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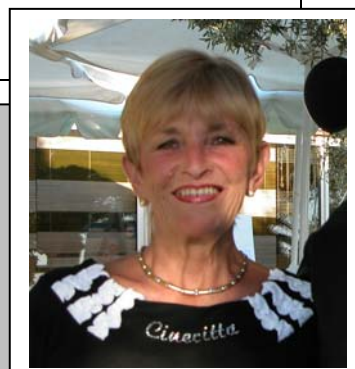
PAPHOS INTERNATIONAL SAILING CLUB

Newsletter - January 2008

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

Ed's bit

No news is more important than the death of Sue Forbes late last year, one of the founding members of the club and a current Committee Member at the time of her passing. Our sincere condolences go to Don; son Adrian and his partner Wendy. Warmest wishes! Nikki



Obituary - Sue Forbes

It was with a sense of great surprise and shock that the PISC Committee came to learn of the passing of one of their number, ex officio member Sue Forbes, a founder member of the sailing club, along with her partner Don Taylor - a former Commodore. Sue died in Iasis Hospital at 1a.m. on the last day of 2007. None of us at the lively Committee assembly earlier in December could have imagined, with so much planned for 2008, that that would be the last occasion all the members would formally meet together; the January Committee Meeting was cancelled as a mark of respect.

In his tribute for the website and membership circulation, James, our Commodore, wrote: 'Many of you will be aware that Sue helped to guide the Club's progress over the years, by serving on the Committee in a number of different capacities. She retained a strong and powerful voice ... and aired her views with a passion and determination that we all learned to respect and admire. Her experience and sense of fair play will be remembered for a long time to come as will her expertise at resolving issues that were often contentious or even personal ... She also had the great attribute of being able to listen to other people's points of view and held an uncanny knack of remembering detail, which she delivered with considerable panache at the appropriate moment.

'A keen sailor, too, who assisted Don on numerous voyages across the seas in their cruising yacht "Almedes", Sue always managed to appear unruffled and calm even during those fraught moments that we all endure from time to time ... Her presence and companionship will be greatly missed by every one of us who had the good fortune to enjoy her company.'

Sue's Memorial Service of Thanksgiving was held at the **St Paul's Pillar Church** in Kato Paphos at 1430hrs on Tuesday 15th January 2008 and afterwards many members and friends gathered for drinks at Tala Square.

Recollections from Sue's Memorial

There was an impressive turnout of PISC members plus friends and colleagues from Sue's other interests: the beautiful church was packed to the gunwales. The service, conducted by Rev Anthony Jeynes, was moving, simple and a wonderful tribute to Sue. Hearts went out to Adrian as he gave us insights into the Sue, his mother, that most of us would never know, but were glad to share. Don continued with more personal history and memories of their happy life together; how she was an avid Everton fan and would watch many a football game, as well as catching up with rugby when she mainly supported England but would veer to her native Wales on occasion. Sue had been back to university in UK as a mature student and devoted much of her later career both to teaching and to working in the travel industry. No wonder she was such an asset to PISC and a wonderful ambassador for sailing.

A Curry Night in the clubhouse had long been planned for the first evening of re-opening after Christmas, which coincided with evening of the memorial. Don agreed that it would not be fitting to close the club and cancel it, something that Sue herself would not have wanted. So from 7pm the event went ahead, with an excellent turnout in her memory.

The Committee would like to apologise to those members who were not contacted with the news of the memorial in time to attend. For data-protection reasons, the master membership list is held only by the Membership Secretary and no other Committee member was able to send a full e-mail to the entire membership in the absence of Bob and Margaret in UK.

Social Update

As we go to Press, tickets are still available for the Hangover Party at Kamares on **Saturday 26th January**, a 'posh frocks' evening that's bound to be a knock-out success. The ticket price of Euros 30 includes a three-course buffet, live entertainment and local wines by the carafe for each table. Trevor has promised an extra special raffle - in celebration of his £3000+ fund-raising total for 2007 - and lots more. Get tickets from Rod and Christina Chorlton: 99011168. Don't leave it till the last minute, although someone from the social team will definitely be at the clubhouse at lunchtime on Friday 25th with any available tickets.

In February, there will be a Valentine's night celebration on **Tuesday 12th February** and the return of the ever-popular monthly PISC Quiz night on **Tuesday 26th February** at 7pm. As **Friday 29th February** is leap year's day, members can expect Sam to come up with some surprises at lunchtime. Tuesday evening seminars on sailing-related topics will also be resuming. Check the website - www.PISC.org.cy - for further details.

Members' contributions

All thanks to Sam and her team for the wonderful Christmas decorations, great food and a seamless transfer to the Euro!

New member Peter Dicker, a very experienced sailor, thought that this snippet from an information sheet he received on the electrical history of the Royal Navy might amuse. Admiralty Circular No. 135 dated February 1873 quotes: 'The electric firing wires are to be frequently tested by the Gunnery Officer ... by ... sending a trustworthy man to each gun, with directions to make the necessary connections and place his hands to take the shock.' The first fatal accident due to electric shock amazingly did not happen until a decade later but I bet today's naval guys are glad not to have been a Gunnery Officer then!

Notes from the Chorlton 'boatyard'

Christina laughingly calls their Sea Caves home 'Rod's Boatyard' because, in 2007, he amassed a number of small boats in sad need of TLC and brought them back to life and use. Club members who attended the PISC sailing event in September may well have seen/tried the canary yellow Laser dinghy which inspired this piece from him:

SAILING NEED NOT BE EXPENSIVE.

Everybody thinks of sailing as an expensive pastime. Well, it need not be.

At the end of July, after asking around the club and elsewhere for a cheap dinghy requiring renovation, I was approached by a club member who knew of a Laser dinghy that might fit the bill. Accompanied by Abbo, I went to a small builders' yard in Emba, and there, lying at the back, covered in bits of roofing felt and other junk, was Laser No. 2663. Her number gives some indication of age as I purchased No. 11000 some 25 years ago!

The roofing felt and some rubber sheeting had welded itself to the fibreglass topsides, some of the gel coat coming loose as we uncovered it; there were four very suspect looking weak spots in the hull, but she was complete, sitting on a launching trolley. We agreed the magnificent price of CY£100 all in.

The first job was to get her out of the builders' yard and home to where I could work on her. Both tyres were flat and the wheels themselves rusted away, but after a trip to another builders' yard for two new wheelbarrow wheels (CY£ 16), I was able to tow her very slowly back to Sea Caves. The next job was to renovate the launching trolley and a quick rub down, minor straightening of the framework, primer and paint, it was done. Laser No. 2663 was then stripped completely and sanded down. With Abbo's help, we repaired the suspect areas in the hull and she then received 4 coats of paint, top and bottom, each coat sanded down in between. (Paint, brushes, and sandpaper cost CY£ 45). A few bits of rope, couple of screws, 10 days hard work, and here is the end result. **TOTAL COST : CY£161.00**

As I said, SAILING NEED NOT BE EXPENSIVE!



Laser dinghy No 2663!

More tales from Captain Fearful - on dry land this time!

As editor, I make no apologies for including this wonderful e-mail we received two weeks ago entitled 'Happy Christmas', from PISC members John & Virginia Osman, currently domiciled not in Paphos but in their pad in the French Pyrennees.

'Well, we all made it into 2008 and in fine style here, I may say. The Festive Season seemed to continually extend itself to the point where we renamed our little barn the Do Drop In Inn. We are making impressive inroads into our Old Folks' Parcel. No, don't laugh. Ours seems to be the only village in the whole of France that hands out goodies to its crumbliques. And what goodies! There is the usual complement of biscuity/cakey things but there is also terrine, pate, asparagus, chestnuts, muscat etc. etc. Quite right, too!

'We are also looking forward to the Old Folks' Tea Party at the *salle des fetes*. No, don't laugh! This is an event well worth attending, indeed much younger chums try to get in on our coat-tails. Of course there isn't a teapot in sight - just more muscat, pastis, whisky etc. and a very fine spread of food, plus entertainment and dancing in which we fully participate.

'But it's not been all eating and drinking and making merry. You will know if by now you have received our postcard that we had a fabulous pre- Christmas trip to Val d'Isere and were one of the last to slither into the resort, which virtually closed down what with continuing heavy snowfall and continual dynamiting of said stuff against avalanches. Once it stopped snowing we were in the proverbial winter wonderland. Got back home and had the inaugural get-together of the Disunited Ski Club, so called because however we start off we never seem to finish together. We headed for Formigueres, much frequented by Spaniards, where we found another winter wonderland. The high point was, as usual, joining said picnicking Spaniards who were duly impressed as our pewter goblets came out of our rucksacks and we tucked into our own buffet. Lovely snow, lovely weather - both of which have somewhat deteriorated in the past couple of days. So we're not rushing to the slopes again soon ... because we're off back to the French Alps next weekend to a *gite* we have rented for three weeks at St. Martin de Belleville which connects into Les Trois Vallees and Courchevel. We may go on from there to Chamonix to join more friends. Are we all mad?? Very probably.

'Meanwhile simmering on the stove here is a civet of venison, given by a neighbour, which I have marinated for three days in red wine etc. I must pop up and see how it's doing ... so I'll sign off now. We both send love and all the best for 2008.' ED - I can't wait to be 70!

Finally, financial humour - an e-mail from a member in UK this week

When Fred found out he was going to inherit a fortune when his sickly father died, he decided he needed a woman to enjoy it with.

So, one evening he went to a singles bar where he spotted the most beautiful woman he had ever seen. Her natural beauty took his breath away. 'I may look like just an ordinary man,' he said as he walked up to her, 'but in just a few months, my father will die, and I'll inherit 20 million dollars'.

Impressed, the woman went home with him that evening and, three weeks later, she became his stepmother. Women are so much better at estate planning than men.