

## **NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE GENERAL COMMITTEE 2023**

In accordance with Article 29 & 30 of the Club's Articles of Association **NINE (9)** members of the General Committee who were elected in 2021 and **ONE (1)** was reappointed in October 2023 are still serving and due to retire.

### **A. MEMBERS DUE FOR ELECTION (alphabetical order)**

1. **Alan Child** offers himself for re-election
2. **Christopher Pooley** offers himself for re-election
3. **Eric Tang** offers himself for re-election
4. **Graeme Brechin** offers himself for re-election
5. **Graham Price** offers himself for re-election
6. **Ian Skeggs** offers himself for re-election
7. **James Ross** offers himself for re-election
8. **John Berry** offers himself for re-election
9. **John Currie** offers himself for re-election
10. **Nicholas Bodnar-Horvath** offers himself for re-election

### **B. THE ABERDEEN BOAT CLUB GENERAL COMMITTEE IS COMPOSED OF EIGHTEEN (18) ELECTED MEMBERS.**

- 1) For the year 2023, **TEN (10)** are due for re-election, and **TEN (10)** will stand down at the AGM.
- 2) This has created **TEN (10)** vacancies in total for the General Committee.
- 3) We have received in due time **TEN (10)** re-election applications and **TWO (2)** new election applications.

### **C. THE TEN CANDIDATES FOR RE-ELECTION AS GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE (alphabetical order) :**

1. **Alan Child** offers himself for re-election
2. **Christopher Pooley** offers himself for re-election
3. **Eric Tang** offers himself for re-election
4. **Graeme Brechin** offers himself for re-election
5. **Graham Price** offers himself for re-election
6. **Ian Skeggs** offers himself for re-election
7. **James Ross** offers himself for re-election
8. **John Berry** offers himself for re-election
9. **John Currie** offers himself for re-election
10. **Nicholas Bodnar-Horvath** offers himself for re-election

**D. THERE ARE TWO NEW CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION AS GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBER WITH THEIR PROPOSER AND SECONDER NAMES AS BELOW:**

- 1. Andrew Burgin nominated as General Committee Member  
Club member since 2023 offers himself for election  
Proposed by Ian Skeggs; Seconded by Nicholas Horvath**
- 2. Tylon Truong nominated as General Committee Member  
Club member since 2022 offers himself for election  
Proposed by David Rees; Seconded by Chris Tung**

**E. THE FULL LIST OF THE TWELVE CANDIDATES IS GIVEN BELOW WITH THEIR PROPOSER AND SECONDER NAMES AND BIOGRAPHIES (alphabetical order) :**

- 1. Alan Child  
Club member since 1982  
Proposed by Nicholas Horvath; Seconded by Graeme Brechin**

**Biography**

I believe that at the very least the positions of Commodore, Vice Commodore and Rear Commodore Sailing of ABC should be filled by a Club member who can demonstrate extensive experience of boating, preferably sailing in order that he reflects the core values of the Club. He should also have had a broad exposure to club management through membership of the General Committee and its sub-committees. In putting myself forward for a Flag Officer position, I would like to highlight the following personal abilities:

- I have sailed regularly in the Club racing series since 1982.
- I have participated in over 20 Four Peaks races as crew, runner and skipper.
- For the past 10 years I have been a co-owner of the Farr Side, one of the most consistently raced boats in ABC.
- I am a RYA Offshore and Ocean Yacht master as well as having a local Masters and Engineers Licence.
- I have competed in numerous offshore races to the Philippines, Vietnam and China.
- I have spent 8 years on General Committee and on Development Committee.
- I have extensive knowledge of Government leases and development having working for 8 years in the Lands Department.
- I have been a board member and Chairman of one of the largest privately owned Property Consultancies in Hong Kong.
- I have many years of experience running a large multi-faceted organization.
- I believe I have the skills and standing necessary to help steer the Club through the planned major development era, and to represent the Club at the highest levels of the yachting and boating community.

## **2. Christopher Pooley**

**Club member since 2007**

**Proposed by Graeme Brechin; Seconded by John Currie**

### **Biography**

**Rear Commodore Sailing - from 2013 to 2015**

**Commodore from 2015 to 2023**

In standing for re-election to Gencom I should, as required by convention, highlight some personal details for those Members who do not yet know me or who otherwise may not be familiar.

A dinghy sailor from boyhood, Pooley has been a regular participant in HK yachting and racing since returning here in 1989. Currently a member of 2 overseas Yacht Clubs, RHKYC and Hebe Haven in addition to ABC and a member of the HKSF. Well known in the local yachting community and to flag officers of other yacht clubs.

Involved in some 25 Four Peaks Races initially as Skipper on Shearwater, more recently as a regular crew member, or assisting with Race Management 20 events as a runner.

A regular participant in all ABC race series from 1989 and numerous Regattas and offshore events in Asia:- Thailand , Philippines , Malaysia and China Sea crossings ; occasionally in UK. A regular participant in Protest Hearings.

As Commodore Pooley has managed to attend most sub-Committee meetings on a regular basis and found much interest in doing so. He was also actively engaged in the dialogue with Government over the PRL issues, a concern which remains to be resolved. He took particular pleasure in the re-building of the MI Clubhouse and awaits the outcome of the major Development project with great interest.

Prior to his retirement Pooley served for 33 years as an Executive in the Swire Group, with overseas postings to a number of countries in Asia Pacific, the Middle East and Europe, with much travel to numerous countries . He was posted back to HK in 1989 where he elected to reside after his retirement.

- 3. Eric Tang**  
**Club member since 2012**  
**Proposed by Graeme Brechin; Seconded by Chris Pooley**

**Biography**

Having the privilege to serve on the General Committee for the past 10 years, I am standing for re-election to continue driving for improvement on both the hardware and software offerings of the club for members. In particular, I consider the renovation of the main clubhouse, improvement in F&B service, broadening of water activity offerings, and obtaining permission from the government for the Middle Island development being the priorities for the General Committee.

- 4. Graeme Brechin**  
**Club member since 1996**  
**Proposed by Graham Price; Seconded by Steve Perret**

**Biography**

I arrived in Hong Kong as a twelve year old in 1977 and from that date on, apart from my final schooling/university in the UK, I have continuously used the ABC for sailing activities alongside my father and his/my friends becoming a full member of the Club in 1996. I remain an active sailor and have raced with many boats over the years in most if not all the HK Regattas also completing eleven China Sea crossings, eight of which were competitive. Four years ago I helped to sail a boat with three friends from Hong Kong to Singapore, then on to Langkawi and finally, before my next adventure, sailed across the Western Pacific. I have spent the last four years as your Rear Commodore for Sailing and Marine overseeing all marine matters and, I can proudly now say, one of the best dinghy schools in Asia. As a sail boat owner and frequent user of our Club I feel I am well placed to help to keep our Club in the 'Premier Division'.

- 5. Graham Price**  
**Club member since 2003**  
**Proposed by Chris Tung; Seconded by Graeme Brechin**

**Biography**

Graham first came to Hong Kong in 1977, and returned to stay in 1992. He joined ABC in 2003 whilst crewing Gypsy for John Butler. He learned to sail a dinghy at Middle Island. His two sons Sam and David both qualified as sailing instructors and taught at RHKYC and ABC. He owns a "bi-plane rigged" catamaran moored at Middle Island. He also has two younger children Hannah and Ethan who really enjoyed their ABC sailing courses. He joined the General Committee in 2011 and has been especially interested in safety, facilities for children and young people and matters affecting boat owners.

Graham served at different times as a committee member for House, Sailing and Marine and the Development Committees and most recently as Rear Commodore chaired the House Committee and its sub committee managing the Development of the Main Club House. "The Refit Project" is now underway and members will see the improvements as works advance.

He was very involved in representations to the Government review of land held by Private Recreational Clubs and addressed the Legco committee. He believes that sail training is a very worthwhile, rewarding and life forming activity for young people and is keen that ABC supports this, together with opportunities for those who wish to compete internationally or become assistant and full instructors. Finally he believes in ABC as a members club, in the need to maintain and improve our facilities, with members contributing and participating and will fight to preserve its welcoming, friendly and inclusive atmosphere.

## **6. Ian Skeggs**

**Club member since 2002**

**Proposed by Graeme Brechin; Seconded by Chris Pooley**

### **Biography**

Mr Ian Skeggs has been a resident of Hong Kong since 1987 and been part of the sailing community ever since, taking part in ABC races as well as having made several crossings of the South China Sea, sailed round Micronesia as well as sailing from Hong Kong to Phuket. Mr Skeggs has owned a Peterson 33, The Judge, and recently owned the motor cruiser Viva. Mr Skeggs is a keen member of the ABC and, has arranged sponsorship of several events including the 4 Peak's Race and international dingy racing. Mr Skeggs has previously served on the General Committee of the Club and Sailcom.

## **7. John Currie**

**Club member since 2008**

**Proposed by Chris Pooley; Seconded by Graeme Brechin**

### **Biography**

Has been an active member of the Club for 16 years and resided in Hong Kong for over 25 years. A regular participant in ABC yachting events and other club race programs.

Chairman of the 4 Peaks Race since 2019 and found the experience rewarding, whilst currently working on raising the events profile for 2024 and beyond.

The previous terms on Gen Com and Sailcom has given me a decent knowledge of Club workings and objectives. Keen to continue contributing and supporting the Club.

**8. James Ross**

**Club member since 2006**

**Proposed by James Smith; Seconded by Graham Price**

**Biography**

I'm originally from the UK, have been in Hong Kong since 2003, and am the CEO of a media company. I've been a member of the ABC since 2006, when my daughter started sailing. My passion is for everything boat-related, but I'm a dinghy sailor at heart. For many years my focus was in developing the ABC Dinghy Training Centre as part of Sail Com and the Dinghy Committee. Right now I am concerned that member's views are well represented over the Middle Island Development, and to help ensure that what is created is great for members, maximises the use of our money, builds a strong boating base, but still maintains the relaxing atmosphere of Middle Island. Currently, as a member of House Com, and as Chairman of the Staff Committee, I also want to see that we develop better facilities and services for all members, particularly in our main club house which hasn't had much attention recently. Plus we need to improve staff training and service levels at every level of the club - but particularly in the club's food and drink outlets.

**9. John Berry**

**Club member since 1983**

**Proposed by Chris Pooley; Seconded by Nicholas Horvath**

**Biography**

Involved in sailing and other water sports since his youth, John Berry sailed to Hong Kong in 1982 and shortly after applied for membership of ABC, joined ABC races in that year and has not missed a season since. Was also active for many years in dinghies, and joined many China Sea and Four Peaks races.

He currently sails on and co-owns the cruiser 'Five O one', and participates in cruising and racing, and intends to join sailing trips/event around the region where possible.

At ABC John was on General Committee for periods in the 1980s and 90s, and since 2010, serving in particular on sailing and club development committees. He was Commodore from 2011 to 2015. John is also council member of HKSF.

John offers to continue supporting the General Committee with particular interest in club development and membership.

**10. Nicholas Bodnar-Horvath**

**Club member since 1988**

**Proposed by Martin Ganz; Seconded by Chris Pooley**

**Biography**

Nicholas Bodnar-Horvath is a solicitor and formerly the Hon Gen Secretary of the Club. He has served the Club on the General Committee for many years, primarily as honorary legal adviser and chairs the Membership and Disciplinary Committees

The next two years are of particular importance for the Club in the progression of the Middle Island project and renewal of our recreational leases, where various legal issues will no doubt continue to arise.

**11. Tylon Truong**

**Club member since 2022**

**Proposed by David Rees; Seconded by Chris Tung**

**Biography**

Mr Tyron Truong has been a resident of Hong Kong since 2014 and was born in Hamburg/Germany. He and his wife Amy started with sailing during Covid 19 because his young family was looking for quality time activities during this difficult period. His 5 and 8 years boys are enjoying every minute on the sea (less the sailing, more as a junk boat though). They own a Bavaria 40 feet cruiser and taking part at several ABC events including Xmas Sail 2022 since joining the club.

He is very family orientated and visits the club and the facilities every week and it would be his pleasure to support the club with his engineering background. Tyron Truong and his family is planning to stay in Hong Kong at least for the coming 15 years.

Spatial designer, AV engineers, projectionists and lighting designers for showrooms, museums, events and exhibitions.

In the past, Mr Truong moved to Asia for the Olympic Games 2008 and World Expo 2010 opening ceremonies. Then he has decided to stay in Hong Kong.

**12. Andrew Burgin**

**Club member since 2023**

**Proposed by Ian Skeggs; Seconded by Nicholas Horvath**

**Biography**

Andrew Burgin was born in Hong Kong and used to sail dinghies with the KGV sailing club in Tai Po Kau in the 1970s. Mr. Burgin spent 15 years in the UK studying and training to be a Chartered Accountant. In 1992 Mr. Burgin returned to Hong Kong to pursue his career.

Mr. Burgin joined the ABC at the beginning of this year having decided to return to his old hobby. Since joining, Mr. Burgin has been a keen dinghy sailor at Middle Island and he took part in the Hebe Haven 24 hour charity dinghy race in October. Mr. Burgin also sails with friends on a Hunter 22 called 'Shockwave' . Since June, Mr. Burgin has been supporting the work of Sailcom as a co-opted member.