

# DISCOVERY SAILING 2013 REVIEW

## A full 2013

The 2013 training season wound down about the end of October. It was a busy year, with two shore based courses and nine on-the-water courses. It was the fullest year yet!

## Shore based courses

The courses were taught at Shining Waters Marina in Tallon.

The season started in January with the RYA Yachtmaster Ocean theory course - Celestial Navigation and world-wide meteorology. It is also a prerequisite for the Yachtmaster Ocean Certificate.

In February we conducted a full Yachtmaster Offshore Theory course.

## Practical courses

During the summer we conducted on-the-water training for Competent Crew, Day Skipper, Coastal Skipper as well as Yachtmaster prep weeks.



## RYA Yachtmaster Training

A substantial part of our sailing business is the preparation and examination of sailors for the RYA/MCA Yachtmaster Coastal and Offshore Certificates of Competence. In 2013 we conducted three 5-day prep weeks followed by 2 days of exams. There were nine successful candidates, three of whom are shown above.

It can be a demanding week! It is a great chance for experienced sailors to fine-tune their navigation and pilotage skills by day and night and to work on skills such as close quarters maneuvering under sail.

We do our best to set folks up for success, and so far, all have been successful.

## What's new with *Michaela*

Our venerable and tireless training vessel *Michaela* continues to be upgraded and enhanced. Last year saw the replacement of the liferaft with a new ISO9650 Offshore raft, a holding tank and a



## What's New with You?

We would like to hear about your adventures since you were on *Michaela* with us! Have you bought a boat? Have you made a real interesting cruise? Please email us - the address is at the bottom of the page. You may be in the next newsletter! And if you have great pictures, please send them along!

## RYA Yachtmaster Instructor Conference

Dave attended the RYA Yachtmaster Conference in Bournemouth, UK in January 2013. It was a great experience - lots of new ideas and he got to network with some very experienced sailors. It will be repeated in 2014.

## New Website

We've got a new website! The look, feel and layout has been changed to make it easier to navigate and particularly to format properly for portable devices such as tablets and smart phones. As any website, it is always a work in progress, but we think you will like what you see. Please check it out and let us know.

new hydraulic autopilot. The autopilot is vastly superior to the old wheel autopilot. It is able to steer *Michaela* in some rather aggressive conditions. As well, we added Satellite tracking on the Iridium network with the DeLorme InReach device. You can track us on the Discovery Sailing web page.

Coming up for 2014 is a new electric anchor windlass. It will be a blessing - remember the old manual windlass and the amount of work it took to raise the anchor? and the all-chain rode? For me, it will be an acknowledgement that I can experience a tad of luxury...without feeling guilty.

## In 2014 ....

We have scheduled three Yachtmaster Prep/Exams weeks and will do several Day Skipper and Comp Crew courses. We will do a mileage building/coaching trip from Chester to Shediac NB, about 375 miles, and another one on the way back. Over the winter we will again provide the RYA Celestial Navigation and Yachtmaster Offshore Theory courses. We would love to have you back aboard! Check [DiscoverySailing.com](http://DiscoverySailing.com) for details.

