



2013/06

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# HORIZONS

THE MAGAZINE OF THE ABERDEEN BOAT CLUB

## Splendid Sights:

The ABC's 9th Classic Yacht Rally

## The 2013 Thai Nationals:

ABC Optimist Sailors Face Down the Wind

## ABC Summer Sailing programmes

## The Four Peaks:

Hiking Hints from the Hong Kong Scouts



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# HORIZONS ISSUE 2013/06

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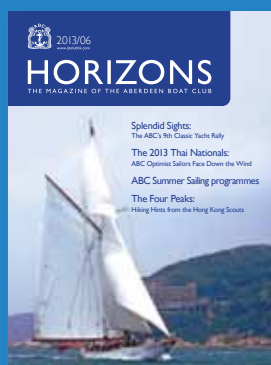
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*Cover photo: Merrymaid during the ABC's 2013 Classic Yacht Rally, by Eileen Sze*

*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

Congratulations to General Manager Philippe de Manny's team for the excellent Classic Yacht Rally on 4th and 5th May. Created in 2005 under the drive of Philippe as a themed race with a focus on distinguished and senior racing yachts, the race this year, the ninth consecutive, was perhaps the best yet.

More details elsewhere in *Horizons*, but I note the splendid sights of the graceful 109-year old Camper & Nicholson's 112-foot gaff cutter *Merrymaid* and the 118-year old 78-footer Bermuda ketch *Rona* in Classic Division 1A heeled in their upwind battle to the Fury Rocks mark. The division prize was presented to *Merrymaid*, whose skipper Chris Stanmore-Major admitted to needing to quicken up some sail hoists as the boat had not been raced since 1926. Plenty of opportunity in forthcoming ABC races.

We note the Marine Department's March issue of notices to boats in the Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter for being oversize or being not owned by the mooring holder, and their subsequent removal from the ATS moorings. This

**“The splendid sight of the graceful 109-year old Merrymaid and the 118-year old Rona”**

has not affected members on ABC moorings. The Club has circulated to ABC mooring holders a copy of the Marine Department's April letter to clubs asking for information on their policies, and details of any members living aboard other than for pleasure purposes, or renting out vessels for accommodation.

Meanwhile the ABC General



Committee has streamlined the Young Associate Membership category to make it more attractive for a wider range of members between the ages of 18 and 29.

Will see many of you on the Summer Series starting line on 9th June.

**John Berry**  
Commodore

## Flag Officer's Report

I have just returned from a great weekend enjoying the ABC Classic Yacht Rally. This year, the turnout was particularly impressive with some great classic yachts entered such as the 112-foot *Merrymaid*, a Camper & Nicholson gaff-rigged cutter, and the 78-foot *Rona*, which currently can be seen moored out in Middle Island. Our General Manager, Philippe de Manny, has really made this a unique event that stands out in the sailing calendar in Hong Kong. Read more about the Rally later in *Horizons* and make sure you don't miss it next year!

Earlier this month our Optimist sailors, sponsored by Emerson, were flying the flag for the ABC and Hong Kong at the Thai Optimist Nationals held in Pattaya. The regatta was sailed over three days and drew a record entry of 128 boats, with competitors from all over Asia, including Singapore, Indonesia and India! Congratulations go to Yann d'Argenlieu, who was the highest-placed ABC sailor, and to Taylor Young, who at nine years

of age managed a very impressive 17th place in one race.

Although the weather doesn't seem to know it, according to the calendar, spring is almost over. This means that we are now turning our attention to the first race of the ABC Summer Series, which will take place on Sunday, 9 June. This first event of the series has been chosen to also serve as a young sailors' invitation race. With this event, we hope to give our budding youth sailors a chance to educate their counterparts in the big boats! If you want to get involved in this great event, please contact our sailing office for more details.

Of course with summer comes the threat of typhoons. Now is the time to revise your typhoon readiness plan for both you and your boat. If you need any further guidance, our Typhoon Readiness: Seasonal Precautions document is ready for download on the club website, and this issue of *Horizons* also includes a typhoon-readiness guide. I urge you to



refresh your memory on steps you can take to improve your boat's safety and security in the event of a typhoon hitting Hong Kong. A little preparation now will give you much greater peace of mind when the T3 signal is hoisted.

I look forward to seeing you out on the water or back at the bar in the Club.

**Bruce Perkins**  
SailCom





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# General Manager's Letter

## Staff

More than one month ago, our pastry chef Mr. Ng Nan On suffered a near-stroke at work and was sent to hospital. He has recovered, and we hope to see him back very soon. The rapid response to the incident by the Club and the Ambulance Service made a difference in his recovery, but such illnesses require a long recovery.

After six months as our Food and Beverage Manager, Isabella Gaggino has left. She has been replaced by Alok Kumar, who after three years with another Club has come back to his first love, F&B service. We wish Alok a warm welcome back and look forward to seeing him around the Club.

## Moorings

Last month, the Marine Department was particularly active around the Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter and the rest of Hong Kong, enforcing existing regulations on moorings, boat sizes and boat usage, and this has prompted some concerns among boat owners.

The Club has been as proactive as possible in enforcing regulations with our 2012 mooring agreements and in responding to the Marine Department in the most appropriate ways, but regulations are so complex that we cannot be sure what will or could be asked of us in the coming months. We shall regularly communicate with our Members if anything is asked, and we shall do our best to ensure that we comply with any new Marine Department regulations or old ones that no one knew about.

## Club activities

Since October 2012, the Home Affairs Bureau has required that clubs in Hong Kong under private recreation leases prepare and send a quarterly declaration on all activities separating Members' usage and non-Member usage of facilities. This purpose is to assess how Clubs use the allocated land and how well they serve and support Hong Kong's wider purposes and community

needs. Their findings of these quarterly declarations will help Home Affairs draw lease conditions for the next renewal of Clubs' leases.

The ABC's club license (also known as our Certificate of Compliance) renewal is well underway. Our site inspection, fire service inspection, Food Environment and Hygiene Department inspection and electrical inspection (also known as the "WR2" regulation) all are nearly completed, and we soon hope to hear that another year of operation has been approved.

**"The Spanish Fiesta on Middle Island attracted over a hundred members, the Mother's Day brunch over 150 members, and the Classic Yacht Rally was, according to participants, the best ever."**

After Ah Sang's departure, the Middle Island liquor license had to be changed. Captain Harry Lee has been elected to be the licensee holder. Unfortunately, this process may take some time, as the change of license holder now requires new documents that take three months to process. This being outside of our control, we are negotiating with the liquor licensing board to allow us a bit of flexibility and/or if possible to treat our case with priority.

As you can see, May has been a busy and stressful month for the ABC with regulations and licensing issues, multiple renewals and declarations. June looks just as busy.

Nevertheless, the Spanish Fiesta on Middle Island attracted over a hundred members, the Mother's Day brunch over 150 members, and the Classic Yacht Rally was, according to participants, the



best ever. So even with all those clouds looming over our heads there are some bright spots on the horizon.

Talking about Mothers' Day, I must express here our most grateful thank you to Boots and to Miss Jeanne Zhao for their wonderful sponsorship of beauty products that made the event a bit more special for all our mums attending this unique family event at the ABC.

## Book early for the Father's Day Buffet

The Father's Day buffet party is set for Sunday, 16 June. If you would like a table please book early; Mother's day was fully booked in no time with over 60 members on the waiting list.

Over summer, you will see many functions all over the Club. Please watch for the e-letter from Membership Service Manager Cobo Liu every Friday for the latest news on these.

The new menu in the Galley coffee shop is planned for very early June. It may well be that by the time you receive this issue the menu is already on offer. I plan a summer menu revision for the 1st of August and Fall's first menu for the 1st of October. In light of the constant increase of raw product prices the Club costing policy has been reviewed thoroughly. In order to limit the effect on menu prices I am trying to keep our costs as low as possible while ensuring quality.

**Philippe de Manny**  
General Manager



## Race notice



### Young Sailors' Invitation Race: Sunday, 9 June

Historically the ABC's summer series of cruiser races has been a more relaxed, less competitive series of races in the ABC sailing calendar. During the summer series, boats often include non-regular sailors on the crew to give them a taste of ABC cruising and races.

In light of constructive comments at the Club's AGM to seek to get more of our young sailors onto cruisers, the Sailing Committee has nominated the first summer series race, set for Sunday, 9 June, as a "young sailors' invitation race."

Skippers will, of course, have the ultimate say (depending on weather conditions, crew's experience, etc.) on who sails with them, but we hope the experience will whet appetites for cruiser sailing and increase the pool of potential cruiser sailors for the future.

If you are either a cruiser owner or a young sailor (minimum 14 years old) and would like to participate in this initiative, please contact SailCom member Diana Bruce on jollyfin@netvigator.com Please copy Assistant Marine Operations Manager Eileen Sze at keelboatsailing@abclubhk.com



The Summer "Restaurant" Series: Lunch at Po Toi Island



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\* Verdict Research: UK Health & Beauty report 2011



#### Hong Kong

- IFC Mall, Central
- Queen's Road, Central
- 181 Lockhart Road, Wan Chai
- President Theatre, Causeway Bay
- Hang Lung Centre, Causeway Bay
- Hysan Place, Causeway Bay
- Cambridge House, Tsim Sha Tsui
- City Plaza 1, Tsim Sha Tsui

#### Kowloon

- Golden Dragon Centre, TST
- Elements, TST
- Sino Chew Plaza, Jordan
- Wu Tung Plaza, Mong Kok
- Grand Century Plaza, Mong Kok
- Telford Plaza 1, Kowloon Bay
- Jade, Kowloon

#### New Territories

- PaoChen, Tsing Yi
- Metroplaza, New Territories
- Tsim Wan Centre, Tsim Wan
- New Town Plaza Phase 1, Sha Tin
- Sunning City Plaza, Ma On Shan
- Shuang Shui Centre
- Sun Moon Plaza Phase 1
- Kwong Wah Centre, Yuen Long



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## Sustainable Seafood Promotion, June 2013

As local and global marine fisheries collapse, you can make a difference when you dine at the ABC. Choose from these sustainably produced seafood dishes:



<b>Jumbo shrimp cocktail</b> <i>tomatoes, romaine lettuce, salsa and spices</i>	\$48
<b>Alaskan crabmeat salad</b> <i>baby spinach and artichokes</i>	\$68
<b>South China Sea clams marinara</b>	\$ 78
<b>Pan-fried Portuguese sardine</b> <i>with capers, olive and anchovies</i>	\$128
<b>Steamed leopard coral trout</b> <i>with Yunnan ham and Chinese mushroom</i>	\$138
<b>Chilean sea bass piccata</b> <i>Sautéed in white wine, with lemon and capers</i>	\$148
<b>Pistachio-encrusted Pacific salmon</b> <i>with potatoes puree, olive, tomatoes</i>	\$138
<b>Grilled tuna Gorgonzola</b> <i>fillet of tuna grilled and served with Gorgonzola sauce</i>	\$ 168





## News from Food and Beverage Manager Alok Kumar

Alok Kumar, the ABC's new Food and Beverage Manager, is back at the Club after a three-year sojourn as general manager of Zetland Hall. Alok welcomes rejoining the homely atmosphere of the Club that he last felt while operations manager of the ABC from 2005 - 2009. Alok has 20 years' of experience in the F&B field. He speaks English, Hindi, Punjabi and Cantonese.

### Food and beverage promotions and events at the Club throughout June and early July:

June menu promotion: Sustainable Seafood

Wok-fried noodle station: every Sunday 12 - 2.30 pm at the Patio

### June events:

Free wine tasting, Friday, 14 June

Lamb-on-a Spit, Friday, 14 June

Father's Day Lunch Buffet, Sunday, 16 June

Seafood Extravaganza, Saturday, 22 June

Hong Kong National Day Family Buffet, Monday, 1 July



Alok Kumar returns to the ABC

### Featured wines of the month:

Stimson Estate Cellars Chardonnay: by the glass, \$40, bottle \$190

Stimson Estate Cellars Merlot: by the glass, \$40, bottle \$190

Beer of the month: Somersby Apple Cider, \$33

Cocktail of the month: the Julep Honey Park, \$45

(Drambuie, Calvados, apple juice, lemon juice and fresh ginger)



## Squid Fishing on the ABC Junk, 14 and 25 June

**Time: 7 pm to 10 pm**

Evening squid fishing is fun and entertaining. Bring along a group of friends or make some new ones. These excursions are run during June only. Book quickly as they are very popular.

\$158 per adult;

Children (up to age 14) \$118

Light dinner and one drink included – water, soda or beer.

Further drinks billed to member's account.

Squid you catch can be cooked aboard by the captain's wife.

Minimum 20 people, maximum 35 people.



To book your place aboard please call Cobo on 2553 3032 or email [mbs@abclubhk.com](mailto:mbs@abclubhk.com)



## Lamb-on-a-Spit, Free Wine Tasting, the Patio, Friday, 14 June

6:30 – 8:30 pm

Accompanied by baked potatoes, vegetables, salads and desserts.

Adults	\$218
Children (3-12 years of age)	\$118

Free wine tasting

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



## Wok-fried Noodle Station – every Sunday, the Patio

12 noon to 2:30 pm

Noodles with your choices from the salad buffet	\$80
Noodles only	\$58

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





# Father's Day Brunch Buffet, the Four Peaks Restaurant and Harbour Room, Sunday 16 June

12 noon – 3 pm

International buffet lunch with a special treat for all fathers. Make your choices from a wide selection of assorted international cuisines and delicious desserts.

Adults: \$228

Children 14-16 years old: \$118; 10-14 years old: \$88; nine and under free

## Salads and Cold Dishes

selection of cold cuts  
fresh green salad and pickles  
roasted Mediterranean vegetables  
tomato and mozzarella salad  
whelks, mussels and yabbies  
smoked salmon  
seafood salad  
fennel and apple salad  
beef Carpaccio  
Parma ham with melon  
assorted sushi  
California rolls  
sashimi

## Dressings

French, Italian, Thousand Island and herb vinaigrette

## Condiments

bacon, grated Parmesan cheese,  
toasted pine nuts, spring onions  
and croutons

## Soup

clam chowder

## Cooking Stations

home-made dim sum  
roast prime rib  
rock oysters  
Hainanese chicken  
chargrilled sole fillet with tabbouleh  
potatoes Lyonnaise  
baby carrots and French beans  
assorted sausages  
seafood pie  
steamed garoupa  
crispy pigeon  
braised spring vegetables  
deep-fried oysters  
lobster E-fu noodles

## Desserts

fruit tarts  
strawberry mousse cake  
honey mousse  
minced pies  
Father's cake  
apple tartin  
fresh fruit platter

Reservations required. Please call the Four Peaks Restaurant at 2553 3422



# Home Wine Delivery June 2013

	\$/Bottle	Quantity	Amount
<b>Sparkling Wines</b>			
<b>Domaine Ste. Michelle, Blanc de Noirs, U.S.A.</b> <i>Awards: Wine Spectator – 87 points</i> 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.	\$130		
<b>White Wines</b>			
<b>Telmo Rodriguez Gaba do Xil Godello 2011, Spain</b> Light straw in colour. Bright citrus and green apple aromas are underpinned by energetic minerality. Refreshingly bitter wine, showing lime- and lemon-zest qualities and a hint of quinine. Finishes with a deeper chamomile flavour and good persistence.	\$125		
<b>Kim Crawford Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2012, New Zealand</b> Pale straw colour with touches of green. Characters of cut grass and tropical fruits are dominant on the nose. Unfolds with flavours of passion fruit, gooseberry and subtle herbaceousness. The wine is mouth-filling with good texture, and finishes well with cleansing acidity and great length.	\$160		
<b>Kendall Jackson Vintner's Reserve Chardonnay 2011, U.S.A.</b> Forward fruit flavours and aromas of peach, green apple, melon and tropical fruit are layered with butterscotch and oak. Lush and rich with balanced acidity. Food suggestions: Enjoy with grilled fish, shellfish, roasted chicken and creamy style pastas.	\$175		
<b>Red Wines</b>			
<b>E. Guigal Cotes Du Rhône Rouge 2009, France</b> <i>Awards: Wine Advocate – 90 points</i> A deep ruby/purple wine with lots of cassis, kirsch, pepper, and even an intriguing floral note, the wine is medium-to full-bodied, silky smooth, and a truly delicious, hedonistic and intellectually satisfying wine that is a remarkable bargain.	\$198		
<b>Glen Carlou Classic Syrah 2007, South Africa</b> Dark red with purple hue. Notes of aniseed, dark chocolate and black currants with herbal tea. Rich, complex flavours of ripe berries with hints of spicy oak and pepper on the palate. Soft and elegant tannins with intense and lingering fruit flavours and rich mouthfeel.	\$150		
<b>Bodega Norton Privada 2009, Argentina</b> <i>Awards: Wine Enthusiast: 93 points; Wine Spectator Smart Buy</i> 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.	\$180		

**Free Wine Tasting  
with assorted tapas**

All of the above wines will be available for free tasting  
at the Galley on **Friday, 14 June, 6:30-8:30 pm,**  
**during the Lamb-on-a-Spit event.**

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel (Office): \_\_\_\_\_ Tel (Home): \_\_\_\_\_

Delivery Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Delivery Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Member Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Minimum order of 12 bottles. Mixed cases are available.  
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  
**FREE delivery will be offered for purchase of over 12 bottles;** please allow 3 working days for delivery.  
All wines are subject to availability.







### Somersby Apple Cider

**\$33 per bottle**

Alcohol 4.5% by volume

Somersby Apple Cider is a refreshingly crisp cider made from fermented apple juice and natural apple flavouring, without artificial sweeteners, flavours or colourings. Its uniquely juicy apple taste makes it a tasty and natural choice.



## Beer of the Month

Aberdeen Boat Club 香港仔遊艇會



### The Julep Honey Park

Drambuie, Calvados, apple juice, lemon juice and fresh ginger

**By the glass \$45**



## Cocktail of the Month

Aberdeen Boat Club 香港仔遊艇會

### Stimson Estate Cellars Chardonnay Chateau Ste Michelle, Washington state, U.S.

*This fruit-forward, juicy Chardonnay delivers aromas of ripe apple, melon and a touch of caramel. Its crisp acidity is balanced nicely with a hint of toasty oak. The Stimson Estate Cellars Chardonnay is an easy to enjoy, expressive wine. Try it with grilled chicken and shellfish. Alcohol 13.5% by volume.*



### Stimson Estate Cellars Merlot Chateau Ste Michelle, Washington state, U.S.

*America's Washington state is famed for its flavourful, award-winning Merlots. The Stimson Estate Cellars Merlot exhibits classic raspberry and cherry characteristics with a touch of vanilla and toast on the smooth finish. This lush, pleasurable Merlot pairs perfectly with grilled salmon or a flavourful pasta. Alcohol 13.5% by volume.*

**by the glass \$40**

**by the bottle \$190**



## Wines of the Month

Aberdeen Boat Club 香港仔遊艇會



## Seafood Extravaganza, the Patio and Galley, Saturday, 22 June

6:30 pm to 9:30 pm

Chef Paul Chong and the kitchen team will grill and barbecue clams, prawns, fish fillet in foil, crayfish and scallops, to name but a few tasty items.

Adults	\$288
Children Aged 7-12	\$118
6 and under	free



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





# Hong Kong National Day Family Buffet, the Four Peaks Restaurant Monday, 1 July

12 pm to 3 pm

Adults \$208

Aged 7-12 \$105

6 and under free

Reservations required

## Salad Bar

mixed lettuce salad

Japanese bean curd skin, salmon and crab roe

prawn and grapefruit salad

Greek salad

tomato and mozzarella

## Soup

minestrone 意大利菜湯

## Cold Dishes

smoked salmon condiments 煙三文魚

assorted sushi, California rolls 雜錦壽司

assorted cold cuts 冷肉盆

Parma ham with melon 意大利巴馬火腿

smoked duck salad 烟鴨胸沙律

mussels, yabbies, water crabs

and shrimp cocktail 青口, 小龍蝦, 凍蚧, 凍蝦

rock oysters 生蠔

## Carving Wagon

honey-glazed pineapple ham

## Hot Western Dishes

baked sole fillet in spicy tomato salsa 焗龍脷魚

potatoes Lyonnaise 洋蔥炒茨仔

chargrilled mixed vegetables 炭燒雜菜

chicken steak with pepper sauce 黑椒雞扒

sweet and sour pork 咕嚕肉

crispy oysters 炸生蠔

steamed whole garoupa with

soya sauce 清蒸石班

sautéed squid with celery and

XO sauce 醬炒香芹鮮魷

E-fu noodles 蝦子伊麵

## Desserts

fresh fruit platter 果盆

mango pudding with

seasonal mixed fruit 香芒布丁

strawberry Napoleon 草莓拿破崙

egg-white soufflé with

seasonal mixed berries 焗蛋白

chestnut tart 栗子撻

blueberry cheesecake

To reserve for your family and friends, please call the Four Peaks Restaurant at 2553 3422

# An ABC Retrospective: Nine Years of the Classic Yacht Rally

By Philippe de Manny

Wing Sing, winner of the Bristol Yacht of 2011 (by Philippe de Manny)

**T**he 2013 iteration of the ABC's Classic Yacht Rally (CYR) had 26 entries and has been called the best-ever CYR by the usual and new sailors alike.

Perhaps to appreciate fully this statement a little history of the race is necessary.

Over the years, every CYR, as with May's mercurial weather, has seen pretty much everything: furious storms, dead-calm seas and burning sun, and erratic behaviour and tremendous seamanship. Only three times since the race's beginning in 2005 – in 2006, 2008, and again this year – did we manage to have two days of good wind, allowing participants to finish both races in fine conditions.

### Race history, year by year:

#### 2005: 23 entries

A furious gasp of wind near Castle Rock during the race dismasted a Cheoy Lee named *Spirit of Eight*, which had to be towed back to the ABC Clubhouse on Middle Island. The next day a thunderstorm was heard in the mists of dawn, and in a blink of an eye, a torrential rainstorm complete with thunder and lightning surrounded the fleet. Visibility fell to less than 20 metres; heavy seas and extremely heavy rain caused the second leg of the race to be abandoned.

That year, *Attica*, a 1966 Cheoy Lee offshore 36 ft was the oldest yacht taking part – and it won the race.

#### 2006: 22 entries

The traditional overnight curry buffet on the beach that year had a new attraction called "chasing drifting boats." The wind was so strong until midnight that many boats broke free from their anchorage and had to be rescued.

The oldest boat taking part was *Hoi Sze*, an 85-year old classic junk. The oldest sailing yacht was *Snowgoose II*, a 1965 magnificent Sparkman & Stephens 36. *Anak*, a Cheoy Lee Midshipman built in 1980, won the Classic Cup.

#### 2007: 27 entries

At the start on Saturday, a windsurfing course held by the LCSD at Stanley's St Stephen's Beach decided to cross the start line. Despite being informed and warned about the race and of the imminent danger, the windsurfers persevered in sailing across the starting line. That gave them a bit of thrill, but the frail vessels looked even smaller and fragile when our large cruisers *Epic*, *Solitaire*, *Cloud* and the usual pirates of *The Farr Side* sailed between them to take the windward mark. The rest of the event was smooth as it could be.

The oldest yacht in 2007 was the majestic *Solitaire*, a 40-tonner built in 1917 and skippered on the occasion by John Binks. *Naiad*, the 28-ft Taipan skippered by past commodore Jon Zinke, won the overall Classic Cup, proving to the world that seamanship can overcome size issues.



### 2008: 25 entries

Captain Liu Ning-Sheng of *Princess Taiping*, introduced to the ABC by Hong Kong Maritime Museum Curator Stephen Davies, found shelter at our Club when Typhoon Neoguri was closing on Hong Kong. It was a great pleasure to be of help for such a beautiful classic replica of a Chinese junk. Our relations did not end there as the next day after a sailors' dinner Captain Liu gave a presentation on the construction of his boat, and then agreed to be on our starting committee boat for the race.

A record number of classic sails appeared in 2008, showing growing interest from classic sail owners in making the CYR Hong Kong's major classic sail rendezvous.

At 77 years on the water (or under it, during the 1940s occupation), *Ariki 3*, the Mystic Islander previously owned by Graeme Large and now owned by Peter Lau, was the oldest yacht that raced in 2008. The 2008 classic fleet comprised an array of outstanding looks, with *Katrina*, a superb ketch owned by David Porter, winning the Classic Cup, Michael Lunn's *Snowgoose II*, his stunning 43-year old Sparkman & Stephens 36, winning the Antique Trophy, and *Ariki 3* winning the Vintage Trophy.

*Anak*, a Cheoy Lee Midshipman built in 1980, won the Classic Cup for the second time.

### 2009: 22 entries

The weekend was absolutely gorgeous this year but the wind was light and the tide against the fleet. Regrettably, *Eole* suffered from the choice of a long course that was not shortened early enough by the Race Officer (me), resulting in it and most of the older boats being forced to retire.

Nevertheless *Anak* managed to finish and win the Classic Cup for the third time.

### 2010: 19 entries

Sixteen yachts raced on both days with 14 defined as classic. The fleet was widely composed of boats over 20 years old with the exception of a few modern ones and more recent boats built with a classic intent. The race's last but far from least entrant in regards to its classic theme was the splendid Fujianese junk *Long Hai*, invited to join the race upon its arrival in Hong Kong a few days earlier from the Philippines.

David Peers on *Brigadoon*, a 1971 Van de Stadt Pimpernel, won the 2010 Classic Cup.

### 2011: 25 entries and 16 classic yachts

*Accanito*, a sloop 7/8 skippered by France's Jean Luc Seguin, stopped in Hong Kong to join the race whilst traveling the world. *Katy J*, a 49-year old Van de Stadt Pioneer, the oldest yacht in the race and skippered by Robert Biuk-Aghai from Macau, made our little event international for the third year in a row after *Princess Taiping* in 2008 and *Long Hai* in 2010.

Starting in Stanley Bay in front of the Maritime Museum was not done without intent, as we hoped to promote the race to the community by posting notices in all bars and restaurants on the promenade. I am glad to say that this experiment worked out well as from the start boat on Saturday, hundreds of spectators could be seen on the



museum pier, on Stanley promenade and on St Stephen's Beach pier. The spectators must have had a great time seeing *Wing Sing*, a recently restored antique Chinese sailing junk, and *Aqua Luna*, a recently hand-built traditional red-sail Chinese junk, amidst the myriad of other classic sailing yachts such as the Taipan, Cheoy Lee, Van de Stadt, Tayana, Bluewater, Vagabond and Shipman yachts making circles in front of them before the start.

For the first time we introduced a "concourse d'élégance" with two areas of interest. The "Bristol Yacht of the Year" went to *Wing Sing* for her remarkable renovation work and pristine workmanship admired by many during the event. The "Most Authentic" award was given, after strict examination by our judge Dr. Stephen Davies, to *Brigadoon*, a 40-year old Van de Stadt Pimpernel Steel Hull, which has been kept as original as possible and remains in very good condition.

*Bucephalus*, skippered by Simon Lynch, won the 2011 Classic Class and the Yamaha Class prizes.

### 2012: 22 entries

For the first time, five Ruffians entered the race, making up a class of their own. One of them, the Ruffian *Schannuleke* skippered by Erwin V. D. Berge, went on to win the overall prize. *Attica* finally came back for the race and was the oldest yacht in 2012.

### Finally to 2013: 26 entries

Why was the Club's ninth hosting of the race the best-ever Classic Yacht Rally? Probably because we had one of the largest entry lists, the oldest yachts ever recorded, the most magnificent sails on the water with *Merrymaid*, *Rona*, *Epic*, *Lady Lorraine*, *Sawadee* and others, the best food ever served on the beach, the most reactive and efficient emergency action taken, and probably the best-ever sailing over two beautifully memorable days.

Let us hope that May 2014's race will beat this ninth running of the race to have the largest, oldest, fastest and most enjoyable weekend throughout which to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Classic Yacht Rally rendezvous of Hong Kong. Let us hope that the Taipans for which this race was originally created all will join the 2014 race, and that especially *Ragamuffin*, who only missed 2013, and *Naiad*, past winner of the race, will be the first to join, setting the path for other Taipans to follow. H



# ABC Classic Yacht Rally 2013

By Oliver Cully

As with last year's Aberdeen Boat Club Classic Yacht Rally (CYR), the 2013 rally was an absolutely splendid event, but with one major difference. The ABC Classic Yacht Rally 2013 was graced with not just one, but two, classic beauties of more than 70 feet in length.

*Rona*, a Hong Kong-based 78-foot, 118-year old ketch, was joined this year by *Merrymaid*, a 1904 gaff-rigged 112-foot cutter taking a break from her five-year around-the-world odyssey. The excitement created by the participation of these two classic yachts was palpable.

The event was well-attended by 26 boats, most of which were classic craft (defined by the ABC as being any boat of more than 25 years of age), and most of which were substantially older.

In true ABC inclusive fashion, non-classic boats were also welcome to join the fun. The event is one of spirited fun, smiles and ducking others even when they're in the wrong. From the perspective of a Class sailor at RHKYC, the ABC Classic Yacht Rally makes a refreshing change, both relaxing and a lot of fun.


Whilst the wind on Saturday, 4 May, was promising in the morning (circa 20 knots), unfortunately it dropped as the boats gathered in Stanley Bay readying for the start line, so that by the 2 pm start time the wind had dropped to around 10 knots.

The course took the boats around a short windward mark before spinnakers were hoisted and bows were pointed in the direction of Castle Rock. In the big-boat division, *Rona* got off to a good start whilst *Merrymaid* took time to hoist her sails one by one. With a substantial length difference, though, it took only 10 or 15 minutes before *Merrymaid* had gained the lead, where she would stay for the remainder of the race around Fury Rocks and over to Tai Tam Bay. However at Fury Rocks, both *Rona* and *The Farr Side*, the only other boats in the division, quickly hoisted their spinnakers and held their own. The breeze continued to die as the afternoon progressed, meaning many struggled to make the finish by the 6 pm cut-off time, but with a little flexibility given by the Race Officer, all boats were finished and *The Farr Side* (a Farr 38) was

awarded first place in the top division by over an hour on corrected time.

After a barbecue and plenty of booze on the beach in Tai Tam, a few were looking a little jaded, but like true sailors, the crews had lifted their anchors by 10 am for the start on Sunday. We were greeted by a wonderful 15 knots and growing breeze. The Sunday course would take us back to Fury Rocks, which we would leave to starboard, to Castle Rocks, again to starboard and then a sausage between Castle Rock and Chesterman buoy. This gave the whole fleet plenty of opportunity to check each other out and take photos as they crossed each other's paths on the sausage.

After the final rounding of Chesterman Buoy, the boats approached the finish line in Stanley Bay as the wind strengthened. Everyone was treated to a fantastic fine reach to the finish line in 15-20 knots.

Thanks to everyone at the ABC for such a great event; next year's Rally will be an unmissable part of the sailing calendar! Do check the ABC website and its Facebook page for some great photos and also a short video of the event. 



Lady Lorraine (by Kevin Lewis)



# RESULTS

Division 1A	
<i>The Farr Side</i>	Farr 38
<i>Merrymaid</i>	Camper & Nicholson's Gaff Cutter 112'
<i>Rona</i>	Stowe & Sons 78'
Division 1B	
<i>GA</i>	Dehler Optima 101
<i>Scrumpy</i>	Yamaha 33
<i>Triton</i>	Cheoy Lee Offshore 31
Division 2A	
<i>Andiamo</i>	Archambault A35
<i>Goodwill</i>	S&S Morris M36
<i>Xiphias</i>	Jeanneau 45
Division 2B	
<i>FG3</i>	J80
<i>Zephyr</i>	Sadler 34
<i>Hullabaloo</i>	Jeanneau 45
Rally	
<i>Lady Lorraine</i>	Turkish Gullet 89'
<i>Carpe Diem</i>	Salona



GA and Aura fly the colours (by Kevin Lewis)



Rona (left) and Merrymaid (by Kevin Lewis)

Rona against the rocks (by Eileen Sze)



Xiphias (by Kevin Lewis)



by Kevin Lewis



Sawadee (by Eileen Sze)



Hullabaloo (by Kevin Lewis)





Goodwill, 2<sup>nd</sup> place Div. 2A (by Philippe de Manny)



Triton (by Kevin Lewis)



The Farr Side, Div. A winner (by Eileen Sze)



Triton, 3<sup>rd</sup> place Div. 1B (by Philippe de Manny)



## Race report



*The Thai sun gets behind the ABC team (by Mike Wright)*

# Weathering Shifting Winds: The ABC Optimist Team Fare Well at the 2013 Thai Nationals

by ABC Dinghy Coach Rory Godman

During the first week of May, a team of six sailors from the ABC and Coach Rory Godman headed to Thailand for the Thai Optimist Nationals, whose fleet of 128 Optimists included the Malaysian and Myanmar national teams. We headed down on the 1st of May on the 7:45 am flight, which made for an interesting time for some team members to get up. Once arriving in Bangkok, we had a two-hour drive ahead of us to the hotel, some 10 minutes from the sailing venue. Also staying in our hotel was "J Asia," another sailing team from Hong Kong.

Once at the sailing club, we picked up our chartered boats from the Royal Varuna Yacht Club and got to work readying them for the upcoming training and regatta. After about three hours of fixing and tweaking, we managed to get on the water at 4:30 pm for a short training session. There were a few small problems but nothing that the parents or Coach Rory hadn't seen before. Then it was off back to the hotel for an early night and some SLEEP!!!

Day Two started out with a fitness session at 8 am followed by a good breakfast. Then both teams from the hotel jumped in the back of a jeepney and were off to the Club. We had a very good training session with about 10 to 14 knots' wind during the day. We stayed on the water for a fried-rice lunch that was

pre-packed from the hotel. After sailing it was back to the hotel for a swim to cool off as we had been out in 38°C all day. We then had a long video debrief and was time for dinner where five of the sailors decided it would be okay to have dessert.

Day Three (our last day of training): Once again we started with a fitness session that was by far the hardest to date. The five sailors who had had dessert learnt the hard way by doing extra work. We had about a four-hour training session on the



*Post-training paddling off Pattaya (by Rory Godman)*





*Starting a race (by Rory Godman)*



*ABC sailors in shifty winds (by Bob Aylsworth)*



*A jeepney ride to training on the water (by Mike Wright)*

water that was in about eight knots of wind. We then headed uptown for a nice pre-regatta meal.

Race Day One: We had about eight knots of sea breeze, which was easy to read with the left paying off on most upwinds. The ABC started off with a bang with Yann d'Argenlieu around the top mark in second place, then slipping to 10<sup>th</sup> place in the first race. We completed three races and at the end of Day One, ABC had everyone in the top half of the fleet.

Race Day Two: We got down to the Club and without a breath of wind it looked like it would be a long day. Then a storm came in from Bangkok and brought a lot of wind with it. By the time we got down to the committee boat, the ABC sailors all had smiles on their faces as they wanted more wind. But it wasn't to be as the race officer sent everyone back to shore because of the strong wind. Moments after he did this, the wind dropped to 15 knots. After a long wait, we finally got the first race of the day underway. It was going on 3 pm; at this stage the wind was about five knots but very shifty. The ABC sailors didn't cope very well with the conditions and three sailors missed the time limit and scored DNF. We then were sent ashore ... so much for a short day. It was 6:30 pm by the time we left and we only got one race in for the day.

On the final race day, the ABC sailors needed to get three races completed, so we got a discard after the bad result from the day before. Wind was much the same - shifty - but the race control did a better job, and we got all the races in.

The sailors finished very well with five out of the six sailors in the top half of the fleet. Outstanding performances came from young ABC sailors Taylor Young (age 9) and Anatole Martin (10); both showing great potential for the future. Charlie Stewart had some very good performances during the Regatta but really needed one more drop to come up the results.

I would like to give a huge note of appreciation to our sponsor Emerson – without them, this trip would not have gone ahead; this is the second time Emerson have sponsored the ABC Optimist team. Major thanks also go to SLAM for helping sort the team gear and making sure we are the best-looking team on and off the water in Hong Kong. Big thanks are also due to parents for making this possible. 🙏

#### **ABC Optimist Team Results:**

Yann d'Argenlieu 21 <sup>st</sup>	Anatole Martin 50 <sup>th</sup>
Matthew Wright 24 <sup>th</sup>	Russell Aylsworth 57 <sup>th</sup>
Taylor Young 46 <sup>th</sup>	Charlie Stewart 74 <sup>th</sup>

**SLAM**



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# World Championships 2013:

## From Optimist Stage 1 to the Optimist Worlds

By Matthew Wright



Matthew rigging his sail at the 2013 Thai Nationals

***ABC Sailor Matthew Wright shares the journey from his first ABC sailing course in 2009 to being part of the Hong Kong team at the summer 2013 Optimist World Championships in Italy.***

Looking back years ago, it all started when I watched my elder sister sailing, which got me hooked on the sport from then on. So I joined my first ABC Optimist sailing course during the 2009 Easter holiday at the age of eight.

Our instructor was David Price. His voice boomed over ours and gained control of us like a military sergeant. I had so much fun on the course for those five days. From then on, I literally attended courses every holiday for at least a week at ABC. When the weather got cold, Kevin would serve up hot chocolate to us all!

After just over half-a-year of sailing, Kevin invited me into the ABC racing team under his coaching. We had brand new Optimist Racing dinghies – it was the first dinghy team to ever exist at ABC!

After some good training from Kevin, I entered my first regatta, the RHKYC

Middle Island Regatta 2010. Rigging on the first day was so tense because I was about to start in a fleet of 40 boats when I had only practised with a maximum of eight boats. My second regatta ended with a lot of DNFs and me practising my swimming skills!

It takes time to make progress, lots of practice, and early on, lots of poor results. However five months later, someone came in and turned our careers around. This man turned us all into possible Olympic qualifiers!

### **His name? Rory Godman.**

As newly appointed ABC dinghy coach, Rory began by making changes to our training sessions and more specifically, improving our techniques in the boat.

After hard-core training during the summer, we were soon ready for

our next regatta, which was the ABC Opening Regatta 2010. Day One had only light-to-medium winds; the same on Day Two. But I remember on Day Two I had a race where I was over the line at the start, I went back and restarted ... and still finished fifth! It was my best result ... but unfortunately, when the results were posted I was still put as an "OCS."

As time sailed by us, we quickly managed to catch up with the rest of the fleet with this competitive coach (and experienced rugby player!). Time also allowed us to gain height and muscle.

Then the time came for the Optimist National Championships 2011. Throughout those three days, I had one amazing race where the start had a massive pin-end bias and only one boat started at the gun and at the pin. So we thought he was guaranteed first place for sure.




I started at the middle of the line while a lot of the top sailors at the time sailed up to the pin on starboard then tacked at it. After a minute or so after the start I tacked and shot off towards the left side of the course. I then tacked again on the port layline and realized that I was leading the pack! Everything from then on was in the bag, my first-ever bullet!

I was still climbing the rankings and getting more and more competitive. Top-five results were becoming regular for me, as were race wins. But I still search for a regatta that I can claim for myself, since my best result is runner-up in the ABC Opening Regatta 2012.

This year, 2013, I am ranked sixth Optimist sailor in Hong Kong, and I have qualified for the World Championships, which take place in late July at Fraglia Vela Riva in Italy.

What it means for me to be in a position like this, to qualify for the Worlds, makes me feel that all that hard work that was put in right from the time I started sailing now finally pays off. It makes me feel proud of myself and lets me stand up to anyone.

All I know is that I definitely wouldn't be in this position without the help of Rory and Kevin; and the constant, unfailing support of my Dad, who not only encourages me, takes photos, attends so many regattas ... and pays all the bills! This is obviously a chance that I have to take and will set a target for my future sailing as well. 

Matthew in his element



## Sailing Diary

### Cruiser and J/80

<b>Sat 8 June</b>	<b>J/80 Summer 1</b>
<b>Sat 22 June</b>	<b>J/80 Summer 2</b>
<b>Sun 7 July</b>	<b>J/80 Summer 3</b>
<b>Sat 20 July</b>	<b>J/80 Summer 4</b>
<b>Sat 3 Aug</b>	<b>J/80 Summer 5</b>
<b>Sun 9 June</b>	<b>Cruiser Summer 1</b>
<b>Sun 23 June</b>	<b>Cruiser Summer 2</b>
<b>Sun 7 July</b>	<b>Cruiser Summer 3</b>
<b>Sun 21 July</b>	<b>Cruiser Summer 4</b>
<b>Sun 4 Aug</b>	<b>Cruiser Summer 5</b>
<b>Sun 25 Aug</b>	<b>Cruiser Summer 6</b>

### Cruiser and J/80

<b>Sun 2 June</b>	<b>ABC Dinghy Summer Races 1 &amp; 2</b>
<b>Sat 1 and Weds 12 June</b>	<b>HHYC 50th Anniversary Regatta</b>
<b>Sat 15 and Sun 16 June</b>	<b>HKSF Festival of Sport Regatta</b>
<b>Sun 16 June</b>	<b>ABC Dinghy Summer Races 3 &amp; 4</b>
<b>Sat 22 and Sun 23 June</b>	<b>Macau International Dinghy Regatta</b>
<b>Sun 30 June</b>	<b>ABC Dinghy Summer Races 5 &amp; 6</b>
<b>Sun 14 July</b>	<b>ABC Dinghy Summer Races 7 &amp; 8</b>
<b>Sun 28 July</b>	<b>ABC Dinghy Summer Races 9 &amp; 10</b>
<b>Sun 11 Aug</b>	<b>ABC Dinghy Summer Races 11 &amp; 12</b>

# Summer 2013

# ABC 29er

# European Campaign



Akira Sakai



Cosmas Grelon and Nathan Bradley

**T**he ABC's Kevin Lewis explains why a summer campaign in Europe is important for our best sailors and for our Club:

Over the past six years, small boat sailing at the ABC has changed almost beyond recognition. The Club's commitment to growing the sport and encouraging club members to sail at all levels and at all ages has revolutionised how many people see the Club. Having a dedicated race coach and running squads is a vital part of the whole package and a pathway for sailors to reach the very top levels of proficiency in our sport.

The expertise and enthusiasm that Coach Rory Godman has brought to the ABC is far-reaching. Team sailors are now seen as athletes, and their training and handling reflect this. Even though relatively few numbers of team sailors are involved, the knock-on effect in all we do is highly significant, letting sailors and/or their children see and extend their own possibilities, and also marketing the ABC as a Club worth joining and supporting.

With this as background, the ABC once again supports the overseas travel of our high-performance squad this summer. More than taking part in a championship, the trip is in a very real sense a campaign. We hope to send six 29er sailors, that is to say three boats, to Europe for three events that include the World Championships. Coach Rory has built in significant training time before each event, running the campaign in a truly professional manner.

While we of course seek good results, the primary aim is improvement. The effect on sailing skills of such a campaign,

racing against some of the best sailors in the world in big fleets with big starts, is exceptional. Our sailors return leaps-and-bounds ahead of where they were beforehand – motivated, more skilful, more committed and more enthusiastic. And for our Club, the ABC, to support such an idea shows exactly how far we have come!

It's a big commitment for sailors and parents; in general terms the ABC pays only the costs associated with our coach. We are also happy to announce that the team has signed two sponsors: Borrelli Walsh and Slam Sailing Gear. We are very excited to have them on board with the ABC's 29er team.

The three summer 2013 events the team will attend are:

- Kiel Week, Germany (25 June to July 1)
- Warnemünde Week, Germany (10 to 15 July)
- 29er World Championships, Denmark (25 July to 4 August)

Confirmed sailors so far are Cosmas Grelon, Akira Sakai, Yann d'Argenlieu and Nathan Bradley. Hopefully one more team will confirm. The squad is aiming for Gold Fleet results at the World Championships, and ABC wishes them all the best!

Regular updates and photos will be available throughout the summer 2013 campaign on our Club website and Facebook page. ✎

**BORRELLI**  
**WALSH** 保華

**SLAM**





# Seasonal Precautions: Typhoon Preparedness

**T**yphoon season in Hong Kong is from May to October, with most typhoons arriving between mid-July and late September. The Hong Kong Observatory (HKO) provides advance warning and tracking of typhoons over a wide-ranging area. It tracks storms that threaten to approach Hong Kong and those whose passage brings less wind but heavy bands of rain and swells.

As per the ABC bye-laws, members within Club premises will be kept informed of tropical storm signals either by the posting of notices or by announcement.

It is the owner's responsibility to secure a boat's mooring and look after its overall safety. ABC reminds all boat owners that ABC staff members are not supposed to board boats to clear decks, and despite ABC helping to check mooring components for safety, owners must secure their own mooring lines.

You must therefore come to check your boat before the HKO hoists a typhoon signal 3, as the Club will cease sampan service then. Once signal 3 is hoisted, ABC staff will be very busy completing Club safety procedures to secure the entire Club, moorings and

pontoons, steps that begin when a typhoon 1 signal is hoisted.

## **Ground tackle**

Check the condition of your mooring lines, shackles and swivels. In typhoon shelters, boats should put out breast lines and springs to adjacent boats. Remove the anchor and stow it below. Consider adding a second set of mooring lines and taking them aft to primary (the biggest) winches or a different set of cleats, not the mast or standing rigging (shrouds). Anti-chafe hose or other protective material where rope passes over bow rollers and through fairleads or chocks is also a good idea. In the event of a surge all these measures will reduce or prevent damage.

## **On deck**

Look around for all ways to reduce windage on your boat. Lash the helm amidships. Yacht owners should drop booms and lash them on deck. Check that cockpit drains are clear and that any automatic bilge pump is working. Make sure that all hatches are fully closed. Remove binnies, sails, covers and any safety gear and put them below.


Some boats may need ABC staff to help secure them to one another to avoid them bashing against each other during high winds and seas. The trustworthy ABC team has an excellent record for safety under typhoon conditions, having safeguarded boats for 40 years.

## **At home**

In the event of a typhoon forecast, knowing that you are ready, with a good, strong mooring rig and a well-prepared boat may help you rest more easily ... as does making sure that your pleasure vessel licence and your insurance are up-to-date.

## **Club operations during typhoons**

When Typhoon Signal Number 8 is hoisted, Club operations will cease and all members, guests, and staff, with the exception of caretaker staff, will be required to vacate the Club premises.

In the event of members or guests being unable to leave Club premises due to lack of transport or other circumstances, the Club's public rooms will remain open for use but very limited food, drink or service of any kind will be available. 



# ABC Youth Summer Sailing Programme

## June – July 2013

Following hot on the heels of ABC's Easter Programme, we now announce our selection of youth sailing courses and activities for younger sailors during the summer school holidays. Don't be late to sign up – we encourage you to apply early, **at least three weeks prior to the start date**, to ensure you get spaces, particularly on popular courses. (See page 27 for separate programme for August and for French International and other schools with longer summer holidays.) Details and all application forms are available on our website, [www.abclubhk.com](http://www.abclubhk.com). For further enquiries please contact Angela Ho at [SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com](mailto:SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com).

Date & Time	Junior Course	Activity	Eligibility	HKS (Member)	HKS (Non-member)
Mon 24 – Fri 28 June am	✓	Optimist Stage 1	Age 7 – 11	840	1,215
Mon 24 – Fri 28 June am	✓	Optimist Stage 2	Age 7 – 11 Pass Optimist Stage 1	840	1,215
Mon 24 – Fri 28 June pm	✓	Optimist Stage 3	Age 7 – 11 Pass Optimist Stage 2	840	1,215
Mon 24 – Fri 28 June pm	✓	Optimist Stage 4 Supervised Practice	Age 7 – 11 Pass Optimist Stage 3	840	1,215
Mon 24 – Fri 28 June		Beginners HKS Level 1&2	Age 11 – 18	2,520	3,650
Mon 24 – Tue 25 June		RS Feva Gennaker Course	Age 12 – 18, hold RS Feva Introductory or HKS Level 3	1,008	1,460
Weds 26 – Fri 28 June		3-Day Supervised Practice	Age 12 – 18, hold HKS Level 2	1,512	2,190
Mon 1 – Fri 5 July am	✓	Optimist Stage 1	Age 7 – 11	840	1,215
Mon 1 – Fri 5 July am	✓	Optimist Stage 2 (max 6 students)	Age 7 – 12, hold Optimist Stage 1	840	1,215
Mon 1 – Fri 5 July pm	✓	Optimist Stage 3	Age 7 – 12, hold Optimist Stage 2	840	1,215
Mon 1 – Fri 5 July pm	✓	Optimist Stage 4 Race Course	Age 7 – 14, hold Optimist Stage 3	840	1,215
Mon 1 – Fri 5 July		Beginners HKS Level 1&2	Age 11 – 18	2,520	3,650
Weds 3 – Fri 5 July		3-Day Supervised Practice	Age 12 – 18, hold HKS Level 2	1,512	2,190
Mon 1 – Fri 5 July		Water Sports Week	Age 8 – 18, hold HKS Level 2 or Optimist 3	2,520	3,650
Mon 8 – Fri 12 July am	✓	Optimist Stage 1	Age 7 – 11	840	1,215
Mon 8 – Fri 12 July pm	✓	Optimist Stage 2	Age 7 – 12, hold Optimist Stage 1	840	1,215
Mon 8 – Fri 12 July pm	✓	Optimist Stage 3	Age 7 – 12, hold Optimist Stage 2	840	1,215
Mon 8 – Fri 12 July pm	✓	Optimist Stage 4 Supervised Practice	Age 7 – 14, hold Optimist Stage 3	840	1,215
Mon 8 – Fri 12 July		Improvers HKS Level 3	Age 12 – 18, Hold HKS Level 2 for at least 1 year	2,520	3,650
Mon 8 – Weds 10 July		RS Feva Introduction	Age 12 – 18, hold HKS Level 2	1,512	2,190
Thurs 11 – Sat 13 July		Laser Intro Course	Youth & Adult, hold HKS Level 2	1,512	2,190
Mon 8 – Tues 9 July		Basic & Intermediate Windsurfing	Age 8 - 18	1,008	1,460
Weds 10 – Thurs 11 July		Advanced Windsurfing	Age 12 – 18, hold basic & intermediate	1,008	1,460
Fri 12 July		Windsurf Practice day	Age 8 – 18, hold basic & intermediate	504	730
Mon 15 – Fri 19 July am	✓	Optimist Stage 1	Age 7 – 12	840	1,215
Mon 15 – Fri 19 July pm	✓	Optimist Stage 2	Age 7 – 12, hold Optimist Stage 1	840	1,215
Mon 15 – Fri 19 July pm	✓	Optimist Stage 3	Age 7 – 12, hold Optimist Stage 2	840	1,215
Mon 15 – Fri 19 July		Beginners HKS Level 1&2	Age 11 - 18	2,520	3,650
Mon 15 – Weds 17 July		RS Feva Introduction	Age 12 – 18, hold HKS Level 2	1,512	2,190
Thurs 18 – Fri 19 July		RS Feva Gennaker Intro Course	Age 12 – 18, pass RS Feva Introductory course	1,008	1,460
Mon 22 – Fri 26 July am	✓	Optimist Stage 1	Age 7 – 12	840	1,215
Mon 22 – Fri 26 July pm	✓	Optimist Stage 2	Age 7 – 12, hold Optimist Stage 1	840	1,215
Mon 22 – Fri 26 July pm	✓	Optimist Stage 3	Age 7 – 12, hold Optimist Stage 2	840	1,215
Mon 22 – Fri 26 July pm	✓	Optimist Stage 4 Supervised Practice	Age 7 – 14, hold Optimist Stage 3	840	1,215
Mon 22 – Fri 26 July		Improvers HKS Level 3	Age 12 – 18 hold HKS Level 2 for at least 1 year	2,520	3,650
Mon 22 – Weds 24 July		RS Feva Introduction	Age 12 – 18, hold HKS Level 2	1,512	2,190
Thurs 25 – Fri 26 July		RS Feva Gennaker Introductory Course	Age 12 – 18, pass RS Feva Introductory course	1,008	1,460





## ABC Youth Summer Sailing Programme August 2013

Please apply at least three weeks prior to the course start date, to ensure you get spaces, particularly on popular courses. Details and all application forms are available on our website, [www.abclubhk.com](http://www.abclubhk.com). For further enquiries please contact Angela Ho at [SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com](mailto:SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com).

Date & Time	Junior Course	Activity	Eligibility	HKS (Member)	HKS (Non-member)
Mon 5 – Fri 9 Aug am	✓	Optimist Stage 1	Age 7 – 11	840	1,215
Mon 5 – Fri 9 Aug pm	✓	Optimist Stage 2	Age 7 – 12, hold Optimist Stage 1	840	1,215
Mon 5 – Fri 9 Aug		Beginners HKSF Level 1 & 2	Age 11 – 18	2,520	3,650
Mon 5 – Tues 6 Aug		RS Feva Gennaker Course	Age 12 – 18, hold RS Feva Intro or HKSF 3	1,008	1,460
Wed 7 – Fri 9 Aug		3-Day Supervised Practice	Age 12 – 18, hold HKSF L2	1,512	2,190
Mon 5 – Fri 9 Aug		Watersports Week	Age 8 – 18, hold HKSF L2 or Optimist 3	2,520	3,650
Mon 5 – Tues 6 Aug		Basic and Intermediate Windsurfing	Age 8 – 18	1,008	1,460
Mon 12 – Fri 16 Aug am	✓	Optimist Stage 1	Age 7 – 11	840	1,215
Mon 12 – Fri 16 Aug pm	✓	Optimist Stage 2	Age 7 – 12, hold Optimist Stage 1	840	1,215
Mon 12 – Fri 16 Aug pm	✓	Optimist Stage 3	Age 7 – 12, hold Optimist Stage 2	840	1,215
Mon 12 – Fri 16 Aug pm	✓	Optimist Stage 4 Supervised Practice	Age 7 – 14, hold Optimist Stage 3	840	1,215
Mon 12 – Fri 16 Aug		Improvers HKSF Level 3	Age 12 – 18, hold HKSF L2 for at least 1 year	2,520	3,650
Mon 12 – Weds 14 Aug		RS Feva Introduction	Age 12 – 18, hold HKSF Level 2	1,512	2,190
Thurs 15 – Sat 17 Aug		Laser Introduction Course	Youth and Adult, hold HKSF Level 2	1,512	2,190



## ABC Late August Youth Sailing Programme

Some schools, including French International School, have their summer holidays later, and so ABC is happy to host an “extended” August programme until the end of August. Please remember to apply at least three weeks prior to the course start date. Details on [www.abclubhk.com](http://www.abclubhk.com) or via Angela Ho at [SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com](mailto:SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com).

Date & Time	Junior Course	Activity	Eligibility	HKS (Member)	HKS (Non-member)
Mon 19 – Fri 23 Aug am	✓	Optimist Stage 1	Age 7 – 12	840	1,215
Mon 19 – Fri 23 Aug pm	✓	Optimist Stage 2	Age 7 – 12, hold Optimist Stage 1	840	1,215
Mon 19 – Fri 23 Aug pm	✓	Optimist Stage 3	Age 7 – 12, hold Optimist Stage 2	840	1,215
Mon 19 – Fri 23 Aug pm	✓	Optimist Stage 4 Supervised Practice	Age 7 – 14, hold Optimist Stage 3	840	1,215
Mon 19 – Fri 23 Aug		Beginners HKSF Level 1 & 2	Age 11 – 18	2,520	3,650
Mon 19 – Weds 21 Aug		RS Feva Introduction	Age 12 – 18, hold HKSF Level 2	1,512	2,190
Thurs 22 – Fri 23 Aug		2 Day Topper / Pico Supervised Practice	Age 12 – 18, hold HKSF Level 2	1,008	1,460
Mon 22 – Fri 26 July am	✓	Optimist Stage 1	Age 7 – 12	840	1,215
Mon 22 – Fri 26 July pm	✓	Optimist Stage 2	Age 7 – 12, hold Optimist Stage 1	840	1,215
Mon 22 – Fri 26 July pm	✓	Optimist Stage 3	Age 7 – 12, hold Optimist Stage 2	840	1,215
Mon 22 – Fri 26 July pm	✓	Optimist Stage 4 Race Introduction	Age 7 – 14, hold Optimist Stage 3	840	1,215
Mon 22 – Fri 26 July		Improvers HKSF Level 3	Age 12 – 18 hold HKSF L2 for at least 1 year	2,520	3,650
Mon 22 – Weds 24 July		RS Feva Introduction	Age 12 – 18, hold HKSF Level 2	1,512	2,190
Thurs 25 – Fri 26 July		Laser Intro Course	Youth and Adult, hold HKSF Level 2	1,512	2,190



*Rudderless sailing:*

# A Sunday Jolly on *Redeye*

By Wayne Thompson, photo by Philippe de Manny

As we have been known to do, some of the regular crew of *Redeye* were off on a jolly on Sunday, 28 April, to enjoy the fresh easterly breeze beam reaching out toward the Lema Islands. This is something we do quite often, stopping in Shum Wan or some other suitable anchorage for an on-board picnic on our way home. On this Sunday, though, we had a little bit more excitement than we had planned.

We were romping along at a comfortable 10 knots in the 20-knot Easterly wind, enjoying the spray from

the one-metre seas banging into the side of the boat, when we heard a soft “bang.” What the hell did we run over?

Suddenly this large black board popped up in the water behind us – lo and behold, it was our rudder deciding to go its own way. There we were, suddenly with no steering, about eight miles from Aberdeen, and about three-and-a-half miles southwest of Po Toi ... and still heading south-ish at a pretty good speed.

Luckily the rudder parted from the stock, and the complete stock and rudder did not separate from the boat. Had that

happened, we might have had to find a way to fill the four-inch diameter hole in the hull that would have been allowing in water at a fairly rapid rate.

Any of us who has participated in an offshore race under ISAF Category 1 regulations has had to do the drill of steering without a rudder. This is not using an emergency tiller because your rudder is gone. In light conditions, sails will do the job but in the conditions we had on that Sunday, all the boat wanted to do was keep on reaching and going to weather.





Redeye in fine form

So we quickly rigged our emergency steering system that we had developed to satisfy the Category 1 regulations while competing in several events in the Philippines. We found that we could not actually tack or gibe the boat in the conditions using the sails. By now we had slowed to about three knots, as our emergency steering uses a sea anchor to control direction.

### Jury-rigging the steering

We still needed to turn around as we continued to seemingly head for

the Philippines without sufficient refreshments on board to have a comfortable crossing. We decided to drop the sails and use the engine.

A combination of the prop wash and the sea action, in unison with our jury-rigged steering system, allowed us to turn the boat around and start heading back toward Aberdeen.

While all this was going on, we had two people down below trying to contact the Club to see if some assistance could be sent. They had no joy reaching any of the Club numbers but we did reach the manager on his mobile. Philippe sent out the ABC's Ah Ming with one of the Club Choy Lees. Ah Ming was a very welcome sight, even though we were now only about five miles from Aberdeen and now going in the right direction. I suggest all who sail should have an emergency number for just such situations.

Of course, while Ming was towing us back, and we were all sort of relaxing and having a beer or glass of wine, the towline decided to part from us about 200 metres from Round Island. Again, a little bit of frantic movement and a couple of 360's, and Ming had us in tow again heading toward Aberdeen.

As we approached the sea wall, Ah Kee came out from the Club in a small boat and connected a line to our stern port side. He was now our steering boat. We wanted to take the tow boat alongside but the conditions were too rough and both boats would have been damaged.

The way both Ah Kee and Ah Ming handled the situation was very professional; many thanks to them. If anyone needs boat-handling lessons then they are your boys.

My recommendation to any of you boat owners who have not tried to handle your boat without the use of a rudder is to give it a go the next time you go out. In over 30 years' of sailing around Hong Kong I never thought it would happen to me. Lost the steering a couple of times but never the rudder so the emergency tiller did the trick.

I expected to be doing this drill somewhere between here and the Philippines. There is a lot of sea room out in the South China Sea and plenty of time to get things sorted.

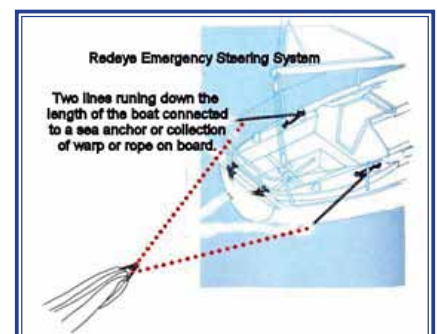
But on the south side of Hong Kong Island you have the Lamma Channel and the Lema Channel to deal with and then also the little coaster freighters that cut across both.

Have a plan, because you don't have a lot of time to react.

The plan we followed:

1. Get control of the boat.
2. Make sure no one is injured – in our case not a problem.
3. Start going in the direction you need to go.
4. Hoist international signal flag "D," Delta, "Manoeuvring with Difficulty." (We did not do this as we could not remember which flag it was supposed to be.)
5. Use your VHF radio on deck to communicate on Channel 16. You might have to talk to a big ship.
6. Call for assistance.

If you find yourself being towed without a rudder, put a small anchor over the back, so that the boat will kind of track without wandering all over the sea.

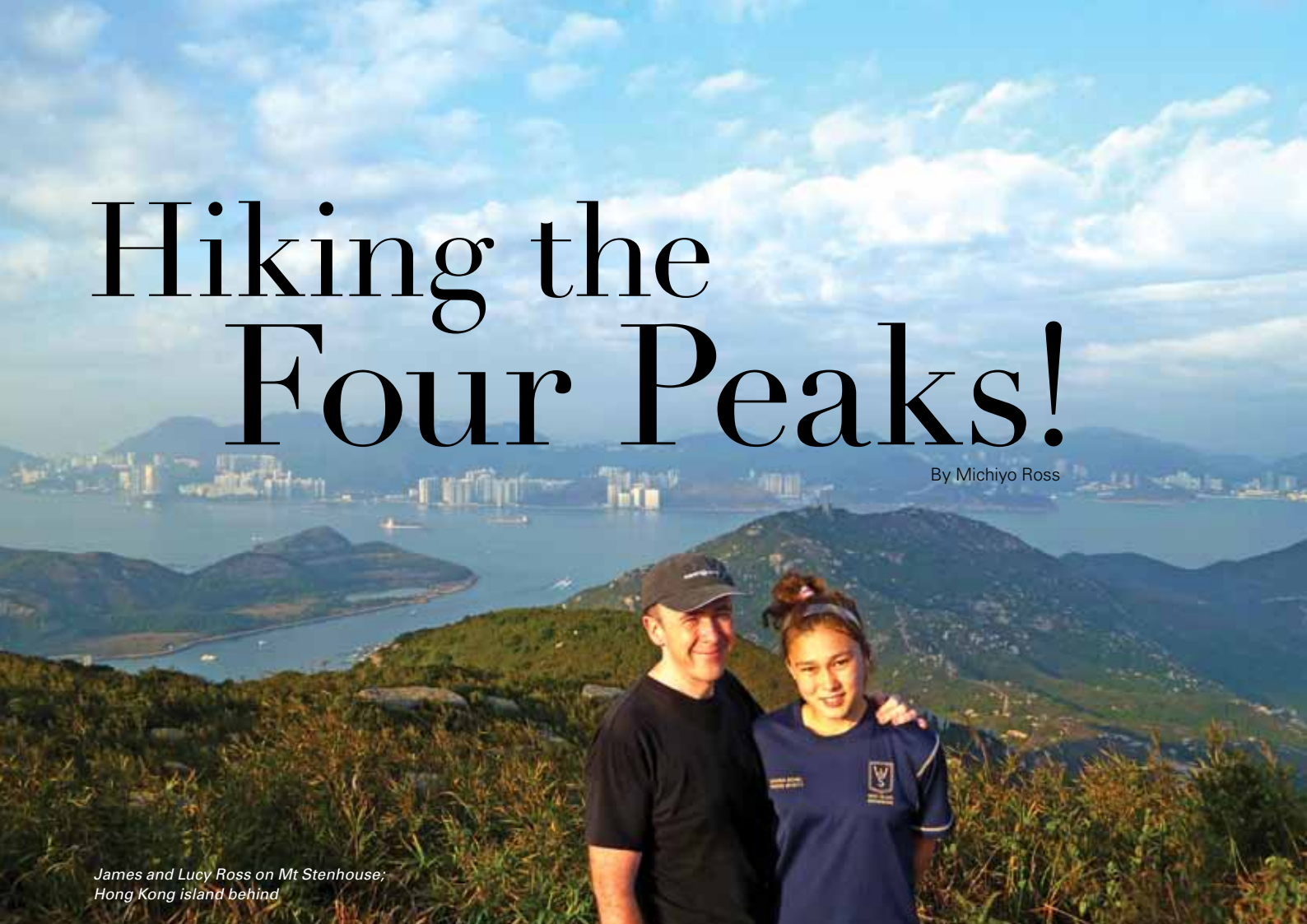


### Refining Redeye's steering system

We learned from this experience that our system needs a little refining. We need to find a very good swivel for connecting our control lines to the drogue, and we need a drogue that has a little less resistance to the water flow, which will help our speed. H

# Hiking the Four Peaks!

By Michiyo Ross



James and Lucy Ross on Mt Stenhouse;  
Hong Kong island behind

**Michiyo Ross, an ABC member and the leader of the 28<sup>th</sup> West Island School Scout Troop, lays out the routes and highlights of the Hong Kong hiking trails that top out at Violet Hill, Mt Stenhouse, Lantau Peak and Ma On Shan Peak, the four cornerstones of the ABC's eponymous annual Four Peaks sailing and running outdoor challenge.**

**Y**ou may be aware there are many beautiful country parks and hiking trails in Hong Kong, and as you know the ABC hosts the Four Peaks Race each January. The race, which will celebrate its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2014, combines sailing and running, and the 28<sup>th</sup> West Island School Scout troop regularly volunteers to run the check-point at the Violet Hill peak for this race.

But have you actually hiked up to all these four peaks before? Our Scouts have done lots of hiking over the years, so we would like to tell you how you can get to each of these four peaks. We are sure that you will enjoy these hikes and maybe you might have a go at racing the Four Peaks race next year!

So let's start with Violet Hill. This peak is located in Tai Tam Country Park on the Wilson Trail, Section 1. You can start climbing up from the Wilson Trail entrance opposite the car park on Tai Tam Reservoir Road, just down from Parkview.

It is just over 1 km to the peak of Violet Hill (436m), and while there is no view from the trig point (the "official" peak), you will see a beautiful view of Victoria Harbour just before you get to the top, and then shortly afterwards another lovely view of Repulse Bay, Tai Tam Reservoir and even across to Middle Island. After that, continue walking down to the first junction at

the bottom of the steps and turn right. Then follow the lovely path around the contour of Violet Hill, and along the catchwater path, back to Tai Tam Reservoir Road where the paddle boats are. There are further views of Repulse Bay Beach, and later across the island towards Aberdeen, from this trail.

The next peak to explore is Mount Stenhouse on Lamma Island. To access it, you take a ferry from Aberdeen and get off at Mo Tat Wan. You walk through Mo Tat New Village and Mo Tat Old Village, arriving at the junction with the public toilet. If you would like more exercise, you can turn right and start walking up the steps towards Ling Kok Shan. Or, if you like a gentle stroll, you can keep walking straight on the Lamma Island Family Walk to the junction with the pagoda.

From here you start hiking up towards Mount Stenhouse (Shan Tei Tong). You will pass the second pagoda and keep walking towards the hill. Follow the path first, but eventually the path becomes rougher and you will start walking through the bush. But don't worry; the trail is marked by a lot of colourful ribbons that hikers have tied. So follow the ribbons and you will eventually get to the peak of Mount Stenhouse (353m), site of the trig point. On a clear day, you will see a magnificent view of Hong Kong Island. From here, keep going on the path opposite from where you have come. This will eventually bring you to the river near Sok Kwu Wan. It is a great bush walk and our Scouts have had a great time walking through the jungles and rocks. Actually on one occasion when we were there, it was very foggy, which actually made it more exciting, and slightly mysterious!





*28<sup>th</sup> West Island Scout flag on Violet Hill during the Four Peaks Race*



*Lantau Peak*

The highest of all of the Four Peaks is Lantau Peak on Lantau Island. After taking the bus from Mui Wo, a nice way of starting this walk is to start hiking from Nam Shan off South Lantau Road (next to the public toilet and campsite). You can start walking on South Lantau Country Trail, which to start with is a gentle, almost-flat trail, and you will get to enjoy some lovely views. In some of the rivers and streams, you can see freshwater fish and shrimp! Keep walking until Pak Kung Au, near where the Tung Chung Road crosses – there is a pagoda here.

Cross the road and start walking up on Lantau Trail. From here you will have to work hard up the steps to Lantau Peak. But when you get to the peak (934m), the view from there is incredible. When the Scouts took part in the Moontrekker race (an overnight race over Lantau Peak), we managed to see an amazing sunrise there. We were above the cloud and it was fantastic!


From the peak, take the path towards Ngong Ping (where the Big Buddha is). As you walk down from the peak, the Big Buddha is visible in the distance. When you get to Ngong Ping, you also will see Wisdom Path. From Ngong Ping, you can either take the cable car or bus to Tung Chung MTR, or walk down the steps on the Ngong Ping 360 Rescue Trail, beneath the cable car to Tung Chung.

Last of all is Ma On Shan Peak in Ma On Shan Country Park, near Sai Kung. Start hiking at the start of Lady MacLehose Trail section 4 at Shui Long Wo on Sai Sha Road. Follow the distance post on the Lady MacLehose Trail and stop at post

M078, where you will see the beautiful view of the Hunch Backs and Ma On Shan and over to Shatin.

If you would like to hike right up to the peak of Ma On Shan (702m), at this junction turn right towards the hill through the bush. It's about 1 km to the peak, with a fairly steep and rocky path, but when the weather is clear, you will see an amazing 360-degree view. Then come back down on this very steep path, maybe walking or even sliding on your bottom (!) to post M078.

Then follow the MacLehose Trail again until post M080, where you can start climbing up Pyramid Hill (536m). It is a lovely climb and again you will see a great view from the top. When you come down Pyramid Hill, you start following the path towards Ngong Ping. At the view point, sometimes you will see people flying hang-gliders there. At post M083, turn left onto Ma On Shan Country Trail and go downhill. When you come to the main road, cross the road and keep walking straight to finish this lovely trail in Sai Kung town centre.

From 16-18 May, 28<sup>th</sup> West Island School Scouts and Scout Leader Michiyo Ross hiked 75 km of Hong Kong's Wilson Trail to raise money for the Hong Kong Blind Sports Federation. The Scouts would be very grateful for donations to help visually impaired people achieve their dreams and to help the HKBSF provide more support and coaching to visually impaired athletes. Please see <http://hkbsf.org.hk/index.php?route=common/home> 



## Snooker Report

# The ABC Calls the Shots at Inter-Club Competition

Words by Nick Bodnar-Horvath

Gareth Williams lining up his pot

Wayne Robinson and the black ball

On Monday, 6 May, a “Snooker Night” was held at the Hong Kong Club between the ABC, the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club and Hebe Haven Yacht Club. It had taken two months of planning to hold this event, and after considering various formats for the evening, it was decided that each club would field four players who would play each of their counterparts in the other club for two singles and two frames of doubles. Unfortunately, Hebe Haven were struggling for numbers and although at the eleventh hour they did find a replacement for one player, he only was able to play his two singles and could not participate in the doubles.

Ten singles matches were played, many of which were played to the final black ball. All of the ABC members won at least one singles match with Nick Bodnar-Horvath winning both of his. By dinnertime, the Aberdeen Boat Club had won five matches, with the Yacht Club winning three matches and Hebe Haven two.

A sumptuous dinner with quality wines usually takes its toll on the players, but on this occasion, ABC returned from dinner seriously focussed, requiring only one further victory to win the tournament. As it was, a member of the Hebe

Haven team became unwell, so its players had to withdraw from the doubles element of the competition. ABC won both of its doubles; as a consequence ABC were declared the victors, seven matches to Yacht Club’s three and Hebe Haven’s two.

As the photos of the event will testify, a splendid evening of conviviality and bonhomie was crowned by the resounding ABC victory, led by our indefatigable captain Peter Hilling.

This was the inaugural snooker night between the three sailing clubs and such was the enjoyment derived from the occasion that it is proposed to hold further snooker nights on a six-monthly basis. The format works well although perhaps next time we would consider engaging more players but perhaps playing six red ball snooker (rather than a full set of 15 reds), otherwise we would be playing through ‘til dawn. H

Snooker competitors

Nick Horvath in focus



# Images of Southeast Asia

Photos by Mike Abbott

*Myanmar: young monks collecting alms*



During the summer months, the Aberdeen Boat Club will display on its second floor travel photographs by Mike Abbott. The Club is pleased to display some 16 of Mike's full-colour photographs, mounted and framed.

Mike was born in Cornwall, England, and before he left for Hong Kong, he worked in many roles including as a Butlins Redcoat, a tin miner, a wine waiter and a bartender. He took up

photography soon after his arrival in Hong Kong in 1985.

Mike formed Abbott Leisure in 1989 and is a professional children's entertainer. He is also a personal fitness trainer with a particular interest in nutrition. He has appeared in dozens of action movies filmed in Hong Kong and Indonesia.

The photos on display at the ABC, taken between 1987 and 2004, may be bought by the print or as framed. H

*Hong Kong: Chinese door god, Sung dynasty village, Lai Chi Kok*



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