



2015/04

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# HORIZONS

THE MAGAZINE OF THE ABERDEEN BOAT CLUB

Rising Competition:  
Waglan Races Draw More Entries

ABC Academy Sailors Excel  
at Hong Kong Race Week

Learn to Sail at the ABC





# FAIRLINE

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*Cover photo by Rory Godman:*

ABC Youth Academy Sailors Harriette Edmonds and Juliette Martin (R), heading for 6<sup>th</sup> place in the 29ers racing, during Hong Kong Race Week.

*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

**T**he Waglan Series for 2014-15 finished with its last race on 15 March. Unsurprisingly for this time of year, a heavy fog descended during this race but the wind continued – except around Fury Rocks!

It is encouraging that the Waglan Series continues to attract a large fleet keenly contesting prizes in the four divisions for this series.

We welcome the news that the Hong Kong Sports Institute (HKSI) in March confirmed to the Hong Kong Sailing Federation (HKSF) that sailing has been awarded "Tier A" elite sport status for the HKSI 2015-2019 funding cycle.

Practically, this will mean substantial financial support from the Government via the HKSI, plus a likely increase in funding for national coaches and also for top Hong

Kong sailors joining overseas events.

As ABC Dinghy Sailing Manager Kevin Lewis says, this will be a total game-changer for Hong Kong sailing and is the direct result of efforts of the clubs themselves, as well as the HKSF, over the past several years.

In the process, we are pleased that ABC sailors and our ABC Academy coaches have made a very significant contribution to achieving this status, well done everyone.

The Club has submitted a report to the Home Affairs Bureau for policy support for Middle Island development and we hope that this soon will lead to some positive news on the development side.

The ABC is now at about our membership limits and I note that



membership demand remains strong, with new members coming from more active experienced sailing and boating backgrounds.

Looking forward to seeing you on the water or around the Club. Happy Easter!

**John Berry**  
Commodore



## Flag Officer's Report

**W**e are nearly three quarters of the way through ABC's financial year. Monthly subscriptions, food and beverage receipts and miscellaneous income are just ahead of the same eight months of the last financial year. Total expenses, however, are six percent higher, resulting from higher major repairs and maintenance and staff-related expenses.

New member entrance fees and building development levies (funds together set aside for future developments and enhancements) are \$5,217,000 in the eight months to the end of February, vs prior year-to-date of \$5,492,000.

New member admittance has slowed and will continue to slow to replacement levels as we are full. After all revenues and expenses, funds added to reserves eight months to the end of February are \$3,228,000 vs prior \$4,074,000.

In the balance sheet, a deposit of approximately one million dollars has been paid for our new committee boat, the installation of a new engine in both workboats (the Cheoy Lee and the Invicta), the replacement of two safety ribs, and the purchase of a number of new sails for the 29ers and Optimists. A number of new dinghies will be purchased by the end of the financial year.

Contracted expenditure for Middle Island redevelopment has been another item of capital expenditure.

At the end of February 2015, cash in the bank was \$29,200,000 vs \$26,700,000 at the end of February 2014. A significant proportion of these funds are specifically set aside for the Middle Island redevelopment.

In May, General Manager Philippe de Manny will work with his departments to put together operating budgets for the 12 months running up to 30 June 2016



for General Committee approval. Also in May, the Sailing and Marine and House and Building committees will put together capital expenditure budgets for review by General Committee in its June meeting. All budgets are then finalised in the July General Committee meeting.

**Matthew Johnson**  
Honorary Treasurer



31 | 36e | 40e | 41 | 45e | 50 | 56

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The latest Dufour Performance range (36, 40, 45) provides comfort, elegance and a convenient layout for both daysailing and longer passages. The 36 is a perfect boat for regional & offshore racing and confidently balances a sleek design with award winning performances, making it stand out from its European counterparts on the water.

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## General Manager's Letter

**Carpark labels:** We still see 2014 labels for the ABC carpark, despite it being the second quarter of 2015. From April onward, member access will not be granted without compliance with these Club bye-laws:

- 1) A member's vehicle parked at the Carpark must carry a valid Club-issued car parking label.
- 2) Copies of labels are not valid and parking will be refused in such circumstances.

**Monthly Statements:** In 2014, the Club introduced electronic statements to reduce the enormous amount of paper being copied, checked, folded, stamped and sent. Sadly, six months later, after many requests, some members have yet to give us a preferred email address to which to send statements.

Please be aware that at its January meeting, the General Committee voted to apply a \$50 charge to requests for hard copies of statements. Avoid this charge by giving us your email address for statement e-delivery. You may check your account and statement online at the home page by clicking on "Members Login." If you need help recovering your password (issued in September 2014) contact ABC IT Manager Matthew Tsui at [it@abclubhk.com](mailto:it@abclubhk.com).

“Be informed that at its January meeting, the General Committee voted that a \$50 charge will apply to requests for hard copies of statements. Avoid this charge by giving us your email address for statement e-delivery.”

**Middle Island Easter hours:**

- Friday, April 3  
11 am-8:45 pm
- Saturday, April 4  
11 am-9:45 pm
- Easter Sunday, April 5  
9 am-8:45 pm
- Mon and Tuesday 6 & 7 April  
11 am-8:45 pm
- Weds, Thurs & Fri, 8, 9, & 10 April  
9 am-6 pm (schools' holiday)
- Sat, April 11  
11 am-9:45 pm
- Sat, April 12  
9 am-8:45 pm

Check our Easter F&B programme in this issue from Alok – don't miss the Easter Bunny. Please also see our Easter sailing programme and check with Kevin.

**Pool Reopening:** As of the last week of March, the pool is open. We await further decoration with a Mediterranean look and feel, ready for summer. Check our website for ABC swimming classes starting soon.

**ABC Swimming Classes:** Our coach, Nicola Barguss, will start lessons at the ABC pool again this year on Monday, 20 April, with this term going through to 22 June. These lessons have been very good for the Club and its members. Swimming lessons are effective in making our little ones water-safe and the bigger ones more expert in the art of swimming. Please see our full programme on the website and in the ABC e-letters.

Coach Nicola brings over 25 years of swimming teaching experience to the ABC, from parent and baby classes through to squad level and adults. She has worked in London with school programmes and area squads before moving to Hong Kong and working with various international schools, ESF Educational Services and Platypus Aquatics. Please contact her directly for further information at [nicola\\_barguss@hotmail.com](mailto:nicola_barguss@hotmail.com)



“Check our Easter F&B programme in this issue from Alok – don't miss the Easter Bunny.”

**Staircase Repainting:** At the end of May, the entry staircase from the road to the roof will be repainted and refreshed. Expect little disruption and a nice fresh paint smell for a few days. This begins the overall refreshing of the Club in advance of our 50th anniversary in 2017.

**Gym Room:** Refurbishment of the gym is nearly completed. We expect our new exercise machinery from the U.S. in April, delayed a month after a container ship fire.

**Snooker Room Behaviour:** We have been forced to retouch walls and the ceiling (!) after apparent attacks using cues. Please, if you break or damage something, report it swiftly, so that we may fix it before the next users feel the room is run down.

**The Golf Society:** We need a new convener if the Society is to carry on beyond its three years. Despite the plan for five games there is little take-up and it is falling into a sleep mode. Contact me

“  
Ready for this  
summer, the poolside  
area will be treated  
to a Mediterranean  
redesign.”

now if you are a golf enthusiast and wish to help enliven the Society.

**Moorings Status:** In 2008, the Club asked for nine extra moorings from the Marine Department. Late in 2014, MARDEP granted us two moorings. Since then, MARDEP has announced that only registered ABC vessels, restricted to a maximum length of 28ft, may be moored there.

From September 2014 to February 2015, six members have surrendered their Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter moorings. We have allocated all six to members on the waiting list according to

location, boat size, application date and finally MARDEP approval.

At Middle Island, four moorings were surrendered and in March were taken up by members. Again, MARDEP restrictions on maximum boat length have complicated allocations as members tend to have longer boats. We have replaced old mooring buoys with 16 new ones and have added two new buoys.

As to the burnt boat on our mooring, now showing signs of unseaworthiness, we have been trying to contact the owner/member to ask him to remove the boat from our mooring.

#### **Lands Department and Carpark**

**Spaces:** You must have noticed that we moved marine lockers in the carpark from their original space by the old club shop, a results of a Lands Department inspection informing us that we were in breach of our lease by misusing one parking space (the marine lockers space), and that we must immediately remedy that to allow consideration of renewal of our next lease.

We also were required to dedicate another area, where the J/80 cradles and other maintenance equipment were stored away from car traffic, to parking.

All will see that today's standard car size makes parking there entirely inaccessible; however, the Club now is in compliance with the Government.

Lastly, a storeroom near the old lockers had to be destroyed as it did not appear on LD drawings and sadly was never properly indicated on the final Club drawing. We have rectified all matters and are applying to have our previous arrangement drawn up and approved. More reports will follow in coming months.

Lastly, let me extend on behalf of all the ABC staff a great thank-you to all members who contributed to the ABC staff party and annual Chinese New Year gratuity. We had a great evening. Photos may be seen on the website.

Happy Easter and good wind, everyone.

**Philippe de Manny**  
General Manager



## *Notice of Intent to Treat as Abandoned*



*Metal spars and assorted tubes and poles*

**T**he Club posted notices on these items in September 2014, seeking to identify the owners, to date without success.

With this notice, the Club requests the owners to identify themselves to the ABC General Manager, Mr Philippe de Manny, without further delay to advise their intent to remove these articles from Club premises no later than 10 April 2015.

If owners are not identified by 10 April 2015, the articles will be treated as abandoned and the Club will dispose of them at its sole discretion, in accordance with article 2B of the Club bye-laws.

Any member who knows the identity or owner(s) of these articles is requested to inform the General Manager without delay. (The space needs to be used for Club J/80 sails.)



## April F&B Promotions

Throughout the month, the F&B team will offer traditional Easter dishes in the Galley and Waglan Bar. The Four Peaks will present a month-long promotion of prime beef.

### **Featured wine from Chile**

Quasar Merlot Reserva 2013

Quasar Chardonnay Reserva 2013

By the glass \$45, by the bottle \$220

### **Featured beer from the United States**

Brooklyn Lager, from New York

By the bottle \$39

### **Featured cocktails**

#### **Raspberry Collins**

Smirnoff vodka, Cassis, raspberry puree,  
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

## April Events

### **Japanese Night with free wine tasting**

The Patio, Friday, 17 April

Sushi and sashimi stations and robatayaki

6:30-9:30 pm

Adults \$259, concessionary price for members over  
age 65, \$229

Children (aged 3-12) \$159

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

### **Asian Curry Event – discover Asia's varying curry styles**

The Patio, Saturday, 25 April

6:30-9:30 pm

Adults \$299 with unlimited sparkling wine, or \$249  
without sparkling wine

Concessionary price for members over age 65,  
\$249, or \$209 without sparkling wine

Children (aged 3-12) \$159, with unlimited soft drinks

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





# 2015 Easter Programme

## Friday, 3 April

### **Mediterranean Lamb on a Spit**

The Patio, 6:30-9:30 pm

Roast lamb accompanied by your choice of vegetables and salads including couscous, Greek salad and garden salad and a variety of desserts.

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

Children (aged 3-12) \$130

## Saturday, 4 April

### **Egg Painting**

The Playground, 3 pm

### **Disco Night and Traditional Easter Buffet**

Middle Island, 6:30-9:30 pm

Adults \$299 with unlimited sparkling wine,

or \$249 without sparkling wine

Concessionary price for members over age 65,

\$249 with unlimited sparkling wine,

or \$209 without sparkling wine

Children (ages 3-12) \$159, with unlimited soft drinks

## Easter Sunday, 5 April

### **Breakfast Buffet**

The Patio, 7:30-10:30 am

Adults \$65, children \$45

### **Egg Hunt**

The Playground, 10:30 am

For children up to age 10; \$20 per child

### **Family Egg Race**

Middle Island, 3 pm

Prize-giving, Middle Island, 4:30 pm

### **Easter Brunch Buffet**

The Patio, 11 am-2:30 pm

Adults \$259 with unlimited sparkling wine,

or \$209 without sparkling wine

Concessionary price for members over age 65,

\$229 with unlimited sparkling wine, or

\$189 without sparkling wine

Children (ages 3-12) \$139, with unlimited juices

*To reserve for your family and friends, call Reception at 2552 8182 or email [booking@abclubhk.com](mailto:booking@abclubhk.com)*





# Home Wine Delivery April 2015

	\$/Bottle	Quantity	Amount
<b>WHITE</b>			
<b>Girardi Prosecco D.O.C.G. Cuvée Millesimata Extra Dry 2013, Italy</b> Brilliant straw-yellow with pale-green reflections. Rich and persistent aroma with fruity notes scented with apple and pear. Fruity flavour with a pleasantly sour yet well-rounded taste.	\$199		
<b>Aviary Chardonnay 2012, Napa Valley, U.S.</b> A fresh, rich and balanced wine. Inviting aromas of pear, banana, vanilla, subtle spice and toasted oak draw you in. On the palate, lively flavours of apricot, apple, pear, banana, and star of jasmine can be found.	\$288		
<b>Southbank Sauvignon Blanc 2013, New Zealand</b> Lifted and aromatic, this sauvignon blanc shows ripe gooseberry and passion fruit characters. The palate is vibrant and fresh with a long, crisp finish. A great match with seafood or grilled chicken dishes.	\$155		
<b>Echeverria Moscato 2014, Chile</b> A perfumed nose of nectarines and orange blossom leads to a soft fruity explosion in the mouth. Highly versatile, this refreshing wine is a delightful aperitif and also an excellent accompaniment to slightly sweet or spicy dishes. <i>92 Points &amp; Gold Medal, Beverage Testing Institute, October 2013</i>	\$120		
<b>Pasqua Pinot Grigio Venezia IGT 2013, Italy</b> A pleasant and fruity wine with notes of pear and apricot and floral hints. Fresh and well-balanced in the mouth. <i>Bronze Medal, House Wine Awards, Restaurant &amp; Bar Hong Kong 2012</i>	\$130		
<b>RED</b>			
<b>Aviary Cabernet Sauvignon 2012, Napa Valley</b> Deep garnet in colour, opening with aromas of blackberries, dried plums, cigar box and a hint of pepper. The broad mid-palate is rich and balanced with flavours of plum, currant, and black tea.	\$288		
<b>Vriesenhof Kallista 2005, South Africa</b> The wine shows flint and leather on the nose with a hint of fruit and cassis, and complex flavours on the palate with flint, leather, spice and fruit. The 2005 Kallista is an elegant wine with well-rounded tannins.	\$240		
<b>Southbank Pinot Noir 2012, New Zealand</b> Immediately appealing, with a lifted fragrance of red summer fruits and an appetizing chocolate and oak complexity. An elegant acid balance sits nicely around a supple cord of fruit, defining the palate. <i>Bronze Medal, House Wine Awards, Restaurant &amp; Bar Hong Kong 2012</i>	\$230		
<b>Torres De Gazate Gran Reserva 2004, Spain</b> Intense deep-red colour with glints of slow revolution. Deep and long spicy aromas in the nose. Sensation of amplitude and a silky passing and persistent aftertaste. <i>8 Points, Intervinos Guide 2014 • Gold Medal, Tasting Competition WSWA Las Vegas 2014 • Silver Medal, Concours Mondial Bruxelles 2013 • Commended Medal, Decanter Asia Wine Awards 2013 • Silver Medal, Do La Mancha Awards 2011 • Silver Zarcillo 2009</i>	\$180		
<b>WHISKY</b>			
<b>BenRiach 12-Year Old Single Malt Whisky, Scotland</b> An appearance of mid-amber and hints of gold. Honey, vanilla, floral and fruity with well-balanced wood overtones. Rounded medium-to-full bodied, redolent of rich honey, vanilla with hints of cream, spice and chocolate. <i>Silver Outstanding Medal, International Wine &amp; Spirits Challenge Awards 2012</i> <i>Gold Medal, International Wine &amp; Spirits Challenge Awards 2014</i>	\$580		
<b>GlenDronach 12-Year Old Single Malt Whisky, Scotland</b> Deep amber-red gold in colour. Sweet, creamy vanilla, with hints of ginger. Spiced mulled wine and pear. Warm, rich oak and sherry sweetness, full mouthfeel, raisins and soft fruits. Spicy with medium length and a dry finish. <i>Silver Outstanding Medal, International Wine &amp; Spirits Challenge Awards 2013</i> <i>Gold Medal, International Wine &amp; Spirits Challenge Awards 2012</i>	\$580		
	Total		

**Free Wine Tasting at the Galley and Patio,  
Friday, 17 April, 6:30-8:30 pm at the Japanese 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 mail, fax or in person. Contact the Food & Beverage Department at 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.







## High Tea

### **New in the Four Peaks this spring:**

The F&B team will offer French-style high tea, for \$98 per person, every Saturday, 3-6 pm.





Aquarius passes Castle Rocks

# Another Successful Waglan Series

## The Outlook for ABC Spring Sailing

by Chris Pooley, photos by Philippe de Manny

**T**he Waglan 2014-15 Series can be considered a resounding success, with a total of 46 entries and for each race, an average 25 yachts, many of them new boats with a competitive edge.

Each race was fun and an event in its own way, the exceptions being in terms of light wind, and frustration with the Windward/Leeward races 8 and 9. The less said, the better ...

**Late notes on Waglan 10:** A foggy day afloat. Mid March's veering of the winter monsoon to moderate east/southeasterly winds brought with it humid maritime air, in variable strengths, low visibility and fog. A freshening of wind at the start saw 18 boats in total set off quite briskly sharing the course as far as Castle Rock.

There was lots of noise from the shipping lanes and some scrambling onboard yachts to locate radar reflectors, with visibility down to 100m at times in the swirling fog patches obscuring Chesterman Buoy. T.G. for GPS.

The breeze held to and beyond Castle Rock, where the A division peeled off for Fury Rocks and a later search for wind.

The six yachts in B division went north into Tai Tam Bay, losing the wind near the mark in clear visibility, then finding it coming south all the way home for a very satisfactory race. Not so for the A division, which struggled in fickle light winds, although all but one finished.

To view results for Waglan 10 and the entire Waglan series, see the ABC website. Please join the celebration party at the ABC on Saturday, 23 May. Waglan 2014/15 photos follow.

### SailCom looks ahead

It is time now to look towards spring and summer, so mark in your diaries the weekend of 25-26 April, for ABC's unique, ever-popular Classic Yacht Rally and Concours d'Elegance. See the ABC website for details and email flyers for updates. There is last year's 25-boat entry to beat.

This year's Summers Series for cruisers (for those sailors new to the ABC, the Summer Series offer a one-way race finishing at an island restaurant) has been extended to seven races between Sunday, 17 May, and Sunday, 23 August.

The Summer Series races are not simply fun: last year's record entry saw some very competitive sailing and keenly fought results. Could this be the reason that ABC member and keen sailor Olivier Descamps has stepped in as the new sponsor? Let's not disappoint him ...

The various Dinghy Spring Series races are already underway and will continue until the end of May. A break in June follows, and then the eight-race Summer Series alternates with the cruisers restaurant races during July and August.





Thea stretching her kite



BlackJack finishing















ABC boat under construction

### Club boat news

Separately, our Cheoy Lee and Invicta workboats (to be renamed along with the new committee boat by the winner of the naming competition for ABC members) will be fitted on a trial basis with an experimental environmental device whose hydrogen technology is claimed to be able to practically eliminate exhaust nasties. Results will be analysed and a report published in *Horizons*. If successful, and if no adverse impact follows e.g. on fuel consumption, permanent installation of the device will feature in the next ABC budget.

The accompanying photo shows the present state of the committee boat under construction in Cheoy Lee's yard in Doumen, Zhuhai, Guangdong province. The engine has left the U.S. with a late April ETA in the yard, giving expected delivery of the boat towards the end of June/early July.

### Future events

Quite a lot of events on the ABC sailing calendar are available to keep active the young and old amongst the growing ABC sailing membership. There are also plans to be made for some events yet to be announced, such as picnic days and keelboat cruises, and also the next Beaufort Beach clean-up for the WWF's Coastal Watch project on 19 April (see separate article from Wayne Robinson in this issue of *Horizons*).

Notwithstanding all that, Sailing Committee members, occasionally to be found at the bar, are always open to suggestions for something new or indeed changes to the format. H

 An advertisement for ribeye inflatable boats. It features a black and white photo of two women in swimwear jumping into the water from a dark inflatable boat. The background is a clear blue sky and sea. A red circular badge in the top left corner says "Now available in Hong Kong!". The "ribeye" logo is in the top right corner. At the bottom, contact information for Monster Marine is provided.
 

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# Get Yourself Back in a Boat!

Words and photos by Kevin Lewis

J/80 competent crew course

Often we focus on the successes of the ABC Academy youth sailors, from their early beginnings in Optimists through to top-notch performances overseas in the 29ers.

But older ABC sailors have not been forgotten; we've been busy recently, and look forward to more activities getting those over age 18 back in a boat.

### Adult courses: HKSF Level 3 and 4

The ABC tends to run more advanced Level 3 and Level 4 courses during the winter months when we can expect better wind. More advanced, keen sailors don't mind the cold weather quite so much!

### Here, ABC member Tomas Huml summarises his experience:

"Seldom does it occur, but for the combined high-performance and HKSF Level 4 course run over Christmas break, the proverbial stars indeed aligned perfectly. The skies over the south side were sunny and clear with steady northeast winds.

Conditions and the sailing were sublime. Kevin ran us through our paces whilst raising the bar as our confidence and ability improved. The climax occurred on the morning of our final day in Stanley Bay. Inhibitions cast aside, we had the boat humming as we planed downwind with gennaker flying and the crew on the trapeze wire. All the coaching both onshore and in the boat came together nicely as all that was left in that moment was simply to enjoy the ride. Falling asleep in the evening I could still hear and feel the foils vibrating as they sliced through the water. The day after

soreness in my not-so-youthful bones will recover quickly; however, the memory of that sheer exhilaration will last forever and leave me yearning for more.

Over the week we were fortunate to sail some past and present high-performance two-man dinghies including the venerable Laser II with its symmetrical spinnaker. With Cosmos we had a taste of the dart-like 29er. Kevin discussed the principles of sail trim and the importance of correct rigging and other advanced theories; however, the emphasis was on sailing.

Thanks go to Kevin and the ABC for putting together a great course. I would highly recommend it to anyone seeking to improve their sailing ability regardless of whether your ambition is competitive racing or weekend enjoyment. However as a final caveat, you must like to go very fast!"



Every December, the ABC runs Adult Level 4 courses. This year, we also have a joint Youth and Adult course 9-12 April.

Adult Level 3 courses take place each January, but adults may also join Youth Level 3 courses throughout the year – and at a concessionary rate.

Our Adult Level 3 ran in January as usual.

**Andrew Blank reports:**

“The Level 3 course gave us much more confidence in handling both the Laser 1 and the Laser 2000. We had a chance to learn advanced techniques that we put into practice during some competitive club races. What’s more, the strong wind in January makes for truly exciting sailing! Take this course as a couple or with a friend – it is great fun!”

**Supervised Sailing**

**Wednesday morning & Saturday afternoon**

This option offers an ideal way for adults and teenagers to get more time on the water, practicing techniques and getting an introduction to racing. Sessions run every Wednesday morning and Saturday afternoon. Those who book four sessions get a discount. We need a minimum of four participants to run each session, and we stress that you must book on or before the Thursday lunchtime prior to the Saturday. Details are on our website at [http://www.abclubhk.com/supervised\\_sailing.aspx](http://www.abclubhk.com/supervised_sailing.aspx)



*Level 4 spinnaker practice on a Laser*



*Ryan Wong (L) and Thomas Huml, on the final day*





Stephanie Dechelette in a Laser 1

### The Laser 2000 Course

Our regular three-day Laser 2000 courses are one of our most popular activities, an ideal next step after a beginner's course, and also perfect for those who may not have sailed a dinghy for some time and want a quick refresher. Laser 2000s play a key role in our adult dinghy training and sailing. At the ABC we think these boats are versatile and rewarding, accessible to those with limited sailing experience but still challenging and exciting when sailed at a higher level. "Free" weekends are limited so plan well ahead! Our next Laser 2000 course, run by Dinghy Sailing Manager Kevin Lewis, takes advantage of the Buddha's Birthday public holiday, and runs 23, 24 and 25 May.

### Laser 2000 & RS Feva Dinghy Sailing Trip


The next sailing trip takes place on Sunday, 12 April, offering an enjoyable and social way to sail and a great opportunity for the whole family to sail together. Adults use Laser 2000s while younger teenagers may sail in the RS Feva. For those who have passed their Level 2 and have been sailing since, sailing trips are a great way to get more practice and sail away for lunch! We usually aim for Stanley, Tai Tam or Po Toi. Further details and application available on our website under "Course/Adult Intermediate Sailing."

### Laser 1 Sailing

The Laser 1 is the world's most popular single-handed dinghy and is an ideal step up for intermediate sailors wanting more of a challenge and even some competitive sailing. The ABC recently started to upgrade our aging fleet of Lasers. We encourage adults to spend more time in this enjoyable and fast boat. The next two courses both take place over weekends and holidays – so no need to take any days off work! Course 1 runs

during Easter, 4, 5 and 6 April. A second adult course starts on the Labour Day holiday – Friday 1 May, and continues on 2 and 3 May. Further details and applications are available at ABC reception and on our website.

### Keelboats – J/80 Activities at the ABC

Moving up into a larger yacht is the aim of many adult sailors. Our J/80 programme, outlined in last month's *Horizons*, aims to do just that. The J/80 is a versatile 26-foot keelboat with a keen Hong Kong fleet and regular class racing. The first step into a keelboat is via our Competent Crew course. Other scheduled activities include Gennaker days and sailing trips. Our next J/80 sailing trip takes place on Saturday, 16 May. Full details are on the ABC website. 



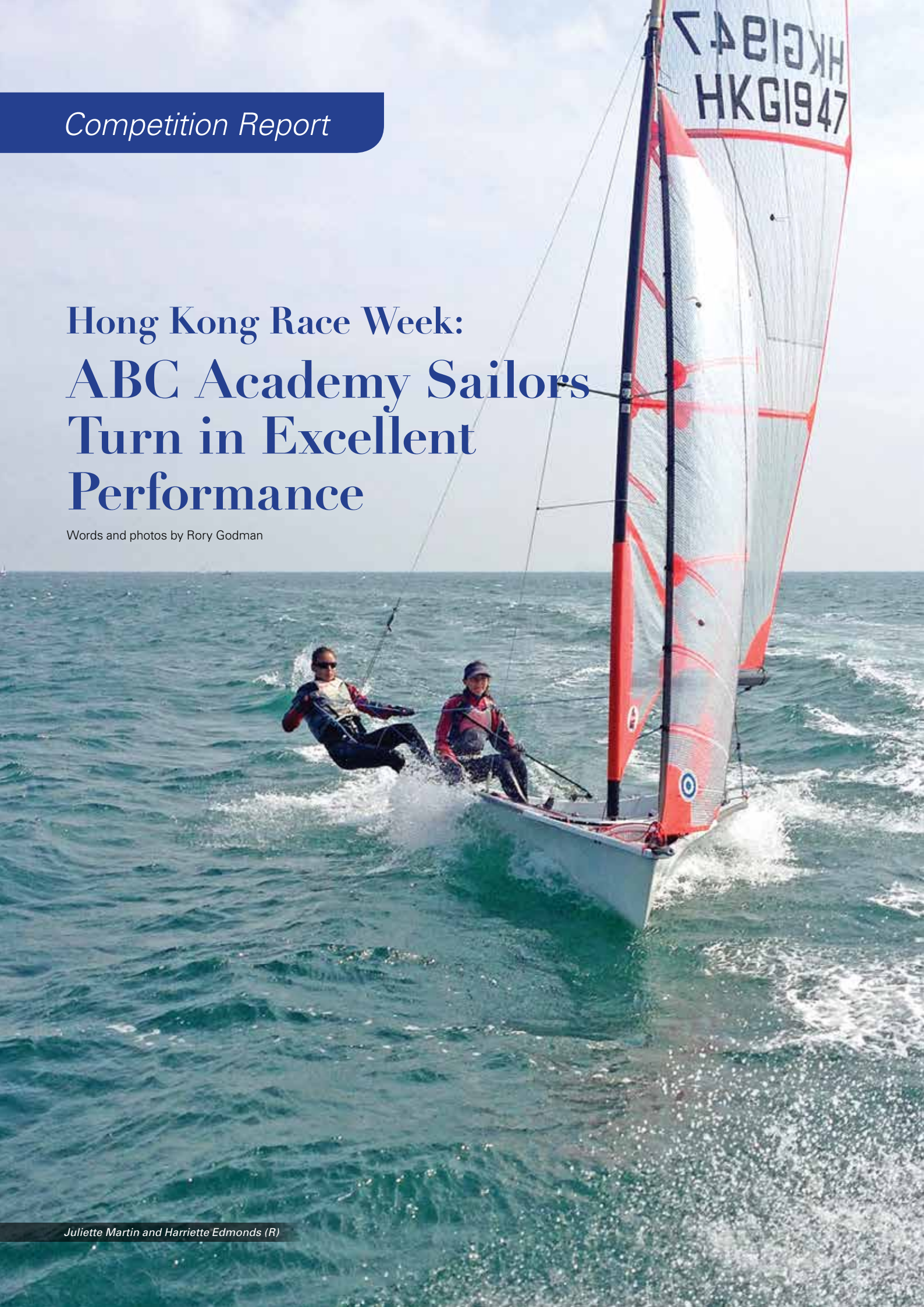
ABC's Andrew Blank on a Laser 1 course



*Competition Report*

# Hong Kong Race Week: ABC Academy Sailors Turn in Excellent Performance

Words and photos by Rory Godman



*Juliette Martin and Harriette Edmonds (R)*





Over the weekend of 14-17 February, joining forces with HKSF, the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club hosted Hong Kong Race Week, a four-day sailing competition that saw ABC Academy sailors competing in three classes: 29ers, Optimists and the Optimist Green Fleet.

Day one presented gusty, strong wind conditions that tested sailors to their limits. Some of our Academy sailors who recently returned from international competitions in Australia performed very well indeed in these heavy conditions.

Days two and three saw lighter sailing conditions; not much racing was done on either day.

Heading into the final day of races, our Academy sailors were in strong positions to compete well in this event.

For the first time in Hong Kong, the Optimist Class had a medal race that counted as a double point – sailors could not drop this race. With strong international competition from India, ABC's Taylor Young qualified in 10<sup>th</sup> position, just making the cut. Anatole Martin unfortunately missed out on the medal race by two points.

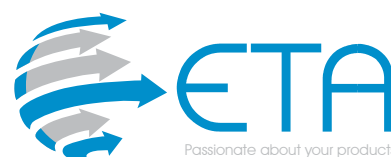
In the medal race, Taylor sailed well, finishing third which moved him up to 6<sup>th</sup> place overall. Taylor, at age 11, was the fourth Hong Kong boat and the first under age 12.

In the 29er class, Nathan Bradley and Yann D'Argenlieu performed well to once again win by a two-point margin in a six-boat fleet.

This was also the second time our girls' team of Harriette Edmonds and Juliette Martin performed well, finishing 6<sup>th</sup> overall.

Final Results		
Optimist Class	Taylor Young	6th
	Anatole Martin	14th
29er class	Nathan Bradley and Yann D'Argenlieu	1st
	Harriette Edmonds and Juliette Martin	6th

**BORRELLI**  
**WALSH** 保華







Macau International  
Dinghy Regatta  
2015



# Macau Regatta 2015

Words and photos by Kevin Lewis

The start of the 2014 race


Once again, the ABC will support the Macau International Dinghy Regatta, in 2015 to be held on 20 and 21 June. As before, the Club will send a container to Macau with dinghies and a support RIB.

Participants have the option to stay in the Grand Coloane Beach Resort Hotel (the new name for what we had known as the Westin Hotel).

This year, the Macau Regatta's focus will be more on the RS Feva Class – the AVM over in Macau having recently purchased a brand-new fleet of these dinghies – and we may expect to see up to 20 RS Fevas racing over the weekend.

The Macau Regatta presents a great family-orientated weekend away. The focus is on youth sailors, but we have several spaces for adults as well. It's a fun regatta and every year we welcome sailors who do not regularly train with us as part of our squads.

The regatta is a great excuse for a low-cost family weekend away involving sailing and staying at a great hotel!

While the event is not until June, a great deal of organising and planning ahead is required. If keen, contact Kevin Lewis at [DinghySailing@abclubhk.com](mailto:DinghySailing@abclubhk.com) for further details. 



Just some of the sailors who attended last year



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# Hong Kong Race Week: The ABC Academy Prepares Younger Sailors for Green Fleet

by Agnès Caër-Piras

**T**he Hong Kong Race Week, organised by the Hong Kong Sailing Federation with the support of the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club, is the first qualifying event of the year for the Optimist national ranking.

Race Week was awaited with both enthusiasm and dread by our four young Aberdeen Boat Club Academy sailors, who were entering their first “real” sailing competition.

Karrie Clark, Bertille Voets, Grace Wood and Antoine Piras represented the ABC in the Green Fleet, intended for less-experienced sailors who are not quite ready yet to join the main Optimist fleet. The Green Fleet courses are simpler and the briefings contain more explanations than those of the main fleet.

On day one, as we arrived in the Yacht Club for the briefing, the air was pulsing with adrenaline and excitement. Most of the boats were rigged and waiting for a long day of racing, their sails flapping loudly in the strong wind. I must say the atmosphere was absolutely electrifying and I loved it!

### Butterflies and wobbly knees

I’m not sure our young sailors enjoyed the scenery and ambiance as much as I did, as they were too busy trying to

forget the butterflies in their stomachs ... but the team in charge of the Green Fleet was wonderful and did their best to reassure them.

The briefing was quite long but very informative as the young sailors were trained on all the flags (which amounted to a totally foreign language to me), as well as the course they would be sailing and a reminder on basic tactics.

Since the Green Fleet was scheduled to launch after the main fleet and meant to return before them, the time pressures were not the same as for the main fleet. And they were launching from the ABC base on Middle Island instead of RHKYC, giving us a little oasis of relative quiet, far from all the noise and hustle of the Yacht Club.

Just before launching, there was some nervousness on shore, the usual last-minute panics about lunch boxes and water bottles and a few wobbly knees ... and not necessarily only the young sailors’ knees ...!

Finally on the water and heading to the race area ... sailing instructor John Wood kindly had offered me a space on his coaching boat, giving me a wonderful opportunity to be in the heart of the action!



Four ABC Green Fleet sailors



John Wood (L), Rory Godman and Antoine Piras



Grace Wood

### Practicing starts helps

The two practice starts saw a lot of confusion, in 8-10 knots of wind gusting 18-25 knots ... the boats were all over the place and the young sailors seemed to have difficulties at the beginning, but they finally managed to get three races off.

Our sailors all capsized in the strong wind, but John has this amazing technique of getting an Optimist next to his RIB, removing the dagger board and rudder, getting the sailor onto the RIB, and literally lifting the Optimist off the water in order to remove most of the seawater that got in during the capsize.

I've noticed the other coaches trying to copy the technique, but not very successfully ... We called him "Rambo" a few times that day but the joke was lost on our sailors ... too young to know the reference, and probably too wet and anxious as well ...!

Our team didn't do exceptionally well on that first day, but we knew the following days would be better. A good dinner and an early night's sleep were very welcome!

A thorough debriefing had been done at the end of the first day so now everyone got the hang of starting the race and they managed to do two good practice starts on the second day.

### Gaining confidence

Race 4 started in about 10-12 knots of wind but then the wind weakened to become extremely light at 4 or 5 knots. As sailors were making their way to the first mark we saw a dramatic wind shift.

Despite the low wind, we managed to complete two races and our sailors gained a lot of confidence.

Day three was a whole different story: an intense fog was covering the area and after long-awaited instructions and a glimpse of the windless sky, the organisers decided to call it a day, offering the kids instead a fun, instructive and relaxing time onshore with games and presentations.

The fourth and last day finally saw the return of action with three races in 10-knot winds building to 12-15 knots. Our team fared quite well.

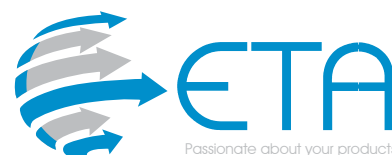
### John's mantras

Our young sailors really put into practice the main points that John had been repeating at length and at the top of his voice during all the races: "Stay next to the committee boat between races, be quiet in your boat while you wait for the flags to go up, clean and check your boat, bail the water out, drink, eat!," and adding "you moppets!" for good measure ...

These reminders (and the mini-chocolate bars that John keeps in his icebox and distributes as the day moves along as an added boost) definitely helped our team recharge before each race and concentrate on what they're trained to do when racing.

And the ABC Green Fleet sailors' efforts were rewarded: out of 29 boats, Grace ranked 15th, Bertille 16th and Karrie 18th, while Antoine earned 4th place overall and a beautiful trophy to show for it.

**BORRELLI**  
**WALSH** 保華







Bertille Voets



Antoine Piras with award

It was a tiring and rewarding experience; our young sailors can be proud of their courage, determination and achievements.

I would like to thank John for having me on the coach boat (my next purchase is waterproof trousers!) and for his energetic support to our young sailors. I am sure that these few

days have been as enriching an experience for them as they have been for me.

And an immense thank you goes to both John Wood and Rory Godman for their efforts and dedication in training this ABC Academy team! ✨

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# 2015 ABC Easter Youth Sailing Programme

The Easter school holidays are about the best time to sail with great wind! Apply early, as Easter tends to be our most popular time to sail. Courses quickly become full, especially our Optimist Junior activities. As usual, full details are on our website

**www.abclubhk.com** and also are available from Angela at **SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com**

Date & Time	Junior Course	Activity	Eligibility	\$ Cost (Member/ Non-member)
Mon 30 March – Fri 3 April AM	✓	Optimist Stage 1	Age 7 – 11, can swim with water confidence	864 / 1,300
Mon 30 March – Fri 3 April PM	✓	Optimist Stage 2	Age 7 – 11, passed Optimist Stage 1	864 / 1,300
Mon 30 March – Fri 3 April PM	✓	Optimist Stage 3	Age 7 – 11 passed Optimist Stage 2	864 / 1,300
Mon 30 March – Fri 3 April		HKSF Level 1 & 2 Beginner Course	Age 11 – 18, can swim with water confidence	2,600 / 3,900
Weds 1 – Fri 3 April		Three- day Pico/Feva Supervised Practice	Age 11 – 18, passed HKSF L2	1,560 / 2,340
Mon 30 March – Fri 3 April		HKSF Level 3 Improver Course	Age 11 – 18, passed HKSF Level 2 with one year's sailing experience since	2,600 / 3,900
Mon 30 March – Weds 1 April		RS Feva Introduction Course	Age 12 – 18, passed HKSF Level 2	1,560 / 2,340
Weds 1 – Fri 3 April		Laser 1 Introduction Course	Age 11 – Adult, passed HKSF Level 2	1,560 / 2,340
Sat 4 – Weds 8 April AM	✓	Optimist Stage 1	Age 7 – 11. can swim with water confidence	864 / 1,300
Sat 4 – Weds 8 April AM	✓	Optimist Stage 2	Age 7 – 11. passed Optimist Stage 1	864 / 1,300
Sat 4 – Weds 8 April PM	✓	Optimist Stage 3	Age 7 – 11, passed Optimist Stage 2	864 / 1,300
Sat 4 – Weds 8 April PM	✓	Optimist Stage 4 Race Introduction	Age 7 – 11, passed Optimist Stage 3	864 / 1,300
Sat 4 – Weds 8 April		HKSF Level 3 Improver Course	Age 11 – 18, passed HKSF Level 2 with one year's sailing experience since	2,600 / 3,900
Sat 4 – Mon 6 April		Laser 1 Introduction Course	Age 11 – Adult, passed HKSF Level 2	1,560 / 2,340
Sat 4 – Weds 8 April		HKSF Level 1 & 2 Beginner Course	Age 11 – 18, can swim with water confidence	2,600 / 3,900
Mon 6 – Weds 8 April		3 day Pico / Feva Supervised Practice	Age 11 – 18, passed HKSF L2	1,560 / 2,340
Thurs 9 – Sat 11 AM & Sun 12 April (full day)	✓	Optimist Stage 4 Race Introduction	Age 7 – 11, passed Optimist Stage 3	864 / 1,300
Thurs 9 – Fri 10 April		RS Feva Gennaker Introduction	Age 12 – 18, passed RS Feva Intro	1,040 / 1,560
Thurs 9 – Sun 12 April		ABC Four-day Introduction to High-Performance Sailing	Age 13 – 18, applicants must hold HKSF Level 3	2,080 / 3,120
Thurs 9 – Sun 12 April & Sat 18 April		High-Performance Advanced Skills, HKSF Level 4	Age 13 – 18, applicants must hold HKSF Level 3 and have had one season of sailing since	2,600 / 3,900
Sun 12 April		Sailing Trip	Age 13 – Adult, passed HKSF Level 2	608 / 912 adult 520 / 780 youth

## Note course timings:

AM course: 9 am – 12:30 pm (meet at 8:45 am at the main Clubhouse)

PM course: 1.30 pm – 5 pm (take 1 pm ferry from the main Clubhouse)

Entire-day course: 9 am – 4:30 pm (meet at 8:45 am at the main Clubhouse)





# French International School Youth Sailing Programme

Monday, 27 April – Sunday, 3 May

*Application Deadline Friday, 17 April*

French International School holiday dates differ from most other schools in Hong Kong. Therefore, the ABC has put together a sailing programme at the end of April, aimed at FIS students and any others who may have time off then. Full details are on our website, [www.abclubhk.com](http://www.abclubhk.com). Further information is also available from Angela at [SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com](mailto:SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com). Please remember the application deadline is 17 April.

Date & Time	Junior Course	Activity	Eligibility	\$ Cost (Member/Non-member)
Mon 27 April – Fri 1 May AM	✓	Optimist Stage 1	Age 7 – 11	864 / 1,300
Mon 27 April – Fri 1 May AM	✓	Optimist Stage 2	Age 7 – 11; Passed Optimist Stage 1	864 / 1,300
Mon 27 April – Fri 1 May PM	✓	Optimist Stage 3	Age 7 – 11; Passed Optimist Stage 2	864 / 1,300
Mon 27 April – Fri 1 May PM	✓	Optimist Stage 4 Race Training	Age 7 – 11; Passed Optimist Stage 3	864 / 1,300
Mon 27 April – Fri 1 May		HKSF Level 1 & 2 Beginner Course	Age 12 – 18; basic entry level for teenagers	2,600 / 3,900
Thurs 30 April – Fri 1 May		2 Day Topper/Pico/Feva Supervised Practice	Age 11 – 18; Passed HKSF Level 2	1,040 / 1,560
Mon 27 April – Fri 1 May		HKSF Level 3 Improver Course	Age 11-18; Passed HKSF Level 2 with one-year sailing experience since	2,600 / 3,900
Mon 27 – Weds 30 April		RS Feva Introduction	Age 11 – 18; Passed HKSF Level 2	1,560 / 2,340
Fri 1 – Sun 3 May		Laser 1 Introduction Course	Age 11 – Adult; Passed HKSF Level 2	1,560 / 2,340



## Sailing Diary

### Regattas and Racing – Cruiser

RHKYC San Fernando Race: 1-6 April  
Waglan re-sail: 12 April  
ABC Classic Yacht Rally: 25 & 26 April  
RHKYC Nations Cup: 2 May

### Regattas and Racing – Dinghy

Spring Dinghy Races 3 & 4 – Laser & Optimist & Open: 12 Apr  
Spring Dinghy Races 3 & 4 – Double-handed: 26 Apr  
Spring Dinghy Races 5 & 6 – Laser & Optimist & Open: 2 May  
Spring Dinghy Races 5 & 6 – Double-handed: 9 May  
Spring Dinghy Races 7 & 8 – Laser & Optimist & Open: 16 May  
Spring Dinghy Race 7 Pursuit Race – Double-handed: 30 May  
Spring Dinghy Race 9 Pursuit Race – Laser & Optimist & Open: 30 May



## Courses and other activities

J/80 Competent Crew Course: 3, 4 & 5 April (Evening lecture 2 April)  
J/80 Gennaker Day: 19 April  
J/80 Sailing Trip: 16 May

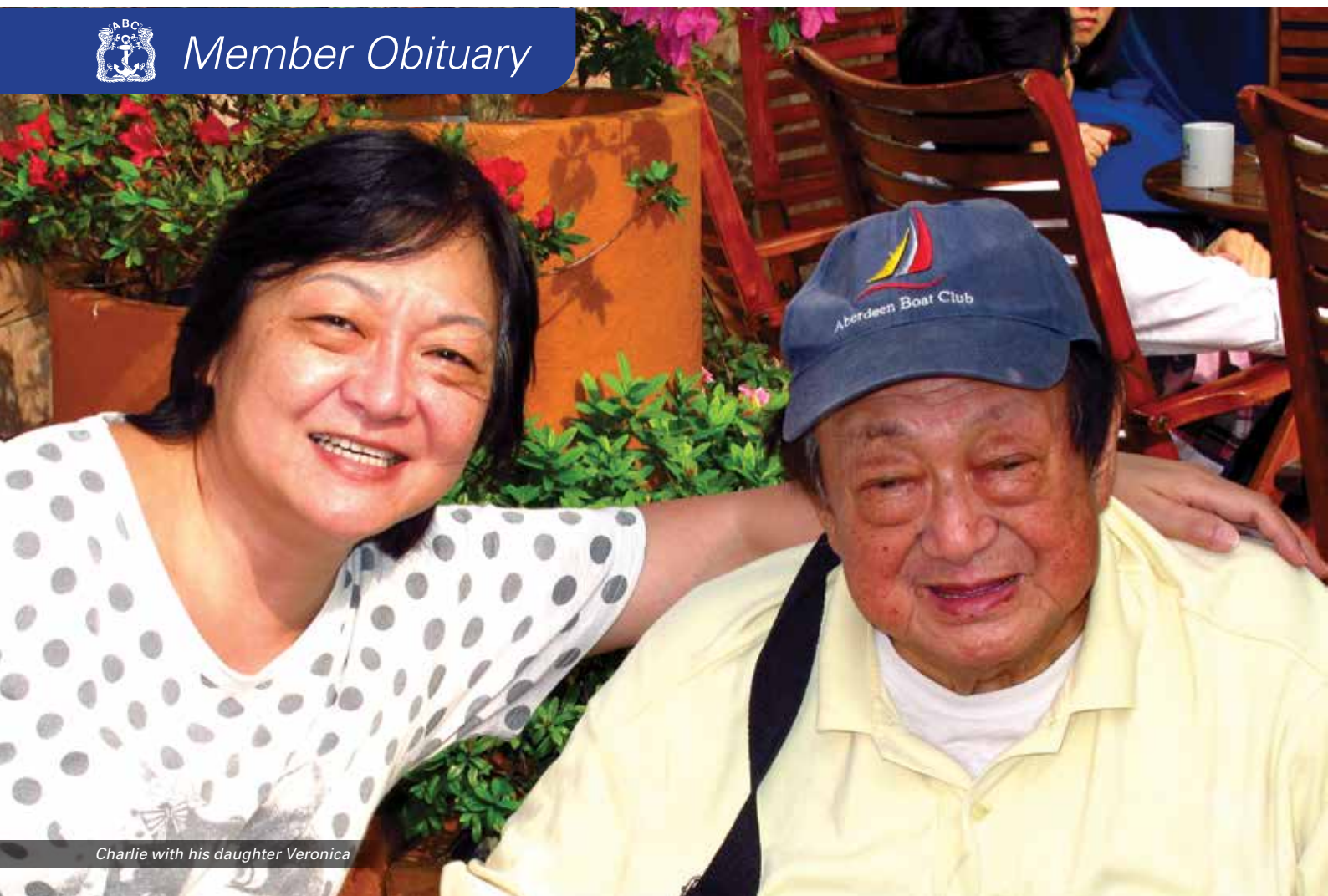
Laser 1 Course: 4, 5 & 6 April  
Sailing Trip: 11 April  
Laser 1 Course: 1, 2 & 3 May  
Laser 2000 Dinghy Course: 23, 24 & 25 May

Adult HKSF Level 1 & 2 Beginner Dinghy Courses: 12, 18, 19, 25 & 26 April  
1, 2, 3, 9 & 10 May



## Supervised Sailing

This presents an ideal way for adults and teenagers to get more time on the water, practicing techniques and getting an introduction to racing. Sessions run every Wednesday morning and Saturday afternoon. A discount is available for those who book four sessions. Details are on our website at [http://www.abclubhk.com/supervised\\_sailing.aspx](http://www.abclubhk.com/supervised_sailing.aspx)



Charlie with his daughter Veronica

# Charlie Ling, Long-time ABC Member

By Natalie Berry, photos by John Berry and Barry Hill

The ABC regrets to announce the passing of former active sailing member Charlie Ling (Ling Peng Sen Charles, 林秉森), on 7 March, 2015, aged 86. Charlie joined the ABC in 1977. The Club has shared our condolences with Charlie's family.

Charlie developed his interest in sailing at the ABC. To come to the Club in those early days, before the Aberdeen Tunnel was completed, he had to drive all the way from his home in Tin Hau Temple Road via Wong Nai Chung and Deep Water Bay roads. Charlie sailed frequently, usually two- or three-up, eventually buying *Shivra*, a 25 foot Yamaha, with which he was

long-associated. He raced and cruised *Shivra* together with helper Josie and boatboy Ah Gun, himself helming.

Whilst most ABC sailors love a sail to Po Toi followed by a seafood lunch, Charlie's favourite outing was sailing to Discovery Bay and a hamburger lunch! He was often spotted dozing off at the helm afterwards but still managed to sail a perfect course back to the ABC!

Charlie won at least 18 sailing prizes over the years, according to ABC records, and was pipped by just a half-point in the 1994-95 Series. *Shivra* raced in Division B, where the top six boats keenly fought the series, winning three of the eight races.



## 1994-1995 PYS Division- Short Course

	Boat	Sail No.										Best 6 Position
1	<i>Tru Blu</i>	744	2	11	0.75	3	2	2	2	3	11.75	1
2	<i>Shivra</i>	2955	4	11	2	4	0.75	0.75	0.75	5	12.25	2
3	<i>Piedade</i>	5955	3	2	3	0.75	6	3	6	0.75	12.50	3
4	<i>Quinella</i>	282	5	3	11	2	3	4	3	6	20.00	4
5	<i>Mystique</i>	190	11	0.75	4	7	5	5	5	2	21.75	5=
6	<i>Naiad</i>	507	0.75	4	6	5	4	11	4	4	21.75	5=



Charlie Ling with the Shivra trophy



Charlie Ling with his wife, Rosie Wei (R), and Denise Madden (L)



Helena Smith-Tsui (L) joins in



Charlie with old friends, 2012

Sadly, *Shivra* came to a sorry end during a single-handed race in late 1997, lost north of Beaufort Island, whilst on loan to another member.

Charlie was born and raised in Shanghai, where his father was a steward of the Shanghai Jockey Club. Loving horses, Charlie rode in the countryside outside Shanghai, and then at the downtown Shanghai track, signing up as a novice jockey for the Russian trainer Chenoff, and racing many horses in the city until the coming revolution made it dangerous in the late 1940s. At his father's urging, as revolution approached, Charlie moved to Hong Kong, where he built and ran an advertising company. Subsequently, he became a radio show presenter in Shanghai in a programme entitled "Sunshine Charlie" – big band sounds with the influence of "Old Shanghai" night life – recording remotely up to his 80s in his flat, using his hundreds of LPs to make cassette tapes to be sent to Shanghai for broadcasting.

In March 1990, after the opening of the main Clubhouse, Charlie donated a handsome mariner's clock to the ABC that still graces the Waglan Bar today. Charlie also donated the *Shivra* Trophy in 1982 for a race in the Championship series, now awarded in the Waglan Series.

In October 2012, ABC member Park Ng arranged a lunch at the ABC with "Uncle Charlie" and his daughter Veronica. Friends from Charlie's active sailing days joined in, including Graeme Large (*Jolly Green Giant*, *Ariki III*), Ng Mun Hon (*Mystique*), Graeme and Carolyn Aldrich (*Marauder*), Jon Zinke (*Naiad*), Chas and Linda Doyle (*Farr Fetched*), Barry Hill (*Press Gang*) and John and Natalie Berry (*Bonne Route*, *Tamarisk*, *The Farr Side*), John Butler (*Gipsy*), Wayne Thompson (*Deliverance*) and Wayne Robinson (*Sawadee*). Charlie clearly enjoyed the reunion and liked what he saw of the ABC.

On a lovely day in December 2012, Charlie took to the seas again, helming *The Farr Side* in 15-knot winds with John and Natalie Berry and Park Ng. Charlie was thrilled to be in the sea breeze again and marvelled at the view of his favourite sailing area, the south side of Hong Kong Island. H



# Pleasure Vessel Grade II Operator Certificate Courses (Part A master, Part B engineer)

## Part A (Master)

Dates: 13, 14, 15 April 2015 / 3, 6, 7 August 2015 / 2, 5, 6 November 2015

Times: 7 pm to 10:15 pm

Syllabus: Rules, lights, shapes, buoyage and signals, seamanship,  
local knowledge and the laws of Hong Kong fire and gas precautions.

Cost: \$1,700 for member/person/course. \$2,000 for non-member/person/course.

## Part B (Engineer)

Dates: 20, 21, 22 April 2015 / 10, 13, 14 August 2015 / 9, 10, 11 November 2015

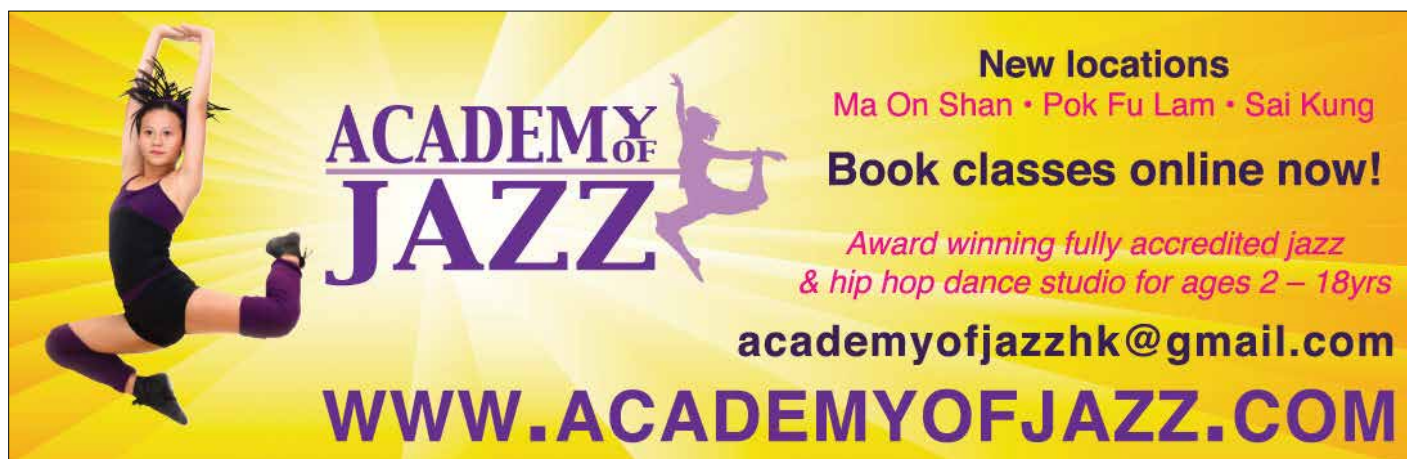
Times: 7 pm to 10:15 pm

Syllabus: Engine general construction, diesel and petrol fuel, fuel systems, electrical systems, ignition systems, lubrication,  
cooling and pumps, transmission systems, operation and maintenance, fire and gas precautions.

Cost: \$1,700 for member/person/course. \$2,000 for non-member/person/course.

## Notes:

1. Students who attend these two courses will be required to sit their examinations at the Hong Kong Marine Department after course completion. Successful candidates will be entitled to operate a vessel in Hong Kong waters up to 15 metres in length with engines of any power.
2. Courses are entirely theoretical for the relative exam. Practical boating is not required for the examination.
3. Examinations are normally held on selected Thursdays. You may go to the Marine Department address below to arrange your eyesight exam and register your exam. Please bring examination fee of \$1,255 (candidate must take both Part A (Master) and Part B (Engineer) exams together in the first attempt), one photo, one ID copy, and a copy of medical certification of the applicant's required eyesight standards. There will be a minimum of five students and a maximum of 20 students/course. If there is insufficient support for a course, that course will be cancelled and those already enrolled will be informed accordingly. Members who responded to the initial inquiry and whose names are held on file will be given priority.
4. Course Instructor: Alan Chau.
5. Please forward the completed application form(s) to Ms Cobo Liu by fax on 2873 2945 or by post or hand to the Club's Administrative Office.
6. See the Marine Dept. website for exam application information and dates:  
[http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/pub\\_services/npvo2.html](http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/pub_services/npvo2.html)  
(Please book your exams earlier; the suggested date is 6 – 8 weeks after attending the first part of the course.)  
Exam application form: <http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/forms/pdf/mo84p.pdf>  
Eyesight exam report: <http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/forms/pdf/mo935.pdf>  
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Please enroll me on the course for Part A (Masters) to be held 7 pm – 10:15 pm

- ( ) 13, 14, 15 April 2015      Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday  
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( ) 2, 5, 6 November 2015      Monday, Thursday & Friday

Please debit my account by \$1,700.

Non-members, please include a cheque with \$2,000, payable to Aberdeen Boat Club Ltd.

Mailing address: 20 Shum Wan Road, Aberdeen, Hong Kong.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Part B (Engineer)

Surname: Mr/Mrs/Ms \_\_\_\_\_ Forename(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Account number: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: (Mobile) \_\_\_\_\_ (Office) \_\_\_\_\_

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Please enroll me on the course for Part B (Engineer) to be held at 7 pm to 10:15 pm.

- ( ) 20, 21, 22 April 2015      Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday  
( ) 10, 13, 14 August 2015      Monday, Thursday & Friday  
( ) 9, 10, 11 November 2015      Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

Please debit my account by \$1,700.

Non-members, please include a cheque with \$2,000, payable to Aberdeen Boat Club Ltd.

Mailing address: 20 Shum Wan Road, Aberdeen, Hong Kong.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



Removing a bird's nest of old nets

# The ABC and WWF's Coastal Watch ABC Members Bound for Beaufort Island

Words and photos by Wayne Robinson

**Y**es dear members, it's nearly time for Team ABC to revisit our adopted beach on Beaufort Island for our second clean-up and marine survey. You may remember from the beach clean-up articles in the September and November 2014 issues of *Horizons* that 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.

## Background

The WWF has selected 27 sites located all around Hong Kong, ranging from beaches and estuary environments to mangrove and rocky shorelines. Each site has been assigned to a particular group of volunteers who are responsible for cleaning up the area of rubbish and waste, conducting a brief ecological survey and very importantly, monitoring their allocated site throughout the two-year period during both wet and dry seasons.

Team ABC was allocated the very picturesque beach of Beaufort Island, which had become the focus of a much earlier clean-up campaign, as it was there that an offending container and its full load of plastic pellets washed up in 2009.

## First ABC Visit: October 2014

During Team ABC's first visit in October 2014, plastic pellets were still to be found in the sand and amongst the rocks. But

thanks to an earlier WWF clean-up, most of the offending plastic had been removed – along with the ruptured and partially sunk container itself.

However, Hong Kong beaches do not stay clean for long and there was a huge amount of accumulated flotsam and jetsam that needed to be removed on our October visit. The washed-up rubbish (pictured) included polystyrene fish boxes, old fishing nets, plastic bottles, and plastic bags, indeed a plethora of Hong Kong's unwanted mess.

## Next clean-up 19 April

And so dear members, we are seeking ABC member-volunteers as Team ABC are about to return to the Beaufort Island beach once again to give "our" beach another going-over.

The day's format will be much the same as before. The ABC junk will depart ABC for Middle Island around 10-10:30 am, Sunday 19 April. There activities begin with a short introduction and demonstration on methods, equipment and procedures on the marine survey aspect of the programme, given by our WWF team scientists, Patrick Yeung, WWF project manager for Coastal Watch, and Maggie Kwok, WWF Coastal Watch project officer. Teams will be formed and team roles assigned. The junk then will proceed to Beaufort Island and the teams will go ashore to clean up and conduct their marine-survey tasks.

That Sunday, low tide will be around 3:40 pm. We hope to begin the clean-up around 12 noon and complete the marine



survey by 3:40 pm so we may have the opportunity to enjoy a late lunch/early dinner at the Po Toi seafood restaurant on the adjacent island if participants wish.

### Book your place early

If you would like to volunteer, please email the General Manager's PA Selina Mak at [gmsec@abcclubhk.com](mailto:gmsec@abcclubhk.com). Further information and details can be found on the ABC website.

I'm pleased to say on the last occasion the enthusiasm of ABC members was outstanding; we had a very full junk. Sadly, a few members were a little late in applying so had to be turned away but hopefully they will get the opportunity this time around.

### Project objectives

Finally, I have taken the liberty to add an extract from the WWF's Coastal Watch website to list the beach clean-up project objectives. For more in-depth information on the beach clean-up campaign, see <http://coastalwatch.hk/about-coastal-watch/>

The ultimate objectives of WWF-Hong Kong's Coastal Watch Project are to develop a long-term solution to the marine litter problem, educate a broad segment of the Hong



Tackling rubbish above the tideline

Kong public about our marine environment and then inspire and mobilize these people to take positive action to shape its future.

The project activities will span two years and will consist of the following:

1. Removing marine litter from a number of sites across Hong Kong's various coastal environments;
2. Surveying the marine litter collected to determine its composition and contributing to the effort to trace its source(s);
3. Filling in the gaps present in current ecological data by constructing species checklists;
4. Engaging with the local fishing community to locate and remove marine litter in Hong Kong waters; and
5. Training "citizen scientist" volunteers who will assist with and promote the project.

Teams of volunteers led by team scientists and assembled by WWF-Hong Kong and our strategic partners – including green groups, local schools, the fishing community, diving enthusiasts and other stakeholders – will "adopt" a specific coastline site and commit to conducting cleaning and survey operations at that site twice a year. H✓



An ecological study team digging for clams



Piling up rubbish for collection by HK FEHD



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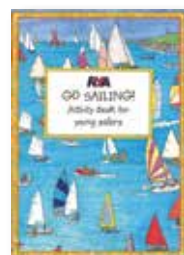
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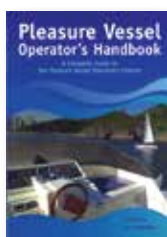


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# Fostering Closer Ties: Buzz Dragons and the Aberdeen Boat Club

by Nick Ball, photos by Lisa Hutchinson



*ABC Buzz Dragons as the 2015 season begins*

The start of a new race season is upon the Buzz Dragon boat team, with the first race taking place this month at the Lamma International 500.

Buzz heads into the season as one of the top teams on the Hong Kong circuit, but team members are aware the competition will be at least as fierce as ever. While armed with a notable degree of confidence, squad members are acutely aware they will need to give their all, race after race, to achieve desired results in an increasingly competitive race circuit.

The 2014 racing season was one of the most outstanding seasons in the club's history, with Buzz earning championship victories at the Tai Tam Fisherman's Invitational and the Aberdeen Tuen Ng Festival.

Since the start of January, Buzz have been training hard around Middle Island, with coaches working through the pre-season to teach and refine skills to new and old paddlers alike on the Buzz men's team, women's team and mixed team.

The coming weeks are "full-steam ahead" to be ready for the first race, the Lamma 500, on Sunday, 26 April. (Supporters and spectators are welcome!)

## **New ABC racing name**

The year 2015 sees a closer collaboration between both the ABC and Buzz, with a new agreement that Buzz will race as "ABC Buzz Dragons."

The ABC kindly has been supporting the Buzz Dragon Boating Society by providing a training base since the Club's inception, in 2001, with 10 core paddlers. (The club was

named Buzz in honor of team paddler Scott Busby, who passed away in 2000.) Through an arrangement with the ABC, Buzz has been able to keep its boats at Middle Island, an ideal training area.

As part of Buzz Dragon's wider ethos of "community, competition, culture," the club is committed to giving back to the wider community by strengthening connections. To foster youth engagement, Buzz is working with several youth charities to run dragon-boat coaching workshops.

Once again, Buzz thanks the ABC for their sponsorship. We could not have reached this level of success without the Club's ongoing support. We look forward to winning many trophies as ABC Buzz Dragons.

## **Dragon-boating for ABC members**

Once again, Buzz will offer ABC members an introduction to the sport of dragon boating. Details and dates will follow about this exciting opportunity to learn how to paddle a dragon boat with a professional, international, and sponsored team. Participants will learn the sport's history, theory, and techniques, with the aim of getting strong in the boat. Check the ABC website if interested or contact Kevin Lewis at [DinghySailing@abclubhk.com](mailto:DinghySailing@abclubhk.com) H



*Buzz Dragons squad celebrating the season end, 2014*



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