

## FROM THE COMMODORE

Opening Day was a great day. Warm and sunny - almost too much wind but luckily not enough to stop the Sail Past. Ian Whitbread and Naomi put on another excellent show. Lots of you asked who the lunchtime band was - it was NOBODY KNOWS - and they set the relaxed scene for the day.

The flyover from the Royal Victorian Aero Club got the formalities started. Vice Commodore Rob Davis did a first-rate job as MC but the stars of the show were the new OTB Junior Captains Ashley Cavanagh and Julian Sasson. I thought Dylan Rohan would be a hard act to follow but these two gave a very polished speech which was a great start to their joint Captaincy.

Thanks as always to our Club Chaplin for being part of formalities. Diz always adds a sense of gravitas and meaning to our ceremony.

The view from *the Mandalay* of the boats lining up for the sail past was impressive - so many boats - and a helicopter thrown in for good measure. It was *Adrenalin* crew member Blair Crosby-Goold in the driving seat of the helicopter. Thanks Blair for adding to our day.

*XLR8* and *Alchemist* lead the Sail Past for the keelboats and *Blue Flyer* and *Midges* lead the Recreational Boaters. Bruce Humphries did a great job of herding the boats into an almost orderly line.

I just loved the Blues music blaring from some of the boats - especially the trumpet playing from Reg Walsh on *Magic*. After the Sail Past the comradeship on the boats in the Marina was evident everywhere.

Then it was up to the PPR for a BRIEFCASE FULL OF BLUES. Most of our members knew most of the songs and were not backward in joining in with the band. Our gusty rendition of *Rawhide* will not raise our reputation as a Club of singers!

Congratulations to all the winners of the raffle. This year's raffle had an excellent prize list and it was great to see so many members support this annual effort to provide financial support to our Junior and Intermediate sailors wishing to compete in interstate and overseas championship regattas in the future.

The Best dressed boat winners were, Keelboat...*Magic* with a special mention to *Adrenalin*, Recreational Boating....*Melissa* and OTB.... *Whip It*.

Kol and his team put together a great menu for the day and our thanks to Rick, Danni and their teams who assuaged the thirsty and fed the hungry so efficiently. A special thanks to Paul Corfield. The amount of organisation needed around the Club for Opening Day is amazing but even more so is how quickly the facilities are put back together. Sunday morning the Club showed no signs of the party the night before. Thanks also to Peter Turrell for the fabulous photos he took of the day - he really captured the spirit of our members.

It was good to see so many happy faces around the Club, all having fun and enjoying each other's company. What a great start to the new season. Enjoy your Club,

**KATE MITCHELL**

**Commodore**



**OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2014 ISSUE**



[syc.com.au](http://syc.com.au)

## SAIL UPDATE

Hello all sailors and welcome to the new season.

It is with great pleasure I accept the role as Club Captain Sail of SYC for the next two years and look forward to working hard with sail committee to continue and further develop the high benchmark set by Ashley and his previous sail committee.

Sail Committee will be constantly working on new initiatives to ensure we provide the highest quality racing program possible whilst incorporating many information and training nights to provide full support to all keelboat sailors skippers and crew alike.



Mercedes-Benz Brighton Winter Aggregate Series has been very successful with over 40 yachts competing in typical winter mainly light and fickle conditions, I would like to congratulate the following yachts and their crew on their results :

- IRC Division 1: 1<sup>st</sup> *Wicked* , 2<sup>nd</sup> *Simply Fun* and 3<sup>rd</sup> *38 Degrees South*
- IRC Division 2: 1<sup>st</sup> *Fast Company*
- AMS Division 1: 1<sup>st</sup> *Joust* , 2<sup>nd</sup> *Wicked* , 3<sup>rd</sup> *Wildside*
- AMS Division 2: 1<sup>st</sup> *Fast Company* , 2<sup>nd</sup> *Rhiannon* and 3<sup>rd</sup> *First Passion*
- PHD Division 1: 1<sup>st</sup> *Dark and Stormy* , 2<sup>nd</sup> *Fun and Games* and 3<sup>rd</sup> *Joust*
- PHD Division 2: 1<sup>st</sup> *First Passion* , 2<sup>nd</sup> *Fast Company* and 3<sup>rd</sup> *Firefox*



Opening Day was a huge success with a sail past possible for the first time in two years attracting a large fleet of sailors supporting the Blues, Blue, Blew theme.

The fleet got underway for the Sail Past in a steady 15-20 knot northerly breeze and a temperature of around 26 degrees amidst a hail of water balloons!

Special mention to *Adrenalin* and *Magic* on the work they put into boat preparation both displaying blue sails and great decorations , we were also entertained by Cam Dale and his Blues brothers who appeared to have in their possession a nightclub quality sound system.

Our Mercedes Benz Brighton Saturday aggregate series has attracted almost 50 entries so far, the Mercedes-Benz Brighton Thursday Twilights and the Mercedes-Benz Wednesday Wonders are of similar numbers each with block entries still open.

I would also like to congratulate Rob Date on receiving the prestigious ORCV Ocean Racer of the year award for the sensational results he and his crew achieved in their 2013-2015 world tour.,

Rob's humble acceptance speech was a highlight at the recent ORCV AGM – Presentation Night.

As we move into what promises to be a great Summer sailing season we need to remind all skippers to complete and submit their man over board documents before the October 31 deadline.

Please ensure all participants in our scheduled races are either a financial SYC member or comply with the Day Pass Policy. Day passes can be obtained from our Boating Department, this is also a requirement under liquor licencing rules at our Club.

Finally on behalf of all keelboat sailors I would like to thank all of our loyal volunteers in advance for the hard work they put in to ensure we remain the premier yacht club on the bay.

Yours in sailing,  
**JASON CLOSE**  
Club Captain Sail

## J24 SERIES UPDATE

Only our best winter series ever! We had an average of eight boats on the line each race day. Winter sailing once again proved to be some of the best sailing conditions we enjoy. By The Lee, skippered by Brendan Lee took the title, followed closely by John Neville helming his much loved Vice Versa. Whilst I am writing... I just have to give Monica Tonner and the volunteers on the start boats and ducks a huge thank you for turning out on some fairly chilly mornings and for handling our somewhat chaotic and aggressive start lines....and protests.

Can it be that the summer sprint series is but round the corner? My prediction is that this coming season will be like no other, if winter is anything to go by. I expect an average of 12-14 boats on the line for one thing, and, with all due respect, the incredible dominance of Pacemaker is now firmly a thing of the past.

The peloton has closed in on the leaders and the leaders are changing first place all of the time at every start, mark and finish line. The fleet has changed out of sight and some boats have found new levels of speed and on the water awareness. The most noticeable of those being, Vice Versa, Amazing Grace (Melbourne Sailing) and J Force. But let's not also forget our two youth boats, Gatsby and Sidetracked. That's the future of the club right there folks! Watch those names. Honestly if you've nothing better to do on a Sunday morning, dig out your binoculars and watch the races from the club. Tell me if I lie. Better still; if you want to try it out, phone me.

Finally... and just to underline the activity in the J24's ...we are aiming to send seven boats to the nationals in Adelaide, Jan 2015.

**DOUG MACGREGOR**  
President J24 Association Victoria

## OPENING DAY PHOTOS



**OVER 500+ MORE TO VIEW ON OUR WEBSITE!**



## OFF THE BEACH UPDATE

What a wonderful start to the 2014-2015 sailing season. The OTBSC kicked off the season with a Pie Night on Friday 26 September, with special guest speaker Jack Challands sharing with us his experiences competing in the O'pen Bic German National Championships and the World Championships earlier this year. We also had the opportunity to celebrate Jack's success and congratulate him on his outstanding achievements in these two regattas, with a third place in the German Nationals and the title of Under 13 O'pen Bic World Champion.

Many members from all areas of the Club assisted in sprucing up the OTBSC

as part of the working bee on Sunday 28 September, ensuring that the OTB looked its best for Opening Day and the start of the 2014-2015 sailing season. Despite the challenging windy conditions, large amounts of sand were relocated from the grass area back to the beach and several garbage bags of rubbish removed from along the boundary fence. The canteen area, breezeway and junior lounge area all received a

thorough tidy up and clean. We are also fortunate to have a new 50" flat screen TV installed in the training room. Thanks to Dean Robson, Terry George and Kate Goss for organising, installing and connecting this device. Our Junior Development Squad

coaches will utilise the screen to share footage of coaching sessions with our sailors in order to continue to build their skills and expertise on the racecourse.

Opening Day dawned this year with sunny skies and just the right amount of wind to ensure a fabulous day for everyone. As part of the official proceedings it was privilege to hear our joint Junior OTB Captains, Julian Sasson and Ashley Cavanagh, reflect on the friendships, community and fun on and off the water that are such a feature of the OTB. They also fulfilled their traditional responsibility of ensuring that the Flag Officers were well armed with an

adequate number of water bombs as ammunition for the Sail Past. The Ronstan Opening Day Challenge took place immediately after the Sail Past, providing a colourful spectacle of OTB boats and sailors for those viewing from the clubhouse and on the water. Each year Ronstan generously sponsor this event and I would like to extend my thanks to Alistair Murray for his ongoing support of the OTBSC. Thanks must also go to Glenn Taylor as RO and the band of OTB parents who assisted in RHBS and on *Endeavour* to run this event. The overall winner of the Ronstan Challenge for 2014 was Patrick Distefano in his Optimist *Lambordingy*.

The Junior Overseas & Intermediates Funds Raffle, drawn on Opening Day, is an annual effort to provide financial support to our Junior and Intermediate sailors wishing to compete in interstate and overseas championship regattas. This year's raffle had an excellent prize list and we would like to take this opportunity to thank Tigersoft Performance, Donovans, Palace Cinemas and SYC for their generous donation and support.

Congratulations to the following SYC members who were prize winners.

- 1st Gill Billings
- 2nd Peter King
- 3rd Graeme Kaufman
- 4th Des Jackson
- 5th Brian Oliver

While most SYC members were still recovering from Opening Day celebrations, the Off The Beach area was a hive of activity by 9 am the following morning, even with the added challenge of the start of daylight saving. Over 30 boats took to the water for the first heat of the Spring Aggregate, enjoying perfect sailing conditions and close competition. With over 200 entrants for Sail Sandy (18 + 19 October) this event promises to be the biggest and best yet!

**CATHRYN FUREY**  
Club Captain Off The Beach



## RECREATIONAL BOATING UPDATE

Hello to all Sandringham Yacht Club (SYC) members and in particular those with interests in the recreational boating part of the Club.

For those who do not already know I have taken over the role of Recreational Boating Captain from Sue Bowes. I want to thank Sue for the fantastic job she has done over the last two years. She is going to be a hard act to follow, especially in the favour she received from the weather Gods. I also want to thank two retiring Recreational Boating Committee (RBC) members in Paul Gray and Greg Stephens for their tireless work over the last few years and welcome new committee members Kate McCutcheon, Val Pilsworth, Bruce Hodgkins and George Shaw.

Opening Day was a great success, our Commodore Kate Mitchell may also have an in with the weather Gods. It was pleasing to see so many boats out and dressed so bluetifully .... (sorry I could not resist).

As always the RBC have a number of exciting events planned over the next two months starting with the Guest Speaker Night (GSN) on Wednesday 22 October where legend angler Ian Jones, will be giving us all his expertise on how to land those big snapper on the following Saturday 25 October in the SYC Annual Fishing Competition. There will be some great prizes awarded again this year some of which include biggest snapper, mystery weight snapper and biggest snapper caught off the back of a yacht. Meanwhile our talented sous chef Luke will be giving a fish cooking demonstration on the BBQ, these have been so popular in the past and get better each year. Then there is the Cruise in Company (CIC) to Geelong and Queenscliff over the extended Melbourne Cup weekend Saturday 1 November to Tuesday 4 November, this has proven to be a very popular event and it is a

great starting point for those who wish to cruise within Port Phillip and further afield.

Next on the recreational boating calendar is a GSN on 12 November entitled Dispersing the Myth behind NavRallies where Mike Stahmer, SYC's NavRally Guru will be imparting his knowledge about Log Trials and Navigation Rallies. This night has been formulated in



response to the recent SYC survey and will be an excellent opportunity for all those who said they wanted to learn more about these competitive and fun events. Then on the following Saturday 15 November you will get the opportunity to put into practice what you have learned at the GSN in a Novice Nav Rally after

which you should be ready to challenge our rivals in interclub events next year. The last event to tell you about is the CIC on 29 – 30 November to Queenscliff for the music festival. This has also proven to be a popular cruise and I encourage all skippers and crews to take part. Please remember all on water activities are open to all boats power or sail, big or small, fast

or slow so keep your eyes out for all upcoming events on the web site, e-news and notice boards and make an effort to be involved.

Please do not hesitate to make reasonable suggestions or ask questions of me or any of the Recreational Boating Committee.

I look forward to seeing you at the Club and on the water.

**MAL BILLINGS**  
Club Captain Recreational Boating



# upcoming events at syc



## NOVEMBER



### MELBOURNE CUP DAY

Tuesday 4 November

#### Clubhouse Operating Hours:

	Tuesday 4
Clubhouse	1130 - approximately 2100
Reception	Closed
Members' Bar	1200 - approximately 2100
Harbour View Restaurant	Closed
Yard	Closed
KKC	Closed

Dining items in the Members' Bar & Clubhouse are a guide and will be judged on the level of patronage.



#### Members' Bar:

A social event open for all members to enjoy.

Come down to the Club and join in the sweeps and all the action of the Melbourne Cup.



### SYC OAKS DAY LADIES LUNCHEON

Thursday 6 November from 1130

Port Phillip Room

Enjoy a fun girls day out with scrumptious food, free flowing beverages, auction items, spot prizes and gorgeous views!

Race wear essential!

Tickets \$120 and include a \$10 donation to Sandringham Hospital, canapes, two course lunch and beverages.

All proceeds raised on the day will be donated to the Sandringham Hospital.

Bookings via [www.trybooking.com/96211](http://www.trybooking.com/96211)

More information at [sycevents.com](http://sycevents.com)



### DISCOVER SAILING

Sunday 16 November from 1000 - 1600

Come out for a short sail with an experienced sailor, have a look around the Club facilities and discover just how fun, safe, accessible and affordable sailing really is – there is something for the whole family, even kids as young as five years old can sail when accompanied by a parent or guardian. No prior sailing experience required just loads of enthusiasm!

#### Day includes:

- Sailing!
- Kids entertainment
- Clubhouse Tours
- Food and Beverage
- Live Music

Registration and more information at [syc.com.au/discover](http://syc.com.au/discover)

## NOVEMBER



### SYC KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday 30 November @ 1000

Lou Abrahams OTB Sailing Centre

Calling all Kids! Santa is coming to SYC!

There will be presents, lollies, entertainment from Hey Dee Ho Music, face painting, balloon sculpturing, jumping castle and heaps of fun!

Cost: \$30 per child

Bookings essential - 9599 0999 or [syc.com.au](http://syc.com.au) for a booking form

## DECEMBER



### RECREATIONAL BOATING CHRISTMAS PARTY

Wednesday 3 December @ 1800

Lou Abrahams OTB Sailing Centre

More information at [syc.com.au](http://syc.com.au)



### ISAF SAILING WORLD CUP MELBOURNE

Sunday 7 - Sunday 14 December

For more information on all the sailing and on land events visit [www.sailingworldcupmelbourne.com](http://www.sailingworldcupmelbourne.com) for more



### OTB CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday 20 December @ 1800

Lou Abrahams OTB Sailing Centre

More information at [syc.com.au](http://syc.com.au)



### CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH

Thursday 25 December @ 1200

Port Phillip Room & Harbour View Restaurant

More information at [syc.com.au](http://syc.com.au)



### NEW YEARS EVE

Wednesday 31 December

HARBOUR VIEW RESTAURANT @ 1930

More information at [syc.com.au](http://syc.com.au)

MEMBERS' BAR

More information at [syc.com.au](http://syc.com.au)



For more information on these events and for bookings please contact Reception or Naomi in the office on 9599 0999 or refer to the website [syc.com.au](http://syc.com.au)