



Paphos International Sailing Club

PISC Newsletter

December 2009

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Ed's Bit

How time flies. I cannot believe it is Christmas already. Where has the year gone. Just a few of the comments I have heard recently, and how true! It has been a tremendous year for PISC. We have been to regattas, increased our membership, developed the dinghy sailing and had some wonderful social events. All in all, it has been a good year. As PISC goes from strength to strength we can all look forward to next year with sailing, developing all aspects of the club, hopefully hosting a regatta, and having fun.



May you all have a very blessed, peaceful and happy Christmas.



Trisha

Commodore's Christmas Message

Once again Christmas is upon us and this is the time we all seem to go our separate ways, returning to the home-country, to visit children, grandchildren, go ski-ing or whatever. With the premises being closed for a couple of weeks it gives us all a chance to imagine what it would be like if we had no Club.

Since I became Commodore last April, I believe the Club has made good progress, with membership the highest it has ever been. I believe that unlike other years when membership has dropped dramatically prior to the AGM, this coming year our membership will continue to grow. We now have a Club that we can be proud of and people want to belong to

The New Year will bring with it new challenges and opportunities. I am absolutely certain that with the support of the membership 2010 heralds the start of an exciting period for PISC and I for one am really looking forward to it.

On behalf of Christina and myself and all of my extremely hard working Committee, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Rod



GERALD'S CHRISTMAS DRAW



Have you got your tickets yet?

Tickets on sale NOW at the Clubhouse every Friday

Only 5 euros each with three cash prizes



First prize of at least 50 euros

The more you buy, the bigger the prizes



Draw on Friday 18th December at the Clubhouse

PISC Treasure Hunt

The second Treasure Hunt of the year was held in November and once again was very successful. Fourteen cars took part and the winners were Helen and Peter from Armou. Although they are not members they have supported all the PISC Treasure Hunts. Rick and Carol were in second place and it was their first treasure hunt so they did really well and said they enjoyed the experience.

Fifty people sat down to a Sunday Roast Dinner at the Vatouthkia Taverna. It was an excellent day. Thank you to June and Alan who put in so much hard work.

Social Events to look forward to

15th December at the Clubhouse - Christmas Quiz, Mince Pies and Mulled Wine and maybe one or two carols.

18th December at the Clubhouse - Grand Christmas Draw - do not miss out. There is still time to buy your tickets.

19th December - Snooker Final and Christmas Party at Armageti. Book with Anita.

For a full list of events for 2010 see the PISC Website or the list published in the Clubhouse.



PISC FRANCHISE

As some of you may already know Zoe will be leaving on 18th December.

The Committee are inviting applications for Tender for the Franchise.

Anyone who is interested should contact the Commodore for an application form and full details.

RYA Level II Dinghy Sailing Qualifications

Six PISC Members recently went off to Episkopi to do the RYA Dinghy Sailing course to gain their Level II Qualification.

All six were successful and were happy to show off their certificates down at the clubhouse.

Picture shows left to right Paul, Dave, Janet, Martin, Anita and Peter. Read their stories below.



RYA Level II Assessment - Peter and Dave

David and I are both experienced dinghy sailors with between us probably 25 years practice. With the emphasis now being placed on competent tests we decided we needed to participate in the level 2 RYA assessment scheme at Episkopi.

The first day went off without a hitch except that we were criticized in the way we sailed off a lee shore because it was not done entirely by the approved RYA method, however we managed it without a problem. A little later when we left the shore for the next stage we had a problem with the mainsail and ended up sailing ashore to reset the mainsail and then sailing off the lee shore again in earnest. A safety boat was hovering around and really wanted to tow us off but we stuck to our guns and managed it without any problems.



We had to wait for the Sunday to complete the assessment with the capsized drill. All went well with the first drill and David righted the boat with me rolling inside as required by the RYA. The second drill was a little more entertaining for all concerned. The boat was capsized and the normal safety checks made. I then went around to the centreboard and not unexpectedly could not get onto it.

However I was able to bring the boat almost up but not sufficiently to bring David into the boat. David then went to the stern and I successfully brought the boat upright. I then helped David into the boat over the stern but in doing so let go of the boat. David got in alright but while he sorted himself out the boat sailed off without me!

David then had to repeat the man overboard drill we had demonstrated the day before. Unfortunately he sailed past me and I had to swim a short distance to the back of the boat. I was then helped aboard but as I took a final pull to get myself inboard the toggle of my lifejacket caught on something and set off the Co2 to inflate the lifejacket. I was surrounded by an inflated bag making it difficult move about, taking a breather and watching the laughter aboard the safety boat and David. I then got myself sorted out and off we sailed, getting ashore some time later for a well earned cup of tea!

Peter

ESSC PICO Training Course - Paul, Anita, Martin and Janet

It got off to a rather interesting start when Tony, one of the instructors, was giving us a safety brief as to how dangerous it can be trying to get in the dinghy when the wind is in a certain direction and circulating around within the Mole and started pointing out all the dangers and the signs to look out for. Sadly this lesson was cut short when the boom flew across the dinghy he was holding onto, smacked him backwards into the water and cut his nose, whoops!



The next day was spent doing capsizes after capsizes and all of us getting rather cold. By the

third day we were all sailing in and out of the mole and having our own little adventures. Part of the level II course is man overboard. You have to sail up to a buoy and just touch it with your dinghy, shout man overboard and then perform a series of reaches and tacks (no gybes allowed) to arrive back at the buoy 'hove-to', perfectly stable, stopped, just in contact with the buoy with it exactly half way down the windward side of the PICO. With both hands pat the buoy as if you were rescuing somebody from the water keeping the dinghy perfectly stopped and stable and not turning.

Sounds easy - well it's not quite as easy as it all sounds, however Paul was starting to get a bit cocky and instead of patting the buoy, decided to lift it out of the water and place it in the dinghy and sail off with it complete with chain and anchor! One of the instructors didn't look too impressed and asked Paul to leave the group and go and practice about 100m away using one of the permanent race marks as 'the man'.

Paul sailed off and 'rescued' the race mark, lifted it up and tried to put it in the dinghy!

Now I know what you are thinking, but it didn't seem quite so stupid or daft at the time, I can assure you! Have you ever wondered what happens if a PICO boom becomes attached to a 10 foot flagpole that is concreted to the seabed, well neither do I because I lost consciousness for a few seconds shortly after that and the next few minutes are a bit blurry! I do remember the rescue boat, seeing lots of blood, bits of specs all over the place and spitting out a bit of broken tooth! I have been assured that the headache will go away in a few weeks!



Peter and Dave receive certificates

PISC LOOKS BACK AT 2009



Hangover Supper



Laying Up Supper



Second Race Night of the Year



Anniversary Ball



Regatta at ESSC



Friday at the Clubhouse



Navigation seminar on the Rally



James steps down as Commodore



Summer sailing at Coral Bay



BBQ at Mannijin

In case you are wondering what happened when that huge wave hit the wall...



PISC CLUBHOUSE CHRISTMAS CLOSING

The Clubhouse will close at 4pm on Friday 18th December and re-open on Friday 8th January 2010

Happy Christmas Everyone!

