

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



UPDATES & NOTES

We're currently doing an audit of our boat storage facilities in Emerald Bay and Deep Water Bay, as there are some adjustments that need to be made following typhoon Mangkhut. We are also planning to proceed with installing additional rack spaces in Deep Water Bay. Thank you for your patience and understanding. In the meantime, we ask our Members whose boats sustained serious damage, to check your craft, confirm if you wish to retain your spaces, and ask for any assistance if you need help disposing of boats or boards beyond repair.

FRIENDLY RULES TO REMEMBER

- Sign yourself and any of your guests in when visiting either Clubhouse. It's important for us to know actual usage numbers at this time, in making our returns to the Government's Home Affairs Bureau .
- When using either Clubhouse, please buy your beer and soft drinks from us. If we don't have your favourite wine available, you're welcome to bring it along, but please pay the corkage fee. We depend on your honesty.
- Emerald Bay parking is for Members only on weekends and public holidays.

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE

- The 'Around the Island Race'
- 169th anniversary cocktail reception
- World's greatest adventurer, Mike Horn, visits the Club

PADDLE SECTION NEWS

The 2018 Outrigger Season ended with great success with the Around the Island Race! Congratulations to our five VRC crews representing to race 45 Kilometres around Hong Kong Island! Crews included Unlimited Men, Women and Mix, and 2 Men's Standard crews that competed with fantastic results. Notable mention to our Men's standard steered by member Tim Fang and taking 1st place in their category, Mix Unlimited crew steered by Lee Wong and Jo Jones taking 3rd place, and Women's Unlimited taking 2nd place with Martha Levin steering the whole 45 Kilometres. Congratulations to our Men's Unlimited crew who led a competitive battle with Team Hawaii/Hong Kong. We congratulate our many rookie paddlers for completing this race as well!

All levels are welcome! It's always a good time to start. Since typhoon Hato in 2017, one of our replacement canoes has arrived and additional canoes are making their way in early 2019.

Want to start paddling dragon boat or outrigger in 2019?

Just drop us an email at: info@vrcpaddleclub.com and secretary@vrcpaddleclub.com



THE MONTH AT A GLANCE

Reciprocal Party with Club de Recreio 25th November, 2018

To celebrate VRC's new reciprocal arrangement with Club de Recreio, a Members party was held at Deep Water Bay. Thanks to everyone who came along and made it such a fun day with great food, music and company—despite the weather!

Club de Recreio is situated in Kowloon (20 Gascoigne Road, Kings Park). It offers tennis, lawn bowls, mahjong and has a Chinese fusion restaurant. Parking is available and bookings can be made by emailing Sharren at: admin@victoriarecreationclub.com.hk, 24 hours before your visit.

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Thanks to everyone who came along and made it such a fun day with great food, music and company!



THE MONTH AT A GLANCE

Annual Cocktail Reception 30th November, 2018

169 years and going strong! Few clubs in the world can boast that they are 169 years old, and in Hong Kong, the VRC is certainly the only one! So, another year, another birthday party celebrated with our Members on the Deep Water Bay Deck.

The cake cutting was a joint affair, with our Chairman, Kam Wu, inviting our legacy members, Quito and Nana Barros, to share the honours.



THE MONTH AT A GLANCE

Christmas Tree Lighting 1st December, 2018

Hopefully starting a new VRC tradition, we were happy to celebrate our first-ever Christmas Tree Lighting at Emerald Bay. Our beautiful eco-tree was built with branches brought down by typhoon Mangkhut. To decorate it, natural decorations were made in a workshop hosted by Claire from Malvern College.

Once the sun went down, our tree was lit up and Christmas treats, roasted marshmallows, mulled wine and minced pies were served and enjoyed by all!



THE MONTH AT A GLANCE

Trim-a-Tree

8th December, 2018

100 children and their parents from Malvern Pre School and College enjoyed a forest classroom with a wonderful day of tree decorating and Christmas handicraft activities.

It was loads of fun, and thank you to everyone who took part!



THE MONTH AT A GLANCE

Geminid Meteor Shower 14th December, 2018

Okay, so we were unlucky with the cloud cover and missed out on the spectacular star show. But what we lacked in clear skies, we made up for with great company!

The atmosphere was magical in its own way, with an evening of Christmas food and drinks served on the Club's rooftop.



Great Party Venue

Our stunning Emerald Bay location was enjoyed by Members again this month, for their private parties and events.

The Ellis' were amongst them, when they celebrated Adam's big 'four-oh' with a wonderful event by the sea.

WHO'S VISITED

LEGEND #1:

A Big Welcome to Mike Horn

It's been wonderful having the world-famous adventurer and explorer, Mike Horn, around our Club the last few weeks. Over 60 Members enjoyed a fascinating talk by Mike on Friday 28th December at Deep Water Bay.



LEGEND #2:

Outrigging Hero

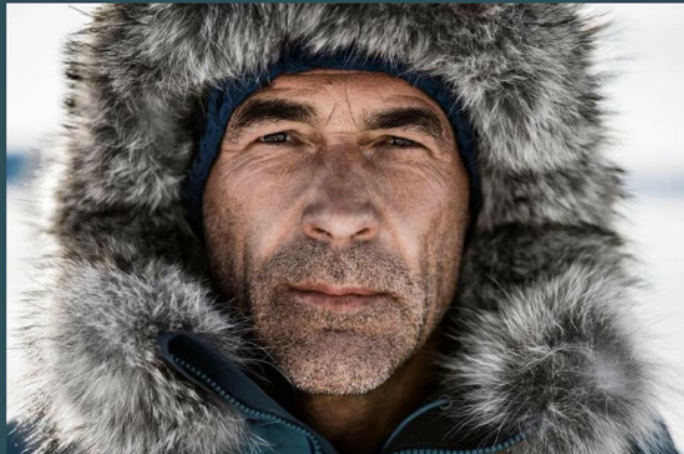
It was a special treat to have New Zealand outrigger paddling legend, Tupuria (Tupu) King, visit the VRC prior to the Dragon's Run where he held some advanced workshops.



CLUB EVENTS



UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL WITH **MIKE HORN**



**The Deck, Deep Water Bay
7pm, Friday 28th December 2018**

Mike Horn, the world's greatest living adventurer and explorer, will be speaking at our Deep Water Bay Clubhouse.

Mike's experiences as a solo explorer are unparalleled. From the deepest rainforests to the expanses of Antarctica, he has travelled through the planet's remotest, most unforgiving and remarkable places. His stories are guaranteed to captivate. Don't miss out on this inspirational evening.

FREE for VRC members and their guests, but a cash bar for food and drinks.

Space is strictly limited.

**Must RSVP by 10am, Friday 28th December
events@victoriarecreationclub.com.hk**

To learn more about Mike Horn, click here:

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/travel/lists/mike-horn-explorer-adventurer-amazing-facts-quotes/>

COURSES

SUP Beginner Courses 2019



It's been a great year for SUP courses and a big thank you to everyone that has supported this new programme. The SUP courses of 2019 will be starting soon and Members are urged to take advantage of the opportunity to learn SUPing, so they can become qualified to hire the Club's boards. The more, the merrier!

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

New Club Chef

We are delighted to introduce our wonderful new Club Chef, Merle Nootenboom, to our Emerald Bay Clubhouse.

Merle is well known and appreciated in Sai Kung where she has worked as a restaurateur for many years, and enjoyed glowing coverage and publicity in the Chinese press.

Merle is preparing to start her new family-inclusive menu in the New Year, but in the meantime keep your eyes on the blackboard for her terrific specials!



NEW MEMBERS

New Associate Members

Michael CHAN

Mr & Mrs Evan GRIFFITHS

Gareth GRIFFITHS

Gary LAM

Timothy MOSS

Mr & Mrs James SIMMONS

Charmain SOO & Mr CHAN Kin Wai

New Sporting Members

Ignacio BARRENGOIA

Thomas BORMANN

William HAHN

Christian MENDOZA

Paul OLIVERA

Helen WOOD

SOME BIRTHDAY HISTORY

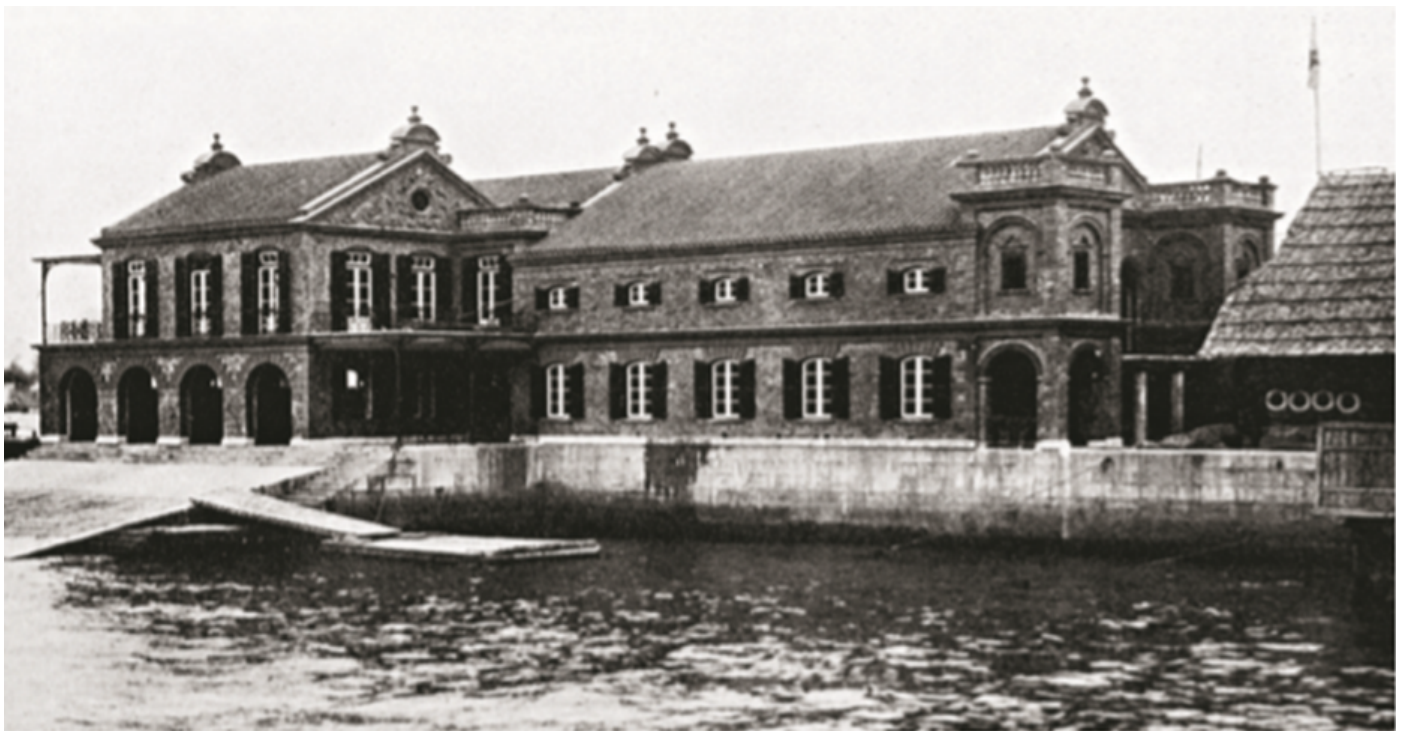
Many Members may be unaware of the full history and importance of the VRC. Originally situated in Victoria Harbour, close to the Hong Kong Club and the cenotaph, the VRC boasted extraordinary facilities for the time, which also included a swimming pool and a sailing and rowing base.



An aerial shot of the Club.



The VRC can be seen to the left of the Hong Kong Club building, behind the cenotaph.



The original Victoria Recreation Club building in Central.

For a recent and detailed history on the Club and the key role it played in Hong Kong's sporting development, click on the link below:

<https://www.scmp.com/magazines/post-magazine/long-reads/article/2174353/hong-kongs-recreational-clubs-are-remnants-its>.