

HORIZONS

The magazine of the Aberdeen Boat Club Ltd

November 2010





Aberdeen Boat Club
 20 Shum Wan Road
 Aberdeen
 Hong Kong
 香港仔遊艇會
 20號香港仔深灣道
 www.abclubhk.com
 Fax no: 2873 2945
 General Line : 2552 8182

Flag Officers
 Barry Hill - Commodore
 Matthew Johnson - Rear Commodore
 Bruce Perkins - Rear Commodore
 Nick Bodnar-Horvath - Hon Gen Secretary
 James Fulton - Hon Treasurer

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

Marketing and Event Manager
 Karen Castilho
 Tel: 2552 8182 Ext 812
 gmsec@abclubhk.com

Membership Service Manager
 Cobo Liu
 Tel: 2553 3032
 mbs@abclubhk.com

Financial Controller
 Leslie Chan
 Tel: 2552 5220
 fin@abclubhk.com

House Manager
 Steven Ng
 Tel: 2552 8182 ext 835
 hsp@abclubhk.com

Marine Manager
 Ah Kee
 Tel: 2552 8182 Ext 834
 marine@abclubhk.com

Food and Beverage Manager
 Colin Fung
 Tel: 2552 8182
 fnb@abclubhk.com

Dinghy Sailing Manager
 Kevin Lewis
 Tel: 2552 8182 Ext 833
 dinghysailing@abclubhk.com

General Enquiries
 The Galley
 Tel: 2554 9494

Four Peaks Restaurant
 Tel: 2553 3422

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COMMODORE



What an amazing few days of weather forecasting we had in late October. Super Typhoon Megi followed a westerly track and caused havoc across the northern Philippines leaving 19 people dead and causing severe disruption to thousands more as they battled with hurricane force winds, enormous waves and storm surges. Before leaving the Philippines the Observatory correctly forecast a 90 degree turn to make a northerly course and head straight for Hong Kong. The storm was re-intensifying and billed as the biggest storm for 50 years based on wind speeds of 185km per hour near the core. Satellite pictures showed a very well formed and tight eye. Megi was forecast to make landfall on Saturday and as early as Tuesday the Government was rightly preparing Hong Kong for the worst. The weekends events, including our Swimming Gala, were being cancelled and typhoon parties were being planned. Even on Thursday, the potential of a direct hit was considered very probable but overnight the storm turned again and on Friday Megi had decided to vent her anger on Taiwan. Hong Kong breathed a sigh of relief and those who had spent days preparing their boat yards, construction sites and other vulnerable areas were pleased that their efforts would not be necessary. Saturday came and was a beautiful day with a nice breeze, low humidity, clear skies and 25 degrees. On Sunday the racers in our first Waglan Series race bemoaned the lack of wind. Such is the lot of a weather forecaster. We thank you for the service you provide for our enjoyment of the sea.

Members will be aware that we have closed the Four Peaks Restaurant to undertake a long overdue refurbishment. The House and Building Committee have given much thought to this project and although the work will not entail any structural modifications the end result will definitely provide an enhanced dining experience. The restaurant will be reopened in December in time for the Christmas festivities.

ABC once again participated in the Hebe Haven Aquathon, previously known as the 24 hour dinghy race. We had three boats expertly managed by Diana Bruce to ensure the changeovers went smoothly and all of our enthusiastic younger members had an opportunity to take part in this very worthwhile event. Over one million dollars was raised for charity by the efforts of the 43 teams who took part. A full report of the event and the performances by ABC sailors in the dinghy racing and the raft race is included in this issue.

During October we were invited by the RHKYC to participate in an afternoon of rowing at Middle Island. The Yacht Club kindly offered their facilities and expertise for any ABC members who wanted to try this demanding sport. Several of our members took up the challenge and thought that it was a very enjoyable and enlightening day. We hope to be able to repeat the experience in the not too distant future.

Lastly, an EGM and the AGM will be held on Tuesday 23 November commencing at 7.00pm in the Bridge. Details have been issued to all members. After the formalities of these two meetings we will have an informal discussion on any Club issues that members would like to raise. I look forward to seeing you there.

Trick or treat.

Barry Hill
Commodore

GENERAL MANAGER



MEMBERSHIP

A.G.M

At the time of writing, you should have received the AGM notice and documents. We hope to see you all on 23 November at 7pm for the opening of our EGM for articles revision on notices and proxy voting and 7:15pm for the regular AGM.

Membership Drive

In September, I launched a membership promotion to increase our membership to 1000 members. This was to face increasing fixed operating cost of the Club and allow us to increase staff's salaries, which has not been raised for three years now. The target was to welcome 55 new members within the end of the year. The promotion was in two parts: first, every member introducing a new member would have his subscription fee waived for two months; and the second part of the promotion was a reduced entrance fee for our newcomers. This has proved to be extremely successful as by mid-October the budgeted target was achieved. I must thank all the members who have helped us to make this membership drive such a success and allowed the Club to have a record entry on new members in the Club in one month since its creation.

Once again, thank you and rest assured that my promise to continue the special reward of 'one member introduced gives two month subscription free' until December still stands, so please feel free to introduce more members to your Club.

Legacy Program

On the subject of membership rewards, I am not sure if you have heard about our special legacy program. This program rewards our long-standing members by letting their children join the club at a discounted price. The conditions are as follows and can be found on our website:

Children of Associate or Ordinary Members upon attaining the age of 21 years shall be eligible to join the Club in their own right as Associate Members (subject to the usual balloting procedure) and subject to their parents having been an Associate or Ordinary Member of the Club for more than 10 years. The Joining Fee is \$1,000 the subscriptions are due thereon.

I hope this will trigger some interest with our members' children who cannot use the Club from the age of 21 except as guests.

Frequent Fryer program

Another reward scheme that you may not have heard about is the one above, which rewards any member who has taken 10 breakfasts with a free set lunch coupon. Come, try our new breakfast menu, and claim your Frequent Fryer card. In no time at all, when you have collected ten stamps, you will be able to enjoy a set lunch in our newly renovated Four Peaks Restaurant.

ACTIVITIES

Summer Photo Competition

This first ever competition generated great interest, with more than 40 participants, and the panel of selected judges had a very tough time choosing the best pictures due to their great quality.

On behalf of everyone, big congratulations go out to the Cooper Family for winning our summer photo competition and to the Van Dale Family and Emma Barlow for respectively winning second and third place. The pictures have been displayed at the reception and on our website.

Summer write up competition

Also on the competition side Justin Mak sent us the most comprehensive and interesting holiday report which will be display on our website from 1 November under Activities. Congratulation on a very good work Justin. A big Chapter Book is waiting for you with Karen in the office.

HOUSE

Four Peaks Renovation

Since the beginning of October, the Four Peaks Restaurant has been undergoing a well overdue facelift that will include some touch-ups in the lobby, corridor, and Waglan Bar. The general marine feeling of the Club will be retained, while a touch of modernity and a brighter colour scheme will be added.

Photo competition - winners



FIRST - THORPENESS
Member : Peter Cooper



SECOND - ABC SWIMMING POOL
Member : Van Dale



THIRD - RAROTONGE SUNSET
Member : Emma Barlow



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Ray Lam
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Fax: +852 2243 8862
ray_lam@aon-asia.com
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AON



The heat of the sun reflected through the bay window has been addressed by replacing the former curtains with a new see-through material that not only reflects the glare and the heat outward, but also allows us to enjoy the view of the harbour while having lunch. This new addition will be a great asset for our restaurant as the view from it is one of our biggest attractions. A newly designed carpet, decorated walls and memorabilia alluding to the races to which the restaurant is named after will be part of the new look of our fine dining outlet. The completion of the work is scheduled for the end of November and will be ready for the heavy Christmas period. At the same time, our kitchen will have most of its equipment upgraded as nothing has been changed for more than 15 years.

I really hope you will enjoy visiting the Four PEAKS restaurant regularly once it has been re-opened.

SAILING

25 September saw the start of the Saturday Series with four yachts joining in our practice races, meant to be more relaxed and fun than the very competitive Waglan Series. Ahyoka, Poppy Too (on the picture), The Farr Side and Takka Rita (in order of finish) battled their way through a 14-mile race between Round Island, Castle Rock and two club marks positioned in Tai Tam Bay and Stanley Bay. Ahyoka won the race on corrected time while Poppy Too had probably one their best races, beating The Farr Side (the old timers) by more than four minutes and being only at one minute 15 seconds of winning the race. Takka Rita had a rather disappointing day certainly due to its hull covered with abundant marine life forms. The second race of the season has been abandoned and will probably be sailed again soon. At the time of writing this article, I am getting ready for the third series, which is looking promising, at least on the weather conditions side.

Waglan 1

Typhoon “Megi” was whirling around the cost of Hong Kong until Friday when it took a sudden curve towards Fujian. The disappointment of being forced to cancel the first race of our prime series changed to an exiting anticipation of great wind for the Sunday race.



Well! The wind did not measure up with our hopes, as the conditions for our first Race were quite light, with 8 to 9 knots of wind at the start. The other unexpected condition was the announced north-northeast wind on the local weather forecast website that turned out to be on the opposite direction.

In such conditions, with the starting bearing being also on the opposite direction of our usual north-northeast start, not only did the windward mark have to rounded by port but additionally the Race Officer (myself in occurrence) raised the IC Flag J. This pennant is now an official sign for our fleet, telling the fleet to leave Round Island by port at the start and starboard at the finish. This has proven to be too challenging for some of our yachts. Some asked why there is a J division flag up and others not remembering the meaning of the J flag.

Maybe something to remember for these Series – expect the unexpected and be ready to improvise.

Improvising was the word for the day as the fleet was composed of very fast boats like “Elektra” the new A35 Archambeau owned by Marcel Liedts, Paul Leese’s J145C “Red Eye” and last year’s winner of the Series, and much slower boats like “Chota Scye” a Beneteau 27.7, and “Diamond Queen” a Jeanneau SO 49. The chosen course was a 20-mile race going round Waglan, Po Toi and Chesterman Buoy. No doubt, the race would have to be shortened but ‘where’ was the ambiguous part of the RO on duty in order to give a fair but stimulating enough race.

After a rough start between Yacht O and Diamond Queen and a narrow escape with Kei Lung, the fleet took off for the first mark of the race and the passing of Round Island by port.

An hour and half into the race, Elektra rounded Waglan just behind Red Eye, while it took another ninety minutes for the rest of the fleet to do the same. By that time Po Toi was an option to shorten the race, looking at the middle pack of the fleet, but still a three-hour race would not have been good enough to keep our fast boats on their toes. The final decision was to shorten at Chesterman Buoy – a long way to go but believed to be the fairest for the race.

Elektra took line honour and first place in IRC corrected time while only seven and half minutes in elapsed time separated them from “Red Eye”. In HKPN ‘Red Eye’ won the HKPN followed by “Red Kite 2”, Kei Lung, Yacht O and The Farr side all within 30 minutes. Results, details and pictures of the race can be found in our website under ‘Waglan Series’.

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CRUISING WITH THE CROWDS- ALBANIA



Orikum Marina

The last two ABC magazines have contained features on cruising in Greece and Croatia, so perhaps readers might be interested to learn a little about cruising in Albania, neatly sandwiched between these two better-known destinations. Probably about on a par with North Korea as far as your average cruiser is concerned Albania actually offers "off the beaten track" cruising, so if you've had enough of crowded marinas and quay sides covered with waterside tavernas read on, Albania could be for you.

The coastline is about 200 miles long, bordering the Ionian and Adriatic seas. In the southern half spectacular mountains run straight down to the sea along much of the coast, as one progresses north the coastal areas become much flatter. From a sailor's point of view it's all pretty easy, the publication "777 Harbours and Anchorages Croatia, Slovenia, Montenegro and Albania" proved to be both accurate and useful, in addition to the usual paper and electronic charts, the odd reference to "uncleared minefields" gives one a certain cause for concern however we came to no harm. It is required to have to arrange for an agent to carry out ships clearance on arrival into and departure from Albania, at a cost of Euro 90; however,

the process was carried out extremely quickly and within 30 min of tying up we had our passports and ships transit log stamped.

On board S/Y Talia, a 55ft Discovery owned by HK resident Godfrey Scotchbrook we entered Albania from Corfu, which is just a few miles from the southern port of

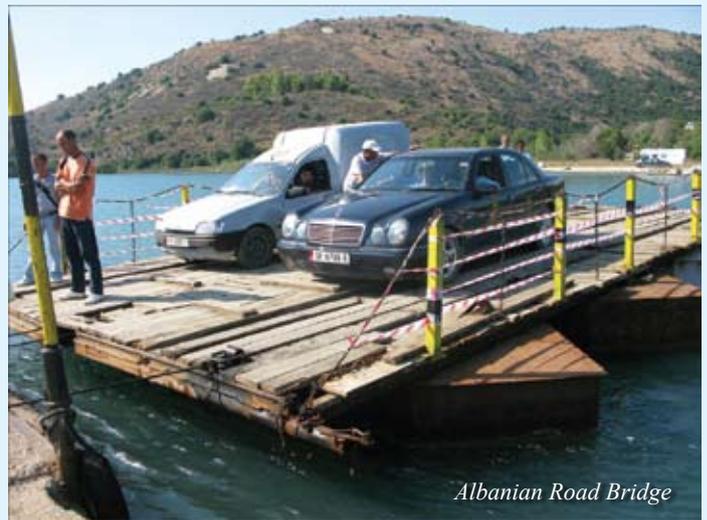


Raising the Albanian Country Flag

Sarande. This is the major port of southern Albania with a slightly "60's time warp" feel about it, it is within easy driving distance of Butrint (dates from 12 century BC) and Gjirokastra (medieval city) , both UNESCO world Heritage sites, well worth visiting and again very much off the beaten track.



Durrës



Albanian Road Bridge



Sarandë



USSR Submarine Pens

We then headed north stopping off in Porto Palermo, an idyllic overnight anchorage containing a perfectly preserved 18th-century Castle at one end and an ex-USSR submarine base, complete with tunnels, at the other end.

Further north still we turned into the Gulf of Vlore, spending a night at the only marina in Albania, (financed with Italian money) this provided very adequate service, and then on up the coast to the main port of Albania, Durrës, (one hour drive to Tirana, the capital) where we were accommodated alongside the concrete jetty. With more time we could have stopped off at the number of interesting little spots along the way for both day and overnight anchorages.

Food and wine are not one of Albania's great strengths (has anybody ever been to an Albanian restaurant in Hong Kong?). However we always found perfectly adequate fish and meat dishes (including spit roasted lamb and goat), washed down with BYO (we had been warned). We found the people to be extremely helpful and friendly and cannot report a single bad experience during our time in Albania.

Further north, between Albania and Croatia lies Montenegro with its spectacular coastline and even more spectacular inland fjord leading up to Kotor; absolutely worth seeing but here, one is back with the crowds, the mega cruisers of the rich and famous, the cruise ships, and the quayside tavernas with 200 tables, a different scene altogether.

Albania is definitely cruising without the crowds, with just two or three other boats for company at any of our anchorages. There are probably five more years before it looks very like Greece or Croatia, so for those looking to sail the path less sailed take a good hard look at Albania.

Bob Rogers

RECYCLING AT ABC

Kevin Lewis

An ABC bag collector introduces four easy ways you can help the environment and help your club...

Last month I decided to tidy up the kitchen. Like many Hong Kong apartments, it's very small with just enough space – or not quite enough – to keep everything accessible and organized. For a few months the area beside the fridge, used to store empty plastic bags, had been growing and despite a “bag holder” and our best efforts of folding, it seemed to be gradually taking over what little storage space was left. So out came the bags, and horror of horror... our kitchen was covered in ABC plastic and paper bags



1. Return your used ABC paper and plastic bags
ABC supplies paper carrier bags for food-take away, plastic bags for drinks and ice, and thinner degradable HDPE plastic bags in the changing rooms. You can sort these out and return them for re-use. Obviously the bags need to be totally clean, totally dry, not torn in any way and FOLDED neatly, not “scrunched up” and crushed together in another bag. Return them to our Coffee Shop staff.

2. Return your read issues of “Horizons”

Our Club “Horizons” magazine takes a lot of effort to produce and naturally costs a significant amount which is ultimately paid for by members. Recently, demand for the magazine has been increasing and we like to provide complimentary copies for guests and visitors. Horizons gives a real insight into what is happening at our Club and often contains interesting race reports and attractive photos. So please return your old copies, as long as they are clean, not folded or torn, and LESS THAN 4 MONTHS old. Return to Matthew at Reception or Angela in the Sailing Office.

3. BYOC Bring your own comb

ABC supplies complimentary plastic combs in our bathrooms. However, we may not do so for much longer. Why? Well, plastic never decomposes; they just slowly break down into smaller and smaller particles; ABC combs might last 500 years in a landfill! We supply on average 5,000 combs per year, costing you, the club member, about \$1 per comb!

4. Help us to save electricity by closing the club doors

Our biggest direct electricity consumption comes from air conditioning, and here at ABC doors are regularly left open allowing the cool air to escape. In fact what is escaping is not just cool air, it's Hong Kong dollars; members' dollars rushing out the door! Our staff have been asked to close doors when possible, and during quiet periods and mornings, our Coffee Shop AC is now turned off. But your help can reduce our energy use!

A number of other important recycling efforts will soon begin at our Club, led by our General Manager, who will be growing his own vegetables and buying a bicycle...

SNOOKER



On 27 August 2010 the ABC played in a three-way match snooker match against the RHKYC and the Hong Kong Club at the Hong Kong Club. ABC was represented by Wayne Thompson, Barry Hill, David Hilling and team captain Peter Hilling. This was the first time the ABC had been involved in a three-way match. Each team consisted of four players who each played one single and one double match against both the other teams. This resulted in a total of 18 games. As both the ABC and RHKYC have only one table it would have been impossible to play 18 games in an evening, but as Hong Kong Club have three tables it was the only venue where the match could be completed in one evening.

The four singles games against Hong Kong Club were decided on three black balls and one pink ball. Unfortunately the result was 1-3 to Hong Kong Club. The doubles were not as close with ABC losing both of them.

The games against RHKYC were much tighter with the singles being evenly matched 2-2, however the ABC recovered in the doubles and won both of them. The games between the Hong Kong Club and RHKYC went

3-1 to Hong Kong Club in the singles and 0-2 in the doubles. Overall scores were Hong Kong Club 14, ABC 7, RHKYC 3.

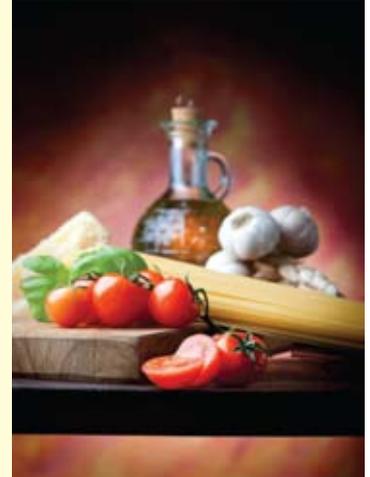
There was the usual splendid dinner mid-way through the evening, where jokes and general banter were exchanged between the players. It was with great reluctance that the players adjourned and returned to the snooker. Everyone enjoyed the evening and it was agreed that the three-way format was a success and more will be arranged in the future.

The snooker team is short of players, which is one reason there were only four members per team for this match, and anyone with reasonable skill and enthusiasm is invited to join the team. The standard is definitely nowhere near the snooker seen on the TV, with the main objective being to have a good evening on the baize, so if you are interested please inform Cobo of your membership number and the team captain will be in touch. We only play 5 or 6 team matches per year, so it's not likely to impact other commitments.

Peter Hilling

ITALIAN FOOD PROMOTION

November



Verdure alla griglia con mozzarella di bufala
Grilled vegetables served with fresh mozzarella
\$68

Zuppa fredda di melone con prosciutto di San Daniele
Iced melon soup with San Daniele ham and herbs
\$88

Scampi con caviale di melanzane e insalata al tartufo nero
Sautee scampi with eggplant caviar, seasonal salad and black truffle
\$88



Acqua cotta con funghi porcini
Light porcini mushroom
\$48

Pombo con fave e capperi
Braised Turbot with Fresh Broad Beans and Capers
\$138

Carre d'agnello in crosta d'aglio dolce e timo
Rack of lamb with mild garlic and thyme crust on wine sauce
\$188

Oscobucco alla milanese con risotto allo zafferano
Braised veal shank with saffron risotto
\$188

Tiramisu
\$42



SPECIAL PROMOTION NOVEMBER



Antipesto & Pasta Evening

6:30pm, Saturday 20 November
The Patio

All you can eat Antipesto & Pasta Station
With Salad Bar & Dessert
Only \$198 per adult & \$128 per child (aged 3-12)

For reservation please call the Coffee Shop at 2554 9494

BBQ Roast Whole Pig Evening Festival

6:30pm, Saturday 13 November The Patio
All you can eat tender juicy whole pig on spit with
salad bar

Only \$158 per adult & \$98 per child under 12

For reservations, please call the Coffee Shop at 2554 9494



Salad Bar

Steaks
Angus Ribeye
Angus NY Striploin
Angus Tenderloin
Angus Rump

Sides
Steak Fries
Jacket Potato
Corn on the Cob
Steamed Broccoli

Sauces:
Red Wine
Green Peppercorn
Mushroom

Succulent perfection 'Special Angus Beef BBQ Night

6:30pm, 27 November
The Patio

All you can eat \$288- per adult & \$168 per child
(aged 5-12) & free of charge for children under 5

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Features a very simple menu with 4 Australian Angus Steak, 3 sauces and 4 side dishes.

FOOD & BEVERAGE REGULAR EVENT



Every Sunday Family Lunch Buffet at Harbour Room

All you can eat International Buffet

\$188 per adult

\$105 per child under 12 years old

Feature:

Freshly shucked oyster; sashimi & sushi, roast carving station, ABC signature Hainan Chicken station, homemade Dim Sum, Chef Singh's Indian curry and more

Please call the F&B at 2553 3422 to reserve a table

Taittinger Champagne Madness

Happy Champagne Hour at the Waglan Bar
2 Glasses for the price of 1

EVERY THURSDAY FROM 6:00PM -9:00PM

Please call Waglan Bar at 2553 3422 to make sure it's all chilled.



Wok-Fried Noodle Station

Every Sunday afternoon
12 noon to 2:30pm
at Patio

Wok-fried Noodle with

Salad bar \$80

Only Noodle \$58



BEVERAGE



Wine Tasting Evening

Date: Friday, 12 November 2010
Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm
Venue: The Galley

Free Admission

- Semillon Sauvignon Blanc Clairault- W.Aust.
- Gosset Brut Excellence NV-France.
- Pinot Noir East Coast Babich-NZ.
- Pouilly Fume Fournier-France. and more.....

Wine Tasting & Canapés

You are cordially invited to join our Monthly Wine Tasting Evening. Come taste and purchase from a wide variety of fine wines introduced by our suppliers.

“Watson’s Wine Co”

Wine of the Month

ZUCCARDI Serie A Chardonnay Viognier

Vintage: 2008
Variety: 50% Chardonnay, 50% Viognier
Region: Mendoza, Argentina

Tasting Notes: The aromas show tropical fruit flavors with touches of apple and pear as well as hints of cinnamon and minerals.

\$ 38 / Glass
\$ 180 / Bottle



ZUCCARDI Serie A Malbec

Vintage: 2008
Variety: 100% Malbec
Region: Mendoza, Argentina

Tasting Notes: Purple-colored, it reveals a pleasing nose of cedar, spice box, and black cherry.

\$ 38 / Glass
\$ 180 / Bottle



Beer of the Month



2010 CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Saturday, 12 December
Children Party

Sunday, 12 December
Commodore's Drink

Wednesday, 15 December
Carol Singing

Saturday, 19 December
Welsh Male Voice Choir

Wednesday, 22 December
Tung Chi Dinner

Friday, 24 December
Christmas Eve Champagne Dinner

Saturday, 25 December
*Christmas Day Lunch
Middle Island Turkey
Lunch*

Sunday, 26 December
*Boxing Day Brunch /
Dinner*

Friday, 31 December
New Year's Eve Party



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New Year's Eve Party Prohibition "CHICAGO THEME"

31 December 2010

* DJ * DRESS UP COMPETITION *

BOOK NOW!

Please call Cobo on 2553 3032 for booking



\$450 per adult \$230 per child 6 - 12yrs
(inclusive of entertainment and limited drinks)
Details of the event, coming up soon

New Year's Eve Party Prohibition "CHICAGO THEME"

31 December 2010

* DJ * DRESS UP COMPETITION *

BOOK NOW!

Please call Cobo on 2553 3032 for bookings

\$450 per adult \$230 per child aged 6-12
(inclusive of entertainment and limited drinks)
Details of the event, coming up soon



NEW DVDS

Aftershock

Sherlock Holmes

Toy Story (special edition)

The Last Station

The Ghost Writer

2012

Speer Hitler

The Hurt Locker

CHRISTMAS PRIVATE FUNCTIONS

If you want to book our rooms for private Christmas functions, please contact our F&B department. Whether you need Christmas set menus or perhaps a Christmas buffet, the Club has got them all prepared for you to suit your needs. Please contact our F&B manager Colin Fung on 2555 6216 or email fnb@abclubhk.com

Christmas Set Menu A

(For parties or dinners)

\$328 per head including party favors

Homemade goose liver terrine on a Champagne jelly

Or

Grilled pigeon breast with Port Wine Sauce

* * *

Bouillabaisse

A traditional French seafood broth

(served with mussel,scallop, prawn and salmon in a saffron fish broth)

* * *

Herb butter and caramelized-onion basted turkey accompanied by traditional bread, herb and garlic stuffing served with a pâté chestnut and brandy sauce .
roasted new potato tossed in garlic butter with sage
bacon and green beans

Or

King prawns Thermidor with baby carrot and brussels sprout

Or

Grilled veal chop served with Marsala sauce
potato steak and baby zucchini

* * *

Christmas pudding and warm vanilla sauce

Coffee, tea

Mince pie

Christmas cookies



Christmas Set Menu B

(For parties or dinners)

\$288 per head including party favors

Pan-fried goose liver scented with Marsala wine on a Chinese brioche

Or

Salmon terrine on rose wine dressing

* * *

Chestnut soup on Brie cheese dumpling

* * *

Herb butter and caramelized-onion basted turkey accompanied by traditional bread, herb and garlic stuffing served with a pâté chestnut and brandy sauce .
roasted new potato tossed in garlic butter with sage
bacon and green beans

Or

Baked cod fish fillet served with tamarind chutney and mint jus

* * *

Christmas pudding and warm vanilla sauce

Coffee, tea

Mince pie

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OCTOBER YOUTH SAILING AT ABC



For most schools, the October holidays are one week, but once again we managed to stretch our programme over 2 weeks to cater for those whose vacation came a week later. It's a tough time for everyone in Dinghy Sailing at our club, because we have regattas and training courses every weekend, and the week before our October programme was taken up with the KGV School Challenge Week and the Chinese International School Windsurfing Course.



It's hard to believe, but this year we once again managed to break a record, with some 90 students attending over the two week period! We ran 11 courses, and cancelled only one two-day course due to the approach of Typhoon Megi. Two-third of those on our courses were non-members, One-third club members, and 58% were attending our thriving Optimist Junior Sailing Programme. Thanks to the 14 Instructors and Assistant Instructors; special thanks to Marine Staff Chow Luen Fuk who has been on duty at Middle Island during most of the programme, and also Harry, "Mr Middle Island", who has been in the bar during most of the programme and kept everyone well supplied with food and drinks!

Our next youth programme, Christmas and New Year courses, starts on Saturday 18 December and is outlined elsewhere in this magazine and on our website.

24-HOUR CHARITY DINGHY RACE 2010

Photos by Barry Hill



The eighth annual Hebe Haven 24-hour charity dinghy race (now called an Aquathon) took place over the weekend of the 9th and 10th of October. The weather was quite a bit cooler than previous years but the wind was much steadier and a record number of laps were achieved this year. We kept waiting for the wind to die down, remembering previous occasions when one lap of the course took an hour, but in fact the wind picked up in the early hours of the morning and really everyone had a good sail. There were a few patches of drizzle, and the midnight to 2 a.m. shift was not much fun, but otherwise the weather was pretty good.

As always we had a great turnout of ABC members which is very gratifying, and once again they raised over \$30,000 in sponsorship money for the four charities (Children's Cancer Foundation, Enlighten for Epilepsy, the Sunnyside Club and the Intellectually Disabled Education and Advocacy League). Our thanks to all the sponsors for their generosity.

Thanks also go to the Club for sponsoring the entrance fees for the teams and providing Corsair for the teams to rest and relax in over the weekend. Wallem Group kindly arranged for team shirts, and wow, were they bright! I was particularly pleased with the glow-in-the-dark shirts as it meant the team members were easy to spot in the busy "24-hour village" which had sprung up on the Hebe Haven hard standing. Why is it they always disappear from the pontoon just as they are supposed to be there for the next shift? Luckily, Fuk Chai was there for almost every shift change to help get the sailors in and out of the boats and give them a good push off the pontoon. While he wasn't doing that, he was keeping Corsair clean and tidy – no easy matter with 16 young sailors and 14 not-so-young sailors and all their stuff. Thanks, Ah Fuk!

The standard Laser and Feva teams did extraordinarily well, and we received many compliments on how far our junior sailors have progressed in the eight years that this



event has been taking part. This year they were both in second place in their class, and the Laser team was eighth overall (out of 44 boats) and the Feva team was twelfth overall. What a fantastic result as they were up against some extremely stiff competition. The Laser 2000 team lagged behind sadly for the whole race mostly due to a bent spreader on the mast which radically altered the shape of the sail on the port tack, thus rendering the boat extremely slow. However, they gamely carried on and managed to work their way up the rankings from 38th to 32nd overall, which was a credible result given the handicap, but disappointing all the same after all the effort that the team put into it.

Kevin Lewis was there too, spinning discs, or whatever DJ's do, and being MC for the event. He kept everyone going until late in the evening and then helped wake us all up in the morning with his music and commentary. There were lots of other things going on – a drumming workshop, a TREATs “circus”, a kung fu performance and bagpipes. As well as the 24-hour dinghy race, there was also a raft race and, for the first time, ABC fielded a team of eight juniors who paddled furiously to win the first heat, but were pushed out of the running in the final. It was a heroic effort and looked a lot of fun!

Once again, it was an exhausting weekend but very rewarding and I hope the teams enjoyed it as much as I did! Everyone entered into the spirit of the weekend and joined in with enthusiasm, even at four o'clock in the morning!

Photos by Barry Hill

The results were:

Standard Laser:

- 1st: Hebe Dragons with 99 laps (average lap time 00:14:37)
- 2nd: ABC Caymans with 95 laps (average lap time 00:15:10) (8th overall)

Fevas:

- 1st: RHKYC Sharks with 89 laps (average lap time 00:16:17)
- 2nd: ABC Alligators with 83 laps (average lap time 00:17:28) (12th overall)
- 3rd: Island School A with 82 laps (average lap time 00:17:35)

Laser 2000:

- 1st: RHKYC Sharks with 92 laps (average lap time 00:15:40)
- 2nd: Shack Attack with 92 laps (average lap time 00:15:44)
- 3rd: HKFSD with 86 laps (average lap time 00:16:50)
- 6th: ABC Crocs with 70 laps (average lap time 00:18:51) (32nd overall)

And the sailors taking part (in alphabetical order) were:

Yann d'Argenlieu, J G Brasier, Diana and Patrick Bruce, Gregg Daffner, Geoff Dixon, Deepak Honowar, Derek Hung, Kyle, Matthew and Nicky Johnson, Callum and Win Kaaka, Phoebe Lam, Katriana Milne, Anna, Dave, Edward and Kevin Rees, Peter Simpson, Ashley Tang, Brandon Tang, Michael and Natalie Tsui, Charlie and Tristan Stewart, Shaun Whitmarsh, Sam Winter, and Jane and Matthew Wright.

Well done all of you!

Diana Bruce

THE BDO HOBIE ASIAN CLASSIC 2010



Joel Mejarito and Rommel Chanez



Rory Godman and Nathan Bradley



Kit Tong and Tong Shing



TC, Fung and Joseph Shieh



Steve Wallace and Jade Wong

Aberdeen Boat Club once again supported the BDO Hobie Asian Classic organised by the Hong Kong Hobie Club, with the committee boat "Invicta" and a support boat. ABC's Kevin Lewis acted as Safety Officer and the Club's Rory Godman and Nathan Bradley showed their depth of skill finishing 4th Hobie 16, top Hong Kong boat in the class, and 7th overall in the event. BDO was again the principal sponsor of the two day event.

35 cats entered, mostly Hobie 16's, but with six Hobie Tigers and one Nacra 500. The event is also proving popular internationally, with sailors from Australia, Thailand, Philippines, Indonesia, Fiji and Japan all coming to town. Hobie dealer Tong Shing (Bluefin Seaports) did a great job providing so many top-notch charter boats for our overseas competitors.

Weather conditions on the first day were near perfect with sunshine and a good 15 knots of NE monsoon blowing all day. Race Officer Jerry Rollin set the course just SW of Castle Rock, giving the sailors a challenge in choosing the favourable course as wind and tide both played a part. Jerry kept the boats out for five back-to-back races, a long but successful start to the regatta. The second day was even

tougher, with 25 knots and big waves to contend with. Although Jerry managed to get the first race away, it was soon evident that the conditions were too tough as five or more boats were capsized at any one time. This stretched the support boats and Jerry wisely chose to abandon the race and send the boats into Tai Tam bay. Although the water was calmer, the three allotted races were held in tricky, shifty and gusty conditions which saw places changing frequently.

Thailand's legendary Hobie sailor Damronsak Vongtim with his brother Kitsada as crew, on a Hobie 16, sailed well all weekend and took first place overall. Second, sailing a Tiger, was HK's Mike Scantlebury and crew David Harris, up from the Philippines, and in third place was Teo Wee Chin and Justin Wong (H16) from Singapore. Full results on www.hobie.com.hk

Words: Mike Scantlebury Photos: Kevin Lewis



**HOBIE ASIAN CLASSIC 2010
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DINGHY SAILING COURSES AND REGATTAS

November 21: Zoke RHKYC Around The Island Race

Hong Kong's highest-profile race takes place this month, and we remind cruiser sailors and dinghy sailors to support this great event. A limited number of Laser 2000s are available – contact Kevin Lewis to reserve your boat. Entry deadline is 15th November.

November 27 & 28: HK Laser Class Championships

The ABC Dinghy Team will enter this event, but we encourage all our sailors to sail in one of Hong Kong's most competitive regattas. Apply to Angela at SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com to reserve your boat

December 4 & 5: ABC South Side Regatta

Our premier dinghy regatta returns again this year, and we are aiming for over 100 entries. The NOR and Entry Form is now available on the ABC website – don't miss the best dinghy event of the year!

December 11 & 12: HK Optimist National Championships



Expect over 60 Optimists competing off Middle Island and support the ABC Optimist Squad who will be representing our club. Check www.hkoda.org for more details.

December 19 & 27 Adult Laser 2000 Course

Our two-day Laser 2000 courses are a key part of our Adult Sail Training Programme. Ideal for those needing a refresher, and also specifically for sailors who have just completed a Beginners Sailing Course, these courses revise basic sailing techniques, safety and the use of the third downwind Gennaker sail. Apply soon to reserve your space!

Supervised Sailing

Our newly launched Supervised sailing initiative continues, with sessions for younger Optimist Sailors after school on Mondays and Saturday mornings, and activities for adults on Tuesday mornings and Saturday afternoons. More details and full schedule on our club website. Sessions cost between \$240 and \$375 and are open to non-members as well as members.

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the Hong Kong Optimist
National Championships

Notice of Race and Entry Forms
Available from www.abclubhk.com

For Enquiries Contact:
SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com

Entry Deadline: 29 November

This is a Ranking Regatta for Hong Kong Optimist Sailors
這次活動是香港Optimist風帆選手的排名比賽



ABC CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR YOUTH SAILING PROGRAMME

Sat 18 Dec 2010 – Sun 2 Jan 2011



The Christmas and New Year school holiday can be one of the best times to sail; normally we can expect great conditions with good wind, making this time of year ideal for our more advanced courses. Naturally, it's cooler and we remind students and parents of the need to wear appropriate warm clothes. However, we often have lovely sunny weather, so December sailing can be very rewarding! Our High Performance and Level 4 Courses are also presently only offered once a year – so don't miss the opportunity!

Date & Time	Course	Age	Details	Cost	
				(member)	(Non-member)
Sat 18 Dec AM	Optimist Supervised Practice	7 - 14	Part of our on-going Supervised Practice sessions. Students must hold Optimist Stage 3.	240	320
Sat 18 Dec PM	Youth & Adult Supervised Practice	12 - Adult	Part of our on-going Supervised Practice sessions. Students must hold HKSF Level 2 or equivalent	280	375
Sun 19 – Thur 23 Dec AM	Optimist Sea Lion Stage 1	7 – 12	Entry level fun sailing for our youngest sailors!	800	1,064
Sun 19 – Thur 23 Dec PM	Optimist Sea Lion Stage 2	7 – 12	For those who have passed Optimist stage 1	800	1,064
Sun 19 – Thur 23 Dec	Beginners HKSF Lev 1 & 2	12 – 18	Basic entry level sailing for teenagers	2,400	3,200
Sun 19 – Tue 21 Dec	RS Feva Introduction Course	12 - 18	Hold HKSF level 2 plus some additional sailing experience	1,440	1,920
Sun 19 – Thur 23 Dec	Improver HKSF Level 3	12 – 18	Applicants need to have passed HKSF Level 2 and have a season of sailing practice since.	2,400	3,200
Sun 26 – Thur 30 Dec AM	Optimist Sea Lion Stage 1	7 – 12	Entry level fun sailing for our youngest sailors!	800	1,064
Sun 26 – Thur 30 Dec PM	Optimist Sea Lion Stage 3	7 – 14	For those who have passed optimist stage 1 and 2	800	1,064
Sun 26 – Thur 30 Dec PM	Optimist Racing Course & Optimist Team Training	7 – 14	For children already racing Optimists or those who wish to start racing. Students must hold Optimist stage 3 certificate.	800	1,064
Sun 26 – Wed 29 Dec	ABC Introduction to High Performance Sailing	13 – 18	A 4 day “mini” course to introduce Spinnakers & trapeze based High Performance sailing. Ideal choice for students to gain experience if not yet ready or qualified to attend the complete HKSF Level 4 Course	1,920	2,560
Sun 26 – Mon 27 Dec	RS Feva Gennaker Intro Course	12 - 18	Students must hold an RS Feva Introduction Certificate	960	1,280
Sun 26 – Thur 30 Dec	High Performance Advanced Skills HKSF Level 4	13 – 18	5 day Advanced skills course including spinnaker, trapeze, boat handling, anchoring, introduction to navigation and meteorology. (Applicants need to hold Improvers HKSF Lev 3 and have one season of extensive sailing since)	2,400	3,200
Sun 2 Jan	1 Day Topper / Pico / RS Feva Supervised Practice	12 - 18	Ideal next step after a Beginners Level 2 course or just to get extra practice and improve skills.	480	640
Sun 2, Sat 8, Sun 9 Jan	ABC Assistant Instructor Course	14 -adult	Applicants need to hold HKSF Level 3 and have significant dinghy sailing experience in a variety of dinghies.	1,440	1,920

Further details and application forms for all courses are available at the ABC Main Clubhouse reception and on the ABC website, www.abclubhk.com. For more information, contact Angela Ho at SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com

KGV "CHALLENGE WEEK 2010"



Students from KGV School had their annual "Challenge Week" from 11th – 15th October '10. With various trips heading off all over the world, a group of 29 students from year 10 to 12 decided to sign up for the ABC Sailing course. This was an intensive, 5 day sailing course at Middle Island. Other than a day sailing whilst at Primary School, all of the students had absolutely no sailing experience. By the first afternoon everyone had learnt how to rig a dinghy and were on the water learning how to tack. By the end of the week they could all sail a Topper and Pico with some progressing onto the Feva's. They could gybe, rescue a person from the water and come alongside another boat.

The week culminated in a race on the Friday afternoon around a triangular course. The windy conditions made it very exciting with a few boats capsizing, but this just added to the enjoyment. All who took part managed to pass either the level 1 or level 2 HKSF course. The weather was perfect all week, the setting was ideal and the food was fantastic. Everyone from KGV had an amazing time and was so glad they had signed up for this particular activity. A big THANK YOU goes out to all of the ABC staff for making it so enjoyable. We will definitely be back!

Chris Wightman



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HOME WINE DELIVERY

November 2010

Wine	Bottle \$	Quantity	Amount
Champagne Gosset Brut Excellence NV - Champagne - France Intense, elegant and warm, first and foremost a vehicle for mellow, potent yet very fresh floral notes, such as honeysuckle, wisteria, white jasmine and vine blossom, rapidly giving way to mature, fruity aromas, from delicately perfumed melt-in-the-mouth garden pears to the sweet, more identifiable perfumes of exotic fruits, such as pineapple, guava and mango. 90 points - Robert Parker	\$ 320		
Les Allees De Cantemerle 2005 - Haut-Medoc - France The wine's deep, dark color immediately shows hints of spices and blackcurrant aromas. On the palate the attack is both ample and firm: very ripe tannins immediately cover the mouth, and pure, clean fruit aromas. 2005 vintage, the finest that Bordeaux has seen in very long time. 89 points - Wine Spectator	\$ 210		
Domaine Fournier Pouilly Fume 2005 - Loire - France Smells of peppermint, grapefruit, passion fruit, and honeydew melon. In the mouth, the passion fruit and a mint and grass meld dominate a bit disappointingly, but the finish-while rather austere - is long on salt, chalk, citrus zest, and pungent herbs. 87 points - Robert Parker	\$ 210		
Freixenet Elyssia Pinot Noir NV - Spain A lively mid sized mousse, persistent, and forming a full crown. This is a cava full of intensely ripe summer red fruit aromas - summer raspberries, red currants and cherries. The palate is equally fruity, ripe, attractive and appealing, with a beautifully balanced acidity, and a long attractive refreshing aftertaste. Best Cava in the World 2010 - The Royal Spanish Academy of Gastronomy	\$ 158		
D'Arenberg Love Grass Shiraz 2008 - McLaren Vale - Australia The nose is wonderfully complex and inviting with a mixture of spice, pepper, cedar, floral blossoms and a touch of capsicum tied together by a subtle roasted coffee bean aroma. The palate is equally complex and focused, opening with red fruits, licorice and violets and building layer on layer to cracked pepper and nuances of dark chocolate and spice. There is great length with fine powdery fruit tannins and a lingering cinnamon character.	\$ 125		
Babich East Coast Pinot Noir 2008 - Marlborough - New Zealand The bouquet is lifted with the aroma of strawberries and raspberries mingled with spice. The supple palate is of medium weight and has a sweet red fruited entry with spice showing its hand again. Earthy notes add a touch of complexity to the mid palate and fine coating tannins dust the finish.	\$ 118		
Thelema Mountain Red 2007 - South Africa Ripe red fruit with a spicy and complex character. Drinking very well at the moment, but will develop well over the next few years.	\$ 110		
Clairault Semillon Sauvignon Blanc 2009 - Margaret River, Australia Pale straw in color with light green hues. The aroma has a wonderfully subtle fruit complexity with an ever evolving array of tropical fruit flavors being released on tasting. Pineapple, melon, blood orange, strawberry, pawpaw and quince. The palate is dry with good length and a well balanced acidity. A very clean finish with nice fruit. 93 point - James Halliday	\$ 128		
Elderton E-Series Shiraz Cabernet 2008 - Barossa Valley - Australia Lovely, ripe fruit showing cherries, chocolate and great all round fruit. It has great control on acidity, and the oak is well handled and in the background.	\$ 98		

*Minimum order 12 bottles. Mixed case available

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