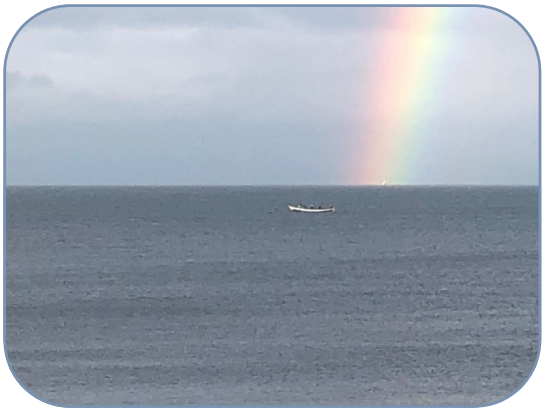
Section 3 Day 1—Prestwick to Irvine

Prestwick Coastal Rowing Club



As like so many people in these strange times, Prestwick Coastal Rowing Club are all hoping for better days ahead.

The rainbow is our symbol of hope and we're praying that it won't be too long when we all can get out on the water again.

Prestwick's St Ayles skiff was built at the Maritime Museum, Irvine in 2015 supervised by the museum staff and pupils from Prestwick Academy as part of their Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

The club was formed soon after.

The clubs logo shows Prestwick Salt Pan houses these grade A-listed buildings sit right at the seashore, built around 1760 for the salt boiling industry.

Some comments from our members:

How do you feel when you are out on the water?

'Depends who's coxing! Can be relaxing or if out on a training night, great exercise.'

'On a calm day either in winter or summer their couldn't be a better place to be.'

Who got you into coastal rowing?

'Living next to the coast and seeing the skiff out in the bay made me keen to give it a try, then discover a work colleague was a rower, went down with him and not look back since.'

'A friend said it was good exercise and very sociable.'

What do you love about these coast and waters?

'Great variety of wild life to be seen, seals, dolphins, different sea birds'

Ayr Bay with Heads of Ayr & Greean Castle in the background

Prestwick's leg started at Prestwick Sailing Club, located at the south end of Prestwick beach.

We head north passing the links course of Prestwick Old Course Golf Club. This course is known as the birth place of the Open Championship, with the first tournament being played in 1860.

Heading on in familiar waters we pass the Pow burn which is a popular row and is navigable for about half a mile at high tide.

We then head northwest skirting the Black Rocks , passing another famous golf course, Royal Troon, still on the British Open circuit.

Troon north beach is our next stop for a crew change, hopefully some neighbouring club members and friends from Troon CRC will come along and wish us well on our next stage.

We head off again with a fresh crew for our last stage to Irvine harbour. Heading out round Lappock rock the route goes directly north passing Irvine beach park. We then turn starboard into Irvine harbour to the junction where the river Irvine meets the river Garnock.

Our last port of call is Irvine Maritime Museum. The baton will be staying here at Irvine overnight for Troon CRC to takeover tomorrow.