



Paphos International Sailing Club

PISC Newsletter

Issue 61 - March 2008

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

Ed's bit

After the cold snap we had in February it is a relief to us all to feel the warmth of the sun once more and there has been a buzz around the club recently as members begin to discuss getting the boats back in the water and plans are going well for various events for the summer ahead.

Already it has been a busy month since the last newsletter and time has passed so quickly. If you missed any of the events we have had so far then read on. By the way, Paul had a surprise email from PISC in New Zealand and you will see they have sent a note to all of us. The next issue will be held back until after the AGM so we make sure the newsletter is up to date.

Bye for now

Commodore's message

I start this month's letter with some sad news. Many of you will remember Peter Hurst, who was a member of the club for a number of years and was a frequent visitor to the premises when staying at his house in Nikokleia.

Peter passed away a short time ago whilst in the UK with his family. I understand that Peter hadn't been well for some time but these things always come as a shock when they do happen, and it's never easy to fill the void left behind. I am sure that he will be missed by many of his friends and acquaintances here in the Paphos area and I would like to pass on the club's condolences to all those who were close to him.

Normally, I'm not one to dwell too long on the past, though I seem to be doing so more than usual of late.

Hey! It's fitting out time again. Now, where did I put those tools? Thanks to Trevor though, I've got a brand new angle grinder from the raffle. I wonder what I can use it for? Where's that can of WD40 gone? I bet somebody borrowed it..... and finally

'To deafness I'm accustomed,

To dentures I'm resigned,

I can manage my bifocals,

But oh! How I miss my mind.....'

More sad news.....

As we go to press we hear of the sudden death of Ranjit Baghat, a former Commodore of PISC, whilst in the UK. We send our best wishes and condolences to his family and friends.

Former Commodore Wyn sent this email -

Ranjit was one of the nicest men I have ever met. In my days as Chairman he supported me in any way he could. On the Committee he was often the voice of reason who brought good sense and courtesy to what were sometimes very heated arguments.

When he - somewhat reluctantly - took over as Chairman, his quiet manner and total fairness enabled PISC to function effectively in what was a very turbulent time. Ranjit managed to keep a steady hand on the tiller and guide us through the stormy waters. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Club membership renewals

Our Membership Secretaries Bob and Margaret say the response for membership renewals for 2008 has been very positive and 57 people have already renewed their membership for the coming year. If you are not yet one of them, they will be down at the club every Friday to take money and a completed renewal form from you.

The form ensures they have the latest up to date details on the club database so that they are able to send you club information you may otherwise not get. If you would like to become a Life Member of PISC, the one off payment is 210 euros per person, and then you will never have to worry about paying again ever! Think about it, we already have 6 Life Members in the club. We look forward to seeing you all at the clubhouse soon.

Bowl-ed Over

Since setting up the PISC raffle just over 12 months ago, Trevor has, thanks to the generosity of members, sold more than 6,000 tickets and made a profit of 6,202 euros for the club. His intention was always that all the funds raised would be used for the improvement of the clubhouse and as we are all aware, that has been achieved. Trevor has now handed over his 'bowl' to Gerald who will carry on the good work and the money raised will continue to be used solely for the same purpose.

Thank you Trevor for all your hard work.

PISC AGM

Don't forget the AGM on Friday 18th April 2008 at the Clubhouse at 10am

It is hoped that as many people as possible will attend but please remember only fully paid- up members are eligible to make any proposals for discussion at the AGM and to vote on that day.



Letter from Marine Commodore Rod

I am delighted to have been asked to step into Abbo's deck shoes, and to take over as Marine Commodore. My goal is to take us more and more onto the water in any way that I can.

Having spent the last year assisting Christina with the Social side of the club, it is very easy to see how Social and Sailing go together. One of the most popular events held last year was a beach barbecue at Mannijin, a small rocky cove about 8 miles along the coast towards Agious Georgious. We had an attendance of over 70 people arriving by car or boat.

By popular demand, this event will be held twice in 2008, and will be included in a comprehensive list of future sailing and social events to be published shortly.

New projects are planned - but no, I will NOT be giving sailing lessons. However, I will be looking for crew anxious to learn by experience, once we have finished a couple of projects currently under way.

They are, the Flying Dutchman, which many of you will recognise as having sat in the boatyard for several years in a rather sorry state. That boat is almost ready to go into the water. The new boom is due to arrive from the UK and I just then need to figure out for myself where certain bits of rope go, and what they do. I have never sailed one before. (Constructive advice appreciated). Crew for this is likely to be a little more experienced, and on this occasion weight might be an advantage.



The second project, is the GP14, currently in the yard and owned by Marie, one of our members. There is still work to do here for anyone wishing to volunteer for a little



painting or varnishing. Marie has said that the boat is available to competent members wishing to sail. The work remaining is not extensive, and hopefully should be finished by end of March. We will then just need a little warmer weather because if, like myself, dinghy sailing is something we did a long time ago, we are going to get wet. This is a much simpler boat to sail, and whilst an excellent racing boat, is also ideal for beginners.

There is also a Laser, 30 years old, but complete and now quite tidy. This is available for anyone to try. It currently sited on a launching trolley, but we are looking for a cheap trailer to get it to the sea.

Gerald and Trisha have volunteered to be on the water with their boat to keep an eye out. They have recently completed the RYA first aid course but we hope they will not be called upon to use their skills.

As a club, we are now acquiring through the membership, quite a few day power boats, and it is hoped that when we have events on the water, skippers might invite non boat owners to share the experience of a day on the water with them.

The Seminars - hopefully these will continue with the help of Abbo so watch out for the forthcoming list of events.

That's all I have to say for the moment so as all the best people say - watch this space!

Rod

Marine Events

Slipway BBQ on 18th May

Full details will be available as soon as the final arrangements have been made so keep that date free in your diary.

Slipway BBQ on 7th September

Again more details will be available later on so keep this date free.

September Overseas Rally

All members are very welcome and it should be great fun. The plan is to meet at Port Gocek Marina aiming to be moored by Friday night. Some yachts may wish to meet up earlier and sail together to the meeting point. If you are interested contact Rod or James. If any members are interested in getting together to charter a yacht Jeremy has details.

Tuesdays Seminars

18th March -Chartwork; 8th April -Safety at sea;
22nd April - Nautical Almanac and Pilot Books;
13th May - Waypoints and Estimated Position;
22nd May - Tidal Streams and Vectors.

Diary Dates

Fitting Out Supper on 15th April

Tickets are on sale now - see Christina or Trisha. They are 20 euros for a 3 course meal with coffee and liqueur included. Guests are welcome but numbers are limited to 60 so buy your tickets early to avoid disappointment.

Quiz night Tue 25th March

Quiz night is always so much fun. Food will be available. No booking required just come along 7pm for 7.30.

Tue 29th April Fun Photo Competition

We need 20 members to submit photos of when they were young and beautiful. The aim is for others to guess the identity of the person in the pic so don't let anyone else see them. Please put in envelope with identity on back and give to Christina or Trisha.

Sun 1st June Car Treasure Hunt

More details in the next newsletter.

Green BBQ



More than 30 members attended the evening BBQ at the clubhouse on Tuesday 11th March. It was a pleasant spring evening with Sam presiding over the Barbie, providing splendid food for all.



Tyro time with Captain Fearful – Virginia's latest column

It's awesome, isn't it, watching these round-the-world, round-the-horn and (in my view) round-the-bend sailors, as they battle the waves, the wind and everything else aboard their yachts? Especially dramatic when Ellen MacArthur is perched on top of her mast repairing it.

But why go to all this effort and discomfort, when you can achieve the same result without leaving the harbour? With just as much High Drama. I am talking about that nail-biting ceremony known as Putting The Boat In The Water.

When I had a dinghy you merely walked it into the waves and slipped it off its trolley. It was a simple manoeuvre, if a cold, wet one. Now, with seven tons of boat at my disposal it appears to be an extremely complex operation involving large numbers of people.

It takes hours, if not days, punctuated by heart-stopping moments. Of these, the especially heart-stopping moment relates to Erecting The Mast. The thing about the mast, which you may have noticed, is that it is Very Tall. So the recommended procedure is to have several people on board the boat, several more on the ground, and one in a car with a rope attached to the craft to help the lifting process.



There's only one good thing about this fraught operation and that is that it takes place in the comparative privacy of the yard behind the harbour. Not so the actual Putting The Boat In The Water. This takes place in full view of crowds of interested tourists, other boat owners and sundry commercial vessels off on their daily excursions.



Admittedly, I did add to the difficulties by leaving the rudder on the slipway. Nevertheless, by the time the hazardous manoeuvre was completed and the boat safely tied up and moored there was only one possible order to give: Splice The Mainbrace. And actually, I'm quite good at that.

Virginia will be back in Paphos in time for the Fitting Out Supper which is rather apt. Ed

Greetings from the New Zealand PISC (Pukekohe Indian Sports Club)

Had a look at your web site. Very impressive!! I must say, getting on one of those boats on that clear water does look very relaxing. But I think it would be easier for you to circumnavigate the world on a yacht than me digging for the two PISC's to meet. All the best with your Club.



Hash Panchia

PISC Secretary

If you want to have a look at their website you will find them at www.PISC.co.n