

JOLLY HARBOUR YACHT CLUB NEWSLETTER # 6 OF 2014 18/03/2014

These Newsletters are reaching about 200 persons worldwide who have an interest past or present in the Jolly Harbour Yacht Club and its' ongoing activities. If you know of anyone who might wish to receive them, or if you don't want to receive further newsletters, please contact the Club at jollycommodore@gmail.com .

ExecCom Report. Your Commodore will be off-island from 2 April until sometime in October, so these Newsletters will be in abeyance for a while. (Thank goodness, you might say!) However, there will be intermittent things to report, keep watching this space! **NB see late news at the end of this letter.**

Saturday Sailing. Correction!! March 1st and March 8th are confirmed as **not** Winter Series races to be counted, as they clashed with other events. Pity, because the Commodore did well!! The Three Pubs Race is postponed to next season. Saturday sailing will be back to normal on Saturday 22nd.

Club & Valentine's Regattas

Planning for next year has commenced. Local and Major sponsors are being contacted. The Club Annual Regatta will be in the last week in November dates to be confirmed. Valentines Regatta 2015 will be on Fri 13 (Registration & Social), Sat 14 & Sun 15 (Racing) The RORC Caribbean 600 starts the week after our Regatta, efforts will be made to get "600" participants to race in our Regatta as this year.

Social.

The **Car Rally / Treasure Hunt** originally planned for Sunday 2nd March clashed with the ODI cricket, so was postponed by popular demand to Friday 7th. Unfortunately, half the hoped-for participants found themselves at the Airport collecting or dropping visitors (never heard of taxis?) so only seven cars and a total of twenty people took part. However, everyone thought it was enormously good fun, taking in Jolly Harbour, Christian Valley, various Beach venues, and the hinterland behind Darkwood Beach. Winners were **Cheryl and Howard Adams** (perhaps aided by local knowledge as they are building there!) Their prize of a small RV will be mounted for future participants to compete for.

Entry fees of EC\$20 per participant raised, after expenses, **EC\$300** for the **National Sailing Academy**. Another Rally is planned for next year, maybe taking in the Airport as one of the stops on the way!!!

Barbuda Pursuit Race / overnight stay & Beach BBQ

Sailing in perfect conditions, flat water and a 15 kt Noreaster on Sat 15/Sun 16 March, eleven boats took part, ten racing in a pursuit race, and Cydia along for the ride, (coming from Parham Harbour).

Fiesta (David Milner, sailing single handed) led the pursuit race out of Jolly, followed by **Yesss** (Commodore) sporting a new set of charcoal grey sails ("why couldn't they have been pink?" said the Commodore) in the light winds of early morning. As the 15 knot Northerly filled in, the fleet enjoyed some of the finest sailing ever, close on the wind but with pretty flat water keeping decks dry and throats thirsty.

Full Monty (Rear Commodore Grahame Williams) sailed an impeccable race, getting the luck of a late freeing shift which allowed her to lift up to the Waypoint 4 finishing mark off Coco Point seven minutes ahead of **Yesss** and with visiting German yacht **Arbbiata** (Joke... & Pia, the six year old youngest competitor) a further twelve minutes astern.

It is a tribute to Rating Secretary (**Susan Wills**)'s handicapping skills that **Fiesta**, slowest yacht in the fleet, & the fastest **High Tension** (Bernie Wong) finished in a dead heat for fourth ten minutes behind.

Elethea (Rick Gormley) kept up with the fleet with a reduced rig, **Ocean Harmony** (John Wills) lost 15 mins at the start after being held up in the fuel dock queue (!) for half an hour, she might otherwise have beaten **Elethea**. Heavyweights **Traveller** (Mike ...) and **Makin Smiles** (...) enjoyed the trip, but would have been happier with the more usual strong winds and reaching conditions. **Volare** (Terry Allan) retired and motored in to the anchorage behind Spanish Point to find **Cydia** (Colin Jones) already snugly at anchor. Full results are on the Club website www.JHYCantigua.com & on the Club Notice Board, with CSA and Club results in addition to the Pursuit Race results.

New JH restaurant **MAYDAY** generously donated a first prize of dinner for two, presented by six year old **Pia** to **Full Monty**, rum went to the next two finishers **Yesss** and **Arabbiata**.

Forty plus sailors enjoyed a barbecue on the sadly reduced beach at Spanish Point.

NB The Club BBQ's **honesty jar (only EC\$20 per yacht)** only contained contributions from **TWO yachts** at the end of the evening despite being in use for a couple of hours. **Please examine your conscience and pay up to any Club Officer if you used the BBQ !**

Race fees (EC\$50 per yacht) also seemed **a bit short** when accounts were examined, **maybe someone hasn't coughed up yet?** However, at a (voluntary) EC\$50 per yacht, a splendid **EC\$550** was collected for **ABSAR**.

Commodores Contemplations.

A number of Club yachts and members took part in the **St Maarten Heineken Regatta**.

High Tension (Mumm 36, Bernie Wong) was third in CSA 3. **Augustine** (Beneteau First 42, Tony Sayer) had a win in the third race but a retirement in the fourth dropped her to 5th overall in CSA 8.

Caipirinha (Beneteau First 40.7, Pat Halloran) was 14th in a highly competitive CSA 4, **Voilactus** (Jeanneau Sun Odyssey 44, Eduardo Lenz) was 10th in CSA 8 despite a retirement in race 4.

We were all sorry to hear of the damage to **Blue Peter** (Tanner Jones) in the second race of the Regatta. She had won the first race, was leading her class in the second, when she was run down by a 60 ft alloy French yacht sailing in another class (and well behind) at a mark. As I understand it, **Blue Peter** was coming into the mark on Port, tacked under the bow of the French yacht which was on Starboard, but unfortunately ran out of enough wind to complete the tack and accelerate away before being hit near the transom, taking out backstays, stanchions, lifelines, and a large chunk of fiberglass. Lessons learnt? Don't chance it – duck!

Fortunately only a few bruises were sustained by Tanner and crew, who did a great job of keeping the rig in the boat, getting back to shore, and making such good temporary repairs that she came second in the fourth race, gaining 7th in a class of 12 despite missing two races. She has sailed back to Jolly, so we hope to see you out there on Saturday, Tanner!

Fair winds! ***Budgie Burge, Commodore, JHYC***

Urgent late news: Single-handed Laser Pico mini-regatta off South Beach Tues 25 Mar in aid of NSA. 6 boats available. 3 races of 30 mins each. First start 1400. **HELMS WANTED**, young or old! Entry \$20 US or \$50 EC. Contact Mervyn or Amanda at 221B JH or call 776-0043 to reserve your boat.