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HALF TON CLASS
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Newsletter HTCE – New Year edition

The HTCE board wishes you, your family & friends a happy and healthy New Year with tons of ½ ton sailing fun...





THE 2025 HTCC

Some very important news regarding a place-to-stay during the next HTCC in Torquay.

As local holiday housing is scarce, the local organizers and the HTCE have pre-booked rooms in the Imperial Hotel Torquay and the Hampton by Hilton Hotel Torquay.

In order to ensure the event is as affordable and social as possible, we have obtained a significant discount for accommodation at both hotels, which are at very short walk - less than 6 minutes to both the Marina where the boats will be moored for the event and also to the Royal Torbay Yacht Club.

The price for a 2-bed room with breakfast included, from Saturday 2nd August PM to Saturday 9th August AM at the Imperial Hotel, is £930 (which is much less than similar hotels nearby).

At the Imperial 30 rooms are pre-booked and can be reserved during the next 12 weeks. The hotel will accept a non-returnable deposit of £50 per room with payment during the event. In order to obtain this discounted offer please use the identifier HTC.

A similar discount (£134 per night so £938 for 7 days B&B) was obtained at the Hampton by Hilton Hotel Torquay, also within short walking distance from the Marina and Yacht Club, for 25 rooms, some of which may sleep 3 at the same rate. We did not obtain the same deposit facility here.

Given we are hoping for 25 boats and thus 175 crew members, if we all stayed at the hotel we would need 90 rooms. Given it is before New Year there are this number of rooms available but beyond the 55 guaranteed for 6 weeks after New Year these offers will not continue. So please book early with a deposit as we think having all the teams close to each other will help the feel of the event.



The contact details for the hotels are:

Imperial Hotel Torquay, Park Hill Road, Torquay TQ1 2DG.
+441803294301
Email: reservations@theimperialtorquay.co.uk

Hampton by Hilton Torquay, The Terrace, Torquay TQ11DP
+441803302200
Email: Christiana.Untalan@hbytorquay.co.uk

But do note these Accommodation discounts are only available if booked early.

Peter Rutter (sailing QUOKKA IX) is the local head of the organizing team. He informs as follows:

The 2025 Half Ton Classics Cup is to be held at the city of Torquay, in the waters of Torbay, from Saturday 2nd to Friday the 8th August 2025. Being in Devon, you have as good a climate as the UK can give you.

As I have said the waters of Torbay are sheltered from the prevailing winds and have little tide effect which makes the racing tighter and more exciting. My club and I are looking forward to greeting you to this event which we are all looking forward to. Although it is early I want you to be aware of our intended schedule and offers for Accommodation (see above), which we have arranged to be available, if booked early.

We have arranged that the pontoon with direct shoreside access on the northside of the harbour will be available for the fleet with electricity. This will be free from Saturday to Saturday, but competitive rates can be arranged for stays outside these dates. Crane launch and mast step and also spray off is being arranged in the harbour, as well as recovery at end of event.

So you are aware of the **social side** of the event I am proposing:



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Sunday 3th August - Opening Ceremony Drinks RTYC

Monday 4th August - Pontoon Party (Courtesy Quokka)

Wednesday 6th August - Barbeque RTYC

Thursday 7th August - rest after offshore

Friday 8th August - Prize Giving and Class Dinner Imperial Hotel

I am trying to organise to a friendly and well organised event and looking forward to Welcoming you to my Yacht Club. If you have any questions or suggestions, please do contact me at quokkapeter@gmail.com.



NEWS FROM THE HTCE BOARD

At the last AGM in Antwerp on 30th November a new member was added to the HTCE board: Jeremy Florizoone, the fresh owner of the beautiful CONCORDE.

After the formal agenda was dealt with, we opened a discussion about the new set of Class Rules.

We agreed on most of the proposed new rules text, but there was no agreement on certain other points, which are currently still being discussed internally with the major Class' stakeholders.

Once finalized, we will forward the new rules to all members, latest end of January 2025 as these rules will also be part of the 2025 HTCC Notice of Race.

The post of our Social Media Man on our Class FB page about the daggerboard half tonners has reached a staggering 30.000 views, including comments from a.o. Peter Johnstone, past owner of GUNBOAT RANGIRIRI...

And yes you have undoubtedly noticed that the Class has a new logo... after 20 years we decided it was about time for a fresh logo. And yes it has its origin in the Half Ton Class Norway's logo, but our Norwegian friends were kind enough to allow us to use their template. Thank you for that!

We will have new stickers made that will be distributed to you all throughout the year. Bigger sized stickers can be made available (if there is a demand).



FLEET NEWS

IRISH FLEET

All in the boat shed to shelter from the harsh North Atlantic winter storms battering the isle...

UK FLEET

HTCC 2025 organizer Peter Rutter is actively inviting all known UK-based half tonners to attend the Torquay event this summer. All unknown boats are kindly requested to make themselves ... known.

BRITTANY FLEET (FRANCE)

It is hearthwarming to see the positive vibe within the Brittany based half tonner fleet for the next Half Ton Classics Cup in Torquay – let's hope the Channel-crossing fleet will grow even bigger!

Also the intention to race in the same class at the next Spi Ouest deserves all our support!

BELGIAN FLEET

In Belgium the fleet of half tonners is growing bigger!
HALFAJET is now in the hands of Bernard Coppens after some time of inactivity.
And rumours have it that another French half tonner will soon be in Belgian hands...
We've also been informed that SEA YOU 3 has changed ownership and is now helmed by Vincent Lebrun & friends.

As to what racing is concerned, with the longtime predicted and now final death of our national Belgian IRC Championship, our National Authority (Belgian Sailing) proposes a brand new event (the Belgian Open Sailing Week) that will take place both in Nieuwpoort as in Oostende from 13 to 17 August 2025.



SCANDINAVIAN FLEET

Your humble newsletter-writer had a short weekend off in Norway on 13-14 December sailing on his beloved old Half Moon at the locally world famous “Grøtseilas regatta”, organized by Martin Kamperhaug and his friends...

Lovely sailing on a sunny Saturday, with a gentle breeze sending the 12 halftonner strong fleet off around some local marks (and rocks). The apres-sail traditionally continued at the MK Båt – office where the local ‘grøt’ (a sweet porridge) was served to the sailors. A nice event which next year definitely is open to more foreign crews. Martin will find you a boat!

Link to the Youtube movie: [Grøtseilas for halvtonseilerne](#)

CLASS EVENT DATA

Half Ton Classics Cup 2025: 4-8 AUG 2025 – Torquay (UK)

Half Ton Class Europe AGM: 22 NOV 2025 – Antwerp (BEL) upon popular demand

Half Ton Classics Cup 2026: dates to be confirmed – Hankø (NOR)

Half Ton Classics Cup 2027: open for suggestions

Half Ton Classics Cup 2028: open for suggestions

➔ If you have other events to suggest, please contact us



CLASS MEMBERSHIP FEES 2025

Yes indeed it is about time to renew your membership...

By paying your membership fee you give a strong signal to the Class in general and more specifically to the board. The Half Ton Class is a story about you and us, and we write that story together!

Also you can only participate in the Half Ton Classics Cup when you have paid your membership fee...

The fee of 100 EUR is to be paid by bank transfer only, to:

Half Ton Class Europe

IBAN: BE78 0018 1280 2886 -- BIC: GEBABEBB

Communication: 'member 2025' + boat name + sail number + your name

That's all for now...

Fair winds & following seas...

Bert – Ward – Jeremy - Philippe

info@halftonclass.eu