



2015/05
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HORIZONS

THE MAGAZINE OF THE ABERDEEN BOAT CLUB



A Look Back:
Easter at the ABC

Sailing in the Philippines:
ABC Sister Club
Puerto Galera Yacht Club

Farewell to Freddie Lau

Learn to Sail at the ABC

Squadron 42
Timeless designs, endless enjoyment



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Cover photo by Kevin Lewis:

An ABC sailing class at Middle Island, April 2015.

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

Hope all had a good Easter break. Sad that our crews in *Jarrah* and *Redeye* entering the San Fernando Race found their race abandoned due to the threat of Super Typhoon Meysak that appeared east of Luzon at the end of March. Fortunately a replacement offshore race was made possible on an alternative route out towards the oil rigs area.

Some of our members visited our delightful reciprocal club Puerto Galera Yacht Club of Mindoro, the Philippines, for its Easter Regatta. Fortunately we were spared typhoon conditions and were able to race. PGYC was hospitable as always; see the article later in this issue. Tales of visits to other reciprocal clubs are welcome in *Horizons*.

The ABC General Committee has established a 50th anniversary committee to plan and organise celebrations in the time leading up to this important

Club milestone in June 2017. This committee's work will include arranging a comprehensive written history of the Club prior to the anniversary. Terms of reference and membership of the committee have been agreed and I am pleased to announce that the chair will be Mark Clift.

As the sport of sailing has been raised to elite status by the Hong Kong Sports Institute, following medal wins by dinghy sailors, specialist coaches have now been made available to the sport. The Hong Kong Sailing Federation has appointed a full-time coaching director, Richard Knight, to plan and manage training programmes for the Federation's squad, which will further assist raising the standards of the sport in Hong Kong.

I am pleased to note that ABC sailors are among the higher achievers and look forward to the Club receiving more medals in due course.



The ever-popular Classic Yacht Rally two-day cruise will have happened by the time you read this, and this will be followed by the Summer Series, now consisting of seven races, in mid-May. Hope to see you on the water during those events and at the Club.

John Berry
Commodore



Flag Officer's Report

Greetings fellow ABC members! It is with great pleasure that I write this, my first letter as a flag officer of our Club.

For those of you who don't know me, I have been on the ABC General Committee for four years, and previously chaired the Development Committee. In my spare time when I'm not at ABC I run Cyberport, just along the south coast from the Club, for the Hong Kong Government.

Since I'm not chairing a committee at present, there are two roles I've taken on, both of which I feel are important for the Club, in different ways.

The first is a review of our corporate governance, particularly in regard to our committee structure and operations. As the Club has grown over the years, the environment in which we operate has also grown and changed. There is heightened focus from both the Government and

the general public on private recreational clubs and how they operate. At the same time, the legislative environment is ever-changing, e.g. the revised Companies Ordinance, and we must ensure we meet the revision's requirements and carry on with best practices. As we are a club with a very active membership, I'm sure all members have an interest in ensuring things are run properly.

My second role is far more fun. The ABC is approaching its half-century. That's right; our Club will be 50 years old in 2017.

The time to start preparations is now. I'm heading up a small working party to begin planning. There is no fixed agenda at this stage so if anyone has any thoughts we are open to them.

Likewise, any Club memories or memorabilia would be extremely welcome.

The ABC's reputation as a friendly club is well-deserved, and it will be



great to celebrate such a momentous milestone together.

If you would like to discuss either of these two projects, or are interested in contributing in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me at moclift@gmail.com.

Happy Boating!

Mark O. Clift
Vice Commodore

COA Midsummer Rally 23rd-25th May 2015

A club-to-club rally held over 3 consecutive days
Pursuit Format races, with courses of 18-24 nautical miles
Handicap system: HKPN only. (Protests discouraged)

Fri 22/05/14 - Day 0 – 18.30 Skippers Briefing – RHKYC Kellett Island

Sat 23/05/15 - Day 1 – Club Starts to Middle Island

- 4 Starts (Port Shelter, Kellet Island, Round Island & Datum Rock)
- Leg 1 finish at Chesterman Buoy
- Leg 2 finish at Round Island
- Raft up at Middle Island.
- Sampan service provided
- 18.30 – Prize giving at RHKYC Middle Island

Sun 24/05/15 - Day 2 – Middle Island to Mui Wo

- Start at Lamma Island (Yuen Kok)
- Finish at Hei Ling Chau
- Anchor up at Mui Wo
- Sampan service provided
- 18.30 – Prize giving at the China Beach Club, Mui Wo

Mon 25/05/15 - Day 3 – Mui Wo back to Clubs

- Start at Hei Ling Chau
- Leg 1 finish at Chesterman Bouy
- Leg 2 finishes at (Port Shelter, Kellet Island, Round Island & Datum Rock)
- 19.00 - Prize giving at Hebe Haven Yacht Club

Enquiries & Registration to secretary@coahk.org

Entry is open to COA members only, but COA membership is only HK\$750 per year and your membership application can be processed at the same time as your rally entry.

Entry is limited to 30 boats, due to berthing restrictions, so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Entry Fee HK\$800/boat/day including race, sampan and berthing fees.

Sponsor's beer will be sold at the prize giving ceremonies in aid of local charities

Dinner is not included, but skippers and crews will be able to buy dinner at all the prize giving venues or eat elsewhere as they choose.

Dinner pre-bookings are required at the China Beach Club as seating space is limited (China Beach Club reservations; contact Julie at 9326 6402)

Hotel rooms are available at the China Beach Resort and other budget hotels in Mui Wo,, details given in joining pack.

A HK\$150 (\$50/day) discount for those who sign up by noon on Friday 24th April 2015.





General Manager's Letter



\$100 Coupon for Four Peaks Restaurant Food

Please present this coupon to the Four Peaks Restaurant (on your phone or in print) to redeem against food purchases. Every ABC membership account is entitled to one coupon.

Valid from 1 March – 31 August 2015.

For reservation, please call 2553 3422

Food and Beverage news: Have you used this voucher? If not, you have time to redeem it throughout August for the opportunity to try the ABC's new fine dining menu.

Marine news: ABC Rear Commodore of Sailing Chris Pooley conducted a boat inspection with Jon Zinke, general committee member, and ABC Marine Manager Lau Wai Kee, at the Cheoy Lee shipyard in Doumen, China, on 25 March. The boatbuilding is continuing very quickly with finishing touches on shower hoses, tabletops and lighting now being discussed.



New ABC boat

The boat will be equipped with the latest in navigation and safety equipment, including:

- A chart spotter Zeus2 12 with C-Map BDS and ZG100 GPS
- A 4G radar
- A V50 VHF marine radio with AIS and
- A Transducer DST800 active D/S/T TH plastic 235 kHz.

The estimated arrival time of the engine from the U.S. was 17 April, for a completed installation around early May. The delivery of our new tailor-made Club boat is now estimated to be the end of June or early July, that is, nearly one month earlier than planned.

New environmental actions: The Cheoy Lee, our regular small ferry, now is equipped with a high-tech environmentally friendly system, the Quantum Cell™ hydrogen generator. This system was introduced to us by Neil Gould and Detlef Beier, founder of Quantum Hydrogen Ltd. It both saves fuel by boosting efficiency and lowers emissions by acting as a catalyst in the engine's combustion chamber to burn unburned fuel. The ABC is the first club to test and use this revolutionary environmentally friendly innovation.



Cheoy Lee

Invicta, our marine work boat used mostly for racing, rescuing members in distress at sea and as a ferry from time to time, now will be fuelled with B5 biodiesel produced from our collected cooking oil. In March, the Club produced over 26 kg of biodiesel B5, which represents a 63-kg reduction in CO₂ production and equals the planting of three trees. For many years we have sold our oil but now we actually can



Invicta



use biofuels in our own boat to make a difference to the environment.

19 April beach-cleaning event: Thank you for participating again in the ABC Beach Cleaning Event held on 19 April, following our first visit to Beaufort Island on 28 September 2014. The ABC has committed to this territory-wide beach clean-up campaign/marine survey in an effort to educate and engage the general public in this very worthwhile two-year project. Team ABC returned to Beaufort Island beach last month to once again give "our" beach another going-over with volunteers from our membership.

The format, much as earlier, had the ABC junk departing ABC loaded with member-volunteers at around 10 am on Sunday 19 April for Middle Island. Activities began with a short talk and demonstration of methods, equipment and procedures for the marine survey aspect of the programme by World Wide Fund for Nature scientists Patrick and Maggie. Teams were formed and roles assigned. The junk moved to Beaufort Island and the teams went ashore to clean up and conduct their marine survey tasks.

House news: After five months of waiting, the new gym equipment arrived in Hong Kong to be installed on 14 and 15 April. This long-overdue upgrade so far has been very well-received in light of rising member use of the gym. If you have yet to try our gym, look for it in the squash centre.



services to nearly all types of disabilities including physical and learning. See www.sailability.org.hk.

ABC donated a boat for Sailability's use for its programmes in 2013. Sailability now regularly competes in our Opening and Southside regattas.

Sailability Hong Kong has successfully trained a team of sailors (all new to sailing) to represent Hong Kong internationally. In October 2014, at the Asian Para Games at Incheon, South Korea, the Hong Kong team earned a bronze medal in the 2.4mR class.

In August this year, Sailability will enter a team in the Open World Championships in Finland and then in late autumn at the IFDS Worlds in Melbourne, Australia. The latter is a qualifier for the Brazil Paralympics in 2016.

Unfortunately, while Sailability is a recognised charity, it receives no help from the Government towards these attendance or qualifying costs and therefore must raise funds itself. ABC has resolved to support Sailability in funding the Hong Kong Para Sailors' trips to Finland and Australia and the Special Olympics for those with learning disabilities.

The Club now calls for any generous donations from its members towards this fundraising campaign and from now through May will match the total amount collected from members through the Club with a target total of \$60,000. Member-donors can write an order to allow fund collection through their accounts. The Club looks forward to your generous contributions.

Staff departure: With great sadness the Club says farewell to Freddie Lau Kwok Fai, our headwaiter in the Four Peaks restaurant. Freddie joined the ABC on 2 July 1984, and earned his way to his rank and title through dedication and hard work.

Freddie has decided to take some time off to take care of his aging mum and family. We wish him a wonderful retirement life and would welcome him back some day if he wishes. Please see the separate article honouring Freddie in *Horizons*.

Philippe de Manny
General Manager

Staircase refurbishment: We have refreshed our main entrance. Work begun in April will finish in May. Hong Kong regulations have driven our review of this area and any changes to windows. New pictures will replace faded old ones and fresh racing photos will take their place.

Should you have any photos of great events of Club life or very old pictures of Aberdeen before the development on Ap Lai Chau and Welfare Road, please be so kind as to share them with our House Committee and me; they may find a new home in our entrance staircase.



Freshening up of swimming pool: We are now nearly finished revamping the swimming pool for use throughout our long summer. Its Mediterranean feel is nearly complete.

Swim classes: These take place every Monday. The schedule and information are on our website: www.abclubhk.com/upload/Activities/Swimming/SwimClass2015.pdf. Contact Coach Nicola Barguss for details or to ask about tailor-made courses. Contacts: nicola_barguss@hotmail.com or mobile 9775 4944.

Waglan Bar renovation: We will refresh our beloved but aging second-floor bar this summer, when many members are away on holiday. As we renovate the bar, we will provide an alternative venue for a lunch or evening nightcap in the Harbour Room. We are looking at doing the renovation in June with alternative

bar options indoor and outdoor for about a month.

We will work swiftly to complete the Waglan Bar's refreshment in a bit over a month. We will increase the seating area, improve the bar's interior layout to speed up the service, add a wine cellar, and change all antiquated equipment to that *au fait*. As we modernise the whole outlet we shall keep its rustic look and feel to lessen feelings of nostalgia over the good old bar that has served us well for 40 years.

The 2015 ABC Summer Series: This series, a.k.a. the restaurant series, will be seven races taking place on alternate Sundays in June, July and August. About 20 boats take part regularly, with over 100 individual participants. Most of the courses are designed to finish near a seafood restaurant on one of the outlying islands, so that the crews can go ashore to enjoy a well-earned lunch and exchange some good-natured banter. This event has a bigger social component than the Club's Championship series; but it's just as competitive: everyone competes in one division on a time-adjustment handicap system.

This year the race has been sponsored by Liquid Assets and Fuller's Beer, bringing much happiness to post-race late lunches.

Sailability appeal: "Sailability" is a worldwide organisation that provides facilities that give the disabled community the opportunity to sail or have a water-based experience. Sailability in Hong Kong, based at Hebe Haven Yacht Club, conducts programmes in Cantonese and English open to any and all with a disability. It now has some 420 people in its programmes, including individuals, schools, other charities and non-governmental organisations, and provides



May F&B Promotions

Throughout the month, the ABC F&B team will present Italian specialities in the Galley coffee shop and the Waglan Bar.

Also throughout May, the Four Peaks restaurant will offer a variety of asparagus dishes.

Featured wine from Italy

Tedeschi Soave Classico Xapitel Tenda DOC 2013

Tedeschi Valpocella Superiore DOC 2011

By the glass, \$49, by the bottle \$240

Featured beers

Peroni (Italy)

By the bottle \$30

Vale Ale (Australian Pale Ale)

By the bottle \$35

Featured cocktails

Raspberry Collins

Smirnoff vodka, Cassis, raspberry purée, fresh lime and soda water

\$48, non-alcoholic \$35

Ginger Sour

Bourbon whiskey, fresh ginger, fresh lemon, ginger syrup

\$45

Orange Moscow Mule

Smirnoff Orange vodka, ginger syrup, orange juice, fresh ginger and soda water

\$45, non-alcoholic \$35

May Events

Taiwanese Temptation buffet

The Patio, Saturday, 9 May

6:30-9:30 pm

Adults \$230, concessionary price for members over age 65, \$190

Children (3-12) \$130

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

Mother's Day Buffet

with special gift for all mothers

The Galley and Patio, Sunday, 10 May

12 noon-3 pm

Adults \$279 (including a glass of sparkling wine), concessionary price for members over age 65, \$239

Children (3-12) \$179 (including a soft drink)

To reserve for your family and friends, call the Four Peaks on 2553 3422

Tedeschi Italian Wine Dinner

The Four Peaks, Friday, 15 May

7 pm onwards

Canapés with Tedeschi Soave, followed by a four-course dinner with exclusive Tedeschi wines

Adults \$399, concessionary price for members over age 65, \$359

To reserve for your family and friends, call the Four Peaks on 2553 3422

Italian Night and free wine tasting

The Patio, Friday, 22 May

6:30-9:30 pm

Adults: \$230, concessionary price for members over age 65, \$190

Children (3-12) \$119

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

Fruits of the Sea Buffet

The Patio, Saturday, 30 May

6:30-9:30 pm

Adults \$289, concessionary price for members over age 65, \$249

Children (3-12) \$189

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





Mother's Day Buffet, 10 May

The Patio and Galley, noon-3 pm

Includes a free gift for all mothers and a glass of sparkling wine for adults.

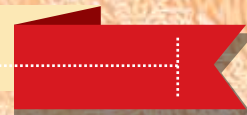
Salads and starters: Crystal noodle salad with seafood, green mango salad with dried fish, Thai-style beef salad, Vietnamese-style chicken and cabbage salad with Persian-Thai salad, potato salad, cherry mozzarella and tomatoes, cucumber, your choice of lettuce salads, Asian-style cold-steamed tiger prawns and calamari with dips, cold seafood platter (yabbies, mussels, shrimp, whelks, clams), rock oysters, sashimi, assorted sushi, and crabmeat and asparagus soup.

Main courses: Roast Chinese BBQ, assorted grilled seafood (squid, prawns, fish), beef ragout, chicken teriyaki, chargrilled lamb chops, steamed coral trout, scallop-fried rice, prawns Szechuan-style, spicy beef curry with galangal, lemongrass and chili, steamed marrow with prawns and lobster e-fu noodles.

Desserts: Fresh fruit, crème caramel, mango pudding, jelly coconut milk soup, assorted cakes, fruit tarts, coconut tartlets and cheesecake.

Adults \$279 (including a glass of sparkling wine), concessionary price for members over age 65, \$239, children (3-12) \$179 (including a soft drink)

To reserve for your family and friends, call the Four Peaks on 2553 3422



Tedeschi Wine Dinner, Friday, 15 May

A celebration of wines from the Tedeschi family.
Speaker: Ms. Sabrina Tedeschi



Tedeschi Dinner Menu



Aperitivo Canapés

Tedeschi Soave Classico Capitel Tenda DOC 2013

Vitello Tonnato

A thin-sliced veal tenderloin on tuna and capers dressing

Tedeschi Valpolicella Superiore DOC 2011

Padella Filetto di Halibut con fagioli freschi
di massima e capperi

Pan-fried halibut fillet with fresh broad beans and capers

**Tedeschi-Ripasso Capitel San Rocco Valpolicella
Superiore DOC 2010**

Brasato di Vitello Shank con purè di patate allo zafferano
Amarone-braised veal shank with saffron mashed potato

**Tedeschi-Amarone della Valpolicella
Classico DOC 2009**

Almond Biscotti e Cioccolato Terrine
Chocolate and biscuit terrine with almonds

**Tedeschi-Recioto della Valpolicella Capitel
Fontana Single Vineyard DOC 2006**

Adults \$399, concessionary price for members
over age 65, \$359

To reserve for your family and friends, call the Four Peaks on 2553 3422





Home Wine Delivery May 2015

	\$/Bottle	Quantity	Amount
SPARKLING			
Col Vitoraz Prosecco di Valdobbiadene DOCG Extra Dry	\$152		
WHITE			
Ronco del Gelso Pinot Grigio Sot Lis Ravis Isonzo DOC 2013	\$168		
Longview Whippet Sauvignon Blanc 2012	\$152		
Seifried Chardonnay 2012	\$141		
San Pedro Yacochuya Torrontes 2012	\$141		
ROSE			
Proprietà Sperino Rosa del Rosa 2013	\$174		
RED			
Tenute Silvio Nardi, Rosso di Montalcino DOC 2013 RP88*	\$155		
Beronia Rioja Reserva 2010	\$163		
Seifried Pinot Noir 2012	\$163		
Longview Devil's Elbow Cabernet Sauvignon 2010 WS90*	\$172		
Total			

**Free Wine Tasting at the Galley and Patio,
Friday, 22 May, 6:30-8:30 pm, at the Italian night**

Remember to place your wine order together with your catering needs.

***Minimum order – 12 bottles and mixed cases are allowed.**

Member Name: _____ Membership Number: _____

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

Delivery Address: _____

Delivery Date: _____ Member Signature: _____

Total amount will be charged to Member's account. Orders accepted by post, fax or in person. Contact the Food & Beverage Department on 2555 6216 or Fax: 2873 2945
Free delivery for orders of 12 bottles or above. Please allow three working days for delivery. All wines are subject to availability.





Squid Fishing on the ABC Junk, 15 & 27 May, 18 & 30 June

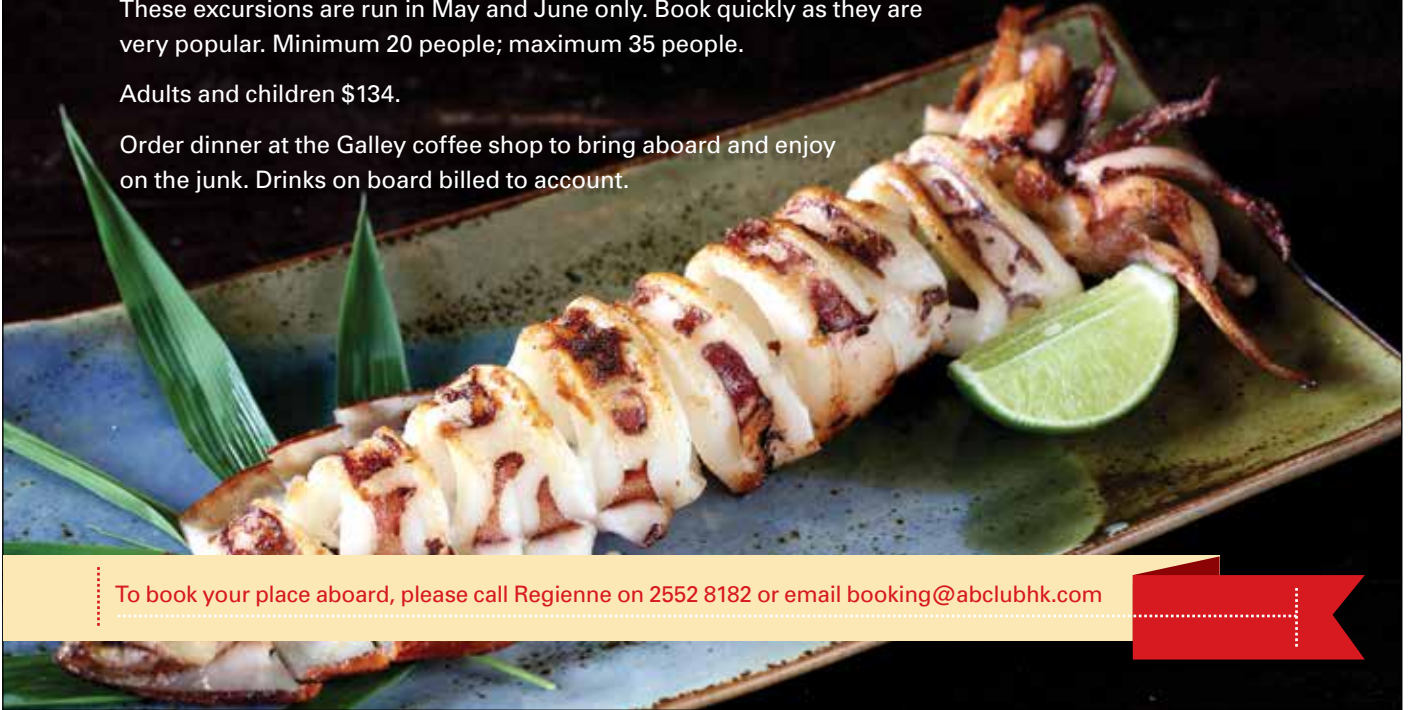
Time: 7 pm sharp to 10 pm

Squid fishing in the evening is fun and entertaining. Bring along the children or a group of friends or make some new friends.

These excursions are run in May and June only. Book quickly as they are very popular. Minimum 20 people; maximum 35 people.

Adults and children \$134.

Order dinner at the Galley coffee shop to bring aboard and enjoy on the junk. Drinks on board billed to account.



To book your place aboard, please call Regienne on 2552 8182 or email booking@abclubhk.com

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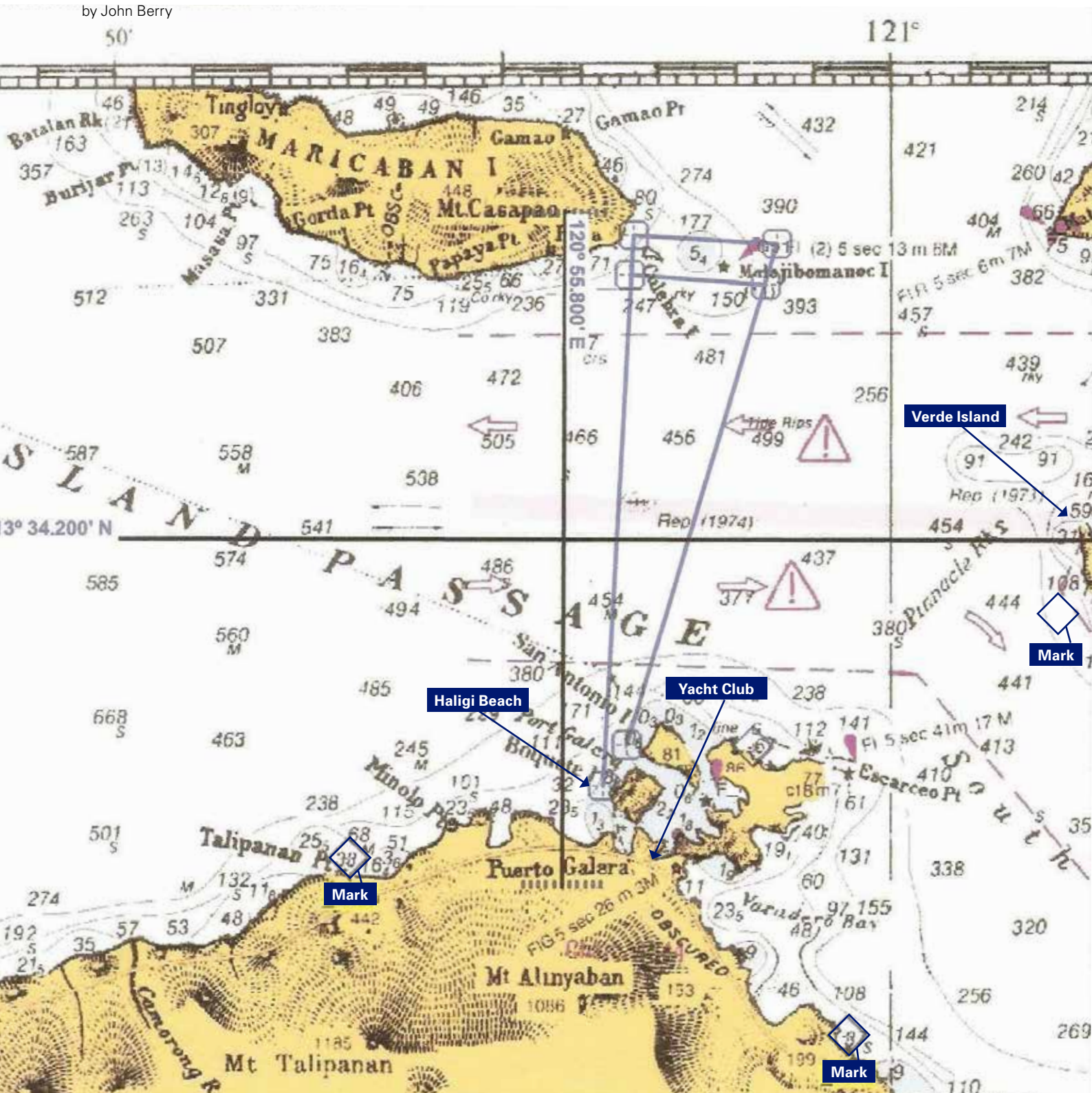
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Reciprocal Club

Oriental Mindoro, the Philippines ABC Sailors Visit the Puerto Galera Yacht Club

by John Berry



A crew of hardy sailors from the ABC set out to visit one of the ABC's two reciprocal clubs in the Philippines, the Puerto Galera Yacht Club (PGYC) in Oriental Mindoro, for PGYC's Easter Regatta from Friday, 3 April, to Sunday, 6 April.

Puerto Galera is a natural typhoon shelter on the north side of Mindoro island, on the Verde Island Passage, an hour's banca ride across the strait from the Luzon port of Batangas.

When the Spanish ruled, PG was a storm refuge for galleons. Said to be one of the most beautiful bays of the world, PG is a resort town on the edges of a wooded headland, with clear waters, excellent diving, beaches, a golf course and other pursuits, including fine sailing in the near constant easterly winds.

Puerto Galera Yacht Club was founded in 1991 in Muelle and will shortly celebrate its 25th anniversary. The club is built on a hillside extending to a strip on the waterfront that leads to a narrow channel through the shallows to a sheltered mooring for around 30 cruisers, and to the sheltered banca berthing on Muelle Pier.

PGYC conducts three cruiser regattas annually in addition to monthly sailing events, together with a very active sail training programme for local children who have gone on to achieve honours in national events. The larger regattas are at Easter, and at Halloween – the All Souls Regatta.

The Easter Regatta, raced over different island courses, has cruiser/racer, cruiser and multihull divisions – all under the PGYC performance handicap system ratings, while the cruiser/racer division also has an IRC subdivision.

At the Easter Regatta, multihulls raced together with

the cruiser division. Starts were on times calculated on a pursuit-race basis, avoiding bunching up at the start. This allowed a reaching start from the confined Muelle Bay and thence out the Manila Channel. The finishes were located off Haligi Beach outside the channel.

No protests were recorded in the races in which we participated, and we note the sailing instructions included the following:

*"Racing rule(s) ... and 61.2 will be changed as follows:
61.2 Protest Contents – amend this rule to include requirement (e) a protest fee consisting of one full case of cold beer."*



Approach from yacht club to pier



Natural wonders: seabed corals



Rags under spinnaker



Farr 36, Rags



Refuge from Race 3



Puerto Galera Yacht Club

A veteran of PG regattas, ABC Rear Commodore – Sailing Chris Pooley, chartered a Farr 36, *Rags*, for the cruiser/racer division. Crew included ABC members Ian Skeggs, John and Natalie Berry and Mike Barker.

The pre-regatta shakedown practice day was usefully employed checking the equipment and applying vast amounts of duct tape to sail “imperfections” and other needy areas, plus stocking up on refreshments.

The Friday race for the cruiser/racers was Course 2 (curiously termed Chicken Feather) – length 21NM: start, Malajibamanoc Island (port), spinnaker run to Culebra Island (P), another loop around Malajibamanoc and Culebra then Haligi Beach finish (position second).

The Saturday race was Course 8 (Verde Island B) – length 21 NM, Start, Verde Island mark (the island in the chart at right of 13deg 34 line -P), to Talipanan mark, then Haligi Beach finish. As it happened, the course was shortened at Haligi Beach (position second).


The Sunday race was Course 9, a shorter race to Bulabod Beach and back to Haligi – length 16 NM. Unfortunately we were adversely affected by Super Typhoon Meysak, but not in the same way as in the San Fernando race.

In our case, the typhoon-induced westerly nullified the normal steady easterly, so the race was abandoned at the start.

Not to be deterred, the crew sailed along until persuaded by Mr Barker to behold some of the natural wonders of PG from an unanchored pontoon off Sebang Beach.

Prizes were awarded daily at the PGYC Clubhouse and Commodore John Hyndman presented *Rags* with the second in division and third overall prizes.

Other ABC visitors to PGYC were Matt Adams, crewing on another yacht, and for a hash event, Adrian and Barbara Brock-Hollinshead.

For a complete list of ABC reciprocal clubs across the globe, see www.abclubhk.com/reciprocal_clubs.aspx 



Rags crew



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FNB Events

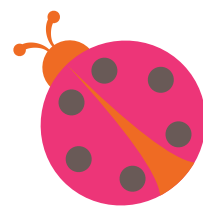
Easter 2015 at the Aberdeen Boat Club

Every Easter, the ABC Food and Beverage team outdoes itself with traditional offerings designed to please children and adults alike.

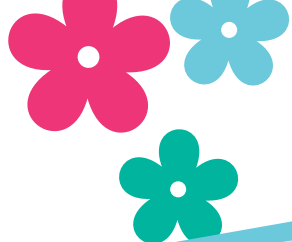
In April 2015, the entire F&B team pitched in as the Club hosted a roast-lamb buffet dinner on Friday evening, egg painting and a traditional Easter buffet and disco night on Saturday, and finally on Easter Sunday, a breakfast buffet, egg hunt, family egg race at Middle Island and a fabulous Easter brunch on the Patio.


Enjoy the memories in this Easter 2015 photomontage. H












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From 1984 to Today: Farewell to Freddie Lau Kwok Fai, Four Peaks Headwaiter

Freddie Lau Kwok Fai, 劉國輝, joined the ABC in 1984, accepting a full-time role with the ABC food and beverage service team. Henry Ng, the ABC restaurant manager at the time, hired Freddie, who arrived early the very next morning to start as a junior waiter in the coffee shop.

At the time, the ABC was one of the few local employers willing to offer full-time positions during the uncertainty surrounding the Sino-British handover talks.

In Freddie's early years at the Club, as one of three staff members in the coffee shop, he worked shifts, nine hours a day, six days a week. Unlike the air-conditioned Galley and covered Patio where members now relax from early morning to late at night, the coffee shop then was little more than a snack shop.

In less-busy times Freddie sometimes covered for colleagues at the Four Peaks restaurant, where in 1999 he was asked to assist full time.

In 1985, Freddie was promoted to waiter, in 1988 to captain, in 1993 to senior captain, in 1996 to headwaiter and in 2004 to senior headwaiter. In his 31 years at the Club, Freddie has seen four general managers and 12 commodores pass by.

Freddie's famous mulled wine

The ABC has named its popular recipe for mulled wine after Freddie, who developed it. Freddie's warm mulled wine is served seasonally at the Commodore's Christmas cocktail party on Middle Island and every December throughout the Club.

Horizons: Thirty-one years; Freddie, why have you waited so long to take a rest?

Freddie (laughing): I've said that when the MTR is finished here, it is the right time to go.



**You started in 1984. What did the Club look like then?
What was the ambiance?**

We had around 700 members, mostly doctors, lawyers, professors from Hong Kong University ... professionals. Almost all came from the U.K. At that time, it was not common for women to work, so many mothers spent all day at the ABC, watching over swimming lessons and keeping the children fed and happy. Also, the ABC was very famous for its squash club, which I think was all men. Nowadays, many of our women members are very active and exercise.

What did the Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter look like then?

You could see the mountain opposite the Club, on the other side of the shelter. The Aberdeen Marina Club was being built but was not finished. The Jumbo Restaurant was very prominent. You could go around the shelter by sampan. There were no live-aboard boats, unlike today. Back then, there were more boat boys looking after boats. Earlier, the boats here were simpler, and many of them were Chinese junks. Now, the boats are bigger and more luxurious and full of sophisticated equipment that a boat master has to look after.

ABC members really like to actively use their boats. The ABC members are active in every way.

What's it like seeing old members now?

When old members come back from living overseas, whether they come back to visit or to resettle in Hong Kong and rejoin the ABC, it is a real pleasure to see them. Some of the old members give up their ABC membership, but their kids grow up and return as members, maybe around ages 30-35. I still remember their baby faces when I see them as adults.

Who were your colleagues 30 years ago?

Most are gone, but some of the Marine staff still are here: Dai Fuk, Sai Fuk, Ah Ming and Ah Kee. Karina from Accounting.

Freddie, you've said you truly enjoy seeing new ABC members you recall as young children playing around the Club over the years. Could you share any good stories?

(Laughs): Thirty years ago or so, a little boy pulled off his mother's bikini top here. He was not being naughty, just curious. He just wanted to know how strings worked.



Another time (laughing), a naughty boy went into the men's changing room and went inside each and every toilet stall. He locked each stall from the inside and crawled out again under the partial door. So people went in and thought the stalls were occupied but they were not. We had to get a small adult to crawl under and unlock them all. It was unbelievable; very clever. We had to get the stalls completely closed after that by making doors for them from the bottom to the top.

What are your memories of Middle Island?

Middle Island, I really appreciate. It is beautiful; quite a lovely island. But it's bloody hot in the summertime, when we are entertaining. Many times we had to shower after setting up for a working dinner at Middle Island, before serving.

Something else I remember, from some time in the early '90s, is the visit of Chinese premier Li Peng to Tung Chee Hwa's house in Deep Water Bay. The security around Middle Island was extreme.

What hobbies have you enjoyed with your spare time?

Wind-surfing, snooker, playing on the beach. (Hint to members: also sea-fishing.)

What are your plans for the near future?

Take off a half-year, relax, decompress after 31 years non-stop at the ABC.

Freddie, from all of your colleagues and the members of the Aberdeen Boat Club, we salute you and we wish you well. 🍷





ABC Easter Holiday Youth Sailing Programme

Words and photos by Kevin Lewis

The Easter School holidays are one of the busiest times of the year for Middle Island. With only a two-week break, we try to fit in as many courses and accept as many students as we can.

This year saw 110 students aged from seven to 16 attend 12 courses and activities. As usual, it was our Junior programme in Optimists that was most popular, and as in previous years, we were limited in numbers simply by our available Optimist Dinghy fleet – all 15 training Optimists were in use both weeks.

We also saw all our Picos under sail, and the entire Laser 1 fleet in use – even our oldest boats, and five out of six RS Fevas were sailing.


We had all our RIBs in use too, even our oldest “reserve” boat that we recently purchased at a rock-bottom price: a big thanks to our Marine staff, led by Tim Fuk, who ensured the boat was seaworthy and ready to use!

Thanks also go to the 10 instructors and seven assistant instructors who worked hard throughout to deliver a quality and appealing programme. And let us not forget the fact that our squads were race-training over the same period!

These pages’ photographs from Easter show just some of the sailors and the activities underway. A larger selection of photos is available on the ABC Facebook page, www.facebook.com/AberdeenBoatClub.

At the ABC, during busy times, we really have reached maximum capacity and we simply don’t have too much more space to grow our programmes further. Obviously we try hard to spread our course dates, but the fact is most schools have holidays at the same time, so all resources are needed simultaneously. For those interested in comparisons, Easter once again reflected our historical ratio for youth programmes of 60 percent non-members and 40 percent Club members. Our Junior Programme in Optimists saw just over 50 percent of all our students – proving the perennial popularity of this ABC scheme.

For busy, key weeks, parents need to book well in advance. This Easter, a number of our courses were full, well before the formal application deadline. This issue of *Horizons* shows the course offerings in our summer programme.

The first two weeks will again be very busy, so book soon to be sure of a space! 







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Saturday, 16 May 2015
4 pm
Middle Island

Dinghy Prize-giving



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For reservations, please call Regienne on 2552 8182 or email booking@abclubhk.com



Sailing Diary

Cruiser Races and Events

2 May: RHKYC Nations Cup
17 May: ABC Summer Series 1
23-25 May: COA Mid-Year Rally (note new dates!)
31 May: ABC Summer Series 2
7 June: HHYC Typhoon Series 1
14 June: ABC Summer Series 3
21 June: HHYC Typhoon Series 2
28 June: ABC Cruise

Dinghy Races and Events

2 May: Spring Open Dinghy and Optimist 5 and 6 (ABC)
9 May: Spring Double-Handed and 29er 5 and 6 (RHKYC)
16 May: Spring Open Dinghy and Optimist 7 and 8 (ABC)
30 May: Spring Open Dinghy and Optimist 9 (RHKYC)
Spring Double-Handed and 29er 7 (RHKYC)
13-14 June: HKSF Festival of Sport Regatta
20-21 June: Macau International Dinghy Regatta



Summer Youth Sailing Programme: June and July 2015

Application Deadline Friday, 19 June

The ABC Summer Sailing Programme offers a wide variety of courses and activities for sailors aged seven to 18. Full details are available at www.abclubhk.com and also from Angela at SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com

Please note the application deadlines – it is *vital* to apply before this date to be sure of a space on our most popular courses.

	Date & Time	Junior Course	Activity	Eligibility	\$ Cost (Member/Non-member)
July (weeks 1 & 2)	Mon 29 June – Fri 3 July AM	✓	Optimist Stage 1	Age 7 – 11, can swim with water confidence	864 / 1,300
	Mon 29 June – Fri 3 July PM	✓	Optimist Stage 2	Age 7 – 11, passed Optimist Stage 1	864 / 1,300
	Mon 29 June – Fri 3 July PM	✓	Optimist Stage 3	Age 7 – 11, passed Optimist Stage 2	864 / 1,300
	Mon 29 June – Fri 3 July AM	✓	Optimist Stage 4	Age 7 – 11, passed Optimist Stage 3	864 / 1,300
	Mon 29 June – Fri 3 July		HKSF Level 1 & 2 Beginner Course	Age 11 – 18, can swim with water confidence	2,600 / 3,900
	Mon 29 June – Fri 3 July		HKSF Level 3 Improver Course	Age 11 – 18, passed HKSF L2 with one year's sailing experience since	2,600 / 3,900
	Mon 29 June – Wed 1 July		RS Feva Introduction Course	Age 12 – 18, passed HKSF L2	1,560 / 2,340
	Thurs 2 July – Sat 4 July		Laser 1 Introduction Course	Age 11 – adult, passed HKSF Level 2	1,560 / 2,340
	Mon 6 – Fri 10 July AM	✓	Optimist Stage 1	Age 7 – 11, can swim with water confidence	864 / 1,300
	Mon 6 – Fri 10 July PM	✓	Optimist Stage 2	Age 7 – 11, passed Optimist Stage 1	864 / 1,300
	Mon 6 – Fri 10 July PM	✓	Optimist Stage 3	Age 7 – 11, passed Optimist Stage 2	864 / 1,300
	Mon 6 – Fri 10 July		HKSF Level 1 & 2 Beginner Course	Age 11 – 18, can swim with water confidence	2,600 / 3,900
	Wed 8 – Fri 10 July		3 day Pico/Feva Supervised Practice	Age 11 – 18, passed HKSF L2	1,560 / 2,340
	Mon 6 – Fri 10 July		Watersports Week	Age 8 – 18, holder of Optimist 2 or 3, or HKSF L2	2,600 / 3,900
	Wed 8 – Thurs 9 July		Windsurf Basic & Intermediate	Age 8 – 18, can swim with water confidence	1,040 / 1,560

Application Deadline Friday, 3 July

	Date & Time	Junior Course	Activity	Eligibility	\$ Cost (Member/Non-member)
July (weeks 3 & 4)	Mon 13 – Fri 17 July AM	✓	Optimist Stage 1	Age 7 – 11, can swim with water confidence	864 / 1,300
	Mon 13 – Fri 17 July AM	✓	Optimist Stage 2	Age 7 – 11, passed Optimist Stage 1	864 / 1,300
	Mon 13 – Fri 17 July PM	✓	Optimist Stage 3	Age 7 – 11, passed Optimist Stage 2	864 / 1,300
	Mon 13 – Fri 17 July PM	✓	Optimist Stage 4 Race Intro	Age 7 – 11, passed Optimist Stage 3	864 / 1,300
	Mon 13 – Fri 17 July		HKSF Level 1 & 2 Beginner Course	Age 11 – 18, can swim with water confidence	2,600 / 3,900
	Wed 15 – Fri 17 July		3 day Pico / Feva Supervised Practice	Age 11 – 18, passed HKSF L2	1,560 / 2,340
	Mon 13 – Wed 15 July		RS Feva Introduction Course	Age 12 – 18, passed HKSF L2	1,560 / 2,340
	Thurs 16 – Fri 17 July		RS Feva Gennaker Introduction	Age 12 – 18, passed RS Feva Intro.	1,040 / 1,560
	Mon 20 – Fri 24 July AM	✓	Optimist Stage 1	Age 7 – 11, can swim with water confidence	864 / 1,300
	Mon 20 – Fri 24 July AM	✓	Optimist Stage 2	Age 7 – 11, passed Optimist Stage 1	864 / 1,300
	Mon 20 – Fri 24 July PM	✓	Optimist Stage 3	Age 7 – 11, passed Optimist Stage 2	864 / 1,300
	Mon 20 – Fri 24 July PM	✓	Optimist Stage 4 Supervised Practice	Age 7 – 11, passed Optimist Stage 3	864 / 1,300
	Mon 20 – Fri 24 July		HKSF Level 1 & 2 Beginner Course	Age 11 – 18, can swim with water confidence	2,600 / 3,900
	Weds 22 – Fri 24 July		3 day Pico / Feva Supervised Practice	Age 11 – 18, passed HKSF L2	1,560 / 2,340
	Tue 21 – Thurs 23 July		Laser 1 Introduction Course	Age 11 – adult, passed HKSF Level 2	1,560 / 2,340

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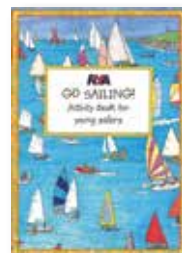


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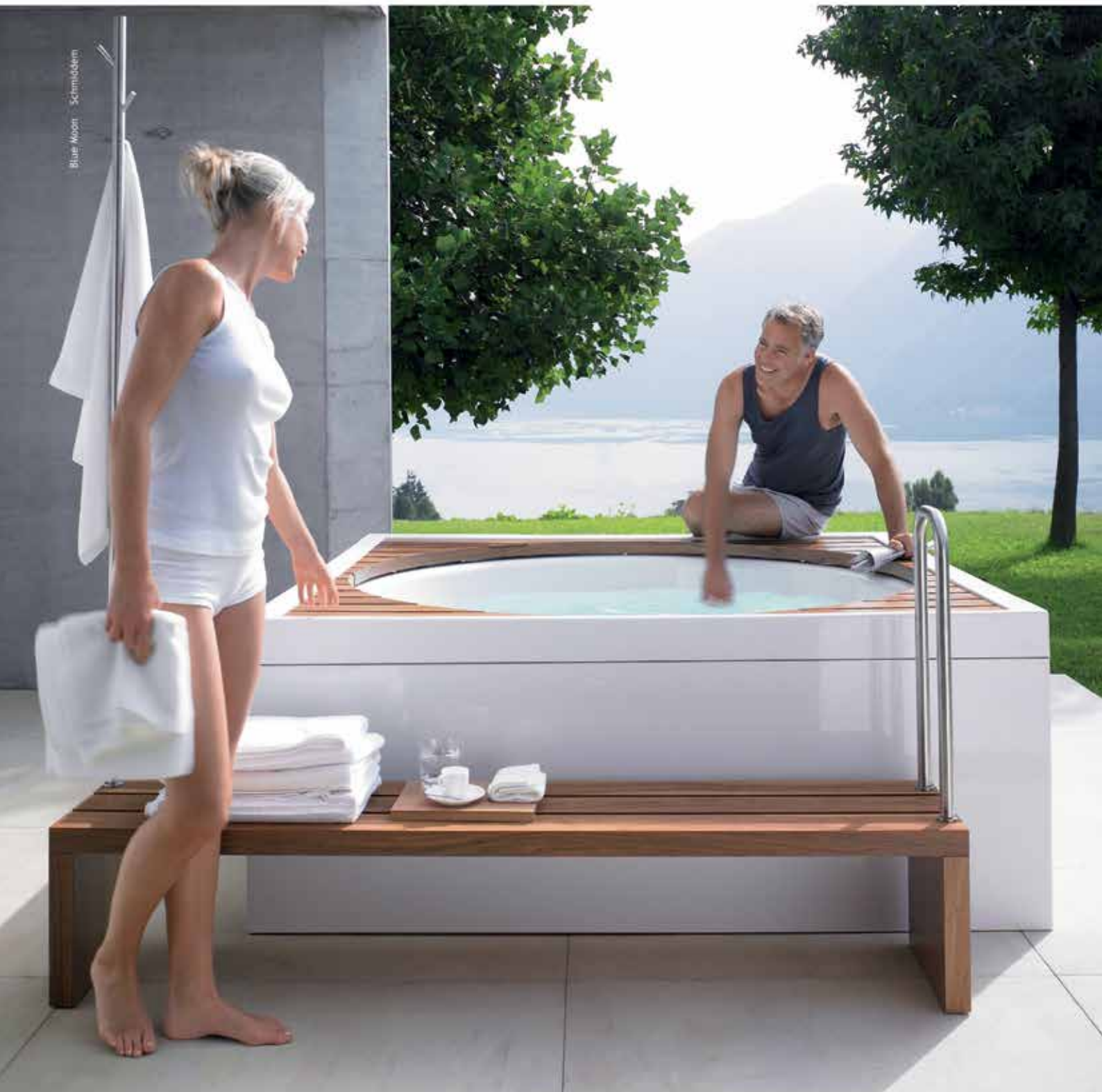
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