



Inside this Issue

1. From the Commodore
2. RCYC Calendar
3. Comments from the GM
4. Letters & Notices
5. Forthcoming Events
 - New Year's Party
 - Car Boot Sale
6. Inside House Report
7. Membership
8. Outside House Report
9. Sailing
10. October Galley Specials
11. Safety at Sea Report

From the Commodore:

Another year has flown by. During this time we have seen some really big achievements by our sailing members, we have hosted numerous foreign visitors, our Inside House has done us proud in their catering for the members and visitors needs, and last but not least - our staff, led by the General Manger



have excelled themselves across the board. This kind of enthusiasm and dedication to the club makes it an honour, joy and a very proud time in my life to be the Commodore of the Royal Cape Yacht Club

I would also like to take this opportunity of thanking my wife, Jeanne, for the support and encouragement she has given me through both terms and putting the cherry on the top by hosting a superb Commodore's Wife's Dinner in the last week of November. Well done, and a big thank you to all the people that made it possible.

Thank you all, and have a really happy and festive holiday season ahead, and as is always said, drive safely and play hard but be sensible - we all want to be around to enjoy another good year ahead!

Your's aye

John

RCYC Calendar

January	February	March
Mon 4th – Fri 8th POYC West Coast Cruise	Wed 10th Audi Twilight & IRC Racing	Wed 10th Audi Twilight & IRC Racing
Wed 13th Audi Twilight & IRC Racing	Sat 14th Rotary Club Racing	Sun 14th Argus Cycle Tour
Sat 16th Robben Island race	Wed 17th Audi Twilight & IRC Racing	Sat 20th – Sun 21st Cape Town sailing Week at RCYC
Wed 20th Audi Twilight & IRC Racing	Fri 19th – Sat 20th Mykonos Offshore	Mon 22nd Cape Town Sailing Week RCYC to HBYC
Sat 23rd Bay Ralley	Wed 24th Audi Twilight & IRC Racing	Sat 27th – Sun 28th Cape Town Sailing Week in Hout Bay
Wed 27th Audi Twilight & IRC Racing	Sat 27th Double Handed Racing 5	
Sat 30th Double Handed Racing 3		
Sat 23rd Bay Ralley		
Wed 27th Audi Twilight & IRC Racing		
Sat 30th Double Handed Racing 3		

Comments from the General Manager

November has certainly been a fantastic month down at the RCYC, what with the massive trade enjoyed by virtue of the 180 plus 'Clippers', races such as Double Cape and Legal Eagles and on the social side, the Commodores Wife's Dinner.

The Clipper stop-over was a resounding success (and continued to be, thanks to the prolonged stay by Hull and Humber!!), both in terms of our Marina Manager's capacity in safely accommodating the 10 vessels and in Riaan and his team's abilities in sustaining a fine level of service to all the crew, support staff and to the RCYC members. The Club's ability in providing these facilities and services to an international visiting Fleet of this size (and importance) has truly cemented us on the international circuit/chart/map (as stated by Sir Robin). So to the Staff and those members who contributed to the success of the event – a hearty well done. Lastly, I'd like to extend thanks to those yacht owners who kindly relocated from A/B marina in order for us to berth the vessels in a shared area. This was done with ease and with great spirit and support towards the Club's commitments.

Inside House continue to pull out all the stops in redefining their level of service and food preparation towards the members and their guests. Riaan continues to receive favourable but limited feedback from the patrons – so please provide feedback to the managers. All feedback will be responded to and acted upon. The daily and evening specials have drawn many members back down to the club which provides good motivation to continue on this course.

The Outside House team, especially Ian Meggy, Edmund McCauley and Mohammad, really need a special mention for their endeavours during the Clipper stop-over. The success of the visit is wholly attributed to their willingness to go the extra mile and in volunteering their precious time (often in the early hours of the morning) to meet all the 10 vessels on arrival – adding that extra 'touch' to the Club's hospitality. Not only have the

outside house team continued on the maintenance and refurbishment projects, but have also now demonstrated that the time and effort taken in relocating the marinas has been justified – proved by the fact that the marina withstood heavy winds while sustaining a total of 340 tonnes of Clipper Vessel. Well done to all!

Kind regards,

Marcus Reuter
General Manager

Letters

From the Commodore's Wife: The Commodore's Wife's Dinner Report

Bollywood took RCYC by storm on the 27th November. The theme for this year's event was a huge hit and the ladies and their guests went all out to dress the part. The outfits were quite stunning and it was evident that everyone had gone to a lot of effort to embrace the theme.

Riaan, our Food and Beverage Manager, together with our resident Chef, Marco, did us proud with a menu befitting the event - quite delicious and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

The organisation of the evening was certainly a fantastic team effort and thanks must go to the RCYC ladies behind the scenes - Desme Arendse, Mariette Roodt-Koffman, and Brigette Walker - and to Felicity, Patti and Angela who assisted with the set-up.

Dressed for the occasion, the Main Hall looked truly magnificent. Thanks to Jenny Lloyd who headed the décor team and created the ambience for an unforgettable night. Mr Showbiz, Alvon Collison and partner, Faried provided entertainment par de lux, delighting the ladies and ensuring a night of fun and much laughter.

An evening such as this can only happen with the generous support of sponsors and to this end, we would like to thank the many contributors who gave unstintingly: Distell, SAB, Slaley, Rimmel, Crocs, Carducci, Lindt, Revite, Constantia Skin Care, Rooibos, African Sales, Nail and Body, Ecoco, Manex, The Good Hope Sailing Academy, North Sails, Home of Hope, the Cake Box, Charmaine Warburton, Estee Medina, Charmaine Chemonaix, Kirsten Veenstra, Robbie van Rooyen and Greg Thijsse.

My thanks to the Team - Deidre Mace, Shirley Roos and Jenny Lloyd for their assistance and to all the ladies for attending and enjoying.

Kind Regards,
Jeanne van Rooyen-Martin

See the pix on our website www.rcyc.co.za



Thank You Letter from Sir Robin Knox-Johnston

Dear John

I wanted to write and personally thank you for all your support during the Clipper 09-10 Round the World Yacht race stopover in Cape Town. It was good to catch up with you again.

You will be pleased to hear that despite the damage caused to *Cork and Hull & Humber* on the start line, both yachts are now back racing and should arrive in Western Australia in time to join the Christmas festivities with the rest of the crews.

All the crew thoroughly enjoyed their time in Cape Town, but I think having the boats at RCYC was the best part of it. The atmosphere was just right. A part of the visit was filmed by our official broadcaster, North One TV, and will be featured in the Clipper 09-10 TV Series which will start from June 2010. Once confirmed, we will let you know the schedule for any broadcasts in South Africa and make sure you have a copy of the six part series.



I am glad we had the opportunity to discuss a potential Cape Town entry in the next edition of the Clipper Race with Felicity Purchase and Mansoor Mohammed. It is activities like hosting our international race where the RCYC adds to the reputation of Cape Town as the "Tavern of the Seas" and will hopefully help the powers that be to appreciate what an asset the Club is to bringing waterborne tourism and business to the City.

Wishing you and Jeanne a very festive season

Yours,
Robin

The German Armed Forces Big Band Tour to Cape Town 2010

The Big Band of the German Armed Forces will start a concert Tour to your wonderful country South Africa from 23 February to 7 March 2010. Please allow me to explain some details of this concert tour, specially the Dixieland Formation we would like to send to the Royal Cape Yacht Club.

Day and time of the short performance:

We like to be at RCYC with four musicians on 28th February at about 11h45 and play from 12h00 – 13h00

About the orchestra:

These four musicians belong to the "Die Big Band der Bundeswehr" (The Big Band of the German Armed Forces) The orchestra is one of the best formations in Europe. They will play in 2010 at the Olympic Games in Vancouver. They return on 23 March in the morning and they leave Germany that same day at 15h00 in the afternoon to Cape Town. Another highlight is the German Ball of Sports in 2010 and the Big Summer Berlin Festival presented by the German President Mr. Horst Köhler (just some examples out of more than 70 concerts in 2010)

Benefit:

All the money we collect on the South African Concert Tour will be donated to the Red Cross Children's Hospital Cape Town on the 7. Of March 2010 in the morning, we like to invite you to this date

The Plan for all the concerts at the Cape during this Trip:

- 26th February: V&A Waterfront 20h00 – 22h00: whole Orchestra
- 27th February: VIP Reception on Board at the German War Ships evening / Dixieland formation
- 28th February: Royal Cape Yacht Club 12h00 – 13h00 Dixieland formation
- 28th February: V&A Waterfront 15h00 – 17h00 whole Orchestra
- 1st March: Presskonferenz Cape Town Harbour/small swing formation/time not scheduled yet
- 3rd March Asara Wine Farm: Stellenbosch Concert 18h00 – 21h30
- 5th March: Simons Town Navy Base Dry Dock together with the SA Navy Band - whole orchestra
- 6th March: Cape Town: VIP Reception at the German Consul General - small swing formation

Kind Regards,
Thomas Ernst

(Captain Senior Rank) and Tour management of the Big Band der Bundeswehr

Extract from Scuttlebutt from a letter written by Derek Wilkes:

The decline in sailing numbers seems to be world wide phenomena felt by all clubs. Here are a few personal insights into the reasons from a South African perspective:

1. The increasing number of new dinghies on the market dilutes the already dwindling numbers as the sailor spread themselves across all the differing classes.
2. The rock stars jump from class to class to win the different local class champs, which disheartens budding sailors within those classes
3. The media concentrate on only the "Big Boat" which gives the impression of a very expensive sport
4. We have too many boat owners and not enough yachties.
5. Prospective boat owners fall in love with the "mystique of sailing" and then buy boats beyond their experience.
6. The Boat owners, due to lack of experience, look for "qualified crew" to compliment their short comings, as they are not competent to show the new crew the ropes nor are they willing to learn together.
7. When qualified crew is hard to come by they lean back and say I cannot find crew
8. Their expensive boats become floating status symbols at best or floating unkept caravans at worse.
9. Sailing is seen as recreational past time and not as a dedicated sport "so why bother reading the rules".
10. In racing boat owners look for a handicap that takes into account their short coming, rather than looking at the boat's handicap and sailing to that - win or lose.

On the positive side, it is extremely easy to sail, and to find crew is equally as easy. When you hear someone say, "I'd love to go sailing", invite them. We have a few rules on by boat:

1. If we (Owner, skipper and crew) like you we'll invite you again!
2. If you don't like us then don't say "yes" the second time we ask you!
3. The crew is involved in the running and maintenance of the boat, sailing is not only putting up sails and moving through the water, but everything else from motors to servicing ropes. This is the "mystique of sailing"
4. Then we sail, sail, sail, sail and sail some more, and the strange thing about sailing is, the more you sail the more you and your crew learn. Funny we have had the same crew for three years now

Kind Regards.
Derek Wilkes

Forthcoming Events

Car Boot Sale

Get rid of all your unwanted yachting equipment!

Date: 27 February 2010

Time 10h00

Venue: Regatta Centre

Price per table: R100

Please book a table with Brigette: brigette@rcyc.co.za or Tel: 021 4211354

RCYC New Years Eve Party



Inside House Report

Dear Royal Cape Yacht Club Members

Our fourth month of trading is behind us and I am glad to report that it has been our most successful month of trade since taking over operations.

We have had numerous functions during the month of November, but the highlight of this last month was the hosting of the 10 Clipper boats and crew for a week. We trust they enjoyed our warm South African food and hospitality, and we truly believe the crews will speak highly of The Royal Cape Yacht Club as they circumnavigate the world. We wish them good luck and all the best on their next leg. Furthermore, not forgetting the companies and individuals who have made use of our establishment for luncheons, birthdays, meetings, conferences and the likes thereof, we would like to extend a warm thank you and look forward to catering for your next event with us.

We are well into the sailing season now and sincerely hope for good sailing conditions every Wednesday night for The Audi Twilight Series. Please be reminded that we will have a "grab and go" burger station available every Wednesday night from 18h00 – 20h00 - only R20 a burger. Alternatively, the Terrace Menu will be available should you wish to join us for a meal and enjoy the Wednesday night festivities.

We have had both positive and negative response in regards to the reducing of our menu and thank you to all our members who have provided us with their feedback.

There were a number of poor selling menu items which we removed from the menu as to limit our wastage and to reduce our carrying stock in store and bring us in line with the restaurant industry as a whole. We have done comparisons with many other restaurants and have found us to be on par with most, including the big franchise brands that have considerable more buying power than ourselves. In terms of price we are well below par with other establishments, bearing in mind the menu price is discounted even further for members.

Our menu has been totally re-costed which means that some menu items did increase in price, however at the same time, some menu items did reduce in price. Please also bare in mind that food prices are constantly fluctuating and will increase from time to time, thus forcing the industry to increase prices in order to stay within their set food cost margins.

We do feel we still have a fair variety of menu items available, including the daily specials we have been running the last couple of months, which have been well received well by our regular patrons over lunch time.

We trust by the number of specials sold on a daily basis, that the meals have been enjoyable, and we thank you for your support and feedback.

For those of you who cannot be with us over lunch, please be reminded that we are running evening specials every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, or please join us for our Plated Roast on Sundays.

We have a number of upcoming events to look forward to in the near future. The Croc's Summer Regatta starts Friday the 11th of December and our New Year's party, which we hope will be an even greater success than last year. Tickets are R175.00 per person; keep an eye on the notice boards.

From a service point of view, we are constantly monitoring the floor staff and providing them with assistance and training wherever needed. Staff training is an ongoing concern and priority for us and our aim is to improve the all around standard of service in the Food and Beverage department.

On a staffing note, we would like to welcome Damien aboard the Management Team and wish him all the best moving forward. Thank you to Chef Marco for all the hard work and countless hours in The Galley. We have seen a vast improvement in food presentation and quality thereof.

Thank you to Jenny, Wesley and their staff for their hard work while the Clipper Fleet were with us. Well done team!!

On a final note, members who have borrowed galley menu's, cutlery, plates and the likes thereof for the use on their boats, please return to us soonest as we will be conducting a stock take in the very near future.

As your feedback is most valued to us, please forward any comments and recommendations to me at riaan@rcyc.co.za

We look forward to welcoming you back again and making your meal experience with us even more enjoyable than the last.

Kind Regards
Riaan Bezuidenhout
Food & Beverage Manager

Welcome to New RCYC Members

Ordinary:

- Deon Miller
- Miguel Texeira

Family:

- Dina Jacobs
- Liezel Bouwer

Intermediate

- Clarence Hendricks
- Joe Heywood

Re-Join

- Marc Bloch

Absentee Local

- Carel Jacobs
- Desmond Mudge

Corporate:

- Ronald Caris (Andrew Weir)
- Carolyn Enzlin (Andrew Weir)
- Suzanne L'ons (Andrew Weir)
- Gavin Horn (Mutual and Federal)
- Brian Johnson (Mutual and Federal)
- Steffen Siljeur (Mutual and Federal)

Obituaries

Capt Pat Brown
Martin Harrison
Jacques Moser

Outside House Report

The Clipper fleet having been and gone, we can safely say that the mooring arrangement worked well and with 320 tons hanging on to the "A/B" in a 45 knot South Easter. Every stayed put and we where also able to moor the two damaged Clipper boats during repairs. To the yacht owners who willingly gave up there moorings, A big **THANK YOU.**

The "Cat Corner" was progressing along until our divers became violently sick and we found that the water in that area contains large amounts of Ecoli. As a result, diving activities have now been halted and the modification of old marinas is presently underway for the "Cat Corner". The divers managed to remove enough rock to allow one marina to be put in place.

The marina maintenance staff are busy replacing planking on marinas and welding more eyes on the moorings. The hard and slip remain busy with a lot of yacht owners getting ready for the summer season and a fair amount of visiting yachts also booked for the hard and slip. We already have fourteen visiting yachts booked for moorings at RCYC.

Wishing you all a wonderful festive season.

**Kind regards,
Ian Meggy
Marina Manager**

Sailing News

Signing In and Out

Attention all Skippers and Boat owners:

It has come to our attention that skippers and boat owners are not signing their guests in on a Wednesday night. Visitors promise to bring a member to sign, and then they are not seen again.

As of Wednesday 2nd December 2009, we will not allow any visitors who are not in possession of a purple card, out of the registration area in the Main Hall, until they are signed in by the relevant member.

This is a serious issue, as there are many potential members sailing on Wednesday nights.

It is up to you, the skipper/owner, to make sure that your guests that sail on a regular basis are either registered as a Wednesday Night sailor, or have applied for membership at the Club – and are not taking advantage of your club by becoming a frequent non-member visitor to the club.

We ask you for your support, and also remind you that if you do not assist us in this regard, your crew will be confined to the main hall!

Double Cape Race ***By Hylton Hale***

The classic Double Cape must be one of the most challenging races on the Cape circuit, starting in the calm waters off Clifton beach, onto the fickle conditions off Hout Bay, around the the notorious Cape Point, into the shelter of Simons Town... then a sprint across False Bay into Gordons Bay and then back to Cape Town - a distance of about 125 miles!

Only 10 boats from Royal Cape Yacht Club made the start line, with the entrants from the other three yacht clubs pulling out; this was disappointing but did not detract from the fierce rivalry between Phil Guitshe's Landmark 43, *Windpower* and Hylton Hale's *Puma Unleashed*. Also in the mix was Greg Davies on his *Scape*

39 catamaran, *Set Sea*. The other dark horse was the favourably IRC rated Farr 40 *Majimoto 11*, skippered by Paul Maré and Lindsay Birch.

The race started in a light fickle Westerly which eventually settled into the predicted 10 knot South Westerly. The first point of call was a CSRI mark about 4 miles off Kommetjie, where the leading boats had a difference of opinion on which way to go. *Puma* opted for the inshore course with Greg Davies on *Set Sea* and Phil Guitshe's team on *Windpower* took the offshore option. The convergence at the mark saw *Windpower* with a healthy lead over *Puma* and *Set Sea*. Unfortunately, with the shifting wind, *Puma* had to put in a tack to make the mark and *Windpower* carried on without rounding. Their error was quickly noticed on board and then rectified with a return sail to the mark; this then placed *Puma* in the lead of about 30 minutes over *Windpower* with *Set Sea* nestled in-between.

The wind continued to blow at about 10 -12 knots from the South West with the yachts sailing in a South Easterly direction, prompting the lucky few to hoist the powerful Code Zero's, which further elevated *Puma*, *Set Sea* and *Windpower* from the rest of the pack. At Cape Point, to the crews' disbelief, the wind actually died off and some of the yachts sat idle under the Cape Point lighthouse. *Puma* and *Set Sea* escaped the light patch and excelled in the building southerly with a pleasant kite run to the Roman Rock Lighthouse, thus extending their lead on *Windpower* to about 45 minutes. *Set Sea* rounded Roman Rock about 10 minutes behind *Puma* and quickly reeled her in, with the cat enjoying the reaching conditions to Gordons Bay, about 19 miles from Roman Rock.

From Gordons Bay it was homeward bound back to Cape Town, with the sun set and no moon, the sea was radiant with bright phosphorescence, giving the dolphins an eerie green glow while playing alongside the yachts. With the wind on the nose, *Puma* then caught up to and overtook *Set Sea*, sailing on one tack to Cape Point. The crew on *Puma* were thrilled to notice that some of the yachts were only arriving at the Point with the whole of False Bay still to sail; a quick calculation showed that they had a comfortable lead over the rest of the fleet. The immediate threat to *Puma's* line honours was *Set Sea* with *Windpower* always having the ability to close the gap on handicap honours.



On board *Puma Unleashed*

After Cape Point with noses turned downhill for the 35 mile sprint to the finish, *Puma* and *Set Sea* revelled in the surfing conditions with reports of 18 -19 knot surfs. Fortunately the organisers had the finish line near Clifton, thus relieving the stress of crews having to negotiate the notorious Sea Point hole, which has often destroyed well laid out plans and tactics. At the end of it all **Puma** grabbed line honours from **Set Sea** at 02h00, with a total race time of 15 hours 59 minutes to cover the 125 miles. Third over the line was *Windpower* followed by **Majimoto II**. The last yacht finished at 11h45 with 8 hours to spare before cut off. In the end the handicap results ended up as:

- 1st - Puma Unleashed – Hylton Hale/Paul Wilcox - Pacer 42
- 2nd - Windpower – Phil Guitshe/Mike Giles - Landmark 43
- 3rd - Majimoto II – Lindsay Burch/ P Mare - Farr 40
- 4th - Flyer – Joe Van der Westhuizen - First10
- 5th - Set Sea – Greg Davies - Scape 39
- 6th - Me2Me – Derek Shuttleworth - Farr 38
- 7th - FTI Flyer – Keith Mattison - Charger 33
- 8th - Carousal – Luke Scott - Beneteau 390

Conclusion

In its heyday, the Double Cape attracted fleets of up to 60 boats and there is no reason why we cannot see these numbers again. It is a fantastic race, testing endurance, tactics and team work. The beautiful scenery with the dramatic mountains of the Cape Peninsula and the bragging rights of having tackled Cape Point is enough reason for all sailors to compete in this event.

Sailing Sponsorship Beats McLaren F1 Sponsorship

Entries for the awards were received from 10 European countries and were assessed by an independent panel of expert judges.

The announcement was made at an awards ceremony which was held as part of the annual two-day European sponsorship conference, Future Sponsorship, at the Mayfair hotel in London.

In the international category, PUMA beat off opposition from Vodafone's sponsorship of the McLaren-Mercedes Formula One team which was given second place. PUMA was also highly commended in the business to consumer category which was won by Wrigley's Extra with Coca-Cola second. PUMA combined competition with consumer activity. While the team's eye-catching Volvo Open 70 il mostro was skippered to second place overall by Ken Read, PUMA City, an innovative retail store constructed from shipping containers, was the centerpiece of retail activity in Alicante and Boston. Sales in PUMA City on a single day in Boston topped daily sales in any PUMA store ever worldwide.

PUMA launched a full range of clothing and apparel, from offshore sailing gear to onshore lifestyle fashion. The PUMA Sailing Performance collection was developed and tested by the PUMA Ocean Racing team itself, and was worn by the crew throughout the race.

In terms of media value alone, PUMA generated US\$49.71 million from television and print exposure, according to a research programme undertaken by IFM Sports Marketing Surveys.

PUMA also engaged consumers through social networking channels such as a blog, Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and an iPhone application.

Jochen Zeitz, Chairman and CEO, PUMA described the involvement in the 2008-09 race as "the most innovative marketing campaign the company has ever launched".

"It proved to be an extremely successful starting signal for our sailing category with the investment having been more than paid off," he said.

"While the sport of sailing is often perceived to be very exclusive, PUMA aimed to break down this misconception. The PUMA Ocean Racing campaign has successfully begun to broaden the sports' audiences, with an inclusive, fun outlook on the sport," he added.

PUMA generated significant print coverage pre-race, particularly in lifestyle publications.

Oscar-nominated actress Salma Hayek, il mostro's godmother, christened the boat in Boston five months before the race start. A total of 114 media from 28 countries attended the event.

Over 44,000 customers and PUMA employees were taken for a sailing tour on the boat either before the start or in one of the stopover ports of the Race.

Antonio Bertone, PUMA's chief marketing officer said it was an "honour" to receive the award. "We entered into the sailing category with the overall goal of making sailing inclusive and inviting new people into the sport," he said.

"Our PUMA Ocean Racing team brought sailing to places in the world that have never seen sailing as an extreme, competitive sport. Our entry into the race helped us show the world we're serious about sailing and are committed to this new category."

LexisNexis Legal Eagles

The **LexisNexis Legal Eagles Charity Yacht Race** took place on Saturday 28th November 2009. With 20 law firms competing for a very good cause, all proceeds from the race were donated to the Red Cross Children's Hospital.

Table Bay gave the race committee as well as the competitors just enough breeze and just enough warmth which made for a breathtaking day of sailing.

The teams participating ranged from novice to experienced, making up two classes, the less experienced teams sailed a shorter course No 8 Blouberg No 8 finish. The more experienced racing fleet sailed Start, No 8, Milnerton, PE, No 8, PE Finish. Overall everyone on the water had a wonderful sail. As usual, our Royal Cape Members stepped out to assist for a very good cause. The sailing office is genuinely grateful to all the boat owners who came forward and offered their boats for the day.



In addition to our members, this event would not have taken place without LexisNexis, and the event organiser Patrick Holloway - thank you for all the effort you put into keeping this event up and running! To Clive, Damien and the marina staff, you were all of grate help in contributing to a wonderful day!

The results for the day's racing:

Racing Class

1. A-L
2. Six Pac
3. Impact

Fun Class

1. Naledi
2. Aurora
3. African Renaissance

Entries for Mykonos Offshore Race 2010 are Open!

20th Anniversary of this extraordinary offshore event!

19th - 20th February 2010

Enter online on the RCYC website.

The RCYC ratings Data and the Sign In/Out System

As most of you know, the Royal Cape Ratings division have put a large amount of hard work into creating a very effective E-management system which comprises of the Royal cape Ratings Database and the Electronic Sign in/out system.



RATINGS DATABASE

The ratings database is a database of boats where the boat owner is linked to their boat by applying for a RCYC E- management user name and password. Once the boat owner has logged on to the database, he/she is able to input his/her boats correct particulars into the data base. The boat owner accepts all responsibility for the information reflected in the database and is required to report all subsequent changes and any errors found. In order to activate your boats information in the database you need to do the following.

- Boat owner's needs to request a RCYC E-management user name and password from the sailing office. Michela@rcyc.co.za
- The sailing office will then link the boat to the owner
- The boat owner needs to update the boats information as and when the information changes and accepts responsibility for the dimensions saved on the database.

ELECTRONIC SIGN IN/OUT SYSTEM

The ratings system is linked with the new electronic Sign in/out system in the foyer at the Royal Cape Yacht Club. If you wish to start utilising this new system, please email your full name, surname boat name and sail no to michela@rcyc.co.za for a RCYC E-management username and password. We also require a copy of your skipper's certificate if you plan to sign your boat in/out in the future. If you have already forwarded your skippers certificate to the sailing office, we do not require you to do so again, however if you have not done so in the past we feel this is quite pertinent. The office is only accepting valid South African Sailing certificates or the equivalent thereof.



Dramatic collision at the start of Race 4 of Clipper 09-10

Article of 22nd November courtesy of Clipper PR

A dramatic start to Race 4 of Clipper 09-10 in Cape Town saw eight of the boats cross the start line for the 4,700-mile race to Geraldton, Western

Australia, while a collision between *Hull & Humber* and *Cork, Ireland* resulted in the two teams returning to harbour. None of the crew were hurt and the Race Director and the shore team are now assessing the damage to *Hull & Humber's* port aft quarter and *Cork's* bow.



California had another cracking start in the stiff south easterly breeze in Table Bay and was first across the line to massive cheers from the crew on board.

California was followed by *Spirit of Australia*, looking for a win on this race to their home port, and *Team Finland*. The skippers of both *California* and *Team Finland* live in Cape Town so may have been able to call on a little local knowledge to press home their advantage as they led the fleet back into the South Atlantic. As they sailed into the lee of Table Mountain, which looked magnificent in the South African sunshine, the winds dropped slightly.

The Clipper Race is hard fought and, as in any sport, the adrenaline is pumping for the crews on the start line.



Race Chairman, Sir Robin Knox-Johnston, was watching the action on the water and said, "This is a closely contested race and this kind of thing happens in fiercely competitive racing. The race is underway – eight boats are racing off towards Geraldton in Western Australia. For the two damaged boats, repairs will be effected as speedily as possible so they can catch up."

The Clipper maintenance team, headed up by Justin Haller, has already begun assessing the damage and is in contact with local marine surveyors who will be called in to assist. Both yachts have been taken from the V&A Waterfront to Royal Cape Yacht Club for the work to be carried out.

Hearing of the incident, the Irish Ambassador to South Africa, who was in Cape Town today, has stayed in the city to support the team and is commiserating with them at the Royal Cape yacht club.

Cape Town has proved a huge hit with the crews who have enjoyed climbing Table Mountain – and abseiling down its sheer granite rock face – visiting Robben Island, the gardens at Kirstenbosch. And a few even had the chance to take an exclusive, behind the scenes tour of the brand new Cape Town Stadium which is being built for the 2010 FIFA World Cup.

As much as they love visiting the stopover cities and countries, the crews are here to race and this morning they were anxious to get back out on the water. As the eight teams who crossed the start line, which was marked at one end by a South African Navy minesweeper, headed back out into the South Atlantic, the current overall race leader *Team Finland* was just ahead of *California*. *Spirit of Australia*, in second place overall, was just behind them in third place, followed by the eagle-emblazoned *Cape Breton Island*, *Uniquely Singapore* and *Qingdao*. *Jamaica Lightning Bolt* and *Edinburgh Inspiring Capital* were not far behind.

Cape Town boat builders begin round the clock repair operation underway on *Hull & Humber*

Article of 24th November courtesy of Clipper PR

Following Sunday's collision between *Cork* and *Hull & Humber*, at the start of Race 4 of the Clipper 09-10 Round the World Yacht Race, work is now well underway on repairs to both boats.

Yesterday the boat building team working on *Cork* finished all the required grinding to remove the damaged areas of fibre glass on the bow, allowing them this morning to begin building up the layers of hard foam and fibre glass from which the hull is constructed.

The work on *Cork* is likely to take three or four days to complete and the team will leave and continue racing to Geraldton in Western Australia as soon as the boat is ready.

The damage to *Hull & Humber* is more extensive and requires a more work. A number of boat builders and marine surveyors spent yesterday assessing the extent of the damage and looking at the options to repair the hole in the hull. With around 25,000 miles still to race in Clipper 09-10 and the rigours of the Southern and Pacific Oceans to come, safety is the number one priority and the surveyors must be satisfied with the strength and structural integrity of the repair. In the evening the Race Director gave the go ahead to Action Yachting, based in Royal Cape Yacht Club's yard, to begin work.

They will have two teams working around the clock, one inside the boat and one out, to ensure the work is done as speedily as possible and allow *Hull & Humber* to continue racing. This morning the crew moved all their bags off the boat and cleared everything aft of the mast into the forward crew accommodation, where they can shut the watertight bulkhead door to prevent it getting covered in dust and glass fibres. Large oil drums full of water have been placed on the starboard side to make the boat heel over slightly to prevent any water getting in through the hole.

Hull & Humber's skipper, Piers Dudin, says. "The crew are off for the week as we can't work on the boat due to the cutting, grinding, fairing, epoxying, glassing, filling, sanding, drilling and bolting which is about to start. Christmas in Geraldton is still a probability. *Cork* will hopefully be out of here a few days sooner; their fix started yesterday. We're glad we're not the only ones here and they're some of the best company in the fleet! We're thinking of the other guys out there, bashin' it up. At least we know if we have it bad when we leave it'll be just as the others have had it."

When night falls this evening, arc lights will be installed to allow the boat builders to continue working. The repairs are likely to take up to seven days and it is anticipated that *Hull & Humber* will be ready to resume racing on Tuesday 1 December.

The only thing that could cause a delay is the weather. The forecast in Cape Town is generally good, although some rain is expected later this week. Temperatures are also good – an important requirement for the epoxy resin to cure properly.

A team from Clipper will be staying in Cape Town until both boats have departed. With a three week race ahead, it is still possible for both boats to arrive in Geraldton in time for Christmas. It is important to note that both boats are still racing until the finish line is crossed. The Race Committee will meet before that time to discuss the technical issues. *Hull & Humber* is likely to receive redress, while *Cork* will not. The Race Committee's decision will be announced in due course.

A Big Thank You to our Twilight Series Bridge Crew!

A huge **Thank You** goes to Viqui Stevenson, Veronica Miller, Ed Jordon, John Connor, Matthew Thomas and Annie for all their hard work on the bridge!

RCYC Galley Specials for December



Evening Specials: (19h00-Close)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>SPECIAL</u>	<u>COST</u>
1	TUESDAY	1 kg Spare Ribs & chips	R70.00
3	THURSDAY	Lamb Shanks	R70.00
5	SATURDAY	500g T-Bone & Chips	R70.00
6	SUNDAY	<i>Sunday plated roast Beef (lunch)</i>	R45.00
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8	TUESDAY	1 kg Spare Ribs & chips	R70.00
10	THURSDAY	Lamb Shanks	R70.00
12	SATURDAY	500g T-Bone & Chips	R70.00
13	SUNDAY	<i>Sunday plated roast Lamb (lunch)</i>	R55.00
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15	TUESDAY	1 kg Spare Ribs & chips	R70.00
17	THURSDAY	Lamb Shanks	R70.00
19	SATURDAY	500g T-Bone & Chips	R70.00
20	SUNDAY	<i>Sunday plated roast Beef (lunch)</i>	R45.00
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22	TUESDAY	1 kg Spare Ribs & chips	R70.00
24	THURSDAY	Lamb Shanks	R70.00
26	SATURDAY	500g T-Bone & Chips	R70.00
27	SUNDAY	<i>Sunday plated roast Lamb (lunch)</i>	R55.00
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29	TUESDAY	1 kg Spare Ribs & chips	R70.00

Ask your waitron what Chef Marco has on offer today!!



Safety at Sea

Boat Registration Numbers

Dear Boat Owners

Please be reminded that you need to display your boat's registration number on the stern of your boat. This is a SAS Requirement and we look forward to your co-operation in this regard.

Kind Regards,
Harry Brehm
Chairman: Safety at Sea Committee

Important Notes for Members

Festive Season RCYC Reception Hours:

RCYC reception will be closed during the following periods;
25 Dec – 27 Dec
01 Jan – 03 Jan
The Duty Manager will be available over these periods.

In Closing

Quotes for the Month

“Our history sings of centuries Such varying songs it sings! It starts with winds, slow moving sails, It ends with skies and wings”

- Catherine Cate Coblentz

“If one does not know to which port one is sailing, no wind is favorable.”

- Seneca