



2015/12
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HORIZONS

THE MAGAZINE OF THE ABERDEEN BOAT CLUB

A Look Back with
Commodore John Berry

Fall Winds Fan Waglan 2

Fine Festive Fare at the Club



FAIRLINE

The Squadron 48
Design beyond expectation



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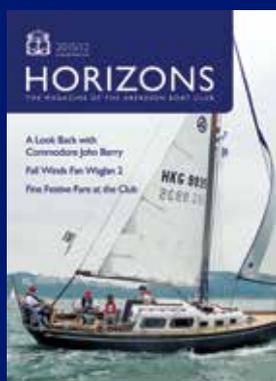
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Cover photo by Stephen Haack: Ragamuffin, skippered by Stephen Hilton, in Waglan 2

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

As I write this last letter, I reflect upon the great privilege and honour paid to me by the Club of being your Commodore for the past four years.

I remember well the welcome given to me as a sailor and competitor in ABC events after my 1982 arrival. Since I was admitted as a member in 1983, the Club has given me copious opportunities to engage in and learn more about my sport of yachting and make many deep friendships.

While mainly sailing in cruisers, I also enjoyed dinghy racing and earlier helped in training from the Club's dinghy storage pontoon, then moored in Deepwater Bay. These activities further developed from 1990 when transferred to the first land-based dinghy centre at Middle Island. I was pleased when my children gained a love of sailing from the Club's excellent instructors in the 1990s and 2000s, a time when I was able to contribute to the sailing committee, with particular memories of the start of the Summer Series and ABC's first "international" race to Zhuhai just after the 1997 handover.

With the help of dedicated committee members, I trust that we have added a little to advance the

interests of the Club in a number of areas over the past four years. While space here limits naming all Club volunteers, I wish to particularly thank some of the key committee leaders: Chris Pooley for building the further racing scene and developing the marine management and infrastructure; Nick Horvath for his many years of invaluable advice and guidance on legal matters and governance; Matthew Johnson for very capable management of the Club's finances and staff; Richard Walker for ably managing House matters; Barry Hill for adroitly bringing the further development of Middle Island closer to fruition; Mark Clift; and Diana Bruce for many years of serving as the dinghy committee backbone and providing dinghy racing and training that culminated in significant international successes.

I also wish to thank our loyal and energetic management team and staff for all they do. Special thanks go to GM Philippe de Manny for intelligently and proactively guiding the Club forward through necessary changes in building our operations and capacity, to Cobo Liu for her masterful management of



membership and many other matters, and Ah Kee and Tim Fuk and team for all of their fine work in marine and race support.

Under new committee voting arrangements, the name of the new Commodore will be unknown until 30 November, but I welcome him in advance.

I am confident that the ABC will continue to grow as a major boating club in Hong Kong. I am proud to have been able to give something back to the Club that my family and I love. I look forward to seeing you all around the Club at leisure!

John Berry
Commodore 2011 – 2015



Flag Officer's Report

As we mark the year's end, let me update you on some initiatives I am running to improve our Club.

Firstly, the Club's 50th anniversary will take place on 14 June 2017. Please mark your diaries; details will follow. We have started to plan a series of sailing and social events between then and the end of 2017. Another pressing aim is to produce a celebratory book. If you wish to suggest or organise any anniversary events, or help with book production, please let me know.

Next, corporate governance. As the Club approaches its 50th birthday, it is necessary to put structure in place for the next 50 years. This is not to say that we have problems; absolutely not. Rather,

since the old Nissen hut days, the Club has grown considerably and will continue so to do as we add more Members, facilities and services, etc., especially at Middle Island.

I have commenced a review of our corporate structure, including committees, the way we do business, the way we conduct ourselves, etc. Again, contact me with thoughts or if you wish to get involved.

Lastly, a benefit of ABC membership is reciprocal club arrangements with sailing and boating clubs in Hong Kong and worldwide. It is healthy for us to review these arrangements from time to time in order to ensure that they work to our mutual satisfaction, and that



they meet the changing needs of our Members. I am now starting a review so please contact me with suggestions.

Mark O. Clift
Vice Commodore



Quiz: Sailing Knowledge for Skippers

See page 31 for answers

Contributed by the ABC Sailing Committee

1. What is the origin of the term "Mayday" for an emergency radio call?
2. What is the highest measurement on the Beaufort wind scale?
3. What is a fathom, and how long is it?
4. What is the correct order of priority under the collision regulations for the following vessels when working out which has right of way?
 - a. Vessel under sail
 - b. Vessel constrained by draught
 - c. Vessel restricted in ability to manoeuvre
 - d. Power-driven vessel
 - e. Vessel engaged in fishing
5. On the vessels in question 4, what would shapes would be shown by day and what lights shown at night?
6. Who can use a VHF radio on a boat?
7. When firing a distress parachute flare, in which direction would you aim the rocket?
8. On a power-driven vessel, when driving into a head sea, in which way would you position the trim tabs/stern drive/outboard?
9. What is an EPIRB?
10. Which charted height is used to check clearance under a bridge?

“
To young men contemplating
a voyage I would say go.”

– Joshua Slocum



Lanson Champagne Dinner, Friday, 4 December

The Four Peaks 7 pm onward

You will enjoy a three-course meal complemented with selected fine Champagnes from Lanson.

The ABC cooking team will serve you crabmeat salad with avocado and artichoke dressing, smoked salmon rose with ricotta cheese, steamed leopard coral trout with boiled potatoes, baby vegetables and dill butter sauce, Lanson Sabayon with wild berries and figs, and coffee and tea.

You will also be served these Lanson Champagnes, renowned for their perfect balance of freshness, energy, and elegant finesse:

Lanson Black Label Brut (Reception) NV
Lanson Rose Label Brut Rosé NV
Lanson Gold Label Brut (magnum) 2002
Lanson Ivory Label Demi Sec NV
Lanson Extra Age Brut NV

Adults \$499



To reserve for your family and friends, call Reception at 2552 8182 or email booking@abclubhk.com



General Manager's Letter

Ho ho ho! On behalf of all the staff at the Aberdeen Boat Club, I wish you all a wonderful festive season and a great 2016 – even if at the time I write these lines it seems really early to do so.

As happens every year, you will be asked to give to charity from many angles. Just for your information, we will collect food for Food Link and gifts for the boys and girls of the Po Leung Kuk orphanage. All details are in the Christmas brochure, which you should have received earlier by mail.

Have you also seen our special end-of-the-year party package in the Christmas brochure? A party at the Boat Club, with its fine food and drink, sparkling views, and festive atmosphere, is an ideal way to thank colleagues for a year's hard work and to celebrate with them.

Our packages accommodate cocktail parties in the Bridge and sit-down buffet lunches or dinners in the Harbour Room. The Patio's outdoor nature lends a cheery air to any weekday gathering of colleagues, friends and family. Middle Island, as I hope all Members know, offers an unparalleled celebratory experience for up to 160 guests for a buffet party.

If you have not seen the details of the ABC's worry-free, all-inclusive, \$338 unlimited drinks package, or you are not receiving our e-letters, you might want to contact Cobo to add you to our list.

Please make your Christmas and Boxing Day bookings early. Every year, we have to put members on the waiting list for these very enjoyable meals – sadly more people want to take part than we can offer tables.

Also to be noted this season, we have a "Sailor's Quiz" in the Waglan Bar on Friday, 19 December. This event is new, and with the profusion of mulled wine and the proliferation of witty questions, answers and banter, I am sure it will be a fantastic evening for all to attend.

Also new this year is the Children's Christmas picnic on the small beach of secluded Round Island on Saturday, 20 December. The ABC will offer a tour on *Shun Fung* 順風, the new committee boat, hotdogs on the beach, hot chocolate in between a treasure hunt, a fancy dress competition and games, and of course gentle bathing in the serene sea. Adults can bring their own adult drinks. What better way to spend a dreamy December day in Hong Kong?

Lastly, Sunday, 3 January, is Members Day on the Junk: picture relaxing moments sipping Prosecco on a boat as it slips around Hong Kong's southern shores in the most ideal of weathers. Very possibly the best way to start the new year.

Back to starting the year, please book your New Year's Eve table spaces quickly to avoid disappointment. Tables and places are scarce every year if not booked before mid-December.



Last, but not least, please join us on Middle Island on the afternoon of Sunday, 13 December, at our newly elected Commodore's drinks party with Christmas goodies.

On or about 1 January, you will receive from Cobo your 2016 car park and boat label(s). If you do not want them, please inform us on the spot. I know these labels are really fantastic but they will look even better on your windscreen than framed on your wall or left in a drawer at your office or home. Please display them as soon as you receive them.

After the long service and recent retirement of Freddie Lau Kwok Fai, Freddie has received from the Club his brand-new tender in which to go fishing. Freddie was very happy and went straight out fishing. Freddie is based in Stanley and I am sure you will be able to see him if you go there.

Philippe de Manny
General Manager



*Welcome new members
October*

Grace Merritt
Stephen Cheung
Kevin Crowe
Leslie Kong
Christopher Kershaw

Walter Liu
Michael Saunders
Christopher Tung
Jonathan Wong
Cheng Sum Hing, Sam

Jan Ole Hagen
Christopher Tung
Jonathan Wong
Cheng Sum Hing, Sam
Jan Ole Hagen

Organised by



23-24 JANUARY 2016



 SIMPSON
MARINE

FOUR PEAKS Race



Supported by



For entry form and sailing instructions, download from www.abclubhk.com



December F&B Promotions

Throughout the month of December, the Galley and the Four Peaks restaurants will feature a Christmas menu, offering you a tempting array of festive food and drink.

Featured wine from France

Louis Michel Petit Chablis (Chardonnay) 2013
By the glass, \$65, by the bottle \$330

Loron Fleurie Château De Fleurie (Gamay) 2013
By the glass, \$60, by the bottle \$290

Featured beer from Belgium

Palgas Brown Ale
By the bottle, \$38

Featured cocktails

Mulled Wine

Red wine, cinnamon, ground ginger and nutmeg,
with orange and cloves
\$55 per glass, \$750 per bowl (16 glasses)

Mulled Cranberry Orange

Cranberry juice, orange with cloves and
cinnamon, brandy and orange Curaçao
\$58/\$45 (non-alcoholic)

Gingerbread Hot Chocolate or Latte

Hot chocolate, with or without espresso, hot milk
and gingerbread bites
\$40 per mug



To reserve for your family and friends, call Reception at 2552 8182 or
email booking@abclubhk.com





December and January events at the ABC

4 December	Lanson Champagne Dinner, the Four Peaks
13 December	Commodore's Christmas Cocktails on Middle Island
19 December	Sailors' Quiz Night
20 December	Children's Christmas Picnic
22 December	Dong Zhi 冬至' Chinese Set Dinner
31 December	New Year's Eve Party: Wild Wild West
1 January 2016	New Year's Day Brunch
1 January	ABC v RHKYC Cricket Match
2 January	ABC Chefs' Show
3 January	Members' Day on the Junk

2105 Christmas Programme

1 – 31 December	Christmas takeaways available
5 December	Santa's Visit to the Club
24 December	Christmas Eve dinner with unlimited bubbly and a live piano performance
25 December	Christmas Day celebration set lunch
25 December	Middle Island Christmas buffet
26 December	Boxing Day brunch
26 December	Middle Island Boxing Day lunch

To reserve for your family and friends, call Reception at 2552 8182 or email booking@abclubhk.com



ABC Services to the Community

5, 6 and 7 December	Collection of food donations for Feeding Hong Kong
1 – 21 December	Collection of Christmas gift donations for Po Leung Kuk Orphanage
24 December	ABC donation and service of Christmas lunch to the residents of the Little Sisters of the Poor retirement home, Wong Chuk Hang





Festive Season Home Wine Delivery

15 November - 31 December 2015

Champagne

Taittinger Nocturne Sec



Pale yellow, with a subtle and delicate bouquet of aromas of yellow peaches and dried apricots. Smooth bubbles on the mouth, yeasty and full of honey and floral flavours. Round finish.

Reims, France
Price: \$550

Qty: _____ Total: _____

Paul Bara Reserve Grand Cru



Seductive aromas of ripe fruits, spices and honey. It makes a lively chain of bubbles on the palate.

France
Price: \$550

Qty: _____ Total: _____

Claude Cazals Carte D'Or Grand Cru



Nose has lovely wet stone, floral and slightly citrus flavours, accentuating the feeling of freshness.

France
Price: \$500

Qty: _____ Total: _____

Venegazzu Casa Bianca Prosecco Brut Treviso



Medium-yellow colour with fine and persistent perlage. Fresh citrus, white flowers and green apple aromas. Well-structured with medium finish.

Mareno di Piave, Italy
Price: \$130

Qty: _____ Total: _____

White Wine

Bodegas Naia K-Naia 2013



Aromas of green apple, citrus and lemon on a dry and well-balanced palate. The finish is very fresh with a light-to-medium body.

Rueda, Spain
Price: \$120

Qty: _____ Total: _____

Pieropan Soave Classico DOC 2014



Medium-lemon colour with a complex nose full of white fruits (peach, quince) and citrus fruit aromas as well as a subtle floral touch. Long finish.

Soave, Italy
Price: \$168

Qty: _____ Total: _____

Member's Name: _____ Membership Number: _____



White Wine

Mandolin Monterey Chardonnay 2013



Pale lemon, fresh and lively with a bouquet of white flowers (apple blossom) and fruitiness (vineyard peaches, pear) and crisp acidity.

Monterey, California

Price: \$150

Qty: _____ Total: _____

Grafé Lecoc Muscadet Sevre et Maine, 2014



Bright yellow colour, elegant nose with minerals, floral and fresh. Intense body.

France

Price: \$178

Qty: _____ Total: _____

Jade River Sauvignon Blanc, 2015



A pale lemon-green colour with aromas of guava and passion fruit, herbaceous and grassy with hints of citrus.

New Zealand

Price: \$188

Qty: _____ Total: _____



Sake

Yoshinogawa Gokujou Tokubetsu Junmaishu Sake



Excellent if slightly subdued citrus, melon and grain aromas. Secondary aromas are wonderful as well, and include a touch of melon, biwa and persimmon.

Niigata, Japan

Price: \$220

Qty: _____ Total: _____

Red Wine

Château Baron 2010



Deep ruby colour with soft fruitiness. A pronounced red fruit character (redcurrant and cherry) with a rich and fleshy mouth and a hint of vanilla.

Bordeaux, France

Price: \$188

Qty: _____ Total: _____

Member's Name: _____ Membership Number: _____

Red Wine

Atalayas de Golban Viridiana 2013



A Rioca from Tempranillo, deep-purple in colour. Plum, blackberries and mint leaves dominate the aroma, with dark berry fruits, savoury spices and cedar on the palate. Long length.

Ribera Del Duero, Spain

Price: \$120

Qty: _____ Total: _____

Karrimont Cabernet Sauvignon-Merlot, 2010



This wine shows depth and richness of colour with lovely mulberry and exotic dark berry fruit on the nose.

Australia

Price: \$288

Qty: _____ Total: _____

Astrolabe Province Pinot Noir, 2014



Full bodied, round, mouth-filling flavours of plum, brambly fruit and dark cherry.

New Zealand

Price: \$325

Qty: _____ Total: _____

Domaine Lafond Roc Epine Côtes Du Rhône 2012



Medium ruby with aromas of ripe fruit, cherries, blackcurrant, a hint of sweet spice and very smooth, good concentration on the palate. Typically southern Rhone style.

Southern Rhone, France

Price: \$150

Qty: _____ Total: _____



Member's Name: _____ Membership Number: _____

Tel: (Mobile) _____ (Home) _____ Email Address: _____

Expected Delivery Time: (tick as appropriate): 10 am – 2 pm () 2 pm – 6 pm ()

Delivery Address: _____

Member's Signature: _____ Date: _____

How to order:

- Order may be made by mail, fax or in person. Contact the Food & Beverage Department at 2555 6216 or Fax 2873 2945.
- Please note that wines are subject to availability of stock.
- Deliveries free for order of 12 bottles. Please allow three working days for delivery.
- The total bill will be charged to the member's account.





WILD WILD WEST



★ **New Year's Eve Party** ★ 8 pm until late

Down in the Wild West, jaunty cowboys and cowgirls once mingled with daring gamblers and prospectors; lone frontiersman encountered fierce Native American Indians; and lively saloon girls and feather showgirls entertained many an intrepid gunslinger – sheriffs and bandits, lawmen and outlaws alike.



You and your guests are invited to be on the Most Wanted List as ABC rings in the New Year with a Western themed party – so strap on those boot spurs and giddy up for an enjoyable evening of music, dancing, food and drinks. Yee-haw!

\$888 per adult including canapés, buffet selections, listed standard drinks and champagne for your midnight toast.
\$348 for children aged 12-16,
\$248 for children aged 3-12,
free for children under 3.

Commodore's Report

2014-2015

By John Berry

I would like to take the opportunity to give an overview of membership, finances, marine, sailing, training, house and development aspects of the Club over the past year.

Membership

Membership demand has remained strong, against a background of high demand for club memberships in Hong Kong, notwithstanding potential changes in government policy of conditions of granting "private recreational leases" to clubs. A large part of our demand comes from sailing and boating candidates, and the attractions of the ABC include our training, racing, marine and Club facilities, boating ambience and convenient location. Recently we raised the membership limit, to 1250, for full fee-paying members. This was made possible by developing management efficiencies in peak demand of facilities usage to avoid excess strain on the Club.

We find demand has outstripped expectations, and so for some time we have adopted a selection process to favour sailing and boating members, rather than relying on a "waiting list for all" approach. This has strengthened our membership, in accordance with the first objective of our Club in its Memorandum of Association, which requires us "to encourage all forms of boating and sailing and all activities connected therewith."

We have noted increasing numbers of young trainees and competitors, some reaching high levels of achievement, but few continue on to "young associate" and other grades of membership. Proportionally, we have lower numbers of members in their 20s and 30s than later age groups.

In view of this, and to increase youth boating participation, the General

Committee has agreed to reductions in cadet fees and more substantial reductions to entrance fees and monthly subscriptions for post-cadet membership categories to build youth (under 30) membership and participation. The number, usage and participation of new members will be monitored to give feedback for future adjustments that may be needed to ensure the desired growth in young membership.

Sound finances

The Club's finances are on a sound footing, and our reserves, largely raised and earmarked for Middle Island development, are at the soundest levels in the history of the Club. The reserves have been built from our building development levy, and from new-membership fees (split 70/30 percent for Middle Island development and for general/main Clubhouse). Club operations are fully financed from monthly fees and charges.

Marine

Our extensive marine facilities inventory includes dry storage at the main Clubhouse and at Middle Island, pontoons and moorings at the Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter and at Middle Island, workboats/ferries, RIBs and many training sailboats and boards. The Club took possession of *Shun Fung*, a 43-person capacity new-build committee boat/ferry/boat for charter (when available), to fill a gap in our fleet and augment our other ferries and work boats. We will now be able to better serve functions at Middle Island and run our bigger races and regattas from our own rather than borrowed boats! With the retirement of our long-serving marine manager, Lau Wai Kee, we seized the opportunity to expand our



by Eileen Sze

expertise and services in marine, racing and training, by recruiting the capable and experienced Alex Johnston as marine services manager.

Sailing

In racing, cruiser fleets have strengthened in both the ABC Waglan and Summer Series, now in two divisions, with both IRC and HKPN handicaps and a J/80 class. We have had record entries again in the 2015 Four Peaks Race and Southside Regatta. Our dinghy racing (jointly run with RHKYC Middle Island) continues and is expected to grow in the coming year, with changes to format, and hopefully strengthened by more youth sailing recruitment. We see the importance of developing Members' capabilities in managing racing; the ABC has resolved to support RO/ARO training, and is also looking at establishing powerboat and radio training.

Our sail training team continues to instruct large numbers of new and more experienced sailors, young and adult, in



Father and son (Tom), 1996 (by Natalie Berry)

various grades of dinghies from Optimist to 29er, plus in J/80 keelboats. The ABC's Aberdeen Racing Academy's coaching team, led by Rory Godman, conducts keenly attended squad training and is achieving very good results in Hong Kong and in overseas competitions. Academy results include a ninth place in a world championship over summer.

The Club supports our teams at regional and international events by providing our coach and organisational support. This has helped raise the profile of the sport and of the ABC in Hong Kong, and helps Home Affairs Bureau achieve its aim of success in "elite sports." Thanks go to all concerned with race management and volunteers for their support over the year.

House

In House matters, the Four Peaks Restaurant continues to provide fine food for the restaurant, bar and patio, while the Galley provides quality international cuisine. The food-preparation capability at the Middle Island Clubhouse will be enhanced later next year with the provision of upgraded electricity and water. The Waglan Bar renovation and expansion (through removal of the store area and realignment of the bar) has been well-received by members. The

committees have also looked at interim and longer-term improvements to the main Clubhouse, and an architect has developed initial schemes.

The Club's Golf Society continues to provide an enjoyable alternative sporting activity at various Hong Kong courses and is now successfully developing team/match play events against other clubs. Meanwhile another alternative sport – the annual ABC/RHKYC cricket match – continues to be well-supported, and the ABC's 2016 team will be encouraged to improve on the 2015 result in the next match, 1 January.

Middle Island development apace

A Town Hall meeting on 18 November informed members of the progress of Middle Island development. The well-attended meeting heard that the Club had received approval-in-principle from the Home Affairs Bureau, after our submission of a detailed report on planned usage and training in recreational and sports activities and the ability to serve "eligible outside organisations" (including schools, non-governmental organisations, national sports associations, uniformed groups and government departments), and heard more on the self-financing of the project. The Club and its consultants were able

to demonstrate that we have already complied with these requirements and intended to continue onward and increase that with future development. This approval assists Government departments in approving technical submissions for Middle Island that are well in progress, and also will keep us in good standing for the next renewal application for our private recreational lease.

The Town Hall meeting was a resounding success with positive and creative feedback both during and after the meeting from an engaged and enthusiastic audience. This now provides a very robust platform for us to develop the scheme further in 2016. A copy of the meeting's presentation is now posted on our website. Meanwhile the electricity supply contract is well underway and we should have ten-fold capacity increase in power by late next year, along with enhanced water supply.

Sincere thanks go to all officers, the general committee and members of all committees, and co-optees for their continued support, cooperation and hard work over the year, leading to a better Club for all of us. Similarly I express my gratitude to all of our loyal and hardworking and management and staff for making this a most enjoyable Club for all of us and our families. H



The Farr Side (by Eileen Sze)

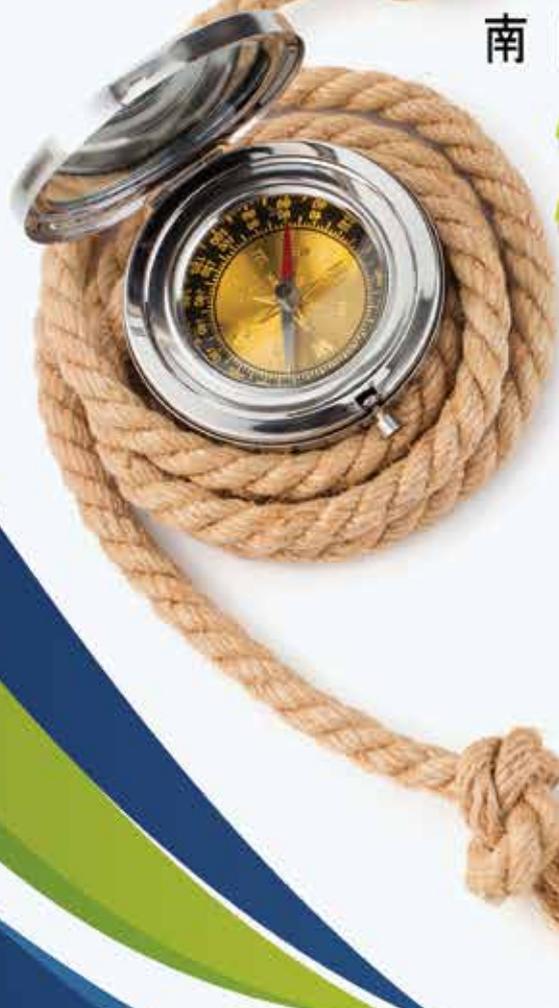
香 港 仔 遊 艇 會

ABERDEEN BOAT CLUB

Southside Regatta

南區公開風帆大賽

2015



December

5 & 6

**Venue :
Middle Island**

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

This is a selection regatta for the HKSF Youth Squads in the Optimist, Laser 4.7, 420 & 29er dinghy classes.
本項比賽是HKSF青少年帆船隊之選拔賽, 包括Optimist, Laser 4.7, 420 和 29er組別

This is a funding-qualifier for ASAF events in the Optimist Class會於此項比賽中挑選Optimist 組別的基金得獎者, 用作參加ASAF活動

Separate race area for 29er and multihull classes
29er 和雙體船有獨立比賽區域

Entry Deadline:

Thursday 26, November

For Enquiries Contact:

SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com

Notice of Race and Entry Forms Available from www.abclubhk.com



ROOSTER



Competition Report

Waglan Series 2015/16 A Challenging Race 2

By Alex Johnston, photos by Stephen Haack





Ding Dong



Redeye



Red Kite II

The second race (in reality it was the first race) of the 2015/16 series (Waglan 1 was cancelled due to a typhoon) was sailed on Sunday, 25 September, in good wind, 15 to 25 knots, and a favourable tide.

The Race Officer, ABC Marine Services Manager Alex Johnston, set course 14 from the ABC standard sailing instructions, sending the fleet around Chesterman cardinal buoy, the Po Tois to port and then a beat up past Waglan Island.

Due to the surge in the northeast monsoon, a stronger breeze and a lumpy sea made conditions east of Waglan Island more challenging for the crews.

The fleet then reached across up to Shek O Rock before heading down to Castle Rock and then home to the finish in the vicinity of Round Island.

Redeye was first around the windward mark and then led the fleet for the rest of the race, claiming line honours in Division A, with *Ding Dong* winning on corrected time.

First across the line in Division B was *Thea*, with *Jade Cove* winning on corrected time.

The first J/80 to finish was *FG3*.

It was then back to ABC main Clubhouse for an informal prize-giving on the sundeck with "tea" (actually red wine) and medals with some of the crews in attendance.

A more formal prize-giving will be after held at the end of the first Waglan mini-series, Race 5, and the end of the overall Waglan series in 2016.

A reminder to the crews of future races in the Waglan series: ensure you are suitably attired for winter racing in Hong Kong! Some of the crews had not anticipated the more challenging conditions associated with the seasonal monsoon and the ABC's signature autumn and winter big boat/ cruiser event. H



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31 October – 1 November ABC Sailors Contribute to the 2015 Hebe Haven 24-hour Charity Race

By Diana Bruce and Antoine Piras, photos by Kevin Lewis, Barry Hill, Frederic d'Argenlieu and Agnès Caër-Piras



Callum Henderson and Malo Kennish (R)
(by Kevin Lewis)



Downwind action, day 1 (by Barry Hill)



Overall race winners Sailability Para Sailing Team (by Kevin Lewis)

Halloween has never been like this before! When we should all be tucked up in bed and safe from ghoulies and ghosties, the Aberdeen Wayfarer Team was sailing in the moonlight 'round Hebe Haven for charity! Thankfully, the only vampires, monsters and spiders were friendly ones.

Halloween was the theme for this year's annual 24-hour charity dinghy race up at Hebe Haven.

This year's event had the best wind ever. A record number of laps were sailed, with the fastest team sailing 129! In total, 1,701.1 miles were sailed for charity.

The ABC Wayfarer team, in alphabetical order, was:

William Allen	Julian Chawla
Russell Aylsworth	Karrie Clark
Diana Bruce	Lewis Clark
Patrick Bruce	Augustin Clot
George Burkett	Callum Henderson

Malo Kennish
Casey Law
Anatole Martin

Juliette Martin
Antoine Piras
Akira Sakai

The race start was a little slow, and our team was held up by a wayward Bahia that put us nearly to the back of the fleet, but we soon caught up with the rest of the fleet and, at one stage, were in fifth position.

Gradually the wind picked up and continued right through the evening and well into the night. It was amazing to see the boats sailing round the course in about 10 to 15 minutes per lap, instead of all bunched up at the course's bottom end, the notoriously tricky section.

There was a short lull in the wind lasting about 1.5 hours (coinciding with the Bruces' shift). At 3.15 am, just as we were pushing off George Burkett and Russell Aylsworth for their turn, the breeze suddenly came in again. Ah well, c'est la vie.

Ten knots of wind

By Sunday morning, despite Kevin Lewis' "chilled Sunday morning" music, we were experiencing a good 10 knots of wind on the water and the younger sailors were working hard to keep the Wayfarer, a bigger boat with a relatively large sail area, on an even keel.

The ABC team finished in eighth position, which was a pleasing result, as most of our sailors had never sailed a Wayfarer before.

I was really impressed with the ABC team's enthusiasm and sense of responsibility – it's not easy waking up in the middle of the night and having



Antoine Piras receiving the trophy for 2nd place Wayfarer (by Agnès Caër-Piras)



Race start (by Barry Hill)

The 24-hour Dinghy Race

by Antoine Piras

This year was my first time participating in the 24-hour race and I loved it!

I took the start with Anatole Martin in the FIS Feva and we sailed together for two hours. The wind was not too strong at the start, but it picked up when Julian Chawla and I took the ABC Wayfarer from 5 to 7 pm. I had never sailed in a Wayfarer before and I was surprised by the space. To try to sail faster, I even went all the way to the front, in a small space where I could almost hide ... we went from sixth place to second place in our category and were really proud!

When our shift finished, Julian and I were absolutely starving and we really enjoyed a large hamburger.

I was supposed to finish sailing at 7 pm but the ABC boat was short on sailors and Diana asked if I'd like to sail the next shift ... with Akira!

Suddenly I was not tired anymore, and I had the best time ever! From 9 to 11 pm, I sailed with Akira.

Race officials counting the laps said we were the fastest boat of the whole race during that time: our laps lasted only 10 minutes while the others averaged 17 minutes!

Sailing so fast in the dark with my coach was an experience I never could have dreamt of ... it was amazing!

to get into a strange boat, or getting up really early for that 6 am shift. Well done, everybody, and thanks to you all for being such a great team.

This year was also rather special for all the sailors, as for the first year one of the Sailability boats, Para Sailing Team, came first on corrected time. The sailors were indeed the elite from Sailability who are travelling to the 2015 Para World Sailing Championships in Melbourne in late November and early December, hoping to qualify for the next Paralympics. A truly well-deserved success story for them.

The ABC team and charity

The ABC team raised over \$10,000

towards the 24-hour race's charities: the Children's Cancer Foundation (the main beneficiary), TREATS, IDEAL, Enlighten - Action for Epilepsy and Sailability. That's what it's all about, really, helping others while having a bit of fun ourselves.

The team would also like to thank the ABC for sponsoring the entry fee and providing the Club junk for our team base. It makes all the difference to have somewhere comfortable and clean for the weekend. And of course, thanks go to Mr and Mrs Lau for bringing their junk up to Hebe Haven in very difficult conditions, and for being there all weekend, keeping the junk clean and tidy for us all. ✨



by Frederic d'Argenlieu



Downwind, day 1 (by Kevin Lewis)

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2015 October Youth Programme

Words and photos by Kevin Lewis

Every school holiday, the ABC runs courses and activities for those aged 7 – 18. The October school break is traditionally one of the busiest Club teaching times, with only a single week and usually great weather.

This year was no exception; we ran nine sailing courses and even extended the programme into a second week to cater for students at French International School, which has slightly different holiday dates.

A selection of photographs here shows some of the activity at Middle Island. We would remind members to sign up early for the upcoming Christmas programme, detailed on page 24 of this edition of *Horizons*. 



Tiffany Chung and Sofie Gowran (R)



Just some of the participants





Youth Sailing Programme Christmas 2015

Application Deadline Friday, 11 December

The Christmas and New Year school holidays can provide some of the best times to sail; normally we can expect great conditions with good wind, making this time of year ideal for our more advanced courses. Naturally, it's cooler and we remind students and parents of the need to wear appropriate warm clothes. However, often we have lovely sunny weather, so December sailing can be very rewarding!

Our High Performance and Level 4 courses now are offered once a year – so don't miss this timely opportunity!

Further details and application forms for all courses are available at the ABC Main Clubhouse reception and on the ABC website, www.abclubhk.com For more information, contact Angela Ho at SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com

Please note the application deadline of Friday, 11 December. Early bookings before 1 December will receive a 10-percent discount.

Date and Time	Course	Age	Details/entry requirements	Discounted cost if booked before 1 December (Member / non-member)\$	\$ Cost (Member/ Non-member)
Junior Optimist Courses					
Sun 20 – Thurs 24 Dec AM	Optimist Stage 1	7 – 11	Entry-level fun sailing for our youngest sailors!	972/1,791	1,080/1,990
Sun 20 – Thurs 24 Dec AM	Optimist Stage 4 Race Introduction	7 – 12	For those who have passed Optimist stage 3	972/1,791	1,080/1,990
Sun 20 – Thurs 24 Dec PM	Optimist Stage 2	7 – 12	For those who have passed Optimist stage 1	972/1,791	1,080/1,990
Sun 20 – Thurs 24 Dec PM	Optimist Stage 3	7 – 12	For those who have passed Optimist stage 2	972/1,791	1,080/1,990
Sat 26 – Weds 30 Dec AM	Optimist Stage 1	7 – 11	Entry-level fun sailing for our youngest sailors!	972/1,791	1,080/1,990
Sat 26 – Weds 30 Dec PM	Optimist Stage 2	7 – 12	For those who have passed Optimist stage 1	972/1,791	1,080/1,990
Sat 26 – Weds 30 Dec PM	Optimist Stage 3	7 – 12	For those who have passed Optimist stage 2	972/1,791	1,080/1,990
Youth Courses					
Sun 20 – Thurs 24 Dec	Beginners HKSF Level 1 and 2	12 – 18	Basic entry-level sailing for teenagers	2,385/3,582	2,650/3,980
Tues 22 – Thurs 24 Dec	Three-day Topper Pico Feva Supervised Practice	12 – 18	HKSF L2 or equivalent experience	1,431/2,150	1,590/2,388
Sun 20 – Weds 23 Dec	ABC Introduction to High-Performance Sailing	13 – 18	A four-day "mini" course to introduce spinnakers and trapeze-based high-performance sailing. Ideal choice for students to gain experience if not yet ready or qualified to attend the complete HKSF Level 4 course	1,908/2,866	2,120/3,184
Sun 20 – Thurs 24 Dec	High Performance Advanced Skills, HKSF Level 4	13 – 18	Advanced skills course including spinnaker, trapeze, boat-handling, anchoring, introduction to navigation and meteorology. (Applicants must hold Improvers HKSF Level 3 and have one season of sailing since.)	2,385/3,582	2,650/3,980
Sun 20 – Mon 21 Dec	RS Feva Gennaker Course	12 – 18	Must have already passed RS Feva Introductory course	954/1,433	1,060/1,592
Sat 26 – Weds 30 Dec	Improver HKSF Level 3	12 – 18	Applicants need to have passed HKSF Level 2 and have a season of sailing since	2,385/3,582	2,650/3,980
Sat 26 – Mon 28 Dec	RS Feva Introductory Course	12 – 18	Hold HKSF level 2	1,431/2,150	1,590/2,388
Tues 29 – Thurs 31 Dec	Laser 1 Introductory Course	12 – Adult	Hold HKSF level 2 or similar experience	1,431/2,150	1,590/2,388

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 (1 pm ferry from the main Clubhouse)

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



Get Back in a Boat!

By Kevin Lewis

Adult HKSF level 3 Course

23, 24, 30 and 31 January (with evening lecture on 25 January)

With cooler weather but usually consistently more breeze in January, the ABC once again offers adults the chance to attend an HKSF Level 3 Intermediate course. The focus of this five-day activity is seamanship and perfecting a good level of skill in both Laser 2000s and Laser 1s.

Potential applicants need to have passed their HKSF Level 2 course more than a year ago and also have done a fair amount of sailing since. Note January is usually the only month when we offer a Level 3 at weekends. Teenagers aged 14 and over also may attend.

J/80 Sailing Trips

20 December and 30 January

For those who have completed a J/80 Competent Crew course, or others who already have some keelboat sailing experience, our J/80 trips are a great way to get more logged hours and learn from an experienced keelboat instructor. December and January are about the best months to sail in Hong Kong and we highly recommend these two days for a rewarding day out. Limited spaces are available, so apply soon.

Hong Kong Laser Class Championship

12 and 13 December

The annual Laser 1 Nationals take place in December off Middle Island and are always well-supported by ABC members. To participate, contact Angela at SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com. To hire a Laser 1, participants need to be on the ABC approved hiring list for the Laser 1 dinghy.

Saturday Afternoon Supervised Sailing Sessions

These sessions have proved popular and continue. We would remind members that *advance booking is required* with Angela in the ABC Sailing Office on or before the Thursday before the Saturday afternoon. Participants need to hold an HKSF Level 2 certificate. Teenagers aged 14 and over may attend, as well as adults.

Dinghy Hire at Middle Island

We remind members that the ABC operates an approved hiring list for Club dinghies and paddle boards at Middle Island. To be added to the hire list, members need to have attended a relevant course or activity, or state equivalent dinghy sailing experience. Details are on the Club website under Dinghy/ Dinghy Hire. 



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Maximum passengers: 43

For details, please contact ABC membership services manager Cobo Liu at 2553 3032 or mbs@abclubhk.com



Christmas Gift Ideas for Sailors New and Seasoned

By Kevin Lewis

The ABC carries a number of books at our reception shop, and we can recommend them as appropriate Christmas gifts! Our stock is limited, so next time you are at the ABC, please have a look. If all the titles are not on display due to a lack of space, please ask Regienne at Reception.

RYA Start to Race (ABC price \$150)

Useful for those wanting to further their racing skills, as it talks you through getting into racing in a logical and enjoyable manner and makes sure that nothing seems like a daunting task. Packed with the most up-to-date racing scenarios, information and tips, this book is a real gem for all budding racing sailors. Contents cover topics including racing courses, racing upwind and racing downwind, top turns, trimming for speed, light, moderate and strong wind performance, racing with spinnakers and champion advice. Written by yachting journalist and highly experienced sailor Jeremy Evans.

RYA Optimist Handbook (ABC price \$150)

The first part of this book will help young sailors to understand the basics of sailing an Optimist, and develop their skills and confidence with the help of top tips and handy hints from well-known sailors and coaches. The book's second part leads onto more advanced techniques and racing. This is the "bible" of Optimist sailing, with many colour photos and illustrations in its 270 pages.

Go Sailing & Go Sailing Activity books for young sailors (ABC price \$85 each)

Beautifully illustrated best-selling children's books, which include a foreword by Dame Ellen MacArthur. Ideal for the younger Optimist sailors, the activity book contains fun games, quizzes, exercises and stickers. Very limited stock – we recommend purchasing both titles together as a set.

RYA G14 Instructor Handbook (ABC Price \$130)

An essential purchase for any sailing instructors or assistant instructors or those hoping to become an instructor. Although they focus on the RYA method, techniques covered apply to everyone, including HKSF instructors. Highly recommended. Editors include Laurence West and Grahame Forshaw, both of whom are well-known in Hong Kong and have visited the ABC on a number of occasions.

Laser Handbook (ABC Price \$160)

The most up-to-date book on this very popular class of dinghy, with lots of colour photographs and illustrations, making this book a "must" for anyone interested in Lasers. It includes detailed chapters on manoeuvring, upwind and downwind techniques, care and maintenance, body weight and nutrition and sailing theory. 



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Competition Report



... and the band played on: To Tei Wan marker buoy



David Pope passes slow Monsignor



the start; clearing a path

The Clean Half: An Above-average Swim

By Ian Barlow, photos by Ian Barlow and Nancy Chan

George Applegarth in Deep Water Bay

The Clean Half. Half of what? And does this mean there's a dirty half?

"Half" is for halfway around the island. Well, sort of, it's only 15 km. It just seems further.

"Clean," because it's the water around the southern part of the island, which is a little cleaner. Okay, we're not talking crystal-clear waters bursting with little Nemos. This is Hong Kong, after all, so the water is brown enough to prevent you seeing what's in it (a good thing), but not so brown that you can walk on it (a bad thing). We'll settle for "clean-ish."

If you sit on the water in a razor-hulled racing yacht, or a nuclear-powered gin palace, the colour of the water is less important than if you're actually floating in it.

Yes, this event is done in the water using manual labour: swimming.

Growing ever-more popular, the Clean Half event is in its ninth year, and it's all for a good cause. The Ocean Recovery Alliance is a charity that raises awareness about the harm caused to the oceans by the tons of plastic waste tipped into seas – see <http://www.oceanrecov.org>

Clean Half teams, 48 in total, each made up of five loonies, volunteered to swim from Stanley main beach through Tai Tam Bay, around Cape D'Aguiar, past Stanley Bay, Round Island and Repul(sive) Bay, then ending their self-inflicted fun at Deep Water Bay beach.

Some take their fun to extreme levels, and choose to swim the event solo; that's a minimum swim of 15 km, and after adding in the effects of tide and wind, there will probably be a couple of extra kilometres as well. This year there were 16 solo swimmers. We relay-team members salute your achievement, and question your sanity.

This year, the ABC was represented by Calum Watson and me, and we wanted to beat our record from previous years of four hours. That was not to be. The ebb tide was running against us, and we ended with a time of four hours, 45 minutes, placing us 21st in the field of 48.

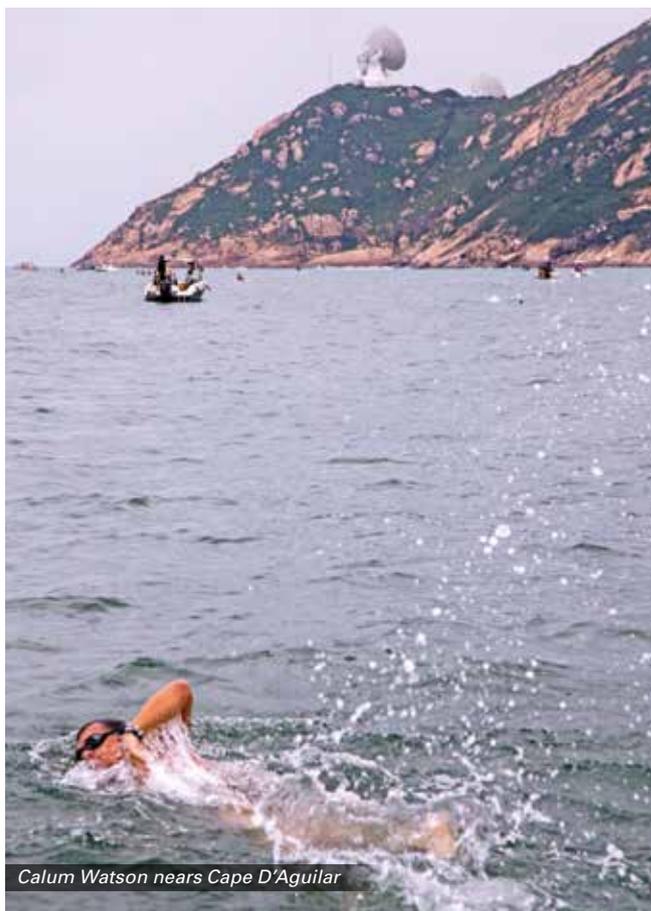
Not bad for a team (Calum and I were joined by George Applegarth, David Pope and Tatsuaki Ono) with a combined age of 244 years, and even better to know that in our age group ("Zimmer B"), we were 5th in a pool of 20. The proof is out there for all to see at <http://www.racetecresults.com/Results.aspx?CId=16387&RId=6032>

It's also better than 2014 (another ebb tide year), by 45 minutes.

The winners were a group of mere children (combined age well under 125) from the Harry Wright International School for really good swimmers, who completed the challenge in three hours, 29 minutes. Amazing.

Would I do it again? Absolutely.

This is the seventh year the "Left Laners" team has taken part, and I still want to beat four hours, and prove to Kevin Lewis that I really can swim the distance from Stanley to the ABC quicker than I can sail it. Only the bus is quicker, especially when I'm in a boat. Swim or sink. H



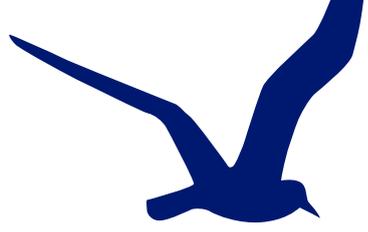
Calum Watson nears Cape D'Aguiar



Ian Barlow passes a cargo ship



Team members (L to R):
Ian Barlow, Ono Tatsuaki,
David Pope, Calum Watson,
George Applegarth and
Nancy Chan (coach and
assistant photographer)



WWF Coastal Watch Project **The ABC Clean-up Crew in Action Again on Beaufort Island**

By Patricia Malone, photos by Jon Zinke





A team of ABC volunteers swung into action again on Sunday, 8 November, under the watchful eyes of WWF Coastal Watch project officer Maggie Kwok and two of her team scientists. Our objective was to conduct a survey of the washed-up rubbish on Beaufort Island, record the amount and type of litter, then bag it and weigh it.

Beaufort was chosen as a little-visited, uninhabited island. Anything on the beach must come from the sea. From the deck of the boat that took us there, the ABC's new ferry, things didn't look too bad. Unlike last time, there was no dead pig and no disembowelled chicken, and the sand looked reasonably pristine.

In fact, Maggie told us that the beach had been cleared a couple of weeks previously by a team from another organisation. However, a closer look told us there was still a depressing amount for us to do.

Maggie and her team went ashore first and laid transit lines marking strips two metres wide from the back of the beach to the waterline. Divided into teams, we volunteers were charged with taking a square metre of beach and collecting everything in it – "micro" rubbish from one millimetre to one centimetre; "macro" rubbish over one centimetre; and ecological specimens.

Stop the styrofoam

Our finds had to be classified, counted and recorded. As the day got hotter, squatting on the sand counting styrofoam beads, which constantly blew away before they could be tallied, made Hercules' tasks seem a bit of a doddle.

After everything within the transit lines was collected and counted, we set to clearing the little beach. The segregated

garbage was bagged and weighed, hopefully to provide useful data for the government on types and origins of marine waste to be found on our beaches.

Our observations on Beaufort Island suggest that styrofoam, from food containers and ice boxes used by fishermen, is the most ubiquitous unnatural material. It also happens to be one of the most damaging of materials, breaking down into big chunks and then progressively smaller beads that can be ingested by marine animals.

We left the bagged debris above the high-water line to be collected by the Hong Kong Marine Department, and then we 14 volunteers and our WWF minders retired for a well-earned lunch on Po Toi.

The next expedition will be in April 2016. The Beaufort Island beach clean-up's optimum number of volunteers would have been around 20 people, so if you want to contribute something positive to the marine environment, put your name down for it.

No doubt it will be hard work, but it is fulfilling to see the beach looking clean for at least a couple of days, and you get to learn a lot and meet new friends.

To find out more about the WWF Coastal Watch project, visit <http://coastalwatch.hk/about-coastal-watch/> 



Answers: Sailing Knowledge for Skippers

See page 11 for questions

- "Mayday" is said to have come from the French phrase "M'aidez," meaning "help me."
- The highest number on the Beaufort scale is Force 12, which is a hurricane that would have winds of over 63 knots.
- A fathom is a nautical measure equivalent to six feet.
- and 5. The collision regulations' order of priority for rights of way by vessels is shown below, together with the day and night signals that would be shown on the vessel.

Order of Priority	Day Shape	Night Light	Remarks
Vessel Restricted in Ability to Manoeuvre (Laying marks, dredging)	● ◆ ●	● ○ ●	
Vessel Constrained by Draught	▬	● ● ●	
Vessel Engaged in Fishing	⋈	● ○	If a trawler, the lights would be green over white.
Vessel Under Sail		●	As seen from portside. If seen from starboard the light would be green.
Power-driven Vessel Under Way		○ ●	Power-driven vessel less than 50m underway – as seen from portside. If seen from starboard, light would be green.

- In most countries, the vessel must have a radio licence. This radio can normally be used by anyone on board, as long as a person who has a personal VHF license is on board to supervise and control.
- When firing a distress parachute flare, you would aim the rocket:
 - Vertically in normal weather,
 - At 15° downwind in windy conditions, and
 - At 45° in low cloud.
- When going into a head sea the trim tabs/stern drive/outboard are put in the down position, which drops the bow and reduces slamming.
- An Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) is a self-contained battery-operated radio transmitter that transmits a distress alert and marks the position of survivors in a search and rescue operation.
- Charted heights are always measured from mean high water springs (MHWS), which is the highest average tide height.

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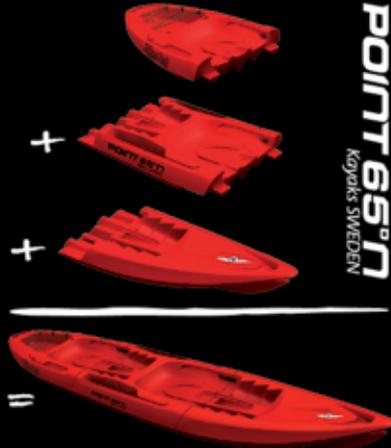
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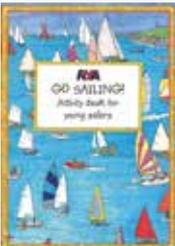
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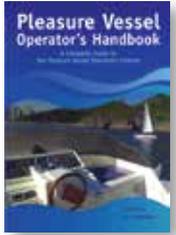
Contains everything to care for wounds as well as a torch, thermometer, tweezers with magnifying glass, note pad and pen. Made of waterproof material with shoulder strap for easy carrying.



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