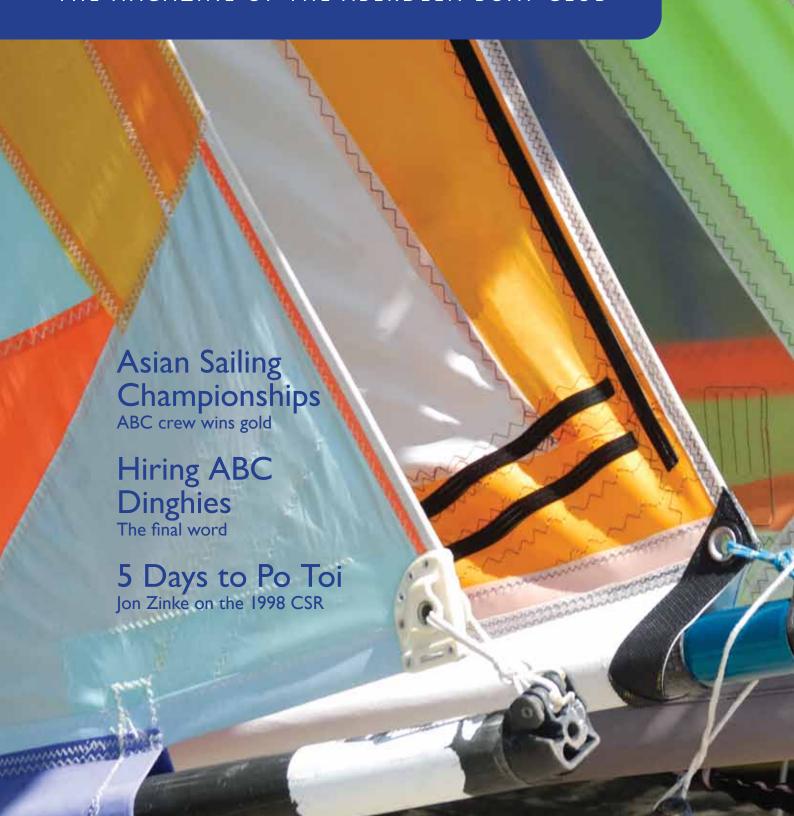


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Your Forum for News and Opinions

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COMMODORE'S LETTER

It's been a busy month at the Club since late February, starting with our ABC 29er team's success in winning gold at the Asian Sailing Championships, held in Langkawi. This is thought to be Hong Kong's first Asian championship gold in sailing, apart from windsurfing. The team and coach were welcomed back at a celebration at the Club and presentations with our thanks made to our generous sponsors OOCL and Hellmann Worldwide Logistics.

On 29th February the Club held its Annual Staff Dinner where appreciation for the diligence and ever cheerful manner of the staff can be expressed. It was a most enjoyable evening, and it can be reported that there was even more cheerfulness as the prizes and lucky draws were awarded.

On the sailing front, the Jebsen Marine Waglan Series has just been completed. This has been very successful and we had up to 20 boats and a consistent turnout. Results overall will be withheld in the usual manner untill the 19th May prize-giving. Other sailing continued in J/80s, dinghies in the Spring Series, and ABC's hosting of the 29er HK championships (though lack of wind marred the results). Next up is the Classic Yachts Rally on 12-13th May, where heritage boats will have their day! Meanwhile, our Optimist squad are sailing in another regional competition, likely the Thai Nationals, sponsored by Emerson.

The General Committee has spent some time refining the mooring and hardstanding agreements and expect to issue a revised version to hirers covering both in the near future to simplify and tidy up the current situation.

As this is being written we have had temperatures well into the mid 20s and summer can shortly be declared. Enjoy your boating!



John Berry Commodore

GENERAL MANAGER'S LETTER

his month there is a new Four Peaks menu, and I recommend the Twin Soup, a dish full of flavour that requires great skill to prepare. Still in the kitchen, six year veteran Chef Yaddav has now taken control of our Indian food menu. After holding many interviews to fill his old position it turns out that Chef Yaddav's son is the best person for the job. Congratulations and welcome to the family. Again.

Despite extensive structural repairs to the car park six years ago, new areas of concern have been identified. Repair work will start in April and run until June. As always the Club will work hard to minimise disruption and members will be kept informed via the usual channels.

I am glad to report that we are about to strike a deal with the Hong Kong Golf Club which will allow us to use their Deepwater Bay course on weekdays from 09:00 to 14:00. This will come into effect after interested ABC members have registered and an access list has been finalised.

Efforts are also being made to revive the ailing ABC Squash ladder. Thanks to the voluntary initiative of Mr. Belbin, inter-Club mid or end of week squash nights are being planned. Let us know if you are interested.

Swimming coach Nicola Barguss will resume her swimming programme this month in our heated pool. The II week programme will commence Monday, April 16. Contact her directly on nicola_barguss@hotmail.com.

On a more serious note, there has been an upsurge in parking space abuses necessitating much stricter control of our car parking zone. The 2012 Label must now be displayed in such a way that staff can easily check. Photocopies of parking labels in multiple cars and expired or missing labels will result in parking being refused.

I have also received complaints about dress code violations in the gym and the Clubhouse. Please wear at least a t-shirt, and not just swimming costumes, while walking around the Club. Finally our



changing rooms are equipped with baby changing tables so please, for the sake of hygiene do not change soiled nappies on restaurant tables in the Coffee Shop or Middle Island.

Philippe de Manny General Manager

Asia Boating Limited (HK) 8 Shum Wan Rd, Aberdeen, Hor Tel: 25729212 Fax: 25726033

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FLAG OFFICER'S REPORT

aving briefly updated *Horizons* in last month's article about Middle Island, this month, rather than specifically comment on that progress (most of which is procedural and slow), I have written a few words on the interaction between the club's various committees and how such interactions contribute towards the overall strategic plan for the club.

The Development Committee (DevCom) is only one of the three sub-committees; the Sailing and Marine (SailCom) and the House and Building Committees (HouseCom) have an equally important input in the overall development of the club. Each committee is made up of elected members, who also sit on the General Committee (GenCom), and various co-opted members who sit solely on their respective sub-committees, bringing expertise that might otherwise be lacking. The co-opted members, although vital to the smooth running of these committees, do not vote and are not part of the elected GenCom.

SailCom is chaired by Bruce Perkins and, as the title indicates, they are responsible for all elements of club life related to marine activity. Members of this committee plan and organise all of the Club's races and training courses. They liaise with other clubs in Hong Kong and overseas, governmental departments, and other organisations for external events. Furthermore, they monitor our Club boats and ferry services, and are responsible for ongoing maintenance of all of the club's sailing and marine facilities and services.

Within the development process, SailCom have to help assess what the needs of the club's aquatic community are going to be, not just now, but also well into the future. This daunting task extends from looking at hard-standing capacity, number of mooring berths, and size and storage requirements for various types of dinghies and keel boat classes spaces, to evaluating the needs of motor cruisers, together with directions from the Marine Department. Along with an assessment of the needs of the various boat classes, there is a corresponding evaluation of how training and teaching facilities have to be expanded to best use the post-development facilities. In the post-development phase SailCom will also be required to submit plans for the expansion of ferry services with greater access for the public to use ABC's facilities and a concurrent manning and maintenance plan.

HouseCom is chaired by Richard Walker and deals with all issues involving the Club's non-marine facilities and services. These include all aspects of food and beverage matters, social events, building maintenance, house-keeping, facilities up-keep, the swimming pool, the gym, the playground, DVDs, etc.

HouseCom has to look at how the development of the club can best cater to all members' needs – a task that involves looking at what members would like to have as facilities, and balancing these with what is commercially prudent for the club now and in the future. Any new food and beverage facility will have to be viable for the number of days that Middle Island operates on a weekly basis for members, for example, and be versatile enough to accommodate various types of events. When one starts thinking about the number of different events that the club currently caters each year, the size of this formidable task becomes apparent. HouseCom also has to look at the balance of the space given over to the absolute requirements of SailCom (hard-standings,



training rooms, sail rooms etc.) balanced against the wishes of other members and all the other services – an ecology zone, hiking trails, showers, restrooms, dry areas, play areas, kitchen services etc.

Sitting as the third part of this triumvirate, DevCom looks at the requests and wish-lists from the club and attempts to formulate them into a cohesive plan that achieves the objective of developing Middle Island in a meaningful way. Beyond the initial proposal to start development, this starts with establishing a schedule of accommodation and requirements which then allows for a strategic plan to be created. This all has to then fit within the existing lease terms and, if a change is needed, the various government departments then need to be approached. This is all done with a smile and whilst trying to keep everyone happy particularly the two other sub-committees!

Needless to say, the membership of DevCom includes highly qualified architects, engineers, town planners, designers, financiers and marketers, but also ruthless negotiators and some rather extraordinary diplomats...

David Tait Development Committee

HE SENSATION OF MODERN

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fter the success of the online Magellano 50 motor yacht preview, with thousands of downloads in just a few months, the Azimut Yacht Virtual Showroom has added three flagship models for the 2012 boating season; the Azimut 45, Azimut 60 and Azimut 62S Italia.

Taking full advantage of Apple technology, boat owners, enthusiasts, and curious individuals can tour the new yachts introduced at the most recent boat shows. They can find out about the boats' most important features and technical

specifications and compare the different layout options. Most of all, they can experience all the design, comfort, and technological advances which have characterized Azimut Yachts over the years.

The App can be downloaded free from Apples' iTunes website, and will benefit from regular upgrades as includes more models and updated information is made available.



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2012 ABC EASTER YOUTH SAILING PROGRAMME

As you read this edition of *Horizons*, our Easter Youth Sailing Programme has just got underway. Most of the courses during the first week of the holidays are now full, but we still have spaces for some of the activities listed below. As usual full details are on our website, www.abclubhk.com and are also available from Angela at SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com

Date & Time	Activity	Eligibility	HK\$ Member/ Non-member	
Optimist Junior Sailing Pro	ogramme			
Mon 9 – Fri 13 Apr AM	Optimist Stage I Age 7 – II		800 / 1,064	
Mon 9 – Fri 13 Apr PM	ri I3 Apr PM Optimist Stage 2 Age 7 – II. Pass Optimist Stage I		800 / 1,064	
Mon 9 – Fri 13 Apr PM	Optimist Racing Course Age 7 – 14. Pass Optimist Stage 3		800 / 1,064	
Youth Sailing Programme				
Thur 5 – Sat 7 Apr	Laser I Introduction Course Age 12 – Adult. Hold HKSF Beginner L2 with additional experience		1,440 / 1,920	
Sun 8 Apr	67 6 F		480 / 640 560 / 750	
Mon 9 – Tue 10 Apr	RS Feva Gennaker Sailing Age 12 – 18. Pass RS Feva Intro		960 / 1,280	
Mon 9 – Fri 13 Apr	High Performance Advanced Skills, HKSF Level 4	Hold HKSF Level 3 & 1 year of sailing since	2,400 / 3,200	
Mon 9 – Thur 12 Apr	ABC Intro to High Performance Sailing	Pass HKSF Level 3	1,920 / 2,560	
Mon 9 – Fri 13 Apr	Beginners HKSF Lev & 2	Age 12 – 18	2,400 / 3,200	
Youth Windsurfing Progra	amme			
Sat 7 – Sun 8 Apr	Basic & Intermediate Windsurfing	Age 9 – Adult	960 / 1,280	

FRENCH INT'L SCHOOL MID-TERM BREAK SAILING

This year ABC is offering additional courses to coincide with the FIS mid-term break in May. Further details and application forms are available on our club website, www.abclubhk.com

Date & Time	Junior Course	Activity	Eligibility	HK\$ Member/ Non-member
Mon 21 – Fri 25 May AM	1	Optimist Stage I	Age 7 – II	800 / 1,064
Mon 21 – Fri 25 May PM	1	Optimist Stage 2	Age 7 – II Pass Optimist Stage I	800 / 1,064
Mon 21 – Fri 25 May PM	1	Optimist Introduction to Racing Course	Age 7 – 14 Pass Optimist Stage 3	800 / 1,064
Thur 24 – Fri 25 May		2 day Topper / Pico / RS Feva Supervised Practice	Age 12 – 18 Hold HKSF Beginner L2	960 / 1,280
Thur 24 – Fri 25 May		Basic & Intermediate Windsurfing	Age 9 – Adult	960 / 1,280

Continued on page 10









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2012 SUMMER YOUTH SAILING PROGRAMME

The full programme for the summer will be published shortly, but to give ABC members some advance notice, the first two weeks are shown here. We will be running courses from Monday 2 July through until Friday 17 August. We will also be offering an additional two weeks from 20 until 31 August, for those schools that finish the summer vacation later.

Date & Time	Junior Course	Activity	Eligibility	HK\$ Member/ Non-member
Mon 2 – Fri 6 July AM	1	Optimist Stage I	Age 7 – II	800 / 1,064
Mon 2 – Fri 6 July PM	1	Optimist Stage 2	Age 7 – II Pass Optimist Stage I	800 / 1,064
Mon 2 – Fri 6 July		Beginners HKSF Lev 1 & 2	Age 12 - 18	2,400 / 3,200
Mon 9 – Fri 13 July AM	1	Optimist Stage I	Age 7 – II	800 / 1,064
Mon 9 – Fri 13 July PM	1	Optimist Stage 3	Age 7 – 11 Pass Optimist Stage 2	800 / 1,064
Mon 9 – Fri 13 July PM	1	Optimist Introduction to Racing Course	Age 7 – 14 Pass Optimist Stage 3	800 / 1,064
Mon 9 – Fri 13 July		Improvers HKSF Lev 3	Age 12 – 18 Pass HKSF L2 plus 1 year sailing	2,400 / 3,200
Mon 9 – Fri 13 July		Watersports Week	Age 8 – 18, Pass HKSF L2 or Optimist Stage 2	2,400 / 3,200

2012 CLASSIC YACHT RALLY

The Classic Yacht Rally (CYR) will be held next month on the I2 and I3th of May. The format will be similar to previous years and the NOR and SI will be posted on the ABC website. This year we expect to come back on the Saturday evening for a sailor's party on Middle Island, an 'Arabian' themed night which those not competing in the rally are also more than welcome to enjoy. An important note on this

particular weekend, all pontoon spaces will be needed for hosting CYR vessels between 16.00 on Saturday until 10:00 on Sunday, and from 16:00 on Sunday. Berthing arrangements will be posted on the CYR webpage.

The Summer Series will start soon and kick off the new sailing year, the first race is on May 27. This series is unofficially known as 'the Restaurant Races', as all of them finish at either Po

Toi or other islands with a seafood lunch. This is a great series for beginners and seasoned sailors alike. It has a fun 'mix and mingle' aspect in the restaurant after each race that removes some of the seriousness of the Waglan Series. If you are the new owner of a sailing boat and are not too sure about racing, I recommend that you join these races as they are a lot of fun and a great introduction to yacht racing.

WAGLAN 10 REPORT

For the last race of the series fourteen yachts took the start despite the race clashing with the RHKYC National Cup. The choice of race course was made after due consultation with sailors during the usual breakfast gathering before the race. Courses 12 or 13 were both candidates in light of the general conditions, the second being the final choice of the RO on the start line. An eighteen nautical mile race taking the fleet from Deepwater

Bay to Fury Rocks, Beaufort Channel, South Lamma and back to the finish line rounding Chesterman buoy for the last leg.

Clouds, rain and a heavy tide against the fleet made it a challenging course, but the most testing stage was the final leg when the fleet fell into a wind hole at Chesterman. The finish line, already set up in Deepwater Bay, was relocated to just outside Chung Hung Kok in order to put the sailors out of their misery. The whole

thing was over by 15:00.

That same hole however allowed the smaller boats to catch up with the big ones for once, and even gave them a chance to win. Indeed, the two winners on the day were *FG3*, the J/80 owned by Dr. Stephen Davies and Elaine Morgan in IRC, and *JeNa PaBe*, skippered by Ben Chong, for a second consecutive win in HKPN.

Full results can be viewed on the Club's website.

FISHING TOURNAMENT







Asian Sailing Championships 2012 – Langkawi, Malaysia

Words by Louis Bond-Smith, Photos by Rory Godman, Marijke Whitcraft & Roy Godman

or the second time ever, ABC sent a high performance sailing team abroad, once again to return with great results. This time, however, we were sailing in the 15th Asian Sailing Championships, in the sun and heat of Langkawi, Malaysia. Cosmas Grelon and Nathan Bradley made both ABC and Hong Kong proud by bringing home gold medals as well as claiming the title of Asian Youth 29er Champions. This is the first Hong Kong dinghy sailing gold medal for more than 10 years; we now join the Windsurfers with success at the highest international level — a substantial achievement and a milestone for Hong Kong Sailing! While myself and Peter Simpson didn't do so well, due to less experience and heavier crew weight in the lighter winds, it was a fantastic trip nonetheless.

After three months of hard training in comparatively cold and wet Hong Kong, it was a real godsend to be walking out of a plane into 30°C heat. The first thing we did after arriving was to rush over to the sailing centre to check our shipping container, firstly to make sure it was there, and secondly that the boats inside were in one piece – neither of which we were quite certain

of until we actually got there. Having discovered everything had worked out well, we went to our hotel to be pleasantly surprised by an upgrade, putting the whole team in one large apartment with double beds all round! Even better, we soon found the slipway on the hotel waterfront, meaning we could take our own coach boat from the hotel to the sailing centre every morning, saving ourselves the 20 minute walk. This, however, did make for some funny stories when the tide went out, leaving 10m of waist deep mud to navigate through before finding water.

As we landed on the Thursday evening, the first real day we had in Malaysia was Friday the 17th of February. Up early in the morning, we unpacked and rigged up our boats in the incredible heat and went out for some training in a nice 13 knots of breeze. The following day was a day of practice racing – a great way to see how the competition was looking. It turned out that we would be battling it out against sailors who had been training full-time for the last 6+ months! This included the Thai team (with the 2010 Optimist World Champion as helm), soon to become Cosmas and Nathan's ultimate rival on the water, along with four



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Asparagus has a long history going back as far as the first century with records of it growing in ancient Greece and Rome. Over 5,000 years ago the Egyptians cultivated asparagus for medicinal reasons, and legend has it that the plant was so revered they offered it up to the gods in their rituals. Now you can enjoy this springtime delicacy throughout April with the ABC Asparagus Promotion. Bon appetite and good health.

Cheesy Asparagus Potato Soup | \$52

Prosciutto-Wrapped Asparagus salad with Truffle oil | \$98

Asparagus with Parmesan Penne | \$98

Poached White Asparagus with Pan-Roasted Sea Scallop and Hollandaise | \$128

Sautéed Asparagus with grouper in XO sauce | \$138

Gratinated Green and White Asparagus with Free Range Soft-Poached Egg and Black Truffle | \$168

Risotto with White Asparagus and Adriatic King Prawns | \$198



other boats of sailors who didn't seem to have to go to school and spent all their time training! The fact that all the other sailors there were full-time meant the competition was incredibly tough, really showing Cosmas and Nathan's amazing achievement to have won. While it became clear after a few days of racing that it was between Cosmas, Nathan, and the Thai team, it wasn't untill the last race was over that Cosmas and Nathan had finally secured victory. The intense match-racing going on between these two boats was the real centre of attention towards the end of the regatta – the tactical genius onboard both boats made it incredibly close at times.

Apart from the racing, we did a surprising amount in Malaysia. We spent evenings trying out local food and having competitions for who could eat the most roti, and spent our rest day checking out the rest of the island in a rental car — we ended up eating and swimming in every corner of Langkawi; the

stunning Cenang Beach as well as some other large beaches, with an incredible 40m waterfall being one of the highlights of the day. It was a fantastic trip, and while it was an intensely competitive regatta, off the water we all enjoyed it enough for it to count partly as a holiday in a really beautiful and secluded part of Asia, the team making it a great experience.

We would like to thank our sponsors, OOCL and Hellmann Worldwide Logistics, for providing transport and shipping of our boats to Langkawi and back, without which we would not have been able to race. Both ABC and the team are really grateful for the support from them. Finally, a word of thanks to Coach Rory Godman for his hard work, motivation and enthusiasm in order to make this trip happen, along with the support of ABC, and the driving force of Kevin Lewis who has built up dinghy sailing at our club to enable us to reach this level of competition.



Left to right: Louis Bond-Smith, Cosmas Grelon, Coach Rory Godman, Nathan Bradley and Peter Simpson







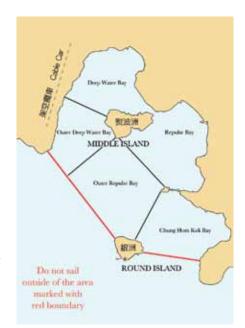


berdeen Boat Club has a wide variety of dinghies available for hire to club members, all the way from our most basic Optimist and Topper dinghies, through the advanced RS500, Laser IIs and even our new 29ers. To be entitled to hire a club boat, a member must first have their name on the club 'List of Permitted Hirers'.

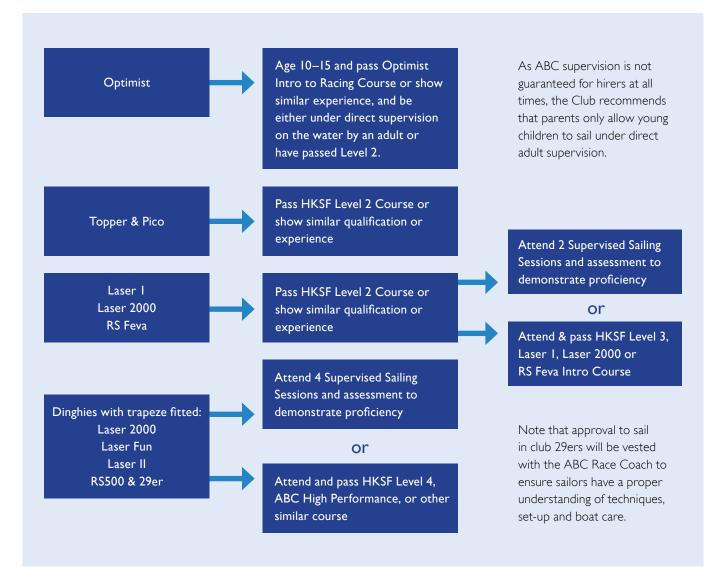
Members or members' children who successfully complete a sailing course at ABC are not automatically added to the list of permitted hirers; an application form still needs to be completed and submitted. Applicants are advised to apply in advance, as the Hiring List is usually updated approximately every month. If members wish to hire a club boat immediately after completing a course and filling in the Permitted Hiring application form, they should contact the ABC Sailing Secretary, in person, so that individual arrangements can be made. While the club wishes to facilitate Dinghy sailing and

hiring by members, the list of Permitted Hirers is part of a very important safety process and must be observed. The application to be added to our dinghy Hiring List may be found on our website and is also available at club reception.

Bookings for Club dinghies can be made in advance by contacting our Sailing Secretary at 2552 8182 ext 836 (Mon to Fri, 9-6pm), or by email to SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com There are plenty of dinghies and, except on rare occasions, it is almost always possible to hire something to take out onto the water. Note that priority will be given to sailing courses, when these are taking place. Any member hiring a Club boat will be responsible for any damage to the boat (other than fair wear and tear) and for the safety of himself / herself and all crew. Club dinghies can be sailed in Deep Water Bay and Repulse Bay – hirers may not sail outside the designated sailing area, as shown in the diagram. Hirers are advised



to read carefully the advisory notes that are attached to the hiring application form, and note especially that Club safety boats cannot be expected, unless specifically booked under a supervised sailing arrangement.





Words by John Berry, Photo by Kevin Lewis

n the last *Horizons* issue we were given a fine description of the cruiser handicapping systems, both under IRC for measured boats giving a fixed adjustment number according to boat and rig configuration, and the HKPN for a performance adjusted handicap based on actual results. These two systems relate respectively to a boat's potential, and to a boat and crew's recent performance.

For ABC Dinghy racing we also have two systems, reflecting our joint racing with RHKYC dinghies.

Firstly, our joint racing is undertaken for all boats using numbers issued by the Hong Kong Sailing Federation (HKSF). For dinghies this is almost always based on Royal Yachting Association's (RYA) Portsmouth Yardstick (PYS) numbers, few of which change per year, and marginally. Joint race results are calculated by dividing the elapsed time for each boat by its HKSF number for the particular boat, then multiplying by 1000, giving a corrected time from which the final order of finishers is derived. HKSF numbers range from around 924 for 29ers, to 1084 for Laser Is, to 1260 for Picos. This method gives results based on boats' potential speeds.

For our ABC club results, we run a modified form of this method, whereby we have a boat handicap, as in joint racing, to which is added a 'skipper handicap'. The skipper handicap can

be positive or negative, and is a cumulative number of past race results where an adjustment is made after each race as follows:

- First place subtract 10 points (i.e. approx 1%)
- Second place subtract 5 points
- Second last add 5 points
- Last add 10 points

The club results are then calculated by dividing the elapsed time for each boat by its HKSF number PLUS its skipper handicap, then multiplying by 1000, giving a corrected time, from which the final order of finishers is derived. Thus a skipper may change boats mid-season and have his results calculated using his Adjustment Number plus the HKSF number of the new boat.

Sound simple? Fortunately we have Sailing Secretary Angela Ho to calculate it all on a spreadsheet.

For Series Scoring, we adopt the ISAF's (International Sailing Federation) Low Point System, where the winning boat is given a score of I, second place 2, and so on. Results for the series shall be calculated after discarding the worst scores according to how many races have been held in the series (normally two or three), and the boat with the lowest score wins!

Now you know how it works, let's see you on the course for the next dinghy races on April 1st, 15th, 29th and May 20th.

Happy Easter!



Easter Saturday Brunch Menu

Date: Saturday, 7 April 2012 Time: 11:30am-3:00pm Venue: The Patio

Celebrate Easter at the ABC with special Easter menus and promotions and all the fun and games you would expect. Check the website for details of this year's Middle Island Egg and Spoon Race and Charity Easter Egg Auction.

Salads And Cold Cuts

Garden Green Salad, Couscous Salad, Assorted Meats, Smoked Fish Platter, Tomato and Mozzarella Salad.

Large Lamb marinated in Coriander, Garlic and Cumin, Honey Glazed Ham on the Bone.

From The Grill

Sirloin Steak, assorted Satays, Cumberland Sausage, Chicken Wings, Spare Ribs and spicy Merguez Sausage.

Vegetables

Grilled Mediterranean Vegetables with Extra Virgin Olive Oil and Rosemary, Carrots, Turnips and Zucchinis in Garlic and Cumin Stew, Baked Potatoes, Corn on the Cob.

Fresh Fruit Platter, Carrot Cake, Cup Cakes, Hot Cross Buns.

\$198 per adult & \$98 per child 3 - 12 years.

All drinks charged to Member's Own A/C.

Easter Lamb on Spit

Date: Sunday, 8 April 2012

Time: 12:30pm Venue: Middle Island

Celebrate Easter on Middle Island with tender, juicy lamb slowly spit roasted to perfection.

Family Egg Race: Speed along Bunny's path with an egg balanced on a spoon and pop it in the hole at the end of the course. But be very careful – drop your egg on the way and you will be disqualified!

\$200 per adult & \$100 per child 3 - 12 years.

(This includes entry fee for the Family Egg Race) All drinks charged to member's A/C.

Easter Sunday -**Traditional Easter Family Buffet**

Date: Sunday, 8 April 2012

Time: I2pm-3pm

Venue: Four Peaks Restaurant

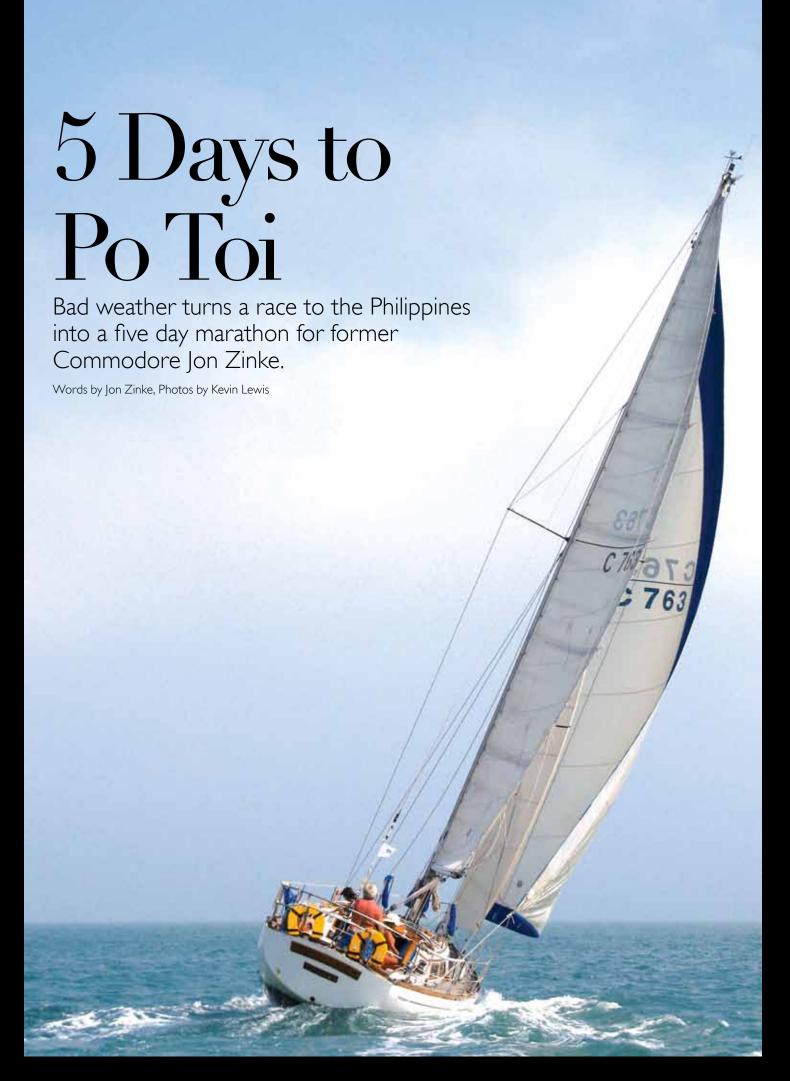
Our spectacular Easter Family Buffet includes; Carved Roasted Sirloin and Honey Glazed Ham, Fluffy Omelette Station, Homemade Dim Sum, Freshly Shucked Oysters, Sashimi & Sushi, Sausages and more.

Also, don't miss our dessert extravaganza featuring Homemade Cheesecake, Chocolate Brownies, Carrot Cake, Hot Cross Buns & Fresh Fruit.

Price: \$208 per adult & \$118 per child 3 – 12 years.

All drinks charged to member's A/C.











ur departure was near Steep Island off Clearwater Bay at noon on Tuesday April 7th and our arrival at Po Toi was 12:30 p.m. on Sunday April 12th. Considering the distance "as the crow flies" from Steep Island to the Ming Kee Restaurant on Po Toi is just over seven miles, I suppose I should be embarrassed as the boat's navigator that it took us five days to sail there for lunch!

It was April 1998 and the start of the China Sea Race onboard *Sawdee*, Wayne Robinson's 35ft Robert Perry designed Cheoy Lee Sloop. *Sawadee* was one of the smaller boats in the 34 strong fleet headed to the finish line in Subic Bay, Philippines. In addition to Wayne, the Skipper and Watch Captain "A", the crew consisted of Ted Anderson, Watch Captain "B", Mike Lagonawitsch, Graham Brechin, John DeLong, Guy Robinson, and your humble scribe.

Provisions had been stowed for what we anticipated would be a four to five day sail to the Philippines. Unfortunately, the weather predicted for the race – Force 3 to 4 all the way to Subic Bay – was overly optimistic. On the morning of April 7th there was nary an isobar between Hong Kong and the Philippines on the weather chart. When the starting gun went off Sawadee was only making 2.2kts, with the wind NNE, Force

I. At that speed it would take us more than 10 days to get to the finish! Encouragingly, by midnight on Tuesday the wind had picked up to SE, Force 3 and our speed had improved to 4.0kts. In the first 12 hours we had sailed 31 miles with 533 miles to go according to the GPS. By the following morning, however, our speed had dropped to barely 1kt with the wind backing to Easterly, Force 1.

The noon fix on Wednesday April 8th had us a measly 39.7 miles from the start with 519 miles to go. Our average speed was only 1.65kts the first day. Under "Observations and Sightings" in the log book that day was the entry "Halo around the Sun – lasted most of the day". This meteorological phenomenon can portend precipitation and a few days later this was to prove an accurate premonition. The other excitement that evening involved having the head strap of the No. I Genoa snap at 23:00. The Genoa was summarily lowered for repairs and the Yankee hoisted.

The No. I Genoa was repaired overnight and was hoisted the following morning at 06:00. The wind peaked about this time at ESE, Force 4 to 5 and the boat's speed briefly picked up to 5kts. Spirits were rising and thoughts of actually making it to the finish line crossed our minds, At 07:20 we landed a 5lb. Dorado



and had sashimi for breakfast! In spite of a good sail throughout the morning, by noon Thursday we were only 93.6 miles from the start, with 466 miles to go to Subic Bay. Our average speed for the voyage was still under 2kts! Four boats; *Valkyrie*, *Baringo*, *Blue Phoenix* and *Koel* had already retired from the race and turned back to Hong Kong, but we decided to press on – at least while the beer held out! *Sawadee* might not have been sailing fast but we were having a good time of it.

The wind almost completely died the rest of the morning and, although it picked up slightly to SE, Force 2 in the afternoon, our progress continued to be slow. Later that evening we had a pow-wow about whether or not to carry on. At the rate we were sailing, it was going to take us another seven days to make it to Subic Bay. Our provisions would most certainly run out before then. The lead boat, *Ffreefire*, was only eight hours from the finish line by this time. There was no hope of making it to the prize giving party and some people had planes to catch and places to go. Reluctantly, at 22:15 on the evening of Friday, April 10th the decision was made to turn around and return to Hong Kong. In almost 2½ days of sailing we had sailed 164 miles at an average speed of 2.8kts, with 399 miles still to go to the finish.

After sailing through the night, the following morning we started the engine and proceeded to motor-sail back to Hong Kong. Late Saturday afternoon two more Dorados, a three and a five pounder, were landed and we had a delicious fish curry for dinner. The only problem was that the beer had run out that afternoon!

Overnight the weather started to deteriorate significantly. At 03:30 a second reef was put in the main sail. Threatening thunder storms were dead ahead of us and there was no way we could avoid them. By 05:30 we were 40 miles from Hong Kong and we were sailing into the mother of all thunder storms. *Sawadee* has a deck stepped mast with no natural path to ground, and we were very concerned about what would happen if the mast was

struck by lightning. After much discussion the decision was made to rig the anchor chain around the starboard shroud and over the side into the water, in the hopes that a lightning strike would travel down the shroud, through the anchor chain and into the water. The antenna was also disconnected from the VHF radio to prevent the radio from frying if the antenna was struck by lightning. The entry in the log book for 05:30 concludes with: "Batten down for severe weather".

At 07:00 we were in the midst of a tumultuous thunder storm and hove-to with only a triple reefed main sail hoisted to steady the boat. There were numerous passing squalls with lightning bolts cracking all around us. For the next hour no progress was made and we remained hove-to. Miraculously, *Sawadee* escaped being hit by lightning. By 08:00 the worst of the storm had passed and we started the engine, and shook out the third reef, unfurled a bit of the Genoa and resumed heading to Hong Kong. By 09:00 all the reefs had been shaken out and we continued motor sailing in confused seas and a Northerly wind.

The log entry for Sunday, 12:30 reads: "Arrived Po Toi for lunch @ Ming Kee Restaurant". It had taken five days and 30 minutes from the starting gun to reach Po Toi, having sailed some 328 miles through the South China Sea!

While it would have been nice to make it all the way to Subic Bay, it was a very enjoyable and interesting sail with good crew, good stories and good meals. So, now you know why it took five days to get to Po Toi!

The current China Sea Race record is 47h, 43m and 7s. It was set in 2000 by Karl Kwok on the Open 60 Beau Geste. Ed's thanks go to Koko Mueller of the RHKYC for her kind assistance.



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PAY IT FORWARD - A PARENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Words by Richard Kligler, Photo courtesy of ABC

t was eleven years ago when I received a call from Hades that our five year old son Sean was diagnosed with a childhood cancer called rhabdomyosarcoma, a deadly soft tissue tumour. Sean's tumour was in his chest cavity. Besides the tumour being quite large, the cancer had spread to his right lung. Marcia, his mum, and I never had cancer in our families so we did not know what to expect, let alone what our young boy was going to be faced with. I can tell you we went into a state of numbness. Nothing appeared to have any relevance other than to see that Sean survives this ordeal.

Sean was a patient at a New York City hospital that specialized in cancer. The hospital had an outstanding reputation, with some of the best doctors and staff in the world. We were told right from the beginning that their paediatric surgeon was, without question, the best in this field and had hands from God. They continued that he would not entertain surgery unless he felt that every cancer cell would be removed. Of course, that was comforting, and as you can imagine,

any comfort was most welcome.

The paediatric oncologist told Marcia and I that Sean would have to undergo nine months of chemotherapy, open chest surgery to remove what was left of the tumour and then twenty-two days of radiation treatment. There was something off beam hearing what our son will endure, considering Marcia and I never had much more than flu during our life. However, as a family you need to put the best face on for your son and get ready for battle. And Sean sure fought every step of the way!

Rather than go into any detail of the ordeal, Sean won the war and here we are celebrating Sean's 10th anniversary of being cancer-free! And we all can thank childhood cancer research and the great strides it has made over the past twenty years moving closer to a cure. And it is close!

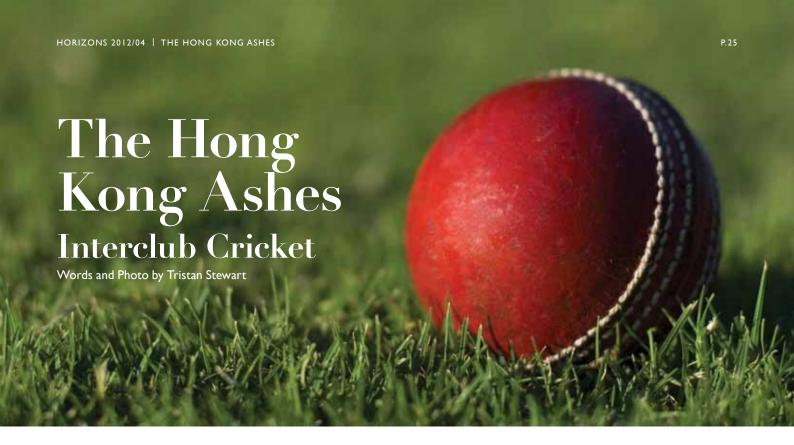
After Sean completed his cancer treatment I felt compelled to give back and make a difference. After witnessing the torture Sean went through and coming close to losing him, I wanted to see the day that childhood cancer was

just a minor illness, like the common cold. So I researched and found a charity organization in the U.S. that raised funds with the sole purpose of finding a cure for childhood cancer. Its name is the St. Baldrick's foundation. It is the world's largest volunteer-driven fundraiser specializing in childhood cancer research. The concept is simple; volunteers shave their heads bald in solidarity with children that lose their hair during cancer treatment. For this sacrifice of being shorn in public, family and friends make donations.

So I started to organize St. Baldrick's day events in Hong Kong back in 2006. Since that time 15 events have been held with over 650 brave men and women shaved. They have raised over HK\$11.2 million! Those donations are funding childhood cancer research projects in Hong Kong being conducted by the HKU, CUHK, Queen Mary Hospital and Prince of Wales Hospital.

On June 9, Aberdeen Boat Club will be hosting its 4th annual St. Baldrick's day event. It's a great time for a great cause!

Come join us for the festivities.



t was the third challenge from the RHKYC for the ABC to don the whites and wield the willow at the Sandy Bay oval. Having convincingly won the first two matches, the ABC was keen to meet the challenge, yet was mindful that the RHKYC would be bringing their finest team, and as such went to extraordinary measures to find the fittest and most talented players within the club.

Having sorted through the piles of applications, a first 11 was selected and asked to be at the grounds on the 2nd January, promptly by 12.30 p.m.

A wonderful day greeted us, with clear blue skies and a temperature just right for the occasion. Excitement built with the sounds of bat on ball, as the ABC honed their skills in the adjacent nets. Two late dropouts meant that reserves David Owens (doubling as team doctor), and Commodore John Berry (doubling as an interested spectator) were quickly brought into the team. Luckily, both were suitably attired for the occasion.

The toss of the coin brought the growing crowd to a hush. Captains Michael Fisher (ABC), and Stephen Vine (ABC and RHKYC but in this case acting for the RHKYC), watched as the coin spun through the air, landing ultimately in favour of the ABC, who elected to bat first.

The ABC team comprised the following players: four Owen's, two Clift's, one Fisher, one Berry, a Woodward, a Vickers and a Stewart.

In short, the ABC innings went something like this: Tonk! Tonk! (Aussie expression for 'wow, what a big hit!')

The experienced Mick Fisher knocked up a quick 31 as opener, followed by a big hitting 49 by the young and very strong Adam Clift, who ultimately ran out of overs to be left at 49 not out (twice...).

Some entertaining batting coupled with some difficult bowling decisons by the RHKYC captain, allowed the three Owen's lads to knock up a collective 86, but even this great effort was outdone by their dad, top scoring for the day with an enviable 65, also not out.

At beer o'clock, the ABC had piled on a total score of 330, leaving a big challenge for the RHKYC in the rapidly cooling conditions and fading light.

After a light refreshment or two (for those not too serious players), the yacht club sent out two very capable batsmen, quietly confident of their lineup being capable of 331 or more.

The yacht club innings went something like this: Out! Out! Out!

Despite the strong opening partnership of 36 by Tom Callahan and Tony Taylor, and a further 48 runs being added before the next wicket fell, despite strong support by John Leigh with a total of 27, the talented bowling of Adam Clift (watch out for that name...) and unorthodox styles of the Owens lads left the yacht club wanting with a total score of just 213.

It didn't matter!! There was curry and beer waiting. Not necessarily in that order. It was time for the inter-team debrief.

For the third year in a row, this match was not about winning or losing (not really...) It was about doing something different with some likeminded fellows, and enjoying it. As did the crowd!

Despite some of the older blokes being a bit worse for wear the next day, both teams have signed up for next year.

Try outs for the ABC start imminently! H



The scores on the board

SAILING DIARY

A reminder of up and coming sailing courses and events in Hong Kong

Cruiser

April 4 - 9: Rolex China Sea Race

This is the 50th anniversary of this prestigious blue-water classic offshore race, organized by RHKYC. This year, nearly 30 yachts in 3 divisions will start at 12.10hrs on 4th April and race to a finish line off Subic Bay, in the Philippines. Full details at www.rolexchinasearacerace.com

April 8, Easter Sunday: J/80 Sailing Trip

A great opportunity to gain time on the water in a J/80. This one day trip around the South of Hong Kong with an instructor on board, while slightly less adventurous than racing to the Philippines, is still a great chance to develop your sailing skills in great company. Participants usually stop for lunch at Po Toi. Further details are on our website under 'Keelboat J/80 Courses'.

May 12 & 13: ABC Classic Yacht Rally

One of our club's premier regattas, the race is a celebration of older 'classic' craft, and while it is open to all boats, only those over 20 years old are eligible for the silverware. There are also class prizes for Taipan, Cheoy Lee, and Cape Carib yachts. This is a unique event in Hong Kong and we would encourage all members to make this the best year yet for the Classic Yacht Rally. Details on our website www.abclubhk.com

May 19: Annual Prize Giving

A celebration and awards evening for sailors old and young, from the smallest Optimist to the largest offshore IRC boat. Mark the date in your diary!

April 29 & May I: Hong Kong Match Racing Nationals

Organised by the HK Match Racing Association and run by RHKYC in J/80s, this event will be a prestigious and exciting regatta. ABC is hoping to enter a team, and any interested sailors should contact Kevin Lewis as soon as possible as very limited spaces are available.

May 27: ABC Summer I

Our summer cruiser series kicks off in May and we would encourage members to register early via our website. This event has a bigger social component than the club's Championship Series but it's just as competitive and everyone competes in one division, on a time adjustment handicap system. There is an individual prize for each race and an overall trophy for the series winner, based on the best four results from the six races.

Dinghy

April 5, 6 & 7: Laser I Dinghy Course

A three day opportunity to introduce sailing the single-handed Laser I. A great boat, and challenging to sail well, this course will introduce all three rig sizes, boat set up, handling and introduce racing. A highly recommended (and often requested course) so don't miss out!

April 15 & 29, May 20 ABC Dinghy Races

Run as combined races with RHKYC, this season sees racing on Sunday afternoons. Races are very competitive at the front of the fleet and a great way to get more sailing experience even if new to racing.

April 21 & 22 RHKYC Middle Island Dinghy Regatta

This is Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club's premier dinghy event, and ABC hopes to enter a full team of sailors. Members not currently training in our youth squads may enter, and boats should be booked via our Sailing Secretary. We hope to see a great turnout, especially in the Laser 2000 and RS Feva classes – contact Angela at SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com to reserve your boat.

May 19 & 20: HHYC Spring Regatta

ABC Dinghy Teams will be at HHYC in force for this major event at our reciprocal club. The logistics of moving a significant proportion of our fleet to Sai Kung will be well worth the effort! ABC members not involved in our dinghy squads are welcome to attend – just contact our Dinghy Sailing Manager, Kevin Lewis, and find out how we can get you racing in Port Shelter! DinghySailing@abclubhk.com



SEASONAL COCKTAIL/MOCKTAIL **SPRING**

Green Ginger Spritzer

Green Ginger Wine, Fresh Lemonade, Fresh Ginger \$40

Green Tea Latte

Japanese Green Tea, Fresh Milk \$32



Aberdeen Boat Club 香港仔遊艇會



- Easy-to-manage yoga poses to stretch your back, realignyour spine and tone your muscles
- · Holistic health: treat your body to the best exercise, from theouter muscles to the inner organs
- Practical breathing techniques to relax and focus

Date: April 11 & 18 (Weds) Time: 10-11:15 am Venue: Harbour Room

Fee: \$800 for 4 sessions and \$220 for single visit

Teacher: Higy Fung

Experienced Registered Yoga Teacher 500 with Yoga Alliance, USA





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Interschool Sailing Festival 3 & 4 March 2012 Words & Photo by Kevin Lewis

his annual event, hosted by the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club and supported by ABC, is held off Middle Island. Schools from around Hong Kong compete in a team-racing format where each school enters a team of six sailors in three boats, and races are held in a round-robin format over the two days. This year some 150 sailors took part from 20 schools, and 104 races were sailed over the course of the weekend.

Apart from a large number of ABC sailors taking part, our club also supplied the finish boat as well as loaning six Feva and six Pico dinghies to RHKYC. Kevin Lewis has also helped to DJ and commentate at the event since its inception.

Saturday's conditions were tough, with frequent wind shifts and strong gusty winds which caused multiple capsizes. Despite this, 52 races were completed and at the end of Day One it was

French International leading Division A, with Chiu Lut Sau in front in Division B.

Sunday saw more steady winds, and even some sunshine as the day progressed. The quality of racing improved too, with some real tactical team-racing showing through. A number of teams were in contention right until the final few 'play-off' races. In the end it was the Hong Kong Sea School whose teams triumphed in both divisions, with KGV and Chiu Lut Sau runners up.

RHKYC Sailing Development Manager, Richard Knight said "Despite the weather on the first day, we managed to get in 52 races and on the second day reached 100 races for the first time in this event's 10 year history. Everyone has had a great time, and my thanks go to the Race Officer and all the helpers involved. Many thanks also to our supporting sponsor Neil Pryde, supporting club the Aberdeen Boat Club, and official partner HOK."

RESULTS

Feva Division (Division A)		
lst	Hong Kong Sea School C	
2nd	KGV	
3rd	French International School	
4th	South Island School	

Q'Ba / Pico Division (Division B)		
lst	Hong Kong Sea School A	
2nd	Chiu Lut Sau Memorial Secondary School	
3rd	West Island School	
4th	Hong Kong Sea School B	



\$15 oyster promotion

Date: Every Wednesday Evening Venue: The Four Peaks Restaurant

Freshly shucked imported Oysters at \$15 each Served with homemade Mango Salsa, Tomato Salsa and Shallot Vinaigrette, or simply on their own.

So make your reservation now as only a limited number of oysters are available each night. For reservations please call the Four Peaks

Restaurant on 2553 3422.



Aberdeen Boat Club 香港仔遊艇會



ANGUS BEEF BBQ NIGHT

Date: Friday, 6 April 2012 Time: 6:30pm to 8:30pm Venue: The Patio

Steaks: Angus Ribeye, Angus Sirloin,
Angus Tenderloin, Angus Rump
Sauces: Red Wine, Green Peppercorn, Mushroom
Sides: Steak Fries, Jacket Potato,
Corn on the Cob, Steamed Broccoli

\$288 per adult & \$168 per children 3-12 years



Aberdeen Boat Club 香港仔遊艇會



CHEF YADAV'S INDIAN CURRY BUFFET

Date: Friday, 27 April 2012 Time: 6:30pm to 9:00pm Venue: The Patio

Chef Yadav invites you to experience his authentic Indian Buffet Menu with full Salad Bar & and a selection of Desserts.

\$168 per adult & \$78 per child under 12 years
All drinks charged to member's account.





LAMB ON A SPIT EVENING

Date: Friday, Friday, 20 April 2012 Time: 6:30pm - 9:00pm Venue: The Patio

All you can eat tender juicy whole Australian Lamb on a spit with Salad Bar.

Only \$188 per adult & \$118 per child 3-12 years

Free premium English ale tasting, all other drinks charged to member's account. For reservations please call the Coffee Shop on 2554 9494.



Aberdeen Boat Club 香港仔遊艇會

HOME WINE DELIVERY APRIL 2012

	Bottle \$	Quantity	Amount
Wines			
Chateau Ste Michelle Domaine Ste. Michelle Blanc de Noirs – U.S.A. Rosé sparkling wines are unique not only because of their colour, but also their vinous character. Blanc de Noirs is a beautiful, salmon pink wine with a persistent column of small bubbles. A delicate sparkler with strawberry impressions coming through in the nose and on the palate. The initial impression is dry, with a soft and fruity aftertaste.	\$115		
Trimbach Gewurztraminer AOC, 2009 – France A pleasant golden coloured wine, full bodied with a nose of lychee and apricot. The relatively complex flavours of lemon and grapefruit are balanced with delicate herbals and a hint of honey. The long finish displays perfect acidity - not too much, not too little.	\$185		
Kim Crawford Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc, 2011 – New Zealand A pale-straw coloured wine with hints of green. From the outset characters of cut grass and tropical fruits are dominant on the nose. The taste unfolds with flavours of passion fruit, gooseberry and subtle herbaceousness. The wine is mouth-filling with good texture and finishes well with a cleansing acidity and great length. Ideally suited to asparagus, oysters and summer salads.	\$145		
E.Guigal Cotes Du Rhône Blanc, 2009 – France A clear, bright yellow colour with white flower, acacia, and white peach aromas. A fruity, fine, rich wine combining elegance and balance. This wine goes well with various starters and fish dishes.	\$130		
Leeuwin Estate Siblings Shiraz, 2008 – Western Australia The colour is a brilliant deep ruby red. The wine is strongly fruit driven by lifted ripe mulberry, blackberry, and blood red plums balanced with dusty vanilla pod, also showing hints of white pepper and spice. The palate is full to medium weight with a great intensity of sweet black cherry, blackberry, and plums which carries through to a long and focused finish with fine-grain tannins framing the generous soft fruit. A perfect match for pasta or lamb.	\$180		
Bodega Norton Privada, 2008 – Argentina This wine offers a beautiful wave of pure raspberry and blackberry fruit that rides a full-bodied, muscular texture. Long and sweet, the fruit just glides along with impressive concentration.	\$155		
Louis Jadot Bourgogne Pinot Noir, 2008 – France Offering a colour of medium intensity, this wine is purplish in its youth then changes to ruby and then garnet after several years in the bottle. It is harmonious and balanced, with a plump fruitiness and silky texture offset by round, gentle tannins. The very typical fragrant varietal bouquet is complemented by a deliciously lingering finish. You can enjoy this wine with grilled or boiled red meats, roasts, mild game and soft cheeses like Camembert and Brie.	\$185		
Les Rives de Loudenne, 2nd label Château Loudenne, Haut Médoc, 2006 – France A brilliant ruby red colour, this wine boasts a charming nose of strawberry and cherry. Smooth tannins are followed by a long, fruity finish. The wine is ready to drink but can also be kept thanks to its tannic structure.	\$160		

Member Name:	Membership Number:
Tel (Office):	_ Tel (Home):
Delivery Address:	
Delivery Date:	Member Signature:

Minimum order 12 bottles. Mixed cases available.

Total amount will be charged to Member's account. Order accepted by mail, fax or in person.

Contact the Food & Beverage Department at 2555 6216 or Fax: 2873 2945.

Free Delivery for orders over HK\$1,200. Please allow 3 working days for delivery.

All wines are subject to availability.

Wine Tasting

All of the above wines will be available for free tasting at the Galley on Friday, 20 April from 6-8pm.



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ummer has finally begun to make its presence felt, along with condensation and mosquitoes, and it won't be long before Middle Island starts filling up at the weekends again. With all the buzz about upgrades and long term development it is looking like MI is the place to be this summer sailing season.

For fear of repeating the sentiments already expressed by club staff and committee members I would like to extend my congratulations to the performance dinghy sailing team for their wonderful victory in the Asian Sailing Championships. To have even qualified for top level international competition is remarkable, but to bring home the gold medal was astounding. And to think, this was achieved while training around a full

time school schedule is doubly so.

Storm season is coming so if you are a boat owner it is about time to look at the condition of your mooring lines and tackle, make any repairs that have been put off during the calmer winter weather, and generally have a good old tidy up. It is this time more than any other that we boaters need to come together and look out for each other. If you have any concerns about the state of your moorings talk to Ah Kee, he and his marine staff have had years of experience taking care of ABC boats, and their owners.

Finally a belated hoorah for our own boys in white. The ABC cricket team were victorious against the RHKYC yet again, in what is becoming a regular feature in the club social calendar.

"In the long run, all solutions are temporary. Go ahead and use duct tape."

– Garrison Keillor

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