



Access Dinghy Telltales

Official Newsletter of the Access Dinghy Foundation

November, 2001

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

The Access LIBERTY is Launched in U.S.A.

Ian Harrison, Chairman of International Foundation of Disabled Sailing (IFDS) launched the latest model of Access Dinghies on 24 October. During the IFDS Display on adaptive sailing equipment at the St. Petersburg Sailing Center, Florida USA, Ian officially performed the world-wide launch of the Liberty in front of a small gathering.

During the launch Ian Harrison said:

"I am very excited about the growth of Access Dinghies throughout the world. It is enabling many people with an infinite range of disabilities to sail confidently for the first time. The simplicity and safety of the boats is remarkable yet provides an opportunity to learn all about racing and to become familiar with the rules. The class hopefully enables someone to gain sufficient confidence to progress to more sophisticated boats if that is their wish.

The Liberty is the latest of Chris' remarkable designs and I had the pleasure of sailing it a few days ago. It had no vices and appears to be absolutely controllable in all but the most extreme conditions. The twin rudders prevent the boat from screwing up into the wind in a gust and the jib-boom is a very clever and innovative idea which works well. All the other controls are light and easily accessible and the boat is pleasure to sail. Above all else I enjoyed going out for a sail without getting wet."



Among the guests who attended the Launch were:

Ian Harrison	Chairman of IFDS
Pauline Harrison	IFDS
Herb Meyer	Chairman, Sailability USA
Lee Parks	US Sailing
Nava George	Australia
Keith Hobbs	Ontario Sailing Assoc
John McRoberts	Canada



**2002 Aspect Access Dinghy
Australian Championships
2 & 3 March**

Lake Tuggeranong, Canberra

**Download Entry Forms, NOR etc
www.sailability.org
from Latest News or ACT pages**

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Watch this space for our new sponsor—Horizon Sailmakers

Editorial

Hello to all our friends around the world.

As usual, I am frantically short of time and apologise for the shortened newsletter. But, a little is better than nothing, and there were too many interesting items to leave until March.

Chris and I have just returned from the USA and Europe where we were lucky enough to participate in many exciting projects and events. See notice below p.2 regarding France and Portugal and the report on p.3.

Our final stop in Europe was the World Sailing Summit which was held in conjunction with the ISAF Annual Conference in Lisbon. Chris and I were fortunate to have the opportunity to give a presentation entitled "Sailing is for Everyone". Here, we addressed and spoke with, leaders of the international boating and sailing industries, giving our perceptions of sailing around the world.

While in Florida, we met up with our good friends, Ian and Pauline Harrison of IFDS. Then, it was bizarre to run into them again in the hotel lobby in Lisbon at the ISAF Conference -and think nothing of it. The world is getting smaller all the time.

Whilst I really enjoy meeting old friends and making new ones all around the world, I must admit that I am truly happy to be home again (for the time being at least).

However, as there is no rest for the wicked, we are now busily preparing for the Australian Access Championships in March. All the information can be downloaded from the "Latest News" on www.sailability.org

Jackie Kay

FINALND Hello Everyone Keen on Sailing



Here in Finland winter is coming with snow and ice, but we still remember the sunny days of summer and of course sailing. I work with project that works with handicapped people to find them new hobbies and we are searching new tools to people that they can do different things. And we found it. An Access 2.3 that we bought to here was very first and still the only boat what gives chance to sail alone to everyone. It is great. When we got the boat the sailing season was already strongly going. But quite a many new sailors was on the water during the summer. And we are really waiting for next summer. Only half an year for waiting.

One new sailor was a young man who had accidentally become paralysed before this year. He didn't believe that he can enjoy the feeling of speed, close to nature alone anymore. He hadn't been on the water by sail ever before. He got only 5 minutes of info for sailing and handling the boat. And then he felt ready on the water... He had an hour of sailing the first time, alone, doing himself, smiling, thinking... After first sail he was really satisfied: "I could't believe, it's easy, it's fantastic, that was great and I want to do that again".

We are now searching the possibilities to get more of these excellent Access boats to Finland. And we are waiting for open waters to sail again. Greetings to everyone around the world. Enjoy your sailing experiences.....

Osku Kuutamo
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Announcement regarding the Foundation's Patron



The Access Dinghy Foundation is excited to advise that His Excellency the Right Honorable Dr. Peter Hollingworth, AC, OBE, new Governor General of the Commonwealth of Australia, has accepted our invitation to become Patron of the Foundation.

The Foundation thanks Dr. Hollingworth for his support.

EXCITING ANNOUNCEMENT

Recently new branches of Sailability have been formed in Europe. In France at a meeting in Lyon, on October 27, Voilabilite was formed. Portugal has begun Sailability with two branches. One, in Porto in the north and the other down south in the Algarve, at Vilamoura.

To contact these new groups email:-

France	composites.3d.bernay@wanadoo.fr
Porto	apva_sailability@hotmail.com
Algarve	dave@player.pt

In the March edition of Tell Tales we will have a detailed report on the future plans of these new Sailability groups.

2nd North American Access Dinghy Championships Clearwater, Florida USA - 20th to 22nd October 2001

The North American Access Dinghy Championships were a fantastic experience for everyone involved. Alder Allensworth, President of Sailability Florida (and Sailability USA), and her band of jolly volunteers ran an efficient, yet wonderfully relaxed and happy regatta.

Competitors included Herb Meyer of California (Chairman of Sailability USA and competed in this year's Australia Championships); also competing were a number of Canadian Paralympic sailors with Danny McCoy and John McRoberts in the 2.3 Gold Fleet and Ron Ingalls (John McRoberts' coach) in the 303 Gold Fleet.

Whilst the guys in the Gold Fleets got down to some serious sailing, they also had a novel way to sort out on-water disputes - there were no protests over the entire three days. After one race in which Meredith fouled John McR, he and Danny cornered her and removed her rudder blade. (Meredith is a program co-ordinator from Shake A Leg Miami). At the end of the next race, after a physical tussle (John is a quad and Meredith an able bod), John was relieved of his rudder blade and Meredith sailed back to the dock leaving John stranded in the bay. John then convinced Herb to lend him one of Herb's twin rudders off the 303S. This in itself was a sight to behold as the two quads sorted themselves out. There was lots of good natured bagging out over the weekend.

There are many other humorous stories - like the 14 year old Jessica - her special story is below. And there is Alder, co-ordinator of the event. After months of hectic preparation and a busy weekend Alder woke up on the last day of competition, put on her swimming costume and t-shirt and after a day in front of TV cameras and being photographed with every trophy winner at the presentation ceremony, realised that that she was actually still wearing her nightie!



2001 Nth American Access Dinghy Champion, Danny McCoy with young sailors from Shake-A-Leg Miami.

And Tracey (one on Nava's nurses) who entertained us by doing the splits between Nava's support boat and the dock while preparing for a race and ended up taking a dunking..... and there were the young disabled kids from Shake-A-Leg Miami - they endeared themselves to everyone with their fun-loving and exuberant hot dogging antics out on the water prior to the races.

It was wonderful to see Canadian Paralympic 2.4mR sailor, Danny McCoy, taking the time to give the young sailors coaching sessions on the shore as well as offering advice out on the course to those who were having a little difficulty. This was the atmosphere of the entire weekend—sharing

and helping out wherever possible.

Nava George was the only Australian competitor. Nava is 21 years old and a ventilated quad. In the regatta, she sailed an electric 303S from Shake A Leg Miami (thanks Harry). Over the three days of the Championships Nava experienced a myriad of emotions. The excitement of her first international competition, probably a little fear with sailing in unknown waters in an unknown boat with unknown competitors as well as the frustration of a mechanical breakdown during one race and then the exultation of winning a heat for the first time. Attending the Championships in Florida was a mammoth undertaking for Nava as she travelled with four nurses and her Dad. Well done Nava.

The sailors, the volunteers (and the volunteers' children), the City of Clearwater and many local community organisations really did make this an event to remember. Full results have been posted on the Sailability Florida site www.sailability.org/us/florida

An Embarrassing Moment - Jessica Ackley, aged 14

I waited so long and worked so hard for this day. There I was sitting in my favorite orange Access Dinghy waiting for my turn for the race instructions. I was thinking this is the first competition. I started getting real nervous, my stomach was jumping and I knew I needed to shut it all out and relax for a few minutes. I laid my head back and stretched out my legs. I tuned into the sound of the water hitting the sides of my boat with the wind gently moving across my face. I was reeling real good when all of a sudden I was awoken. I had the most relaxing nap and found myself kissing the sea wall as the safety boats were heading in my direction.

Although I was embarrassed at the way in which I was found, it was worth it. I totally tuned into my boat and what I needed to do in the next upcoming days in this regatta.





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Upcoming Regattas

2002

January, 02

12-13 **Victorian Access Championships**
Sailability Gippsland
Latrobe Valley Yacht Club,
Hazelwood Pondage, Morwell.
sailability@vyc.com.au

March, 02

2-3 **Aspect Australian Access C'ships**
Sailability ACT
Lake Tuggeranong, Canberra
AUSTRALIA.
sailability@msn.com.au

May, 02

25-27 **Pacific NW Access C'ships**
SAIL (Self Awareness in Leisure)
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
info@sail-s.com

September, 02

19-22 **USA National Access Dinghy C'ships**
Baltimore Downtown Sailing Center
Maryland, USA
admrkirk@erols.com

October, 02

13-14 **Japanese Access C'ships & 3rd International Championships**
Sailability Japan, Osaka, JAPAN
nobinis@juno.ocn.ne.jp

2003

January, 03

TBA **Victorian Access Championships**
Sailing for Everyone Docklands
Docklands, Melbourne

March, 03

TBA **Aspect Australian Access C'ships**
Sailability ACT
Lake Tuggeranong, Canberra
AUSTRALIA.

Results

Singapore—SCD Access 2.3 Regatta 30th September & 7th October Changi Sailing Club

1st	Roder Jones	7th	M. Noh
2nd	Rodge Ngai	8th	Taufik
3rd	Karim	9th	Hoon
4th	Jovin	10th	Janice
5th	Toh Soon	11th	Zanariah
6th	Desiree		



The Final Race

North American Access Dinghy Championships 20—22 October, 2002 Clearwater, Florida

GOLD FLEET

2.3

1st	Danny McCoy, Canada
2nd	Jay Stephens, Naples
3rd	Bruce Conley, Naples

303

1st	Ron Ingalls, Canada
2nd	Jay Stagg, Clearwater
3rd	Herb Meyer, California
Servo Assist—Herb Meyer	
Encouragement Award	
The Duck	

SILVER FLEET

2.3

Vincent Morenza, Miami
Zack Ackley, Clearwater
Jack McAllister, Clearwater
Servo Assist—Bryant Asmatha

303

Jessica Ackley, Clearwater
Nava George, Australia
David Jones, Tallahassee
Servo Assist—Nava George, Australia
Lisa Wallace, Clearwater
Diego Zorilla, Miami



NSW Access Dinghy Championships 17—18 November 2001 Grahamstown Dam, Port Stephens

2.3

Div 1

- Wayne Teagle—Dobroyd
- Marianne Ireland—Belmont
- Robert Barnbrook—Narooma

Div 4

- Austin Canty—Illawarra
- Maria Dalmon—Pittwater
- Tracey Lee—Illawarra

303

- Chris Cook—Northern Rivers
- Wayne Teagle—Dobroyd
- Bob Bundock—Rushcutters

Div 3

Wendy Evans—Belmont
Kevin Bower—Illawarra
Tracey Blair—Belmont

Div 5

Mark Zacharko—Port Stephens
Patricia Feek—Pittwater
Simone Peruch—Pittwater

Servo Assist—Ame Barnbrook
Justin Kroh Award—Wendy Evans

