

December 2008



DHEKELIA SAILING CLUB NEWSLETTER

QUIZ NITE.....A GREAT SUCCESS!

Congratulations to the "Neighbours" Team (consisting of the Tatems and Hutchinsons) who won the 'Quiz & Chips' last month. The evening was a great success and provided a full house! Thanks to all those who took part and to Oli Lovell and Dave Jackson for compiling the questions.

The Monthly Mug

On Sunday 30th November, the Monthly Mug was sailed in winds of strength 1 to zero and fluctuating wildly in direction. Dave Jackson and Oli set the course and the wind promptly changed direction, so, although we had an unbiased line, it paid handsomely to start from the Port end. With 8 boats taking part and some of our better as well as up-and-coming sailors not able to take part for various reasons, it was still probably one of the best attended races of the winter so far.

As some of the sailors didn't sign on (by rights they should be disqualified from the race), but this time we are going to be kind and give them a result. The winner has yet to be calculated, but don't forget, this is open to everyone and the results are based on your personal handicap. Novice sailors or those with little racing experience, have a handicap of +150, (or less) which gives you a time advantage over the faster sailors and therefore a chance to win! The race is intended to last about 40 minutes and will be the usual triangular course, so no surprises!

We aim to run these events each month on a Sunday. The last but one Sunday seems to be the best day, due to a busy sailing programme, but this is also dependent on the weather of course! The race will start promptly at **11.00am** followed by presentation of the prizes. (An Engraved Crystal Wine Goblet is ready for the winner!).

Let's make an effort to increase numbers on the water and during the rest of the day, we can have fun races and learning sessions.

Starting Techniques

I have been asked to give some guidance on starting procedures both on the committee boat and in a dinghy, in other words, learn how to assess the best method and place to start from and what is legal and what isn't.

Sailing a Laser 1

If any one is interested, I shall be giving some hints on the best way to sail a laser 1 in varying conditions. If enough interest is forthcoming I'm prepared to carry this out one Saturday, but I need to know numbers so please email me yemenic@rya-online.net and if you give me your name please turn up.

The new Racing Rules of Sailing

In the new year, Andy, Alan and I will be giving a chat and diagrammatic explanation on the Racing Rules of Sailing which come into force from the 1st January. For the uninitiated, these rules are updated every 4 years after an Olympic year and govern what happens on the water between racing boats, in our case dinghies. They are as much about safety and avoiding collisions as a useful tool to gain a legal advantage on the water.

Again, interested parties are requested to email me:

yemenic@rya-online.net, so that a group session can be organised.

2008

2008 has been a pretty good year all in all. We have achieved some good attendances and some good racing. We have gained quite a few new sailing members and last year's new sailors have carried on sailing and progressed tremendously. Our Regatta was the most successful for many years with 44 boats (even members from other clubs have said so). We were even applauded on the quality of our rescue boat services during the Regatta.

We won the team racing trophy and Andy and Sue Cherry yet again picked up 90% of the trophies from all the Regattas.

2009

During 2009 the sailing committee will be trying to change the format of our sailing programme, we will be trying to have more "sail aways" and shorter series for Sunday racing (6 weeks), and produce a fairer personal handicap system. The monthly mug will, as it suggests, be held every month, so come on everyone, join in the fun.

The team racing event will be hosted by us this year and will take place over the weekend of 26/27 June and our Regatta will be held 29/30/31 May, so make sure that you put these dates in your diaries. Even if you don't think you are good enough for the team racing, you'll be surprised how much your involvement can help the club, even if you are unable to actually take part in the racing. This said, we will always try and include as many people as possible in the actual racing whatever their standard.

Throughout the year we will also organise races for the various cups and trophies that the club holds and hopefully, at the end of the year, hold a prize giving evening.

The intention is to try and introduce some fun elements to sailing in addition to the serious side. Andy Cherry has some ideas on this and will make them all known in the not too distant future.

Happy sailing!
Chris Dodds

Boxing Day Fun!

On Friday 26th December we traditionally have 'fun and frolics' at the sailing club.

There will be Mulled wine available and members normally bring down a dish of Seasonal Food in the style of a POT LUCK meal, which we all share in the afternoon. Usually there is an organised swim, just to prove how hardy (or bonkers) us sailors are!

This year we will fit in a few fun type mini races, collecting balloons and the like and generally having fun. Everyone is welcome to join in, especially the children!

We will confirm start times and details as we have them.
Andy Cherry





CHRISTMAS PARTY!

*We are planning to have a Christmas Sailing Club get-together, combined with a farewell to Lee Field, on the evening of 20th or 21st at a local restaurant. Anyone who would like to join us please contact or text the Entertainments Member, Dave Jackson on **99194322** stating how many and which date would be preferable*

Over the past year many tasks have been willingly undertaken at the clubhouse to improve the facilities for members. These jobs are not for the squeamish and involve toilet and plumbing repairing and replacement. These tasks have been undertaken without complaint (or very little!) and have probably gone unnoticed by most of our members. Therefore many thanks go to Alan Gaddass and Peter Whiting, for the hours they have put into the club to maintain these facilities, as well as assisting in the maintenance of the rescue boats.

Finally...

All contributions for the newsletter are welcome. Please let me have them by the 25th of the preceding month.

Email: editor@dhekeliasailing.com

Rachel Gresswell