



Paphos International Sailing Club

PISC Newsletter

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Editor: Trisha Payne Mob 96318102 Email Trisha@PISC.org.cy

Ed's bit

In idle conversation I happened to mention to Nikki Dake that I was feeling somewhat bored. As a result I am now the new editor of the PISC newsletter ably assisted by Gerald with his camera. Nikki will be a hard act to follow but I will do my best and I hope you will continue to send in all your news and stories as you have done in the past ... especially as we hope the newsletter will be monthly from now on.

Already we have enjoyed a Curry Night, the Hangover Party and Valentine's Night celebration and no doubt we are all looking forward to a busy fun filled summer.

Bye for now Trisha

Commodore's message



First, a warm welcome to Trisha Payne who has volunteered to take on the newsletter. It's not an easy task and I'm sure she will do wonderfully well. She has her own e-mail from the website, so if you have a contribution, e-mail it to her at Trisha@PISC.org.cy

Most of you will have received my announcement on the e-mail last week about the changes in boatyard management; if not please access the website - Future of PISC - where you can find the full message.

It's been good to see so many familiar faces - and some new ones as well - back in the clubhouse at PISC, basking in the winter sunshine.

We've also enjoyed a terrific evening at the Kamares Club where we held the Hangover Party in January. Hey! I think some of us got auctioned there too. I just remembered I'm supposed to be someone's slave for a day; so are Don Taylor, Sam Browne and Maggie Brown. Maybe the winner lost my number? I do hope so.....

Then it was a silly hats and fancy masks night back at the club for a Valentine's evening: started simple - went on late - great time had by all!

Anyhow, do come and join in the fun when you can. Don't forget the winter Seminars on Tuesday evenings as well. You might even pick up a few tips you didn't know before, as well as learning a bit about sailing at the same time. Then there is the summer sailing venue to grapple with, but check with the new Marine Commodore, Rod Chorlton, for details and watch the web site for the future programme of events.

Happy sailing,

James

Date set for 2008 PISC AGM

Last year the AGM was held at the beginning of April, causing not a small amount of problem for the Treasurer in terms of the audit. This year, after discussion, the date has been set a little later, **Friday 18th April 2008**. All members will be notified by e-mail or snail-mail with a full pack of all the papers required and the details will also be posted on the website.

As we go to Press, the main business of this year's meeting will be the election of the four main officers of the Committee: Commodore, Vice-Commodore, Hon Secretary and Treasurer. Completed Nominations and new Resolution forms must be received by the Hon Sec. by hand or by mail by 3pm, Friday, 14th March. They will then be displayed on the notice-board and circulated to the membership before 21st March 2008.

As before, Proxy voting will be permitted under certain circumstances and proxy voting sheets must be received by the Honorary Secretary no later than 3pm, Friday, April 11th.

Changes on the Committee



At the most recent meeting in February, Trevor Hutson asked to stand down from the office of House Commodore and recommended that Brian Bedford be approached to take over. Brian (left) has, of course, been one of the stalwarts of the clubhouse maintenance team and the club is fortunate that he has accepted the position. Duties include overseeing repairs to the fabric of the club, dealing with the landlord on premises issues and generally ensuring the maintenance of the clubhouse as a safe environment.

David Lee Abbott has also tendered his resignation as Marine Commodore. Abbo sees the year ahead as one filled with house building and other family constraints which will make it impossible to function properly in matters marine for PISC. Rod Chorlton has agreed to take over in his stead.

Rod needs no introduction to members and his suitability for the Marine post is highlighted yet again by the arrival in the boatyard of the Flying Dutchman that he has just refurbished over the winter. Rod hopes to organise more water-based events for PISC members this year.

Thanks go to both Trevor and Abbo for all their work over this last Committee year.

The Committee is anxious that everyone should remember that the Constitution states that the Membership year ends on 31st March and Bob and Margaret would like people to renew their memberships as early as possible so there is not a rush during the last days. Please be reminded that only fully paid-up members are eligible to make any proposals for discussion at the AGM and vote on that day; download renewal forms from the website or find them in the Clubhouse.

The annual PISC sub went up to £12.50 in October last year, making it the equivalent now of Euros 21 for renewal ... for each member.

Social events

Tuesday Social dates for your diaries so far include:-

Monthly quiz with Bangers & Mash supper February 26th and March 25th from 7.30pm (book with Sam).

'Green/Clean BBQ' (following local Green Monday) at the clubhouse March 11th from 7.30pm. (book with Sam)

Fitting Out Supper April 15th from 7.30pm (clubhouse) - more info to follow in due course

Hangover party

Over the Christmas and new year period a number of our members were away and others were saturated with celebrating, so the suggestion of a party on 26th January seemed a splendid idea. The Hangover Party at the Kamares Club, organised by Social Secretaries Christina and Rod Chorlton, was a resounding success enjoyed by 73 members and guests. We had an excellent buffet meal, with wine, coffee and liqueurs included. Wicked Willy provided the music and it was noticed the ladies, looking lovely in their finery, were braver than the gentlemen at getting up to dance, although Elaine Godden was successful in getting the first man up on the dance floor - her husband John.



Trevor Hutson was MC for the evening assisted by his wife Sue, who compered the special raffle with extra prizes to celebrate raising £3000 this year. As usual everyone was very generous in buying loads of tickets - the 5000th ticket since the raffle began being sold that night. Further funds were raised with a "human auction". Commodore James offered himself as a partner for dinner; Maggie did likewise or any chores you wanted her to do and Sam, delectable in her bustle, offered herself to the highest bidder to do any job they like (within reason)! Trevor donated a special bottle of vintage champagne which he auctioned for 100 euros. All in all an excellent evening and thank you to all who turned out on a windy dark night. Hopefully the timing of this may become an annual fixture.



Hearts, flowers and all that romantic stuff!

'An exceptionally good night' seems to be the opinion of everyone who attended the Valentine's bash at the clubhouse. Members joined in the masked theme with energy and the Valentine's voucher was awarded to Diana Taylor by our entertainer for the evening, Nicky Banfield. Nicky owns a terrific spa and gym called Serenity in Pissouri and was co-opted for the night by her pupils, novice pole dancers Maggie Brown and Nikki Dake (see below). 'Enthusiastic and courageous' are the best words to describe their pole-dance performance, especially after lissom Nicky had belly-danced her way into all the male hearts in the clubhouse.

Continued on page 4



Continued from page 3

Don Taylor had given permission to run a 'Swizzle' in memory of his partner Sue Forbes: this easy fundraiser was always mooted by Sue in Committee as an ideal way to raise funds and, on this occasion, everyone gave generously - as members always do - so the cash prize was Euros 60 and a little less went into the fund-raising coffers. Trevor held a magnificent raffle with lots of Valentine-inspired prizes including a terrific bouquet of flowers ... just to prove that romance is really not dead at PISC at all.

Thanks go to Sam and her team for decorating the clubhouse so beautifully and, of course, for another super meal - that's not to mention staying up until the wee small hours looking after those members who decided to give it all their very best efforts. For those who missed out, you'll know next time that ANY function Chris Chorlton organises for PISC is going to mean a great time is had by all.

Calling all 'Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners'!

PISC is now designated as the local agency for the Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Royal Benevolent Society ... or so says the handsome old metal notice recently donated by Christina and Rod Chorlton to the Club. Our social secretaries were, in former life, very successful publicans in a succession of country pubs across UK and this notice used to adorn the wall in the very last one; bought for and sited on a spot behind the point at the bar where the local mariners used to gather and swap tall stories. Rod made a point of retrieving it on their last visit back to Hampshire as he had just the right new home in mind for it - the PISC clubhouse.

So they brought it back across to Cyprus, especially with our shipwrecked fishermen and mariners in mind. What a terrific present - sincere thanks go to Christina and Rod ...



The Jazmitha Fund

Back before Christmas, the club collected £350 in a quick whip-round for this little Sri Lankan girl. Sue Hutson - who teaches at Jazmitha's school - reports: 'Jazmitha is still in Israel and will be for several months to come. She has had another op to take stem cells which are frozen and then implanted after all her radiotherapy and chemotherapy, which of course knocks out many good as well as bad cells. The good news is that Jazmitha has been out of ICU for quite a while and has managed to walk with crutches and her mum's support. We have been told that she is incredibly brave and in good spirits but that it will be a long, slow and very careful road to recovery.

It's difficult to keep people's attention in a case like this because there is no swift, spectacular result, however people are still raising money for her continued medical treatment. **PISC will be having another collection in the near future.**

TillerMate - article from Chris Dake, Vice Commodore

Do you ever need a third hand on your boat? Probably not on a speed boat, but frequently it's the case on a large dinghy or small yacht with a tiller and hanging rudder. So it was on Circe, which has a 10 hp offset outboard engine fitted in a small well in the transom. This rig makes it very difficult for one person to manoeuvre astern. The temporary solution we found was to lash the tiller fore & aft with a broom handle before going astern out of the Paphos jetty mooring, and then steer out by turning the engine physically until clear, finally to kick off the tiller restraint, jamb the engine fore & aft and motor out using the rudder (always making sure the flailing broom handle doesn't trip you overboard first).

After several near misses with other harbour traffic and occasional attempts by our outboard propeller to devour the rudder, we racked our brains in vain for a better system.

By chance in *Practical Boat Owner* we found an advert for "TillerMate": a simple add-on kit to clamp the tiller while manoeuvring ... at the twist of a knob! The kit came by courier (to UK) and looked easy to fit - see left.



A stainless steel bell housing (BH) the size of a half crown fits on top of the tiller close to its forward end, and a pre-stretched cord running from a jamming cleat wide on the transom, forward to the tiller, through the BH and back to another transom cleat on the other side, forming a triangle. When tightened by two turns of the BH knob the tiller is fixed and will not move. Undo it two turns and the tiller is free.

Sounds simple? Well it's taken many attempts to get it right, but we have and it's a great solution to many small boat problems. The only drawback is that we had to remove the tiller extension arm.

Now one crew member can operate the boat leaving the mooring while the other does warps & fenders and two crew can raise both sails in harbour - yes even in Paphos! - while the TillerMate keeps the boat under power on a steady pre-set course. TillerMate is not a self sailing device; even when accurately set, it will only hold course under sail for about a minute or two, but that's enough to lower the forgotten drop keel, stow the engine and do any amount of sail trimming in the fickle afternoon breezes.

For more information see www.tillermate.com

Virginia, owner of Circe, admits that when asked by Chris to locate a Tiller Mate, instead of going to the website, she put those two words into 'google' and got some very salacious results!

Friday Frolics

Friday lunchtimes are always enjoyable, especially recently when we have been able to bask in the sunshine. Some of us (girls!) like to chat but boys being boys they just have to go

out and play! Ed



«««« Abbo and the Dutchman's trapeze 'kit' ... or is it a bosun's harness? Well, the mast WAS there earlier!

'FOR ALL MEMBERS WHO, LIKE ME, ARE PROUD TO BE BRITISH' - submission by e-mail from - where else? - UK!

BEING BRITISH.

Being British is about driving in a German car to an Irish pub for a Belgian beer, then travelling home, grabbing an Indian curry or a Turkish kebab on the way, to sit on Swedish furniture and watch American shows on a Japanese TV.

And the most British thing of all? Suspicion of all things foreign!

- Only in Britain can a pizza get to your house faster than an ambulance.
 - Only in Britain do supermarkets make sick people walk all the way to the back of the shop to get their prescriptions while healthy people can buy cigarettes at the front.
 - Only in Britain do people order double cheeseburgers, large fries and a DIET coke.
 - Only in Britain do banks leave both doors open and chain the pens to the counters.
 - Only in Britain do we leave cars worth thousands of pounds on the drive and lock our junk and cheap lawn mower in the garage.
 - Only in Britain do we use answering machines to screen calls and then have call waiting so we won't miss a call from someone we didn't want to talk to in the first place.
 - Only in Britain are there disabled parking places in front of a skating rink.
 - **NOT TO MENTION ...**
 - 3 Brits die each year testing if a 9v battery works on their tongue ...
 - 142 Brits were injured in 1999 by not removing all pins from new shirts ...
 - 58 Brits are injured each year by using sharp knives instead of screwdrivers ...
 - 31 Brits have died since 1996 by watering their Christmas tree while the fairy lights were plugged in ...
 - 19 Brits have died in the last 3 years believing Christmas decorations were chocolate ...
 - British Hospitals reported four broken arms last year after Xmas cracker-pulling accidents ...
 - Eighteen Brits had serious burns in 2000 trying on a new jumper with a lit cigarette in their mouth ...
 - A massive 543 Brits were admitted to A&E in the last two years after trying to open bottles of beer with their teeth ...
 - Five Brits were injured last year in accidents involving out-of-control Scalextric cars. and finally ...
- if you're proud to be British, share this with a friend ... one with a sense of humour!

Editor Trisha needs your contributions, funny stories, photographs and odd e-mails. Your newsletter needs you! Trisha@PISC.org.cy