



2013/11  
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THE MAGAZINE OF THE ABERDEEN BOAT CLUB

Waglan Race I

Sailing in Double H(e)aven

Celebrating Ah Kee  
40 Years and Counting



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*Horizons* welcomes ABC member contributions of articles and photos.  
Please contact the editor at [ann.white@ppp.com.hk](mailto:ann.white@ppp.com.hk)



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## Commodore's Letter

Great boating weather is upon us with steady and cooler breezes greeting the early October start of the ABC Waglan Series. Revamped and expanded courses make more use of the eastern islands of the Po Toi group. Better winds often found there offer more options for courses that avoid crossing the shipping channel. Waglan race 1 saw the successful revival of Division B to caters for smaller and more gentlemanly cruisers with slightly shorter courses to get boats back at similar times as the rest of the fleet.

Thanks go to Ah Kee for his 40 years as a key member of Club staff. We look forward to his continuing for many more!

Development work for Middle Island continues and submissions for the necessary permits should be made in 2014. Planning will take account of feedback from the third Town Hall held on 23 October.

The Club's Annual General Meeting takes place on 26 November shortly after a 6:30 pm Extraordinary General Meeting explained below. The AGM is traditionally short and we welcome as many members as possible to vote in new General Committee members and pass on suggestions later in the bar. My sincere thanks go to all, including co-optees, who chaired or served on various committees, together with our dedicated management and staff for their hard work



this past year to make the Club continue to work successfully.

**John Berry**  
Commodore

## Flag Officer's Report

This is the time of year when the Club focusses on its Annual General Meeting, this year on 26 November. We also will hold an Extraordinary General Meeting to deal with resolutions we passed at last year's meeting. Unfortunately, the Home Affairs Bureau, in its wisdom, has passed regulations that now require any changes to Articles of Association of a Club with a recreational lease to be first approved by the Director of Lands!

We duly applied for such approval to the Resolutions we passed last year. They were approved without amendment, some seven months after our application! Of all the bodies required to approve a set of Memorandum and Articles of Association we are now required to submit corporate documents to the Director of Lands, essentially the chief conveyancer of Government. No wonder it took so long for them to review the amendments. Now we believe that in order to be able to pass future amendments to the Memorandum and Articles of Association we will need to draft and submit such amendments for Director of Lands' approval before Chinese New Year, to receive their comments in time for our November AGM. Obviously we desire to hold the AGM and EGM the same time to save costs.

As explained at our last EGM, the purpose of many of our Articles' amendments is to bring the Articles in line with revisions to the Companies Ordinance and to enable members to be served by electronic means, provided they so choose. In anticipation of implementation of provisions of the Companies Ordinance, we will need to get the consent of all members in writing to receiving notices, documents or other information by electronic means. The Club spends an enormous sum of money on printing, packaging and postage each year, and costs of our annual AGM and any EGM can be minimised if members accept receiving their notices electronically. I appreciate that not all members wish to be served electronically, so we will retain existing arrangements for those members who prefer the old ways!

The House Committee have recently updated the Bye-Laws of the Club, whose function is to "clothe" the regulations contained in the Articles. The format of the Bye-Laws has been revamped so as to separate the general Bye-Laws covering general conduct of members within the Club from specific activities like billiards, snooker, squash, gymnasium use, etc., which are now covered by separate



annexes to the Bye-Laws. These separate annexes will also be displayed in areas where these activities are carried out. The changes will reduce the bulk of the Bye-Laws to a shorter, more readable format, leaving the activities available for those members who wish to use those facilities as an annex to the Bye-Laws displayed at the place of activity. Bye-Laws can be amended simply by resolution of the General Committee.

I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM and EGM on Tuesday 26 November.

**Nicholas Bodnar-Horvath**  
Honorary General Secretary



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## General Manager's Letter

Earlier, I informed all that we had difficulties finding staff, especially for the food and beverage area.

Things are still not optimal but I present three new employees who joined the ABC team this month:

Jacky Chui joins us in the coffee shop with experience gained in Central's Yuen Kee restaurant and in Canada.

We sadly accepted the resignation of Mr On, our pastry chef, after his stroke as his doctor declared him unfit to work. We will keep in touch should he need something or fully recover. His successor, Victor Choi, comes to us with 20 years' experience in dessert and cake-making, including as pastry chef at the Bishop Lei Hotel in Robinson Road and the Peninsula Group's Butterfield Club.

My new personal assistant, Selina Mak, has just started, replacing Clora who left us nine months ago. Selina, educated in Canada, is experienced as a personal assistant with global trading and transport companies and is well-versed with customer service and administrative management.

Thanks go to all Members who came along last month to celebrate Lau Wai Kee's 40th anniversary at the ABC when many good memories were shared. What a delight to see Ah Kee blowing out candles amidst the cheers and clapping of so many people, many of whom he saw grow up and whom he taught how to sail. Let us do it again in 10 years' time for his 50th anniversary.

Diligence and hard work have gone into the IT upgrade project with the aim of a January launch. Unfortunately, members' response rate remains very low to the absolutely necessary survey. Unless we very quickly receive 900 missing and absolutely needed replies, we cannot meet the deadline. Again I request that all members yet to complete and return their updates to us do so promptly.

### Middle Island town hall

MAP has been appointed as the architectural and design company to take the Middle Island project forward in re government approval and the first stage of reclamation work. Many options have been investigated and the most feasible

and realistic is total replacement of the existing building to create a functional and more appropriate new facility for today's needs. Great emphasis is on boatyard and pontoon space. Note we have kept our neighbour the RHKYC informed of plans, resulting in a joint effort to get more electricity and water for both clubs on the island. We might consider joining the two clubs through a path that would facilitate both clubs' need of extra space during large events. We are on target so far in terms of timing and finance but the biggest work remains for the next three years.

### Christmas is coming

You will soon receive a brochure detailing all-new packages for this year's festive season. In addition to sparkling events the Club will hold, and options for you to host special events at the Club for your colleagues, clients, family and friends, we present you with offerings that include cheese boxes, treats from an artisanal local bakery and special wines for you to serve at your own end-of-the-year function or give to others.

Mark your diary and book a table for our murder-mystery evening at the "Cooked Goose Tavern" (aka the Harbour Room). Pre-dinner bubbly will be on offer in the Waglan Bar from 7 - 8 pm, when actors will mingle before the show. Dinner begins at 8 pm. Call Alok Kumar at 2552 8182 to book or send him an email at [fnb@abclubhk.com](mailto:fnb@abclubhk.com).

### Members and rules

Again I must remind members of the rule on domestic helpers performing their job duties at the Club. While it is acceptable to invite and host guests at the Club, it is not acceptable to bring your staff and ask them to work for you at the Club. Therefore, if your domestic helpers are your guests at the Club, please let them enjoy their time unencumbered, exactly as your guests would be – while you take care of your own children.

The General Committee has reviewed Club rules and regulations and soon an updated edition will be placed on the website. My next letter shall draw your attention to some key specific changes.



Rules will be more strictly implemented and a permanent disciplinary committee created.

### AGM and EGM

All members will have received the notice of the annual AGM/EGM to be held on 26 November at the Club. Soon you will receive documents including last year's minutes, this year's nominations and a proxy form if you cannot attend.

### Supervise Your Children

Many times, I have received strong complaints from members about children running wild at Middle Island in the evening. In the day that is less of an issue, but at night Middle Island is a restaurant where consideration for other patrons is due. I must remind members of the Club rule that parental supervision of your own children is required and essential. The side benefit of guiding your children is that understanding of basic social behaviour will be inculcated in them, starting with respect for others. Children shouting, screaming, running and scootering around tables is not acceptable. It could lead to injuries and definitely creates tension and disputes. Please control your children.

**Philippe de Manny**  
General Manager



# Waglan

SERIES

2013/2014

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**2013**

6 October  
3 November  
17 November  
15 December

**2014**

5 January  
16 February  
2 March  
16 March

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## Race report



FG3 and crew

# WAGLAN 1

## Sunday, 6 October, 2013

By Philippe de Manny, photos by Eileen Sze

**A**t this season's premiere of the Jebesen Marine Waglan Series, 22 boats were recorded. The return of the Division B on the lineout had six entries on paper, but only four actually took the start. This was the first time after a long period of absence that boats of smaller size or lower speed could compete with each other and not fight their way to the finish an hour after the very fast boats had crossed the line.

During the regular pre-race meeting to decide on the day's course, we chose one of the new courses added to the 2013 standard sailing instruction book. These new courses now have two parts, one for Division A and the second, shorter one for Division B.

The committee boat set out to sea at 9:30 am to prepare the start line, only to find that on one side of Deep Water Bay the RHKYC was preparing for a 10 am start windward-leeward, the DBYC were slowly leaving Middle Island after their overnight party, and other sailors were also in the area to enjoy a great sunny day cruising.

It looked like the whole Hong Kong sailing community decided to witness the start of the greatest sailing series in Hong Kong or

maybe they just did it to make the ABC race officer work harder. A sunny day with 18 miles' visibility blessed the morning, seven knots gusting to nine knots from 25 degrees called for a windward mark deep down in Deep Water Bay, and the light waves and flowing tide were near-ideal conditions to start the 2013 Jebesen Marine Waglan series.

The fleet was sent via Chesterman buoy, to Tai Tam Bay where a Club mark was dropped to be rounded, then to Sung Kung and Shek O Rock and back for Division A, while Division B had a shorter course from the Tai Tam mark to Fury Rocks and back.

### J/80s set the pace

Forty minutes into the race, the whole fleet managed to pass the race's first mark but struggled to reach the Tai Tam mark as the wind dropped considerably and the tide started to ebb. It was interesting to witness that the first two boats to round the mark were two J/80s, *FG3* (Skipper Stephen Davies) and *Javelin* (Skipper Lewis Cerne), showing that despite or thanks to their size they had supremacy at sea under light conditions.



Benefiting from better wind on their leg to Sung Kung they increased their lead by half a mile before the next boats, the much bigger *Intrigue* belonging to Ian Nicolson and Simy Wong's *New Salona 41*, could follow. As for the rest of the fleet, it looked fairly stuck in a hole between Chesterman and Tai Tam.

At this stage, shortening the race became an obvious judgment to make but when and where to ensure a fair and proper finish for everyone is always a dilemma.

One chase boat was sent to Shek O Rock to assess the large boats' progression while a definite decision was taken to shorten the race for Division B on their return to Tai Tam mark from Fury Rocks.

At this stage, Helmuth Hennig on *Vinetta* found the going difficult and retired from the race.

At 2 pm, three hours into the race, the RO received the news that the first Division A boats were about to round Shek O. That triggered the decision to let them sail back to Tai Tam and see what would happen.

### The fleet finishes in good order

Within one hour, practically the whole fleet was heading to the Tai Tam mark. Divisions A and B

## RESULTS

	Boat Name	Skipper's Name
<b>IRC</b>		
1st Overall	<i>FG3</i>	Stephen Davies
2nd Overall	<i>Intrigue</i>	Ian Nicolson
3rd Overall	<i>Kei Lun</i>	Richard van den Berg
<b>HKPN Division A</b>		
1st Overall	<i>FG3</i>	Stephen Davies
2nd Overall	<i>Jailbreaker</i>	Michael Tsui
3rd Overall	<i>Kei Lun</i>	Richard van den Berg
<b>HKPN Division B</b>		
1st Overall	<i>Zephyr</i>	Park Ng
2nd Overall	<i>Banter</i>	Rob Sallons
3rd Overall	<i>Aquarius</i>	Josephine Cheng
<b>J/80</b>		
1st Overall	<i>FG3</i>	Stephen Davies
2nd Overall	<i>Javelin</i>	Lewis Cerne
3rd Overall	<i>Jailbreaker</i>	Michael Tsui



New Salona 41



The Farr Side

looked as though they would finally finish together, proving that letting the fleet run its course had been the right thing to do.

The first boat to cross the finish line was *Red Eye* with first-time skipper George Taylor replacing Wayne Thompson after many years at the helm, with Rob Sallons on his *Banter* for division B.

The start of the new Waglan season was celebrated after the race at the Main Clubhouse in the Waglan Bar (where else, of course?) with lots of food and drinks from sponsor Ponti and Laoshan beer from Tsing Tao. Lastly, Commodore John Berry gave the results on corrected time as on the previous page.

Looking forward to Waglan 2 on 3 November. H



Chasse Spleen

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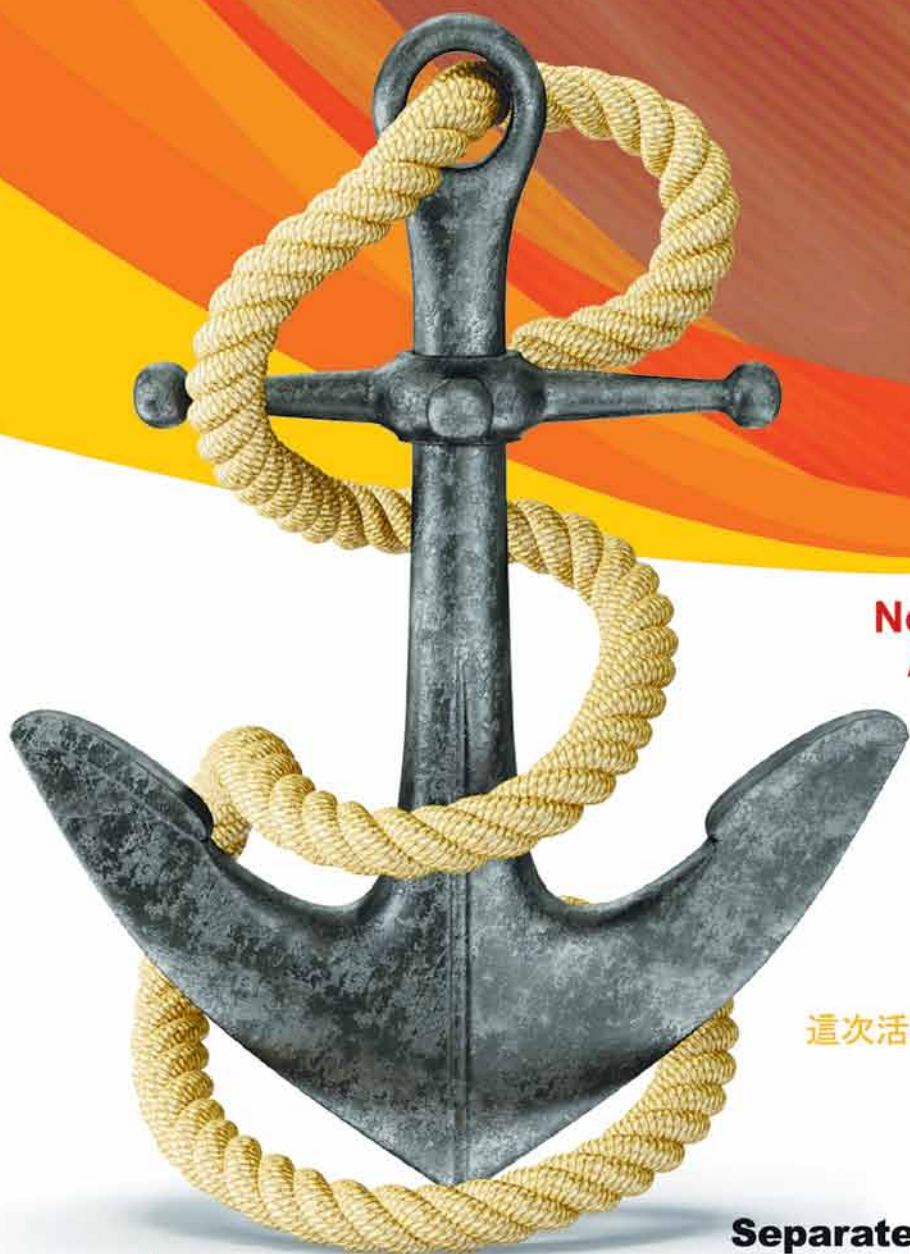
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**2013**

**November  
30  
AND  
DECEMBER  
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**Venue :  
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**Notice of Race and Entry Forms**  
Available from [www.abclubhk.com](http://www.abclubhk.com)

**For Enquiries Contact:**  
[SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com](mailto:SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com)

**Entry Deadline:**  
**25 November**

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

**This is a qualifying event for  
Hong Kong 29er Sailors**  
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**Separate start organised for 420 class**  
安排420組別另一獨立時間開賽



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*Hong Kong*





# DOUBLE H(E)AVEN

By Elaine Morgan



Patrick and Diana Bruce, Elaine Morgan and Stephen Davies on Pizzazz

The second of this year's cruises to Double Haven featured two of the Club's most comfortable cruisers; *Hana Fe* and *Pizzazz*. The typhoon that preceded the national holiday weekend, or repairs, deterred other potential participant boats. Nevertheless, the cruise was a great success, and both the Bruces, with Elaine Morgan and Stephen Davies on board *Pizzazz*, and Hans Lange with Anna aboard *Hana Fe*, enjoyed a heavenly little time in the havens of the northeast New Territories.

The first night was spent at anchor off High Island, with supper in one of the popular seafood restaurants. Proprietor Mei-ling warned *Hana Fe*, the first to arrive, that her kitchen was going to close at 7 pm so *Pizzazz* got a move on after a dawdling, gentle sail all the way from Round Island in light airs. *Tardis*, a Bavaria once owned by ABC veteran cruiser and racing sailor Eric Carter, and now co-owned by Jo

Schmalz and Peter Davies, joined in the sumptuous feast of prawns, razor clams and squid. There was lots of anticipatory chat about the upcoming 30th anniversary of the Four Peaks Race, in which *Tardis* has participated several times.

## Morning swimming

An early night after gentle nightcaps at anchor meant we could all have been up early. In fact, at 9 am on the dot, *Hana Fe* again led the way north while the *Pizzazz* crew, delayed by a puzzle over the rapidly lowering water in the tanks, morning tea, and swimming, enjoyed a lengthy breakfast.

The forecast north-easterly was evident by the time we were out of Rocky Harbour and as we tacked up Mirs Bay in 10-12 knots, the Elan 39.5'er relished the regular swell. Owners Patrick and Diana Bruce were pleased to make good time up to the Straight and Narrow passage leading





into a totally enclosed harbour about 2 pm for their very first encounter with Double Haven, with Stephen and Elaine acting as tour guides.

Light rain had been with us for an hour or so, off and on, but by the time both boats were at anchor in Sam Ah, it had eased off and could not put off veteran hikers. So, with the Avon Redcrest dinghy inflated, two trips to the Sam Ah jetty saw the entire party ashore for a gentle ramble towards Lai Chi Wo Village and back aboard by twilight, as the peaceful shades of evening settled over Hanging Lantern Hill above the bay.

#### **An evening raft-up**

Then the fun began. Supper was to be a shared feast aboard and to simplify galley coordination, Stephen had the bright idea of hauling the boats together and rafting up for the evening. Not quite the conventional raft up, this. We went stern and quarter to, with both

anchors holding firmly in Sam Ah's best offering of sticky mud. Comfortably snuggled up, wines, fine foods, music and laughter crossed from transom to transom in a most memorable evening.

Wondering what the morning would bring by way of weather, with north-easterlies forecast to strengthen up to F5-6, we let go the mooring lines after dinner and settled down again for the night in the tranquility of the bay.

At 6 am, a local fisherman and his mate woke us as he set his lines, but it was still fine so we made the most of the moment with

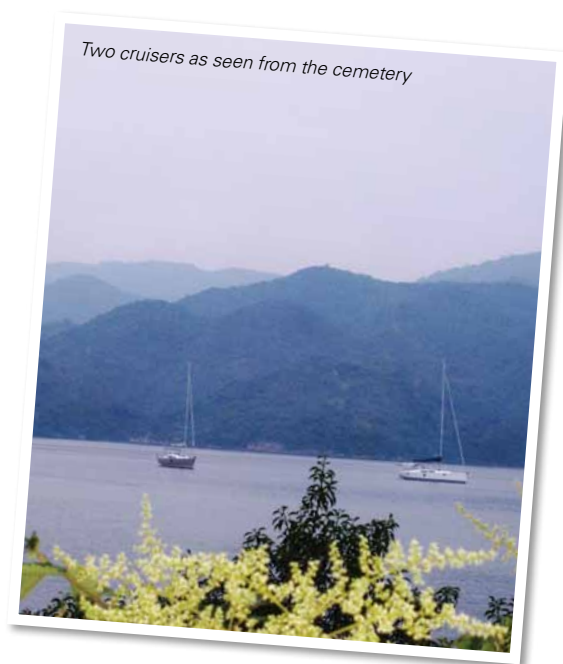
a gradual start and a long breakfast on *Pizzazz*, while *Hana Fe* weighed anchor and set off heading for Rocky Harbour on the third leg of the cruise. *Pizzazz* took the long way out for sightseeing at Kat O Chau and across the border to Yantian container port, recently much enlarged.

Wind was north-easterly, as forecast, but light enough to encourage kite-flying to begin with. Foredeck hand Stephen needed a boat hook at one interesting moment with the kite half-hoisted to, but in the process of handing it to him Elaine managed to let it go, so there was an excellent man overboard opportunity for 20 minutes or so. "Why don't they use fluorescent paint on boat hooks?" Diana asked.

Once clear of Port Island, there was no need of a kite as the wind freshened up to over 20 knots, with seas growing more roll-y as we reached then ran past Tap Mun and Tai Long Wan. But after a graceful pirouette rather than noisy gybe we glided into Town Island pass and the seas and wind eased away in Rocky Harbour and Port Shelter for the night.

National Day dawned fair and warm with easterlies promising a kite reach. So, with a replacement boat hook from Harry Lo, and after topping up the mysteriously self-emptying tanks and washing the lettuce for lunch, we headed home. The fuchsia asy hoisted without a hitch and for three hours we took turns to trim it, with the Ninepins disappearing behind in the glare and Beaufort Channel beckoning us south.

Gybing as Castle Rock appeared, we searched the horizon for *Hana Fe* but she was already at Middle Island. It was a fine four-day cruise, and we can't wait to go back, for another spell in Double H(e)aven. H



Pier at Sam Ah





18-19 January 2014

# ABC to Host 30<sup>th</sup> Running of the Four Peaks Race

By Elaine Morgan

Since 1985, the ABC has organised and hosted this annual overnight multi-sport race; 2014 will be the Four Peaks Race's 30th anniversary. The 2014 race will begin in Tai Tam Bay on 18 January with the first warning signal at 9:55 am. The finish line for 19 January will be laid near Round Island. With rhumb line distances of 70-80 nautical miles for Division A courses and 45-60 nautical miles for Division B, crews' average race duration in 2013 was 24 hours.

The Four Peaks Race is all about *peak performance*. Taking place both day and night, it has elements of extreme sports on the water and on land. It requires tough fitness during landings by transfer craft or swimming and demands speed and strategy on land over rough terrain and fine seamanship and sailing skills on the water. Tactics, practice and stamina play a big part, and rewards for all bring competitors back again and again for both the excitement and the camaraderie.

The ultimate Hong Kong challenge, for sailors and runners alike, the race is governed by strict regulations. Competing boats must meet ISAF Offshore Special Regulations Category 4 and have a minimum LOA of 7m. Engines may be used only in an emergency or out of gear to charge batteries or weigh anchor.

The minimum crew is five persons, with a minimum of two runners climbing each peak and a maximum of three sailors who are non-runners. Any crew member may climb one through four peaks.

## Timeline

Notice of Race: mid-October 2013

Sailing instructions: early November 2013


Deadline for entry: Monday, 13 January, 2014

Skipper's briefing: Friday, 17 January, 7 pm, at Aberdeen Boat Club

Prize-giving and full results: Friday, 24 January, 7 pm, at Aberdeen Boat Club

New skippers and crew can see fact sheets at <http://www.abclubhk.com/article.aspx?ArticleID=77>

The prize-giving party on Friday 24 January will feature tales of the most memorable moments over the race's 30-year history. If you have photos or would like to write a few lines about past races please let us know.

For more information on entering, competing or volunteering to help, please email: [keelboatsailing@abclubhk.com](mailto:keelboatsailing@abclubhk.com) or call 2553 3032. 

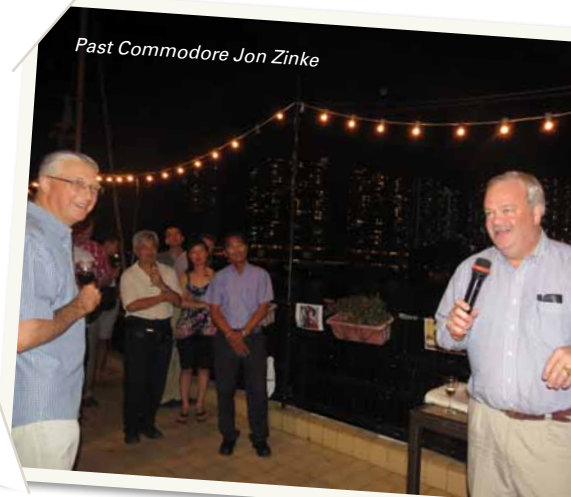
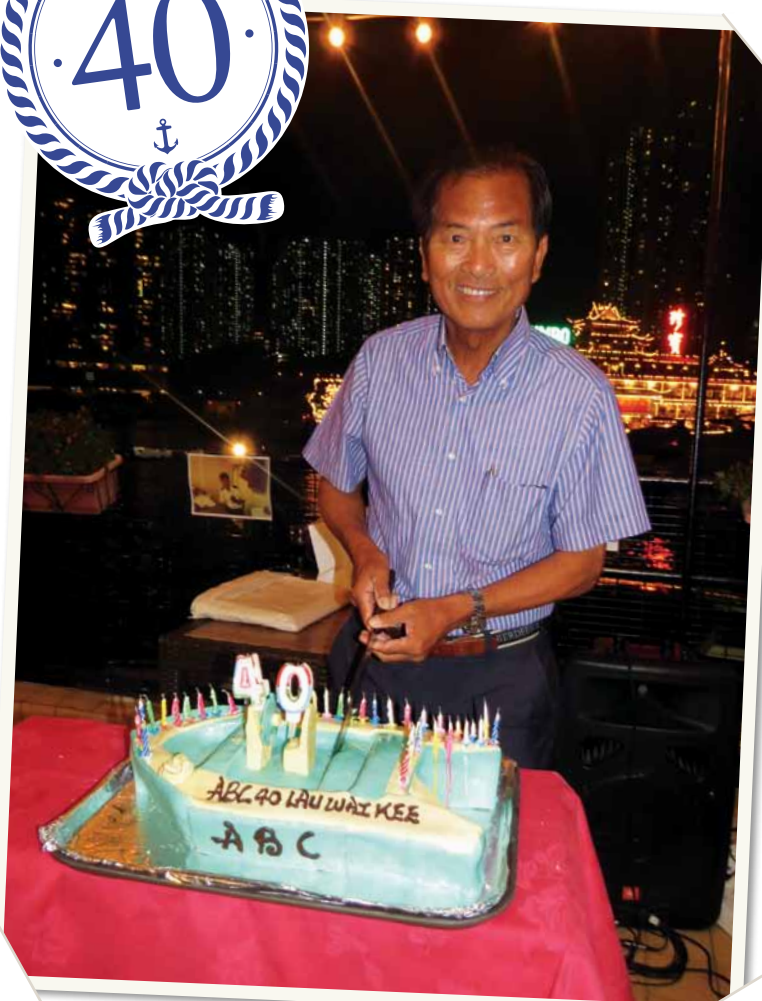
The Peaks	2013 average times	
Ma On Shan	(702m. Division A only.)	2.5 hrs
Violet Hill	(433m. All boats.)	1.5 hrs
Lantau Peak	(934m. All boats.)	2 hrs
Mt Stenhouse	(353m. All boats.)	1.75 hrs
Peak 300, Cape d'Aguilar	(300m. Division B only.)	1.75 hrs



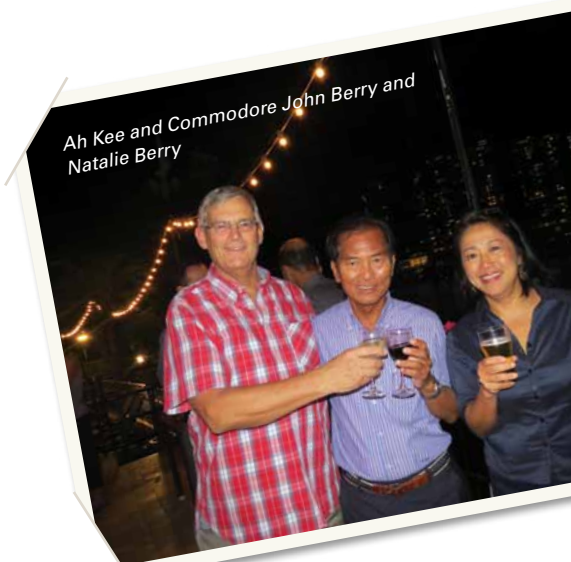
Checking in on Lantau Peak

Transferring to shore  
Photo by Barry Hill





Past Commodore Jon Zinke



Ah Kee and Commodore John Berry and Natalie Berry

# LAU WAI KEE

By Philippe de Manny

On Saturday, 19 October, 2013, over 70 old-time Club members and young ABC sailors came to celebrate the 40th anniversary of one very special member of the Club staff: Lau Wai Kee (aka Ah Kee and Kee Ko and another name you might hear if you ask me privately).


Under a very unusual starry night two past commodores opened the festivities by giving short speeches about how Ah Kee has been instrumental over all these years to the well-being of the Club and its members. This could not stop there and a myriad of members rushed to take the microphone and share some of their stories about Ah Kee.

Everyone had something to share about and with Ah Kee, from sincere thank yous for his training, support and help, to

humorous appreciations of his dedication from some old-timers and the shy but so significant thank yous given by his youngest and most recently certified dinghy sailors.

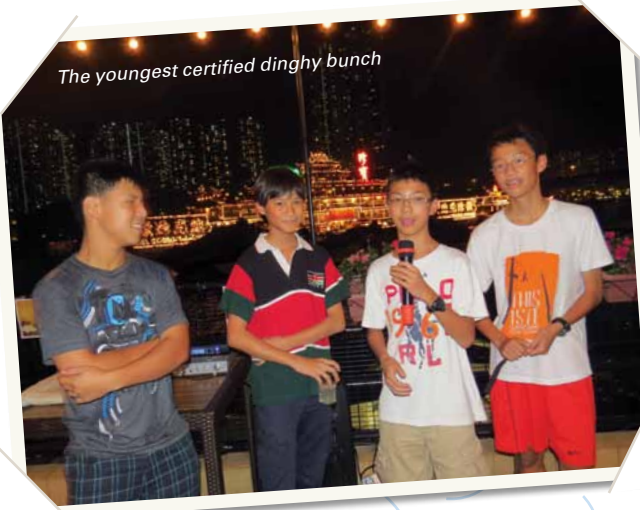
These led to an emotional moment for our dear Ah Kee, whom I saw for the first time in 10 years with a tiny tear in his eye as he took the stand for his remarks and to cut his celebration cake.

Our Commodore John Berry closed the official part of the event by awarding a honorary life membership at the ABC. Many stayed behind cheering and thanking Ah Kee personally until the bar ran out of stock and the kitchen of food.

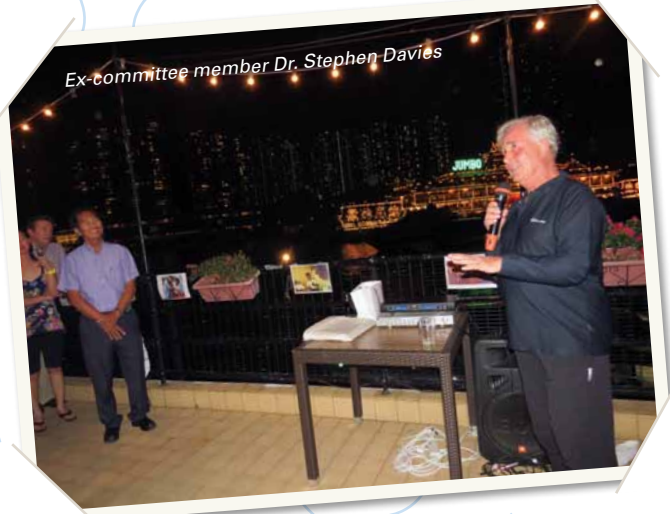
Well-done, Ah Kee, and see you in 40 years for a repeat. 



The youngest certified dinghy bunch



Ex-committee member Dr. Stephen Davies



Ah Kee



Past Commodore Wayne Thompson



Ah Kee's family



The crowd





# Ah Kee and the Parachuting Parasailors

By Wayne Robinson



*The Parasailing Club boats. Ah Kee, in a "hoodie," is in the red boat.*



*Take off. One of the Parasailing Club's very first flights in 'old' Repulse Bay, c. 1982*

I guess there are very few people in the Club who are able to say they have known Ah Kee as long as I have, or that before he started sailing and became a sailing instructor, Ah Kee was once very involved in adventurous sports and played a very important part in the development of a new sport for Hong Kong.

My friendship with Ah Kee goes back to 1982 when a group of guys, some from my skydiving club that was based in Shek Kong, plus my diving club (the Hong Kong Underwater Club) and a group of enthusiastic water skiers got together to share expertise to develop a parasailing club. The venue chosen for this was initially Repulse Bay Beach but soon we moved over to, oddly enough, Middle Island – but on the other side of the island on the small southeast-facing beach.

The instigators of this venture were also members of the fledgling Aberdeen Boat Club, Messrs Geoff McClain (I believe he was then-ABC treasurer) and Peter Howell, another general committee member. Some older Club members might remember Geoff sporting a "pot" on his arm around that time. He had sustained an injury on an earlier test

flight attempting to become airborne by being towed under a parachute by a Land Rover on the Shek Kong runway! The flight did not work out as planned.

The ABC's manager at the time, John Gatsby, had a suitable boat, and Peter soon talked him into supporting the parasailing venture with Ah Kee volunteering his services as driver. The British Army was in Hong Kong in those days and we were fortunate to have found a parasailing instructor based at the Blackdown Barracks in Kowloon. Indeed our first official (unofficial) flight was on the Barracks' football pitch – in the dark.

## **Airborne behind a speedboat**

All this came about due to a Hong Kong Government Civil Aviation Department survey on all aspects of flight safety, which meant skydiving as a sport was banned for a time. Therefore the only way fellow skydivers and I could get airborne was behind a speedboat. Ah Kee proved to be a perfect driver.

The club ran for only around three years, but we had the Government's Sports and Recreation Department's interest, as they'd even offered us a grant to develop the sport. But the ban on skydiving was lifted so we parachutists were finally able to go back to jumping out of airplanes. We lost interest in the parasailing club, which sadly disbanded soon after, but we'd had a great time while it lasted. Skydiving continued as a sport in Hong Kong until 1997.

Like all aerial sports practitioners we had our ups and downs; the most notable 'up' was being commissioned to do a TV ad for a well-known sportswear company. I drove the



para-tow boat and Ah Kee drove the ad director and camera crew in the ABC manager's boat behind. We had great fun towing the prima donna-male model around Repulse Bay, the director giving orders on the radio for "up, up, up" (speed up) then "down, down, down" (slow down) so as to manoeuvre the 'kite' and its passenger in line with the best backdrop, like the Old Repulse Bay Hotel or the *Osprey* three-masted sailing ship that was moored in the bay before she was lost a year or so later in Typhoon Ellen. At one point we lowered the parachute until the poor guy was just skimming the sea surface with his toes. Great to see him break his demureness and panic.

### The line went limp

My most notable 'down' was when we were just beginning. On our very first day at this, I was the fourth guy to "go up." The launch went okay, Ah Kee handled the boat well, the take-off went fine and soon I was being towed at about 150 feet over the bay. But after a 15-minute ride the canopy became very bumpy and I was really being tossed around. As I was about to hit the quick release to allow myself to 'parachute' down, the line suddenly went limp and it all went very quiet and I found myself floating down anyway.

I landed in the water, keeping clear of the parachute lines. The tow boat drew up alongside me, the heads of Ah Kee and Geoff McClain peering over the side to see if I was alright.



*The Parasailing Club group photo on the beach on 'old' Repulse Bay. Geoff McClain and Peter Howell are standing at the back.*

They said the wind had caught the parachute and overcame the engine so they themselves were being towed backwards! So they had to release the towline as seawater was flooding over the transom and threatening to flood and sink the boat. As the boat's batteries were now underwater they were going to have to speed off to drain the boat quickly before they could come back to rescue me.

So there you are: my most indelible memory of Ah Kee is when he left me floating all alone in the middle of Repulse Bay attached to a parachute!

Congratulations on your 40 years, Ah Kee. 

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## November Menu Promotion: India

Available in the Galley coffee shop and the Four Peaks Restaurant

### Starters

Lamb shorba, chicken seehk kebab, lamb shami kebab

### Mains

Chicken Chettinad, methi gosht, prawn balchaow, fish Arimitsari, bhindi masala

### Dessert

Gulab jamun



To reserve for your family and friends,  
call the Galley at 2554 9494 or the Four Peaks at 2553 3422



## Hotpot Buffet, Free Wine Tasting, the Galley Friday, 15 November

6:30 – 8:30 pm

Adults \$178

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



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





## Thanksgiving Buffet, the Galley Thursday, 28 November

6:30 – 9:30 pm

Roasted Chestnut Soup

Roast turkey and honey-glazed ham, with farmhouse stuffing, mashed potatoes, caramelized garlic and parsnips

Pumpkin Cheesecake  
Coffee and tea

\$228 per person

To reserve for your family and friends,  
call the Galley at 2554 9494 or the Four Peaks at 2553 3422



## Dinner Theatre, Harbour Room & Bridge Friday, 13 December

The ABC presents a murder-mystery dinner theatre:

### **“Deadly Night in 1898, at the Cooked Goose”**

7 pm pre-dinner bubbly and canapés

8 pm dinner and show

Join us for an amusing night full of mysteries and laughter.  
The dinner and show begin at 8 pm so don't be late!

Tim Twist has been seen lurking in the shadows. Why is he here? What does Lucy know? What is Charlie's shady past? The questions are endless and could lead to revenge and even murder. All will be revealed in this entertaining interactive show.

\$488 for pre-dinner drinks, dinner and show.  
The menu may be seen on our website.

Please book in advance with Alok at 2555 6216 or  
[fnb@abclubhk.com](mailto:fnb@abclubhk.com)





### Crabbie's, the Original Alcoholic Ginger Beer (500 ml)

Alc. 5.5% by volume

**\$52 per bottle**

Crabbie's Original Alcoholic Ginger Beer, from the U.K., has four top-secret ingredients. Combined with them is ginger, still shipped from the Far East, steeped for up to eight weeks to produce its deep, deliciously spicy flavour.

Backed by centuries of experience and with the finest ingredients, Crabbie's uniquely refreshing sparkle speaks for itself.

Try chilled with ice and lemon.



## Beer of the Month

Aberdeen Boat Club 香港仔遊艇會



### Sangria

A delicious blend of red wine, orange juice, Cointreau, brandy and lemonade with slices of mixed fruit.

By the glass \$42

By the carafe \$120



## November Cocktail

Aberdeen Boat Club 香港仔遊艇會

### Taltarni T Series Sauvignon Blanc/ Semillion 2011

*A very pale straw colour with bright green tints. Fresh and lively with notes of grapefruit, lime blossom and passion fruit from the Sauvignon Blanc complemented by straw and guava from the Semillion.*

### Taltarni T Series Shiraz 2010

*A vibrant crimson colour with hints of spice and red fruit on the nose. It is succulent with chocolate mocha forest-floor fruits coming through, allowing hints of toasty French oak to shine through.*

by the glass \$50  
by the bottle \$245



## Wines of the Month – November

Aberdeen Boat Club 香港仔遊艇會





# Home Wine Delivery November 2013

	\$/Bottle	Quantity	Amount
<b>Sparkling Wines</b>			
<b>Taittinger Brut Reserve N.V., France</b> Receive one free bottle with an order of 12 bottles.	\$400		
<b>Taltarni Cuveé Brut 2010, Australia</b>	\$255		
<b>Taltarni Brut Tache (Rose) 2010, Australia</b>	\$255		
<b>White Wines</b>			
<b>Quincy A.O.C. Jean Claude Roux 2012, France</b>	\$140		
<b>Michel Redde et Fils Pouilly Fuissé La Moyenerie 2010, France</b>	\$220		
<b>Jean Loron Pouilly Fuissé Les Vieux Murs 2011, France</b>	\$230		
<b>Rochford Chardonnay, Macedon Ranges 2008, Australia</b>	\$240		
<b>Reichsgraf Von Kesselstatt RK Riesling 2012, Germany</b>	\$140		
<b>Red Wines</b>			
<b>Tardieu-Laurent Côte Rôtie 2010, France</b>	\$850		
<b>Saumur Champigny Vieilles Vignes Domaine de Vieux Bourg 09/10, France</b>	\$180		
<b>Château Liversan 2008/2009, France</b>	\$220		
<b>Château de Lamarque 2008, France</b>	\$360		
<b>Chevalier de Lascombes 2008, France</b>	\$480		
<b>Rochford Pinot Noir, Macedon Ranges 2009, Australia</b>	\$240		
<b>Sweet Wines</b>			
<b>Muscat de Beaumes de Venise Domaine de Coyeux 2007 (37.5 cl), France</b>	\$115		
<b>Château Belingard, Monbazillac 2009 (37.5 cl), France</b>	\$145		
<b>Single Malt Whisky</b>			
<b>Glenfarclas 17 years old</b>	\$1,100		
<b>Old Pulteney 12 years old</b>	\$650		
<b>Spirits</b>			
<b>Calvados Pays d'Auge (Pomme Prisonnière) (100 cl)</b>	\$1,250		
<b>Marc de Gewürztraminer, G.E. Massenez, France</b>	\$580		
<b>Poire William, G.E. Massenez, France</b>	\$520		
<b>Fortified Wines</b>			
<b>Pineau de Charentes 5 years old, Château Beaulon</b>	\$250		
<b>Graham's LBV Port 2007</b>	\$260		

## Free Wine Tasting

All of the above wines will be available for free tasting  
at the Galley on **15 November, 6:30 – 8:30 pm,**  
**at the hotpot special event.**

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

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 will be offered for purchase over 12 bottles.** Please allow 3 working days for delivery.  
All wines are subject to availability



# TAKING HOME THE CUP

By Susan Clear

*The ABC team*

## Sunday 15th September, Cheung Chau

Right and early on a sunny Sunday morning, a group of yellow- and green-clad dragon boat paddlers met at Central ferry piers to take the fast ferry over to idyllic Cheung Chau for a highly anticipated race.

This race, which was in small boats, fell early in the preseason-training programme of Buzz Dragons, whose home base is the ABC. Racing during the off-season has a lot of benefits – it gives a good measure of our boat fitness levels, lets the team practice technique changes in a competitive situation, and importantly, provides incentives and enthusiasm to keep up training!

On arrival, Cheung Chau was teeming with people – hundreds of paddlers from different teams poured off the ferry and set themselves up at the race course. Arriving at the Buzz team marquee, on the waterfront with an enviable view of the 200m race course, the team got itself organised with chatter and excitement all around.

With Buzz's first scheduled race also being the first race of the day, we headed off quickly to get ourselves warmed up with a tough session led by one of our coaches. After a brief re-group and big re-hydrate, the team had a final briefing on race strategy and the line-up for the boat. Nerves racing, paddles in hand, sunscreen applied – we were ready to go!

## A burst off the start line

At the start line, we cheered as our name was called out by the announcers. The waterfront was already lined with spectators, also cheering, and waving flags. The team steadied, set up race start position and calmed our breathing, anticipating the start gun. We burst off the start line, paddling hard, and giving everything physically while keeping mental focus on the drummer for timing and calls. We finished in fourth place, an okay result considering the high standard of competition.




*The silver cup*

However, we again regrouped and headed out for our second heat. We finished second this time, reflecting a much better performance. At dragon boat race days, there are tiered finals, so our combined results meant we had qualified for the third-tier final, the silver cup final.

Using the time in between the heats and the final, individual team members prepared physically and mentally. We delivered our best performance of the day in the final, and as we crossed the finish line no one was really sure of the result! After what seemed like an eternity, the announcer confirmed, in Cantonese, that Buzz Dragons had in fact finished in first place. With a quick translation for the non-Cantonese speakers, the celebrations began!

After receiving and celebrating with a very large trophy on stage, the trophy then became an excellent prop for many team photographs, as well as a perfect "glass" from which to drink our celebration beers!

Our spirits were high as we rode the ferry back to Hong Kong island, reflecting on a good day, good performances and an indicator that the 2014 season should be one of our best!

If you would like to see if dragon boating is for you, please come to an open training session at Middle Island on Sunday, 24 November. For further information you may email [info@buzzdragon.com](mailto:info@buzzdragon.com). 





## Christmas Youth Sailing Programme

### Saturday, 21 Dec., 2013 – Sunday, 5 Jan., 2014

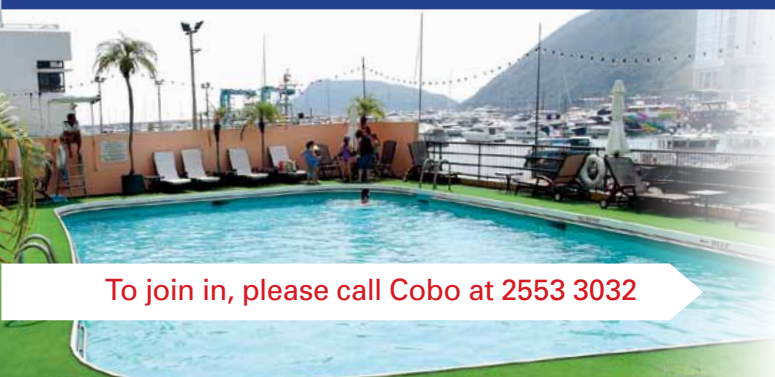
The Christmas and New Year school holidays can be one of the best times to sail as normally we can expect great conditions with good wind, making this time of year ideal for our more advanced courses. Naturally, it is cooler and we remind students and parents of the need to wear appropriate warm clothing.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

Date & Time	Course	Age	Details/ entry requirements	Cost (Member/ Non-member)
<b>Junior Courses</b>				
Thurs 26 – Mon 30 Dec AM	Optimist Stage 1	7 – 12	Entry-level fun sailing for our youngest sailors!	840 / 1,215
Thurs 26 – Mon 30 Dec PM	Optimist Stage 2	7 – 12	For those who have passed Optimist stage 1	840 / 1,215
Thurs 26 – Mon 30 Dec PM	Optimist Stage 3	7 – 13	For those who have passed Optimist stage 2	840 / 1,215
Thurs 26 – Mon 30 Dec AM	Optimist Stage 4 Race Intro	7 – 13	For those who have passed Optimist stage 3	840 / 1,215
<b>Youth Courses</b>				
Sat 21 – Mon 23 Dec	ABC Assistant Instructor Course	14 – adult	Students must have completed HKSF L3 and have additional sailing experience	1,512 / 2,190
Sun 22 – Tue 24 Dec	3-day Topper Pico Feva Supervised Practice	12 – 18	HSKF L2 or equivalent experience	1,512 / 2,190
Thurs 26 – Mon 30 Dec	Beginners HKSF Level 1 & 2	12 – 18	Basic entry-level sailing for teenagers	2,520 / 3,650
Sun 29 – Mon 30 Dec	RS Feva Gennaker Intro Course	12 – 18	Students must hold an RS Feva Introduction certificate	1,008 / 1,460
Sun 29 – Mon 30 Dec & Thurs 2 – Sat 4 Jan 2014	High Performance Advanced Skills, HSKF Level 4	13 – 18	Advanced skills course including spinnaker, trapeze, boathandling, anchoring, introduction to navigation and meteorology. (Applicants must hold Improvers HKSF Level 3 and since have one season of sailing.)	2,520 / 3,650
Sun 29 – Mon 30 Dec & Thurs 2 – Fri 3 Jan 2014	ABC Introduction to High Performance Sailing	13 – 18	A four-day "mini"-course to introduce spinnakers and trapeze-based high performance sailing. Ideal choice for students to gain experience if not yet ready or qualified to attend the complete HKSF Level 4 course.	2,016 / 2,920
Sun 29 – Mon 30 Dec & Thurs 2 – Sat 4 Jan 2014	Improver HKSF Level 3	12 – 18	Applicants need to have passed HKSF Level 2 and since have had a season of sailing.	2,520 / 3,650
Sun 29 – Mon 30 Dec & Thurs 2 Jan 2014	RS Feva Introduction Course	12 – 18	Hold HKSF level 2 plus some additional sailing experience.	1,512 / 2,190
Fri 3 – Sun 5 Jan 2014	Laser 1 Introduction Course	12 – adult	Applicants need to have passed HKSF Level 2 and since have had some sailing experience.	1,512 / 2,190

Further details and application forms for all courses are available at the ABC main Clubhouse reception and on the ABC website, [www.abclubhk.com](http://www.abclubhk.com). For more information, contact Angela Ho at [SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com](mailto:SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com)  
*The entry deadline for ALL courses is 18 December.*



## Dive Try, Poolside, Saturday, 2 November



**9 am - 12 noon**

**Ages 10 - 100 welcome**

**Free of charge**

**Dive tries offered in conjunction with Mandarin Divers and South China Diving Club**

**To join in, please call Cobo at 2553 3032**

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## First-Aid Kit for Home, Car or Boat

\$400

Contains everything to care for wounds as well as a torch, thermometer, tweezers with magnifying glass, note pad and pen. Made of waterproof material with shoulder strap for easy carrying.



Available now at the ABC Club Shop

## Sunscreen and After-Sun Care

\$35-\$130

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