



2017/04

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HORIZONS

THE MAGAZINE OF THE ABERDEEN BOAT CLUB

Cruiser v Dinghy
Sailor Challenge

An Enterprising Project

It's On:
Beaufort Beach Clean-up



CLASSIC YACHT RALLY



To be held on

13 & 14 MAY



2017

Organised by



Supported by



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

HORIZONS ISSUE 2017/04

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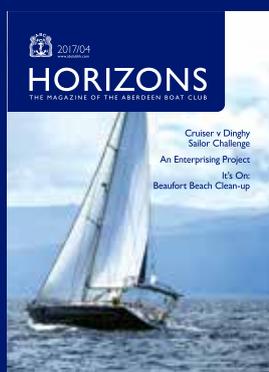
Editorial Contact:
Ann White
ann.white@ppp.com.hk

Advertising Sales Contact:
Jo Allum
jo.allum@ppp.com.hk

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Horizons welcomes ABC member contributions of articles and photos.
Please contact the editor at ann.white@ppp.com.hk



Aberdeen Boat Club
20 Shum Wan Road
Aberdeen, Hong Kong
香港仔遊艇會
香港仔深灣道二十號
www.abclubhk.com
Fax no: 2873 2945
General Line : 2552 8182

Flag Officers

Chris Pooley • Commodore
Jon Zinke • Vice Commodore
Alan Child • Rear Commodore – Sailing
Richard Walker • Rear Commodore – House
Matthew Johnson • Hon. Treasurer
Nick Bodnar-Horvath • Hon. Gen. Secretary

Management and Staff

General Manager
Philippe de Manny
Tel: 2553 3231
genman@abclubhk.com

General Manager's Personal Assistant

Selina Mak
Tel: 2552 8182 Ext 812
gmpa@abclubhk.com

Membership Service Manager

Cobo Liu
Tel: 2553 3032
mbs@abclubhk.com

Operation Manager

Alok Kumar
Tel: 2552 8182 Ext 837
hsp@abclubhk.com

Marine Services Manager

Alex Johnston
Tel: 2518 9523
marine.services@abclubhk.com

Food and Beverage Manager

Robin Sherchan
Tel: 2555 6216
fnb@abclubhk.com

General Enquiries

Tel: 2552 8182

Four Peaks Restaurant

Tel: 2553 3422

The Galley Coffee Shop

Tel: 2554 9494

Night Guard Emergency Contact

Tel: 9154 0426



Commodore's Letter



This issue of *Horizons* marks the beginning of spring and with it, fittingly, the fun Spring Pursuit Race on Sunday 2 April heralding the start of warm-weather sailing, to be followed by the Classic Yacht Rally and the Summer Race series, all part of the ABC's 50th anniversary pattern of events.

It also coincides with the end of an era, as the Club's well-known racing yacht *The Farr Side* (see the Waglan Bar menu cover), owned by the syndicate of former Commodore John Berry, Rear Commodore – Sailing Alan Child and long-term member Mike Tinworth, has been towed off to the knackers' yard, after some 30-odd years afloat. Though it would be an exaggeration to say that its scantlings had been weakened by years of freighting cartons of Carlsberg around the southern reaches of Hong Kong, those years of racing had taken their toll. Few boats can have equalled the number

of race entries by *TFS* with many podium successes to its name, though these had become harder to obtain recently in competition with new boats of innovative design. So *vale TFS*: a legendary testament to just how much fun can be had while racing competitively. Watch for news of its replacement.

Watch, too, the ABC website for news of Easter events at the Club including a special function for the English (and friends) on St. George's Day, 23 April.

In this issue you can read about, and see photos, of the deferred annual challenge between cruiser and dinghy sailors; the "bai san" celebration for the first Power Boat course; a fine article by Diana Bruce on the fun [and frustrations] to be had restoring an Enterprise Dinghy; and an insight in what is demanded of paddlers from ABC's Buzz Dragon team, led by an inspiring action photograph. In need of exercise? Then sign up!



The 50th anniversary committee continues its work doggedly preparing for special events to come later this year, and in particular a history of the Club's first 50 years. If any member has any noteworthy vignette, photos or records of those years to contribute, any such would be most welcome. If so please contact the GM, there is still time ...

Chris Pooley
Commodore



Flag Officer's Report

The Aberdeen Boat Club employs approximately 70 people in five departments; this has been the case over the past few years.

The Marine Department consists of 12 people and is run by Alex Johnston. Marine is split into sailing and workboat handling and maintenance.

Dinghy sailing includes sail training through the Aberdeen Racing Academy, encompassing race teams for a number of classes, plus the Optimist Training Squad and the Sail Training School.

Sail training is provided to children, youths and adults. We have a number of qualified coaches in-house and also engage qualified coaches on a part-time basis when required. Keelboat sailing includes racing, rallies and managing

mooring. Recently a RYA-approved Powerboat Training Centre was set up at Middle Island with courses on offer regularly (see article on page 18).

Supporting our boating activities, in the Food and Beverage Department, run by Robin Sherchan and Paul Chong, we have 23 people in the kitchens and 15 in the front-of-house. Amongst others, the ABC has specialist Chinese and Indian chefs, a butcher and pastry chefs.

House Operations, run by Alok Kumar, and Finance, run by Simon Koo, together employ 13 people. Security services are outsourced due to security guard licensing requirements.

Membership services is run by the overly competent Cobo Liu with a staff of herself 😊.



Finally the executive office is run by Philippe de Manny and includes the department managers mentioned above and administrative assistance.

Matthew Johnson
Honorary Treasurer



Easter Events at the ABC

Good Friday, 14 April

Seafood Barbecue Gala with live Boston lobster!

The Galley and The Patio

7 pm

Adults \$398

Concessionary price for members over age 65 \$328

Children \$248 (ages 3-12)

A half-lobster for each paying adult member!

A fabulous range of seafood on the grill, including mussels, bay prawns, Alaskan crab legs, whelks, clams, scallops, trout and salmon with sides of steamed vegetables and sweet potatoes.

Lamb on a Spit buffet with complimentary tasting of wines for home delivery

Saturday, 15 April

The Patio

7 pm

Adults: \$259

Concessionary price for members over age 65 \$209

Children \$159 (ages 3-12)

Roast lamb accompanied by a fantastic choice of vegetables, pasta, curries, salads and savoury desserts.

Easter Sunday Activities

Early Bird Breakfast Buffet

The Patio

7:30 am – 11 am

Adults \$68

Children \$48 (ages 3-12)

Egg-citing Easter Egg Hunt

Children's Playground

11 am-11:30 am

Children aged up to 10 years \$30

Easter Brunch with Delectable Dessert Buffet

The Galley and The Patio

11:30 am to 3 pm

Adults \$267

Concessionary price for members over age 65 \$217

Children (ages 3-12) \$167

Add \$70 for free-flow of sparkling wine

Enjoy your choices from freshly prepared buffet offerings of salads, hot cross buns, ham and marinated roast lamb, barbecued sirloin steak, satays and sausage varieties, entrées including shepherd's pie, squid ink pasta with prawns, pizza and spaghetti Bolognese, stews, grilled Mediterranean vegetables and corn on the cob. Choose from the showcase of delectable desserts made by our talented team of pastry chefs, ranging from carrot cake and chocolate cake, mango pudding, cupcakes and beautifully decorated cakes and fresh fruit.

Family Egg Race at Middle Island

3 pm

Children (ages up to 10 years) \$30

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



General Manager's Letter

Guest policy: With sunny days coming soon and the Club becoming busier than in winter, I must remind Members that the ABC's guest policy is to be strictly followed. I have been surprised to find that many Members seem to be unaware of this policy, which has been publicised many times in *Horizons*. So once again, please be reminded that only four guests per account are allowed in the Clubhouse at one time, while six guests per Member are allowed on Middle Island during weekends and public holidays.

I must also remind Members that it is important to register your guest at Reception in the main Clubhouse. Not only is it a Hong Kong government request, it is also a Club rule. After a good start two years ago, it seems that Members have stopped doing so. The Home Affairs Bureau requires clubs to give accurate guest usage numbers. Member compliance with the ABC guest check-in rule will make it far easier for us to comply with government requirements.

While I am on guests, may I strongly request that Members planning to have guests on Middle Island inform us a day in advance, so that logistical issues can be sorted and not faced as you arrive. To notify the Club in advance that you will bring guests, simply email info@abclubhk.com with your name and the total number of your guests. This will allow us to plan staff and deploy appropriate transport and greatly improve your experience on Middle Island.

New F&B events: Our new F&B team has been putting much effort into bringing new and fresh ideas to an extent that all our events are now getting fully booked very early! So to avoid disappointment, please book in advance. Here I highlight for you some of the main events this month – more details are available in the following F&B event listings.

- Good Friday: Seafood BBQ Gala with LIVE BOSTON LOBSTER!
- Easter Sunday activities

- Macallan Trinity Tasting Night with Ron Taylor, Friday 21 April, the Waglan Bar
- St. George's Day Brunch, Sunday 23 April, the Galley and the Patio.

Smart cards in use: As promised last month, we are now requiring the use of smart cards to access the squash and the gym. Please contact us if you do not have your card yet. To remind you of the reasons, HAB requires a full record of our activity on a quarterly basis, and they need real and accurate justification for our declaration. The sign in/sign out sheets we have used in the past are no longer good enough. Hence we have moved to digitization for access, for better records and for proof to support our declaration.

Golf Society: It has been a few months now without any games, so I am doubly pleased to advise Society members and prospective members of the 2017 schedule below:

1. Friday, 21 April – Deep Water Bay (ABC only – net score on handicap with maximum five clubs)
2. Monday, 29 May – Kau Sai Chau North (ABC Stableford multiple-mulligan games)
3. Friday, 23 June – Shek O Golf and Country Club (ABC 50th anniversary game, Stableford)
4. During September, October and November, plans are underway for various games against HKCC, USRC and the Seniors.
5. Friday, 1 December – Kau Sai Chau East. (The annual charity day team scramble for the Wednesday Afternoon Golf Society, maximum eight players.)

Sea and shore clean-up support: Lastly, after more than two years' of work supporting the Coastal Watch programme



of the WWF as it cleans beaches around Hong Kong and raises public awareness of marine and coastal pollution, we plan to join as a member.

The WWF's "ECF Sea Without Litter" beach and sea clean-up programme is sponsored by the Environment and Conservation Fund and the Environmental Campaign Committee. Its broad goals are to encourage members to become green mariners and to combat marine litter together. Specific programme goals are:

1. Raise awareness amongst marine users about the marine litter problem and its impact
2. Enlist marine users to prevent marine litter through following a code of conduct
3. Encourage marine users to sort and recycle litter
4. Inspire marine user groups to participate in creating a long-term solution.

For further information, please see http://www.wwf.org.hk/en/whatwedo/oceans/protecting_our_seas/tackling_marine_litter/ecf_sea_without_litter/

Beaufort Beach, 6 May: In fact, the ABC has planned a beach clean-up outing on Saturday, 6 May, at Beaufort Island, a beach we have visited repeatedly. The ferry will depart the main Clubhouse pontoon around 11:30 am, bound for Beaufort. The ferry will return to the main Clubhouse @ 5 pm. ➔



Beaufort Beach Clean-up, Saturday, 6 May

Wanted: Volunteers

An ABC team of volunteers will collect scientific data for WWF analysis and collect and sort rubbish for the EPD to collect. No experience is needed.

The ABC ferry will depart the main Clubhouse pontoon around 11:30 am, bound for Beaufort Island's beach. The ferry will return to the main Clubhouse @ 5 pm.

A light lunch onboard will be provided for the clean-up team before they alight for the beach, and you may also bring your own snacks and drinks. Please bring mosquito repellent and sunscreen and dress in light-coloured clothing with appropriate waterproof footwear.

Please register with Regienne at 2552 8182 or email booking@abclubhk.com



Squid Fishing on the ABC Junk 2 & 26 May and 15 & 30 June

Time: 7 pm – sharp – to 10 pm

Going squid-fishing on the ABC junk is entertaining. Bring along the children or a group of friends or make some new friends on the junk.

These evening excursions are run only in May and June.

Book quickly as they are very popular.

Minimum 20 people; maximum 35 people.

Adults and children \$180.

Order dinner at the Galley coffee shop and bring it aboard to enjoy on the junk.

Drinks are available on board and billed to your account.



To book your place, please email booking@abclubhk.com



April F&B Promotions

Throughout April, traditional British Easter dishes will be featured in The Galley and The Patio.

April Wine of the Month (organic)

White: Hauner Salina Bianco

Inzolia, Catarratto, Italy, 2014

\$52 per glass

\$260 per bottle

Red: Hauner Hiera

Nero d'Avola, Alicante, Nocera, 2013, Italy

\$56 per glass

\$280 per bottle

April Beer of the Month

Dragon's Back, Pale Ale

Hong Kong Beer Company, Hong Kong

\$39 per bottle

April Cocktails:

Sake Spring Passion

Japanese Sake, Passion fruit purée, Korean citrus jam and fresh lime, with a splash of soda water, and garnished with a fresh slice of passion fruit

\$60

Pink Spring Cooler (non-alcoholic)

Fresh orange juice, watermelon and pineapple syrup with crushed ice

\$40

April Events

21

Friday

The Waglan Bar

Macallan Trinity Tasting Night with Ron Taylor

Time: 6:30-8:30 pm

Adults: \$258

From humble beginnings in 1824, The Macallan has grown from a small local enterprise to global recognition, based on a constant and determined attention to quality. The Whisky Maker and his team nose thousands of samples every year to create The Macallan expressions recognised around the world. This exacting task, together with the 'marrying' of different casks for many of the expressions, is the last step in creating this, one of the world's truly great whiskies.

During this night, you and your guests will be able to taste and learn the full expressions of Macallan 12-year-old Sherry Oak, Double Cask and Fine Oak, followed by Macallan 15-year-old Fine Oak and Macallan 17 year old Fine Oak. The evening will finish with the most distinct and beautifully crafted the Macallan Rare Cask, comprised of 16 different sherry cask styles, and bridging the gap between the 1824 Series and the 1824 Collection.

The Macallan Whisky Tasting will be accompanied with carefully paired appetizers, finger foods, tapas and small bites of quality smoked meats.

23

Sunday

The Galley and The Patio

St. George's Day Brunch

11.30 am to 3 pm

Adults \$239

Concessionary price for members over age 65 \$189
Children (ages 3-12) \$139
Add \$70 for free-flow of sparkling wine

The staff of ABC invite you to celebrate St George's Day – the English National Day – with your families and friends! What makes our St George's Day celebration unique? Simply traditional English food and good company. The sumptuous spread includes a traditional buffet of cold and hot dishes with beef Wellington, roasted lamb, Yorkshire pudding and more! On the drinks side, for sale will be a British summertime favorite, Pimm's cocktail in jugs, and free-flowing Carlsberg Beer. Your children will have an enjoyable day at the playground area making friends and simply enjoying the open air.

St George's Day remembers St George, England's patron saint, on the anniversary of his death, 23 April (coincidentally Shakespeare's birthday). Legend says St George was a soldier in the Roman army who killed a dragon and saved a princess.

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



Home Wine Delivery - April

Sparkling

Valdoca Gigola, NV



A dry sparkling wine, with great balance of green apple and dry fruit on the finish.

Valdobbiadene, Veneto, Italy

Price: \$135

Qty: _____ Total: _____

Rosé

Calvet Rosé d'Anjou Cabernet Franc, 2015



A lovely salmon colour with pomegranate highlights. A fruity nose of strawberry, hazelnut and mint.

Loire Valley, France

Price: \$145

Qty: _____ Total: _____

White Wine

Shearwater Sauvignon Blanc, 2015



White currant, lime peel, and gooseberry notes with a fresh herbal note.

Marlborough, New Zealand

Price: \$165

Qty: _____ Total: _____

Lagaria Pinot Grigio, 2015



Fruity with a refreshing finish. Perfect for a hot summer day.

Venezie IGT, Trentino

Price: \$145

Qty: _____ Total: _____

Astrolabe Dry Riesling, 2015



Lemon honey and lemon zest, green apple and light floral notes.

Marlborough, New Zealand

Price: \$240

Qty: _____ Total: _____

Simonsig Chardonnay, 2015



One is immediately struck by complex and racy notes: aromas of light pineapple, sweet spice, vanilla, honeysuckle and minerality.

Stellenbosch, South Africa

Price: \$165

Qty: _____ Total: _____

Red Wine

Shearwater Pinot Noir, 2013



Forest berries and plums with some spicy and earthy notes.

Marlborough, New Zealand

Price: \$210

Qty: _____ Total: _____

Château Tanunda Barossa Tower, Shiraz, 2014



Notes of blackberry, plum and black pepper, accompanied by sweet spices to finish.

Barossa Valley, South Australia

Price: \$210

Qty: _____ Total: _____

Supremus IGT Sangiovese, Merlot, 2011



Very intense, persistent bouquet of violets, cherries and red berry fruits with subtle notes of vanilla and toasted wood.

Tuscany, Italy

Price: \$240

Qty: _____ Total: _____

Simonsig Tiara Bordeaux Blend, 2011



Dark fruit, black plum, spice and a hint of cocoa in the aromas.

Stellenbosch, South Africa

Price: \$280

Qty: _____ Total: _____

**Join us on Saturday, 15 April, 6:30-8:30 pm, at the
Lamb-on-a-Spit event for a complimentary tasting of these wines**

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

*Minimum order – 12 bottles and mixed case available.

Member Name: _____ Membership Number: _____

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

Delivery Address: _____

Delivery Date: _____ Member Signature: _____

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





The Aberdeen Boat Club Presents

The Macallan Trinity Tasting Night with Ron Taylor

Friday, 21 April
The Waglan Bar
6:30-8:30 pm
Adults \$258

The Macallan has grown from a small local enterprise in 1824 to a global recognised brand today, based on constant and determined attention to quality.

Ron Taylor, the Macallan “Whisky Maker”, will present an evening for you and your guests to taste and learn the full expressions of Macallan Whisky. Carefully paired appetizers, finger foods, tapas and small bites of quality smoked meats will accent the ABC’s Macallan Whisky Tasting evening.

Tastings:

Macallan 12-year-old Sherry Oak, Double Cask and Fine Oak

The Macallan 15-year-old Fine Oak and Macallan 17-year-old Fine Oak

The Macallan Rare Cask, comprised of 16 different sherry cask styles, bridging the gap between the 1824 Series and the 1824 Collection.

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





Dinghy-Cruiser Challenge 2017

By Diana Bruce, photos by Philippe de Manny

Actually this was the dinghy-cruiser challenge 2016 but, due to absolutely awful weather (tipping with rain and 30-plus knots of wind) in November, the challenge was re-scheduled to 12 March 2017.

The day ominously began in somewhat similar fashion – damp, misty and blowing a hooley – but by 1:30 pm the wind had settled down to a pretty steady 10-12 knots (perfect for sailing) out in Repulse Bay and, although cloudy, it was at least dry. Well, dry for most of us – one boat capsized at least twice. The helm will remain anonymous in this article to save his blushes.

We had a grand turnout for this annual event, where the dinghy section challenges the cruiser section to an on-the-water series of races in the Club’s Laser 2000 fleet. Each team fielded five boats – that’s 10 sailors! Amazing! Word must be getting round that this is a great day out on the water, challenging but good-natured, and sailed in good spirits. (One of the rules – and there aren’t many – is “no protests”!) We had seven ladies sailing this year too, including an all-ladies boat, which marked a first for this event.

Tim Fuk set a windward-leeward course for us, and David Lamb, who acted as our unofficial Race Officer, and his son, Ollie, helped with recording the results and ensuring fair play.

Tim organised three races for us, during which some of the cruiser sailors – a bit rusty in a 12-foot boat with no engine – improved progressively, much to the dismay of the dinghy sailors. There was some tussling at the marks (and as captain I belatedly realised that perhaps I should have made sure my team knew who the other team members were – no point in holding your course steadfastly, only to disadvantage other teammates – oops).

We had some very exciting starts with all 10 boats fighting for the best position (but to our credit, no crashes, not even a gentle nudge) as helms expertly manoeuvred their ways through the crush. Once past the committee boat, though, the fleet spread out and, by the finish, boats were crossing the line

in almost regular 30-second intervals in a very orderly fashion!

Philippe Grelon and Frederic d’Argenlieu were the most consistent and, as far as the dinghy section was concerned, horribly so, as they took line honours in all three races.

The second places were more evenly spread, with John and Tom Berry coming second in the first race, Tomas and Alex Huml in the second race, and Tristan and Mimiko Stewart in the third race. Again, disappointingly for the dinghy section, these were all cruiser sailors!

In the end, I have to admit to you all that the cruiser section resoundingly crushed the dinghy section, 17 to 35. It was a humiliating defeat and we could only be consoled by the cruiser section generously sharing their winnings with us (some lovely bottles of wine courtesy of the Club).

I would like to thank everyone who took part in the afternoon’s racing, as well as the marine and dinghy staff who prepared the boats for us, set the courses, took photos and ensured that the challenge was, once again, a great success.

Now the dinghy section is going to have to work on making it a more personal success next year! 

Team members were:

Dinghy	Cruiser
Michele Clark and Jennifer Li	Philippe Grelon and Fred d’Argenlieu
Cecile Martin and Andrew Blank	John and Tom Berry
Esther van Wijck and Sjoerd Hoekstra	Stephen Vine and Paul Oen
Alex and Adelaide Orange	Tomas and Alex Huml
Patrick and Diana Bruce (Captain)	Tristan (Captain) and Mimiko Stewart



The two teams



The winning team



Jennifer Li and Michele Clark



Start-line crush



Cecile Martin and Andrew Blank



Diana and Patrick Bruce



Four boats



Diana and Patrick Bruce



Paul Oen and Stephen Vine



Tristan and Mimiko Stewart
and Philippe Grelon and Fred d'Argenlieu



Mimiko and Tristan Stewart



Esther van Wijck and Sjoerd Hoekstra



Adelaide and Alex Orange



John and Tom Berry



© Caution Water

An Enterprising Project

By Diana Bruce, photos by Diana Bruce, Esther van Wijck and Jackie Simpson

Those of you who are often out at Middle Island surely cannot have failed to notice an old wooden Enterprise dinghy lovingly being refurbished. The Enterprise, designed in the U.K. in 1956 by Jack Holt, is a two-man sloop-rigged dinghy. Originally known as 'The News Chronicle Enterprise', it was the first sailing dinghy to be sponsored by a national U.K. newspaper. The first two Enterprises ever built were sailed across the English Channel from Dover to Calais as both a test and for newspaper promotional purposes.

My husband Patrick and I have had her for over 10 years. She arrived at Middle Island with a sister boat, and sat on the hardstanding for a couple of years before her previous owner decided he was never going to have the time to sort out the wet rot and other problems. He kindly donated both boats to us on the understanding that we would take care of them. One boat was beyond repair, but the other had some potential, so we took her over.

She is a beautiful boat but needs a lot of maintenance, which sadly had been neglected for a few years; until it became obvious that all the old varnish, cracked and worn in many places, would need to be completely removed.

Nothing for it but to buy a whole lot of new toys, including an electric sander, and copious amounts of varnish remover, varnish, thinners, sandpaper and paint brushes, etc., etc. Adding to his delight, Patrick also managed to source some marine-grade stainless steel screws, nuts and bolts (which meant new plastic boxes to keep them all tidy, and two big plastic boxes to put the small plastic boxes in ...).

And so, in July 2016, the Grand Project commenced. After trying some rather expensive, imported and environmentally friendly varnish remover (which did absolutely nothing to budge the many layers of varnish), some cheaper and probably more toxic stuff was slapped on – brilliant – the varnish came off in great shavings.

The beautiful mahogany wood was exposed, but also painfully obvious in the harsh light of day were all the chips and dents that had been sloppily filled and mended over the years. The new electric sander came into its own, and soon wore down the blemishes. Old filler was ruthlessly dug out with a sharp chisel and a steady hand, and the holes filled with a mixture of epoxy and the sawdust saved from the sanding, so that it exactly matched the colour of the timber.





by Esther van Wijck

Gleaming hues

After several weeks (maybe months?) of gentle hand-sanding and filling, the first coat of very thin varnish was applied with extremely tender care. The gleam of the newly varnished wood, with the beautiful deep brown and red hues of the mahogany, was reflected in the gleam in Patrick's eye – and what a beauty she was turning out to be! That first coat was left to dry and then the deck was gently sanded before a second, equally thin coat of varnish was applied.

At this stage, interest in the work was growing, and lots of members stopped to talk and admire Patrick's handiwork. Some (such as Elaine Morgan, Stephen Davies and Pascale Martin) even picked up some sandpaper and helped rub down the coats of varnish and white paint on the hull. Slowly, slowly, the layers built up, getting gradually thicker.

As the glare of the hot summer sun turned to the gentler rays of autumn, friendships were built and much-appreciated advice was given. Even our younger sailors (including those now sailing those sexy 29ers that, interestingly, were built by the same yard – Dave Ovington in the UK – which built our Enterprise)

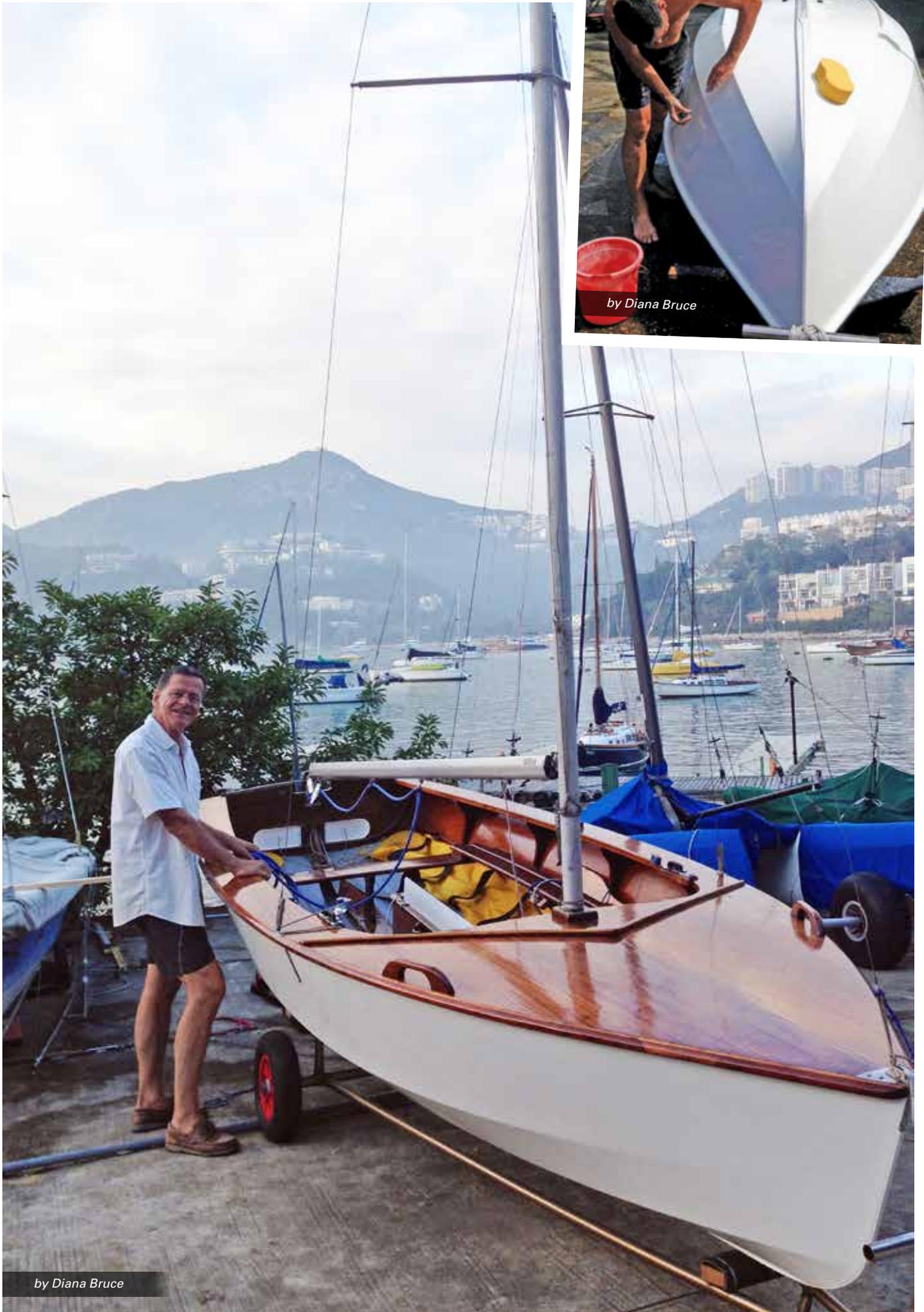
commented on what a beautiful boat she was. Encouragement was ample for a job well done. Many agreed that Patrick was enjoying the sense of achievement as well as the camaraderie.

Autumn turned to winter and some of us (me included) wondered if the job would ever get finished. Maybe Patrick was enjoying it so much he didn't want it to end? However, all good things have to come to an end eventually, and as the days got shorter and Christmas came and went, he declared that probably there were enough layers of varnish (seven or eight?) and it was finally time to start putting back all the fixtures and fittings. Ah, now, where would they all go?

Amazingly, somewhere in the depths of an old drawer, Patrick found some photos he had taken years back that showed very clearly how the toe-straps fitted to the thwarts, where the cleat for the cunningham went (or maybe which way up it went!), and how all the other little cleats, clips, screws and bolts held things together. The assortment of buckets and bowls that had held unnamed bits and pieces from the rigging and the fittings for the last eight months now would have to give up their mysteries.



by Diana Bruce



by Diana Bruce

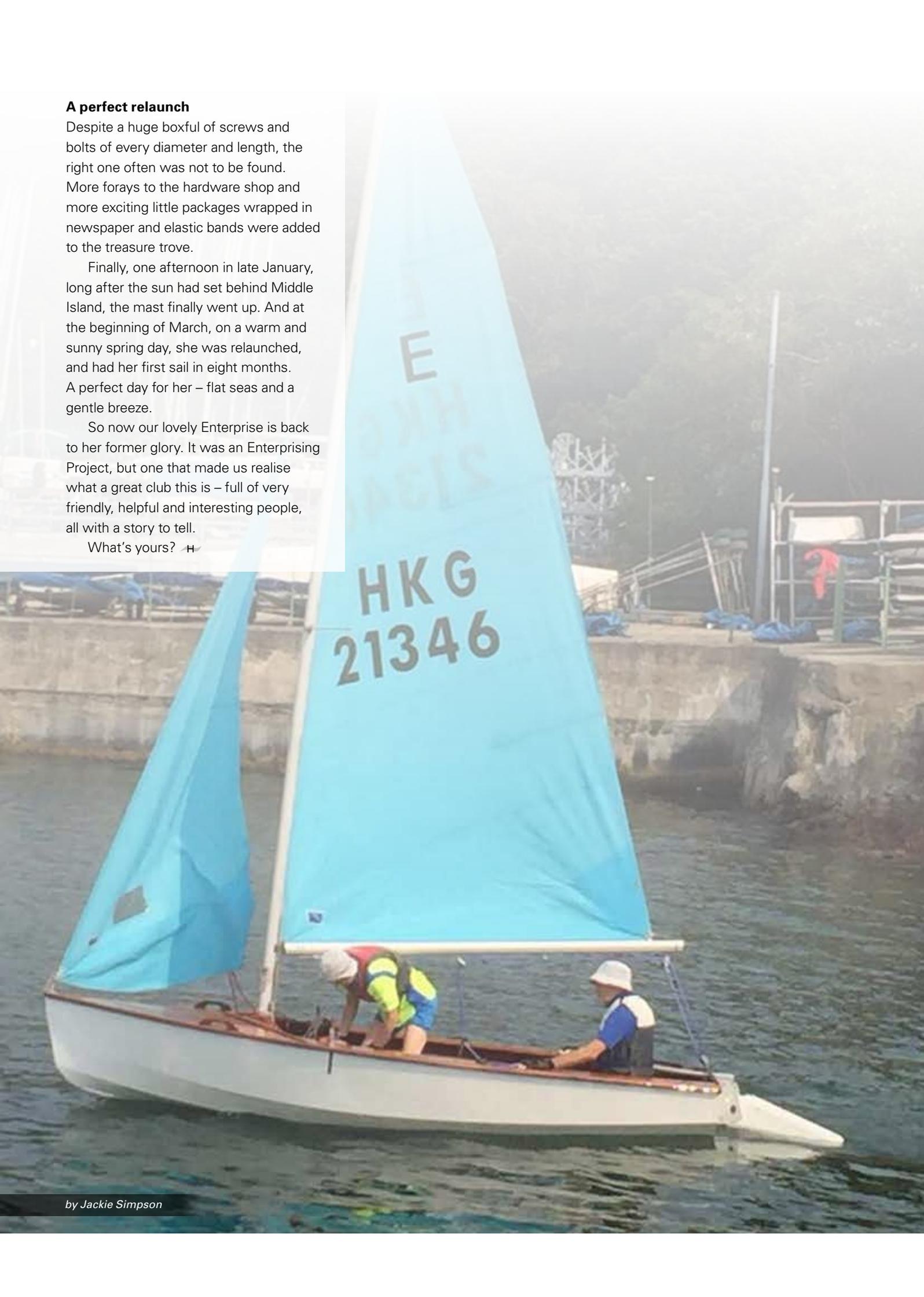
A perfect relaunch

Despite a huge boxful of screws and bolts of every diameter and length, the right one often was not to be found. More forays to the hardware shop and more exciting little packages wrapped in newspaper and elastic bands were added to the treasure trove.

Finally, one afternoon in late January, long after the sun had set behind Middle Island, the mast finally went up. And at the beginning of March, on a warm and sunny spring day, she was relaunched, and had her first sail in eight months. A perfect day for her – flat seas and a gentle breeze.

So now our lovely Enterprise is back to her former glory. It was an Enterprising Project, but one that made us realise what a great club this is – full of very friendly, helpful and interesting people, all with a story to tell.

What's yours? 





A Bai San for the New ABC/RYA Powerboat School

By Alex Johnston, photos by Matthew Tsui



On Thursday, 9 March, ABC Rear Commodore – Sailing Alan Child, General Manager Philippe de Manny, myself as marine services manager and ABC staff gathered on the main Clubhouse hardstand to perform a traditional “bai san” blessing ceremony for the new ABC/RYA Powerboat School.

All who attended paid their respects and enjoyed wishing the new school well for the future.

A big thank you goes to former ABC Marine Manager Ah Kee for organising the required ceremonial materials and the very tasty pig!

For information on all future ABC/RYA Powerboat School courses and dates, please see <http://www.abclubhk.com/>



Rear Commodore Alan Child burns the ceremonial bundle



Coxswain Mike Fuk pays respects on behalf of the ABC Marine staff



Rear Commodore Alan Child and Marine Services Manager Alex Johnston cut the pig



Philippe de Manny, Alan Child, Alex Johnston, Jennifer Li and Mike Fuk



Assistant Marine and Sailing Manager Jennifer Li, also the new chief instructor for the new ABC/RYA Powerboat School





Welcome, New Members

November 2016

Dr Lauren Bramley
 Raymond Chan
 Ben Yates
 Anaury Guillosson
 Jacob Randall Kinsky
 Sean Chun Hymn Poon
 Julie Lane
 Mark Smith

Angus Yip
 Emily Hill
 Stephenie Hung
 Luke Allen Prince
 David Baird
 Ho Ka Ki Michelle
 Chow Kin Bong

January 2017

Edmond Szeto

February 2017

Chu Koh Ann
 Olivier Heurteaux
 Adam M J Routh
 Tang Kwok Leung, Louis

Wong Sheung Hung, James
 Mark Johnson
 Cheng King Hei, Ben
 Chan Wing Kwong, Vivian
 Fung Wai Kit
 Hu Yin Tao, Leo
 Ho Wai Hung, Dewey
 Yung Kwun Tung, Eric
 Aden Yung
 Raphael Thanikaimoni
 Aaron Dampier
 Emily Grace Polson
 Baschar Hraki
 Lok Shuk Cheong
 Choy Po Yi, Joey

December 2016

Benjamin Kerr
 Christine Fu
 Alistair Fullerton
 Keith Lee
 Daley Yu



Lovely Silverstrand Villa \$ 83k
 • 4 Beds, High Ceilings
 • Exclusive Location
 • Pool, Tennis, Sea Views
 • Close to Beaches & Transport
 • 2294 / 2105 & Garage **CW8140**

Duplex + Roof Terrace \$ 39k
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 • Stylish Modern Decor
 • Lovely Quiet Location
 • Close to Public Transport
 • 1400 sf & Carpark **CW81071**



Close to Yacht Clubs \$ 65k
 • 3 Double Beds with Ensuites
 • Spa Style Bathrooms
 • Large Gated Terrace
 • Stunning Sea Views
 • 2100 sf & 2 Carparks **SK059**

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- Torqeedo** - Electric Propulsion Systems
- Yacht Router** – 4G / 3G / Wi-Fi / Satellite Communications Management
- SunWare** – Solar Panels and Regulators
- Full River** – AGM Batteries

*Members: Please quote your boat name/membership number.
Product exclusions apply



ABC Easter Youth Sailing Programme

The Easter school holidays are about the best time to sail with great wind! Please apply early, as Easter tends to be our most popular time to sail, and courses quickly become full, most especially our Optimist Junior activities. As usual, full details are on our website, www.abclubhk.com, and also from Angela at SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com.

Date & Time	Junior Course	Activity	Eligibility	\$ Cost (Member/ Non-member)
Mon 3-Fri 7 April AM	✓	Optimist Stage 1	Age 7-11, can swim with confidence	1,080/1,990
Mon 3-Fri 7 April PM	✓	Optimist Stage 2	Age 7-11, passed Optimist Stage 1	1,080/1,990
Mon 3-Fri 7 April PM	✓	Optimist Stage 3	Age 7-11, passed Optimist Stage 2	1,080/1,990
Mon 3-Fri 7 April		HKSF Level 1 & 2 Beginner Course	Age 11-18, can swim with confidence	2,650/3,980
Mon 3-Fri 7 April		HKSF Level 3 Improver Course	Age 11-18, passed HKSF Level 2 and with one year of sailing experience since	2,650/3,980
Mon 3-Weds 5 April		RS Feva Introduction Course	Age 11-18, passed HKSF L2	1,590/2,388
Thurs 6-Fri 7 April		RS Feva Gennaker Introduction	Age 11-18, passed RS Feva Introduction	1,060/1,592
Mon 10-Fri 14 April AM	✓	Optimist Stage 1	Age 7-11, can swim with confidence	1,080/1,990
Mon 10-Fri 14 April AM	✓	Optimist Stage 4 Race Introduction	Age 7-11, passed Optimist Stage 3	1,080/1,990
Mon 10-Fri 14 April PM	✓	Optimist Stage 2	Age 7-11, passed Optimist Stage 1	1,080/1,990
Mon 10-Fri 14 April PM	✓	Optimist Stage 3	Age 7-11, passed Optimist Stage 2	1,080/1,990
Mon 10-Fri 14 April		HKSF Level 1 & 2 Beginner Course	Age 11-18, can swim with confidence	2,650/3,980
Weds 12-Fri 14 April		Three Days' Supervised Practice	Age 11-18, passed HKSF L2	1,590/2,388
Sat 15-Mon 17 April		Laser 1 Introduction Course	Age 12-Adult, passed HKSF L2	1,590/2,388
Mon 17 April		Dinghy Sailing Trip	Age 12-Adult, hold HKSF L2 or RS Feva Introduction with additional sailing experience	530/796 (youth) 620/930 (adult)

Please note course timings:

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

PM course: 1:30 pm-5 pm (1 pm ferry from main Clubhouse)

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

The ABC is offering two new activities:

Come Sailing

Come Sailing is designed to get more people out on the water in a fun and relaxed atmosphere. Students must have completed HKSF level 1 & 2 to join this activity. We will aim for two sessions per month with an instructor. Sessions will involve dinghy trips and pre-race training before dinghy races, beach trips and more.

Dates: 23 April, 7 and 21 May, 4 and 18 June
16 and 30 July, and 13 and 27 August

Time: 9 am to 5 pm

Cost: \$480 member/\$620 non-member per session

Optimist Learn to Sail Stage 1 & 2 Weekend Class

Optimist Learn to Sail is suited for children aged 7-12 who are new to sailing. No prior experience is needed. During this course, a student might be able to achieve a Stage 1 & 2 sail certificate.

Dates: 22 and 29 April, and 6, 13, 20 and 27 May

Time: 9 am to 1 pm

Cost: \$1080 member/\$1990 non-member



Summer Youth Sailing Programme

June – July 2017

Application Deadline: 26 May 2017

The ABC 2017 Youth Summer Sailing Programme runs from late June until the end of July. We offer a wide variety of courses and activities for sailors aged seven to 18. Full details are available on our website, www.abclubhk.com and also from Angela at SailingSecretary@abclubhk.com.

As ever, the summer courses are our most popular, and the Junior Optimist courses fill very quickly. Please apply early. We offer an “early bird” discount for those who book before **26 May**.

Date & Time	Junior Course	Activity	Eligibility	Discounted cost if booked before 26 May 2017	\$ Cost (Member/ Non-member)
Mon 26 – Fri 30 June AM	✓	Optimist Stage 1	Age 7 – 11; can swim with water confidence	972 / 1791	1,080 / 1,990
Mon 26 – Fri 30 June PM	✓	Optimist Stage 2	Age 7 – 11; passed Optimist Stage 1	972 / 1791	1,080 / 1,990
Mon 26 – Fri 30 June PM	✓	Optimist Stage 3	Age 7 – 11; passed Optimist Stage 2	972 / 1791	1,080 / 1,990
Mon 26 – Fri 30 June		HKSF Level 1 and 2 Beginner Course	Age 11 – 18; can swim with water confidence	2,385 / 3,582	2,650 / 3,980
Mon 26 – Fri 30 June		5 Days’ Supervised Practice	Age 11 – 18; passed HKSF L2	2,385 / 3,582	2,650 / 3,980
Mon 3 – Fri 7 July AM	✓	Optimist Stage 1	Age 7 – 11; can swim with water confidence	972 / 1791	1,080 / 1,990
Mon 3 – Fri 7 July PM	✓	Optimist Stage 2	Age 7 – 11; passed Optimist Stage 1	972 / 1791	1,080 / 1,990
Mon 3 – Fri 7 July PM	✓	Optimist Stage 3	Age 7 – 11; passed Optimist Stage 2	972 / 1791	1,080 / 1,990
Mon 3 – Fri 7 July		HKSF Level 1 and 2 Beginner Course	Age 11 – 18; can swim with water confidence	2,385 / 3,582	2,650 / 3,980
Mon 3 – Weds 5 July		RS Feva Introduction Course	Age 12 – adult; passed HKSF L2	1,431 / 2,150	1,590 / 2,388
Thurs 6 – Fri 7 July		RS Feva Gennaker Course	Age 12 – 18; passed RS Feva Introduction	954 / 1,433	1,060 / 1,592
Mon 10 – Fri 14 July AM		Optimist Stage 1	Age 7 – 11; can swim with water confidence	972 / 1791	1,080 / 1,990
Mon 10 – Fri 14 July AM		Optimist Stage 4 Race Introduction	Age 7 – 11; passed Optimist Stage 3	972 / 1791	1,080 / 1,990
Mon 10 – Fri 14 July PM		Optimist Stage 2	Age 7 – 11; passed Optimist Stage 1	972 / 1791	1,080 / 1,990
Mon 10 – Fri 14 July PM		Optimist Stage 3	Age 7 – 11; passed Optimist Stage 2	972 / 1791	1,080 / 1,990
Mon 10 – Fri 14 July		HKSF Level 1 and 2 Beginner Course	Age 11 – 18; can swim with water confidence	2,385 / 3,582	2,650 / 3,980
Mon 10 – Fri 14 July		HKSF Improver Level 3 Course	Age 11 – 18; passed HKSF L2, with one year of sailing since	2,385 / 3,582	2,650 / 3,980
Sunday 16 July		Sailing Trip	Age 12 – adult; passed HKSF L2	477 / 717	530 / 796
Mon 17 – Fri 21 July AM		Optimist Stage 1	Age 7 – 11; can swim with water confidence	972 / 1791	1,080 / 1,990
Mon 17 – Fri 21 July PM		Optimist Stage 2	Age 7 – 11; passed Optimist Stage 1	972 / 1791	1,080 / 1,990
Mon 17 – Fri 21 July PM		Optimist Stage 3	Age 7 – 11; passed Optimist Stage 2	972 / 1791	1,080 / 1,990
Mon 17 – Fri 21 July		HKSF Level 1 and 2 Beginner Course	Age 11 – 18; can swim with water confidence	2,385 / 3,582	2,650 / 3,980
Mon 17 – Weds 19 July		Laser 1 Introduction Course	Age 11 – 18; passed HKSF L2	1,431 / 2,150	1,590 / 2,388
Thurs 20 – Fri 21 July		2 Days’ Supervised Practice	Age 11 – 18; passed HKSF L2	954 / 1,433	1,060 / 1,592

Please note course timings:

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

PM course: 1:30 pm-5 pm (1 pm ferry from main Clubhouse)

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

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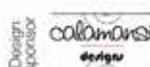
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Pleasure Vessel Grade II Operator Certificate Courses (Part A master, Part B engineer)

Part A (Master)

2017 Dates: 10, 11, 12 April; 1, 3, 4 August; 1, 2, 3 November

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)

2017 Dates: 24, 25, 26 April; 9, 10, 11 August; 6, 9, 10 November

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 and 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, or register by post. 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 the medical certification of the applicant's eyesight exam results. 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
(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>
Marine Dept.: Seafarers' Certification Section, 3/F, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong.
Telephone 2852 4941; Fax 2541 6754.



Pleasure Vessel Grade II Operator Certificate Courses

Application form

Part A (Master)

Surname: Mr/Mrs/Ms _____ Forename(s): _____

Account number: _____ Telephone: (Mobile) _____ (Office): _____

Fax: _____ Email: _____

Please enroll me on the course for Part A (Masters) to be held 7 pm – 10:15 pm

- () 10, 11, 12 April 2017 Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday
() 1, 3, 4 August 2017 Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
() 1, 2, 3 November 2017 Wednesday, 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): _____

Fax: _____ Email: _____

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

- () 24, 25, 26 April 2017 Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday
() 9, 10, 11 August 2017 Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
() 6, 9, 10 November 2017 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

An aerial photograph of five dragon boats racing on a body of blue water. The boats are long and narrow, with a dragon head at the front and a dragon tail at the back. Each boat is filled with rowers, and they are all moving in the same direction, leaving white wakes behind them. The water is a deep blue, and the sky is not visible.

The Drum Beat is Back: A New Season of Dragon Boating

By Nicholas Ball, photo by Bryan Diehl

The start of the new year was the call to action for the ABC Buzz Dragons and the club's squad of battle-hardened paddlers. The first week of January saw Buzz return to training three times a week (every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday) in advance preparation for the new race season. The early rigorous training programme is a time to build strength, fitness and technique in the boat and is also a time for Buzz to welcome new paddlers to the club and bring them up to speed ahead of racing.

We often get asked by interested new paddlers what it means to be to a Buzz paddler. The answer is spending a lot of time in the boat; three sessions a week from January until July. With up to 11 races a season we are constantly working to improve our technique and the efficiency of our stroke in the water and our stamina and strength. When the starting horn goes, we aim to be first out of the block, dictating the race on our terms.

We welcome new paddlers of all levels of experience and ask only for commitment to training with a positive

attitude and willingness to learn the technique and stroke. Once you have the beat of the drum coursing through your veins we are confident you will be hooked on the sport!

Buzz are privileged to be one of the few club teams in Hong Kong to be invited to races held by the local Hong Kong fishermen circuit. These races combine teams' fierce competitive natures with the sense of community and encouragement from other teams. Buzz are looking forward to defending our triple crown of Mixed Division fishermen titles won in 2016 at the invitational Po Toi, Tai Tam Tuk and Stanley Fisherman races.

Overall ABC Buzz Dragons had an excellent 2016 season building on performances over the previous years of work to take home some great results and wins. The bar has been set and raised again, and in 2017 we will have to work even harder with more focus to continue to build on the foundations we have set!

Buzz tragically lost our prominent and long-term paddler Michael Nardella after the end of the season; the news

devastated everyone connected with the club. We will ensure we carry Mike's fighting spirit with us at every race to drive us harder towards competing for titles.

Buzz would like to take this opportunity to thank the ABC for their continued sponsorship of the club. We would not be able to reach our high level of performance and success without the Club's ongoing support. We look forward to building on our winning ways and hopefully securing many more trophies this season as ABC Buzz Dragons.

As a team, there is still work to do, but we are confident in our capabilities and are looking forward to the upcoming race seasons. We welcome your support throughout the season. And if you are passing by feel free to join us for a beer after a hard race day!

If you are interested in learning more about the sport, or are interested in joining Buzz for the 2018 season, please contact us at info@buzzdragon.com. We'll give you more information about club life and our off-season programme, training times and membership. H

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Available now at the ABC Club Shop

Skiff Buoyancy Aid

\$960

SLAM's skiff buoyancy aid is lightweight and flexible, and has two front pockets. Comes in grey and white or black. Used by the ABC High-Performance Sailing Team.



Available now at the ABC Club Shop

Interested in reaching the 1,200 members of the ABC and Hong Kong's wider boating community?

ABC members receive a 10-percent discount

Please email jo.allum@ppp.com.hk or call 2201 9719

HKSF Dinghy Logbook \$60

Covers the syllabus of the Hong Kong sailing scheme with a log to record your sailing (accurate records are important even if you lack HKSF certificates).



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First-Aid Kit for Home, Car or Boat \$400

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



Available now at the ABC Club Shop



Summer Series

2017

Race 1: 7 May 2017

Race 2: 11 June 2017

Race 3: 25 June 2017

Race 4: 9 July 2017

Race 5: 23 July 2017

Race 6: 6 August 2017

Race 7: 27 August 2017

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