



# Newsletter

Holt Leisure Group

Summer 2015

## KIP WELCOMES UK MARINA INDUSTRY!



The great and good of the UK marina industry gathered at Kip Marina in May as The Yacht Harbour Association chose Scotland's premier marina as the venue for their Networking Lunch.

Over thirty members of The Yacht Harbour Association (TYHA) including representatives of all the other Scottish marinas arrived at Kip for a day long reception which included exchanges of best practice ideas together with discussions on the latest developments in the marina industry.

Hosted by Yacht Harbour Association General Manager John White, one of the highlights of the event was a series of informative lectures from a wide range of industry experts including Marina operators, fuel suppliers, insurance and finance companies, health & safety experts and marina software manufacturers.

Followed a Scottish themed lunch at Kip's Chartroom Restaurant the attendees then enjoyed a tour around Kip Marina and a detailed look at the facilities which make Kip Scotland's premier marina.

Libby Gordon of TYHA said: "The Yacht Harbour Association were lucky to hold one of their networking events at Kip Marina, Inverkip. 28 marina industry delegates attended the day and after a series of presentations and open discussions, we had a fantastic lunch in the Chartroom. The food was plentiful and of high quality



as were the staff who looked after us. I cannot thank Kevin Blamire and his staff enough for their kind attention and excellent service, and also to Duncan who was fantastic in helping me with the organisation of the day".

Kip Marina General Manager Duncan Chalmers said "We were delighted to have been selected as the Scottish venue for the TYHA Networking Event and equally delighted to show off Kip Marina to all of our expert visitors"

The event was sponsored by Star Computers who manufacture the Havenstar Marina Management System.

## CRUISE SHIP AT FAIRLIE QUAY

The phrase 'It's an ill wind that blows nobody any good' came true when due to sudden high winds and poor weather conditions the cruise ship Le Boreal made an unplanned stop at Fairlie Quay Marina!

Originally intending to moor off Ayr, the 10,600 ton French luxury cruise ship was planning to disembark its passengers via a tender shuttle service but the vagaries of the Scottish weather meant an alternative pier had to be found with only 12 hours' notice so it really was a case of 'all hands on deck'!

After some fast research and visiting the new website, Fairlie Quay, with its deep water pier – which can handle ships up to 170m in length – was selected as the best port to head for.

The ship handling expertise of Fairlie Quay's management and staff meant a seamless service...



Images courtesy of David Cook Yachts Fairlie Key



...was available to assist Le Boreal's crew and, perhaps more importantly, their passengers who were disembarking on to coaches for a tour of Ayrshire and Burns country.

Both the Le Boreal's crew and the ship's handling agents were delighted with the facilities on offer at Fairlie Quay - the fact that ground transport coaches could pull up alongside the ship and

the manner in which their guest's needs were looked after left our enormous French visitor wishing Fairlie Quay 'merci et au revoir' rather than goodbye.

For more information about our comprehensive and versatile range of marina facilities at Fairly Quay Marina visit [www.fairliequay.co.uk](http://www.fairliequay.co.uk)

## KIP MARINA'S NEW RESIDENTS

Kip Marina's newest residents were launched recently and made their maiden voyage successfully around their new home!

Proud Mother and Father are reportedly in good health and looking forward to some time to themselves!



# NEW ARRIVALS & SPECIAL OFFERS AT KIP CHANDLERY

With summer arriving and the weather improving now is the perfect time to browse through the latest additions and special offers to be found in Kip Marina's Chandlery.

As we continue to expand Scotland's largest multi-level chandlery we've picked out some notable arrivals that are too good to miss!

Kip Marina's Chandlery is open 7 days a week from 9.00am



The new 'Island' range of fenders are no in stock. High quality robust fenders available in six sizes and either navy or white. Priced from only £9.99, take advantage and get 20% discount with our special introductory offer!

New at Kip in our Clothing Store are a range of high quality shoes from Orcabay with ladies washable shoes from £59.95 and men's waterproof Storm Boots from £165.95



Our new range of Plastimo dinghies are now in stock at special introductory prices and with the security of a 4 year warranty. These low weight dinghies come complete with slats or inflatable floor, valise, pump, repair kit, seat & oars.



Animal's 2015 Beachwear range for ladies, gents and children is now in stock including flip flops, bags, belts wallets & hats. Take advantage of our exclusive Special Offer: **Spend £60.00 on Animal beachwear and get a free luxury beach towel!**

# DINGHIES & BIG CARS AT SCOTLAND'S BOAT SHOW!

Already the largest boat show in Scotland and 3rd largest in the UK, Scotland's Boat Show 2015 (SBS15) takes place at Kip Marina this October with plans well underway to make this the biggest show ever. After last year's successful show and over 13,000 visitors, many new and returning exhibitors have already confirmed their attendance for 2015 with more enquiries being received on an almost daily basis and many planning to increase their presence.

A prime example of growth for 2015 are Hartley Boats who exhibited at SBS14 for the first time and followed the show up with a series of demonstration days around Scotland. The Derby based dinghy specialists are already confirmed to return to SBS15 with a state of the art super-stand more than double the size of last year's already impressive display.

On show from Hartley will be a full range of dinghies from their high performance sport boats to entry level fun boats plus the chance the chance for visitors to actually get on the water in the Hartley Boat demonstration area.



Company Chairman Richard Hartley said "Hartley Boats made a decision to take a medium stand and show part of the Hartley boat range at last year's Scotland's Boat show and give it a try.

Due to the response and orders placed at that show we have booked to return again this year but with a much larger stand and with our full range of Hartley boats."

KAs returning exhibitors there will be plenty to tempt the eye in the form

of motor vehicles from Rolls Royce and Aston Martin - presented by Leven Car Company of Edinburgh - and visitors can expect to see a stunning range of the world's finest cars on display from these iconic brands. Also making a welcome return will be Morgan Cars who had an extremely successful show in 2014 when they exhibited their iconic sports cars for the first time and were so delighted by the interest and knowledge of the show visitors that they have confirmed their return for 2015!



Scotland's Boat Show 2015 at Kip Marina, Inverkip on 9th, 10th & 11th October 2015 – for more details on exhibiting or visiting visit [www.scotlandsboatshow.co.uk](http://www.scotlandsboatshow.co.uk) or call 01475 521485

## A CLASSIC WEEKEND OF SAILING AT SAVILLS KIP REGATTA!



Exceptional sunshine and, at times, a breeze up to 18 knots set the tone for a weekend of superb racing at the 2015 Savills Kip Regatta and Steve Cowie's First 40 'Zephyr' taking the coveted Overall Trophy title after winning IRC Class 1 in arguably the most competitive class.

A truly 'Classic' weekend regatta this year with a good Après Sail party at The Chartroom – all partaken in great spirit amidst the ultimate in variable Scottish weather.

Full report and all the results are available at: [www.kipmarina.co.uk/savills-kip-regatta-updated-results/](http://www.kipmarina.co.uk/savills-kip-regatta-updated-results/)



## YEAR OF FOOD & DRINK SCOTLAND 2015 AT SCOTLAND'S BOAT SHOW

As well as boats of all shapes and sizes Scotland's Boat Show 2015 will have plenty to entice visitors on shore with the addition this year of a dedicated Pavilion showcasing Scottish produce as part of VisitScotland's Year of Food & Drink 2015.

The Scottish Food & Drink Pavilion will contain carefully selected local and Scottish food & drink producers who will display their goods in a 'street market' style setting. Expect everything from hand baked goods, homemade tablet and unique Scotch Eggs to artisan distilled gin! Also within the Pavilion will be a live kitchen and stage where chefs and producers demonstrate dishes and skills enabling visitors to create their own delights and how to get the best out of the fantastic produce available in Scotland.

The Scottish Food & Drink Pavilion has received support as part of the Year of Food and Drink, an initiative delivered by VisitScotland and will be situated adjacent to The Chartroom Restaurant during Scotland's Boat Show 2015, Kip Marina on the 9th, 10th & 11th of October.

## THE CHARTROOM – NOW OPEN FOR FOOD ALL DAY!

The Chartroom Restaurant, Bar & Venue boasts stunning views over Kip Marina and is the perfect setting to watch lazy summer afternoons slowly edge into chilled out evenings. To celebrate summer we are now serving food all day every day from our New Menu which features fresh locally sourced

ingredients together with old favourites. Serving food from 10am daily you can enjoy mouth-watering dishes, a lighter snack or a fine Illy coffee whenever the mood takes you!

For more information visit [www.TheChartroom.co.uk](http://www.TheChartroom.co.uk)

# THE OLD MAN OF THE SEA BOWS OUT

The Scottish sailing scene lost a familiar (albeit craggy and well used) face at the end of March following the retirement of Jim Berry, General Manager of Holt Leisure's Craobh Marina in Lochgilphead.

Starting his long career as a young boat builder with Arden Yachts near his home town of Helensburgh, Jim progressed on to boat sales with Euroyachts at their Glasgow City Centre premises before stepping up to the big league by joining Kip Marina's Boat Sales team alongside a young Roseann Sweeney!

After many boats sold and happy owners satisfied at Kip, and following a brief sojourn as Harbour Master at Tarbert, Jim arrived as General Manager of the idyllic Craobh Marina and quickly established his unique stamp on arguably this most picturesque of Scottish marinas.

Throughout his tenure, Craobh saw many changes with new offices, Chandlery, shore side facilities, hoist, slipway, crane, addition of the holiday cottages, the renewal and adoption of the access road, and most recently the development of housing plots.

Jim's personal life was, despite a professed susceptibility to seasickness even on pontoons, taken up with his love of the



Left to right: Duncan Chalmers, Roseann Sweeney, Jim Berry, Gavin McDonagh and Kevin Blamire

Drascombe's that he restored and sailed throughout his time at Craobh although latterly he also developed a keen interest in the local wildlife and farming stock.

Jim has been a popular fixture within the Holt Leisure Group for two decades prompting Managing Director Gavin McDonagh to say "Not only was Jim a great asset to the company, over the years he provided sage advice both to myself and others, something we will all miss, and wish him a long and well deserved retirement"

## DRASCOMBE RALLY AT CRAOBH

Craobh Marina had the pleasure of hosting a Drascombe rally over the May bank holiday and fine examples of this traditional-style sailing boats arrived from all over the UK.



More than 5,000 Drascombes of all types have been built since the first one was launched in 1966 and this rally has been a regular feature at Craobh Marina for several years. Although the weather was could have been kinder they enjoyed their stay, racing and exploring the surrounding islands. They plan to return to Craobh Marina in 2 years' time.

## CRAOBH CHANGES

It was out with the old and in with the new at Craobh recently with the departure of a well worn but trusty old friend - and not Jim Berry this time!

It was time to say goodbye to our Clansman crane which, with its SWL of 15 tons, had served Craobh well for over 15 years and become a familiar sight for regular customers. Replacing the Clansman we welcomed delivery of the new Kato crane which more than doubles the lift capacity with a SWL of 30 tons and will serve Craobh Marina well for another 15 years!



## NEW DIESEL TANK AT KIP MARINA

After 40 years of loyal service our Diesel tank has been replaced by a younger and bigger bundled tank.

After the first few years of service filling our dredging plant and machinery to create the marina basin, the tank was moved to the newly constructed Lifting out pier and fuelling pontoon.

Although our first Travel hoist was imported from the USA and petrol engined the tank found its niche in refuelling the growing number of boats at the marina.

From the glamorous powerful motor yachts, racing yachts and cruisers to the humble gallon can our tank has filled them all. We wish it well in retirement!



## CRAOBH HOLIDAY COTTAGES

Details of offers on Craobh Holiday Cottages for 2015/2016 are now available featuring a range of holidays - short breaks to long stays. Perfect for boat owners carrying out some fitting out or just as an excuse for a relaxing break away from it all.



For full details visit [www.holidaycottageshighlands.co.uk](http://www.holidaycottageshighlands.co.uk)



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