

the crew

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REPORT



Crew Newsdesk: Key stories reported from around the crew world

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Seasoned chef's new recruitment consultancy



Superyacht chef of 13 years Christian Richards has set up a recruitment company that specialises in senior interior and galley crew. Richards, who has worked on M/Y *La Dea* for three years and is based in Palma de Mallorca, recently set up the company because he "saw a gap in the market for a recruitment company of this specialisation". He is also looking to bring in trained chefs from land-based positions to yachting, helping them become accustomed to life in a galley through onboard training and ongoing contact after the placement. "I know every port, fishery, butchers and market in the Med and can pass on this knowledge to chefs that I place who are new to yachting, any time, anywhere," Richards commented.

www.saltenpepper.com

Porto Montenegro open for business

Realising years of planning and building, in June the Porto Montenegro project is opening its first 79 berths (on completion there will be 650 berths). Twenty-five of the berths available this summer will be suitable for vessels over 25 metres, and on completion there will be space for 130 superyachts. The ultimate goal of the project is to create "the most complete nautical village in the Mediterranean", with a selection of leisure and sporting activities, restaurants, residential buildings, nightspots and casinos to attract superyacht owners to Montenegro, one of Europe's newest countries. There are even plans to create a refit facility a few kilometres from the main marina and crew training facility Azalea Maritime Training Centre is located ten minutes away by boat.

The country has been positioning itself as the newest luxury destination in the Med, hoping to capitalise on the usual scrum for berths in traditional cruising grounds such as Monaco and Portofino by offering a high-end alternative – even featuring in the James Bond film *Casino Royale* to raise its international profile.

www.portomontenegro.com



Sydney office for Azzura Marine

The Australian yachting company that incorporates refit, brokerage and yachtbuilding among other services has moved its head offices to the Spit, Middle Harbour in Sydney. According to Azzura, the move allows for growth in the brokerage and sales area of the company, as well as increasing capacity for service and support to its clients. For more information visit the Azzura Marine website.

www.azzuramarine.com



Captains' Day focuses on females in yachting

At the biannual Captains' Day held on 23 May at the Yacht Club de Monaco an estimated 100 captains and crewmembers gathered around a panel of 15 industry women, eager to hear opinions and ask questions on the central topic "Women in Yachting". The crewmember panelists included Captains Sandra Yawn, Cecile Tallon and Denise Fox; Purser Rose Piesch; Chef Inger Neilsen; and Chief Engineer Emma Lister. Land-based female industry panellists included representatives from shipyards, brokerage houses, yacht management and yacht design companies among others.

The tone remained positive while issues and achievements were discussed. Most attributed success to hard work, professionalism and teamwork, regardless of gender.

The group noted that women are taking more roles on the decks and in the engine rooms of yachts. Most, however, are still found in interior positions where a lack of qualifications, coupled with a desire for family, can make life after yachting difficult. Success stories were shared, but most agreed that integrating family still poses a challenge.

Director of Edmiston Yacht Management and panelist Jacqueline Lyne, who was interviewed in *TCR30* on life after yachting, recalls a "glass ceiling" while working as a purser. She advised women on transitions from yachting by saying: "Set up something to support you after yachting. Use yachting as a stepping stone."

The next Captains' Day, co-hosted by *The Yacht Report*, will be held on 24 September during the Monaco Yacht Show.

www.yacht-club-monaco.mc

Emily Carson



Recruitment consultant association created

Over the last ten months a group of crew consultancies in the South of France has been working to create an association whereby members will conform to an ethical working practice. To be known as the Association of Yacht Crew Consultants (AYCC), the fledgling group sets out a code of practice that will fairly serve both jobseeking crewmembers and hiring yachts through transparency and a complaints procedure if a member company acts unprofessionally. As reported in *TCR24*, the crew originally came together through a meeting called by *TCR* to discuss pressing matters in crew recruitment. As more information on the AYCC is available it will be reported.

Ethical option for water provisioning

Staying hydrated is vital to any working crew, and the solution most frequently employed to keep H₂O levels topped up is small, handy plastic bottles of mineral water. Although convenient, these create a huge amount of waste and do no favours to the environment, even if you are regularly recycling. An alternative to plastic that is becoming more popular is polylactide (PLA). Made from plants, PLA is biodegradable and recyclable and so presents a more

environmentally conscious choice when you are provisioning for the yacht. New Zealand-based beverage company Charlie's® is now offering a PLA bottled water called Honest Water™, which is sourced from Kauri Springs in Kaiwaka. Yacht Support Manager Jeanette Tobin of Integrated Marine Group in Auckland has been promoting the option of a more ethical water source to the superyacht crews visiting New Zealand. "As many crew will attest to, pollution in our oceans is on the increase and the sight of water bottles floating around in our oceans, with birds and sea life being killed by floating plastics, is shameful to see," attests Tobin. If you are cruising in the region look out for the Honest Water™ when provisioning; and even if you are somewhere else, ask your regular provisioner if there is a PLA alternative to your usual water bottle supply.

www.charlies.co.nz



Viva MYBA Genoa show



The annual MYBA Genoa Charter Show took place 4–8 May and there was quite a turnout of vessels on show. Over 60 vessels from the 22.48-m *Samakanda* to the 70.5-m *Boadicea* were on display for a week that held much anticipation for the upcoming summer charter season in the Mediterranean. Many vessels had been launched just weeks before the show (including *Natori*, *Grand Cru III*, *Giorgia* and *Soleluna*) and were being showcased for the first time. The show is known for having a more tranquil atmosphere than some in the yachting calendar due to its strict entry policy, however many of the yachts were busy with brokers lunches and evening celebrations. Talking to the crews at the show, the overall mood for summer charters was positive but not presumptuous. Many enquiries were being made

but captains and crew were not counting their chickens quite yet; MY *Salu*, 30m, had a packed schedule for the summer already and many of the “smaller” vessels were creating similar interest.

The social programme for the show was as packed as ever. Tuesday night's masked ball at the stunning Villa Lo Zerbino was a night to remember, with delicious food in a sophisticated and quintessential Italian setting; revellers stayed until the early hours to dance the night away in the ballroom. On Wednesday the Camper & Nicholsons yacht hop saw many crews dressed up, including the *Grease* themed *Pure Bliss* and 007-styled *Natori*. On Thursday the Super Crew party, co-hosted by *The Crew Report*, Amico & Co., Awlgrip and Mansueto Group was as well attended as ever, with limited edition tshirts, fantastic live music, food and beverages on tap; to see the gallery of the party turn to page 68. There were also post show gatherings from Mansueto Group, BWA, the Antigua Charter Yacht Show, Pesto and many more.

Let's hope the positive vibe from the show translates to a positive summer of charters.

www.mybashow.com

Croatian cruising guide website launched

Growing in popularity as a superyacht destination, Croatia is a stunning and less crowded cruising option. Extensive information on the country is now provided by a website from yacht agent MYS Croatia. A dedicated section of the website for captains gives information and downloadable PDFs on laws and regulation, bunkering, mooring fees, provisioning, fishing and diving hotspots, ports, anchorages and more. There is also a section offering advice on recommended cruising routes and land-based activities.

www.myscroatia.com

Sardinian Luxury tax abolished

On 6 May the local regional government of Sardinia approved Article 2 of the Financial Regional Act, cancelling the "luxury tax" that has been in effect since 2006. The tax had proved to have a negative effect on the local tourism economy as superyachts visiting the island were heavily charged for their stay, with fees of up to €15,000. As other regions in the Med promoted themselves to yachting this infuriated local companies.

Fulvio Luise, of Sardinia-based Luise Group commented: "Despite our best efforts in the past three years to help clients understand this tax, we faced enormous challenges and incurred a drop of approximately 20–25 per cent each year in superyachts travelling to Sardinia." Another local businessman, Renato Azara, is relieved that three years of pressure on the local government has ended in a positive result for tourism to the island: "We are very pleased that we have a positive relationship with the local authorities and that they have a full understanding of the potential of this market for Sardinia."

Riviera Comedy Club opens

Finding alternatives to the usual night-time activities in the Riviera is always a bonus, and the brand new Riviera Comedy Club offers some great light relief when you have a night off. Launched in spring, some of the best comedians on the international circuit are flown to the Riviera to entertain an English speaking audience. The performances run from the first Sunday to Wednesday of each month in yachtie haunts including Stars 'n' Bars in Monaco, Morrison's Lounge in Cannes, The Hop Store in Antibes and Akathor's in Nice. Comedians featured are from the UK, Ireland, Canada, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand, the US among others.

www.therivieracomedyclub.com

Captains' & Engineers' Updates

For full listings of both captains and engineers go to yotcru.com.
To update a listing please contact juliet@thecrewreport.com.

Captains' List

Ability Manthos Gaitis
Blue Eyes Danilo del Bianco
Celestial Hope Raphael Legrand
Giorgia Ben Bayliss
Grand Cru III Nick Maccrossan
Harmony Jack McKay
Hayat Alexis Giamas
Jazz of Monaco Roy Deas
Kingfisher Robert Verity
La Dea Mark Hoskin
Leo Fun Frederic Castaignos
L'Or Pierre Gindre
Momentum Steven Mcewan
Mondango Marc Chaverot
Mrs Seven Gerald Read
Natori Paul Bickley
Osprey Philip Sefton
Paolyre Patrice Minguez
Perseus Scott Ledbetter
Pure Matthew Brownie
Pure One Paul Carins
RS Eden Alan Light
Sea Dream David Hayden
Silver Dream Steve Smith
Superfun Ulrich Baer
Taiba Niel Heselton
TJ Esperanza Otto Linzel
Tommy Maurizio Pezzini

Engineers' List

Ability Spyros Maniatis

Blue Eyes Riccardo Forasiepi
Big Aron Bobby Newitt
Big City Björn Schnieder
Boadicea Peter Jans
Element Russel Croghan
Felicita West Harold Van Der Hoorn
Giorgia Christian Lawson McKittrick
Grand Cru III Sarah Horn
Haida G Peter Reeman
Harmony Thomas Swinder
Impulsive Froyan Reyes
Jazz of Monaco Ryan Fletcher
Kingfisher Mario Roguljic
La Dea Renato Dzono
Leo Fun Marco Castellitti
Lionshare Andrew Connolly
Macalulu Tiribilli Fulvio
Marco Polo Georgi Belchev
Monaliza Apostol Pirev
Mrs Seven Chris Godfrey
Natori Phillip Kelly
Over the Rainbow Pierre Hamille
Princess Zeynep Hayri Çakir
Pure One Craig Hughes
RS Eden Alexander Mazurenko
Salu Gianni Salerno
Sea Dream Ramon Perez
Seaflower Renato Bulat
Silver Dream Oscar Perez
Superfun Pavel Miadzvetski
TJ Esperanza Bob Freeman
Tommy Paolo Liberati