

GARDEN BAY SAILING CLUB

Saturday Races

November was not one of the better sailing months this year, but despite this we saw an average of 8 boats for each race. The first two races turned into slow motion drifts where the tide action proved more meaningful than the breeze!

The race on the 21st could not have been nicer, with blue skies and a light NW wind, which held for most of the race.

The final race of November was held in a very light southeasterly breeze. The highlight of the race was the accidental loss of the starting horn 10 seconds before the start, which resulted in Peregrine having to turn back to pick it up!

Skipper's Profile Sean McAllister

Born in England and emigrated to Canada in 1957. Raised in Edmonton, Alberta. Married to Barbara for 35 years. We have 3 children who currently reside in Vancouver. I retired after 30 years from the practice of law in 2012. I was the "litigator" in a small firm in Edmonton, eventually becoming what is euphemistically called a "family lawyer" in my later years.

My father purchased a small wooden runabout with a 40hp Royal Scott when I was 3 years of age and I have always had a boat or boats ever since. We owned a cabin on Pigeon Lake (1 hour southeast of Edmonton) from 1962-2010 where we enjoyed the usual lake side fun which included a 16ft Seaspray catamaran sailboat and a windsurfer. I took sailing lessons at the lake but did not participate regularly in any racing until arriving in Pender Harbour.

My first exposure to boating on the west coast occurred while renting

a 38ft C and C with some university buddies. We sailed around the Gulf Islands for a week and visited every pub along the way. Great fun!

My father-in-law also owned a 38ft Chriscraft power boat and my Wife and I were exposed to the pleasures of cruising with the in laws over the years.

In 2007, my wife and I went on a motorcycle trip with a few other "bikers" to Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast. We ended up at the Garden Bay pub and were in no condition to continue our tour. We secured a place to stay at the Pender Harbour Resort and ended up buying, with 2 other "bikers", a 32ft Fairbanks motor yacht (*LoStress*) that was for sale at the end of the dock. I didn't realize that we were in the market for a boat at the time. Since 2007 we have been coming to Pender Harbour for our summer holidays and to cruise up and down the west coast. We have been as far as the San Juan's to the south and as far north as Dent Island on *LoStress*. (Currently for sale)

After retiring in 2012, my wife and I felt we needed a boat of our own and we were interested in obtaining a sailboat this time. So in the summer of 2013, after nearly buying a boat that had previously been sunk in the Bahamas, we purchased *Elua Makani* (previously named Resuscitation) through Fraser Yachts. We have become good friends with the previous owner, who was a sailboat racer, and who has given me much needed advice on how to look after her. We lived on *Elua* for 2.5 months in 2013 and this year sailed her to Victoria for a visit to the Buchart Gardens after attending our first Beneteau rendezvous on Thetis Island. We wanted to participate in the cruises with the club this year but there seemed to be something in the way on each occasion.

We eventually moved to Pender Harbour in June of 2014. I have been enjoying the Saturday races and feel truly blessed to be able to race my boat in my "front yard". The highlight for us this year was winning the Legion Cup for first across the line in the Malaspina Regatta. This was a huge win for us. We had 7 on board with varying degrees of sailing experience. Obviously the conditions were perfect for *Elua*. I must thank previous crew who have assisted me greatly in learning the ropes: John Farquhar, Mike Ryan, Martin Mees, David Pritchard, Doug Ament, Bill Charleton, Frank Thompson and many others. It is a great learning experience every race.

Thanks to David Twentyman for encouraging my participation in the club, running a great race every Saturday, ensuring that I can spell *Peregrine* in my sleep and generally running a "tight ship" with respect to the sailing club.

Cheers,
Sean & Barb McAllister

UK Sailmakers Northwest

After the race on the 28th of November we were scheduled to have a presentation given by Stuart Dahlgren, the owner of UKSailmakers Northwest. Unfortunately he was unable to make it as he was bumped from his flight from Sidney to Sechart.

I shall be in contact with Stuart and hope to be able to reschedule this presentation. Stay tuned.

It is worth adding that not only are Stuart and his wife, Joy, sailmakers but they are also a very successful sailing duo, having placed first under IRC in this year's VanIsle 360 in their beautiful boat *Westerly*. Rumour has it that they are looking at the VicMaui Race next year. Not content with that they also

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race very well in their Moore 24 which Joy skippered to ninth place in the Vancouver Island Race Series this year.

For those who are interested in learning more I would recommend

you visit www.uksailmakers.com. The site has excellent articles on all the different sails UK offers, trimming sails, safety videos, etc.

Next Pub Meeting

As December is a busy month and we have the Carol Ship Parade mid month we will not be officially meeting in December.

Carol Ship Parade Friday, 18th. of December



If you have not already contacted Charlie Park I would ask you to do so as soon as possible. He can be reached at cpark@dccnet.com or 604-883-0453

After the parade, boats are invited to tie up at Fisherman's Resort where there will be a dock party. Remember to bring some things to share with other boats. Also be prepared to sing a few carols to complete the Christmas Cheer!

The Garden Bay Sailing Club will also be awarding a prize to the Best Dressed Boat, and a prize to the runner up. So it is time to start planning and we look forward to seeing you there

Season's Greetings

Following on in the festive spirit Louise and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support in the past year and to wish all of you and your families a **Very Happy Christmas and Fair Winds in the New Year.**

David Ll. Twentyman