



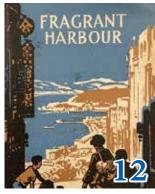
# November 2023 - February 2024

Dates	5	Holidays	ABC - Yacht Races	Dinghies	Others
			Nov	ember 2023	
Sat	4			29er - GP 3 - Middle Isalnd Regatta, National Team Trials	RHKYC Lipton Trophy / COA Autumn Speed Cruise / DBYC Sokos under the Stars / HHYC Monsoon Winter 1
Sun	5		Waglan Series Race 3 & Race 4 (WL - Lamma)	29er - GP 3 - Middle Isalnd Regatta, National Team Trials	DBYC Sokos under the Stars
Sat	11			RHKYC Around Middle Island Race	
Sun	12			29er - GP 4 - ARTI Race	RHKYC Around the Island Race - Sailin
Sat	18				HHYC Monsoon Winter 2
Sun	19		Waglan Series Race 5		
Sat	25				HHYC Monsoon Winter 3
Sun	26			ABC Tong Po Chau Autumn Race 3	
			Dec	ember 2023	
Sat	2			ABC Southside Regatta / 29er - GP 5: Southside	RHKYC CR3: Coastal Race / HHYC Monsoon Winter 4
Sun	3			ABC Southside Regatta /	RHKYC CR3: Coastal Race
Sat	9			29er - GP 5: Southside	COA Christmas Cup /
Sun	10		Waglan Series Race 6	The state of the s	HHYC Monsoon Winter 5 (Final)
Sat	16				HHYC Monsoon Winter (Resail)
Sun	17			ABC Tong Po Chau Autumn Race 4	RHKYC YMC Alma Mater Race
Mon	25	Christmas Day		ADD TOTIST O DIAM PARAMITITALE T	KINTO TINO PAINE INMET TAKE
Tues		Boxing Day			HHYC Boxing Day Cruise
iues	20	boxing bay		2024	mire boxing bay cruise
			Jai	nuary 2024	
Mon	1	New Year's Day			HHYC New Year's Day Sailaway
10000	6	New Year's Day			HHYC New Year's Day Sallaway RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup / COA New Year Crew Helm Rally
Sat	200	New Year's Day			RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup /
Sat Sun	6	New Year's Day			RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup / COA New Year Crew Helm Rally RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup
Sat Sun Sat	6	New Year's Day	Wagian Series Race 7		RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup / COA New Year Crew Helm Rally RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup RHKYC HKRNVR Memorial Pursuit Race
Sat Sun Sat Sun	6 7 13	New Year's Day	Wagian Series Race 7		RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup / COA New Year Crew Helm Raily RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup RHKYC HKRNVR Memorial Pursuit Race HHYC Kowloon Cup
Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat	6 7 13	New Year's Day	Waglan Series Race 7		RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup / COA New Year Crew Helm Rally RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup RHKYC HKRNVR Memorial Pursuit Race HHYC Kowloon Cup
Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat	6 7 13 14 20	New Year's Day	Waglan Series Race 7 Four Peaks Race		RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup / COA New Year Crew Helm Rally RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup RHKYC HKRNVR Memorial Pursuit Race HHYC Kowloon Cup HHYC Kowloon Cup RHKYC CR4: Coastal Race
Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat	6 7 13 14 20 21	New Year's Day		Hong Kong Race Week - 30 Jan to 4 Feb	RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup / COA New Year Crew Helm Rally RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup RHKYC HKRNVR Memorial Pursuit Race HHYC Kowloon Cup HHYC Kowloon Cup RHKYC CR4: Coastal Race
Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sun	6 7 13 14 20 21 27	New Year's Day	Four Peaks Race Four Peaks Race	Hong Kong Race Week - 30 Jan to 4 Feb	RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup / COA New Year Crew Helm Rally RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup RHKYC HKRNVR Memorial Pursuit Race HHYC Kowloon Cup HHYC Kowloon Cup RHKYC CR4: Coastal Race
Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat	6 7 13 14 20 21 27	New Year's Day	Four Peaks Race Four Peaks Race		RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup / COA New Year Crew Helm Rally RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup RHKYC HKRNVR Memorial Pursuit Race HHYC Kowloon Cup HHYC Kowloon Cup RHKYC CR4: Coastal Race
Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat	6 7 13 14 20 21 27 28	New Year's Day	Four Peaks Race Four Peaks Race	oruary 2024	RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup / COA New Year Crew Helm Rally RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup RHKYC HKRNVR Memorial Pursuit Race HHYC Kowloon Cup HHYC Kowloon Cup RHKYC CR4: Coastal Race
Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sat Sun Sat Sun	6 7 13 14 20 21 27 28	New Year's Day	Four Peaks Race Four Peaks Race Fel	oruary 2024	RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup / COA New Year Crew Helm Rally RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup RHKYC HKRNVR Memorial Pursuit Race HHYC Kowloon Cup HHYC Kowloon Cup RHKYC CR4: Coastal Race RHKYC CR4: Coastal Race
Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sat Sat Sat Sat	6 7 13 14 20 21 27 28 3		Four Peaks Race Four Peaks Race Fel	oruary 2024	RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup / COA New Year Crew Helm Rally RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup RHKYC HKRNVR Memorial Pursuit Race HHYC Kowloon Cup HHYC Kowloon Cup RHKYC CR4: Coastal Race RHKYC CR4: Coastal Race  COA CNY Macau Race or Long Distance Coastal Rally
Sat Sun	6 7 13 14 20 21 27 28 3 4 10	CNY	Four Peaks Race Four Peaks Race Fel	oruary 2024	RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup / COA New Year Crew Helm Raily RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup RHKYC HKRNVR Memorial Pursuit Race HHYC Kowloon Cup HHYC Kowloon Cup RHKYC CR4: Coastal Race RHKYC CR4: Coastal Race  COA CNY Macau Race or Long Distance Coastal Raily COA CNY Macau Race or Long Distance Coastal Raily
Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sun Mon	6 7 13 14 20 21 27 28 3 4 10 11 12	CNY	Four Peaks Race Four Peaks Race Fel	oruary 2024	RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup / COA New Year Crew Helm Rally RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup RHKYC HKRNVR Memorial Pursuit Race HHYC Kowloon Cup HHYC Kowloon Cup RHKYC CR4: Coastal Race RHKYC CR4: Coastal Race COA CNY Macau Race or Long Distance Coastal Rally COA CNY Macau Race or Long Distance Coastal Rally COA CNY Macau Race or Long Distance Coastal Rally COA CNY Macau Race or Long Distance Coastal Rally
Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sun Tues	6 7 13 14 20 21 27 28 3 4 10 11 12	CNY CNY CNY	Four Peaks Race Four Peaks Race Fel  Valentines Day / Ladies Helm  Waglan Series Race 8 & Race 9	oruary 2024	RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup / COA New Year Crew Helm Rally RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup RHKYC HKRNYR Memorial Pursuit Race HHYC Kowloon Cup HHYC Kowloon Cup RHKYC CR4: Coastal Race RHKYC CR4: Coastal Race COA CNY Macau Race or Long Distanc Coastal Rally COA CNY Macau Race or Long Distanc Coastal Rally COA CNY Macau Race or Long Distanc Coastal Rally COA CNY Macau Race or Long Distanc Coastal Rally COA CNY Macau Race or Long Distanc
Mon Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sun Sat Sun Tues Sun Sat Sun Sat	6 7 13 14 20 21 27 28 3 4 10 11 12 13	CNY CNY CNY	Four Peaks Race Four Peaks Race Fel- Valentines Day / Ladies Helm	oruary 2024	RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup / COA New Year Crew Helm Rally  RHKYC Monsoon Spring Cup  RHKYC HKRNVR Memorial Pursuit Race HHYC Kowloon Cup  HHYC Kowloon Cup  RHKYC CR4: Coastal Race  RHKYC CR4: Coastal Race  COA CNY Macau Race or Long Distanc Coastal Rally  COA CNY Macau Race or Long Distanc Coastal Rally  COA CNY Macau Race or Long Distanc Coastal Rally  COA CNY Macau Race or Long Distanc Coastal Rally  COA CNY Macau Race or Long Distanc Coastal Rally  COA CNY Macau Race or Long Distanc













Commodore's Letter	2
General Manager's Letter	4
Middle Island Development	7
Tribute to Chris Howarth	8
House Committee Update	9
HKG sailors at Euro 29er	11
Fish Science Central	12
Summer Series 2023 Race 6 & 7	18
Snooker Report	26
F&B News	30
Pleasure Vessel Grade II Operator Certificate Courses	40

Cover photo by Fragrant Harbour

### Published by:

Link-up Design Limited Room 9, 6/F, Block B, Proficient Industrial Centre, 6 Wang Kwun Road Kowloon Bay, Hong Kong

www.linkupdesign.com

### Copyright:

Aberdeen Boat Club

Editorial Contact: Martin William

martin@drmartinwilliams.com

**Advertising Sales Contact:** 

David Lee

david@linkupdesign.com

Published by Link-up Design Limited. The publication is sold on the understanding that the publisher, advertisers, contributors and their employees are not responsible for the results of any actions, errors or omissions taken on the basis of information contained in this publication. The publisher, advertisers, contributors and their employees expressly disclaim all and any labellity to any person, whether about or part action or omission or the consequences of any action or omission by any such person, whether whole or partial, upon the whole or part of the contents of this publication. All rights reserved, 2023 Link-up Design Limited. No part of this work, covered by the publisher's copyright may be reproduced in any form by any means, graphic, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, taping or information storage and retrieval, without the written permission of the publisher. Any unauthorised use of this publication will result in immediate legal proceedings.



### Aberdeen Boat Club

20 Shum Wan Road, Aberdeen, Hong Kong

### 香港仔遊艇會

香港仔深灣道二十號 www.abclubhk.com Fax: 2873 2945 General Line: 2552 8182

### Flag Officers

Chris Pooley • Commodore – Chairman
Barry Hill • Vice Commodore
Graham Price • Rear Commodore House
Graeme Brechin • Rear Commodore Sailing and Marine
James Smith • Honorary Treasurer
Christopher Tung • Honorary General Secretary

## Management and Staff

General Manager Philippe de Manny Tel: 2553 3231 genman@abclubhk.com

General Manager's Personal Assistant

Selina Mak Tel: 2552 8182 Ext 812 gmpa@abclubhk.com

Membership Service Manager

Cobo Liu Tel: 2553 3032 mbs@abclubhk.com

General Enquiries Tel: 2552 8182

Four Peaks Restaurant Tel: 2553 3422

### **Executive Assistant Manager**

Robin Sherchan Tel: 2552 6216 eam@abclubhk.com

### Marine Services Manager

Alex Johnston Tel: 2518 9523 marine.services@abclubhk.com

### Deputy FnB Manager

Henry Lam Tel: 2555 8182 fnb@abclubhk.com

The Galley Coffee Shop

Tel: 2554 9494

Night Guard Emergency Contact Tel: 9154 0426

Horizons welcomes ABC member contributions of articles and photos. Please contact the editor at martin@drmartinwilliams.com





Chris Pooley
Commodore

# In primitive societies, when native tribes beat the ground with sticks and yelled profanities it was called witchcraft: today in civilised societies it's called **Golf**!

[Anon]

Golf, that strangely compelling addictive attraction, is on the ABC calendar on the 1<sup>st</sup> Dec as just one of the many attractions on offer in the next two months, Bookings for the 18 places available for the Commodore's Cup versus the other two yacht clubs will open shortly. Time to strive for the Cup's return to ABC.....

As forecast in the last letter. the season did indeed change bang on the Mid-Autumn ancient Chinese Calendar date, rarely wrong. That change heralds the start of the Festive Season, which, if the strong bookings for the Beneteau Cup and Halloween parties are any guide, looks likely to be a very busy time at ABC. In fact, private function rooms are pretty solidly booked already, so take a look at what F&B specials are on offer over the next 2 months and book early!

Three dates to note in particular:

- Tues 25<sup>th</sup> Nov Town Hall Meeting on MI at 1100, snacks and refreshments made available. Some positive progress at long last, see below and be sure to attend to learn more.
- Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Nov the AGM, see E-Notices for relevant deadline dates for Nominations, Proxies, formal questions.
- Sun 10<sup>th</sup> Dec Commodore's drinks on MI after Waglan 6. A most convivial party with drinks and snacks on the Commodore---well ABC actually!

After so many years and endless perseverance by Devcom seeking to achieve the essential EIA Approval for MI development EPD changed the rules in Sept and declared that our project did *not* fall into the newly defined Designated category, obviating the need for

an EIA. And NO we can't get our money back! But we can now move straight on to ---indeed already have --- the next phase: Section 12A Approval leading into submission to the Town Planning Board. Which is by far the best news Devcom have had in years, albeit by a bureaucratic quirk.

On a similar positive note the Main building renovation work is now progressing rapidly [see the Housecom article for details] such that members will be able to use the new 1<sup>st</sup> floor toilets from 1<sup>st</sup> Nov and the second floor before Christmas. While the attractive new playground safety tile installation has just completed.

Seasonal dinghy and keel boat sailing events continue apace with the hugely popular Southside Dinghy Regatta set for the weekend of 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Dec. Meanwhile all dinghy sail training courses are full---again, early booking is encouraged to avoid disappointment.

So, the Club enters the final quarter in a buoyant state: aided by long-standing prudent cash and fund management and no borrowings, we have been able to take favourable advantage of the prevailing high interest rates. A large chunk of Development [MI and Main Building] reserved funds have been placed on fixed deposits with major banks yielding healthy interest returns. No fancy derivatives or Hedge Fund trading for simple sailors!

Much to enjoy in the Club's healthy ambience as the year nears its end culminating in Christmas itself and finally ABC's famed NYE Party. In the meantime, I hope to see and chat with many of you at the events highlighted above or in and around the Club.



Pick-up at ABC, Central pier, Causeway Bay or TST public pier. The ABC can provide food and beverages including a range of hot and cold dishes, desserts and drinks. Email fnb@abclubhk.com

Rental of speedboats, banana boats and water ski can be arranged via Freely Marine Services at 9276 2932.

Daytime: 9am – 5pm Night-time: 6pm – 11pm Monday – Friday: \$5,800 Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays: \$6,800

BOOKINGS - For junk booking please contact the Receptionist on 2552 8182 via booking@abclubhk.com



Say NO to a printed magazine and say YES to a digital version!



# Pre-Registration is Required for Guest Parking



## Scan the QR code or call 2552 8182 to register

For guest parking at least 2 hours before arrival, to avoid being denied entry.

Guest parking is available only on weekdays (Mondays - Fridays, except Public Holidays).

Fees: HK\$100 for the first 3 hours and HK\$50 per hour subsequently.





Philippe de Manny General Manager

This issue of Horizons covers November and December; and god am I lost regarding what to choose from, in deciding where to start this letter.

By the time you receive this, Halloween will be water under the bridge, with its scary décor, bad food and screaming children, notwithstanding complaints about the skeleton being too scary for some, the music too creepy and the mess all around the Club adding to emotional distress. In fact, I thank you all for these comments, they look to me like it was a job well done by my team: this was Halloween after all. Jokes aside, thank you again for patronising this now well-established event.

The Oktoberfest is getting bigger by the year; and next year we will make it even bigger – with dress, dance, live music to make it a real Teutonic party. We might even use the traditional, "O'Zapft Is!", which is that moment when the highest-ranking committee member present will tap the first keg and shout to officially begin the ABC Oktoberfest – so get your Bavarian attire, also known as Tracht, ready and don't miss it next year.

After the wonderful success of our ex-ARA team members at the Asian Games, I am glad to report to you that, at the Optimist National Championships in October, we have practically swept the board for top places.

In Optimist Main Fleet: 2nd placed Margaux Nguyen-Minh drew with the first boat; 3rd was Chloe Kong, Ethan Kiu placed 7th, Tara Maliah 8th, and Jessica Liu came in 9th. That gave us the Gold medal in the Under 12 Years Old, and Gold and Silver medals in Under 10 Years Old. Summarising the Main Fleet, we had two boats in the top 3, five boats in the top 10, 10 boats in the top 20; and no boats below 21st place out of 35 boats.

In the Intermediate Fleet: Karisse Hah placed 3rd and Keana Hah 4th, bringing the Club Silver in Under 12 Years Old and Silver in Under 10 Years Old. We can say that ABC ARA dominated racing out of 5 teams in Hong Kong.

Still in the recent past – the Beneteau Cup was another great event for our cruising community, with 180 participants, over 15 yachts, and a very premium and holistic party.

### What is in the top ten for the two months to come?

Well, we have the most important race to the top of the year: the Annual General Meeting, to be held on 28 November at the Club. All information will have been sent by Selina, my ever-loyal PA, through email; and posted on the website prior to this meeting, and we now hope that we can open on time with sufficient members showing up. At the time of writing this article, we have 10 positions to be re-elected or elected, and 11 applications. That will call for a vote at the AGM, but it does not look as though there will be many changes this year. The deadline for applications will have passed when you receive this letter; so hopefully, we will see more next year.

While on General Committee matters: you should have by now received the letter from the Commodore informing you of the continuity of the building levy, which is to be continued for another 2 years, and until further development.

Talking about development: I am sure you know that we are now running two development projects – the ongoing Middle Island and the "R-Fund", as it is known internally, but more generally should be known as the Main Clubhouse Development Fund.

While over the years, Middle Island has secured substantial capital, it will still be short of a few million dollars required for completion, yet the main idea of a bigger hard stand will prove feasible. As for the main building, much has to be done to render our beloved clubhouse fully operational under 21st century standards; and sourcing funding for the first phase of the work is ongoing. In this sense, the first way to fund the Main Clubhouse over many years is to take a portion of the entrance fees and accrue these into the R-Fund. As of January, a certain percentage of the entrance fees will be automatically put towards the Main Clubhouse, to fund further improvements planned by the House Committee.

If you want to know more about these Club developments, please do attend the DOUBLE communications day on 25 November:

- Middle Island Town hall Meeting at 11:00: meet our new senior consultant, URBIS, who will take us through the section 12A procedure in which we are currently engaged; and hear an update on the now unnecessary Environmental Impact Assessment.
- On the same day, but in the evening in the Main Clubhouse, the now regular committee meet members evening, where members of the House Committee are present to receive your views and ideas for a better Club.



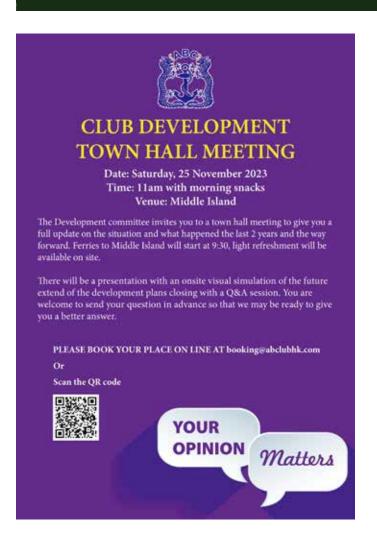


# ABC COMMODORE'S CUP

Friday 1st December Hong Kong Golf Club, Deep Water Bay Get ready for the highly anticipated return of the ABC Commodore's Cup! It's your chance to shine and show off your skills. Don't let this exhilarating opportunity slip away! Enroll now!

- Frist Tee-off at 10am
- Green fee: \$780 (set lunch included)
- 3 Balls flight
- Stableford format adjusted to the course rating
- Free parking available

For more information or registration, please send email to gmpa@abclubhk.com







Dear Members,

On 23 October 2022, I wrote to members advising of the continuation of a Building Development Levy for a further two years, in accordance with Article 16 (c) of the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Members will be aware from previous communications that the approval process for the development of Middle Island has been very protracted and not within the control of the Club.

In late 2018, we were requested to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD). This was a major piece of work which required the assessment of many environmental issues, including anticipated visual impact, plus potential impacts on air quality, water quality, coral, fauna and ecology that may result from the development. Progress on the EIA report was significantly prolonged by 18 months following the discovery of the protected species, amphioxus, within the seabed area of the work site in late 2019. This resulted in major rework of the design, to replace the modest amount of reclamation for the enlarged storage deck with a piled deck arrangement.

In the second half of 2022, it became apparent that the Government was reconsidering the criteria used to classify those projects which are subject to the preparation of an EIA report for review and approval by EPD. This new legislation was significant and in January 2023 it was formally introduced. It had major implications on the approval process for our M.I. development because the requirement for an EIA was now unnecessary.

Notwithstanding the revised requirements, the EIA report, comprising over 600 pages and including a comprehensive analysis of all aspects of the scheme, was subsequently submitted to EPD for their review. Following proactive engagement with EPD to respond to the formal queries and clarifications which they had raised, the final copy of the report was made available for EPD review in July 2022.

The project will still be subject to a review of the design features and construction processes included to protect the environment, but they will be assessed at a lower level of scrutiny within the context of the overall scheme rather than a formal EIA. The work already done for the EIA will be used to prepare the new documentation for project approval.

It is disappointing and frustrating that the cost and time to prepare the EIA have been unnecessary, and we have considered the action available to the Club for compensation from Government but decided it would not be appropriate to pursue at this time.

We are now proceeding with the formal submission to the Town Planning Board and the statutory gazettal process.

In parallel with the overall development process, the power supply has been upgraded and the water supply upgrade is proceeding. This important enhancement of the utilities infrastructure will allow the Club to secure a Permanent Occupation Permit, support the future development proposal and provide improved services for members.

Funds for the development have been steadily accruing from the Building Development Levy and a portion of the new members' fees. The apportionment to the Development Fund from new members fees was reviewed and approved in the 2023-2024 Budget.

In reviewing current progress and the latest financial requirements, the General Committee resolved in the meeting held on 24 October 2023 to continue the Building Development Levy at the same amount of HK\$288 per month until October 2025, at which time it will be subject to further review and amendment as necessary.

I wish to thank you for your continued support for the Club's proposal to develop Middle Island.

Yours sincerely, Chris Pooley Commodore Aberdeen Boat Club



# **Tribute to Chris Howarth**

Aberdeen Boat Club is saddened to learn of the sudden passing of Chris Howarth whilst on a family visit to the UK.

Chris was a talented photojournalist who made a significant contribution to the Hong Kong sailing scene over many years. He was a pleasure to have aboard, with his big beaming smile, and always ready to lend a hand with whatever was necessary.

Chris wore many hats. He was a prominent member of the Hong Kong China Waterski Association and actively supported the Asia World Wildlife Fund. His contributions to the Hong Kong Fragrant Harbour publication over many years promoted all aspects of watersports and documented important events in the maritime history of Hong Kong.

Always remembered and never forgotten. Our thoughts are with his family. Rest easy, good friend.

Fond memories, from all your friends at the Aberdeen Boat Club.

General Committee Aberdeen Boat Club

# HOUSE COMMITTEE UPDATE:

# By Graham Price, Chairman, House and Building Committee

I am really happy to report – and you will all have seen – that at last work has started on replacing the Central Services Spine and refurbishment of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor toilets. This is the first visible sign of what will be a continuing programme of upgrading and renovation of our beloved clubhouse. Work should be complete by mid-December 2023, in time for Christmas!

Members cannot fail to have seen that the playground surface has been completely renewed, with a high grade surface which protects our youngest members whilst playing. I hope you like the custom design containing nautical references. I'm pleased to credit our Facilities Manager, Steve Ng, with a lot of the design work.



Playground surface before (L) & after (R)



Behind the scenes, we have upgraded our Point of Sale (POS) accounting system, and are about to embark on a major project to integrate and update all the club management systems. We are also going to improve our website, and electronic communications with members. We have replaced the overhead projectors in the Harbour Rooms with fitted flat screen display units, which provide a much clearer and easier to use digital display platform.

## There are many exciting works "in the pipeline":

We are planning to smarten up The Bridge, one of our key multifunction rooms, so that it can be used as a boardroom, or as a "business centre for members", and as a function room for the many large events we hold during the year.

We have engaged architects to propose a new look to our entrance and staircase. We want to improve the coffee shop, and will start with a modest redecoration, followed by a complete refurbishment.

At the same time, we need to re-lay the coffee shop

patio flooring after doing some drainage and sealing work. This is adjacent to our lovely swimming pool, which will be drained down in the winter cool period for annual maintenance and deep cleaning. Meanwhile, the swimming pool "carpet" surround will be replaced.

As we approach the New Year, we will be looking to move the existing marine lockers into the covered car park area, thus freeing up space for our new laundry reception and uniform storage. This will in turn allow us to construct an appropriately sized and serviceable changing room for our female staff. This is long overdue and is a high priority. Once complete. we will be able to reclaim the existing facilities and then provide proper ladies toilet facilities on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

Our gymnasium is very popular, and we plan to replace some of the gym equipment, at a pace that matches our ability to pay for it. We will additionally refurbish the gym, to make it a more attractive place to exercise.



### Also coming up!

On November 25<sup>th</sup> Saturday – there will be a Town Hall Meeting on Middle Island which will update you on the recent progress of the Middle Island Redevelopment.

At 6:00p.m. that day, there will be another of our popular "Members Nights"; come and mingle with other members. Complimentary house drinks and finger eats. Please reserve a slot with Cobo on mbs@abclubhk.com. There is a max number we can accommodate so don't miss out!

I would like here to thank the many members and staff who are contributing to this ongoing improvement of our grand old clubhouse. We look forward to seeing things develop over the coming months!



# 27 & 28 JANUARY 2024





# SOLARIS FOUR PEAKS RACE 2024

A 95 NM OVERNIGHT
YACHT RACE
RUNNING ACROSS
4 ICONIC PEAKS
AROUND HONG KONG





This summer, Aaron Dampier and I participated in Kiel Week, one of the most prestigious sailing events in the world. It was an unforgettable adventure, filled with challenges, learning experiences, and unexpected joys. Kiel Week, held in the picturesque coastal town of Kiel, Germany, is an annual sailing extravaganza that attracts sailors and enthusiasts from all corners of the globe. Known for its fierce competition and unpredictable weather, this event was a perfect opportunity for Aaron and I to test our skills against some of the world's best young sailors.

Upon arriving at Kiel on 17 June, we were greeted with much warmer weather and lighter winds than we had anticipated. The conditions were ideal, with winds ranging from 8 to 15 knots. We spent the first week in Kiel preparing for the event and training with the rest of the HKSI sailors.

The event officially started on 22 June. Aaron and I had been sailing together for a year already, but Kiel Week was unlike any other event we had experienced. Our partnership was put to the test as we had to navigate the difficult waters with no coaching and only each other. Communication, trust, and a deep understanding of each other's strengths and weaknesses were extremely important.

Our journey through the competition was filled with highs and lows. We faced stiff competition from talented sailors who had honed their skills for years. Yet, we remained resilient, determined to give our best. We adapted to the conditions as the races progressed and learned from our mistakes. Our hard work paid off as we steadily climbed the ranks.

After the qualifying series, we thought we had just made it into the Silver fleet, but unfortunately we were placed in the Bronze fleet. Although this result was not as good as we were hoping for, we never gave up hope, and still tried our best for the finals series. We started off the event with some disputes and arguments, but managed to pull it back near the end and sailed our best races of the event in the last few days.

As we reflect on our time in Kiel, we are filled with a sense of gratitude for ABC for sponsoring us with our charter boat and the entry fees. Kiel was also a great learning opportunity for us to understand the power of teamwork and determination and it was a memory that will stay with us for a lifetime.

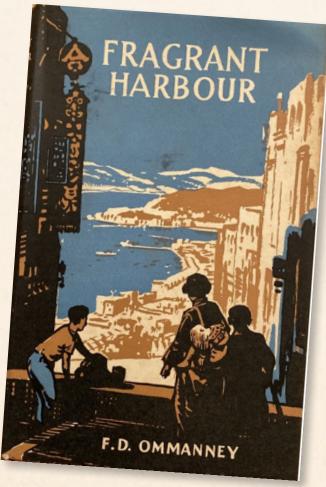




# FISH SCIENCE CENTRAL

# WORDS BY STEPHEN DAVIES





Nigh on fifty years ago, shortly after I'd arrived in Hong Kong for the third time, to take up a teaching post at HKU, I was on my way to the ABC – the old Nissen hut ABC, that is. As the taxi came round the final bend of the old, tree-lined, two-lane blacktop that was then Shek Pai Wan Road, just before we disappeared into the buildings of Tin Wan, I looked across the patch of empty ground of the still recent reclamation towards the new Aberdeen Fisheries and Marine Office... and did a double-take.

Good grief! What on earth was a pretty bog standard looking British North Sea trawler doing in Hong Kong? That's when my interest in Aberdeen as Hong Kong's – and indeed at the time China's – centre of fisheries science began, which I've since followed up in a very desultory fashion over a period of half a century. The piquing of my interest was helped by the fact that I'd only recently finished reading F.D. Ommanney's quirky *Fragrant Harbour: a private view of Hong Kong.* Ommanney, a man of some literary distinction and very widely travelled, had been Reader in Biology at HKU from 1957-1960.

As his book obliquely reveals, he had also been closely involved in fisheries research in Hong Kong. Which led me to his predecessors at HKU; two other people with equally fascinating biographies, G.A.C. Herklots and Lin Shuyan (林書顏).







F.D. OMMANNEY



LIN SHUYAN

As I have eventually found out, it is in the unravelling of the fascinating tale of how Aberdeen became fish science central, with signal debts to Herklots, Lin and Ommanney, that the British trawler's presence is explained.

It's actually hard to identify exactly when the story kicked off. The start will have been a British Colonial Office panic about the nutrition of its colonised subjects that stuttered into bureaucratic action, as it were, in 1936. By November 1939 in Hong Kong, Geoffrey Herklots, who'd been appointed Reader in Biology at HKU in 1928, was on the case. He argued forcefully that Hong Kong's nutritional answer was, of course – and as with Bertie Wooster's explanation for Jeeves' genius – fish. And not just fish, but fish backed by science led by him and his chaps at HKU, who should, forthwith, be given loadsamoney to create a fisheries research outfit and an aquarium.

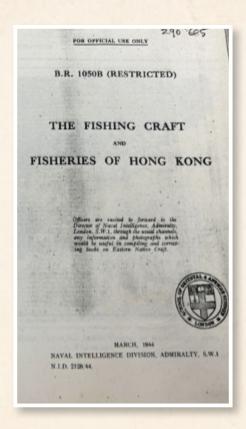
Bureaucratic wheels ground. By 1940, and with war grumbling away, a small load of money was disgorged – stripped of any question of an aquarium – and in March that year the HKU Fisheries Research Station, with Lin Shuyan as its head, was officially born. The official launch had probably been anticipated by a year or so, the first volume of the Journal of the Hongkong Fisheries Research Station having appeared in February 1940, with a long piece by Lin describing Hong Kong's fishing industries, which

had pretty much been ignored and were in desperate need of reform.

... and then war came to Hong Kong.

Although the wartime stories of Geoffrey Herklots and Lin Shuyan are amazing, we haven't space here for details. Unlike all his colleagues, who had been told to escape into China, with Herklots' encouragement Lin Shuyan stayed in Hong Kong engaged in the fisheries so vital for food. He ended up part of the Japanese revolution in Hong Kong's fishing industry, doing away with the old system that had effectively kept fisherfolk poor. With liberation imminent, Lin produced a brilliant report, basically arguing that all the reforms that the Japanese had introduced should remain in place. Locked up in Stanley, Geoffrey Herklots had come to the same conclusions. In short order, what we know today as the Fish Marketing Organization became the new face of the occupation period arrangements.

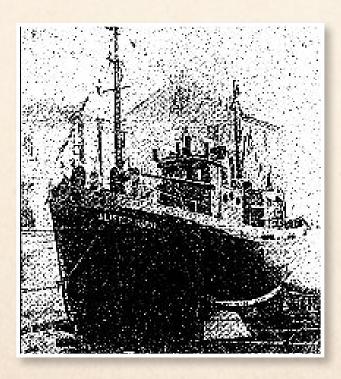
Come the return of the British, the military administration put Geoffrey Herklots in charge as Director of Fisheries, with Lin Shuyan as his deputy and head of the revived research station. Both knew that despite the Japanese reforms, a fishing fleet down to 30% of its pre-war numbers and still locked in fishing practices that hadn't really changed in generations, cried out for investment, better training, and better knowledge of fisheries resources.



Absolutely the best source for traditional HK fishing craft and techniques (HKU Libraries and S.O.A.S. London)

Once the immediate post-war dust had settled, it was clear that the colonial government hadn't learned much, and by 1948 Geoffrey Herklots, frustrated by an administration supinely under the thumbs of Hong Kong's ever-rapacious business community, left. Lin Shuyan hung in for a couple of years before he too left to begin over a decade of pioneering work with the new United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization.

And at that point, to cut a long story short, two things happened. First, running fisheries research seems to have been split into two operational bits - the full-on research biz, which was part of HKU. And the more mundane, how-to-upfishing-boat-productivity outfit, which one way or another was part of government. Both outfits realised that to run any sort of fisheries research biz, something that floated was needed. HKU kicked off in 1953, when the HK & Whampoa Dock Co was commissioned to build a pukka research vessel, which was called the Alister Hardy after the UK marine biology supremo. The vessel stayed in business until, finally, in 1978 she was auctioned off, and at that point she drops from sight.



Alister Hardy about to be launched (SCMP)

The practical chaps in government's then Agriculture and Fisheries and Forestry Department's Fisheries Division, began more modestly three years later with Fisheries Research Vessels No.1 and No.2. The first was a modified, second hand 33-foot fishing junk called *Olenka*, though why it was chosen I haven't a clue. Very shortly afterwards – dating is a bit ropey – came the purpose designed, Aberdeen built, 33-foot *Yuen Ling*.

The Olenka was auctioned off in 1962, and I haven't a clue what happened to her. The Yuen Ling lasted until 1967, having spent her last year scraping the seabed in Plover Cove as part of the work to create the reservoir. She too was auctioned and disappears from the record. Who knows, both may have been converted to become members of the first generation of leisure junks!

All the early research vessels were effectively for working in local waters only. However, the Hong Kong fishery wasn't just in inshore waters. For generations there had been HK fishermen who ranged far out into the South China Sea. However, what was known about those waters was down to what great-grandfather told grandfather, not hard science. If fishing yields were going to be increased to the levels needed for Hong Kong's fast-growing population, more needed to be known. That meant having a research vessel that could venture out into the vasty deep.

... hello the trawler that had caught my eye in 1974, the Aberdeen, Scotland-built *Cape St Mary*.

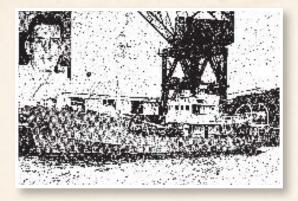


Olenka
(Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Dept.)

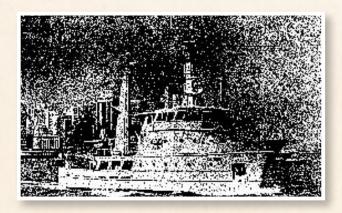


Yuen Ling
(Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Dept.)





Captain Markland and the Cape St Mary on arrival in Hong Kong (SCMP)

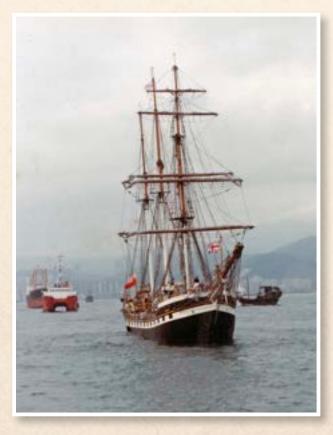


Tai Shun, just after commissioning

The Cape St Mary had been built as a purpose designed research vessel, albeit along the lines of a standard Scottish deep-sea trawler. She'd been launched in 1951 to work in the Gulf of Guinea in West Africa. By 1959, for one reason or another, she was up for grabs and the Colonial Office decided she should be sent to Hong Kong. She'd arrived at the beginning of October 1959, having steamed via South Africa, Sri Lanka and Singapore, under the command of Captain J.D. Markland and with a mainly Guianian crew.

So, that's what I was seeing in 1974. Pretty much as soon as she arrived, HKU declared it wasn't into the biz of operating ships, and handed everything back to government. The ship served on, a familiar on the Aberdeen waterfront and looked after by the Marine Department, until 1978. At that point she was loaned to the Marine Police, to help with patrolling against illegal immigration, until she was pensioned off in 1982.

Meanwhile, in around 1978 a decision had been made to replace the *Cape St Mary* with the latest and greatest in fisheries research vessels. What



Barquentine Osprey (benicektoo, Flickr)

followed is an amazing tale of a government cock-up. The new vessel, designed in Canada and built in Hong Kong, was the *Tai Shun*, which was launched in July 1980 and commissioned in October.

In April 1984, three and a bit years after commissioning, government announced that the HK\$10,000,000 vessel was for sale and that deep sea fisheries research was to end. Almost the last thing the *Tai Shun* did was to find the wreck of the *Osprey*, the converted sailing vessel that had been blown out of her anchorage in Typhoon Ellen, in a completely different location to where the Court of Inquiry, under the ABC's long time Commodore Ashley Wagg, had concluded it had sunk.

Brilliantly, the *Tai Shun* was then sold back to Chung Wah Shipbuilding Co., the firm that had built it, for about a tenth of what the builder had been paid. The total loss to public coffers was HK\$12,000,000. "The Government's cashflow has benefitted by HK\$1 million" taxpayers were told – nice one!

The builder refitted it and sold it on as an oil industry exploration vessel in 1991. Since then it's been the Koshi III (1991-1995), John (1995-2002), Emma (2002-2014) and Nordic Emma (2014-) ... and yes, she's still afloat, in Indonesia, 43 years after she was launched – and when last traced, was for sale.



The Tai Shun in its incarnation as the Nordic Emma (Nordic Maritime Pte)

# MORE FISH SCIENCE CENTRAL STORIES TO COME. WATCH THIS SPACE!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>It's a name, rather apposite just now, of Ukrainian and Russian origin, meaning blessed, holy, or torch, shining light, depending on whether you think it has a Nlyorse root as in Helga or Greek root as in Helen!



# SUMMER SERIES 2023

Race 6

**Words & Photos By Fragrant Harbour** 

# SQUALL DELAYS START BUT RACING AND LEISURELY LUNCH PROCEED AS PLANNED

The prospects of a two-hour race followed by a leisurely, perhaps even longer seafood lunch, attracted 21 boats to enter Island Race 6 of the Aberdeen Boat Club's (ABC) Summer Series 2023, held on Sunday 13 August 2023.

The Observatory's forecast looked promising, with Force 4-5 winds; but the threat of showers was always going to be a dampener... and so it proved.

In the absence of Alex Johnston and Jennifer Li, the ABC's General Manager, Philippe de Manny, assumed the role of race officer, assisted by ABC's Head Racing Coach Daniel Dolega.

Having determined where the Lamma start line was, the committee boat's anchor was dropped in between Wong Chuk Kok and Yuen Kok. There, a 9- to 10-knot southwesterly looked promising, so a start line was set with no windward mark for the scheduled 10:30 start.

Ahead, however, the sky was darkening; and at 10:07 a squall hit with rain and gusts of 19-20 knots and minimal visibility. There was a thunderstorm warning in place, so the race officer had no choice but to hoist the AP postponement flag at 10:15, to sit out the storm and hope for more suitable conditions.

Meanwhile, the wind had swung to 270 degrees so, with conditions stabilising, a windward mark was set into the bay with a new start line.

With the AP lowered at 10:44, the first warning signal was given at 10:50 for the combined IRC start at 10:55. This saw four IRC 1 boats with *Jinn* leading off the line at the pin-end, and three IRC 2 boats led by *Zesst*. The Swan 56 *Parnassus* was the first to round the windward mark and head for Cheung Chau Rock (Sham Shui Pai), passing the ABC Club Mark, demarcating the South Lamma Restricted Anchorage Area, to port. The finish line for their race Course 44(L) was Yung Shue Wan, a distance of 13.6 nautical miles.





Unfortunately, *Jinn* headed straight toward Yuen Kwok Light, failing to round the windward mark before calling in to inquire whether a windward mark had been laid! The race officer had announced it at least three times, with *Jinn* subsequently being scored DSC for failing to sail the course.

At 11:00 it was a clear start for the combined HKPN fleet, numbering nine HKPN A and five HKPN B boats. The J/80 Jahoo! had a good start beside the committee boat and led around the windward mark.

Unfortunately, it was downhill from there with the breeze easing as the fleet approached Yuen Kok Light, the ABC Mark and south Lamma.

Having rounded the windward mark and passed the ABC Mark to port, the HKPN's 11.6-nautical mile Course 44(S) was to take them to round P1 Buoy to starboard, before proceeding to the finish line at Yung Shue Wan.

By 12:30, it was becoming obvious that the fleets would be struggling to complete the whole course. So the mark laying and media boat *ABC 14*, with Sai Fuk and FH on board, was told to shorten the HKPN fleet at the P1 Buoy. Meanwhile, the committee boat, *Shun Fung*, headed for Cheung Chau, where Philippe shortened the course for IRC.



There, *Next* took IRC 1 line honours in 2 hours 38 minutes and 28 seconds for 2<sup>nd</sup> place, beaten on handicap by *Manbude*. *Neo One* finished 3<sup>rd</sup>, while *Parnassus*, which sailed close to the P1 Buoy, suffered in the light airs and opted for lunch rather than continuing.

Zesst also retired, leaving 2 Easy to claim line and handicap honours in IRC 2.

First to arrive in HKPN A at the shortened course finish line at P1 Buoy was *Crystal*, in an elapsed time of 3 hours 10 minutes and 10 seconds for 2<sup>nd</sup> place on handicap behind *Daydream* with *Sea Eagle* 3<sup>rd</sup>. Meanwhile *Tipsy Easy, Jahoo!, JeNa PaBe* and *Five O One* all retired, the latter two opting for lunch at Yung Shue Wan rather fighting the ebbing tide.

Boss, flying its colourful pink kite, closed slowly on the P1 finish line to claim HKPN B line honours for 3<sup>rd</sup> on corrected. With the breeze slowly building the Japanese team on Water Rabbit claimed handicap honours with Easy Breezy II in 2<sup>nd</sup>.

With the IRC race finished the race officer on *Shun Fung* took over recording finishing times at the P1 Buoy, allowing Sai Fuk, on ABC 14, to help ferry sailors to the Sampan Restaurant at Yung Shue Wan.

















After an elapsed time of 4 hours 9 minutes and 33 seconds, *Voyages 88* finally finished for 4<sup>th</sup> on handicap in HKPN B.

During lunch at the Sampan Restaurant, there was a surprise visit by the Marine Police complaining about parked yachts blocking access for the ferries. Seemingly, documents were inspected before they eventually left.

Bottles of wine were presented to the winners, and if any were not present the wine went to the next in line who were.

# SUMMER SERIES 2023



**Words & Photos By Fragrant Harbour** 

# LIGHT WINDS BUT LIVELY PRIZE-GIVING IN SEASON FINALE

The Aberdeen Boat Club's Summer Series this year attracted 27 entries and, although not seen as one of the Club's most competitive events, it is nevertheless taken seriously by all those who cross the start line. On Sunday 27 August, 18 boats showed up off Middle Island for Race 7, the final in the series.

Not a lot of wind was forecast but, being the decider in the series, crews were ready to do battle and finish it off with a lively prize-giving at the club's Middle Island facility. The format has proven itself over the years and is now a fixture on the local sailing calendar.

The committee boat, *Shun Fung*, dropped anchor off Middle Island in 12 metres of water and, after some discussion with his assistant, Jennifer Li, race officer Alex Johnston decided on the shortened version of Course 41 for everyone, with a provision to shorten course at Castle Rock



if necessary. Club support staff, Sai Fuk, in his P4 sampan, set off to lay the outer distance mark and the Tai Tam mark off Beaufort Island.

Johnston welcomed all boats at 11:10, announced the courses and, as always, warned everyone to stay out of the East Lamma Channel's Traffic Separation Scheme. He also pointed out that the Chesterman Gate could be dropped on the way home and all crews would be welcome at the day and series prize-giving at Middle Island.

At 11:19, the AP flag was lowered, and the countdown for the IRC divisions began at 11:20.

Getting a good start was Eddy Lee's *Next*, a Neo Roma 430, with Sunny Leung's *Manbude* and Stefan Fillip's *Neo One* in hot pursuit. The two IRC 2 Division boats – *Zesst* and *2 Easy* (formerly *Arcturus*) brought up the rear.

At 11:30, HKPN A and B eased across the line, although in the light airs some of the slower boats took a while. But, a report from Tai Tam with a











wind reading of 7 knots from 70 degrees came as encouraging news for the race management team. The RO pointed out that a small typhoon in the area was causing the easterly winds.

Next was first to pass the Tai Tam mark and round Beaufort Island. Thanks to an incoming tide, the IRC boats had little difficulty transiting the channel between Beaufort and Po Toi and, at 13:00, Next was rounding Castle Rock and heading for home. The RO decided the committee boat, Shun Fung, should make haste and get into position near Round Island to finish the leaders. In the distance, off Bluff Head, the HKPN fleets were making steady progress in 5-6 knots of breeze.

Line and handicap honours for IRC 1 went to Next, with Manbude 2<sup>nd</sup> on handicap and Neo One 3<sup>rd</sup>. Zesst took 1<sup>st</sup> in IRC 2 with 2 Easy in 2<sup>nd</sup>. FIVEOONE Oceanis 43 John Berry helms Five O One ABERDEEN BOAT CLUB







In the HKPN A division, Sea Eagle crossed the finish at 14:28:15 and scored a deserved 1<sup>st</sup> on handicap. Helped by the tide, in 2<sup>nd</sup> came JeNa PaBe with Crystal in 3<sup>rd</sup>. HKPN B was won by Boss while The Farr Side placed 2<sup>nd</sup> and Water Rabbit 3<sup>rd</sup>.

At 16:00, the prize-giving began at Middle Island, with series awards going to *Next* (IRC 1) and *Zesst* (IRC 2), and *Sea Eagle* (HKPN A) and *Boss* (HKPN B) bringing to a close another successful Summer Series hosted by the Aberdeen Boat Club.



# With Super Typhoon Inbound, Sailors Carry on Potting

By Dave Hilling

On 31 August, the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club (RHKYC) invited the ABC for the return match from earlier in the year. This match was originally meant to happen on 17 July, but had to be rearranged due to Typhoon Talim. And, with Super Typhoon Saola bearing down on Hong Kong on 31 August, it was close to a second rescheduling.

Despite RHKYC already having a sailing series named 'typhoon', this match was now close to being nicknamed the 'typhoon' snooker match. Fortunately, with only typhoon signal 3 being in effect at the time, and signal 8 not estimated to be issued until after midnight, we pressed ahead with the match.

First up for ABC was Andy Chan, in just his second match for the Club, and again showing his importance to the team. He was playing Billy Chan from the RHKYC and the match started off at a frantic pace. Andy demonstrated a number

of excellent breaks and powered ahead on the scoreboard, then finished off the coloured balls to put ABC 1:0 up.

The next game pitted Adrian Lynch for ABC against RHKYC's snooker convener, Gordon Robinson; and it was now Adrian's turn to show his break building skills for ABC. Gordon did get a couple good shots off himself, but this was very much one-way traffic and snookers were quickly required to chase the game. Once the coloured balls had also been dispatched, it was now 2:0 to the ABC.

Normally, we would look to complete all the singles games before starting the doubles. However, due to extended work commitments and heavy typhoon-related traffic, a couple of the ABC team (including myself) were running a bit late. Therefore, to avoid holding up the evening, the schedule was changed to have the first of the doubles games next. Andy and Adrian were already warmed up and ready to go, so they went together for ABC and played against Ray Chui and David Fan for RHKYC. This was a much tighter game, with both sides showing solid potting skills along with their safety play ability. It was the ABC pairing, though, that demonstrated the greater ruthlessness, when following their red balls with various coloured balls to see us through to a third win of the evening.

After the doubles interlude, it was back to the singles games, with ABC captain Dave Hilling against David Fan for RHKYC. Right from the breakoff it was clear this was a very important game for RHKYC to win, as David produced a perfect snooker, leaving the white ball snug behind the green. He then went on to play some truly inspired snooker, combining long shots with break building. Dave valiantly battled on, but there was no way back, and RHKYC were up on the board now at 3:1.

The dinner followed, which was excellent and a good chance to catch up on how everyone's summer holidays had been. However, with club staff anxiously looking at their watches as Typhoon Saola was getting ever closer, it was back to snooker.

The final singles match was Tong Yun Fat for ABC vs Ray Chui for RHKYC, however it seemed more like Fat against Fat. Every time he managed a nice potting combination, he would

give equal points in fouls back to Ray. Therefore, it was actually neck and neck for the majority of the game, with Fat just ahead as they went to the colours. Ray suddenly kicked into gear and dispatched yellow, green, brown and blue, then rattled the almost game-winning pink in the far pocket. Immediately, Fat responded by potting that pink and then an audacious long black to win an amazing game of snooker. 4:1 to the ABC.

So just one doubles game remained, and despite the unassailable lead for the ABC, every game between the two sailing clubs is always hotly contested. Fat returned to the table alongside Dave for the ABC, and they went up against Gordon and Billy for RHKYC. This was certainly a cagier affair, with safety regularly deployed and neither team really hitting their stride, but it would have been difficult to match the intensity of the last match. In the end, the ABC pairing ground out the result to leave the final scores for the evening 5:1 to the ABC.

What a typhoon performance by the team, and an extremely enjoyable match with our RHKYC friends, who were great hosts throughout. The players and all the staff could now go home safely, and prepare for the wind and rain coming into Hong Kong in the next few hours.

# **ABC Snooker Society**

All levels of snooker players are more than welcome to join. We meet up twice a month after work at the ABC for snooker practice, a few drinks and lots of camaraderie. Then approximately once every 6 weeks we have a match with another social snooker club - giving plenty of opportunity to meet great people from other clubs over a few frames of snooker.

If you would be interested to find out more or join up for one of our snooker practices to see for yourself, please reach out to Dave Hilling (ABC snooker convener and captain) at davidhilling@hotmail. com; and we look forward to adding to our snooker

society.



# Unforgiving Pockets, and Robinsons Reunited

By Dave Hilling

On 14 September, the United Services Recreation Club (USRC) invited the ABC for the first match against us at their home. Back in March of this year we played the first ever match between the two clubs, and that was at the ABC. On that day, the USRC presented a snooker plaque to mark the occasion, so it was only right that the ABC presented a plaque this time to the USRC for their snooker room. Tucked away in an outer building in the USRC grounds was their snooker room with one table. Although there had been snooker teams here in the past, matches had only recently restarted again under convener Vincent Li.

After a quick tour through the club on the way to the snooker room and the initial introductions, it was on to the first game. This pitted Wayne Robinson for the ABC verses David Robinson of the USRC. At the time of the breakoff, they hadn't realised that they shared the same surname; and then a few further shots in, they realised that they had previously met each other some 30 years ago, through a dive club. Thereby a very nice reacquaintance game for the two of them.



The snooker itself was not easy, and David was using his local knowledge of the table to pull away in the scoreboard. Despite a late surge by Wayne on the colour balls, David sunk the final pink and it was 1:0 to the USRC.

Next up was Adrian Lynch for the ABC vs Amos for the USRC, and this was also a start-stop game, with neither player really getting into a rhythm. It was at this point that everyone realised the table had small and very unforgiving pockets. There were so many balls that just rattled in the pockets, but would not fall down. It was the ABC this time that was steadily pulling ahead on the scores. Then Amos hit another gear with great pots on the green, brown, blue – and if it wasn't for the pink rattling in the pocket, it would have gone down to a black ball game. Adrian was relieved to pot the final pink, having ground out the win to bring it to 1:1.

Tong Yun Fat for the ABC was then up against Vincent for the USRC (this was a different Vincent from their snooker convener, who was not down to play for this evening and was just

overseeing the match). This game was a strange one, with Fat pulling off some great pots, but his white ball just wouldn't stay out of the pockets. So, the scores kept level throughout, and with a couple of good colour shots by Vincent it ended up being a black ball game. Fortunately for ABC, Fat is a master of pulling off a good shot under pressure, so when the black went down it was now 2:1 to the ABC.

The final singles game was ABC captain Dave Hilling vs Buzz for the USRC, and it is fair to say both players struggled on this difficult table. It was actually getting quite late for the dinner and while hungry players waited for a conclusion, shot after shot was missed. So, if the game couldn't be settled on skill it had to be settled on luck. Dave had an unlucky foul on the pink ball, resulting in the game going down to the black ball again; and then Buzz's shot on the black went off three cushions around the table before somehow falling in.

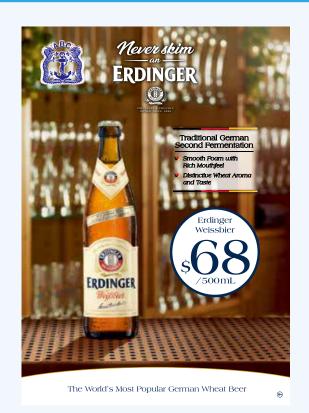
As we headed to the long-awaited dinner, it was all tied up at 2:2, so everything was up for grabs in the doubles matches. Up first was Wayne and Fat for the ABC vs David and Amos for the USRC. There had been a lot of talk over dinner on tactics and how best to tackle the table, so it was satisfying to see Fat making some great pots and Wayne making some excellent safety play. David and Amos were not playing badly either, so fittingly it went all the way down to the pink ball for a 3:2 lead to the ABC.

The final doubles game pitted Adrian and Dave for the ABC vs Vincent and Buzz for the USRC. Adrian made a couple of good breaks, and as it went to the colours there was a good 18 points in it. Then Buzz's luck kicked back in and colours were dropping in for the USRC at an alarming rate and the pressure was on. Dave missed a sitter on the blue and Adrian finally managed to settle it on the pink.

Overall, the match was won by the ABC 4:2; and this was one of the longest snooker matches in some time, because we were still playing past 11pm. What a night of snooker and so enjoyable to go to another club in Hong Kong for the first time. It was not an easy table to play on, but with every game either finishing on the pink or the black ball it was certainly a leveller for the players and made for close match play. Looking forward to having the USRC to the ABC early next year in the new snooker season.



# Beer & Wine of the Month Promotion - November





# Beer & Wine of the Month Promotion - December







<u>Winter Mojito</u> \$70/Non Al Fresh Orange Juice Star Anise / Cinnamon Syrup Mint Soda





Vanilla Chai Bourbon \$85/Non Alc \$60 Chai Bourbon Cinnamon/Star Anise Soda



# December Cocktails & Mocktails



PUMPKIN SPICE LATTE \$65/ NON ALC \$60

VODKA
PUMPKIN SAUCE
COFFEE LIQUOR
CREAM ON TOP



MULLED WINE \$80

RED WINE ALL SPICE FRESH OJ/LEMON BRANDY



MASALA TEA \$45





# World of Chinese Cuisine 3.0

The Galley & The Patio Saturday, 18 November 6pm

Join us for an unforgettable night.
Our popular Chinese Chef, Po, will
surprise you with his creativity! He
will be hosting the live Peking Duck
station on the patio to indulge you
with the most popular Chinese
cuisine in winter. This event is
definitely not to be missed!

\$348 Adult

\$248 Child (aged 3-12)

\$298 Senior (aged 65 or above)

Additional \$88 only for a hairy crab per person on the night! (Pre-order at least 7 days in advance.)





To reserve for your family and friends, call reception at 2552 8182 or email booking@abclubhk.com

Aberdeen Boat Club 香港仔遊艇會

The photo is for

reference only.







# The Galley & The Patio Saturday, 25 November 6:30pm

Enjoy a fantastic all-you-can-eat shabu shabu hotpot with a wide variety of premium seafood and meat dishes to choose from!



Adult

\$338

Senior (aged 65 or above)

\$288

The photo is for reference only.

Child (aged 3-12)

\$238



To reserve for your family and friends, call reception at 2552 8182 or email booking@abclubhk.com

Aberdeen Boat Club 香港仔遊艇會



# **HOST YOUR NEXT EVENT WITH US!**

Whether you're organising a corporate social gathering or a special celebration, ABC has carefully curated menu packages that can cater to your unique preferences. We guarantee an unforgettable experience for you and your guests!

- Customised Buffet Menu
- Special Indian Curry Buffet Menu
   Premium BBQ Buffet Menu
- Premium BBQ Buffet Menu
- Customised Set-Meal Menu
- Customised BBQ Buffet Menu
- Free-Flow Drinks Package



For enquiries, please email our F&B team at booking@abclubhk.com



Aberdeen Boat Club 香港仔遊艇會







# ABC Grand Cru Champagne Promotion

## **Lamiable Grand Cru Brut NV**

60% Pinot Noir & 40% Chardonnay







The Lamiable family has been rooted to the eastern Champagne village of Tours-sur-Marne, a Grand Cru village, in the heart of Champagne region since 1600.

The Grand Cru Brut is a cuvee of 60% Pinot Noir and 40% Chardonnay that gets its distinct character from the well aged reserve wine used in the blend.

#### Taste:

The fine bubbles offer a beautiful effervescence. A sweet and fruity Champagne with aromas of red berries, raspberries, blackcurrant, some notes of plum and quince are found in the mouth.

wheheledahamahamahamahamahamahamahamahama





# Home Wine Delivery November 2023

Free Wine Tasting (Saturday, 25 November) 6pm

SPARKLING		Price	Qty	Amount
Bruno Paillard, Blanc de Blanc Grand Cru MV – Champagne, Fran First aromas are citrus lime and grapefruit followed by white flowers. While of almond and toast appears. Palate: After a lively attack, this wine reveal citrus to white flesh fruits, marked by the distinctive minerality of the chalk	\$798			
Il Follo, Prosecco Spumante Extra Dry NV – Veneto, Italy Light bodied with a slight residual sugar. On the nose hints of pear, apple,	\$118			
WHITE WINE		Price	Qty	Amount
Logeril, Marquis de Pennautier Terroirs Chardonnay 2020 – Langu Powerful aromas, including hints of pineapple, vanilla and fresh exotic fruit		\$148		
Greywacke, Sauvignon Blanc 2022 - Marlborough, New Zealand W Fresh but rich in texture from lees aging, this wine is dry and tropica cocktail, and citrus with a whiff of freshly cut flowers.	\$195			
Cave de Lugny, Maon-Villages Florieres 2021 – Burgundy, France Aroma of fresh and delicate notes of fruits and flowers (citrus, white flor flattering, fresh and gourmand. This wine, which is a blend from different Villages, combining minerality, delicacy and fruit expression.	\$168			
RED WINE		Price	Qty	Amount
Damilano, Barbera d'Asti 2021 – Piedmont, Italy WS 92  The bouquet is fruity with light spicy notes. On the palate, hints of currant, violet, and cherry with a touch of vanilla, with a long persistent finish.				
Chateau Calon, St. Georges 2011 – Saint Emillon, France WE 94 Delicate nose of ripe fruit, blackcurrants, finely smoky background. The rounded and very fruity scents. The final is still very harmonious.	mouth is pleasant with well-	\$240		
Duckhorn, Napa Merlot 2020 – Napa Valley, USA WS 90, WE 90  This wine reveals vibrant aromas of red currant, ripe plum, black raspberry, cherry and sweet baking spices, with hints of tea leaves and cocoa. The palate is rich and luxurious, with silky tannins and flavors of ripe red berries, pie crust and fig compote gliding to a bright, elegant finish.				
(WS - Wine Spectators, WE - Wine Enthusiast, D - Decanter) **Please Note: The listed items do not qualify against minimum monthly F&B charges**				
Member Name: Mr. / Ms / Mrs.	Membership Number:			
Tel No: (Office) (1	Home)			
Delivery Address:				

Total amount will be charged to Member's account. Order accepted by email or in person. Email: bar@abclubhk.com

\_\_\_\_\_ Member Signature: \_\_\_\_

Delivery Date: \_\_\_\_

FREE delivery will be offered for purchase over 18 bottles, pls allow 3 working days for delivery. All wines are subject to availability.



### **DECEMBER FESTIVAL HOME WINE ORDER FORM** \*SPECIAL FESTIVE WINE FAIR \* 18TH NOVEMBER 6PM **Champagne Richard Cheurlin Cuvee H Brut NV** Sub-Total Quantity (Bottle) Clear yellow colour with green hints, Fine and abundant bubbles. Beautiful aroma evoking white flowers and fruits.Good maturity with vegetal notes. Taste strength linked with delicateness. Rich, balanced, fruity. Long fresh finish. With age, toast , brioche. Champagne Rene Jolly Rose d'Assemblage NV Price: 420 Quantity (Bottle) Sub-Total A fairly intense salmon colour is supported by a fresh bouquet with hints of red fruits and brioche flavours. On the palate it has a nice red fruit freshness and a long finish. A very versatile wine and a great match for fish/shellfish, lighter meats and softer cheeses. **Bouvet Saumur Saphir Brut 2020 - Loire, France Price: 180** Quantity (Bottle) Sub-Total \$ Pale straw colour with an intense young mousse. Fresh aromas of crushed apple and pear with some citrus notes. The palate is on the younger side with a creamy texture, primary fruit notes - melon, apple and citrus with a generous creamy finish Pere Caboche Chateauneuf du Pape Blanc 2020 - Rhone, France Sub-Total Quantity (Bottle) **Price: 320** The colour is bright on a pale yellow with light green hues. The nose is intense and well-balanced with hints of fresh fruit or fruit in syrup such as white peach or pear, followed by flavors of ginger and hawthorns. The mouth is full and refreshing. The finish is long and silky. This is a full-flavoured and elegant white wine. Hetszolo Furmint Dry 2018 - Tokaj, Hungary Quantity (Bottle) **Price: 170** Sub-Total Pale gold colored wine with silver reflections, brilliant and crystalline. Elegant nose of william pear, apricot and hawthorn, followed by hints of anisseed. A pure aromatic expression, an intense minerality and the presence of a subtle roundness, offers a beautiful harmony which with an airy finish. RCV Carvalhas White 2019 - Douro, Portugal Sub-Total Quantity (Bottle) **Price: 240** This wine is rich and wood aged, full of apricot, pear and fresher lime flavors. These are highlighted by the toastiness, the spice and vanilla as well as the mineral texture.

1	*	F. +		ABC	AN E
6	92	S.Manuel Rully V.V. Blc 202	0 - Burgundy, France	* **	· M
100			Price : 355	Quantity (Bottle)Sub-T	otal \$
	m	ight, golden color. In the nose impre nouth, the fruit opens up nicely. The settles nice and fresh on the palette.	taste is nicely balanced w		
		RCV Carvalhas VV Blend 20	18 - Douro, Portugal		
			Price : 580	Quantity (Bottle)Sub-	Total
		Rich and dense, this is a solidly textunaturing tannins. The wine is full-book		and dark black fruits are balanced v	vith the
		Dom. St. Vincent Vinsobres	Cuv St Pierre 2015-	Rhone, France	
9 8			Price : 245	Quantity (Bottle) Sul	b-Total
Signature and the second		Dark and brooding nose with wild nuscular body. Taut and long.	raspberry, cassis and pe	pper spice, a touch of of garrigu	e on a bold
4	N	Nittardi Chianti Cl. Riserva D	OCG 2019 - Tuscany	, Italy	
1 62	IOM		Price : 450	Quantity (Bottle)Su	ıb-Total
		The vineyard lies on a south-facing in Chianti Galestro which engender			stones, called
		Sierra Cantabria Reserva 20	015 - Rioja, Spain		
. 16			Price : 250	Quantity (Bottle)S	ub-Total
	C	This dark violet colored wine has a opulent tannins plays host to flaveucalyptus that evaporate into an er	vors of blackberry, dark	plums, bittersweet chocolate, ro	
		Chateau de Chambert 2015	- Cahos, France		
			Price : 260	Quantity (Bottle)S	ub-Total
To state of		This ripe, full-bodied wine has now but everything is soft and juicy enou			
	Member Name: 1	Mr. / Ms / Mrs.	Membership Number:		
- A A B C # C		s:			
	Delivery Date: _		Member Signature:		
Ty.		Order accepted by emai FREE delivery will be	l be charged to Member's accoun il or in person. Email: bar@abclut e <b>offered for purchase over HK</b> working days for delivery. not qualify against minimum mor	bhk.com <b>D 1800</b>	
製					



# Pleasure Vessel Grade II Operator Certificate Courses (Part A master, Part B engineer)



#### Part A (Master)

Dates : 16, 17 November 2023 Times : 7:00pm to 10:30pm

Syllabus : Rules, Lights, Shapes, Buoyage and Signals, Seamanship, Local knowledge and the Laws of Hong Kong Fire &

gas precautions.

Cost : HK\$2,200 for member/person/course. HK\$2,800 for non-member/person/course.

#### Part B (Engineer)

Dates : 23, 24 November 2023 Times : 7:00pm to 10:30pm

Syllabus : Engine general construction, Diesel & Petrol fuel, fuel systems, electrical systems, ignition systems, Lubrication,

cooling & pumps, transmission systems, operation & maintenance, fire & gas precautions.

Cost : HK\$2,200 for member/person/course. HK\$2,800 for non-member/person/course.

#### **Notes:**

- 1. Students who attend these two courses will be required to sit their examinations at the PEAK Examination Centre, Vocational Training Council ("VTC") after completion of the course. Successful candidates after they get the license which issued by Marine Dept. will be entitled to operate a vessel in Hong Kong waters up to 15 metres in length with engines of any power.
- 2. Courses are entirely theoretical for the relative examination. Practical boating is not required for the examination.
- 3. Examinations are normally held on selected weekdays, you may register your examinations to the PEAK Examination Centre ("VTC") by post or online registration. Document required for the examination application:- a ready examination application form, a copy of your identity document, examination fee HK\$1,100 (HK\$550 for Part A and HK\$550 for Part B), cheque payable to "Vocational Training Council". There will be a minimum of 5 students and a maximum of 20 students/course. If there is insufficient support for a course, that course will be cancelled and those already enrolled will be informed accordingly. Members who responded to the initial inquiry and whose names are held on file will be given priority.
- 4. Course Instructor: Alan Chau.
- Please forward the completed application form(s) to Ms Cobo Liu by email mbs@abclubhk.com or by post or hand to the Admin Office of the Club.
- 6. For applying the examinations to the PEAK Examination Centre ("VTC"), please visit https://www.peak.edu.hk/exam/en/md for more information.

Eye test certificate requirement: https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/forms/pdf/md687.pdf

Note: Get your eye test certificate before booking the examinations

The address of the PEAK Examination Centre ("VTC").: VTC Tower, 27 Wood Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong Tel. no. 2919 1467 Email: cpdc@vtc.edu.hk

N.B. Before booking and fixing your examination date, you have to allow enough time for finishing all the model questions, so as to prepare the examinations efficiently.



# Pleasure Vessel Grade II Operator Certificate Courses Application form

Part A (Master)				
Surname: Mr/Mrs/Ms		Forename(s):		
Account number:	Telephone: (Mobile) _		(Office):	
Fax:	Email:			
Please enroll me on the course for 1 ( ) 16, 17 November 2023	Part A (Masters) to be held at 7:0 Thursday & Fri	-		
Please debit my account with \$2,20	0			
For Non-Member please include a Address: 20 Shum Wan Road, Aber	_	berdeen Boat Club Lt.	d.	
Signature		Date		
Part B (Engineer)				
Surname: Mr/Mrs/Ms		Forename(s):		
Account number:	Telephone: (Mobile) _		(Office):	
Fax:	Email:			
Please enroll me on the course for 1 ( ) 23, 24 November 2023	Part B (Engineer) to be held at 7: Thursday & Frie			
Please debit my account with \$2,20	0			
For Non-Member please include a Address : 20 Shum Wan Road, Abe	_	berdeen Boat Club Lt	d.	
Signature		Date		





# WAGLAN 2023-2024

8 OCT 22 OCT 5 NOV 19 NOV 10 DEC

MINI **SERIES** ONE

MINI SERIES

**TWO** 

**14 JAN** 18 FEB 3 MAR **17 MAR 24 MAR** 7 APR

**OPEN TO ALL** 

IRC, PHS (FORMALLY HKPN) BOATS

WWW.ABCLUBHK.COM

# Home Wine Delivery November 2023

SPARKLING		Price	Qty	Amount
Ruggeri, Giall'Oro Valdobbiadene Prosecco Superiore DOCG – Vene "A pleasant Prosecco with fresh, sweet-apple and summer-meadow aroma froth on the palate and a touch of sour cream on the finish." - James Sucklin	s and flavors. Well-balanced	\$138		
WHITE WINE		Price	Qty	Amount
Marques de Casa Concha by Concha y Toro, Chardonnay 2021 – BIC "Textbook chardonnay from Quebrada Seca with a fine touch of minera bright, zesty acidity has a fine saline character to the medium-bodied palate	als, cream and lemons. The	\$160		
Pascal & Nicolas Reverdy, Sancerre Cuvee Terre de Maimbray 2022 – This wine boasts character with its intense notes of white flowers and citrus and balanced while the finish features pleasing length.		\$210		
Lagar de Cervera, Albarino 2022 – Galicia, Spain Aromatically, it stands out for its marked varietal character and intensity frui ripe pear- as well as stone fruit, particularly apricot, and hints of lemon pe palate, with excellent structure.		\$225		
Bouchard Pere & Fils, Pouilly Fuisse 2020 – Burgundy, France  Delicate bouquet with a variety of floral notes. Deliciously round and fruity on the palate. This wine should be drunk young to enjoy its freshness.				
RED WINE		Price	Qty	Amount
La Violette du Manoir, Cotes de Castillon 2017 – Bordeaux, France  "Rich core of plums to the nose. Violets, too. Plush and full on the palate, showing great depth and richness with very juicy, rich plum and blueberry flavors. Supple, sweetly ripe tannins. A blend of old vines, planted in 1958. 92% merlot and 8% cabernet franc. Great value." – James Suckling (JS 92)				
Cuvelier Los Andes, Coleccion Red Blend 2018 – Mendoza, Argentina "Sweet berry, and hints of dried meat and coffee on the nose follow through to a full body with plenty of fruit, chocolate and hazelnut notes. Chewy and flavorful. 52% malbec, 24% cabernet sauvignon, 11% merlot, 9% syrah and 4% petit verdot." – James Suckling (JS 92)				
Concha y Toro, Master Edition 2019 – Central Valley, Chile "Ripe, but fresh, with blackberries, tar and cigars on the nose, as well as so This is a generous red with ripe berries and fine-grained tannins that prov of tobacco leaf in the finish." -James Suckling (JS 93)		\$295		
La Parcelle du Rocher, St Emilion Grand Cru 2017 – Bordeaux, France "Ripe dark fruit, spices, tar and graphite. Full body. Layers of tannins and a rich, savory-fruit component. Intense finish. Saline undertones. 70% mer and 15% cabernet franc. From organically grown grapes." - James Suckling	lot, 15% cabernet sauvignon	\$308		
Powell & Son, Barossa Valley Grenache Shiraz Mataro 2017 – South Australia, Australia  "Vivid ruby. Pungent, spice-accented scents of ripe red and dark berries, and smoky minerals.  Smooth and expansive on the palate, offering juicy cherry-vanilla and boysenberry flavors that are complemented by a hint of peppery spices. Becomes more taut with air and finishes smoky and very long, with building tannins adding shape and grip." - Vinous (VNS 93)				
**Please Note: The listed items do not qualify against minimum monthly F&	B charges**	Grand Total:		
Member Name: Mr. / Ms / Mrs. Me	mherchin Number			
	mbership Number:ome)			
Delivery Address:				
Delivery Date: Member Signa				

Total amount will be charged to Member's account. Order accepted by email or in person. Email: bar@abclubhk.com

# Home Wine Delivery December 2023

SPARKLING	Price	Qty	Amount
Marquise de Leroy-Beauval, Cremant de Bordeaux Brut NV – Bordeaux, France Pale golden color, rich in thin bubbles, regular and lingering bubbles. Reminiscent of white flowers and white fruits aromas such as pear, green apple. Freshness thanks to a beautiful acidity.	\$180		
WHITE WINE	Price	Qty	Amount
Stony Bank, Sauvignon Blanc 2022 – Marlborough, New Zealand The fragrant nose exhibits pleasing aromas supported by mineral notes. The tight and savory palate shows flavors of grapefruit, lemon, and lime citrus, coupled with tropical fruit nuances.	\$125		
Dr Loosen, Dr L Riesling Fruity 2022 – Mosel, Germany Dr. L embodies the elegant and racy style of classic Mosel Riesling. It is refreshing and fruity, with a fine mineral edge that is typical of the region. It is a true ambassador for the Mosel Region.	\$135		
Tournon by M Chapoutier, Landsborough Vineyard Chardonnay 2021 – Victoria, Australia Vibrant golden yellow, with fresh crisp nose with notes of exotic fruits and slight toasty notes. Supple & fresh, round structure supported by a good balance between acidity and minerality.	\$195		
Domaine Vacheron, Sancerre Blanc 2020 – Lorie Valley, France "The 2020 Sancerre is a touch flinty on the nose right now and offers pure fruit reminiscent of gooseberry and boxwood. Conveying a mellow texture within its light-bodied frame."–Vinous (VNS 90)	\$250		
RED WINE	Price	Qty	Amount
The Hedonist, Shiraz 2020 – McLaren Vale, South Australia, "Nicely done. Richly flavored, and long limbed of tannins. Dark fruits, pepper grind, and an exotic spice that alludes to the northern Rhône rather than traditional sweetness of the Vale. A great deal more sophistication than the price tag suggests." - James Halliday (JH 93)			
Marques de Casa Concha by Concha y Toro, Cabernet Sauvignon 2021 – Central Valley, Chile "Spicy and fresh nose with some olives, cassis and a splash of dark chocolate. The medium- to full-bodied palate is laden with powdery tannins before a savory, juicy finish. A tad saline, too."  -James Suckling (JS 93)	\$165		
Lapostolle, Cuvee Alexandre Merlot 2020 – Central Valley, Chile "Quite expressive, showing lots of merlot typicality here, with delicious red plums, cherry pastry and olives. Medium-bodied with elegant red berries and plums on the center-palate, wrapped by firm, chewy tannins." - James Suckling (JS 92)			
Barone Ricasoli, Brolio Chianti Classico Riserva DOCG 2020 – Tuscany, Italy 100% Sangiovese. Aged 18 months. Displaying red and dark fruit, spice, and chocolate characters. Intense texture, medium to full bodied with refined tannins and a hint of crushed mineral finish.	\$240		
Bouchard Pere & Fils, Nuits St Georges 2018 – Burgundy, France Intense aromas of berry fruit and spices on the nose. Rich, tannic and well structured, this wine develops additional roundness after a few years in bottle. Good ageing potential.	\$450		
**Please Note: The listed items do not qualify against minimum monthly F&B charges**	Grand Total:		
Member Name: Mr. / Ms / Mrs. Membership Number:			
Tel No: (Office) (Home)			
Delivery Address:			
Delivery Date: Member Signature:			

Total amount will be charged to Member's account. Order accepted by email or in person. Email: bar@abclubhk.com