Closing the Season and Looking Forward: Crail Rowing Club at Freshwater Sprints, 24 October 2015

With the evenings drawing in and the weather becoming increasingly grey, the coastal rowing season has come to its close. Before exchanging their oars for the handles of an indoor rowing machine, however, the Crail Rowing Club had one last regatta to attend: the annual freshwater sprints, this year hosted at Loch Katrine amidst the Trossachs.

Crail crew-members competed as part of a regional team drawn from across Fife and Angus, with nearby neighbours Pittenweem generously providing their *Fisher Lass* for use in the races. Crailers took to the oars for five different races, taking third in the women's intermediate race, second in one of two long distance races, and first in the men's open, women's open, and the other long distance row. Fife and Angus came second overall, with the South East regional team taking first prize. A day of beautiful scenery (and occasional dousings of rain) was enjoyed by all.

The Crail skiff, Partan, has now been taken in for the winter, although hopefully she will be out again early in the spring. Projects for this winter include sanding and repainting the boat and, most excitingly, building a new set of oars. The club would like to express their gratitude to the Helen Main Trust, for making this possible through a generous grant.

The club will continue to meet socially throughout the winter, so any readers interested in getting involved are warmly encouraged to get in touch!



Above: The women's intermediate race, with Crail's Cornelia Oedekoven in the bow of *Fisher Lass* (in centre, yellow on blue).