



**EAST DOWN YACHT CLUB  
NOTICE OF THE 54th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
SUNDAY 6th DECEMBER 2020 AT 2.30PM**

held remotely via Zoom

Commodore Gordon Reid.

The 54th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the members will be held remotely via Zoom and will commence at 2.30pm on Sunday 6th December 2020.

To attend the meeting please email the Honorary Secretary by Tuesday 1st December at [edycsec@gmail.com](mailto:edycsec@gmail.com) to receive an invite. Invites will be issued closer to the date of the meeting.

**AGM AGENDA**

- 1.0 Apologies.
- 2.0 Minutes of the 53rd Annual General Meeting held on 1st December 2019.
- 3.0 Commodore and Sailing Committee Annual Reports for 2020.
- 4.0 Financial report for 2020.
- 5.0 Resolutions.
- 6.0 Election of the Executive Committee.
- 7.0 Election of members of the Sailing Committee.
- 8.0 Any other business.

**ITEM 1 - APOLOGIES**

If you cannot attend the AGM and wish to send an apology please email the Honorary Secretary at [edycsec@gmail.com](mailto:edycsec@gmail.com)

**ITEM 2 MINUTES OF THE 2019 AGM**

Copies of the 2019 AGM minute will be issued to those attending the meeting or you can email the Honorary Secretary and request a copy.

## **ITEM 3 - COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **COMMODORES REPORT 2020**

Little did we know as we started 2020 that the year would be so challenging, with so many suffering illness and loss of life or livelihood. As a club we share our thoughts for all our affected members and their families.

It is hard to think back to club life before lockdown. The AGM had gone well with a great turnout and the usual fun of prize-giving, mince-pies, and meeting friends at the club.

We had a strong Executive Committee, a new Vice-Commodore, and a full Sailing Sub-Committee, all with energy to plan another busy season. We were honoured to support nominations for David Maxwell and Alan Gilliland-Patterson for Club Volunteer of the year, and both were commended for their work at an RYANI event in January. David also managed a RYA First Aid course at the club.

Alan Wood and his team got membership information out early and we were pleased with the prompt renewal by most members. Plans for sailing and a full normal season were finally in place when in mid March we were hit by the Covid pandemic.

Quite quickly we were forced to close the clubhouse and cancel organised club activities. Committee meetings switched to 'Zoom', and a skeleton staff looked after maintenance and security on site, with limited access by members to take care of boats. RYANI kept us informed of RYA and local developments. Some members started virtual sailing, and we took up an offer from RYA to develop this, and it expanded with about 12 competitors in 88 races over 12 weeks. By some miracle the Commodore won the final series to go forward to the NI championship, but did not represent the club well!

As lockdown finally ended in June, many boat owners took to the water, and a weird mix of cruising and sailing for fun began, with the occasional informal race by the now dynamic fleet of Impalas. David Maxwell did a great job of publishing everything that moved at EDYC, as well as the changes in restrictions to keep members informed. Risk assessments were prepared, and site signage was supplied by John Patterson. It was great to see plans for limited training developed by Malcolm Beatty, and even better when a healthy number of young and new members signed up for single handed dinghy sessions, and for instructing and helping at these. Our new outdoor shower was much admired but little used, and facilities for boat washing, spraying, and socially distanced rescues from single hander ribs were improvised.

Much of the club administration was moved online, and we were reassured as a steady number of new members started to appear. Thanks to Margie Crawford for buddying these new arrivals and helping them through the joining process. I am hopeful that the membership figures at AGM will show a fairly steady number of members compared to 2019 which was a good year.

We were finally allowed to run racing in a controlled way during late August to September and turnouts were quite encouraging. A small brave race management team provided RO and safety boat cover under quite short-handed and demanding conditions, and 4 of the 6 races planned were held. We were lucky to hold the Ardglass Race also, which was well attended.

Unfortunately all other sailing events including the Regatta and 'Discover Sailing' open day were cancelled, and without the bar and catering most of our regular income, apart from membership and boat charges, was lost. Most running costs remained as normal, and we had extra expenditure to provide special facilities. We were lucky to receive a business support grant, and to be excused the rates bill which was expected to be considerably increased, due to a re-valuation which is currently under appeal.

Security remained an issue during the season, with several members suffering outboard engine thefts. Plans are in place to improve our preventative measures, and these will be expensive and require a serious effort by members to make sure buildings are locked and systems activated.

I know that we are not out of the woods yet with Covid-19, and next year will be hard to plan and challenging for members again. As in 2020 we will need to keep going with regular Executive and Sailing Committee work, whether on site or online, and we will all have to do our bit to keep ourselves and each other safe. We are fortunate to have been awarded the hosting of a Topper Traveller event in March, and this will require a lot of planning this winter, whether it can go ahead or not. It will also need a commitment from many volunteers to help prepare and manage the event. Please do step forward when we ask for help with this. We all know more than ever that we are a self-help club, and we each hold the future of EDYC in our own hands.

As I face my closing days as Commodore, I wish to thank you all for the opportunity to lead EDYC through a small but challenging part of its history. I am pleased that Stephen Dow has stepped up to the mark as Vice-Commodore, and has stepped in to my shoes on several occasions at short notice. I am confident that the club will be in good hands, and I must thank everyone on the outgoing Executive and Sailing Committees. In particular Alan Wood, Peter Thompson, Malcolm Beatty and Graham Wright have done mammoth work, as well as Yvette North and Margie with membership. For sailing matters Finbar Jennings and John Millar have led a busy team supported on site by the ever present Davy Ward, Alan Gilliland-Patterson and David Maxwell.

I look forward to meeting a lot more of you on the water at EDYC in 2021 than I did in 2020. In the meantime thank you all for your loyalty to the club and your patience and cooperation through difficult times. We appreciate that many of you will not have had normal access to the club and its facilities this season, and you have supported us without a grudge.

Please do think of those working to keep the club in good shape and planning for 2021 in the hope that some form of real activity and progress will result.

Thank you for your support, everyone, and your patience Mum, Dad, and Rachel.

Gordon Reid Commodore EDYC 2020

## SAILING REPORT 2020

Ahoy!

Autumn has closed in, the clocks have gone back, and there is a bite in the air. Most of the boats laid up for winter - if they got launched at all this year. I won't go on about the virus - but it did shake things up this year!

Despite a shortened year, and many planned events being postponed or cancelled, The Sailing Committee has had a busy season. With the restrictions in place for the season at one severity or another, we still managed to get some activities, building upon the club's reputation as one of the best sailing clubs on the lough.

Our activities on the water included team training for Juniors, and we managed to get a short racing season in the back half of the year - which was well attended. Rotas for duties were thrown out - so many thanks to the crews and race officers who stood up and supported this.

Some of you might have noticed a LOT of Hunter Impalas round the club. Seems to be the new fashion! Watch out for a new race series based upon the class - we hope to grow this from an informal group to a full one-class race series next year. Starts will be with Criuser 1- so there is still room for a kettle on board for some racers!

Most RYA training (power and club rescue) was suspended during Covid (a first aid course did run Jan 20 before Covid) - depending upon need and interest (and, of course lockdown constraints), we will try to offer training in the Spring. Youth powerboat has been a major casualty of Covid in 2020.

At this part of the note, I would usually refer to the incoming Rota - and remind members to cover their duties. Not so much now but we will still rota racing duties next season - watch out for your chance to shuffle! We plan to run a full season - restrictions and RYA guidance permitting. Instead, I would like to remind members of two things. First - remember to observe the club Covid guidance - especially ashore and round the club. An external shower has been fitted to 'sluice' as needed (it is heated), and sanitisation sprays are in the boat shed for club equipment. Try to remember social distancing, and remember that some members are older or have risk factors. Many of our members work in Health and Essential Services - spare a thought for them. Second - labelling Many, many moorings are in the dorn and bay - as well as tenders and dinghies in the park. Its no protection to assume that because its been knocking about for years that everyone knows who owns what - please clearly label all dinghies, trailers and moorings (though I realise its likely a bit late to read that last hint now!) Exec will be tidying up the park later in the year (volunteers might be tapped !) - and unmarked equipment risks getting moved to the Peninsula or worse.

### Events

A limited offering this year, with the restrictions in place on the Isle of Man, marinas in Scotland and Ireland for much of the year. Our Peel race had to be cancelled. Ardglass race was well attended in the circumstances, with 19 entries. We ran a limited series in the second half of the summer, which was well attended. As usual, we had a great showing at the Frosties, with results from Magdelaine,

Chorus Line, Lizante, and Club Coffee. Some of our younger sailors got out to end of year events - A Traveller and the Youth Champs ran - well done to Connor, Sam, Jacob and Kate !. Aoibhin and Sarah provided excellent coaching support with Malcom and for the juniors.

It's also important to 'tip the hat' to the Virtual Regatta Squad. It was a great diversion over lockdown, and with Zoom chat (and taunts) at the line ...and deathly silence towards the finish, the series was fun all round. Grant somehow managed to win about 90% of the series - but it was very keenly attended. Watch the web site for a possible new series.

I sincerely hope that everyone who could get aboard had a great time on the water this year. Our self help approach and our attend as your time permits has enabled the club members to make the most of club based sailing. The club has more than half a century of history now - you are all part of that!

Finbar Jennings  
Rear Commodore Sailing EDYC 2020

#### **ITEM 4 - 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT**

Copies of the 2020 Financial Report will be issued to those attending the meeting or you can email the Honorary Secretary and request a copy.

#### **ITEM 5 RESOLUTIONS**

There are no resolutions from the Executive Committee or from Club members.

#### **ITEM 6 - ELECTION OF OFFICERS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

#### **ITEM 7 - ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO SAILING COMMITTEE**

#### **ITEM 8 - ANY OTHER BUSINESS**