**Ullapool 2nd June 2026**

I decided to sail my yacht Sumara to Ullapool before setting off on my voyage to Scoresby Sund later in June. I was keen to join in the fun of the Lugger Festival held in the Loch towards the end of May, but it also gave me the opportunity to catch up with Megan Loftus and some of her team who have been awarded an Arctic Club Award for their up-and-coming East Greenland Sailing and Climbing Expedition. Megan Loftus owns the wooden yacht “Kingfisher”, similar in design to Sir Robin Knox-Johnson’s Suhali. Last year she sailed, together with Lara, to the Lofoten Islands to do some climbing so they are well aware of the kind of sailing conditions they may encounter. The boat has just been hauled out for various tasks including the repair or replacement of the fuel and water tanks.

I met Megan and Lara in the boat yard busy ticking off the long list of jobs that needed to be completed before they sail. The rest of the team were away honing their climbing skills down south on the Isle of Skye.

Amongst the tasks on their job list, they have pulled out a couple of keel bolts for inspection and found them to be in good condition. Here you can see Megan re-tightening the keel nuts.

Their intention is to sail to East Greenland and moor Kingfisher in Graah Fjord while an all-female climbing team attempt some one- or two-day ascents in Alpine-style. If the lines prove too committing, then they can be climbed as two teams with Will and Charlie.

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