

Issue No 55



PAPHOS INTERNATIONAL SAILING CLUB

Newsletter - July 2007

Editor: Nikki Tel: 25 222 482
Mob: 991 70406 Email: nikki@PISC.org.cy

Ed's bit ...

Having asked in the last issue for feedback about the format of the newsletter, I didn't expect to be so overwhelmed. Lots of you complied - so thank you!

As more than three quarters of members now receive the document on e-mail and as the existing format was really not screen-friendly, it's been decided to move away from the two-column presentation to something a little more modern.

It was also suggested that e-mail format should be changed from Word to PDF - which won't affect those of you who get a print-out but will make it possible to include more photographs in each issue for e-mailing. We have a member - Paul McRae - who's a total expert on all things computerised, so we will be working on improving both layout and speed of downloading for the next issue in September (I have the feeling it's going to take me that long to get the hang of it!)

Please keep the feedback and stories coming in: it's YOUR newsletter, your forum.

Cheers! Nikki

Commodore's Message

Those of you who came to the Summer Ball at Kamares Club will know how keen I am to support the club's Newsletter. To those of you that didn't make it to the 'do', you missed an excellent, value for money, night out in a super setting. Since the early Spring, the committee has made great strides with the club, not least with the friendly and relaxed atmosphere that's apparent to everyone who visits the premises, and which bears witness to the ongoing improvements we have been able to achieve in a short few months.

Our membership is up. The finances continue to improve, which means that we can develop the facilities for all to enjoy. We continue to have the ongoing support of our landlord, who has recently raised the rent by a very manageable £1:00 a week for the next year and undertaken to lay some hardcore down in the car park over the next few months at his own expense. This very generous offer is greatly appreciated by the whole committee, who were getting increasingly concerned about the safety aspects of the adjacent field and its approach to the clubhouse.



From little acorns big oak trees grow. An old cliché I know but with your support, participation and energy, the membership can help build a club that one day may produce a smile, when you review the humble origins of yesterday.

Happy sailing!

Membership News

The club now has 142 members, with a total of 46 boats. We also have two temporary members until August and membership continues to rise. We welcomed newcomers John and Rosemary Wright to their first meeting - the May Quiz - and they seemed to like our style and have subsequently joined. Also welcome to Mary and Keith Stacey!

Bob writes: 'Margaret has prepared a list of members and their availability to participate in Club cruising, crewing, carrying crew, etc. This is published on the Club notice-board; just members' names, and boat details. Anyone wanting to know more can either ask the relevant member, or ask us, and we will pass on their names to the boat member in question who can then contact them directly. We will **not** be divulging data base information to anyone.'

Bob has also arranged for new car stickers to be printed so as soon as these are available, please will everyone replace the old one (which has an erroneous telephone number!)

Getting PISC-ed at Kamares

Everyone who went to the Black and White 'do' at Kamares will now know what wonderfully organised Social Secretaries we have in Christina and Rod.

Rod rose to the challenge of producing stylish black and white table decorations and Christina had organised a wonderful buffet spread, sealing a deal with Kamares that included not only a free welcome drink but also free coffee and liqueurs afterwards. There was 'live' music from Luci and dancing in the moonlight was popular.

Trevor and Sue, of course, pursued every spare available pound with a raffle and a marvellous auction of a Royal Crown Derby Breakfast/Teaset, (below), with profits going to the PISC Improvements Fund. Thanks go to all the members who participated and who brought guests. One group even hired a mini-bus ...

Feedback has been terrific and Rod and Christina have a super programme scheduled until year-end.



Some people took the 'posh frocks' dress code VERY seriously!

And the story behind that delightful Crown Derby breakfast/teaset for two?

Trevor related after the auction how two new members - Maurice and Margaret - had brought down this particular little gem as a prize for the regular fund-raising raffle in March. Sue Forbes unwrapped the first piece - there are two of everything: eggcups, plates, napkin rings, cups and saucers as well as assorted sugar and cream bowls all with a charming posy design. She quickly realised that this was no ordinary raffle 'first prize'.

A quick 'Google' revealed the set to be worth in excess of £300. Trevor went back to Maurice and Margaret to be sure they actually appreciated the value of the piece. They did and still donated it saying 'It's all for the good of the Club'. The porcelain made it to auction and also made Sue Forbes very happy when Don secured its purchase for a bid of £165.

Sincere thanks to our very generous members Margaret and Maurice.

Forthcoming July events:

BBQ and 20 Questions Mini-quiz: Tuesday 17th, 7pm for 7.30 (Book with Christina - £4)
Regular Quiz Night (under new management!) Tuesday 31st July from 7pm; book supper with Sam, especially if you are bringing guests.

Sam says ...

'Thank you!' to everyone who heeded her 'kitchen rules', but remarks there is 'still room for improvement'!

Look at that posh 'new' till >>



Computer skills update

Trevor has proposed that, as we are putting the newsletter out in a new format (PDF), we should also offer members the chance to upgrade their computer skills to cope with the change.

Paul has agreed that if a sufficient number of people are interested, he would consider

running a computer skills workshop in September.

He tells me that more people will have the adobe PDF reader nowadays than 'Word', so any feedback you can give me (preferably on e-mail) would be useful, plus interest in a skills workshop.

How to get afloat (from a recent weekend newspaper)

- To get an idea of whether you will like sailing - as the adage goes: first stand in the rain tearing up £10 notes (any advance on £50?!)
- Everyone gets seasick sometimes. But if you suffer all the time, take up golf!
- Be tidy and do as you're told! The messiest of people become fantastically fastidious on their own craft.
- Read a sailing glossary before speaking to any sailors. They have a habit of talking gobbledygook.

(Thanks to the *Daily Telegraph*!)

The same newspaper ...

also detailed the 30th anniversary of Britain's most unique yacht race, the PowerBar Three Peaks. The challenge includes scaling Snowdon, Scafell Pike and Ben Nevis, plus a total of 389 miles of rugged coastal sailing. In between, team members get to run and cycle a bit too. Each crew has three sailors and two runners.

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The PowerBar Three Peaks cont'd ...

The 2002 record stands at two days, 14 hours and 22 minutes. That skipper is said to have: 'pushed the boat so hard he broke the boom, and the mainsail, blew out four spinnakers and was left with only one sail.' Puts a different perspective on pottering down to Blue Lagoon from Latchi ...

Club Craft in Focus (CCiF)

CIRCE in Greek mythology was an enchantress living on the island of Aea. In Homer's *Odyssey* she turned the followers of Odysseus into pigs!

Our Circe, a French built Kelt 6.2 M drop keel sailing yacht, has a long history of ownership by PISC members. Originally she was shipped from Luxembourg to Cyprus by Alex in the nineties. Her present owner, Virginia, bought her in 2003 and has kept her in Paphos harbour - despite occasional easterly gales - since then.

Virginia sails regularly and, according to Chris our Vice Commodore, has made great progress. Recently Circe was fitted with a 10 horse electric start outboard and a roller furling foresail, which delights husband John as he no longer has to brave the foredeck at sea. Later this year, the yacht will have a 'tiller mate' steering device.

Circe is hauled out of the water every winter. After the mast and rigging have been lowered she is trailered back to PISC. Sounds easy but isn't! The reverse process in April/May takes longer - perhaps 4-5 hours - and this Spring required 10 bodies (above). Helpers over the years have included Abbo, Geoff and family; Neal and John; Jeremy and Jan, Rod, John and Carolyn plus Chris and Nikki, to name but a few.



New members and those offshore for half the year may not be aware that the Club now has its own measure for a large glass of wine: 'A Virginia' after the intrepid Mrs Osman!

Contributors' page - keep 'em coming in!

All at sea ... Mark Antony & Cleopatra (The Commodore's version!)

Turkey in June: we were beating into a stiff breeze with loads of white horses. Close hauled, I kept telling Maggie, with the gunnels scraping the surface of the water. She was hanging onto the pushpit with spray in her hair and a determined smile on her face.

"You're enjoying this, aren't you?" she challenged.

We were on or way up to Cleopatra's beach for a late lunch and a cool swim. I glanced behind me at two Beneteaux who were also beating on the same tack. I'm not a racer but this was irresistible. I tweaked the mainsheet some more and checked the telltales on the genoa.

"You bet!"

This is what a Contessa 32 does best. Carve her way upwind. I watched the Beneteaux behind. They may be faster through the water than us but they were also going sideways. Suddenly, one of them tacked.

"Lee 'oh!" I shouted at Maggie and swung the tiller across the cockpit. The sails flapped as the yacht turned through the wind. "Get that sheet in on the winch!" I yelled. Emblem leaned over on the new tack as the sails filled and we were off again. A glance behind confirmed that now we were even further ahead. I couldn't help the grin that followed. No, I'm not a racer!

"What are they doing now?" Maggie asked after a few minutes. I looked back again to see the sails being furled on the closest Beneteau. "It looks like he's given up."

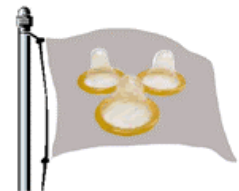
Oh, shucks!

Submitted
by Bob
Morrison >>

Government Announcement



from
10 Downing Street



Tony Blair and Gordon Brown today announced that they're changing our Union Jack to a Condom because it more accurately reflects the government's political stance. A Condom allows for inflation, halts production, destroys the next generation, protects a load of dicks and gives you a sense of security while you are actually being screwed.

It just cannot get anymore accurate than that.

We hope to make Club Craft in Focus and Contributions a regular feature. If you would like to feature your boat or have a sailing story to tell, please supply text (200 words) and 2 scans on disk (NOT e-mail) to the Editor.

Thanks go to Paul who has made all of this new illustrated newsletter possible with his computer wizardry!