



Banff Harbour Newsletter – August 2007

School holidays are drawing to a close, and the youngsters are making the best of what is left. I would like to wish students going back to school, college or university good luck, and work hard during the forthcoming academic year.

On the subject of youngsters, I have spoken to several of them who insist on jumping off the harbour walls. I am in favour of having fun, but this activity is prohibited. With their safety in mind, if the opportunity arises, please appeal to them, and help raise the awareness of the risks they are taking.

The structural work on the repairs to the old quay is nearing completion, and the tidying up of stones and equipment is now being undertaken. During the next few weeks, the plan is for the Contractor to place a letterbox shutter at the base of the new work, and create a reinforced concrete base that will offer improved prevention of erosion at the base of the quay. It is intended to establish a continuing base of the same design for the length of the East Pier from the gut to the end of the old quay.

There is an area on the seaward side of the old quay which will be pressure grouted as well. This work will extend over several months, and should not affect the accessibility of the Marina in any way, and will go a long way to maintaining our harbour wall.

One of the highlights of the past month has, undoubtedly been the many sightings of dolphins, and the occasional minke whale, off the harbour. I would like to share the very special picture taken by Robert Farrands ("Soup Dragon") recently.



"when learning, always stay close to the teacher..."

What a delight to see the young dolphin displaying such confidence and beauty! Thank you for a great picture, Robert.

One of our Marina users, Steve Brockman, and his beautiful Nicholson "Melady Fair" have been conspicuous by their absence this season. Steve has been enjoying an extended period of cruising on the West Coast. I recently heard from him, and some of the places they visited over the last couple of months include Port Ramsey on Lismore, Loch Aline, Dunstaffnage, Kerrera, Garvellach Islands, Jurra, Craobh Haven and Ardfern.



I'm sure Steve will be a gold mine of local West Coast information to us on his return, and have some interesting stories to relate. The accompanying pic is of "Melady Fair" at anchor on Loch Aline, where I believe Steve pulled some large mussels – we can only eat our hearts out!

David Ellis also sent me a pic of his boat "Merit" when dried out on the beach – looks pretty, doesn't it! Thanks, David. I look forward to receiving a few more of your photographs to help populate next months newsletter.



Let's all hope that the summer lingers for a long time, and that we can get in a lot more sailing, fishing and fun this year yet.

Enjoy!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.