacob Hancock 9th in the Regatta Fleet. Evie Jones 2nd and Efa Wilson 3rd in the Windsurfers and Freya Terry and crew 8th in the 420s.

I would like to thank all the members of the club who assisted in making this event such a success, in particular Geoff Turner our Sailing Captain, Gail and Brian for organising the event and Cary for the use of his yacht as 'mother ship'.

Huw Davies has since been selected for the South and West Wales Regional Topper Squad and he won the Silver Fleet at the Tata Sailing Club CYRC on 14th October.

Tom Renny sailing a Laser Radial, was 8th at RYA Youth Nationals, 1st at RYACW Championship in Pwllheli and 1st at Laser Open Champs in Dale.
He was part of GBR Radial Youth Squad and Welsh National Youth Squad, and following being the 8th GBR sailor at 2017 World Championship he is also reselected for 2018.
He has competed at events around the UK as well as Germany, Ireland, Poland and Holland and his ambition for this year is to be the GBR (male) to be selected for the ISAF world championship in Corpus Christi Texas.

Finally, congratulations to Geoff who came 3rd in the 'Jester' Baltimore Challenge, a single-handed yacht race from Pwllheli to Baltimore in S. West Ireland.