



Paphos International Sailing Club

PISC Newsletter

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Ed's Bit

The changeable weather has kept those of us with boats still in the water on the hop. The calm November weather was wonderful although the dinghy sailors were a bit frustrated some weekends. They greeted the approaching Coptic with glee until they heard sailing was cancelled due to thunder and lightening even though some of the ladies were planning to wear their wetsuits!

It has been a fantastic year for PISC with so many positive things happening as you will see from the review page. Next year can only get better and better.

The next newsletter will be published in February. It would be lovely to have more of your own stories. Don't be shy. See me at the club or send an email.

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS!**

Trisha



Commodore's Message.

As this episode is the last Newsletter for 2008, (heavens, where did the year go) it seems a good opportunity for me to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of us on the Committee.

I know many of you will be journeying far and wide to be with your loved ones, or even perhaps the other way around, for this is the time of year when families traditionally get together and celebrate the Christmas message of good cheer, that goes with the act of being together with family and relatives. Many of us have reached an age when grandchildren enjoy the Christmas spirit rather more than we do, for they represent the essence of this time for thanksgiving and charity. They are also the future upon whom we place so much importance and reliance in shaping the type of society we all wish to enjoy. Maybe they can make a better job of it than we have!



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Commodore's Message Continued...

Somerset Maugham once called Monaco a 'sunny place for shady people.' Let's hope our expat status here on sunny Cyprus remains a place for excellence, where we are able to enjoy our retirement. After all everybody want things they can't have, so being a decent human being, I was once told, means being able to accept our individual constraints even during turbulent times.

I drink to peace and goodwill amongst all men. I use the term generically I hasten to add. Happy Christmas, wherever you maybe!

Now, where did I put my 'wish list'.....ah yes, under 'boats'.....



Marine Commodore - End of Year Update

What a fantastic year it has been with so much happening at PISC. Apart from a refurbished clubhouse we now have an active dinghy sailing section, lots of new members and more boat owners. Next year can only get even better.

I know that our Bosun is keeping you up to date on what is happening but I thought it was time I did my bit too.

New member Dave has introduced a very different boat to the Club, a Kestrel. It is a two man fibre glass dinghy, very quick and safe and he will be looking for crew. I believe Trisha is planning on twisting his arm to get him to write an article for the next newsletter.

Driftwood, the rescued GP14 is ready for the water. We decided to bite the bullet and cut the mast in half in order that we could put an in-mast up-haul for the mainsail. We now just have to stick it back together and job done. Not quite simple as that but I will not bore you with the details.

The Flying Dutchman and Anne-Marie's GP14 will both out of commission for a while having a refit.

Interest in dinghy sailing continues to grow but I would like to clarify an announcement that Peter, our Bosun, made recently down at the Clubhouse. He asked for those interested in dinghy sailing to meet for a beer and perhaps a bite to eat. This was for the purpose of discussing how far we should take this aspect of the club. I can assure you we were not being 'elitist'. We do have a Sailing Committee but we need input from members. The invitation was to ALL members interested in dinghy sailing.

I would also invite those members who own powerboats to perhaps put forward some suggestions as to what waterborne activities they would like to see.

As I said a long time ago, I would like to see as many people on the water, in any way, shape or form.



Perhaps even fishing? Did I tell you about the huge creature we saw last time we went fishing - maybe next time?

I wish a Happy Christmas to everyone and look forward to an exciting PISC New Year.



Rod

The Bosun's Locker No 2

First the Good News, the dinghies we have are by and large being used and new members are joining the club to make use of this facility. This is very pleasing as it makes the work put in by various members fully justified and I thank them all for their efforts. On the other hand the dinghies suffer wear and tear so there is much more work in keeping the dinghies fit for use.



In the last newsletter I outlined the situation with the five dinghies we have on strength, now we have six! Let me outline the work that needs to be done to bring the dinghies up to 'Standard', by this I mean that if the dinghies were mine the working standard I would keep them in.

PISC 1 - Laser (Jetsam) this is the original Laser we acquired, the hull is in need of a complete overhaul. A new rudder stock and tiller are also required.

PISC 2 - GP14 The dinghy is being taken out of commission for a refit. It leaks badly around the centerboard case; the old gasket has perished and needs replacing. The decks need to be stripped back and a complete re-varnish and the hull can be repainted after a good sanding down.

PISC 3 - Flying Dutchman. She is basically sound but as Rod said will be having a refit. A new rudder is needed because the one we use is fixed, and we need one that the blade can be retracted. A FD spinnaker (or ex 505, Osprey or Javelin) is also needed, second hand will do.

PISC 4 - GP14 (Driftwood) The GP14 should by now be in full working order and will not need any remedial work until the spring.

PISC 5 - Laser (Flotsam) This Laser is in much better condition than PISC 1, however as it uses the rudder from PISC 1 a new one is to be made because the existing one is suspect and has a cracked tiller.

PISC 6 - Wayfarer As you saw in last month's newsletter this dinghy is our latest acquisition. A full survey has still to be carried out but we need a new boom plus new main halyard and several deck fittings. The floorboards and internal seats are all loose at the moment and in need of a lot of TLC.



Happy Christmas to you all

Peter



Due to a foot operation I have been forced to spend six weeks doing next to nothing. Apart from spending hours reading (which I do enjoy) I have also spent time on the computer. One day having had a chat with Rod about the Flying Dutchman I idly keyed in the words 'Flying Dutchman'. What did I find?

THE FLYING DUTCHMAN COCKTAIL

1.5oz gin

dash triple sec

lime

Stir over ice cubes in a small highball glass.

Squeeze a lime wedge over drink and drop into the drink.

Having sampled this most acceptable refreshment I went on to discover that -

The Flying Dutchman was a famous racehorse that won both the Derby and the St Leger in 1849.

The Flying Dutchman was a crack GWR express, dating from broad gauge days, running between Paddington and Exeter from 1845 until 1892.

Apart from inspiring Richard Wagner to write an opera on the subject, The Flying Dutchman is a name that has come to be feared by mariners across the globe because of

THE LEGEND OF THE FLYING DUTCHMAN

There are several versions of the Flying Dutchman legend, the phantom ship sighted in Africa's Cape of Good Hope. This is one of them....

In the year 1729, a Dutch ship called the Flying Dutchman, captained by the infamous Vanderdecken, set sail towards the Cape of Good Hope, Africa's southernmost tip which has long been associated with difficult sailing conditions and shipwrecks. Vanderdecken was a violent and disturbed captain who feared nothing and refused to back away from any situation.

As the ship approached the Cape a violent storm broke out. The fierce winds, gigantic waves and terrible lightening threatened to sink the Flying Dutchman, but the twisted and fearless captain had a threat of his own. There and then, Vanderdecken swore an oath to the Devil that he would round the Cape even if it took him until Doomsday (the day that the world will come to an end). This foolish act brought a terrible curse down upon the captain, his crew and his ship. From that moment forth they were forced to roam the mighty seas for all eternity as a ghost ship.



Jrisha



Social Diary

Tuesday 16th December - Christmas Supper and Quiz

To help with the catering please let Christina know if you plan to come. Zoë is preparing a Christmas Supper and the quiz questions will of course have a Christmas theme.

Saturday 24th January - Hangover Supper at the Aliathon Holiday Village

Tickets are on sale now from Christina. 27 euros for members, 29 euros for guests. We need to sell 100 tickets so please come and bring your friends. There will be music and a special raffle.

Tuesday 27th January - Quiz Night

Starting 7 for 7.30pm supper followed by the quiz. Don't worry if you are on your own, we will find a team for you.

January - Ten Pin Bowling

The date still has to be confirmed but Christina tells me it will be 15 euros for two games and a meal so look out for details on the website or at the Clubhouse.

PISC Clubhouse News

Tuesday Evenings



In an effort to encourage members to make full use of the Clubhouse we are pleased to announce that a Dartboard with two sets of darts has now been installed for use on Tuesday evenings. Members are also welcome to bring their own Dominoes or Cards. Obviously these would not take place when it is Quiz Night or some other function is taking place.

We are also looking into the feasibility of a 'Petanque' pitch outside somewhere as a number of members already have Boules sets they are willing to share.

Sunday Brunch 10 - 3

We now have a new Sunday Brunch menu which includes such goodies as Croissants, Smoked Salmon and Bucks Fizz or a good old Sunday Brunch. You may wish to bring your newspaper and sit in the sun and enjoy a drink with friends or have a game of Darts.

It should be noted that Darts will not be available on Friday lunchtimes for safety reasons and of course the Clubhouse is also very busy with its normal activities on that day.

Thank You

I am sure that most of you are aware that we have two PISC cats. Recently Mr Tom (the vocal one) was sick and needed an operation. Thank you to all who gave a donation to cover the fees. He is now fit and well. Both the cats are responding to the care and kindness shown by a number of members and are healthy, happy and enjoying human company.



PISC Highlights 2008



It's been a fantastic year, membership continues to grow, we have a thriving dinghy section and a refurbished clubhouse, a good social scene....it can only get even better.

The Clubhouse will close late afternoon Friday 19th December and re-open Friday 2nd January.

Happy Christmas to you all. Ed

