



2012/12 – 2013/01
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HORIZONS

THE MAGAZINE OF THE ABERDEEN BOAT CLUB

Waglan 2012-2013 Races: First Reports In

HKODA Championships:

ABC Optimist Sailors Face Down the Wind

J/80 Championships:

The Joys of Autumn Sailing

Fine Dining and Entertaining at the ABC



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HORIZONS ISSUE 2012/12 – 2013/01

In this double issue, we take a look at the fine dining and entertaining options at the ABC and talk to the multitalented service team at the Four Peaks Restaurant.

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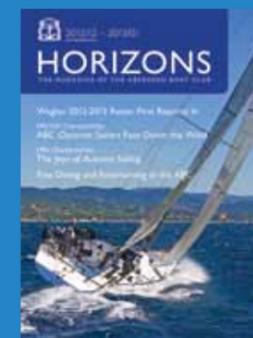
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Horizons welcomes ABC member contributions of articles and photos.
Please contact the editor at ann.white@ppp.com.hk



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Commodore's Letter

I trust that all members are enjoying excellent boating and sailing at this cooler time of the year as we approach the festive season.

ABC's Southside Regatta, scheduled for the 1st and 2nd of December, is about to happen as you read this. Again we are expecting an entry of some 60 to 80 or more dinghies. The Hong Kong 29er Association Nationals will be run as part of this regatta, which will revel in the better winds which we enjoy in December.

Boats and runners are in training already for the 2013 Four Peaks Race to be held in late January. A few changes to the instructions, posted on the website, should get boats through Ma On Shan and away from Port Shelter earlier, before the local breezes die in late afternoon, and also should increase attractiveness to the Division B fleet.

ABC has reciprocal arrangements with clubs in many countries. Active members can arrange introductions to reciprocal clubs and vice versa. Please contact our Membership Services Manager Cobo

Liu if you would like an introduction. In November, General Committee member Chris Pooley and I took advantage of this to visit the Puerto Galera Yacht Club, Oriental Mindoro, Philippines, to join the three-day All Souls Regatta. We can report a very friendly reception plus well-run racing in the Verde Island Passage between Mindoro and Luzon.

27 November: AGM and Town Hall

We will hold our third Town Hall Meeting on the night of the Annual General Meeting on 27th November. Following our discussions with the Government, we will be able to report on progress at Middle Island and the imminent engagement of consultants to plan the works and proceed with submissions.

Following our AGM, we will have a new General Committee that includes a few new faces, and new committees. Updates will be published on the Club notice board and on the website. I am sure that you will join me in thanking all flag officers and members of GenCom and



other committees for their commitment and hard work over the last year, and will give full support for the new officers and committee in the year 2012-13.

Wishing all members and staff happy family gatherings and celebrations at the Winter Solstice and Christmas.

Fair sailing.

John Berry
Commodore

General Manager's Letter

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of the staff of the Aberdeen Boat Club.

The ABC Christmas program

I hope you have all received your yearly booklet highlighting all the activities and festivities and food and wine options and order forms from the Club over Christmas. As this is a very busy period, I recommend that you place your food and wine and tree orders long in advance to help planning and reduce any mistakes. The full array of the ABC's Christmas parties and special meals are all detailed in the booklet and the website, but here are some highlights:

As with every year, the Club will run various charitable actions for the less fortunate. Between 1 and 21 December, our Christmas gift collection will take place at Reception for the Children of Po Leung Kok orphanage. On 8 and 9 December,

the ABC will collect food for "Feeding Hong Kong," a charity that delivers grocery packages to households in Hong Kong who cannot afford daily meals. Please share your own good fortune.

On 24 December, the ABC will donate a Christmas lunch to each elderly person living at the Little Sisters of the Poor Retirement Home just 'round the corner.

For us here at the ABC, Santa is coming to town on 8 December. On 12 December, the Kennedy School Senior Choir will bring the anti-Scrooge spirit with their enchanting carolling. For a more intimate and sing-along evening, the Hong Kong Welsh Male Voice Choir will be with us again on 15 December.

On 16 December, after the December "round the cans" race, meet our Commodores and the committee on Middle Island for the yearly Commodore's Christmas Cocktails party on Middle Island.



Carpark repair

We were supposed to start the extensive carpark repair in November but the prospect of being short of parking spaces over Christmas if our contractor could not meet its schedule forced us to postpone the start of work to after January 3rd.

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As noted earlier, the work's first phase will concentrate on the upper parking and crane area, and will preclude parking over much of that area for some 10 - 15 days. To update members on the work and its progress, special arrangements will be posted on the website and leaflets will be distributed to members at the driveway entrance. Trust that we will do our best to limit the disruption but we must face the situation and finish this extensive structural repair started many years ago.

Phase two of the carpark repair, likely to start in mid-February, will see the temporary removal of the playground with major works taking place in the lower parking area. Again, special arrangements will be made during that time, one being the relocation of the playground to the squash courts for three weeks.

ABC Helps Support Police World Championships

Between 21 October and 27 October, the Hong Kong Police Sailing Club hosted the 12th Police World Sailing Championship on J/80s. This 2012 championship saw entry of 13 teams from Switzerland, the Netherlands, Germany, England, Australia and Austria, along with four teams from Hong Kong.

The championships, held every two years at a different venue around the world, are organised by the International Police Association. Governing rules state that all active participants should be serving their country's police or law enforcement agency or they should be honourably retired members.

All three major sailing clubs in Hong Kong participated in this great event by providing boats, race

management and venues. ABC had both of its J/80s involved, with "Jailbreaker" sailed by the second Swiss team finishing in second place overall after 11 races over the span of one week.

The championship week consisted of a practice race on the first day on south Lamma, windward-leeward on the second day with ABC support and a prize-giving in the evening on Middle Island. The rest of the week support of the championships was shared between HHYC and RHKYC.

The setting of the 2012 championships in Hong Kong provided a great opportunity for the three clubs to work together, and to support the Hong Kong government's sports development policy.

Philippe de Manny
General Manager



Flag Officer's Report

Merry Christmas and all the best for 2013!

2012 is drawing to a close. As it does, I hope that you are able to take part in many of the great Christmas and New Year festivities at the Club that are extensively advertised in this month's *Horizons*.

At House and Building Committee (HseCom) we seek to continually make improvements to facilities at the Club. The biggest change in the last year has been the renovation to the coffee shop (the Galley). Philippe and his staff have worked hard dealing with the bureaucracy of the Hong Kong Government and the uncertain world of Hong Kong contractors to bring a long overdue facelift to what is our main food and beverage outlet. The new look is much fresher and caters better to members' needs—though some fine-tuning is going on!

At HseCom we also seek to respond to members' concerns. During the year, and in response to members, we reviewed parking regulations to introduce ensure more transparent and equitable use of the

carpark. We hope you feel that these regulations serve you better.

Talking of the carpark, during the last year we have been planning some essential repairs. These will be implemented over the coming months and will unfortunately result in much disruption — so please keep an eye out for the signs posted around the Club that will alert you to just when the car park is going to be closed.

Much of the Committee's work is 'rear house,' so to speak. One area that has taken much of the Committee's time and effort over the last 12 months has been the Club's IT systems. In my first column as HseCom Chair in June 2011, I suggested that we should have electronic billing. This should become a reality in 2013 when a new IT system is installed — yes, we needed a major overhaul of our systems to enter the 21st century! The new system should improve our interface in a number of ways, including allowing you to examine your account online.

Given that the year is ending, I would like to extend thanks to all the



ABC's staff for their hard work and dedication to the Club. I would also like to thank the members of the House and Building Committee for their ideas, time and contributions over the last year. Both the staff and committee members play an important role in ensuring that the ABC is the Club we all love. If you have ideas for improvements at the Club please get in touch with Philippe or myself.

Richard M. Walker
Rear Commodore
Chair, House and Building Committee



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Elektra slicing the sea in Waglan 1

Reports for Waglan races

Words by Elaine Morgan, photos by Philippe de Manny and Wayne Robinson

Waglan 1 on 21 October was the perfect yacht race. Blue skies, 12-15 knot winds, slight to moderate seas and a course long enough to keep the big, fast boats happy while keeping the average among us not too far behind. Fourteen boats turned out and all finished, with *Elektra* the first boat across the line.

As with the second day of the 2012 Opening Regatta in September, this first in the Waglan series of 10 winter season races – all sponsored by Jebsen Marine

– had something for everyone. A nice, tight start on course 12, with *FG3* highest to windward for rounding the committee boat, then off to the windward mark and on through the gap between Chung Hom Kok and Round Island.

East of Bluff Head, a flood tide meant that staying out of the middle of the D'Aguiar channel was an advantage, and the beat up to the north end of Waglan Island split the fleet. By the time *Thea*, *The Farr Side* and *FG3* got that far north and hoisted kites, the bigger boats were

disappearing round the south end of Po Toi, not stopping for lunch this time.

Meanwhile there was some spectator sport among the back half of the fleet. In the swell from the open sea, *Red Kite's* white spinnaker took charge and *The Farr Side* struggled with a wrap in its iconic blue and red kite while *FG3* slipped by with a brand-new asymmetrical in the classic fiddler's green colours. Otherwise there was little drama, and a grand run turned into a broad reach from the southeast point

Blackjack, HKPN 3rd winner, Waglan 1



of Po Toi across to Chesterman and the standard finish line.

Race Officer Philippe de Manny did the usual sterling job on provisional results (shown in full below with Waglan 2), and had them already in hand by the time all the "yotties" had gathered in the bar at Middle Island. *Thea* had a convincing win on corrected time in HKPN, followed by *Red Kite* and *Blackjack*. In IRC the top three places went to *Elektra*, *Intrigue* and *Blackjack*. We welcomed *Lazy Bones* (formerly *Jalicia*), and *Zephyr* to their first Waglan race and hope they will come out regularly now they have their official HKPN handicaps, along with all our other regulars, *Red Eye*, *Kei Lun*, *Yacht O*, *Nervous Breakdown* and *HanaFe*.

Waglan 2

Waglan 2 on 4 November was a different kettle of fish. Though winds and temperatures felt more like late summer than early November, frustrating though it proved for some, it was a beautiful day. Again there were 14 starters but for a while we thought there would be a lot fewer finishers.

After fresh winds on the Saturday, the Sunday forecast looked iffy. It was a day that rewarded the bigger, faster boats and left the smaller, slower ones hunting for wind. There was less and less of it as time went by. The forecast had told us so, and the forecast was right.

With a number of other fleets racing south of the island the committee

decided on a course that took us down to Castle Rock then up the d'Aguiar Channel and over to Shek O Rock instead of Waglan this time. The RO wisely decided to delay the start by half an hour and move the line out to the steadier winds beyond Round Island. With the fleet reassembled, the red and white postponement flag went down at 1125. With five minutes to go before the start, a few of the most eager took it for the signal to start, and said boats found themselves on course side at the gun with a detour back to restart after the X flag went up to tell them so.

Meantime the rest of the fleet were making their way across Stanley Bay, bit by bit. More wind once 'round Bluff Head, and through a couple of holes off

Thea, HKPN 1 winner, Waglan 1



The start of Waglan 1 race





Yacht O, helmed by Olivier Decamps of sponsor Jepsen Marine

Castle Rock we then beat up to Cape d'Aguilar over to Shek O Rock and were on the way home. But by then the dying breeze was truly serious about fading for the day.

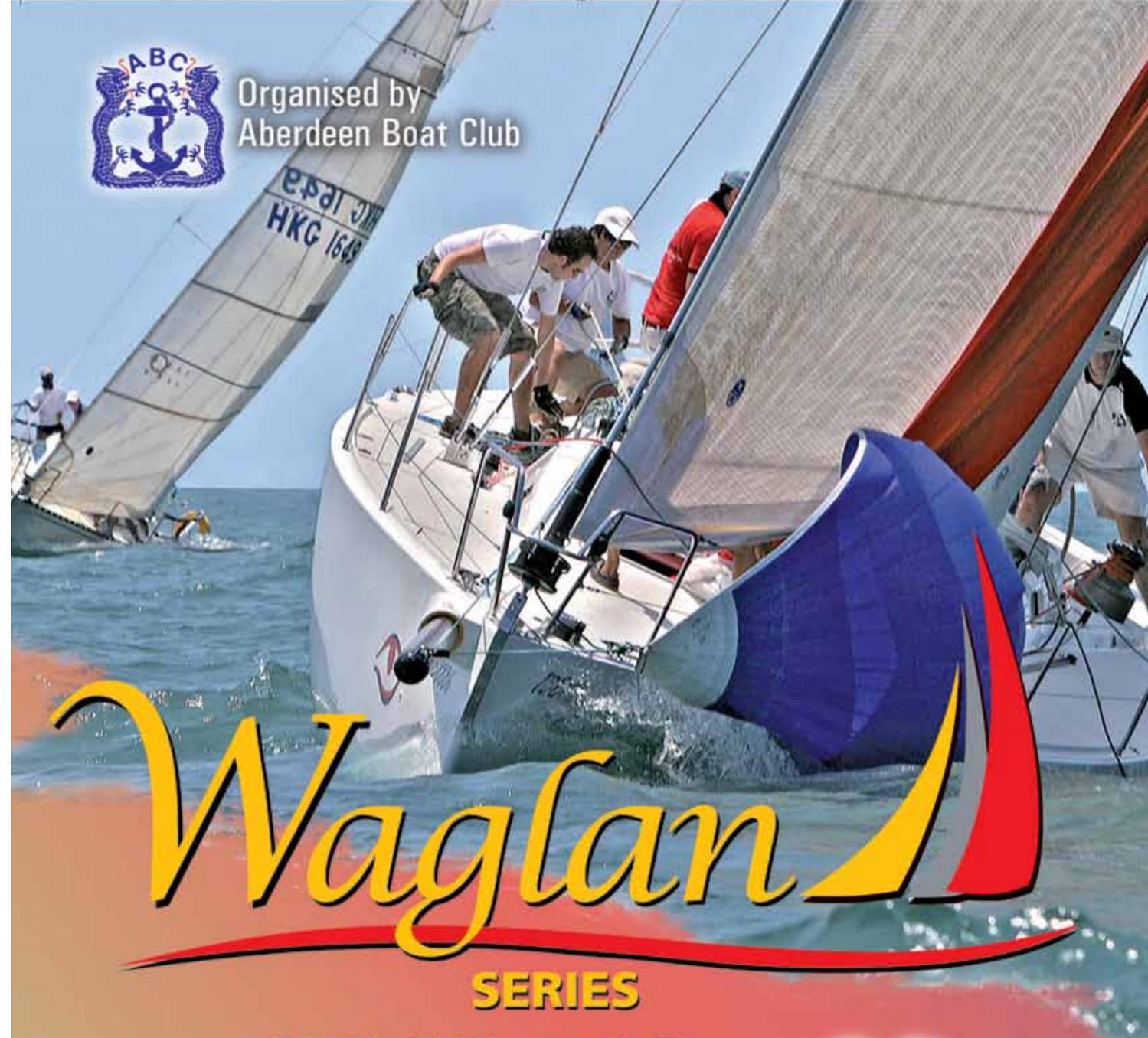
Elektra was already approaching the finish when boats in the second half of the fleet began to struggle. *Zephyr* had already called it a day. Nonetheless, spinnakers kept flying and there was some sparring for positions as lighter boats overtook the heavier. Once Chesterman Buoy hove into view, it definitely looked like a kite run all the way home, but some had to resort to smaller sails to keep moving in the slop left by power boats. At last a few other zephyrs, plus the flood tide, came to the rescue, though *HanaFe*, only two-up and having gamely caught up with the back markers, decided it was time to call it a day. Perseverance had its rewards for *White Crane*, a new boat we welcome to the Waglan fleet. With *Thea* and *Nervous Breakdown*, she kept going despite the odds to cross the finish line not long before 5 pm.

Well done to the beautiful *Elektra* for taking line honours and first place on IRC, and to *Blackjack* for glory on HKPN, to *Intrigue* for closing the gap between her usual relative positions in IRC and HKPN, and to *Red Kite* for 2nd on IRC and 4th on HKPN. Nice also to see *Wicked*, back from Hainan and looking a mite battle-worn, out with the Waglan fleet albeit two-up. Hope to see all of you again, and more, for the rest of this popular island series. H

Aberdeen Boat Club Waglan Series 1			Aberdeen Boat Club Waglan Series 2		
Sponsored by: Jepsen Marine					
21-Oct-12		Course Number : 12	04-Nov-12		Course Number : 15
IRC RACE RESULTS					
Start Time :11:00:00 AM			Start Time :11:30:00 AM		
Place	Yacht	Corrected Time	Place	Yacht	Corrected Time
1	<i>Elektra</i>	2:55:28	1	<i>Elektra</i>	3:22:38
2	<i>Intrigue</i>	3:03:25	2	<i>Red Kite 2</i>	3:23:32
3	<i>Blackjack</i>	3:04:47	3	<i>Intrigue</i>	3:31:39
4	<i>Kei Lun</i>	3:05:19	4	<i>Blackjack</i>	3:34:00
5	<i>Redeye</i>	3:06:36	5	<i>Redeye</i>	3:42:19
6	<i>FG 3</i>	3:08:25	6	<i>Wicked</i>	3:44:18
7	<i>Yacht O</i>	3:09:26	7	<i>FG3</i>	4:29:06
8	<i>The Farr Side</i>	3:17:21	8	<i>Kei Lun</i>	4:35:38
9	<i>Red Kite</i>	3:21:07	9	<i>The Farr side</i>	4:59:41
HKPN RACE RESULTS					
Start Time :11:30:00 AM			Start Time :11:30:00 AM		
1	<i>Thea</i>	3:09:36	1	<i>Blackjack</i>	3:50:41
2	<i>Red Kite</i>	3:18:01	2	<i>Intrigue</i>	3:56:45
3	<i>Blackjack</i>	3:19:54	3	<i>Elektra</i>	4:04:21
4	<i>Kei Lun</i>	3:23:44	4	<i>Red Kite 2</i>	4:06:46
5	<i>Redeye</i>	3:25:37	5	<i>Redeye</i>	4:06:52
6	<i>FG 3</i>	3:26:10	6	<i>Wicked</i>	4:23:35
7	<i>HanaFe</i>	3:27:39	7	<i>FG3</i>	4:52:18
8	<i>Intrigue</i>	3:29:19	8	<i>Nervous Breakdown</i>	5:01:12
9	<i>The Farr Side</i>	3:29:43	9	<i>Kei Lun</i>	5:03:02
10	<i>Elektra</i>	3:35:52	10	<i>The Farr Side</i>	5:12:49
11	<i>Yacht O</i>	3:41:33	11	<i>Thea</i>	5:17:13
12	<i>Zephyr</i>	3:48:49	12	<i>White Crane</i>	5:29:20
13	<i>Nervous Breakdown</i>	3:50:23	13	<i>HanaFe</i>	RTD
14	<i>Lazy Bones</i>	4:42:10	14	<i>Zephyr</i>	RTD
J/80 RESULTS					
Place	Yacht	Elapsed Time			
1	<i>FG3</i>	4:40:54			



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- 13 January 2013
- 4 November 2012
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- 24 February 2013
- 16 December 2012
- 10 March 2013

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www.abclubhk.com



ABC's Stephen Hilton and crew Blair Parker, Jim Veneau and Paul Nicklen on Javelin

Fine – and – Frustrating Fall Racing

RHKYC Hosts Tommy Bahama Around the Island Race 2012

Words by Stephen Hilton, photos by Kevin Lewis

As some 170 yachts and dinghies of varying sizes made their way to the two starting boxes off the RHKYC at Kellett Island, there was no sign of the promised F4/5 northerly wind that would have been perfect for the Around the Island Race. *Javelin*, having been delivered first in time the day before, was moored furthest out, so led a fleet of 13 J/80s out to the inner start line.

The first classes started at 8:30 am and made slow progress down the harbour in very light winds. But shortly after our start, the wind filled in to a decent breeze that allowed spinnakers to be hoisted as the fleet gybed its way down the eastern fairway. Having passed Shek O, the fleet went into the Beaufort hole and became becalmed, causing all but the quickest boats to bunch up together. Lot of boats in not a lot of space.

After a frustrating wait, the wind once again filled but from a new direction, allowing everyone to raise spinnakers again and gybe their way down past Stanley. There the wind died, replaced by a strong breeze from a westerly direction, which allowed for an exciting beat all the way down the south of the island. Then as the slower boats made their way down Victoria Harbour, the breeze worryingly started to drop again. Finally, seven hours after starting, we finally crossed the line and, unlike the RHKYC boats that headed for their berths and a celebratory drink, we, like the other ABC boats, tacked around and headed back to the ABC, finally docking as the light faded.

So a long day was mixed with both good sailing and frustration but time on the water is always enjoyable. *Jailbreaker* finally finished 6/13 and *Javelin* 7/13 whilst *FG3*'s time was adjusted to 10/13. Sailing in a 29er, the ABC's Nagisa and Akira Sakai had a great race and achieved ninth overall, first on elapsed time and as second dinghy on handicap, quite an impressive result in a fleet of over 200. Provisional results for the 2012 Around the Island race are at:

<http://www.rhkyc.org.hk/ATIR2012ProvisionalResults.aspx>

From Stephen Davies:

The ATIR was the usual mix of great sailing and teeth-itching frustration – especially when like *FG3* you're the first J/80 on the water to get past the Star Ferry on the way home and park up with a bunch of other front-runners in a hole, only to see three boats scoot past on an incoming wind from astern ... and then get pipped at the finish by a fourth boat rushing in slacker water down at the Clubhouse end.

FG3's skipper thought *FG3* was slicker and quicker than Gaston Chan in an *Impala* and was wrong by about 50cm. The 50cm underestimate included *FG3*'s pushpit on the port side, now a curious and interesting shape to be entered in the next Biennale. The pushpit will be replaced, although the last ABC skipper to ask local stainless steel fabricators to make another bent pushpit 'just like this' got exactly that, Biennale shape and all. It would be easier but more expensive to buy a pushpit off the shelf.



ABC sailors Gigi and Akira Sakai, the fastest dinghy sailors around the island and 9th overall.



ABC's Stephen Davies and crew Elaine Morgan, Sytske Kimman, and Frédéric Thierry d'Argenlieu

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INCORPORATING THE 2012 HONG KONG
29er NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
 結合2012香港29er全國錦標賽

1 AND 2
DECEMBER
2012

VENUE :
MIDDLE ISLAND

Notice of Race and Entry Forms
 Available from www.abclubhk.com
 For Enquiries Contact:
SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com

Entry Deadline: 23 November 2012

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

**This is a qualifying event for
 Hong Kong 29er Sailors**
 此項活動是香港29er的選拔賽

SLAM Official clothing supplier & co-sponsor

Hong Kong
29er
 Class Association



Sailing Diary

The weather now may be cooler, but we can predict that the next two months will provide some of the best sailing weather of the year. We hope for blue skies and good winds!

J/80 Sailing

Competent Crew Course **8, 9, 15 December**
 One day J/80 Gennaker Course **23 December**
 Day Skipper Course **5, 6, 12, 20 January 2013**

Dinghy courses and activities

Adult Beginner Level 1 and 2
8, 9, 15, 16 and 22 December

Adult Improver Level 3
5, 6, 12, 13 and 19 January 2013

Dinghy Sailing Trip
16 December (adult and youths aged 14 or over)

Dinghy Sailing Trip
23 December (adult and youths aged 14 or over)

Laser 2000 Course **8, 9, and 15 December**

Dinghy races and regattas

HKSF Dinghy Trials (Sea School) **8 and 9 December**
 Autumn Dinghy Races 11 and 12 **15 December**
 Winter Dinghy Races 1 and 2 **6 January 2013**
 Winter Dinghy Races 3 and 4 **20 January 2013**
 Winter Dinghy Races 5 and 6 **27 January 2013**

Cruiser races and regattas

Waglan 4 and 5 **16 December**
 J/80 Frostbite 1 **5 January 2013**
 Waglan 6 **13 January 2013**
 J/80 Frostbite 2 **19 January 2013**
 Four Peaks Race **26 and 27 January 2013**

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Youth Sailors Face Down the Wind



ABC and RHKYC Host HKODA Optimist National Championships

Words by Mike Wright, photos by Andrew Morgan and Kevin Lewis



Matthew Wright gets a great start on day 2



ABC's George Burkett

The ABC Optimist dinghy racing team, led by Coach Rory Godman, took part in the Hong Kong Optimist Dinghy Association National Championships 2012 over two weekends in late October and early November 2012. The event, held at Middle Island, was hosted by the ABC on the first weekend and by the RHKYC on the second weekend.

The ABC entered eight sailors aged eight to 13 years old in a fleet of 48 entries. Four days of racing were planned with a target of four races each day.

The first weekend saw very windy conditions forecast and the race officer, Sofia Mascia, set a course south of Middle Island on both days. Bright sunshine lifted spirits, but increasingly gusty conditions, especially on the Sunday, really tested the young sailors. Just seconds after the start of two of the races, very strong winds blew across the course, capsizing some and bringing almost the entire fleet

to a standstill as they battled to remain in control. One gust was even recorded peaking at 37 knots; it was an inspiring sight to see many children sail on in what for many was the strongest wind they had ever experienced.

In the end, three races were completed on both days, with even the top sailors finishing the day completely exhausted! At the end of the first six races, the ABC's most-experienced sailors – Yann D'Argenlieu, Matthew Wright and Russell Aylsworth – were lying 4th, 6th and 15th respectively.

On the second weekend of racing, weather conditions were more moderate for the racing in Stanley Bay on both days. Saturday had near-perfect conditions with four races completed. The fleet was then divided into two fleets for racing on the last day, with the Gold fleet including the ABC's Yann, Matthew and Russell.

The final day of racing gave light and fickle conditions, and only two races were completed with over half the Gold fleet scored as DNF on the first race! At the end of four days' racing, it was Calum Gregor of RHKYC who was the convincing winner, with ABC's Yann D'Argenlieu 3rd overall, including two bullets, and Matthew Wright in 8th position overall and 1st in the 12-and-under age group. Russell Aylsworth was 16th, and carried off the Coaches Plate award, with Charlie Stewart recognized as the youngest sailor at age eight!

The HKODA would like to thank both ABC and RHKYC for their invaluable support, without which the event could not have taken place. Storm Force supplied a host of amazing Gill prizes and huge thanks go to Louise Connolly who could not have been more supportive. Watson's Water supplied their product for all competitors and California Sunshine came onboard as a cash sponsor – a big thanks to all.



The youngest competitor, 8-year old Charlie Stewart, who finished 11 out of 12 races



Matthew Wright – 1st 12-and-under sailor



Yann D'Argenlieu – 3rd overall



Russell Aylsworth – winner of the Coaches Award



Lantau Boat Club Hosts Standard Life Asian Open Regatta 2012

Standard Life
The Way Forward

Words by Felix Mak, photos by Kevin Lewis

Three years ago I joined ABC and started sailing. The Asian Open Regatta was only the second time I've sailed competitively on a catamaran – on my brand new boat as well, a high-performance Nacra F16. A catamaran is a totally different game compared to the monohull – the thrill of speed and capsizing is always on my mind, especially when I learned a few days before the regatta that the weather forecast was for winds of 15 knots. The only thing that eased my mind was that my sailing partner would be Neels

Brinks, an experienced F18 sailor.

The Lantau Boat Club regatta is Hong Kong's largest multi-hull event, with 44 entries and sailors from almost every Hong Kong club taking part along with competitors from the Netherlands, Germany and Thailand. The LBC regatta was held 3-4 November in the waters between Discovery Bay and Hong Kong island.

On the Saturday, there were five races in geometric format with conditions perfect for experienced sailors; sunshine with BF force 4 winds.

However, for those less experienced, like me, it was a tough experience! Several Hobie 16s capsized right at the start line, while a few boats from the F18 and open class even had collisions and were forced to retire early. It was tough going, and physically demanding to do so many races in one day with strong wind – I fell off the trapeze and had a few "near misses" but luckily survived the first day.

The next morning, Sunday, when reviewing day one results, we discovered that we were first in our

class! Suddenly even more pressure was on; we just needed to complete the second day's races without accidents to secure our prize. However, day two turned out to be tough in a very different way; we had to wait over 1.5 hours on the water due to lack of wind! All further geometric races were abandoned. To compensate, the fleet went straight into the long distance Island Course race – the "Fragrant Harbour Cup," starting off Peng Chau. With very light breeze, the "long distance" became a shortened course with a finish at Datum Rock. Eventually we returned to the beach safely, again a very tough day, but with exactly opposite weather conditions!

I'm pleased that my sailing partner Neels guided me to success with first place in the "open class," a great way to christen my new boat! As in previous years, the ABC supported the regatta with a committee boat and coxswain. Bo Fussing did a great job as race officer and as usual ABC's Kevin Lewis coordinated safety – especially important on the first day with so many capsize and retirements. Photos of the race can be found on the ABC Facebook page, and full results at www.lantauboaclub.com



Hobie 16 start on Saturday 3 November



AI and Liam Doherty - winner of the Dart 18 Class



Neels Brink and the ABC's Felix Mak – winner of the Open Class



Tong Shing and Kit Tong – winner of the Hobie 16 Class

RHKYC Hosts J/80 Class Championships 3 and 4 November

Words by Bruce Perkins and Ben Bulmer, photos by Joyce Ravara



Javelin fully powered up

The fleet beat to windward



The 2012 J/80 Class championships took place over the weekend of 3 and 4 November. Hosted by the RHKYC, the racing took place in the sea area southeast of Lamma Island, a now-familiar location for the J/80 fleet. The class managed a strong entry of 16 boats, with good representation from all three clubs involved, including the Hebe Haven Yacht Club. Amongst the entries from the ABC was a newly formed youth team who, under the leadership of our race coach Rory Godman, took out one of the club J/80s with the plan to replicate their success at dinghy level with the big boy and girl fleets of the J/80s.

Day one dawned with a promising forecast of an easterly force 4 – 5 wind and blue skies. Before the fleet could get off the docks, race officer Herman Wong hoisted the Y flag, which necessitated all crews to wear personal buoyancy aids, a sure sign of a strong wind and big sea at the race area. With this in mind, anticipation for a great day's racing began to build and a few last-minute rig checks were made in anticipation of a fresh breeze.

The first of four windward/leeward races got under way on time with a conservative start for the majority of the fleet into a slowly building breeze and seaway. Two laps were rapidly completed as the J/80s enjoyed the downhill conditions with logs readily clocking double digits.

Three more races followed in quick succession, and towards the end of

the day the breeze built to a fairly steady 20-22 kn. The day's racing had beautiful sailing conditions, some great (and some not so great) displays of judgment and crew work, and a few breakages, but by and large was an enjoyable day's competition.

Podium places at the end of day one were comprised of some of the usual protagonists. Three bullets and a third meant that Rob Tanner on *Epekwit'k* held a fairly convincing overnight lead. Andrew Moore's *Tigrina* took the last race of the day and with it second overall, whilst the third spot was filled by Lucinda and Sam's consistently fast *Mozzie*. The ABC's youth team sailing on *Javelin* just managed to miss the top three places with some very credible results, including a second place and two 4's over the first days racing.

Back at the dock, bruised bodies were relieved by a steady flow of liquid refreshments and the sharing of 'war stories'. The majority of the fleet stayed on into the evening planning tomorrow's soon-to-be forgotten strategies and ensuring the party would continue well into the night.

Patchy winds

A further four races were scheduled for Sunday. A patchy breeze out to the course area resulted in a short delay

to the day's racing, but the fleet was soon out of the blocks. The calmer conditions clearly suited some, with much improved performances from *JChi*, *Jasmine* and the ABC's *Jelignite* during the day's racing.

A dying breeze resulted in some hanging around but the predicted westerly soon returned and the course was re-set to make the most of the new breeze. Although the wind direction followed the plan, unfortunately the strength did not and the seventh race turned out to be the last and final race of the regatta. A somewhat relieved fleet greeted the decision by the race committee to head back ashore and the cracking of beer cans was actually audible across the water.

There was a short delay to the prize-giving as a protest was heard. In the end though, *Epekwit'k* were deserving winners narrowly beating a very well-sailed *Tigrina* followed by a resurgent *Mozzie*. Bar talk quickly turned to next year's J/80 World Championships to be held in Marseille in July with a forecast 150-boat entry. Could we send an ABC contingency? Something to think about perhaps...

All in all, it turned out to be another superb weekend's sailing, and our thanks go to the Hong Kong J/80 Class Association and the RHKYC for running and hosting such a great event. H

For provisional results of the J/80 Class Championships, see:
<http://www.rhkyc.org.hk/J80Results.aspx>



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FOUR PEAKS Race

To be held on
26-27 January 2013

For racing instructions and
entry form, download from
www.abclubhk.com



26 – 27 January 2013

ABC Primed to Host 29th Annual Four Peaks Race

Words by Elaine Morgan, photo by Barry Hill

Since initiating the Four Peaks Race in 1985, the Aberdeen Boat Club has organised and managed this unique, top-flight sporting event that demands tactics and endurance from mountain trail runners and sailors alike. The teams that put everything together win the trophies but all competitors earn a sense of achievement that brings them back to the Four Peaks Race again and again for both excitement and camaraderie.

The 2013 race will be held over the weekend of 26-27 January. Yachts in all divisions will start in Tai Tam Bay on the Saturday and sail around Hong Kong's islands, with sailors then paddling to shore and climbing and checking in at some of the territory's highest peaks. The finish is on Sunday, near Aberdeen, Middle Island and Round Island. Shore parties disembark and



From sea to shore with running shoes

return to boats at designated dropping zones, getting across by swimming, the boat itself or "transfer craft." Race rules state that "transfer craft" can be any tender, inflatable dinghy, kayak, canoe or other floating device, carried on board the boat whilst outside the designated dropping zones, and only to be powered by paddles, oars or sail.

Race trophies will be awarded for the first to finish in each division, first place on corrected time in each class or division and, subject to numbers, also for second and third places. Prizes also go to the runners on boats in sailing divisions for the fastest hill-running times. Runners on boats in the motoring division are not eligible for the hill-running prizes. H

Trophies and Prize Categories

International Trophy	First to finish in Division A
ABC Trophy	First to finish in Division B
Bimblegumbie Bucket*	First ABC boat to finish in Division A
Four Peaks Race Shield	First boat on IRC corrected time in Division A Class 1
The Four Peaks Race Cup	First boat on HKPN corrected time in Division A Class 1, 2 and 3
RHKYC San Fernando Trophy	First monohull on HKPN corrected time in Division A
Edwin Palfrey Trophy	First boat on HKPN corrected time in Division B
All the Way Prize	First on HKPN corrected time in Division A to continue racing and complete the full course in the event that the race is shortened.
Atalanta's Anchor Award	Boat that completes the race with the fastest female runner(s) who run the most peaks
Fiddler's Folly Flask	Last boat to finish
Fragrant Harbour Spirit of the Race Award	Best representation of the Four Peaks challenge (to be decided by Race Committee)
Geriatric Jug	First boat on HKPN corrected time in which the skipper's age and the overall average age is 45 years or more
MTL Sprightly Skipper's Salver	First boat on HKPN corrected time with each person on board having climbed at least one peak

*Note: In re the Bimblegumbie Bucket prize, an ABC boat is one owned or skippered by an ABC member and that regularly participates in the ABC Waglan Series and/or ABC Summer Series races.

Prizes to be awarded to the runners on boats in sailing divisions for the fastest hill-running times on each peak.

For more information or to volunteer please contact Cobo Liu at mbs@abclubhk.com or call 2873 2945. If you are a runner or a sailor looking for a boat, please sign up through the crew register at <http://www.abclubhk.com/registration.aspx?ActId=28>
For further information, or to register on-line, please refer to the ABC website: <http://www.abclubhk.com/article.aspx?ArticleID=77>



Home Wine Delivery December 2012

\$/Bottle Quantity Amount

White Wines		
Louis Michel Petit Chablis 2010 The wine reveals floral notes of hawthorn and grape blossom. It is particularly lively in the mouth, with sea breezes and delicious chalky finish.	\$125	
Loron - Macon Villages Blanc 2010 The wine has a gold colour revealing green tints, and develops floral and fruity aromas.	\$100	
Yalumba Y Series Pinot Grigio 2011 Straw with green highlights, it displays an appealing mix of fresh aromas including feijoa, orange blossom, nashi pear and wild honey.	\$110	
Mount Riley Sauvignon Blanc 2012 Light straw and with green hues. Complex with capsicum crushed herb, pink grapefruit and tropical fruit aromas.	\$120	
Red Wines		
Château Los Boldos - Cabernet Sauvignon Grand Reserve 2010/11 It has a deep colour with purple reflections. Very expressive nose offers an aroma of red fruits where cassis dominates. Leather notes, clove and a touch of smokiness appear. The mouth provides soft and round tannins.	\$130	
Marques de Grinon - Caliza - Syrah, Petit Verdot 2008 Dark cherry-red with touches of garnet and a high robe. Silky, meaty, tasty and dense mid-palate. Back ripe fruit and mineral flavours.	\$130	
Château Lafitte A.O.C. 2010/11 It has a deep-purple colour with ruby highlight; on the nose is a fine concentration of red fruits and morello cherries, which blend smoothly with hints of smoke.	\$155	
Mount Riley Pinot Noir 2011 Mid-red with garnet and ruby hues. Red cherry and berry fruit aromas are supported by hints of spicy and earthiness. This is an elegant wine with soft tannins, delicious bright-red fruit flavours and great length of flavours.	\$145	

Member Name: _____ Membership Number: _____

Tel (Office): _____ Tel (Home): _____

Delivery Address: _____

Delivery Date: _____ Member Signature: _____

Minimum order 12 bottles. Mixed cases available. Note 10% discount for orders of 24 or more bottles. Total amount will be charged to member's account. Orders accepted by mail, fax or in person. Contact the Food & Beverage Department at 2555 6216 or Fax: 2873 2945. Deliveries free for order of 12 or more bottles; please allow three working days for delivery. All wines are subject to availability.



ABC Christmas Youth Sailing Programme

Friday, 21 Dec 2012 – Sunday, 6 January 2013

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 is cooler and we remind students and parents of the need to wear appropriate warm clothes. However, often we have lovely sunny weather, so December sailing can be very rewarding! Our High Performance and Level 4 courses are offered once a year – now – so don't miss the opportunity!

Date	Open to ages 7 - 11	Course	Age	Details / Entry Requirements	HKS (Member)	HKS (Non-member)
Fri 21 – Sun 23 Dec		HKSF L2 Beginner Course	7 - 14	Students must have completed HKSF L1 within the last 6 months.	1,512	2,190
Sun 23 Dec		Dinghy Sailing Trip	12 - adult	HKSF L2 or equivalent experience	504	730
Wed 26 – Sun 30 Dec		Improver HKSF Lev 3	12 - 18	Applicants need to have passed HKSF Level 2 and have had a season of sailing since then.	2,520	3,650
Wed 26 – Fri 28 Dec		RS Feva Introduction Course	12 - 18	Hold HKSF level 2 plus some additional sailing experience	1,512	2,190
Sat 29 – Mon 31 Dec		Laser 1 Introduction Course	12 - adult	Applicants need to have passed HKSF Level 2 and have had some sailing experience since then.	1,512	2,190
Wed 26 – Sun 30 Dec a.m.	✓	Optimist Stage 1	7 – 12	Entry level fun sailing for our youngest sailors!	840	1,215
Wed 26 – Sun 30 Dec p.m.	✓	Optimist Stage 2	7 – 12	For those who have passed Optimist stage 1	840	1,215
Wed 26 – Sun 30 Dec p.m.	✓	Optimist Stage 3	7 – 12	For those who have passed Optimist stage 2	840	1,215
Wed 2 – Sun 6 Jan 2013		Beginners HKSF Lev 1 & 2	12 – 18	Basic entry level sailing for teenagers	2,520	3,650
Fri 4 – Sun 6 Jan		3-day Topper Pico Feva Supervised Practice	12 - 18	HKSF L2 or equivalent experience	1,512	2,190
Wed 2 – Sun 6 Jan		High Performance Advanced Skills, HKSF Level 4	13 – 18	Advanced Skills course including spinnaker, trapeze, boat handling, anchoring, introduction to navigation and meteorology. (Applicants must hold Improvers HKSF Level 3 and have had one season of sailing since then.)	2,520	3,650
Wed 2 – Sat 5 Jan		ABC Introduction to High Performance Sailing	13 – 18	A 4-day "mini" course to introduce spinnakers and 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	2,016	2,920
Wed 2 – Thurs 3 Jan		RS Feva Gennaker Intro Course	12 - 18	Students must hold an RS Feva Introduction Certificate	1,008	1,460
Wed 2 – Sun 6 Jan a.m.	✓	Optimist Stage 1	7 – 12	Entry level fun sailing for our youngest sailors!	840	1,215
Wed 2 – Sun 6 Jan a.m.	✓	Optimist Racing Course	7 – 14	For those wanting to race Optimists and possibly join the ABC Race Team. Students must hold Optimist stage 3 certificate.	840	1,215
Wed 2 – Sun 6 Jan p.m.	✓	Optimist Stage 2	7 – 12	For those who have passed Optimist stage 1	840	1,215
Wed 2 – Sun 6 Jan p.m.	✓	Optimist Stage 3	7 – 12	For those who have passed Optimist stage 2	840	1,215
Sat 12, Sun 13 & Sat 19 Jan		ABC Assistant Instructor Course	14 - adult	Applicants must hold HKSF L3 and have their application approved by the ABC Dinghy Sailing Manager	1,512	2,190

Further details and "fillable" 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



Winter Solstice Chinese Banquet, Friday, 21 December

The Galley and Patio
6:30 – 9:30 pm

A Winter Solstice festival dinner featuring these and other traditional Chinese dishes:

- Roast suckling pig
- Winter mushroom
- Braised goose web
- Steamed garoupa
- Double-braised silky chicken and ginseng soup

Table of 12: \$5,388



To reserve for your family and friends, call The Galley at 2554 9494



Christmas Eve Champagne Dinner, Monday, 24 December

Four Peaks Restaurant, 7 pm onward

Adults \$528, to include a five-course dinner and unlimited champagne

Choice of roast turkey with all the trimmings or Lobster Thermidor

Children under 18,
\$428 for a five-course dinner

Children under 10,
\$168 for a three-course special children's dinner

Live entertainment and small gifts for all.

Please note bookings will close on Wednesday, 19 December.



To reserve for your family and friends, book quickly with Cobo at mbs@abclubhk.com

Food News from Food and Beverage Manager Isabella Gaggino



Photo by Matthew Tsui

Relaxing Sunday lunches in January: "Pasta on the Patio"

In January, Sunday "Pasta on the Patio" lunch will resume after a break during December. You can choose from two different types of pasta, rigatoni and linguini. Then, add your choice from among three sauces: puttanesca (vegetarian), sliced chicken and mushrooms in cream cheese sauce, and ragout of beef all at \$68.

Dear Members,

If you have found that service in the Galley and Patio has improved since General Manager Philippe de Manny altered staffing and service procedures this summer, please let fellow members know. Members who have been away or have not come to the Galley for some time have commented that the Galley looks bigger and brighter – and it's true. We have purchased solar-powered light panels that can be charged daily on the Patio in the sunshine. In the evening, the Galley staff attach the panels to the underside of the Patio umbrellas to provide a soft golden glow for your dining pleasure.

Reminder: This Christmas and New Year, the ABC F&B team can help you with your catering needs.

We have put together a one-page "Seasonal Takeaway Order Form" to make ordering – and planning – easier and helpful for your entertaining needs. What's available? A wide range of canapés, starters, salads, main dishes and desserts (see page 37 of this issue).

The ABC food and beverage team recommends these festive beverages available throughout the month of December from the Waglan Bar, the Four Peaks and Galley restaurants or from Isabella at fnb@abclubhk.com:

- Charles de Cazanove Champagne Premier Cru: \$499 per bottle, \$78 per glass
- Antonini Ceresa prosecco: \$210 per bottle, \$45 per glass
- The ABC's mulled wine: \$38 per glass
- Brenda's "Sledge" of shooters: \$39 per two

Important dates to keep in mind for takeaways are:

23rd – 31st Dec Collect your order for Christmas and the New Year

Save the Dates – ABC events in December and January

Find event details and menus on the ABC website or through Isabella Gaggino at fnb@abclubhk.com

1 – 21 December	Charity gift collection for Po Leung Kuk Orphanage
Saturday, 8 December	Santa's visit
8 – 9 December	Charity food collection for Feeding Hong Kong
Wednesday, 12 December	Kennedy School Choir Christmas Carolling, The Galley, wine and finger food
Friday, 14 December	Curry and Champagne evening, the Patio New Event
Saturday, 15 December	Welsh Male Choir and buffet dinner, The Galley
Friday, 21 December	Winter Solstice "Dong Zhi" Chinese Banquet, Four Peaks
23 - 31 December	Pick-up of cooked turkeys and hams for Christmas from ABC, 3 – 6:30 pm
Monday, 24 December	Christmas Eve festive set dinner service, Four Peaks
Tuesday, 25 December	Christmas Day buffet brunch, Four Peaks, The Galley, and Middle Island
Wednesday, 26 December	Boxing Day brunch and international buffet
Monday, 31 December	New Year's Eve festive celebration, The Galley
Tuesday, 1 January	New Year's Day festive set brunch, Four Peaks, The Deck, The Galley and The Patio
Saturday, 5 January	Members' Day on the Junk



Christmas Day International Set Lunch

25 December, 12 noon – 3 pm

Four Peaks Restaurant \$338

The Galley and Patio

Adults \$318

Children 6 – 12 \$188

Middle Island – Turkey and Buffet

Adults \$298

Children 6 – 12 \$188



To reserve for your family and friends, call The Galley at 2554 9494

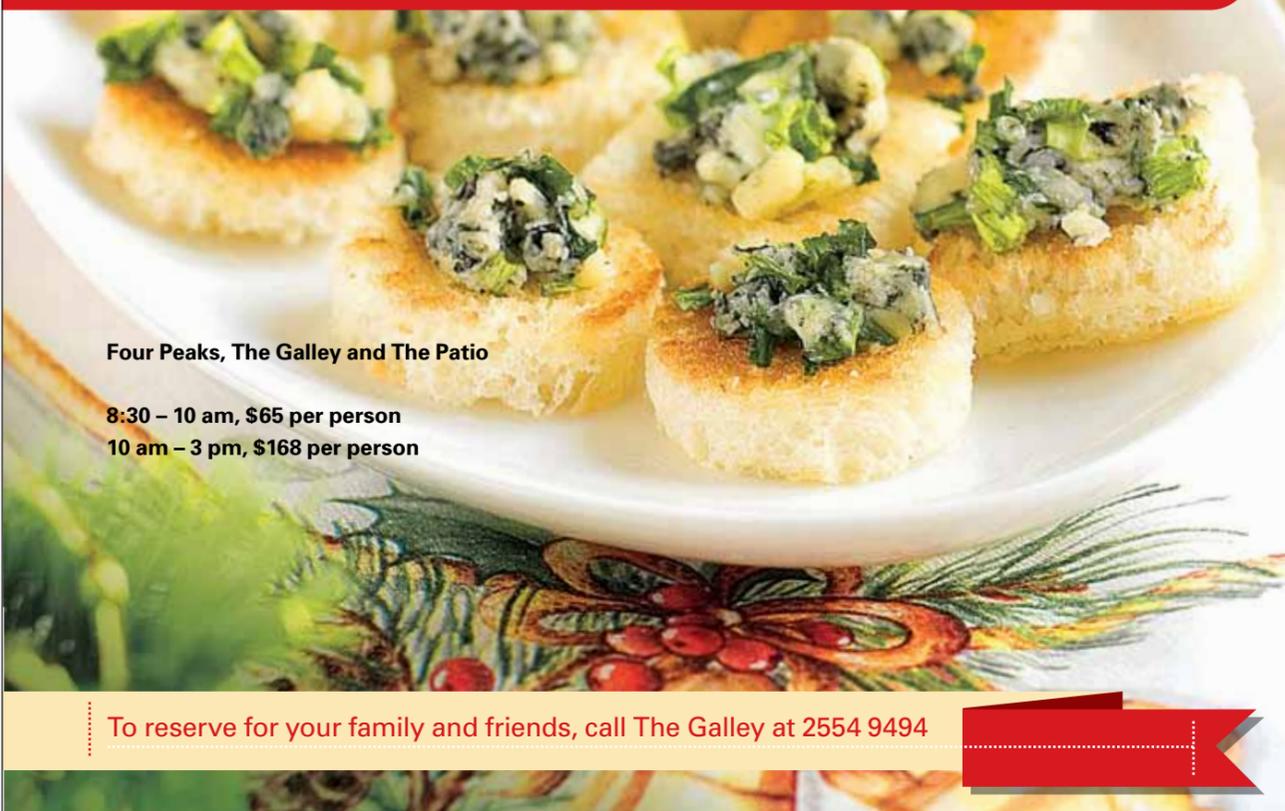


Boxing Day International Buffet Brunch, 26 December

Four Peaks, The Galley and The Patio

8:30 – 10 am, \$65 per person

10 am – 3 pm, \$168 per person



To reserve for your family and friends, call The Galley at 2554 9494

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The ABC's Four Peaks Service Team

Words by Ann White, photos by Matthew Tsui

In keeping with this issue's theme of fine dining and entertaining at the ABC for family and guests, this month's "Spotlight on Staff" focuses on the service team for the Four Peaks restaurant. On the second floor of the Main Clubhouse, it offers a wide selection of fine dining ranging from the best of French cuisine to creative and more traditional tastes of Asia. The Four Peaks restaurant has a well-chosen wine cellar and with its 10 tables seating 40 guests is often the venue for the Club's popular wine dinners.

The Four Peaks service team, Assistant Restaurant Manager Danny Lo, head waiter Freddie Lau, senior waiters Joseph Tai and Thomas Lao and captain Henry Lam, also regularly plan and work at the many special events and banquets held in the Club's Harbour and Bridge rooms and Middle Island. In December 2012, for example, there will be some 15 major events and parties between the main Clubhouse's function rooms and Middle Island, including many private parties and dinners that members have booked for company colleagues.

The Four Peaks Team

Freddie Lau Kwok Fai, head waiter

Freddie joined the ABC in 1984 at the age of 22. As the uncertainty surrounding the Sino-British handover term talks in the early and mid-1980s made many employers unwilling to offer more than part-time jobs, Freddie jumped ship from his part-time role at the Jockey Club. Then-ABC restaurant manager Henry Ng hired Freddie who duly arrived the very next morning to start work in the coffee shop. In the early years, as one of three coffee shop staff, Freddie worked nine-hour shifts per day that amounted to 54 hours per week. More akin to a snack shop than the Galley we know today, the coffee shop's less-busy periods meant Freddie sometimes filled in for colleagues' serving shifts at Four Peaks, until 1999 when he was asked to join the Four Peaks team full-time.

Freddie earns high praise for the mulled wine the ABC has named after him. It is regularly served at the Commodore's Christmas Cocktails on Middle Island every mid-December. (See recipe on page 39). Freddie especially enjoys seeing ABC member-children whom

he has known over the years come back as mature and independent young adults.

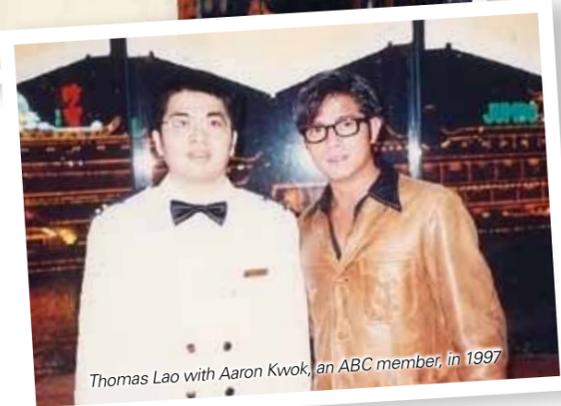
Freddie (and Danny) enjoy playing snooker and were on the ABC team some years ago that was defeated in the famous match against the Hong Kong Club Management Association, highly suspected of cheating on a shocking scale.

Joseph Tai Tak Yuen, senior waiter

After finishing school in Hong Kong, Joseph became a seaman for a short while. In 1992, he joining the staff of the ABC coffee shop at age 20 and then, during very busy times, he says, was invited to move over to the Four Peaks service team. Joseph, married with a daughter, 18, and a son, 17, enjoys playing football and basketball and bowling when free. A self-taught carpenter, he sometimes fills down hours between lunch and dinner shifts by designing and building wooden cabinets to organise the service team's service and waiting stations.



Freddie Lau, a decade after joining the ABC



Thomas Lao with Aaron Kwok, an ABC member, in 1997



Freddie Lau



Joseph Tai



Danny Lo



Thomas Lao

Danny Lo Tak Fai, assistant restaurant manager

Danny supervises the Four Peak's restaurant and the Waglan Bar. His daily role includes arranging staffing according to Four Peaks, banquet and event bookings. He deliberately spends time working with Chef Paul and liaising with the wait staff, so that servers can be helpful to diners in terms of recommendations of provenance and dishes and sauces based on what is in season or has just been freshly flown in. Danny began his working life in an office, but craved more stimulating and regular contact with people. He has worked with the Maxim Group's La Terrazza in Central's Landmark building, the Peninsula Group's Spices restaurant, the Hilton Hotel, Regent's Hotel, the Discovery Bay Golf and Marina clubs, and the Kowloon Cricket Club.

"I like to work at the ABC because it is not so business-oriented, it is very relaxing," says Danny. "The fresh air and sunshine give the staff and the members energy and happiness, and everyone smiles and starts to make a party." He says he enjoys sharing the history of the Club – founded in 1961 – with members old and new.

Gifted with languages like his colleagues, Danny speaks English, Cantonese, Mandarin and Japanese. He loves to travel, especially to Japan and Switzerland and Italy, soaking up different countries' food preferences and cultures. Danny is married with three children; a son on a farm work experience in Australia, a daughter working for Air Asia, and a daughter, 17, still in school.

Thomas Lao Fong Ming, senior waiter

In addition to working in the Four Peaks restaurant, Middle Island and the function rooms, Thomas works in the Galley from time to time, particularly during busy weekend times.

Thomas joined the ABC in 1985, as his second job after he finished school, and has been with the Club nearly 28 years. It was an ABC member, Thomas Fung, who suggested that Thomas apply for a role with the ABC, and actually drove him to his first interview. "I'm still very happy in my heart," Thomas said, when he thinks of Mr Fung.

Thomas also enjoys watching children return to the Club once grown up and remembering him. He particularly likes the very warm atmosphere of the Club and among staff, including

the Four Peaks cooking team, who assist each other as family members, he said. Thomas, divorced and with a six-year old daughter, enjoys bowling and table tennis in his spare time.

Henry Lam Ka Leong, captain

Henry is the newest member of the team, having joined in June 2011. Henry earned a diploma in hospital management from Australia's Holmesglen Institute of Tafe in Melbourne. After giving a go at studying accounting, he decided it was not for him and stayed on for a working holiday for a year, returning to Hong Kong to work at the Deep Water Bay Golf Club for three years before joining the ABC.

Henry, who enjoys the company of both members and colleagues, continues to study food and beverage management weekly at the Vocational Training Council in Pokfulam. Just 28 years old, Henry got married in October 2012. He keeps up through social media with old friends who keep different hours ("when I am free, they are not, and vice versa") and makes a point of seeing them when possible to play basketball. He is a keen supporter of Manchester United. During spare hours between his back-to-back lunch and dinner shifts, Henry sometimes walks around Aberdeen, whose old-world culture he appreciates.



Henry Lam and his bride, Natalie, October 2012

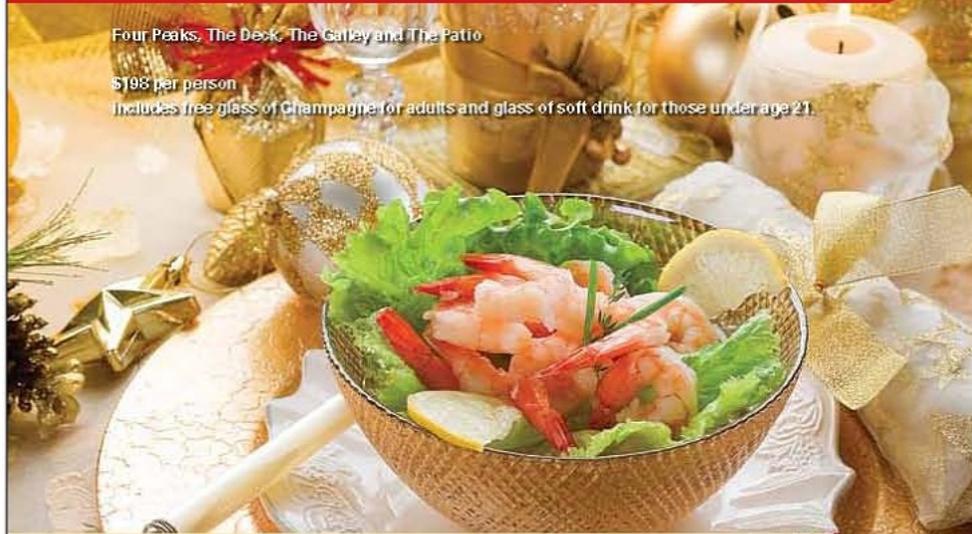


New Year's Day Festive Brunch, 1 January, 11 am – 3 pm

Four Peaks, The Deck, The Galley and The Patio

\$198 per person

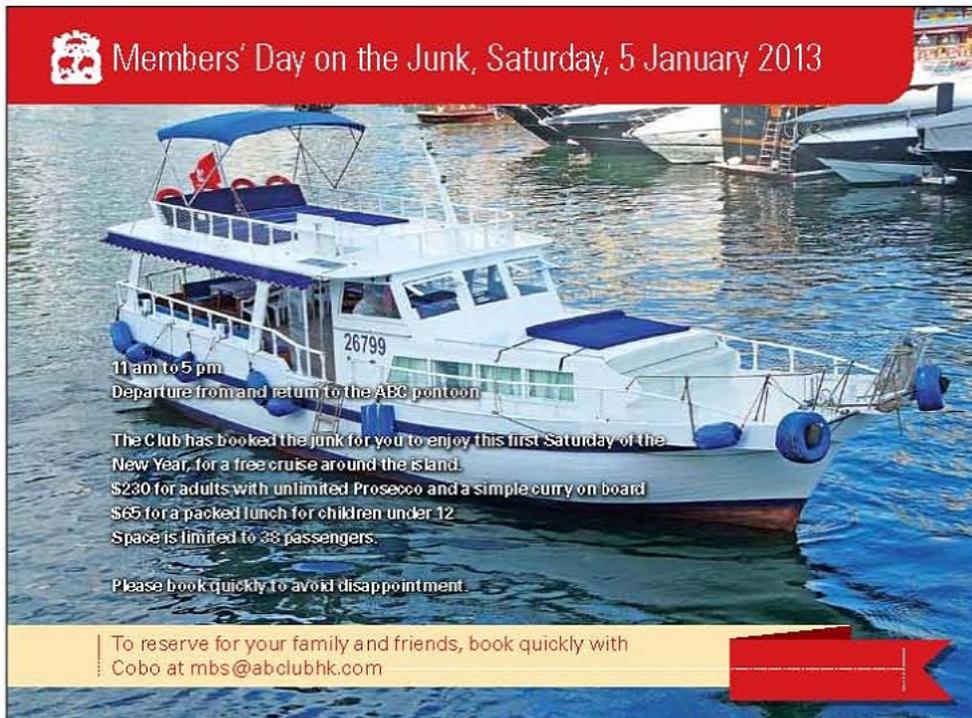
Includes free glass of Champagne for adults and glass of soft drink for those under age 21.



To reserve for your family and friends, call The Galley at 2554 9494



Members' Day on the Junk, Saturday, 5 January 2013



11 am to 5 pm

Departure from and return to the ABC pontoon.

The Club has booked the junk for you to enjoy this first Saturday of the New Year, for a free cruise around the island.

\$230 for adults with unlimited Prosecco and a simple curry on board

\$65 for a packed lunch for children under 12

Space is limited to 38 passengers.

Please book quickly to avoid disappointment.

To reserve for your family and friends, book quickly with Cobo at mbs@abclubhk.com



New Year's Eve Festive Celebration 31 December 2012, 8 pm 'til late

The Galley, Patio, Poolside

Theme: Superheroes

Adult \$688, including canapés, international buffet, standard drinks and Champagne toasting at midnight.

Adult \$588 without drinks

Teenagers 12 – 16 years \$288

Children 6 – 12 \$188

Children under 6 free

Doors open at 8 pm with canapés and pre-dinner drinks

Buffet opens at 8:30 pm

DJ Dave and an evening of dancing

Children's entertainment in the playground

Magic shows, balloon shapes, bouncy castle



BOOK NOW!!!

To reserve for your family and friends, book now through Cobo at 2553 3032

ABC Families Head for Philippines for Project Work

Words by Alex Dillon and Tom White, photos by Charles Caldwell

In mid-October, several ABC member-families (the Caldwells, the Dillons and the Whites) joined a "vacation with a purpose" trip to Bohol Island, the Philippines. The group consisted of some eight families totaling 39 volunteers, including children. The trip, mostly physical work with some diversions, was sponsored by International Care Ministries (ICM), which partners with members of Filipino communities to help people living in the bottom of the economic ladder in urban slums, remote rural villages and coastal fishing communities.

ICM works with people living in subsistence, which means day-to-day having only enough money to pay for food and nothing else. Every year, the charity reaches around 100,000 people with its programmes in needy and receptive communities, partnering with locals who both know families with deepest needs and who commit to managing ongoing projects.

Subsistence facts for care beneficiaries:

- Per household, U.S. 44 cents average daily income
- 61 percent of households do nothing to purify their water
- 97 percent use charcoal to cook food
- 27 percent go hungry at least once a week
- 11 percent of mothers have had one child die
- 4 percent have had more than one child die
- 30 percent walk at least 50 metres to get water
- Only 1.8 percent household members are over the age of 65

ABC kids get stuck in

What follows is a report on the October "vision trip" by ABC teenagers on the work the group did, and on their adventures the following two days of extreme jeepney bouncing and adventure sports.

Our goal was to build "comfort rooms," or communal toilets, in three swampy fishing communities on the southern and west coasts of Bohol. These "barangays" are very much subject to the upheavals of typhoons and floods. Nearly all of the "nipa huts" are rattan panels built on bamboo platforms, sometimes with pigs living under the one-room supports.

We learned that very few adults in these communities

have paying jobs; families subsisted – only just – on the income from fishermen whose boats went out in the bays generally twice a night, around 10:30 pm and 2 am.

Ready to Work

Alex Dillon: It all started on a sunny Friday afternoon in Pokfulam as we left for the airport with a strong sense of adventure and teamwork in the air, as most of us knew one another from last year's "Kennedy School reunion trip." In Manila, after picking up our bags, we were met by security guards who verified our luggage tags to make sure that no theft was occurring. To me that was really was a sign that poverty was hitting the Philippines hard if people had to steal luggage from the airport to support themselves and their families. The next morning we were up at 6 am to eat breakfast and make our way to the domestic section of Ninoy Aquino airport, bound for Tagbilaran Bay Airport on the island of Bohol.

Landing in Tagbilaran we were greeted by possibly the smallest airport I have ever seen. We made our way to three flamboyantly decorated jeepneys and headed to ICM's Bohol base. We dropped our bags off there and split into three groups, each heading to a different ICM project.

The first sites we visited were feeding programs run by the area's church and supported by ICM. There, volunteers teach the mothers and their young children the importance of basic nutrition and how much of a difference it can create in a child's development.

The children are fed special rice-based mixtures supplied by Kids against Hunger and Feed My Starving Children, charities based in the U.S. Each package contains all the nutrients one child would need for a day. As it turns out, even malnourished kids are picky! The staff there told us that they have to add sugar to the packages so the kids will eat them.

The building part was very hard work! On the first day, by the



Danielle Dillon (standing) and Carys and Sela Caldwell cement block walls



The finished foundation for a communal toilet



Doing an art project at an ICM preschool



Sebastian Caldwell (R) and friends use a "tippy tap" to wash up



Alex Dillon and Raphael Galvez mixing cement



Tom White helping at a preschool

time we reached the site, it was bucketing rain and the ground became saturated, making it impossible to lay foundations for the comfort rooms. After spending around about two hours trying to at least make a start to the week's work, we decided to call it a day and get checked in at the Bohol Tropics Resort, our place of residence for the week.

The next day we made significant progress to the comfort room we were building. The entire team managed to dig a five-foot deep hole in the ground which would eventually be lined internally by concrete bricks and be covered by two layers of bamboo and more bricks on top to complete the comfort room. A majority of my and Tom's time was spent mixing cement and carrying 40-kilo bags of sand and cement.

On the final day of the service part of the trip, we went to a small kindergarten which had been set up by a local pastor for at-risk children.

In the Philippines, children who do not have basic literacy/numeracy cannot gain entry into primary school. Often, parents in the homes helped by ICM are illiterate and unable to help their children. Since education is such a key to lifting people out of poverty, ICM asks donors to sponsor the building and running of these preschools. At the school we visited, they put on an impressive show for us in which they told us about what they wanted to be when they grew up. A lot of the children wanted to be doctors and teachers. It was great to see that a lot of them wanted to give back to their communities. After we finished enjoying their production we helped them make masks using sequins and glitter glue. I was quite taken aback at how quiet all of the children were and how they seemed to appreciate the help we had given them. After the arts and craft activity we enjoyed a delicious lunch of chicken and spaghetti.

Tom White: We all arrived in Manila late at night, tired but anticipating the exciting week ahead. We stayed one night in the Manila Traders Hotel, which was very comfortable, before we headed back to the airport early in the morning to catch our flight to Bohol Province. For many of us, it was our first time on Bohol Island, and I think we were all a little taken aback between the differences in their environment to ours in Hong Kong.

It was a short journey from the airport (whose main building was no bigger than the ABC) to the ICM headquarters. We dropped off our luggage and separated into three groups ready to visit individual malnourished children's outreach programmes running in the province.

It was a very sudden and big shock as to how the people living in the small communities live in comparison to us. Their houses are very small and made from thin pieces of wood, bamboo and at rare times concrete. We then left the small communities and traveled by jeepneys to new ones where we would start our building.

The physical side of our trip had begun. We were all eager to get to work and start digging. Over the next three days, we worked through the rain, the heat, and the mud in order to ensure that all three projects were as close to finished as we could get them during our time there.

After the service side of our trip had finished, some of us remained in Bohol for the next couple of days to do what we wished. We went to many of the attractions in Bohol, including a bee farm as well as the Danao adventure park in Bohol developed especially for thrill-seekers. The park included activities such as the longest zip line in Asia with a total length of 1.5 kilometers, kayaking, as well as a 200-metre plunge off the side of a cliff.

The trip was an amazing adventure, and I can safely say that it was a worthwhile experience and one that I would definitely partake in again.

For more information on ICM, see www.caremin.com



Freddie's Mulled Wine

By the glass \$45



Hong Kong International Beer Award 2011
Belgium Style Winner / Overall Winner

ST. PAUL SPECIALE

\$42 per bottle

An Abbey Ale from Meer, in the northern part of Belgium, pours a hazy nut-brown colour with a nice beige head and good lacework. The taste gives huge amounts of cinnamon, molasses, plums, carrots, fennel and yeast. Medium to full-bodied, low bitterness with a sweet finish and lingering hints of yeast and plums.

A sophisticated beer with good spicy/fruity components.



Brenda's Special Blend of Ginger Tea

By the glass \$38

Just the right thing to keep the winter chills away!



Monteith's Golden Lager

\$28 per bottle

Alcohol 5% by volume

Naturally malted. A smooth, malty character with a rounded cashew nut flavour coaxing from premium Munich malts. You'll find there are just enough hops to create a crisp, refreshing beer. Perfect for the moment you fire up the BBQ!



Cocktail of the Month – December

Aberdeen Boat Club 香港仔遊艇會



Beer of the Month – December

Aberdeen Boat Club 香港仔遊艇會



Cocktail of the Month – January

Aberdeen Boat Club 香港仔遊艇會



Beer of the Month – January

Aberdeen Boat Club 香港仔遊艇會



Three Monks – Fumé Blanc (Sauvignon Blanc) 2011, Taltarni Vineyards, Australia

This sauvignon blanc is a pale straw with fresh, green tints. The flavour is intense with lime blossom, grapefruit and white nectarine, all perfectly integrated with attractive, spicy oak characters from the time spent in French barrels.

Three Monks – Cabernet Merlot 2007, Taltarni Vineyards, Australia

Three Monks cabernet merlot is a deep ruby colour, with fresh purple tints. It displays classic black fruit and forest-floor varietal characters complemented by soft, mocha oak flavours.

by the glass \$40
by the bottle \$200



Wines of the Month – December

Aberdeen Boat Club 香港仔遊艇會



Since 1922, and for over three generations, Chile's Viña El Aromo has been dedicated to the art and science of grape-growing and passion for winemaking.

AROMO Varietal Chardonnay 2009 Maule Valley, Chile

Colour *Pale yellow with green sparks*
Nose *Refreshing citrus aromas with tropical fruit notes*
Palate *Fresh and well-structured, with a markedly varietal character, medium tones and persistence, and a pleasant finish*

AROMO Varietal Cabernet Sauvignon 2009 Maule Valley, Chile

Colour *Intense, limpid and bright ruby-red*
Nose *Pleasantly ripe plums and berries with subtle notes of tobacco leaves*
Palate *In the mouth, the medium structure and tannic ripeness of this gentle wine bestow a delicate consistency and harmonious complexity*

by the glass \$40
by the bottle \$200



Wines of the Month – January

Aberdeen Boat Club 香港仔遊艇會

Application deadline 10 December 2012

ABC Offers Trial Secondary Carpark Labels



Beginning in January 2013, a six-month trial begins of secondary parking labels to be valid only on weekdays, not weekends or public holidays. This member service could become permanent if it does not overload the carpark. Each member is eligible to apply for two carpark labels. Members should first apply for a label to be valid for every day of the week for an annual fee of \$1600. If a second label valid only for weekdays is wanted, that secondary label's annual fee is \$800. To apply, or if you have changed your car's registration plate number, please contact Membership Service Manager Cobo Liu before 10 December 2012.



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Christmas 2012 Takeaway Order Form

Takeaway starts from 1st December 2012

		Weight / Unit	Price	No. of people to serve	Quantity	Amount
Canapés						
CA1	Vietnamese Rice Paper Rolls with Soft-shell Crab	Doz	\$168	/		
CA2	Smoked Salmon Rosettes with Cream Cheese and Crab Roe	Doz	188	/		
CA3	Indian Lamb Kebabs with Mint Yoghurt	Doz	168	/		
CA4	Chicken Roulade with Mango and Onion Marmalade	Doz	168	/		
CA5	Sausage Rolls	Doz	168	/		
CA6	Mushrooms Stuffed with Seafood and Tartar Sauce	Doz	168	/		
Salads and Starters						
S1	Caesar Salad with Parmesan Shavings, Bacon and Croutons	Tray	380	8 to 10		
S2	Greek Salad with Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Olives, Peppers, Onions and Romaine Lettuce	Tray	360	8 to 10		
S3	Homemade Goose Liver Terrine	100 g	320	2		
S4	Avocado and Prawn Cocktail	Tray	420	8 to 10		
S5	Chicken and Waldorf Salad	Tray	380	8 to 10		
Main Dishes						
C1	Roast Turkey	5 to 6 kg	680	8 to 10		
C2	Roast Turkey	6 to 8 kg	800	12 to 16		
C3	Roast Turkey	8 to 10 kg	1,000	18 to 22		
C4	Roast Turkey with Homemade Stuffing and Cranberry Sauce	5 to 6 kg	800	8 to 10		
C5	Roast Turkey with Homemade Stuffing and Cranberry Sauce	6 to 8 kg	1000	12 to 16		
C6	Roast Turkey with Homemade Stuffing and Cranberry Sauce	8 to 10 kg	1,300	18 to 22		
C7	Brussel Sprouts, Parsnips, Carrots and French Beans	1 kg	280	6 to 8		
C8	Homemade Chestnut and Herbs stuffing	1 kg	200	8 to 10		
C9	Roasted Rack of Lamb with Mint Jus	1.8 kg	420	4 to 6		
C10	Roasted Rack of Venison with Condiments	1.2 kg	680	4 to 6		
C11	Roast Leg of Lamb with Mint Jus	2.8 kg	480	8 to 10		
C12	Roasted Prime Rib with Jus and Condiments	6 kg	1600	10 to 12		
C13	Roasted Pineapple Ham with Apple Sauce	7 kg	1350	12 to 16		
C14	Honey Glazed Bone Ham with Pineapple Sauce	9 kg	1250	18 to 22		
C15	Gammon Ham with Honey Gravy	4 kg	650	8 to 10		
C16	Roasted Whole Goose	4 kg	800	8 to 10		
C17	Lasagne with Mozzarella, Fresh Basil and Tomato	Tray	360	8 to 10		
C18	Oven-Baked Tandoori Salmon and Condiments	1 kg	420	8 to 10		
Desserts						
D1	Whole Pumpkin Pie, 8"	1 kg	128	8		
D2	Christmas Cake	1 kg	380	8		
D3	Christmas Yule Log (Vanilla)	1.2 kg	380	8		
D4	Christmas Fruit Cake	1 kg	360	8		
D5	Black Forest Cake	1.2 kg	380	8		
D6	American Cheese Cake with Strawberries	1.2 kg	380	8		
D7	Minced Pie 60 g	Pc	18			
D8	Minced Pie 40 g	Pc	15			
D9	Minced Pie 60 g	Doz	208			
D10	Minced Pie 40 g	Doz	168			

Member Name _____ Membership No. _____
Contact Number _____ Collection Date _____ Time _____
Member Signature _____

Please fax back to 2873 2945
or e-mail to fnb@abclubhk.com
For queries, please contact
F&B on 2555 6216



Home Wine Delivery Festive Season Selection 2012

We've sourced these fine wines as ideal pairings with holiday meals. Remember to order along with your Christmas and New Year catering forms (reverse).	\$/Bottle	Quantity	Amount
Willowbridge Chardonnay 2011, Western Australia Medium-bodied, textured yet refreshing. White-fleshed stone fruits with light, fresh cream are followed by hints of ginger and a twist of citrus.	\$125		
Shearwater Sauvignon Blanc 2011, Marlborough, New Zealand Gooseberry and bell pepper on the nose lead into a palate of lush passion fruit and kiwi. Mouthwateringly fresh, this is an absolute benchmark and a wine not to be missed.	\$135		
Whitehaven Sauvignon Blanc 2011, Marlborough, New Zealand Vibrant white currant, nettle, and gooseberry aromas with a grapefruit core. Some pungent herbaceous and jalapeño flavours fill in the background.	\$170		
Ashbrook Riesling 2011, Margaret River, Western Australia Light straw colour with tinges of green, an attractive floral aroma and an elegant, clean, flavoursome palate that finishes crisp and very dry.	\$250		
Château Tanunda, 2010, Shiraz Primitivo, Barossa Valley Lifted aromas of blackberry, plum and black pepper with spicy, dark berry fruits on the palate. Benefitting from the addition of Primitivo, native to southern Italy, adding vibrant cranberry, raspberry and strawberry flavours.	\$200		
Monte Antico, 2008 Toscana, Italy Dark-ruby in colour, its bouquet of leather, earth, herbs, black cherries, licorice and plums is confirmed on the palate. Round, spicy, elegant, attractively fruity and extremely versatile.	\$130		
Mansion House Bay Pinot Noir 2010, Marlborough, New Zealand A medium-bodied wine with round, filled flavours of plum and cherry. Very soft and silky. Supple tannin and oak spice support primary fruit flavours.	\$180		
Simonsig "Kapse Vonkel" 2010, Stellenbosch, South Africa Lively and vibrant flavours of fresh green apples and citrus with hints of red berry flavours. The palate is very well-balanced with plenty of berry and apple flavours with hints of yeastiness.	\$180		
Champagne Michel Arnould Tradition Grand Cru NV A fruity (pinot noir and blackberry) nose shows a full-bodied wine. A light and vivid mouth increase once open, but it keeps its nice structure. This wine is round, well-measured and immediately pleasant.	\$460		

Member Name: _____ Membership Number: _____

Tel (Office): _____ Tel (Home): _____

Delivery Address: _____

Delivery Date: _____ Member Signature: _____

Minimum order 12 bottles. Mixed cases available. Note 10% discount for orders of 24 or more bottles. Total amount will be charged to member's account. Orders accepted by mail, fax or in person. Contact the Food & Beverage Department at 2555 6216 or Fax: 2873 2945. Deliveries free for order of 12 or more bottles; please allow three working days for delivery. All wines are subject to availability.

CLASSIFIEDS



Freddie's Famous ABC Mulled Wine

Serves 15

Choose a wine that you know and like to drink.

Ingredients:

- 350g Demerara sugar
- 2 sticks cinnamon
- 1 tsp ground ginger
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- tsp ground nutmeg
- 3 bottles light-bodied red wine
- 4 oranges
- 20 cloves
- 300 ml brandy

Method:
Pour 850 ml water into a large saucepan, then add sugar, cinnamon sticks, ground ginger, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Heat until sugar dissolves. Bring to boil. Remove from heat and allow to stand for 30 minutes. Add the wine. Reheat but do not boil. Strain into a heat-resistant bowl. Stud the oranges with cloves, cut into slices and float on top of the wine. Heat the brandy, pour into the wine and set alight. Ladle into heat-proof glasses and serve immediately.



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Contact the PPP advertising team to find out how. Email: inquiries@ppp.com.hk



Home Wine Delivery

January and February 2013 (selling period)

Free Wine-tasting: Friday, 18th January 6:30 – 8:30 at Coffee Shop

	\$/Bottle	Quantity	Amount
White Wines			
TEN ROCK, Sauvignon Blanc 2011, Marlborough / New Zealand Tasting notes: Fresh-cut grass, passion fruit and citrus. The palate has fresh acidity, great concentration and lovely length. Bold flavours of gooseberry and freshly cut herbs are nicely matched by underlying minerality.	\$120		
DOMAINE VENTENAC, Chenin Colombard 2010, Cabardès / France Awards: <i>Concours Mondial de Bruxelles 2010: Gold Medals/ Palmarès des Vinalies Internationales 2010: Gold Medals Bettane et Desauve (Elu vin Plaisir): Gold Medals / Gilbert & Gaillard Wine Magazine: 86pts & Gold Medals</i> Grapes: Chenin 45%, Colombard 45%, Gros Manseng 10% Tasting note: This white breaks away from the Languedoc "standards" by proposing a wine that is focused, bright, fresh and fruity. The use of uncommon grapes, their introduction on specially selected parcels, along with our cultivation and vinification techniques have allowed us to achieve these objectives by proposing an explosive wine with strong primary aromas of grapefruit and lemon, presenting itself with a focussed structure and balance with a complex finish.	\$110		
Rosé			
DOMAINE VENTENAC, Rosé 2010, Cabardès / France Awards: <i>Gilbert & Gaillard Wine Magazine: 83pts & Gold Medals / Concours Mondial de Bruxelles 2010: Silver Medals / Palmarès des Vinalies Internationales 2010: Silver Medals</i> Grapes: Cabernet Sauvignon 50%, Grenache 20%, Syrah 15%, Merlot 10%, Cinsault 5% Tasting note: This rosé is elaborated with the desire to offer the consumer a moment of intense pleasure reduced to its purest simplicity. This wine brings rosé back to its primary definition: exacerbated fruit sensation, intense freshness and instant pleasure with aromas of strawberries, raspberries and fresh blackberries, and presenting a refreshing acidity and a weight on the palate bringing roundness and length.	\$110		
Red Wines			
DOMAINE VENTENAC, Cabernet Sauvignon 2010/11, Cabardès / France Awards: <i>Gilbert & Gaillard Wine Magazine: 84pts & Gold Medals</i> Tasting note: It's usually medium- to full-bodied with a fine structure that supports black and red fruit flavours, and typical notes of olive, chili and herbs that add complexity.	\$110		
LA MOTTE, Chardonnay 2009, Franschhoek Valley / South Africa Award: <i>Robert Parker: 90pts</i> Tasting note: A straw-yellow colour. As in the case of earlier vintages, the wine shows distinctive yellow fruit on the nose, but also a rich depth of cashew nut, straw and nutmeg. The palate is refreshing and ends in a pineapple and sweet melon aftertaste.	\$165		
LEOPARD'S LEAP, Lookout Red 2011, The Western Cape Mountain / South Africa Grapes: Cabernet Sauvignon 45%, Shiraz 34%, Cinsaut 21% Tasting note: Berry fruit with undertones of vanilla on the nose. The palate has berry, chocolate with an aftertaste of coffee, and toffee. Oak-staved for six months with added micro-oxygenation.	\$100		
PHEBUS, Malbec 2007, Mendoza / Argentina Tasting note: Fresh and powerful red fruits and spices explode first on the nose and then on the palate. This Malbec has a blackberry character and a soft, rounded, juicy finish. Serve with grilled meats, pasta, cheeses, risotto, Thai food.	\$100		
AROMO, Carmenere, Maule Valley / Chile Tasting note: Brimming with spices and pepper tones intertwined with light tinges of black fruit. The medium persistence is loaded with ripe and round tannin that add to the structure and streamline a stylish finish.	\$100		
CODED RED, Smooth & Juicy 2011, Swartland / South Africa Tasting Note: Ripe berry flavours are complimented by cherry tobacco and spicy undertones, with a soft mouth feel and sweet fruitiness that lingers on the palate. Lazy afternoons and warm summer evenings; enjoy the moment with this smooth and juicy blended red wine that can be enjoyed on any occasion.	\$105		
MONT ROCHELLE, Artemis 2007/09, Franschhoek Valley / South Africa Grapes: Cabernet Sauvignon 53%, Merlot 33%, Pinotage 7%, Shiraz 7% Tasting note: Combines harmoniously to produce a well-structured wine that reflects clean liquorice, spice and red fruits. Given time in the glass the aroma develops to more plummy bramble fruits. The tannin structure is silky yet structured, leaving a velvety yet elegant and clean mouth feel.	\$135		
LA MOTTE, Millennium 2007/08, Franschhoek Valley / South Africa Award: <i>Robert Parker: 92pts</i> Grapes: Merlot 31%, Cabernet Franc 30%, Cabernet Sauvignon 23%, Malbec 12%, Petit Verdot 4% Tasting note: Dominated by earthy flavours and spice on the nose, with beetroot and cinnamon showing strongly, followed by dried marjoram herbs. Has dusty tannins, and the body is muscular with rich, juicy consistency.	\$210		

Member Name: _____ Membership Number: _____

Tel (Office): _____ Tel (Home): _____

Delivery Address: _____

Delivery Date: _____ Member Signature: _____

Minimum order 12 bottles. Mixed cases available. Note 10% discount for orders of 24 or more bottles. Total amount will be charged to member's account. Orders accepted by mail, fax or in person. Contact the Food & Beverage Department at 2555 6216 or Fax: 2873 2945. Deliveries free for order of 12 or more bottles; please allow three working days for delivery. All wines are subject to availability.



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HKD 4,800,000/-



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Built: 2006/ Italy
Excellent condition
Euro 1,150,000/-



Alcon 52'
Built: 2004/ Italy
Excellent condition
HKD 3,000,000/-