



## Paphos International Sailing Club

# PISC Newsletter

Issue 56 - September 2007

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### Ed's bit

*Well another couple of months have sped by and many of us have been away for the summer, sailing. Suddenly my e-mail is full of great stuff from members around the world: in this issue from France (but hopefully soon to be returning to Cyprus), UK and Turkey. So I think/hope we are doing something right! If your contribution is not in this issue, it's 'cos we are saving it for the leaner times when the boats are all up on the hard: next issue is due at the beginning of November - which is after the Laying Up Supper (see Social News).*

*Webmaster Paul McRae has been tinkering around with the layout and encapsulation of the Newsletter again to make download swifter, so if you experience any problems, please let me know. I even have a swish new e-mail address: [nikki@PISC.org.cy](mailto:nikki@PISC.org.cy) courtesy of the website. Good or bad, please let's be hearing from you!*

Cheers! Nikki



### Commodore's message

Welcome to the latest edition of the club's Newsletter!

I hope everyone continues to enjoy a productive summer and I look forward to hearing and reading about the numerous exploits from members who have been able to spend their leisure time on the water. I hope also that you are pleased with the progress that we have made with the website, where all kinds of information can be obtained now on the club's activities. The new HTML for the website is: [www.pisc.org.cy](http://www.pisc.org.cy)

We are registered with the authorities as an 'organisation' that is based in Cyprus. In the future the site may be used as a forum for ideas that members have

for the club, as well as a means for your committee to advertise future events. Thus the exchange of information will be ongoing and the opportunity will be available for everyone to feel that they are members of an active and dynamic club. Please make use of the site as a constructive means to express opinion but I would suggest that this is not the appropriate format for any personal criticism.

James is currently aboard Emblem at the PISC 'Summer Rally' at Gocek. Above - he was one of the many who thoroughly enjoyed the Slipway BBQ and Sailing Day

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## Commodore's message ... continued

At the September Committee Meeting, we all agreed that, as so many members have been so dedicated to making the fund-raising, the improvements to the premises and the club functions such a success this year, the Committee would formally recognise these people, make a shortlist and give an award to the person considered to be the most outstanding. The nominations we came up with are: Terry Palmer and Brian Bedford - for services to building and improvements; June Ainsworth - for indefatigable fundraising as Trevor's understudy; and Paul McRae for his tireless work on the website. A commemorative shield will be awarded at the Laying Up Supper but in the meantime, thank you to you all.

I look forward to meeting up with you all soon.

With best wishes,

James

### Celebrating the new website!

The Editorial office received this message on 27<sup>th</sup> August from PISC's chief 'geek-speak' Webmaster Paul McRae, announcing that [www.PISC.org.cy](http://www.PISC.org.cy) had finally been registered.

'I got this e-mail earlier', he wrote.

***'Domain Name: pisc.org.cy is registered.  
Best Regards, Sotiris Panaretou***

'That's not the edited or censored version, that's it in its entirety! After all the hassle we had to get there I was expecting a gold plated plaque to be unveiled by the president with a couple of dolly birds and a film crew.

'So now we just wait until [pisc.org.cy](http://pisc.org.cy) as a name flies around the world many times until every internet server provider on the planet knows who we are and where we are. When that process is complete (it's what's called the DNS update in web geek language), I can start to breathe some life into it.'

And Paul has - he's done a marvellous job. Do check it out if you haven't already. Those of you without computers, drop into an internet café and get them to load the site up for you.

### Welcome to new members!

We have seven new Club members since our last Committee meeting - So welcome to [Keith and Mary Stacey](#); [Geraldine Hardy](#); [Tony and Sally Jones](#); [Ian Wilkinson and Lynne Barlow](#). I'm sure I can speak for everyone when I say, we all look forward to meeting you and hope you enjoy club meetings and functions.

It seems we're in for a busy few months at the Clubhouse.



## Membership news from Margaret & Bob Morrison

With this latest influx, the Club membership now stands at a 151. This compares more than favourably with a membership of 130 for 2006 and we are expecting a few more still to join.

The club now has new car stickers available with the new phone number and the adhesive on the right side! The price is £1 for two stickers and it would be excellent if everyone would replace their old ones on their cars and boats.

We have also been busy preparing and laminating the new membership cards, which are being distributed at the Clubhouse on Tuesday evenings and Friday lunchtimes as from now.

Finally, the Club has had a donation of sailing books from a non member, Mr. Jerry Edwards who lives in Paphos, and these are being presented to Abbo for a possible library. Titles include 10 RYA publications including *The Diesel Engine Course* and *The Yachtsman's Lawyer*; Bob Bond's *Handbook of Sailing* and Nicholas Dent's *How to Sail*. These books may be checked out to members to take home but scrupulous 'library-style' records will be kept in order to ensure we don't lose any. They are certainly not to be confused with any 'swap shop' books currently on the shelves in the club. Our thanks go to Jerry Edwards who, we hope, will pay us a visit in to Clubhouse soon. What a very generous gift!

## Dates for your diary!

11<sup>th</sup> September, **Curry Night** (book with Sam); 28<sup>th</sup> September, **Sunset Cruise** (book with Chris & Rod>>) and 30<sup>th</sup> October, **Laying Up Supper** and awards (book with Chris & Rod). In between there will obviously be other organised functions TBA



## Slipway BBQ & Sailing Day

If you missed the Slipway BBQ, you'll no doubt hear about it and see the pix on the website. Everyone who went - there were 70 of us and guests - had a wonderful time. Sincere thanks to Christina and Rod (above) who not only made it all happen in a very short time, but who also provided a Laser for enthusiasts to sail; and to Abbo who brought along a selection of canoes/kayaks in various stages of flotation. Sam served an amazing BBQ and her extended family turned up in droves to make sure everything went to plan.

Also on the water was Alex Driest's *Johanna Louise*, *Overdraft 2* with both the Chorltons and the Knowles giving everyone joyrides, a prospective new member and friends with his *Selva*; and Virginia Osman's *Circe* brought up by Chris & Nikki Dake. An uncomfortable ride by all accounts with no wind and 2 metre swells coming up from the south west! Thanks go to everyone who made the day such a success!

**Round the Island Race 2007** - a report on this year's race from new member Ken Hutchings, owner of Demler 80, multi-hull 'Sprincer'

RIR in 2006 - a mass of boats converge on the Needles



I first did the RIR

some 14 years ago and, other than missing the race two years ago due to neck surgery (almost certainly caused by trying to head-butt a boom), I've competed every year since. RIR is a real cocktail of sporting competitiveness, with lots of crisis management and a helluva lot of fun - both on the water and off. Our tried and tested format means that although the race is only on the Saturday, we have at least one day (and evening!) to "practise" and then another day (and evening) to get our minds and bodies back in working order.

This year's race was one of the best for many years, other than the 05.10 start. With over 1800 official entries and in excess of 200 unofficial entrants, the Solent seethes with yachts, big and small, slow and fast; crews range from super-experienced to absolute novices, many with headaches from Friday night - not us, of course!

Our class - bridge-decked multi-hulls - had the dubious privilege of starting with all the other multi-hulls, including Ellen MacArthur in her Extreme 40. I think we saw her for all of about two minutes; no surprise she ended the day with line honours.

The start was pretty uneventful, given that on two previous years we'd only just avoided being rammed. A good 10-15 knot breeze meant that we achieved the beat to The Needles in good time, rounding (inside the boiler!) at about 07.30 - the leg made all the better with plenty of tea and bacon butties. The run to St Catherine's, given the slower winds, was disappointing and we certainly lost out to the lighter yachts.

When we got to Bembridge Ledges, the wind had increased and life became exciting. Bembridge is the only mark on the course (you really do just go round the IOW!), but rounding Bembridge Buoy is perhaps the most dangerous part of the race, as hundreds of

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## RIR continued

yachts converge on one small bit of floating metal. Safely round, we headed off to Ryde Sands, the graveyard of those foolishly believing they carry no draught. With very low water, just at the wrong time, many competitors came to grief and, even with our small draught, we touched once, with only momentum getting us through.

Then to the finish, for us the most exciting part of the race. Ours was the north line but, as we approached, two yachts heading for the south line completely messed us up; avoidance tactics demanded we turn 360 degrees, which delayed our finish by five minutes. Poetic justice intervened as the two offenders then collided with each other and finally the north-finish barge! We finished at 15.00, giving an elapsed time of 09.45 which, after handicap, gave us 7<sup>th</sup> in class. We were disappointed, but have hopes for next year as we know our yacht weight is wrong in handicap terms - nothing to do with food and booze aboard, of course!

A good race, concluded with dinner at the Royal Southampton Ginns Farm YC just at the mouth of the Beaulieu River, a fabulous place with great company, good food, a view to die for and tales of what might have been - does life get any better?

### An Occasional Column

Called 'Tyro Time with Captain Fearful' - a reminiscence from Virginia Osman

So I bought this clinker-built gunter-rigged Lymington scow for £60.00 many moons ago. Watched how the other club members handled their dinghies, then set off - smartly backwards into the harbour wall. Once I'd been pushed off by said club members and got the boat pointed the right way, I tried that round-the-buoy manoeuvre. Hmm. Didn't go too well. I seemed to have a knack for attaching myself and Tyro - meaning beginner and my boat's name - on to the buoy itself rather than going round it.

Never mind, I'd soon get the hang of it if I joined the weekend racing scene, especially with the handicap I was allocated as, let's put this kindly, one of the slower boats to be seen off Whitstable. Anyway, I proceeded in my stately way round the triangular course, three times round was that day's race, waving to all the other competitors as they sailed past me - and then past me again and then past me yet again. Finally, I was on my own and the race committee (who had clearly gone home for tea and then returned) gave me the gun and second place, believing that I must have been round three times. Well, maybe.

A major reason for buying this particular dinghy was that I was assured it could not be capsized, being so heavy with its clinkers and its strange Egyptian-style rigging. One stormy day, I managed that too and had to be rescued.

You might have thought that with this sailing history I would have had more sense than to start all over again half a century later, but some people never learn...

Latest news from Virginia is that she'll be back with us soon, hopefully in time for the Sunset Cruise .....Ed.

## News from founder Member Wynn Hird in Turkey

I've been trying for some time to contact PISC. When my old computer died of old age I lost all my email contacts, but Gerry Lacey visited and left me some old Newsletters so I got the new email address.

Firstly, I'd like to thank James Heath for sending Nancy and I the new PISC Polo shirts: we wear them with pride. We were quite touched that Club members still remember us oldies!

I was very impressed by the newsletters: interesting and well presented - a far cry from my early efforts! The hints and advice on Boating matters I think are well worth the space; keep it up. The same applies to people's sailing adventures; let's have more. PISC is a sailing club and proper sailing matters should have their rightful place.

A little information for members thinking of cruising the Gocek area. New rules banning the use of shore lines round trees and rocks have been introduced. Offenders will be heavily fined. The authorities are putting up green and yellow steel posts that can be used. This may soon be enforced in other areas, so be careful: there are regular patrols. In the same area the popular floating Restaurant at Ruin Bay is closed down but you can still anchor there. Across the water at Wall Bay, they've greatly increased the jetty space by the Restaurant. It's now possible for 50 or more boats to moor side on. A very nice quiet spot.

One last point. During the last two seasons sailing in Turkey, I've noticed a disturbing trend for anchoring without an anchor light. This is dangerous and also illegal. Regretfully it seems to be mainly Brits and surprisingly not Charter boats. I would ask members to "advise" any offenders they see. Another trend by Brits and the French is to slip away from small harbours and moorings without paying their fee. This practice gets sailors a bad name; I'd not think twice about "shopping them".

**Anyway enough moaning.** To close I would like to wish the club 'good luck' and would be happy to hear from any members. I will be off sailing again in September and hope to see some members sailing over here. [Selwyn@superonline.com](mailto:Selwyn@superonline.com)

And finally some humour submitted by Tony & Sue Watson

### **BUSH VISITS THE ROYALS ...**

Air Force One arrives at Heathrow and President Bush strides to a warm and dignified handshake from the Queen. They ride in a 1934 Bentley to the edge of central London where they board a magnificent 17th century carriage hitched to six magnificent white horses. They ride towards Buckingham Palace waving to the thousands of cheering Britons. All is going well. Suddenly the right rear horse lets fly with the most horrendous earth-shattering wind and the smell is excruciating. Both of them had to use their handkerchiefs over their noses. The Queen turns to President Bush: "Mr. President, please accept my regrets. I am sure you understand there are some things that even a queen cannot control". George Bush, always trying to be 'Presidential' replies: "Your Majesty, do not give the matter a second thought. If you had not mentioned it, I would have thought it was one of the horses."