

Dhekelia Sailing Club

Mainsheet

www.dhekeliasailing.com

Edition 122
January 2007

MAINSHEET Edition 122, Jan 2007

Editorial.

Best Wishes and a Prosperous New Year.

Colin

REAR COMMODORE

Hello everyone and Happy New Year! I hope you have been enjoying the activities at the Club lately; it is really great to see it being used during winter. Last year the Club was pretty bare during the winter months. In my part of the newsletter, I'm just going to give a few lines on some of the things planned for 2007 in my part of ship.

Work Month

Firstly though, I'd like to ask that as many members as possible come down to help out during the February work month. Colin (with some helpers) has done some sterling work in returning much of the fleet to action, with the badly damaged Albacore, Hobie 16 and a Pico all returning to seaworthy condition recently. The main effort during February will of course be the hard working bosuns. Let's all make sure we report any bosun defects in the book no matter how small so they can be addressed.

Racing Programme

You will see from the programme attached in the newsletter that Racing will take a slightly different format this year. Each series will be run over 6 Sundays (not necessarily consecutive), with 3 races run each Sunday at set times; totalling 18 races. 6 race results will be able to be dropped. This allows greater flexibility for both military sailors and those who sometimes work weekends and allows us to plan training well in advance. Trophies and/or prizes will be allocated for each series.

Training

The new programme has meant that the Principal has been able to plan quite a few courses in advance as you will see. Please book in early for them and spread the word if you know of people waiting for a course or are interested in joining the club. My personal priority is to get more of our corporate members sailing regularly and to attract more members from the Garrison and Ay Nik. Also expect more try-sails and open days when it starts to warm up again!

Laser 2000s

Our bid for 3 Laser 2000s is slowly making its way through to the Nuffield Trust for the Forces of the Crown. Note that the club will still need to pay £4000 CYP of this, although this figure is now £3500 with Ay Nik amenities fund contributing £500. So any fundraising initiatives would be a good idea! The idea of 'selling' the Mainsails of

each boat for sponsorship has been mooted. For £500 CYP a company can have naming rights on the mainsail for the life of the sail – any companies interested.

Incidentally, if the Nuffield Bid is turned down, we will still buy one Laser 2000 from club and local funds, and one next year and the year after! We need 3 to be able to conduct advanced training and racing. With 4 more private Laser 2000's due to arrive at the club shortly, we will be building up quite a fleet.

Best Wishes for 2007,
See you on the Water
Dan Todd
Rear Commodore

PRINCIPALS BITS

During December we ran a Powerboat course for the UNRRATT, this has effectively increased our safety boat cover at the weekends as the course students have all agreed to assist with these duties until they leave the Cyprus.

If we can get this sort of commitment from future UNRRATT deployments, both the UN members and our selves can gain from it.

The good will from UNRRATT/ the UN members on the line and the club have been excellent, the best cooperation that I have seen in my time here.

Let's all work towards furthering this mutual friendship and assistance for the future. It shows what can be achieved if we all work well together. A little bit of give and take on both sides can work wonders.

Training Courses

As you will see from the sailing calendar, we have a few courses planned for the near future.

Level 1 & 2 Sailing Course

If anyone is available midweek during February we are running a Level 1 & level 2 combined Sailing course, (this is the schools half term week) please let Iris or myself know names and contact details asap.

Level 1 & 2 Power boat Course.

The Powerboat course at the end of January has limited places available, so again if you wish to take part, name and contact details soonest please. Please note, this will be run from 14:00 on Friday afternoon and will be all day both Saturday & Sunday.

Early Warning

Race Officers Course

On Saturday 3rd March, I shall be running a short one day Race Officers Course (OOD) aimed at removing the mysteries of running races and setting courses.

Anyone interested please let me have the usual details soonest.

It will not take place if I have less than 4 names.

Start time will be 12:00.

The Powerboat course in the middle of March will also start on Friday at 14:00 on the 16th March and will also run over the Saturday and Sunday, as before, places are limited.

Please Note

All Powerboat level 2 operators should have the Safety boat award /endorsement; I shall be running this course on the 23rd & 24th March. For members who agree to

carry out rescue boat duties the, we are discounting the course by £20 to £30, normal price £50.

2007 Sailing Series

As you will notice from the [Sailing Calendar](#), the system for 2007 will vary slightly from previous years in that instead of having a spring, summer and autumn series we will be running the series on a set number of races (ie 16) with 12 races to count towards the final result, each series will be sailed for a separate trophy.

We will be starting the races at 11:30, 13:30 and 15:00 until the end of March and from the 1st April the start times will move to 12:00, 14:00 and 15:30 respectively. These times will be adhered to and anyone wishing to participate in the races should be aware that the races will start on time, or be abandoned if there are insufficient boats at the start line.

The main reason for this is to bring some form of organisation to the racing and make the OOD's life easier, also it will allow people to organise lunches.

SAILING SECRETARY'S REPORT

Considering it was the build-up to Xmas, there was still plenty happening on the water. The In-House Regatta tempted about 20 sailors, with Chris Dodds taking the Laser Trophy, Nick Staunton taking the Bosun Trophy and by several seconds I managed to take the Ladies' Trophy.

The forecast was dubious for the Pursuit Race and no-one fancied that. The Founders' Trophy was a different matter with the ultimate victors being the Cherries. The last trophy of the Year is the Griffiths Trophy with hopefully 5 Bosuns being crewed alternately by 2 crews in a 2 hour marathon on New Year's Eve.

January sees the start of the Spring Series – time to squeeze into the wetsuit after all that Xmas Pud!

Hoping to see you on the water,
Iris Burt.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Joiners & Leavers

The only additions to membership this month are the new Commodore, Jason Hurndall and his wife, Eleanor, and we welcome them and their children to the club. We also say farewell to departing members, Steve & Carolyn Taylor, and the former Commodore, Graham Finch.

Membership Statistics

Total Membership is down one since last month, at 906, including 828 "corporate" members (RIB & UNRATT). The number of personal members now stands at 78 (compared to 104 this time last year).

Membership Renewals

The current 6 month membership period will expire 28/02/07, and I will be writing to all established members by the end of January with renewal notices.

Steve Kimberley, Membership Secretary & webmaster

Tel: 99 559525

Email: membership@dhekeliasailing.com

Web: www.dhekeliasailing.com

BOSUNS BITS

February is traditionally the work month at the club. There is a lot to do as follows

Dinghies refurbished ready for the coming season.
Bosuns. Must be refitted in February prior to the RE Inspection in March 2007
Boat Hard cleaned and made ship shape.
2 water leaks repaired etc.

House

Gents repainted
Ladies repainted
Committee Room repainted
Club Room repainted
Outside repainted

If it is possible to organize teams to do this work, i.e. 3 gents to paint the Gents, 3 Ladies to paint the Ladies etc, we can make a start.

The following rule is not being followed
3.5.07 Cruising. The oldest dinghies are to be taken first etc.
Racing. All dinghies are available etc.

This means that Pico 4100 is to be taken first followed by 4101. If any one cannot understand the reason behind this, then I will tell them verbally.

Regatta Sails

Regatta Sails are held in the Bosun's Store and are not to be taken for general sailing/racing. No member is to remove items from the Bosun Store without asking the Bosun first.

Bosun Trestles

At present two Bosun Trestles are being used by private dinghies, I will need them both during the refurbishment of the Bosun dinghies. Please make your own trestles, there is plenty of wood at the Club.

Boxing Day

Boxing Day was a little better with 30 Club Members attending. The inclement weather put a damper on the Swim, no one took part. But we had Fred's wonderful soup, Jill's Mulled Wine and sausage rolls and mince tarts on the Patio. We then retired to the Club room for lunch. It always amazes me that members produce such a wonderful spread, and it was enjoyed by all. Many thanks to Fred for the soup and to Jill for the mulled wine and to those members who attended.

Colin

P.S. Also thanks to Jill for organizing the Christmas decorations.

New Years Eve

The Griffiths Cup

The Griffiths Cup took place at the Club on New Years Eve.

Sailed in Teams of 4 sailors. Originally we had 5 Teams, but unfortunately one dropped out, therefore we had the following teams and their places in the event.

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| 1 st | Chris Dodds Roly Evans, Iris Burt Alan Skitt |
| 2 nd | Andy and Sue Cherry, Andrew and Liz Scott |
| 3 rd | Andy and Sarah White, Adonis Kalopetrides and Jason Hurndall |
| 4 th | Dan Todd Lee Field, Nick Staunton Aris Kyriakides |

We had Freds Soup for Lunch plus Mince Tarts and Sausage Rolls.
I apologise for the wandering buoy!!

Crew Face Off Force Nine Gale. (Extracted from the Cyprus Lion 15th Dec 2006)

Adventurous Training in Cyprus will get bigger and better next Spring when two new yachts come into service.

Skua and Petrel currently moored up at Aktrotiri Mole for the winter after a three week sailing expedition from Slovenia undertaken by members of CJSATC, CJSATC OC , Captain Ian Philips explained that the yachts were purchased for Cyprus by the

ATG (Army) and delivered overland from Keele to Slovenia before being sailed back to Cyprus by the novice crew.

The journey included a six-day non-stop sail to Greece, storms and a lot of seasickness but James Holland, Chief Instructor at CJSATC's Offshore Training Wing said they chose the inexperienced sailors for a reason.

"We had eight novices and two competent crew members on the yachts and they gained a lot out of the trip. The inexperience showed at the beginning but after two days their confidence improved, their fear of water went and they've all done fantastically well gaining competent crew member status with the RYA certification".

Within 24 hours of being at sea, the crews sailed an Adriatic storm with wind speeds up to 52 knots – force 9 – that lasted for about six hours. James said: "The boats are in great condition and we went through it without any problems but the large seas, that we hit on a number of occasions, brought on sea sickness. At one point everyone on my crew were seasick but it's all about getting on and teamwork and they achieved keeping the boat moving".

Following the six-day sail to Greece, the yachts moved in an easterly direction visiting a number of harbours along the way, including one in Athens. They moved through the smaller Greek islands and eventually undertook a 52-hour passage from Rhodes to Akrotiri mole.

Captain Philips said: "what people don't realize about sailing, and this expedition really demonstrated it is that we had 5 people living in the size of an average kitchen for three weeks, cooking, sleeping and working together. It's like living in a washing machine and is the ultimate Big Brother with a few extra harsh conditions thrown in". He added: "It's a real test of individual character, getting on with people, but it is a great teamwork and bonding exercise and I would encourage anyone, if they want to bring their department together to try something similar because it really does help to build a team".

In the Spring courses from the Royal Yachting Association will be offered, including six-day courses of Competent Crew level for the basic novice, developing into Day Skipper and Coastal Skipper. CJSATC also plan to offer the shore-based courses of RYA Yacht Master, Coastal Skipper and a number of other one-day courses, including VHF, first aid and diesel engine maintenance in the future.

Capt. Philips concluded: "There's so much to do for people in Cyprus and it's all within an hour and half's drive of wherever you are based.

Space fillers from the Cracker

Where does Tarzan buy his clothes? *At a jungle sale*

What do you call just married spiders? *Newly-webs*

Oh Dear!!

Club Dinghies

28th December 2006

| | | |
|----|--------------|-------------------|
| 5 | Lasers | |
| 5 | Picos | |
| 5 | Bosuns | (4 R.E.'s 1 Club) |
| 3 | Albacores | |
| 1 | Hobie 16 | |
| 2 | Optimists | |
| 21 | Dinghies | |
| 3 | Safety Boats | |

Private Dinghies

| | | |
|----|----------|----------------------|
| 1. | Kestrel | Adonis Kalopetrides |
| 2. | Kestrel | Iris Burt/Alan Skitt |
| 3. | Laser II | John Droussiotis |
| 4. | Laser II | Andy White |
| 5. | Laser II | Steve Kimberley |

| | | |
|-----|---------------|-----------------|
| 6. | Laser Fun | Len Moscrop |
| 7. | Laser 1 | Kristina Hill |
| 8. | Laser 1 | Chris Dodds |
| 9. | Laser 1 | Harry Carlisle |
| 10. | Laser 2000 | Andy Cherry |
| 11. | Albacore | Colin Leigh |
| 12. | Albacore | Nick Staunton |
| 13. | Albacore | Vanessa Burton |
| 14. | Laser 13 | Adrian Price |
| 15. | Topper | Sarah White |
| 16. | Topper | Sarah White |
| 17. | Topper | Peter Merriman |
| 18. | Miracle | Ken Ellis |
| 19. | Topper Breeze | Paul Rechert |
| 20. | Firefly | Lee Field |
| 21. | Nacra Cat | Dan Todd |
| 22. | Hobie 14 | Rod Kershaw |
| 23. | Wayfarer | Andreas Zarpas |
| 24. | Laser II | George Georgiou |

In Fleets

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Kestrel, | 2 |
| Laser II | 5 |
| Laser | 3 |
| Albacore | 3 |
| Laser 2000 | 5 |
| Laser 13 | 1 |
| Topper | 3 |
| Miracle | 1 |
| Topper Breeze | 1 |
| Firefly | 1 |
| Cataramans | 3 |
| Wayfarer | 1 |

Have Arrived

| | | |
|-----|-------------|---------------------|
| 25. | Laser 2000 | Rod Kershaw |
| 26. | Laser 2000 | Adonis Kalopetrides |
| 27. | Laser 2000 | Aris Kyriakides |
| 28. | Laser 2000 | A.N.Other |
| 29. | Hobie Tiger | Paul Rechert |

This gives us a total of 50 dinghies at the Club!.

I wish more came to the start line, especially for Regattas.

Personalities

Mike and Pippa Brooke.

I had a letter from Mike and Pippa before Christmas.

Mike was the Garrison Commander, Dhekelia, in the 90's.

A good sailor, Mike tried to never miss Sunday Racing, he was also shortlisted for the Olympics when he was young Captain RE. He and his wife always came down to the Club during February work month, donned overalls, and painted.

He wishes to be remembered to Club members who know him and advises that he is now running a Bed & Breakfast establishment at Benbow, Bosham, Chichester, West Sussex PO18 8QL and would be pleased to see members from Dhekelia Sailing Club.

After selling his yacht, Never Look Back, Mike is now available as a part-time delivery skipper whilst Pip runs the B & B and still finds time to work at St. Richard's Hospital

Ken and Edith Ellis

I had an E.Mail from Ken and he sends his best wishes to all at the Club. He is now working voluntarily as a Verger at the local church in Bexhill, has asked me to sell his Miracle, and he doesn't know when he will be back in Cyprus.

Pete and Helen Jones

Pete and Helen left a Thank You card at the Club when they left, and I quote "Thank you all so very much for a lovely evening on Dec 2nd. We did appreciate everybody coming to say goodbye. Keep up the good work at the Club. If you are ever in Cornwall our address is 17, Valley Road, Bude, Cornwall, EX23 8ER Tel. No. 01288 352019. We will miss you all very much, Love Helen & Pete"

Reflections on 2006 by the Bosun

I am afraid it hasn't been a vintage year, in fact a poor year, for the following reasons.

Membership

This has fallen considerably since last year, 104 then and 78 now.

I cannot see this improving with the fall in numbers on the garrison.

Annual Regattas

Over the years Dhekelia was always been known as the traveling Sailing Club. We have always traveled in numbers. One year we took 22 dinghies to Akrotiri. A logistic nightmare for the Bosun, but enjoyable. We stayed in Tony's house Episkopi or the transit mess in Akrotiri. Mike Brooke the Garrison Commander and his wife Pippa stayed with us at Tony's House.

In 2006 only a handful of members went to the Regattas and some didn't even attend the function at the host club, which is a bad policy if you want visitors to come to our function. At Tony's house we had a BBQ on the Friday or the Sunday provided by Tony.

Sunday Racing

We used to manage double figures at Sunday Racing, now we are lucky to get 3 or 4, and at least 5 races in summer starting early at 10.30.

February Work Month

A few years ago this was attended in strength, now we are lucky if a few turn up. A present the fabric of the Club is in a terrible state and needs a complete overhaul. I can manage the dinghies but not the repainting.

Club Bar.

After racing on Sundays we all stopped for a few drinks and chat after racing, which made an enjoyable end to the day.

BBQ

Sunday BBQ was always well attended but it died a death in 2006. Why!! Perhaps it was because for the first time ever we started charging members for the

Charcoal whilst before it was bought out of club funds.

Junior Sailing on Saturday Morning

Over 10 years previous to 2006 this took place on Saturday mornings. It never took place at all in 2006 and we lost a couple of family members who only

joined so that their children could sail on Saturday morning. It was always known as Colin's crèche

Hopefully we can only do better in 2007!!

January and February Duty Roster,

Please note I have arranged cover for Sundays only. If you wish to sail Weds or Sats in January, you can arrange your own, qualified driver, crew and beachmaster., , Iris Burt, ,

'''''' Date, O.O.D., Rescue Helm

Sun 7/01, Sue Cherry, Andy Cherry

Sun 14/01, Nick Staunton, Tom Harris

Sun 21/01, Andrew Scott, Ian Ingrey

Sun 28/01, Colin Leigh, Lee Field

Sun 4/02, Sarah White, Michelle (UN)

Sun 11/02, Carolyn Scarff, Steve Scarff

Sun 18/02, Neil Allen, Keith Edmunds

Sun 25/02 Iris Burt, Jim Burt