



Access Dinghy Telltales

Official Newsletter of the Access Dinghy Foundation

July, 2002



PATRON of the Access Dinghy Foundation: The Governor General of Australia, His Excellency the Right Honorable Dr. Peter Hollingworth, AC, OBE

Volume 4, Issue 1

3rd International Access Dinghy C'ships to be sailed in Osaka, Japan, 12-14 October, 2002



From Nobi Nishii, President. Sailability Japan

Activity in Japan began from the time of my meeting Mr. Grahme Rayner three years ago in Australia. Now, the 26 Access Dinghies in Japan have given many people pleasant sailing in the whole country. I continue this activity with the help of many people.

We Japanese are organizing the International Access Dinghy Championships in Osaka on 12, 13, 14 October 2002. I want to introduce people who are working for realization of this regatta.

Mr. Masuo (Deeb) Fujimoto is the chairman of Sailability Osaka and organized Japan Access Dinghy Championships in 2000, 2001, and 2002, with the help of Osaka Hokkou Yacht Club. He organizes the committee of International Osaka Regatta, and is doing the most important work. Probably, this regatta would not occur without him.

Kousaku Gohda worked excellent for us when we went to Canberra for Australian and International Access Dinghy Championships three years in a row. His excellent office skills is what I depend on greatly.

Nobuko is my wife and becomes my ally always and is encouraging me. Yes, she is the most important.

Tomy is young and new to the family of Access Dinghy. He organized Sailability

Shounan. He applies young power to my activity at Tokyo. And his university wants Universal Design to know the Access Dinghy as the one of the best Universal Designed work (see Universal Design Page 2).

In Japan it is usually impossible to hold an International event unless very big money is not spent like World Cup or Olympic Game. It is rare in Japan for a civilian to plan such an international competition. I think this regatta make new wave in Japan. Although I know that it is said that Japanese people do not interchange with foreign people, we know that after this regatta, that will change.

See Page 2 for more details



Sketch by Nobi Nishii, Sailability Japan

Japanese Website
www.sailability.com
nobinis@juno.ocn.ne.jp

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"Proud Supporters and official supplier to Access Dinghies"

Editorial

Hi Again Everyone,

I've decided that I really do enjoy putting together Teltales and I would like to sincerely thank everyone who has submitted articles—and put up with my pestering in the weeks leading up to publishing.

Chris and I recently returned from a month on the West Coast of USA. We travelled through Oregon, Idaho, Washington and California and encountered weather ranging from ice and snow in Oregon to the blazing heat of Central California. We drove over the mountains of Oregon and down the coastal road from San Francisco to Los Angeles and then San Diego. It was a real adventure.

Along the way we made many new friends and met up with a number of old ones. Our very good friends Herb Meyer and Carolyn Heilig (Sailability USA) and Mike Strahl (Hobi Trapseat fame) opened their homes to us. We expect to see a string of Sailability clubs springing up.

One of the highlights of the trip for me was the few days spent at Camanche Lake Recreation Area in California with Herb and Carolyn. The Park administration kindly donated accessible accommodation for our stay. But to everyone in the USA who made our trip such a memorable one—a hearty thank you.

.... and what about our Australian Access Dinghy Team? **Thirty-four** sailors and supporters going to Osaka in Japan for the AD Internationals in October! What can we say except, congratulations everyone going and the very best of Good Luck. I feel really proud to be an Aussie and wish I could be there too.

Jackie Kay

2003 World Disabled Single-Handed Dinghy Championships



In March 2003 we will be hosting, along with the Three Lakes Sailing Club and the Canberra Scouting Movement, The World Disabled Single Handed Dinghy Championship, a 4 day event run under the authority of the International Foundation for Disabled Sailing (IFDS).

The regatta will be sailed in Access 303 wide seaters with a demonstration event in the new 3.6m Access Liberty. The 303's will be sailed manually while the Liberty fleet will all be servo assist opening up this level of international competition to sailors with the highest disability.

The Worlds will follow the 7th Access Dinghy Australian National Championships, our celebrated two day open regatta sailed in five models of Access Dinghy, in eight Divisions, in over 80 boats in two fleets and attracting around 180 sailors from a variety of nations.

The Nationals will serve as an excellent warm up for the 2003 Worlds.

For more information see our website www.accessdinghy.org or email info@accessdinghy.org

L-R: Nobi Nishii, President of Sailability Japan and sailors from Yokohama



UNIVERSAL DESIGN International Federation on Ageing From Page 1

In June, Tomy (of Sailability Japan) presented Access Dinghies as a universal design to his University. As a result, the International Federation on Ageing has contacted us with an invitation for Access Dinghies to be presented at the upcoming IFA World Conference in Perth, Western Australia in October.

www.congresswest.com.au/IFA/universal.html

"Universal Design is the design of products and environments, useable by all people to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialised design.

The Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1999. It addressed a number of issues concerning population ageing and older persons. It specifically identified the need to "create opportunities and remove barriers that hinder older persons from contributing their skills to their families, to the workforce and to their communities in order to help foster inter-generational solidarity and enhance the well-being of society".

Large Aussie Contingent to Osaka for AD Regatta

Each year between 15-25 Japanese sailors and supporters travel to Canberra to compete in the Australian Access Dinghy Championships. This year, with the International AD Regatta being held in Osaka, an astounding 34 Australians will travel to participate in the Championships.

Coming from ACT, Victoria, NSW and Queensland, the Australian Access Dinghy Sailing Team comprises 20 competitors and 14 supporters. The majority of the Team will depart Sydney on 9th October with the remainder joining them after the Homeros Blind Sailing C'ships in Italy.

Thanks to the magnificent organisational skills of Terry Peek (on the Australian end) and Nobi Nishii (in Japan) the Team will spend an exciting 9 days sailing and sightseeing. Terry is the co-ordinator of the Australian Access Dinghy C'ships in Canberra each year, and Nobi, the President of Sailability Japan. It is shaping up to be a fantastic event.



Young Canadians of All Abilities – Sail Their Way to Independence by Karen Natho



"Today over 20,000 children, youth and young adults in Ontario live with a physical disability and they're striving for independence, acceptance and achievement. For 80 years The Easter Seal Society, Ontario has been assisting these children and youth by helping them to purchase costly equipment needed for mobility and communication, and by providing access to critical information, research and specialized camp programs. We are dedicated to helping kids with physical dis-

Easter Seal Camp Merrywood, one of two Easter Seal camps that offer accessible sailing for children and young adults with physical disabilities in Ontario, Canada, is rigged and ready to start its second summer of accessible sailing. Six sailboats purchased in 2001, allow campers the chance to cruise the lake on their own or with a buddy.

"The addition of the Access sailboats to our camping

program last summer was a hit! It was one of the most popular activities, enabling campers to experience a sense of freedom and independence while having fun," says Karen Natho, Easter Seal Merrywood Camp Director.

This summer will offer new sailors the opportunity to embrace new challenges. Sailing clubs and a level-head program will assist campers in developing their sailing skills. Water activities are the foundation of the camp, with overnight camping trips, multiple day canoe trips, white water rafting excursions and swimming in both lake and heated pool, being all part of a day in the life at camp. Located on a peninsula in the Rideau River, about one hour from the Nation's Capital, Ottawa, this serves as the ideal location for over 200 campers to experience the magic of traditional and challenge camp programs.

"That was incredible," Noel, an enthusiastic camper, said soon after completing a journey out on the water on a breezy July afternoon. "I got to go so fast, it was like a roller coaster ride along the waves."

For more information about the sailing program at Easter Seal Camp, please contact Karen Natho at knatho@easterseals.org.

www.easterseals.org

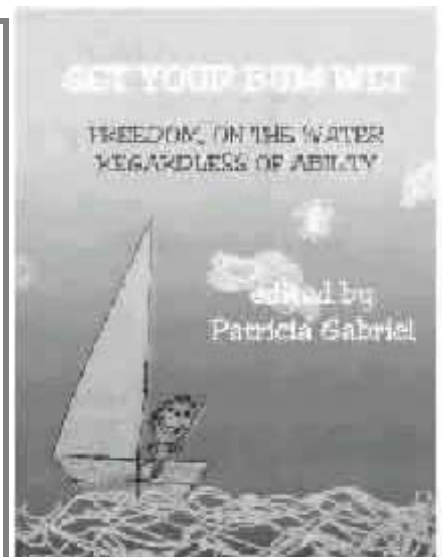


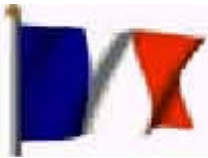
Get Your Bum Wet (2nd edition) – Write your story now

First printed in 1999, edited by Pat Gabriel of Sailability ACT, this cheeky little book is going into a 2nd edition. We are looking for new short stories from sailors, volunteers, carers or sponsors from around the world. If you have an interesting, funny or moving story about your sailing, send (with photo) to:

Gail Stafford
 Access Dinghies
 2/7 Bungaleen Court
 Dandenong 3175
 Australia
gail@accessdinghy.org

**Deadline for articles is strictly
 1st September**





La Voile Ensemble Marie-Claude Acker-Frotiee President

"La Voile, Ensemble", Sailability France is very pleased to inform that Access Dinghies are now present almost in every part of France : North, South, East and West.

"La Voile , Ensemble" organizes many events and even the first Nationals (see below) and so far, eight sailing clubs offer the possibility to sail Access Dinghies. This is still the beginning of this very exiting project here in France, but we are quite confident that many new sailors and volunteers will join us in the future because many already show enthusiasm and determination .They really want to see disabled and

valid sailors all together on the water. Lions Club of Lyon Nord and the radio "Lyon Sports" begin to help our association.

In May, two members, Jean-Christophe Castagné and Thierry Huschard, went to Italy and sailed in "The European Race For All". They talked about Sailability.

"La Voile, Ensemble" prepares the first Nationals (maybe "European race" with sailors from England and Portugal ?). This friendly competition will take place at Lake of Annecy, Sévrier, on 22nd of September 2002. We expect many sailors. For more information email Marie-Claude Acker-Frotiee at :

lavoile.ensemble@wanadoo.fr
www.sailability.org/fr/france



Camanche Lake and Stockton, California

Mike Flynn, Co-ordinator of ARC & Fred Hess, Sailability Stockton

Chris & Jackie recently visited both Stockton and Camanche Lake (one hour away from each other). There was great enthusiasm for Sailability. In Stockton Fred has two AD but no facility to sail on yet, while at Camanche Lake, there is a program and a wonderful lake, but no Access Dinghies.... Read

A Letter from Mike Flynn, Camanche Lake

Chris and Jackie,

I cannot tell you how much I personally enjoyed our time together in early June. What you two are spreading is magic-magic reflected in the eyes of those who meet you and in the lives of those who sail your dinghies!

There has been a whirlwind of activity since you left. I understand that you placed Fred Hess of Stockton in contact with me. Thank you for the contact. Fred has proven to be a spark plug of energy around which events have been creating a whirlwind of ac-

tivity. I recently met with Fred at Lake Camanche. The meeting took place with representatives from ARC, Lions Club, Rotary and Kiwanis as well as Chris Cantwell from the Camanche Recreation. The meeting started on a resounding note centered around the reaction of students from ARC comments on their experience the previous week.

Fred was enthralled by the facilities at Camanche and enthusiastically offered the loan of his two Access Dinghies. We have the water and the interest of ARC for a program which seemingly consummates a "marriage made in heaven".

I believe that I stated to you during one of our evening conversations that I would be happy to support, in so far as possible, the integration of broad scale sailing into my school program. I also believe that I made some statement about how I also had a business to run, limiting my availability of waking hours to devote to such a program. Based on the past two weeks, I have equated volunteerism to, if my memory serves me correctly, Boyles Law which states that a gas fills the void into which is placed with pressure increasing as a function of the energy expended in its placement!



Camanche Lake, California

Letter from Fred Hess, Stockton

Hi Chris and Jackie,

Things are going incredibly well after your two demonstration visits. I really took your advice to heart about the immediate availability of Lake Camanche, and we hope to be starting there within a few weeks.

The Tradewinds Foundation is hiring a program director who has been working with Mike Flynn and sounds perfect. We will also be trying to start the first Sailability Club.

Thanks again for everything. It's going to be a very exciting month!

fhess@tradewindsfoundation.org
www.tradewindsfoundation.org/about.html



6 year old Brendon having fun on the Stockton Canal

grd@goldrush.com



Sailability Orange, NSW

Timothy Hone, President
timothyhone@hotmail.com

In November 1999 a group of highly dependent students from Anson St School went on an excursion for a few days to Wyangala Dam. While there, they were taken sailing in a Corsair dinghy. Something particular seemed to happen to these students while gliding through the water: perhaps a sense of relaxation, a change of motion, or the sounds of the water against the boat. It happened again to a different group on a day visit to Carcoar Dam, the staff thought this would be a wonderful activity/therapy for the whole school but conventional dinghies were unsuitable.

An article from a sailing magazine describing the Access Dinghy was later brought to the staff room, then lo-and-behold these boats were seen and tried on another school excursion to Lennox Head (Lake Ainsworth.) On their return, the staff were very keen to both purchase an Access Dinghy and set-up a branch of Sailability NSW in Orange, so both organizations were contacted to set the ball rolling.

During a school/community function to celebrate the Olympics, sailing for people with a disability was discussed with a local businessman, who generously gave the first donation toward an Access Dinghy. The rest is history so they say, except to mention a nucleus of dedicated people who have given of themselves, and their time, to help realize the motto 'freedom on the water regardless of ability', and to create opportunities for members of the greater community and school students to enjoy this unique experience.

Sailability Orange is now preparing for the next season hoping to reach more adults, juniors and schools in the region. We were getting the word out last summer/autumn and attracted participants from Cowra, Bathurst, Blayney and Orange. Many hadn't been sailing before so were initially rather tentative, however once out on the water a big smile usually spread across their faces and they became regulars.

Our volunteers have been tremendous in moving Sailability into the community, not only with sailing but fundraising too. It looks like we have the finance to purchase an H-shape pontoon, and a group of electricians have put their hands in their pockets and bought us the hoist and slings! Our next project is to buy a servo assisted 2.3, so we have a bush dance and concert lined up for September and a community bbq outside a popular shopping centre.

Carcoar Dam Sailing Club have given us lots of support, so we are working with them to improve facilities and access from the road. It is so heart warming to see people working together for a worthy cause. Sailability Orange is community based, for the community, run by dedicated volunteers - it cannot be owned or bought, wouldn't it be nice to see that reflected in the business world!

Anson St School Sailing Team & supporters at the 2002 Australian Access Dinghy C'ships



2002 Melbourne Boat Show "Sailing for everyone"



For the fourth year, the indoor Sailing Pool was a tremendous hit at the Boat Show.

With the generous and enthusiastic support of BIA Victoria, a 25 x 8 metre aboveground swimming pool and walkway is erected. 26 fans provide the "wind" to propel three Access Dinghies.

The pool is always popular with the kids and throughout the five days of the Show over 1,200 children have fun sailing on the pool.

Thirty volunteers from Sailability Victoria and Sailing for Everyone man the pool, providing instruction, helping with life-jackets and loading. Stalwarts, Peter Donaldson (Co-ordinator of Sailability Victoria), Bev Waller (Sailing for Everyone Docklands) and Paul Borg (Sailability Painesville) were on duty for almost the entire Show. What a monumental feat.

On microphone, Paul (who has vision impairment) provided lively and amusing commentaries of activities on the pool. Patiently assisted by his trusty guide dog, Hugh, Paul encouraged spectators to make donations to Sailability and Sailing for Everyone.

... and just to confirm that Access Dinghies believes in total integration for all —the sight of Paul (Vision Impairment) and Peter Donaldson (with Cerebral Palsy), push starting the old Access Dinghy van at the Boat Show, was really a sight to behold....

www.biavic.com.au/club_marine_melb_boatshow/general_info.html





Pacific NW Access C'ships

25th May 2002

Report from Idaho, by Miles Moore



From all indications the first ever Access Dinghy Championships in the Pacific Northwest and the first Access Dinghy only event west of the Mississippi River was a tremendous success. Initially only four people signed up for this event, but due to coverage by the local TV station (Q6) and news paper (Spokesmen Review) the response to the event was overwhelming.

Weather for the day was predicted to be rainy and this was partly true as it rained off and on throughout the day. Due to light winds the race course was shortened and we were able to get 3 races in before lunch and after lunch the wind even got lighter which resulted in only getting 2 races in. There was some tight racing but in the end Debbie Schauer of Rathdrum Idaho was able to gain the title of regional champion with two firsts and one second place finish. Mindy Moore also gained a first place overall in the junior division. So next year Debbie and Mindy will have the honor of defending their titles.

Farragut State park (in North Idaho, USA) proved to be an ideal place to hold a regatta with it's beautiful scenery and crystal clear water. There is also ample room for camping and lots of places to hike and bike. We must thank Farragut State Park for their hospitality and allowing us to install our C-Crane and allowing us to park our events travel trailer near the event site.

A big thanks goes to Kootenai County Parks & Waterways department for letting us use their powerboat as a support boat, and for helped us install the C-Crane base and giving us support any time we needed it. The Lake Pend Oreille Yacht Club set two of our buoys out on the lake with their lines because we did not have long enough line due to the great depths of the lake (400+ ft, actually in many places on the lake the depth is over 1200 ft). Thanks so much. And we must thank Mike Little for the use of his buoys.

And a special thanks goes out to all our volunteers and Dennis Hannan for the use of his camper trailer. Last but not Least we must thank Chris Mitchell (Designer of the Access Dinghies) and Jackie Kay for traveling all the way from Australia to support our event and for giving us so much valuable information regarding how to run such an event and being understanding of our lack of knowledge in this area. Chris and Jackie may not be able to come next year but we all felt very privileged to have them at our event this year.

The Access Dinghy Championships are planned for next year, June 14, 2003. Well that is a rap, see you at next year's championships.



Sailing team—Corine and Levy Moore

Upcoming Regattas

2002

September, 02

- 7-8 **UK Access Dinghy C'ships**
Brixworth Northants, UK
mary.spacey@dtm.ntl.com
- 8 **2nd Access Dinghy 2.3 Singapore**
Changi Sailing Club, Singapore
sccd@pacific.net.sg
- 19-22 **Nth American Access Dinghy C'ships**
Baltimore Downtown Sailing Center
admrkirk@erols.com
- 21-22 **French Access Dinghy C'ships**
La Voile Ensemble—Annecy
lavoile.ensemble@wanadoo.fr

October, 02

- 13-14 **3rd International Championhips**
Sailability Japan, Osaka, JAPAN
nobinis@juno.ocn.ne.jp

November, 02

- 16-17 **NSW Access C'ships**
Sailability Port Stephens
grahmerayner@hotmail.com

2003

January, 03

- 11-12 **Sth Aust Sailability C'ships**
billrichter@ozemail.com.au
- 18-19 **Victorian Access C'ships**
Geelong Yacht Club
david@yachtingvictoria.com.au
- 25-27 **Queensland Access C'ships**
newco@powerup.com.au

March, 03

- 15-16 **Australian Access Dinghy C'ships**
3 Lakes Sailing Club ACT
Lake Tuggeranong, Canberra
AUSTRALIA.
terrypeek@bigpond.com
- 18-21 **World Disabled Single Handed Dinghy C'ships**
3 Lakes Sailing Club ACT
Lake Tuggeranong, Canberra
AUSTRALIA
accessdinghy@msn.com.au
- 23 **Sth Aust Access Dinghy C'ships**
sahobie@senet.com.au



www.sail-s.com
info@sail-s.com

P.S. from Miles.....
The kids had a lot of fun!
The Farragut State Park officials were so impressed with the stability of the Access Dinghies and the ease at which the kids sailed the boats that they are looking into purchasing some Access Dinghies for their future sailboat rental program.