



# Phuket Yacht Club

*52/25 Soi Phon Chalong, Moo 9,  
Chaofa Road East, Phuket 83130*

Dear members,

a great deal of effort was made at the end of last year to enable a number of our boats to join the Royal Langkawi regatta. We haven't sailed in this regatta for a few years because of COVID and the time came to reengage with them and have some racing against new opposition and another country. What many people did not know was that the Thai authorities had thrown up a new condition for leaving the country in a boat which involved an expensive one way trip payment. It's not clear what the purpose of this is but it seems like an attempt to get some money from boats which are being sold abroad before they go. In any event this was not appropriate to the Phuket Yacht Club which was sending three or four competitive yachts down to Langkawi to take part in an amateur regatta and return the following week.

The existing regulations make no allowance for private boats enjoying themselves in this way and they are for the commercial voyages of vessels and therefore demand that Thai skippers are on the boats and numerous other conditions need to be satisfied to enable a very simple exercise to be executed.

Representatives of the Phuket Yacht Club went to see the marine office bearing gifts and attempting to explain the situation and the amateur nature of the business being done. In spite of all sorts of assurances and encouragement in the end it proved very very difficult for the boats to get clearance to go and do the racing. I'm pleased to say that some boats did go South to Langkawi and compete in the racing. The result of this was a complete success with our multihull races finishing first second and third in their division ( Twin Sharks , Saffron and Trident ) and our monohull representative ( Phoenix ) finished second in the monohulls. It has to be hoped that whatever motivated these regulations , these difficulties in obtaining a temporary exit visa to do the racing can be overcome as clearly with these difficulties in mind few boats will attempt it in the future.

It is too early to attempt a digested view of the Bay Regatta but already we are hearing hair raising tales about the race back !

Perter Dyer  
Commodore

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## PYC FACILITIES REPORT

Last month we had some very strong winds which knocked the gangway off the floating pontoons. Fortunately no damage, but in future would appreciate if anyone notices any problem with the dock could you please advise the staff so they can contact a committee member.

We will lay a heavier anchor on the front of the dock to minimise it moving during strong winds. We will also lay a heavier anchor to stop dock B going on its Chalong Bay walkabouts.

You will notice the road side sign has been removed and we will hopefully be able to install some lighting so people can see it and attract more customers.

A number of other projects are being planned such as a CCTV and lighting for the carpark, improved lighting over the grass area near the sea, and yes we will start fumigating the areas that have infestations. Will be discussing a few other small improvements to our facilities for the benefit of members.

Doug Pauling





## SOCIAL EVENTS NEWS

The club has been busy this last quarter, with an amazing 72 bookings taken for the Christmas day event. A steady increase in traffic has been experienced mainly due to Chef Arkom and his wonderful food, however this has put great pressure on the current staff, so an additional helper in the kitchen has been sourced. The wine tasting event that was due in January had to be postponed due to accounting issues and the Valentines dinner was cancelled due to lack of interest. An Special Easter lunch is in the works for Sunday April 9th and Anzac Day will be commemorated on Tuesday 25th April. Work has been started to revamp the menu with prices due to rise a little due to the economic situation.

Clare Stevens



## PYC SAILING EVENT

The 2023 PYC big boat racing season kicks off with the Sailor's regatta March 23rd. Registration and weigh-in on March 23rd 5pm - 7pm. Racing 24-26th with race briefing Saturday morning at 10:30. Race start warning signals at noon each day. Award presentation dinner at 6:30 on Sunday. Only 7k baht for boat entries, crew included.

Other upcoming sailing events on the 2023 calendar:

April 8-9th Club racing two-day event

May 6-7th Club racing two-day event

June 23-25th PYC Multihull Solutions Regatta

June 28th - July 2nd Phuket Race Week

July 22-23rd Club Racing two-day event.

Cheers,

Matt McGrath

Phuket Yacht Club Race Director.

## PYC SAILING SCHOOL

It has been a bright and breezy start to 2023 with regular weekend sail training, level 1 school holiday courses, all topped off with a wonderful sailing weekend away at Cruiser Island Resort, Koh Lon. A group of twenty O'pen Skiff sailors made the trip, sailing from the club across to the island in just under 2 hours and just in time for a lovely lunch on the beach. More sailing followed with a short passage to Koh Thanan, better known as Hamburger Island to the expat community, where the boats were beached and the children spent the afternoon, exploring, collecting a variety of sea-shells and firewood for the evening campfire. In the meantime, most parents were in full relaxation mode while PYC coach Garfield kept the kids entertained with an array of entertaining beach games and activities. A beach dinner followed by the now almost customary toasting of marshmallows, music and even some dancing to the latest tunes. The sail back was sublime with a light 5-10 knot North Easterly breeze pushing the young sailors home back to the club in just over an hour. Overall a wonderful dinghy sailing experience on an island paradise that's so close to Phuket. Back to nature and for the most part not an electronic device in sight 😊



The Phuket Yacht Club sailing school operates every weekend and school holidays offering performance and adventure sailing opportunities for youths aged 7 – 17 years old. Adult dinghy sail training is also available by appointment. For more information contact +66 93 090 0221

Coach Garfield