Happy New Year to all our Members! We hope that the new year will bring peace, happiness, and prosperity to you all. We wish for favourable winds and smooth sailing.

The first month’s tasks for your new Board have been pretty much a slide down the learning curve and a scramble to meet the deadlines demanded by the Yearbook and the TellTales. Your Fleet Captains have been scurrying to put exciting and challenging programs in place while the Staff Captain has recruited an extensive group of volunteers to ensure the year’s social gatherings will go off without a hitch. The rest of the Board has been learning the ropes and concentrating on keeping the ship on an even keel.

Your Treasurer, JP Krauss, has been hospitalised with pneumonia for a good portion of the past month so the cheque cashing and issuing has fallen upon my shoulders. This has allowed me to get an even better insight as to the tasks and responsibilities of the position which is so vital to the smooth running of the Club. We are delighted to have JP back at the treasury helm.

One of the less pleasant tasks this month was chasing those Members who had not paid their annual fees. Fortunately, all were paid by the 60 day deadline and thus no unpleasant and drastic action had to be taken. This has always been a heavy task for the Treasurer and we hope to streamline and automate the process. Once this process has been agreed to by the Board a series of notices will appear in TellTales advising all Members of the planned steps. The steps will be within the Regulations and Bylaws but will make the collection of these fees an easier task for the Treasurer.

The clubhouse lighting and thermostat projects are now complete and it is a wonderful change. It was an unenviable job for the troop of volunteers who, working for hours in the dusty attic, completed a quality project, on budget.

There was a good turnout for the New Year’s Day Hot Rum Race, which made our first social of the year a great success. The rain and the complete lack of wind did not help the sailors a whole lot but that did not dampen the fun of the day. The success of the day is, I am certain, only a prelude to the many great social events of the year—the next of which is 15th February. See you there!

—Jim Ganderton
Commodore
New Year’s Day
Hot Rum Race and lunch
This year’s race was a bit of a non-event; eight boats floating around in the rain throwing tennis balls at each other with hardly a whisper of wind to help them on their way. There being no winner, names were drawn for the bottle of rum. Tony McEwen and Mike Byrne and their crews shared the prize.

Our Commodore Jim Ganderton wished everyone a Happy New Year and declared that ‘lunch was served’. Crews and cruisers warmed up with hot rum punch, meat pies, quiche, salad and goodies.

Many thanks to the great galley and bar crew, Susan and Doc Paynter, Sylvia Greenwood, Grace Peter, Jean Howell and Heather Kusch.

—Jenny Barrio, Staff Captain

Crafty Cruisers
Anyone with the winter blues can join our Crafty Cruisers group at 1000 hours on Thursday mornings at the Sailing Club. Bring your lunch and a project—or come and find inspiration. Chase away the winter blues by getting those creative juices flowing. All levels welcome. For more information phone Susan Paynter at 653-9688, or send an email to suspaynt@islandnet.com

—Jenny Barrio, Staff Captain

ARCLYD’s circumnavigation…
came to a temporary halt during the holiday season while the Mech family spent time touring southern California. They stayed in a marina in San Diego and caught up on various chores and provisioning. They also took time out to send us an email with the latest information about their cruise, including a number of pages with colour photos, which Hugh Greenwood has printed out and placed on the foyer bulletin board.

Their email letter will be available on the club website at www.salispringsailing.ca/pages/cruising_tales.html

Please contact Hugh for the latest address if you’d like to write the Mechs.

—Ed.

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Editing/production by Per and Lynetta Rasmussen (537-4796 or pras@saltspring.com)
On the waterfront

Happy new Year!

During the month of December we had to endure a dozen heavy windstorms. In a normal year we would get only four major blows during the winter season, so the docks have been put to the test and I am happy to say they appear to have come through without any major damage. Anything which was not tied down has taken flight and can probably be retrieved from the shoreline in Ganges!

One area for concern is the evidence of styrofoam granules that are evident around the outer breakwater and appear to be coming from the visitors dock. We will be investigating this further to try and determine if any flotation requires replacement. One location we know for sure which needs help is the outer end of E Dock where Jim Buchan almost gets wet feet every time he tries to board TABASCO. We will be fixing this problem in due course.

Jim Spencer has been shuffling the odd light around to make more efficient use of the fluorescent dock lights. Our next major construction project will be the replacement of deteriorating planks on the pier, this will most likely be done during the spring Work Party weekend after materials have been secured.

I would like to thank those people who responded to the request for a magnet. Dick Pattinson has one on hand now and is just waiting for a low tide to occur during daylight so he can go fishing!

The weather has been moderating somewhat recently which has brought out some of the hibernating islanders so, if you are on the docks and see anything which concerns you, please pick up the phone and give me a call. Until next month.

—Brian Swinburne, Rear Commodore

Many awards and honours...

were presented or announced at the Annual General Meeting last November.

New racing trophy donated by the Drage family

A new trophy has been added to our collection of club trophies. Named ‘the most enthusiastic racer trophy’, it is donated by the Ping Drage family in memory of Peter Drage, Fleet Captain, Racing, 2000–2001. It is ‘to be awarded annually, beginning in 2001, to the racer who has shown consistent enthusiasm throughout the year, as demonstrated by attendance, perseverance and positive attitude toward fellow racers and the sport of racing’.

It’s a trophy any serious racer will aspire to win, and it fully exemplifies the unwavering commitment Pete had to racing in our club.

The Past Commodores’ Award for 2001 was presented to Kevin Vine (our current Fleet Captain, Racing) by Past Commodore Les Price, ‘For continued outstanding service to the Saltspring Island Sailing Club in organising and conducting consecutive ‘Round Saltspring’ races from 1993 through to 2001’.

The Commodore’s Award for 2001 was awarded to Tony Meek. However, Tony was not present at the AGM, so the presentation will take place at a later General Meeting.

Charles Sutcliffe nominated Hugh and Sylvia Greenwood for Honorary Life Membership at the AGM, and the meeting unanimously agreed.

We hope to bring you photos of Tony Meek and the Greenwoods in the next issue of TellTales.
**Racing News**

**The 2002 Hot Rum Race**

Drizzle and light winds did not dampen the enthusiasm of the hardy souls who braved the elements on New Year’s morning for the Hot Rum Race. Eight boats made up four teams competing for the 2002 bottle of rum. When the race was eventually called due to lack of wind, the team of *Final Dash* and *Sly Fox* were in the lead. Victory slipped from their grasp as their creative interpretation of the rules was disputed by the fleet. The rum was awarded in a draw to Team *Saorsa* and *Mon Ami*, and it was widely sampled.

**Annual Skippers’ Meeting**

A gathering of interested skippers (and some crew) discussed the racing procedures for the 2002 racing season on Sunday, 16 December 2001. Highlights are as follows:

- The regular Pacific Northwest PHRF rating will be used without modification.
- The Skipper’s responsibilities will remain as posted in the handbook. For those of you who don’t have your Yearbook handy, they are:
  - You’re ultimately responsible for your boat and crew. Make sure you’re insured!
  - Lifejackets must be worn at the start of each race.
  - Stay informed; attend the skippers’ meetings and monitor VHF channel 09 when racing. Failure to do so may cost the offending skippers rum.
  - Report new sails and boat modifications to the measurer (Kevin).
  - Skippers are responsible for promptly and accurately recording their finish times.
- The Time on Time method of scoring will apply to all Club Point races during the 2002 season (except, of course, the Reverse Handicap, which, by definition, will be Time on Distance).
- Boats racing will be assigned to one of three teams for the 2002 season: Brogan, Meek, or Grange-Munneke. Team boats will be identified by coloured ribbons flying from their backstays. Check out the notice board to see which team you’re on and which colour your team will sport. Ribbons will be handed out at the skippers’ meetings.
- The DNF for Wednesday Evening Series is 1900 h. A boat crossing within the time limit will extend the limit for a further 2 hours (2100 h) after which all boats still racing will be scored DNF.

Should there be any formal protest hearings, all skippers will be invited to attend, as protests should be seen as an ‘educational opportunity’ (though exoneration on the water is still viewed as the desirable alternative for resolving disputes).

The result book will be kept in the clubhouse. Racers are encouraged to bring their finish times, refreshments, sustenance, and BS up to the clubhouse after the races.

The Race Committee for this season is

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<th><strong>Fleet Captain</strong></th>
<th><strong>Statistician</strong></th>
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<td>Kevin Vine</td>
<td>John Cameron</td>
<td>Kevin Vine</td>
<td>Phil Hume</td>
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**Members-at-large**

- David Wood
- Rob Denny
- Neil Buchan
- Hugh Greenwood

**Round Saltspring 2002**

**Bill Bull**

True to the Saltspring Island Sailing Club spirit of being a self-help club, a variety of members have taken responsibility for some of the ‘little jobs’ such as keeping the ‘Drage Starting Machine’ operable, engraving trophies, maintaining and placing buoys, cleaning up starting line marks, and so on.

**Round Saltspring 2002**

**Bill Bull**

Bill Bull chaired a very productive meeting on Saturday, 5 January 2002 attended by the Round Saltspring Committee for this year. Initial plans are well underway already, and we can look forward to yet another successful event for 2002.

**Racing Events**

**SPRING SERIES**

(One throw out allowed)

- **Sunday, 27 January**
  - **Ground Hog Day** *(RH)*
    - 1000 h start, TL 1330 h, 6.6 NM
    - Start - Batt Rock (P)
    - - Welbury Spar (P) - Finish

- **Sunday, 10 February**
  - **Ben Mohr Rock**
    - 1000 h start, TL 1430 h, 9.0 NM
    - Start - Ben Mohr (P) - Finish

- **Sunday, 24 February**
  - **McMillan Trophy**
    - 1000 h start, TL 1530 h, 10.6 NM
    - Start - Batt Rock (P)
    - - Ben Mohr (P) - Finish