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New Year's Day - Pollensa

Five boats turned out for the traditional New Year's bash.

We started the 2 races just after 14:00, which gave the crews a little more time to recover from the night before. The wind was very, very light, which forced us to shorten the course that had originally been planned to have the first finish line in the bay of Formentor and then back through the channel between Hotel Formentor and Isla Formentor. So we moved the first finish line to the little bay behind the lighthouse of Avanzada, where the very hard sailors had a beer and the others a coffee or tea. The race back to the harbour was sailed in the same light and shifting winds.

We celebrated the prize giving in front of our boats. Knowing that all participants are good sailors and all boats are in best condition, it was determined that the winners in these light conditions must have had a weight advantage. To compensate this for the next races, all prizes were "body builders" like chips for 3rd place, German dark beer for 2nd and dried fruit for the winners.

Results:

- 1 3763 *ffiel good* (Scott Walker & Andrew Harvey)
- 2 3825 *Spanish Fly* (John Leaf & Mona)
- 3 3420 *Heaven Sent* (Sue & Alan Foreman)

From the Alps – Micheal Clough reports that FF 3432 Extrasensoryperception is almost back in fighting trim after an 'annee horribilus' as our gracious Majesty would say. The unfortunate port starboard incident was repaired very satisfactorily and the beloved editor of the Islander was absolved of all blame, even if he was teased for a week or two for just being in the wrong place!

Two weeks after the repair was finished Mother Nature then tore through the boatyard at 60 knots and decided that ESP was once again to be the recipient of malicious damage. She was upended and her mast was snapped in two and damage to the rudder and foredeck was sustained.

What would we do without the magician Miquel Clamor in Puerto Pollensa? He has just returned her to the fleet looking better than ever. Her replacement mast is waiting to be put in place and she got a new cover for Christmas. She is ready for someone to buy and sail in the European Championships, to be held in Pollensa bay in September.

Further exciting news is that at the Worlds in Hong Kong last November the decision was made to give the organisation of the next Worlds to France. They are to be in Hyeres, which is

fantastic for us here on Mallorca. We shall have two major championships in the Med. in less than a year and only three hundred miles apart.

We look forward to welcoming any new members to our fleet to join in the fun and get down to some serious racing.

Coming up:

February 16	Winter series race 2 RCNPP (Pollensa)
February 23	VII Trofeu sa Lliga 1 CNCG (Palma)
March 16	Winter series race 3 RCNPP (Pollensa)
March 29	VII Trofeu sa Lliga 2 CNCG (Palma)
September 14-19	European Championships (Pollensa)