

# Off the Wind

2023 EDITION



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### **CONTENTS**

2	General Committee 2023-2024	35	Social Group Update
3	From the Commodore	36	The Vikings, Friday Fun, SYC Church
4	SYC J70 Sailing Program	37	Monday Barbeques, Happy Monday
6	Sail	38	SYC Plan for the Future 2023–2028
8	Club Champions	40	Reciprocal Clubs
9	State & National Champions 2022-2023	41	Sandringham Harbour Plan
10	Recreational Boating	42	Clubhouse Improvement Works
12	Off The Beach	44	November/December Calendar
14	Wednesday Wonders	46	Our Beautiful Marina, Facilities Update
16	Sunday Sailors	47	Environmental Update
18	Thursday Twilights	48	Heritage Committee
20	J24 Season	49	New Members
22	Women in Sailing	50	Happy SYC Members
23	Race Management	52	SYC Foundation
24	New Racing Boats	54	Ross Wilson Christmas Band Night
26	Live Entertainment on Twilights & Sunday Sessions	55	Annual Challenge Kids Day on the Bay
28	Opening Day	56	Victory Cup
30	Club Person of the Year	58	Santa is Back
30	Recreational Boating Person of the Year	60	Vale
31	Life Membership		
32	Club Marine SYC Boating Academy		

We acknowledge all photos in OTW have been contributed by Club members and staff – thank you. A special mention to Chris Furey for his great cover photo.

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#### DISCLAIMER



### **General Committee 2023-2024**



**Sue Bowes** Commodore



**Mark Welsh** Vice Commodore



**Cathryn Furey** Rear Commodore



**Greg Winnett** Treasurer



**Rob Date** Club Captain, Sail



**Doug Jackson** Club Captain, Recreational Boating



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**Andrew Wilson** Committee Member



**Dean Robson** Committee Member



**Simon Hemingway** Committee Member



**David McCutcheon** Committee Member



**Phil Simpfendorfer** Committee Member

### From the Commodore



Fellow members, What a busy year it has been since last year's edition of *Off* the Wind. Firstly, the recent arrival of the SYC J70 keelboats, then getting Stage 1 of the clubhouse improvement works

underway, combined with our regular on- and off-water activities. Both of these major initiatives have come about as a result of the member survey conducted in December 2022. The feedback therein also shaped the 2023-2028 Plan for the Future which was presented at the General Meeting in May 2023 (available on the SYC website).

The first stage of the clubhouse improvement works is focused on the Members' Bar and kitchen, which is well underway and on track for the big reveal in mid-November. There is a more detailed article on these works later in this magazine, but the member hospitality experience at SYC should be a significantly better one make sure you come down and check out Stage 1 over summer. We look forward to embarking on Stage 2 of the works commencing in April 2024, which includes the construction of an indoor/outdoor Members' Wet Bar offering weather protection, additional seating, a familyfriendly area and a wonderful new member only space. My thanks to the working group led by David McCutcheon, Garry Anderson, Andrew Wilson, Dean Robson, Penny Goodman and Clive Sondheim. A special mention to our employees Russell, Kol and Helen for their extra efforts.

Our annual membership number remains at 3000 with a good balance of male, female and families in the mix. Our challenge, along with all other sporting organisations, is retention of our youth. We are taking steps to address this through the introduction this summer of the SYC J70 sailing programs. They are designed to attract and retain younger members to sailing at SYC, as well as creating a pathway for our younger sailors to transition from dinghies to keelboats. With member support, we now have four J70s and as I write this article, we are ready to launch the exciting new programs in late October 2023. Our marina occupancy remains a tad under 100% and our marina refurbishment works are on track

and our marina refurbishment works are on track to keep the marina in peak condition. We have in the region of 500 boats onsite across the marina, hardstand and off the beach storage areas with a ratio of 70% yachts and 30% power boats. We encourage active participation from all boat owners and crews to get out on the water and enjoy your boats with like-minded members. We are always interested in hearing from

potential new marina tenants who will participate in Club events.

We held our Annual General Meeting on 19 September where we updated members on all areas of the Club. If you were unable to attend, you can access the Annual Report in the members' section of the SYC website.

Participation both on and off the water is paramount to our Club. Over the last year, our three pillars of Keel, Off the Beach (OTB) and Recreational Boating, collectively ran Club racing, cruising events, nav rallies and several regattas including Sail Sandy, the J70 State and National titles with solid numbers participating in all the

events. By the time you read this article, our 2023-2024 season will be well underway across all areas, with something to offer everyone.

We continue to bid for high profile regattas to showcase our Club and we will shortly be hosting the Tasar Nationals and Worlds in December 2023 and January 2024. Ahead of the Tasar regattas, the Minister for Ports and Freight, Melissa Horne, has approved the rebuild of the Hampton Pier which is great news.

Our thanks to Parks Victoria for their ongoing support who have confirmed that they will re-align some of the moorings that encroach onto the eastern channel that leads to the travel lift, ramp and OTB area, especially in an easterly breeze, to make it compliant with Australian standards. There is an update on the Sandringham Harbour in this magazine which sets out that the existing, dilapidated, Hampton Pier will be demolished before Christmas.

Off-water, our Social Group organised a variety of events throughout the year including the Tiara Gala, our first Ball in five years, the trivia competition and band nights with much more to look forward to over the summer months.

A very heartfelt thank you to all our members who volunteer so much of their time into the organisation and running of all the events at SYC. Without your generous and tireless commitment, none of these events on- and off-water would take place.

We are very fortunate to have very loyal, longstanding sponsors who have partnered with us for many years. I would like to extend our thanks to our major sponsors for their support, in particular, Veolia, Club Marine Insurance,





Mercedes-Benz Brighton, Noorden Property, Asahi and Accolade Wines as well as Hodges Sandringham and all other important partnerships.

I would also like to extend a special thank you to the General Committee members with whom I am privileged to serve. A special thank you to Phil Gomez and Jack Fullerton for their contribution to General Committee over the last few years and a welcome to Andrew Wilson and Dean Robson, who joined General Committee in September 2023. We are a members Club, run by the members, for the members. Our positive culture, member-first focus and united General Committee holds this Club in very good stead.

To round out the recognitions, I would like to thank all our very loyal staff, ably led by Richard and the Leadership team – Helen, Russell, Kol, James, and Paul. The entire team is truly a great asset to the Club and very much appreciated by the members.

For the past year, it has been my privilege to serve this great Club as your Commodore and I am really looking forward to my second year. Thank you to all our wonderful members for your support. The Club is in good shape and there is a much to look forward to at SYC in the coming months and years as we continue to evolve and hold our position as the leading yacht club in Port Phillip.

I look forward to seeing you out on the water enjoying your boats and around the Club, enjoying our great Club facilities.

#### **Sue Bowes**

Commodore

## SYC J70 Sailing Program



he arrival of the first Club J70s marks the final stage of implementing a program that will support the next generation of Sandringham members. In a moment of reflection as to the direction the Club was heading, one of the glaring issues was the extraordinarily low number of Youth and Intermediate memberships. Through the combined efforts of committees and working groups, the stage is now set for our younger members to re-engage with sailing at Sandringham.

The commitment to purchase the J70s meant that a program had to be developed to accommodate all levels of sailors' abilities and

willingness to participate. A three-tiered approach was adopted encompassing all motivations, whether they be for the fun of sailing, or wanting to compete at the highest levels. It comprises a Social Program, a Development Program and an Advanced Program.

The social sailing aspect of the program is all about providing young members with the opportunity to meet other sailors and have fun out on the water. Promoting a positive social atmosphere at the Club across all age groups that connects members and seeks to bridge the gap between sailors from Off The Beach and keelboat sailing. The Social Program also offers the opportunity for members to bring

guests to enjoy the Club facilities and enjoy the feeling of being on the water that we, as members, already cannot get enough of.

The social program will run on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings, with each session intended for a different group.

Wednesday evenings are for the Junior members to spend time together and get the opportunity to sail the Club's new J70s, with the intention of creating that link to other areas within the Club. Thursday nights the boats will be made available to those who wish to participate in the Thursday Twilight series, with fun on the water being the ultimate goal and also encouraging sailors to find a keelboat in need of crew, to further develop their skills.

The Friday night sessions are all about Youth and Intermediate members coming down to the Club and having a great time, whether that be enjoying the new Members' Bar or participating in some light-hearted racing on the water. Smiles on faces and friendships being made is the aim of the game.

The Development Program seeks to take sailors who have a passion for sailing and are interested in developing their skills and place them at the helm of an exciting sports boat. It is Intended for sailors 16 and older who have come through the OutThere program or those who want to learn keelboat sailing skills.

The Development Program is about providing all the tools needed for sailors to feel confident to join the crew on a member's boat. Being supported by on-water coaches allows





participants to refine their skills in training blocks held throughout the year, with the intention of graduating to begin competing in Club racing and regattas. Members can expect a whole lot of talent to be flowing through the Development Program to help fill a few gaps on boats of their own.

The final tier of the J70 Program is the Advanced Program where sailors are given the opportunity to represent Sandringham at the highest level. A select few will be chosen via an application process to be part of the training squad, with the intention of competing at the national and international level.

With a designated coach and training program, sailors will be expected to commit to achieving the best results and promoting the talent and opportunities that Sandringham has, beyond our own marina walls. Sailors in the Advanced Program will also volunteer as part of the program, needing to complete a minimum number of hours to be eligible for selection for regattas.

This is about giving back to the Club and could include assisting on Junior member social nights, offering their skills to development sailors, or other tasks that need to be completed around the Club. This will be an incredibly rewarding program for those who are selected and will focus on giving back to the Club.

Our first look at the new fleet took place on Opening Day with members having the chance to be involved in the Sail Past and Junior members having the opportunity to get their first experiences on the boat. The boats looked fantastic on the water and were a sight we should all become accustomed to as the fleet continues to grow.

On behalf of all participants in the J70 Program, I would like to say thank you to the members who graciously donated to assist in the purchase of the new boats, along with the members who have worked extraordinarily hard to putting together the J70 Program and providing the framework to support young members at Sandringham.

### Brandon Demura, Maddie Commins and Gemma Burns

J70 Working Group







### Sail

### Mercedes-Benz Brighton





s I write this in sunny Mackay on an early August 2023 afternoon, keelboat racing at SYC has had another fantastic year.

The warmer months of the sailing season saw some serious racing. The Range Series formed part of our aggregate for three races, there was some great larger fleet racing combining the entries from HBYC, RYCV, RMYS, RBYC and our Club. Good competitive racing was held throughout the season at SYC and a large number of our members stretched themselves far and wide for the summer.

The Cock of the Bay race saw 24 SYC entries with line honours taken by **MRV** (Damian King) followed by Carrera S (Gerry Cantwell) and Scarlet Runner (Rob Date).

There were two entries in the Sydney to Hobart, Bacardi (Martin Power), competing in her 29th race and White Noise (Daniel Edwards), who unfortunately retired with gear failure. The 50th Melbourne to Hobart saw 10 Sandringham members head south down the west coast of Tasmania.

Congratulations to the crews who sailed the Melbourne to Hobart Westcoaster, Alex - Team MacAdie (Jock MacAdie), Archie (Jeff Sloan), Cadibarra (Paul Roberts), Carrera S, Maverick (Tony Hammond), MRV, Patriot (Jason Close) Scarlet Runner, Shimmer (Steve Twentyman) and Wicked (Mark Welsh).

The Festival of Sails was held in its usual time slot in late January with many SYC yachts making the journey across to Geelong. Then in February, a number of SYC yachts made the trip to Adelaide for the Adelaide to Port Lincoln Race and Lincoln Race Week events which incorporated the

Australian Championships. A special mention to the crew of **Arch de Triomphe** (Alex Newman) who won the Australian Championships in Division 2.

Thursday Twilights were fantastically attended with 82 different boats competing throughout the series and the continuation of our female and youth helm series this season was again eagerly contested. These formats are to encourage greater participation amongst our female and young members.

In total, 20 of the 24 scheduled races were completed with the winners being Alay Rose (Nigel Rose) in Division A and Second Nature (Paul Mentiplay) in Division B. Sunday Sailors

had 31 entries and completed 11 of the scheduled 13 races. The overall winner for the summer series was **Skullduggery** (Garry McCarten) with a fairly convincing win.

For our Saturday Aggregate racing, we achieved 12 of the 13 scheduled races. Entries were strong with 13 boats entered in Division 1, 25 in Division 2 and 11 in Division 3. Winners of our Aggregate Series are crowned as our Club Champions and for the 2022-2023 Summer Series, these champions are:

#### **Division 1**

AMS **Xpresso** (Ari Abrahams) ORC **Veloce** (Phil Simpfendorfer) PHS **Esprit** (Garry Anderson)











#### Division 2

AMS and ORC *Carbine*(Peter Williams and Matt Turner)

PHS **Pegasus** (Andrew Lynch)

#### Division 3

AMS, ORC and PHS – *Intrusion* (Luke Reinehr)

The Association Cup was again hosted by SYC in March 2023. Five clubs competed for one of the longest-standing trophies in Victorian sailing history. SYC's team of *Xpresso*, *Carbine*, *Veloce* and *Watermark II* (David Suda and Herschel Landes), sailed exceptionally well to easily retain the Association Cup in its 115th year of competition.

SYC members have also gone as far and wide as they were able during the season, with many participating in the ORCV events. Our Club has helped to increase numbers in many events:

- Cock of the Bay 24 SYC entries
- Apollo Bay Race 14 SYC entries
- King Island Race 9 SYC entries.

None of the above would have been possible without our fantastic team of volunteers. On behalf of all the sailors, I would like to thank them for their efforts and for ensuring that all on the water are safe and have the best racing available to them. Race Management volunteers are so critical in ensuring that racing is of the highest possible standard. If you have ever considered giving back to your Club, doing it through Race Management is a very rewarding way to do so. We also have the SYC Boating Office staff who ensure that everything runs smoothly for our heavy schedule of summer and winter racing. The office is led by James Sly and his team of Mitch Kerr-Read, Nick Neale and Clay Williams with Russell (Tug) Tyson also overseeing the Club boats.



I would like to acknowledge the contribution of the Keelboat Sail Committee who meet on a monthly basis and continuously contribute to all of our enjoyment in sailing at SYC:

- Lowa Paszko Club Handicapper and race documentation
- Bruce Humphries Race Management
- Marissa McManus Safety
- Jack Fullerton Protests and Thursday Twilights
- John Neville J24s and Thursday Twilights
- Stuart Morrison-Jack Sunday Sailors
- Robyn Ragauskas Women in Sailing

- Paul Mentiplay Wednesday Wonders
- Brandon Demura Young Members.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank Mercedes-Benz Brighton, Noorden Property and Hodges Sandringham for their ongoing support and sponsorship of our keelboat racing program.

The 2023 winter season ends on 30 September. There has been some great racing in northerly winds and I hope that the upcoming Summer Series allows us to sail, socialise and compete with our fellow members and friends.

#### **Rob Date**

Club Captain, Sail



### Club Champions 2023



**Division 1 AMS** *Xpresso*Ari Abrahams



**Division 1 ORC Veloce** Phil Simpfendorfer



**Division 1 PHS** *Esprit*Garry Anderson



**Division 2 AMS/ORC** *The Muppet Show*Matt Turner and Peter Williams



**Division 2 PHS** *Pegasus*Andrew Lynch



Division 3 AMS/ORC/PHS Intrusion Luke Reinehr



### State and National Champions 2022 – 2023



2023 Australian Yachting Championships 1st IRC Div 2 – Arch de Triomphe Alex Newman



S80 State Champions Intrusion Luke Reinehr



**J24 State Champions Bruschetta VI**Hugo Ottaway



Cadet State Champions Spitfire Emma Suda & Tess Holroyd



2023 Optimist Intermediate Fleet State Champion Swallow Caspar Thompson



Tasar State Champions Magic Chris Dance & Peter Hackett

## **Recreational** Boating



nother season has come to an end and what an interesting one it was. Recreational boaters just love getting out and enjoying their boats and this past season we were able to do just that.

For the footy madness weekend we took over the west pontoon at Melbourne City Marina, Docklands for two nights and enjoyed the facilities and proximity to the CBD. We had a full dock and about 50 cruisers ready to cheer for their favourite footy teams in the 2022 AFL Grand Final, while watching the big screen and taking in the party food served by our Recreational Boating Committee. While not everyone's favourite team gets to play in the Grand Final, it is a great weekend to get together and have fun enjoying the buzz in the CBD and watching some great athletes perform their best.

Opening Day October 2022, had a theme of *Aloha* and the recreational boaters were well represented. We had a great sail-past to wave to our Commodore, Sue Bowes and to start off the new season. For many of us it was to the first time in a while to get out in our boats again after a long Melbourne winter.

In early October 2022 we put on a new evening cruise with an overnight anchoring option. The weather was not great and with south winds and lumpy conditions, only four boats participated. One anchored out near the beach at Port Arlington where it was relatively calm and others headed into Port Arlington for the night. People enjoyed the new anchoring option and we will look to keep this event going.

The Cruising in Company group had a wonderful

Australia Day long weekend with mostly great weather. There were 17 boats, nine sail and eight power, signed-up for the weekend. Twelve boats arrived at Wyndham on Thursday with another five joining on Friday. Some got away early on Thursday to watch the start of the passage race to Geelong. Most boats arrived between 12:00 and 14:00 and settled in to have some fun on the putt-putt golf course. Excellent tactics were employed for amazing results and prizes were awarded after the match.

The next day the Werribee Zoo did not disappoint, the safari being the highlight along with some ice cream to cut the heat of the day as we wandered the zoo looking at the various animals. Meanwhile at Shadow Fax we enjoyed a degustation of four courses with matched wines. Everyone was back and ready to head to dinner at 3030 Boulevard. After a great time enjoying the wonderful hospitality from the Wyndham team it was time to move on. About half the fleet departed during the day with most heading back to SYC and a group of eight boats left about 11:00 on the way to Port Arlington to extend the weekend with a night on the hook. Later, some took a water taxi to watch the Australian Open Women's Tennis Final. Some opted for a quieter evening on our boats and we woke to calm waters. The last couple of hours of the passage back were under beautiful reaching conditions of 10-12 knots on the beam with flat water.

The Labour Day Cruise to Bass Strait made for a wonderful week. Based on the weather forecast, our plan was to cruise along the Victorian coast making our way to Refuge Cove, then come back Wednesday to either Western Port or

Queenscliff Cruising Yacht Club ahead of predicted strong westerlies on the Thursday. That meant a long cruise on the first day through the Heads to Waratah Bay and the winds were looking favourable.

The six 'Bass Strait cruisers' joined the 'around

the bay' group departing SYC to QCYC about

10:00 on Saturday morning and a total of nine boats arrived in Queenscliff on Saturday afternoon. That evening we confirmed our plans for the next day. The 'inside the bay' group, **The Secretary** (George Shaw), **Yeah Baby** (Jonathan Dewar) and **Affinity** (Gary Doggett) had a relaxing Sunday at QCYC before heading back to SYC on Monday. Then it was time to get some rest before an early start to catch slack tide at the Rip. Our plan was to get to Refuge Cove, but conditions were not favourable. After 200 nm of sailing outside the bay, where we enjoyed some great anchorages at Bird Rocks at Waratah Bay, also at Oberon Bay and Cleeland Bight, we decided to head for QCYC ahead of

some strong winds. A number of crews decided

to enjoy some extra time before returning

to SYC on the Sunday.

The weather for the Autumn Dinner Cruise to Docklands may not have been Amalfi coast warm, but it was still a great weekend with 46 people and 15 boats turning out. It was an Italian theme and the tables were covered in red, white and green along with a few Italian flags and bottles of wine. The cooks were hard at work and when hungry sailors arrived about 17:30 to start socialising, the smell of bolognese was in the air.





After enjoying some fantastic antipasto washed down with Aperol Spritz and Italian wine, we were ready for the main course. Two types of pasta, green salads and bread followed by excellent tiramisu and a fruit platter. Special thanks to Penny and Dave Goodman for the organising and the Recreational Boating Committee members who made it happen. Also to our chefs Robyn Brookes, Anne Hunting, Helen Rizzuto and Jane Saunders and to Peter Hickey and Bruce Saunders for the room set-up. The winners of the fun quiz about Italy received a bottle of Chianti.

What a great Club to be part of... it really is

### great to belong

We woke to a sunny, still Sunday with most choosing to relax before a staggered departure for a leisurely cruise back to Sandringham.

Over the long weekend of the King's Birthday in June, we organised a visit to QCYC. With favourable northerly winds of up to 20+ knots, 14 yachts set off, some heading for the local marina but most to the yacht club. It was fast sailing and as we approached the west channel the breeze gradually backed to westerly and decreased. The QCYC wharf was busy with rafting required but there were no problems with docking.

As usual 'paradise' lived up to its name and a great weekend was enjoyed by all. On the Sunday the local golf club provided a minibus to a live band performance of 60s music, good fun and lots of dancing. The return trip unfortunately still had northerlies, so it turned into a slog upwind back to SYC. The wind died approaching Sandringham, so easy docking again. This was a great trip, hopefully to be repeated next season.

A couple of our cruises were cancelled due to unfavourable conditions but are back on the schedule and hopefully the weather cooperates. While a lot of the focus on recreational boating is on fun and social cruising around the bay and a little beyond, we do more than that and had a full calendar averaging an event each month.

#### **Sailing for Ukraine Day**

We hosted about 120 guests from Ukraine for a cruise on the bay. After a false start, the weather finally cooperated, offering moderate westerly winds and overcast but warm conditions as the 20 skippers and crew had a great time. After the cruise the SYC team led by Kol and Richard served us cheeseburgers and also awesome desserts, courtesy of some of the Ukrainian ladies.

The Recreational Boating team would like to thank all the skippers and volunteers who were able to help. We would also like to say a special thanks to SYC member Ekaterina Tchernova for her vision and her organisational efforts along with James Sly and the Boating Office team who made this event such a wonderful day for all of us to enjoy.

The annual SYC fishing competition was held from Friday 11 to Sunday 13 November 2022, giving anglers a wide opportunity to compete for a range of prizes, including charter fishing trip vouchers, generously supported by RM Jacksons. The Covid hangover and compromised bay water restricted interest, but 16 vessels registered and twenty snappers presented.

The most impressive of those were two magnificent 5 kg examples from eventual winner Peter Turrell. His name will be added to Wayne Read Trophy for the second time. Geoff Patterson had four good fish and Anthony Labagnara had two. Junior segment went to Miller Davis, grandson of Club identity Ralph White. Ralph won the charter boat trip door-prize during the preceding information evening which was presented by fishing industry stalwart Doug Phayer. Everyone attending the presentation in the Members' Bar had an enjoyable time. In 2023 we again hosted some great guest speakers including Jacqueline Hope, who shared many photos and chatted with us about her varied and interesting sailing lifestyle in the South Pacific. We also had Captain Ainsley

Morthorpe, Commanding Officer from Cerberus,

regaling us with stories of more than 30 years

in the Australian Navy. Also of interest was an

Victorian Ports Authority who together, discussed

information session by the ORCV and the

the changing regulations around Port Phillip and the Yarra River and boating safety.

Our Christmas party in December is always popular and saw a good crowd gather to enjoy great burgers served by the Recreational Boating Committee along with a few beverages and some prizes to complete our festive event. While the weather was a bit cool we managed to stay dry as things wound up just before the rains arrived and, more importantly, fun was had by all.

Our annual Recreation Boating Presentation Breakfast was run in late July. Members took over the Members' Bar, decorated the tables and enjoyed breakfast with friends, partaking in prize raffles and a fun quiz before announcing Robyn Brookes as Recreational Boating Person of the Year 2023.

We had a great year on the Nav Rally front too and we presented David and Kate McCutcheon on *IV X VIII*, 1st place in the SYC Cup. The *Vixen I* crew of Christine Matheou-Fox, Phil Strong and Jon Evans came 3rd. These two boats brought home the CUB Cup for having the beast team result.

These events would not be what they are without the participation of the members and on behalf of the Recreational Boating Committee, a big thank you to all who participated. We hope you have enjoyed yourselves and look forward to seeing you in the coming season.

I must thank a number of people without whose help and assistance, the running of Recreational Boating and the events would just not be possible. To the Boating Office team in particular James and Mitch, your assistance and effort in pulling things together often at very short notice, has been invaluable. To the volunteers on the 2022-23 Recreational Boating Committee – Dawn Cleaver, Geoff Dumaresq, Penny Goodman, Anne Hunting, Peter Hickey, Paul Marks, David McCutcheon, Hugh Pilsworth and Bruce Saunders, a massive thanks, as without you none of this would be possible.

Fair winds and safe passage.

#### **Doug Jackson**

Recreational Boating Club Captain

### Off The Beach

TB has demonstrated a solid resurgence in the aftermath of Covid. Although we witnessed the departure of numerous sailors and their families, it is great to see new faces joining us each week. The commendable efforts of Nick Neale and the Club Marine SYC Boating Academy team have helped transition new sailors from the Boating Academy programs into our Junior Development Squad and racing fleets. We commenced the season with an impressive 31 boats on the water, with each class boasting a robust fleet.

During school holidays, our sailors had a splendid summer. A total of 47 sailors represented SYC across nine national and two world regattas throughout Australia with some notable achievements for our youth sailors.

Eleven of our Optimist sailors journeyed north to the Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club in Sydney for the national regatta. They showcased exemplary skills in challenging conditions. Standout performances included Augustas Buividas securing 3rd place, Sam Henderson an 8th and Lottie Griffith a 10th place in the Open Fleet. Leigh Harvie and Zoe Jackson clinched the top two positions in the Silver Fleet, while Rachael Benoy achieved 3rd place in the Green Fleet in her first major regatta. Following these results, Augustas was selected for the Australian team, which competed in the 2023 Optimist Worlds, held in Spain. Lottie and Sam Henderson both qualified for the Australian team to compete in the European championships in Greece held in July 2023, though Sam chose not to participate.

The Cadet Nationals in Williamstown in December 2022, saw six SYC boats navigating intricate conditions. Several international boats participated amidst the 59-boat fleet gearing up for the subsequent World Championships. The competition was fierce and our sailors demonstrated commendable performances. Lillvanne Johnston and Dillan Barnes finished 5th, Carla Maertens and Harper Miller 6th, Emma Suda and Tess Holroyd 10th and Kylan Thomson and Sienna Miller finished 11th. All these sailors were selected to represent Australia at the World Championships, which directly followed the National Regatta early in 2023.

The Cadet Worlds featured 31 boats, including 14 Australian and 17 international competitors from countries like Britain, Germany, Belgium, and Poland. The regatta presented varied conditions, the majority being windy, interspersed with lighter days. These conditions challenged our sailors, especially after their recent participation in the Nationals and the competition remained intense, with minor errors leading to significant shifts in rankings.

Over the March 2023 long weekend, several of our sailors showcased exceptional skills and



achieved commendable success in various state regattas. In the Tasar State Titles, SYC sailors took out all podium positions with the duo of Chris Dance and Peter Hackett clinching top place, followed closely by James Sly and Eliza Solly in 2nd place. Harrison Sly and Zara Challis rounded off the podium in 3rd position.

In the International Cadet State Titles, the pair of Emma Suda and Tess Holroyd sailed their way to victory, securing 1st place. Kylan Thompson and Sienna Miller displayed impressive teamwork to achieve 2nd place, while Lillyanne Johnston and Dillan Barnes took 3rd place. Again, SYC sailors taking all three podium positions.

For the Optimist State Titles in the Intermediate Fleet, Caspar Thompson emerged as the champion, with Rachael Benoy following in 2nd place.

Lastly, in the 29er State Titles, Liam Stevens and Jack Furey showcased their prowess by securing a commendable 3rd position.

Our Laser fleet has seen some great club racing and solid training this season at SYC with fleets of upwards of 10 boats being seen regularly in training and Sunday racing.

This season has seen a consolation in the depth of the fleet at Sandringham with many of the youth squad who have been training tirelessly. A massive highlight for SYC was James Mitchell

becoming ILCA6 Oceania Champion in Darwin in August 2022. James continues to show us how to sail well and fast.

Regrettably, mother nature has not been particularly kind to our traditional annual events this year. Our much-anticipated live weekend had to be called off due to 40°C+ temperatures and gale-force winds. Similarly, our Metung Easter Regatta was marred by blustery conditions, resulting in only the first day's sailing results being recorded. However, the challenging

weather did not dampen the spirits of our youth sailors. Many of our teenage participants ventured onto the waters, navigating through 30 knot breezes, honing their skills against the powerful gusts. It was awesome to see their joy and their smiles through the splashes of white water as they sailed back and forth across Bancroft Bay. While most of the Easter Regatta saw us confined to the shore, the enthusiasm remained undiminished. Our sailors engaged in an entertaining trivia competition, curated by our Junior Captain, Aidan Herne. This contest contributed to the scores of the team race back from The Barrier. The camaraderie displayed over the weekend was noteworthy. The friendships forged between SYC and Metung sailors was so strong that they have continued to stay in touch. They have motivated one another to partake in various regattas around the state throughout the year, even working out logistics and accommodation, to make sure it everyone got there.

SYC Boating Academy's Nick Neale has done a great job introducing new sailors to performance and competitive sailing with newly established programs to introduce sailors to the Laser class and during July, implemented an introduction to the sail racing program with the Club's Pacers. Similar introductory programs are being planned for the International Cadet class.

The 2023 winter season has been very busy with four of our International Cadets training right up until July, before heading off to Belgium to participate in World's regatta. The Tasar fleet has also been quite active during the winter season, with regular training sessions and competitive racing fleets, taking every opportunity to train and improve their skills before the upcoming worlds. Nick Neale has also continued to run JDS sessions for the Optimist class and International Cadet classes when the weather conditions were suitable.









Lastly, the Vic 9er Association has also been running 29er training sessions each weekend for up to five boats through the winter. All this training helped boast our winter fleet numbers to 20+ boats on the water.

2023 witnessed an impressive representation from SYC with 14 of our junior and youth sailors participating in world or regional titles, spanning the Optimist, International Cadet and 29er classes. In these fiercely competitive events, our sailors upheld the Club's reputation with their commendable performances. Among the standout achievements were Lillyanne Johnston and Dillan Barnes who delivered an exceptional performance, securing 5th position overall at the International Cadet Worlds held in Belgium during July and August.

Our annual Sail Sandy and Kingston Sprint regattas should see high participation this year, as they are lead-up events to the Tasar events.

We eagerly anticipate the upcoming Tasar National and World Championships to be held at SYC in December 2023/January 2024. These events are expected to attract a world-class competitive fleet and as at early August there are over 80 registrations, including sailors from England, France, Japan and USA.

While these regattas stand as the pinnacle of our summer events, both our sailors and Club managements are preparing our OTB facilities to host these prestigious competitions amidst our busy sailing schedules.

Finally, many OTB sailors are excited about the arrival of the Club's J70 boats and are eagerly anticipating the chance to sail on these 'big' dinghies this summer. Many OTB sailors took the opportunity to sail on a J70, on our 'try a boat' day and were instantly hooked.

#### **Nick Duell**

Club Captain, Off The Beach



## Wednesday Wonders

his report records the 55th year of the Wednesday Wonders experiment, having started in the winter of 1968 before many of the current participants were born and beyond which few can remember.

A special bonne camaraderie pervades the Wednesday Wonders due primarily to the pursuit-start format which in turn, facilitates post-race socialisation. Boats start each race after the elapse of their event-based handicap, the objective being that they finish around the same time enabling crews to meet in the Club to socialise. That is exactly what happens. After each race, the Members' Bar fills to capacity, crews retain their unity by taking over a table and those who have no reason to boast, lament what could have been ... if only.

The basis on which the event-based handicaps are determined has remained a secret for 55 years, despite many claiming to have discovered the formula. The handicaps change regularly. An entertaining morning can be spent at the wailing wall adjacent to the Ken King Centre, where crews anxiously examine the list of handicaps for the day's race. Grown men and women can be heard calling for the handicapper to be identified, while others who cannot believe their good fortune quietly back away hoping that no wailer will notice their inexplicably low handicap. In the hope that the handicapper (whomever that may be) will favour my comment and reward me accordingly, it is very hard to determine handicaps when the fleet has boats between 7 metres and 17 metres, some pure race boats, some comfortable cruisers and several at least as old as the Wednesday Wonders competition.

There is another major contributor to the bonne camaraderie. It is the invisible hand of the Wednesday Wonders tower crew who guide both the on-water and off-water activities. So the first acclamation is for the enthusiastic. dedicated hard work of Margaret Whitbread, Di Tyndall, Stewart Simmons, Cathy Higgins, Bruce Ready, Don Cullen, Florence Ong, Helen Millican and Alan Clapham. They each deserve to be on the top step of the podium.

The Wednesday Wonders completion is divided into a winter series for the brave and bold and a summer series for the survivors and those who emerge from hibernation.

#### Winter Series 2022

The Mercedes-Benz Brighton Winter Series ran from April to September 2022 and comprised 26 races of which four were abandoned due to adverse weather conditions. From 52 entrants, there were 40 who participated regularly of which 33 had the glory of a 1st, 2nd or 3rd place (to the credit of the handicapper). This broad sharing of success resulted in the series being close and determined in the last few races.

#### Series placings

1st *Izzi* (Patrick O'Brien/Bruce Parry)

2nd **Pegasus** (Andy Lynch)

3rd **Bon Vivant** (Russell Keavs)

#### **Summer Series 2022-23**

The Noorden Property Summer Series, which ran from October 2022 to March 2023, also comprised 26 races of which five were abandoned due to adverse winds. The prospect of warm weather attracted a fleet of 58, from which there were 45 regular starters with 31 boats scoring at least one podium finish.

#### Series placings

1st *Foggy Dew* (Robert D'Arcy)

2nd Razzle Dazzle (Grahame Jones)

3rd **Pegasus** (Andy Lynch)

The **Shebessa Shield** was awarded to **Pegasus** (Andy Lynch) for having the lowest points for the combined Winter and Summer Series. Second and third citations went to Foggy Dew (Robert D'Arcy) and **Bon Vivant** (Russell Keays).

The **Noelle Coram Trophy**, for the highest place getter in the Wednesday Wonders Summer Series and Sunday Sailors completions was awarded to *Razzle Dazzle* (Grahame Jones) with citations to **Skullduggery** (Garry McCarten) and Winsome (Simon Hemingway).

The **Misty Blue Trophy** is awarded for the best average starting time. Arch de Triomphe (Alistair Murray, James Taylor and Alex Newman) was awarded the trophy for a very impressive performance in the Winter Series. The hotly contested Summer Series saw the trophy go to **Maverick** (Tony Hammond) for some fantastic performances.

Boats and skippers with a combined age of 100 years or more qualify for the **Century Class** competition which comprises six pre-nominated races from each of the Winter and Summer Series. Without exception, each sprightly Century Class skipper claims to have a very old boat.

The **Century Class Trophy** was awarded to **Bon Vivant** (Russell Keays) for the Winter Series and to *Razzle Dazzle* (Grahame Jones ) for the Summer Series.

The **Jaffa Trophy** is awarded to the winner of the race held closest to St Patrick's Day. In 2023 it was befittingly awarded to a proud Irishman sailing *Foggy Dew* (Robert D'Arcy). With both boat and skipper being Irish by name and nature, one has to suspect outside assistance from the 'little people' and the guiding hand of the late Frank Hilliard, a well-known Wednesday Wonderer and skipper of the previous Foggy Dew.

#### The fast boats

All of the foregoing results are determined on the basis of each boat's corrected time.





There are a number of boats which are heavily handicapped because they are fast and they deserve a mention. They are: Alex (Jock Macadie), Carpe Diem (Paul Commins), Esprit (Garry Anderson), **Stampede** (Christopher Gendala) and Wicked (Mike Welsh).

On a sad note, we recently said farewell to the late Chris Carlile, Club member for 50 years, Past Commodore, Life Member, highly accomplished yachty and enthusiastic Wednesday Wonderer. Chris and crew on 5 O'Clock Somewhere were one place off the podium in the Summer Series.

#### **David Lynch**

















## **Sunday** Sailors

ercedes-Benz Brighton Sunday Sailors races are held fortnightly with pursuit handicaps reviewed and adjusted after each race. The handicap determines the start time for each boat with the objective that all boats converge for the finish and the finish time determines the race outcome. Boats choosing to use a spinnaker do so with a start penalty of typically three or four minutes, depending on the boat size and spinnaker capability.

Handicaps are manually adjusted for each race depending on performance, with some additional consideration of the weather forecast and boat type. For example, if the weather forecast is for very light winds, our handicapper, Stuart Morrison-Jack, is known to give a one-race handicap relief for the heavy boats which might otherwise be disadvantaged in these conditions. The handicapper's mission is to ensure that all boats, old and new, big and small, fast and slow, novice and experienced have a chance at a podium finish during the series.

The handicapper has also tried some innovative measures. For example, one very well performing 40-footer was reluctant to use her spinnaker. Recognising the need for some encouragement, the handicapper gave that boat the gift of a 1 minute spinnaker penalty whereas other boats of a comparable size copped 3 minutes. While well intentioned it did not work in this case, as they subsequently claimed to have lost their spinnaker as an excuse to avoid getting it out.

A report of each race is provided alternatively by two dubious characters, Leeward Larry and Luffing Lance. These reports provide

performance analysis for each boat and also call-out any spicy gossip within the fleet (protected by their well-guarded anonymity).

The races are managed and scored by a fabulous team of tower volunteers. A big shout-out of thanks and appreciation to Alan Clapham, Don Cullen, Ben Hardiman, Eryl Harris, Cathy Higgins, Bruce Reidy, Di Tyndall, Christine Walsh, Barb Watson and Margaret Whitbread, all of whom assisted throughout the last season.

#### **Summer Series 2022-23**

Race 1, 9 October 2022. The season kicked off with 19 boats competing. The winning boat was **Alliance** (Alex, Simon). **Emerald** (Tony Tanner) and *Valiant* (David Keyes-Tilley) came 2nd and 3rd. *Lawless* (Boyd Coulson) won Start of the Day on 2 seconds and **Debonnaire** (Phil Gomez) was the fastest boat in the fleet, i.e. best elapsed time.

Race 2, 23 October. The second race was won by **Valiant** 'since sold', with **La Mer** (Michael Ebeling) and *Lebrok* (Theo Korbel) in 2nd and 3rd places. **Skullduggery** (Garry McCarten) won Start of the Day on 2 seconds. La Mer was the fastest boat in the race.

Race 3, 6 November and Race 4, 20 November were abandoned due to adverse weather conditions

Race 5, 4 December. This was won by **Emerald** with First Light (Mike Coulter) in 2nd place and La Belle Vie (Grant/Nathan Anderson) in 3rd place. Winsome (Simon Hemingway) won the start with 4 seconds. La Belle Vie was the fastest boat on the day.

Race 6, 18 December. This race had only seven

boats due to strong wind conditions. **Skulduggery** was first over the line followed by Hitchhiker (David Goodman) and then Razzle Dazzle (Grahame Jones). Skullduggery also won Start of the Day on 1 second. La Belle Vie was the fastest boat on the course.

Race 7, 8 January 2023. The first race of the new year was won by *Firefox* (Kim Beverage) with **Lawless** 2nd and **First Passion** (Simon Lipman) in 3rd place. Winsome won the Start. First **Passion** was the fastest boat on the day.

Race 8, 22 January. This was won by **Debonnaire**, **Lebrok** came 2nd and **La Mer** in 3rd place.

*Firefox* won Start of the Day and *Debonnaire* was the fastest boat in the fleet.

Race 9, 5 February. Won by *Hitchhiker* with *Isa Lei* (Andrew Chapman) and **Panache IV** (Egils Stockans) in 2nd and 3rd place. **Skullduggery** won Start of the Day on 3 seconds. **Debonnaire** was the fastest boat around the course on the day.

Race 10, 19 February. This race saw **Sheba** (Michael Pisani) 1st across the line with **38 Degrees South** (John Chatham) in 2nd place and First Passion in 3rd. Hitchhiker won Start of the Day after three boats started early and each received a 5 minute penalty.

Race 11, 5 March. This race included a significant women's skipper division, with the race won by **Skullduggery** skippered by Anne Goodfellow to win both the overall race and also the women's helm race for the day.

In 2nd place for the overall race and the women's helm was **Debonnaire** skippered by Catherine Gomez. Third place for the Sunday Sailors race





went to **La Mer** and third place for the women's helm race went to First Light with Jemma Ward at the helm. **Sheba** won Start of the Day and **Debonnaire** was the fastest boat.

Race 12, 19 March. Race 12 was won by Lawless with 2nd place going to *Allegria* (Simon May) and 3rd place to La Belle Vie. Skullduggery won Start of the Day and *La Mer* was the fastest boat on the day.

Race 13, 2 April. The last race for the season was won by **Sheba** followed by **38 Degrees South** (John Chatham) and then *First Passion* coming 3rd. Start of the Day was won by *Firefox* on 6 seconds and the fastest boat was 38 Degrees South.

#### **Summer Series Winners**

**Skullduggery** won the series to be awarded the **Sunday Plate** with *Razzle Dazzle* in 2nd place and La Mer and La Belle Vie awarded equal 3rd.

Congratulations to *Razzle Dazzle* winning the coveted **Noelle Coram Trophy.** This trophy is awarded to the boat with the lowest combined score for the Summer Series of both Sunday Sailors and Wednesday Wonders.

#### Winter Series 2023

Race 1, 7 May. This race kicked off the winter 2023 series. Only nine boats entered, with *Hitchhiker* in 1st place and *Winsome* and *Firefox* in 2nd and 3rd respectively. *Firefox* had the perfect Start of the Day winning on zero seconds and La Mer was the fastest boat in the fleet.

Race 2, 21 May. This race abandoned.

Race 3, 4 June. However, this race saw the fleet restored to 17 boats. The winning boat was Upbeat (Peter Dunne) with Sheba 2nd and **Winsome** in 3rd place. **Emerald** won the Start of the Day on 5 seconds. The fastest boat was Lumiere (Matt Kebbell).

Race 4, 18 June. Won by *Emerald* with *Amicus II* (Warwick Stenford) in 2nd place and Bacardi (Martin Power) coming 3rd. **Skullduggery** won Start of the Day. **Bacardi** was the fastest boat in the fleet.

Race 5, 2 July. This race saw *First Light* win with **Sheba** in 2nd place and **Firefox** 3rd. **Sheba** won Start of the Day on 2 seconds. La Mer was the fastest boat on the course.

Race 6, 16 July. Hitchhiker won this race. Firefox came 2nd and Panache IV came 3rd.

Race 7, 30 July. First across the line was *Emerald* followed by Lumiere and then Alliance (Alex Hall/Simon Farthing).

#### Winter Series to Date

At the time of writing, **Emerald** is in the lead with Firefox in 2nd place and Winsome in 3rd place.

#### **Garry McCarten**













## **Thursday** Twilights



t was another popular Mercedes-Benz Brighton Thursday Twilight Summer Series with the series officially commencing in October 2022.

The season saw 20 of 24 races sailed on top of the last blast at the end of the season, with 82 different yachts competing throughout the series. On average, there were 37 boats that competed each week, with standout weeks in Races 18 and 20, seeing 49 and 50 boats competing, respectively. An amazing spectacle. Congratulations to the winners of the 2022-2023 Mercedes-Benz Brighton Thursday Twilight Series winners:

#### **Division A**

1st Algy Rose (Nigel Rose)

2nd Braveheart (Leigh Maddison/James Billson)

3rd *Razzle Dazzle* (Grahame Jones)

#### **Division B**

1st **Second Nature** (Paul Mentiplay)

2nd **Bruschetta VI** (Hugo Ottaway)

3rd **Wavelength** (Alex Elliott)



This season our female helm series was again popular, with boats nominating one of their In total, there were six female helm races with 18 boats participating over the series.

#### **Division A Female Helm**

1st **PP1** (Stephanie Strong)

2nd **Esprit** (Sue Bowes)

3rd Waterline (Sarah Allen)

female crew as the helmsperson for the race. conducted in a variety of weather conditions The results of this series are as follows:

#### **Division B Female Helm**

1st Sidetracked (Madeleine Linton)

2nd **Summer Wind** (Leisa Hartnett/Sue Sly)

3rd **Rhiannon** 

(Tracey Gottliebsen/Sarah Berryman)

In addition to our female helm series, we also conducted a youth helm series. This was designed to attract the younger portion of our membership, seeing those under 30 years of age grabbing the helm and having a go. Competition was tough with the results as follows:

#### **Division A Youth Helm**

1st **Arch de Triomphe** 

(Jordan Commins/Lawson Shaw)

2nd *Hot Chipps* (Patrick Chipp)

3rd **PP1** (Jessica Watson/Jeremy O'Connell)

#### **Division B Youth Helm**

1st **Summer Wind** (James Sly)

2nd *Eureka* (Jack Furey)

We will be including the same opportunities in the upcoming 2023-24 season and look forward to seeing more boats participating. All owners are encouraged to get your crew, family and friends involved in this initiative and help make this season's series even more successful than the last

We would also like to thank our fantastic team of Race Management volunteers for their efforts throughout the series as well as our Club Handicapper, Lowa Paszko and of course our Sail Committee representatives, John Neville and Jack Fullerton.

#### **Rob Date**

Club Captain, Sail











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### Mercedes-Benz

### **J24 Season** 2022-2023



Ith normality finally returning to our lives, the Hodges Sandringham One Design Series 2022-2023 season kicked off with the completion of the 2022 Winter Series. However with interest in qualifying for the J24 Worlds to be held in Greece 2024 at an all-time high, a competitive edge crept over the fleet.

#### **Winter Sprint Series**

This regatta attracted 11 of the hardiest J42s at the Club. Top of the tree and toughest of them all was Simon Grain. Series results were:

1st **Jet** (Simon Grain) PHS 1st **Jet**2nd **JaB** (Warren Slater) 2nd **Bruschetta VI**(Hugo Ottaway)

3rd **Two Dogs** 3rd **Two Dogs** 

(Jack Fullerton)

Handicap: *Jet*, *Poker Face* (Adam Keys-Tilley), *Two Dogs* 

#### Sail Sandy

#### October 2022

Our opening regatta started the summer season with five J24 entries in Sail Sandy. Results were:

1st **JaB** 

2nd *Bruschetta VI* 3rd *Two Dogs* 

#### **NSW State Championships**

#### Cronulla, November 2022

Three Victorian boats ventured to Cronulla to take on 12 of NSW's best in the ocean swell. With Victorian boats all posting strong results, the consistency of the NSW boats pushed the Victorians down the rankings in the overall.

5th let

7th Poker Face

8th Bruschetta VI

#### Australian National Championships

#### Cronulla, January 2023

Seven Victorian teams went north to NSW over Christmas for these championships and witnessed super tough conditions in a shortened regatta due to the 35+ knots, causing the first two days to be abandoned. The next day, three races were completed in challenging 30 to 35 knots winds and huge seas, followed the next day by 15 knots for the remaining three races. *Sailpac* (Sean Kirkjian) of CYCA, won the title with Victorians



Bruschetta VI placed 4th, Kaotic (Brendan Lee) 5th, Two Dogs 6th, JaB 9th, Joyride (Darren Cutts) 13th and Poker Face 14th. Almost every boat which flew a spinnaker on day one Chinese-gybed. Two Dogs broke a rudder in race 2 and Poker Face nose-dived down a huge wave in race 1, injuring a crew member. Both were forced out of the remaining races that day, effectively wiping out their regatta. Selection for the Australian team to the 2023 World Championships in Thessaloniki, Greece sees four teams from NSW and two from Victoria heading off in September to take on the world's best.

#### Crew-Ser Cup

#### May

The Crew-Ser Cup attracted eight boats, an introductory two sail regatta designed the encourage crews and new boat owners to have a go. Cup results: **Sidetracked** (Maddie Linton) 1st, from **Bruschetta VI** (Megan Aulich) 2nd and **Dutch Tilt** (Daniel Gallagher) 3rd.

#### **Victorian Championships**

Thirteen entrants sailed in perfect conditions and close racing. It was great to see two entries from NSW, ACE skippered by Dave West and the NSW Youth Team from Manly led by William Hough.

1st **Bruschetta VI** PHS 1st **Panarea** (Chris Ravesi)

2nd *Two Dogs* 2nd *Bruschetta VI* 3rd *JaB* 3rd *Vice Versa* (John Neville)

There were multiple heat-winners resulting in the title being decided by 1 second in the last race, resulting in **Two Dogs** relinquishing first place to **Bruschetta VI** by one point.

#### **Thursday Twilight Summer Series**

Without doubt, this series is the most competitive event. 25 races, 40 entries in Division 2, no spinnakers, sailed from October 2022 to March 2023. Fourteen J24 entries with a mixture of ability and crews. J24s are one of the smallest boats in the fleet and stack up really well against the rest of the SYC fleet. Results:

2nd Bruschetta VI 6th Haywire (Richard Taylor) 7th Sidetracked 15th Jet

16th *Panarea* 18th *Dutch Tilt* 19th *JaB* 20th *Joyride* 



21st **Great White** 26th **Vice Versa** (Eduardo Sobelski Santos) 31st **Two Dogs** =35th **Poker Face, Code Violation** (Doug MacGregor) and **Hyperactive** (Kirsty Harris)

#### **Summer Sprint Series**

Sailed on Sunday morning, 15 boats competed in 25 races. It was a case of the usual suspects dominating.

1stJaBPHS 1st Joyride2ndBruschetta VI2nd Bruschetta VI3rdTwo Dogs3rd Two Dogs

#### **Winter Sprint Series**

As at early August, the 2023 series has **Bruschetta VI** in 1st place, **JaB** 2nd and **Poker Face** 3rd, separated by four points. PHS so far has **Poker Face** 1st, **Bruschetta VI** 2nd and **Convict's Revenge** (Simon Grain) 3rd.

#### **Boat Owners**

There are 20 J24s in the SYC fleet with new boat owners Rod Warner in *Scrumpy* and Avril Sellars in *Donna Elvira XI* joining the fleet. Simon Grain has bought *Convict's Revenge* from Sydney.

We have two teams representing our Club at the 2023 World Championships in Greece. *JaB* will be crewed by Warren Slater, Murray McDonald, Sharon Hade and Graeme Cooper and *Bruschetta VI* will be crewed by Hugo Ottaway, Pauliina Mattila, Rain Forbes and Jan Talacko.

Our committee is steered by Adam Keyes-Tilley, President and supported by John Neville, Maddie Linton, Megan Aulich, Richard Taylor, Kylie Sobelski and Hugo Ottaway.

The class has worked hard to support the members, resulting in an active fleet and a 35% female participation, something we are keen to increase. There is a strong social program, with hard work done by Richard Taylor, Kylie Balharrie, Maddie Linton and Megan Aulich.

Our class sponsor is Hodges Sandringham and we thank Amanda Thomson for her support this season and are delighted to have them involved in the J24 class again for the 2023-2024 season.

#### **Hugo Ottoway and Adam Keyes-Tilley**

J24 Committee



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## Women in Sailing



andringham Yacht Club has a strong contingent of female sailors who play major roles as either crew or skippers across the Club's racing calendar, as well as non-SYC events and offshore racing. We continue to see these numbers grow. We have many highly skilled female sailors who are great role models for our youth members as well as female members who are new to sailing. One of the objectives of the WISC program is to create more opportunities for women to participate in sailing and develop their skills as a crew member or skipper. SYC offers a wide range of programs to support and encourage women in sailing.

During the Thursday Twilight series, every four weeks a boat may nominate a female helm with an overall series winner awarded at the end of the season. This is a great way for females to improve their helming skills in race conditions. Last year 19 boats from the fleet nominated a female helm. Congratulations to the winners of the Female Helm Series:

#### **Division A**

1st **PP1** (Steph Strong) 2nd **Esprit** (Sue Bowes)

3rd *Waterline* (Sarah Allen)

#### **Division B**

1st **Sidetracked** (Maddie Linton)

2nd Summer Wind (Leisa Hartnett/Sue Sly)

3rd **Rhiannon** 

(Tracey Gottliebsen/ Sarah Berryman)

The Women in Sailing Challenge (WISC) is a one-day keelboat event that has been running for more than 20 years. It aims to encourage the participation of both experienced and novice female sailors. The prestigious **Doris Little** 

Women in Sailing Trophy is on offer, named in fond memory of Doris Little, who gave the series the WISC badge and was the driver of the series for many years. There are two racing divisions: Division 1 (all female crew), Division 2 (mixed crew with a female helm) and a cruising division (Division 3). The 2023 event saw 19 boats competing with over 80 women taking part. Congratulations to the winners of the WISC Regatta:



#### **Division 1 AMS** and PHS

1st **Serious Yahoo** (Katie Holroyd, RBYC)

2nd **Up N Go** (Cath Beaufort, RYCV)

3rd Bullet (Robyn Ragauskas, SYC) (Alice Ekberg, SYC)

#### **Division 2 PHS**

1st **Rhiannon** (Sarah Berryman, SYC)

2nd Ragnar (Alice Ekberg, SYC)

3rd Xit Strategy (Louise Cotter, SYC)

#### **Division 2 AMS**

1st Rhiannon (Sarah Berryman, SYC)

2nd Xit Strategy (Louise Cotter, SYC)

3rd **Ragnar** 

#### **Division 3**

1st **Skullduggery** (Anne Goodfellow, SYC)

2nd **Debonnaire** (Catherine Gomez, SYC)

3rd First Light (Jemma Taylor, SYC)

The WISC event is part of the Port Phillip Women's Championship Series (PPWCS) and is made up of five races, each hosted by a different club -Hobsons Bay Yacht Club, Royal Melbourne Yacht Squadron, Sandringham Yacht Club, Royal Yacht Club of Victoria and Royal Brighton Yacht Club. Congratulations to Robyn Ragauskas and her all female crew – Ella Ragauskas, Meg Ragauskas, Lily Ragauskas, Karen Neville, Bec Neville and Sharon Parsons on **Bullet** who won the series on AMS for the second year in a row.

The SYC Commodore's Challenge is a yearly event and is an all-female one-design regatta. Clubs from around the bay are invited to select their best team of female sailors to compete. This year we had five teams – Sandringham Yacht Club, Royal Brighton Yacht Club, Royal Melbourne Yacht Squadron, Safety Beach Sailing Club and Blairgowrie Yacht Squadron. The SYC team of Steph Strong (skipper), Megan Aulich, Pauliina Mattila, Sophie Stace and Rain Forbes raced competitively over four races to come a very close 2nd behind RBYC.

The SYC J24 Crew-ser Cup (a regatta where the crew skipper) is not a specific women's race but a clear example of how skilled our female sailors are. Defending champion Maddie Linton steering *Sidetracked*, was able to pull off another win in a strong 20-25 knot westerly, with Megan Aulich skippering Bruschetta VI coming a close second.

Although there were no SYC boats entered in this year's Australian Women's Keelboat Regatta (AWKR), something we will need to rectify next year, Robyn Brooke was asked if she could mentor a team of individual women who did not have a boat to race on. Robyn rose to the challenge and pulled the crew together to race on BOOTS. They had a great regatta full of skill development and fun and even won a race on PHS. Robyn received the Leadership Award as a result of her efforts. Well done Robyn.

There were some fantastic achievements from the J24 fleet. The mainly female crew of Bruschetta VI - Pauliina Mattila, Rain Forbes, Sophie Stace, Megan Aulich and Tao Hsu, skippered by Hugo Ottaway, fought hard to come 1st in the Victorian Championships sailed at SYC and 4th in the Australian National Championships. As a result, they qualified for the J24 World Championships held in Thessaloniki Greece in September 2023. Fantastic effort.

Charlotte (Lottie) Wormald has been awarded a full Victorian Institute of Sport scholarship for sailing and is currently a member of the Australian Sailing Youth Team for the second year in a row. Lottie placed 1st youth female in the National Championships Women IQ Foil class, a new Olympic foiling class. In addition, she won 1st youth overall at Sail Sydney and Sail Melbourne, as well as 3rd senior female at Sail Melbourne. Lottie has recently been selected to represent Australia at the Pacific Games in November and was also shortlisted for the Australian entry to the youth Americas Cup in 2024. Go Lottie.

Start planning for the 2023-2024 season. There are so many opportunities for SYC women to become involved:

- Wednesday Wonders Female Helm: 13 December, 10 January 2024, 14 February and 13 March.
- · Thursday Twilights Female Helm: 23 November, 21 December, 25 January 2024, 22 February and 21 March.
- Women in Sailing Challenge: 3 March 2023.
- Port Phillip Women's Championship Series: 3 December 2023 at HBYC, 4 February at RYCV, 3 March at SYC, 7 April at RMYS and 5 May at RBYC.
- Commodore's Challenge: 19 May 2024.
- Australian Women's Keelboat Regatta: 8, 9 and 10 June 2024 at RMYS.

If you are a female member and need some help to find a boat or would like to participate in any of the events outlined above, please contact Robyn Ragauskas at WISC@syc.com.au or 0476 653 566.

#### **Robyn Ragauskas**

Women in Sailing Representative

## Race Management







he 2022-2023 sailing season proved to be an exciting time for our Club, with the race management team orchestrating a seamless and memorable series of events. The season ran well with all series managing to sail the majority of their races without too much adverse weather.

The heart of our success lies in the dedication and hard work of our volunteers. The race management team, a fantastic group of 60 volunteers, worked tirelessly to ensure the smooth execution of each race.

The highlight of the season was undoubtedly the Tasar State Championships held in March 2023, which served as an exciting preparation for the upcoming Tasar Nationals and Worlds regattas. The Tasar Nationals are scheduled for 27-31 December 2023 and the Tasar Worlds will take place from 2-9 January 2024. Anticipation is high for these prestigious events and we are proud to have a sailing community that is well prepared and eager to participate.

The J70 State and National Championships held in January 2023 were another standout event. With 14 boats participating in hotly contested racing, the competition was fierce and enthralling. The event was expertly managed by a dedicated team of 13 volunteers, ensuring that everything ran smoothly and efficiently.

During the quieter winter months, the race management team took the opportunity to focus on developing their skills and fine-tuning their expertise. A series of training courses were organised, providing volunteers with an opportunity to deepen their understanding of race management. These initiatives not only honed the skills of the existing team, but also welcomed new members, bolstering our volunteer force and helping to ensure a bright future for our race management endeavours.

As we look forward, there is a sense of excitement brewing in our sailing community. With numerous upcoming events, including Sail

Sandy, the Tasar Nationals and Tasar Worlds, there is no shortage of thrilling races to anticipate.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the volunteers who contributed their time, effort and passion to ensure the success of the 2022-2023 sailing season. Their unwavering commitment to race management continues to drive the success of our events and enrich the experiences of our sailors.

If you have ever considered helping out at our great Club, or if you are simply interested in learning how it all comes together, please reach out to the SYC Boating Office and we will be sure to get you underway on your own race management journey. There is always room to welcome new volunteers. Whether it be on the water or in the tower, we will find a way to get you involved.

#### **Clay Williams**

Sailing Coordinator

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## **New** Racing Boats

#### **Fargo and Ari Abrahams**

silver, high performance Melges IC37. She was built in 2021 and competed in Cowes Week 2022, prior to Ari's purchase and subsequent transport from the UK in early 2023. No loo, no stove, no comforts to speak of, no canting keel, she has a tiller (not a wheel or two) and she is beautiful. *Fargo* is Ari's new project, after several years successfully racing his X-Yacht, *Xpresso*.

Ari, *Fargo* and his crew competed in the ORCV Discount Yachting Winter Series first race of the season. In challenging conditions, he took out line honours, winning the AMS Div 1, ORCV Div 1 and PWS Div 1.

In August she was packed up and de-masted, ready for her road trip north to Queensland to race in Hamilton Island Race Week 2023. For this event, the crew spent many hours training on the bay in the Melbourne cold. As with all his racing, Ari aims for a 50/50, female/male ratio. *Fargo* requires a crew of 9 or 10.

This was *Fargo's* first real hit out since arriving in Australia. The Race Week was sailed in typically 15-20 knot winds, making for far, competitive racing. She sailed well against the Farr 40s and her best day was with windward-leeward races. The results were pleasing and the crew had great fun sailing this exciting boat. Ari and his crew came away with an impressive 3rd IRC, 2nd ORC as well as PHRF Div 4.

Ari is a passionate sailor who, like many of us, grew up sailing in dinghies. Ari learned the ropes competing equally against male and female sailors of varying ages and abilities.

He is a strong advocate for sharing his knowledge and giving others the opportunity to experience and compete in the sport he enjoys. Ari has plans in place to race her locally with the SYC fleet, compete in Festival of Sails, Port Lincoln Week and several other events over the next season of sailing and beyond.

We will be following your journey Ari and we wish you, your crew and *Fargo* all the best.

**Chris Mitchell** 











#### **Veloce and Phil** Simpfendorfer

A new **Veloce** came to our Club this year, the fourth for Phil Simpfendorfer. V4 as Phil refers to his latest, is a Melges 40, one of only six built since 2018, four of which found their way to the Royal New Zealand Yacht Club. Phil's boat, which was known previously as *Inga* and *Checkmate* is one of those four and was shipped across the ditch to SYC. It promises to be a rocket ship. It is a natural yet large step for Phil, who has enjoyed optimising each of the **Veloce** family, then moving to higher performance yachts, from an Elliot 36, Elliot 45 and J111.

The Melges 40 is a cousin of the Melges IC37 recently brought to the Club by Ari Abrahams but with significant differences including a canting keel, full carbon fibre construction, a pedestal and an impressive sail wardrobe - 26 at last count.

With a typical crew of nine sailors, Phil intends to campaign her at SYC and ORCV events, Geelong week, Port Lincoln week, Airlie Beach and Hamilton Island regattas and other events with a 1-2 day format.

Having the ability to be transported by road as normal width cargo (canted on a cradle with a two piece carbon mast) and an overall weight of 3.2 tonne, you could consider these yachts to be a large skiff, able to be taken interstate without the logistics of long delivery voyages. The comparison also applies to her below decks accommodation – there is none. A floating dock designed and built in New Zealand will elevate the hull above the water in the SYC marina, keeping **Veloce** barnacle-free and ready to race.

Phil's latest adventure follows a lifetime on the water beginning down the Peninsula with Sabots, Moths, Cherubs, Javelins and Windsurfers, before being lured into large yachts with an offer of a berth on a Westcoaster race with friends. Phil still remembers the seasickness and the epic size of the swells and waves on that voyage.

Phil is hopeful another Melges 40 will find its way to SYC soon and it is likely the four will go up against each other in the Whitsundays in 2024. Happy sailing Veloce.

**Chris Mitchell** 



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## Live Entertainment on Twilights & Sunday Sessions







inally we got back to normality after Covid with a full-line up for the season and it kicked off in October 2022 with Opening Day. Beginning with melodious voice our very own Hailey White accompanied by Steve Wade on guitar, our afternoon session on the northern podium with Gary Eastwood and Jezza, primed the crowd for the brilliant finale of the 13-piece, dynamic band, Big and Horny.

Our Thursday Twilight Series followed with some fabulous entertainment and the pre-Christmas line up consisted of these talented entertainers - Andy Wilson Trio, Nightshade Blue, No Baggage, Tim Watson, and Tommy McKewan. We brought out the big guns for our Christmas party with the famous Ross Wilson and the Peaceniks. We were privileged to have such a high-calibre musician perform at our Club.

The 2023 Thursdays line up continued with Kris McGill, Rusty Nails, Dean and Carruthers, Gary Eastwood and Jezza and All you need is Beatles.

We trialled our first Sunday Session in the Members' Bar with Kris McGill and Dave Lesley



which was a great way to round off the celebrations of the WISC (Women in Sailing Challenge).

With Twilights coming to an end, we went out with a bang with the well-known very talented Wendy Stapleton, Paul Norton and Gerry Hale and finally ending with a lot of well-received noise, were the lively Noisy Johnnies. Last but not least, the brilliant Jason Vorherr, Gary Young, Lisa Mio and Cres Crisp from Rusty Nails had the Members' Harbour View in full swing for the final Sunday Session for the season.

Most of these musicians have become not only our regular performers, but also made friendships with members along the way. Many have performed with the royalty of Aussie music legends at much bigger venues. It is very special to have them up close and personal in our Members' Bar.

Stay tuned for what is set for the future. A little heads-up, you might want to save the date for our Christmas party, Friday 22 December.

**Robyn Coombs** 

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## Opening Day 2023

The Commodore's theme for Opening Day 2023 was Super Heroes. Dressing up their boats and themselves is a great tradition on opening day.





















































### **Club Person** of the Year

Congratulations to Chris Furey who recently received the prestigious title of Club Person of the Year for 2023, presented by Commodore Sue Bowes during Opening Day ceremonies.

For many years Chris played a crucial role in capturing the essence of our Club through his camera lens, together with the articles he has contributed to this magazine. Marking milestone events such as our Opening Days, regattas big and small, presentation ceremonies, changes to our infrastructure and the wonderful vibe of SYC and its members. He is our honorary on-water photographer.

Beyond this, Chris has also contributed for many years to the running of Off the Beach and race management during Club, State, National and World regattas. Chris is often behind the scenes volunteering his expertise to ensure these events showcase SYC as a wonderful yacht club. This award recognises and celebrates his invaluable contribution to SYC both on and off the water.

Congratulations and thank you, Chris



### **Recreational Boating** Club Person of the Year

Robyn Brooke was awarded Recreational Boating Club Person of the Year by Club Captain Doug Jackson, at the Recreational Boating Breakfast in early July 2023.

Robyn has been a member of SYC for 20+ years. She is one of those fabulous people every club needs and loves. She is a selfless 'get the job done' kind of person and is always there to pitch in and lend a hand, often behind the scenes. Robyn just picks up the reigns and does. No-one needs to ask. Robyn is there every time. This is something Robyn does in all aspects of her life and carries it off with a great sense of camaraderie and an infectious laugh.

One of the Recreational Boating's charters is to encourage growth and enjoyment. Robyn is a strong advocate and has been involved for many years in the women in sailing programs. She also loves the social aspect of the Recreational Boating Club and finds it an incredibly restful outlet from her busy and stressful working life. The Cruise in Company weekends away to Docklands and



Queenscliff in particular, are as important to Robyn as is the racing side of sailing. They are a great way to refocus and just switch off. Robyn's mantra in life is to get to the finish line, something we can all strive for.

**Congratulations Robyn** 



## Life Membership

#### Congratulations SYC Life Member Bruce Eddington

To be bestowed Life Membership of Sandringham Yacht Club is the highest honour in our Club. It recognises enormous dedication, passion and contribution to our Club, normally over a long and extended period. After decades of service and dedication to his beloved SYC, Bruce Eddington was recently awarded Life Membership by Commodore Sue Bowes at the recent Annual General Meeting on 19 September 2023.

Tireless involvement though committee and leadership play an enormous role in making SYC the Club we all enjoy and Bruce's commitment has been integral to the life of our Club for several

From a leadership perspective, during his 10 years on General Committee, Bruce undertook the roles of Club Captain Off the Beach, Rear Commodore, Vice Commodore and he ultimately served as Commodore from 2006-2008. Whilst his official roles may have ceased, Bruce has never stopped being involved and assisting the Club move forward. He continues to share his experience and expertise with the Club as we improve, transform and keep evolving.

With his background in the building industry and willingness to share his technical knowledge over the past 25 years, Bruce has been instrumental in the development of most of our key facilities: including updating the Off the Beach facilities, dredging matters, modernisation of the fuel system and construction of the Ken King Centre. Bruce was also heavily involved in Facilities Master Plan – Stage 1 which included the new boat yard, travel lift and concessions building.

Bruce then stepped up his involvement over an intense six year period. He was central to the Club delivering the second stage of our Facilities Master Plan which delivered the new clubhouse, car park and sail lockers. Bruce's time and effort was akin to a second full-time job. He chaired the FMP2 main and technical committees and generally speaking, guided the ship. The clubhouse we all enjoy and share, is largely due to Bruce's involvement. In 2023 he continues to assist with the new developments.



On the water, his stellar sailing career began in his mid-teens competing in Kitty Kats, Lightweight Sharpies and 14' Skiffs. During 2004-2010, Bruce's Australian and overseas campaign in the Mumm 30 class was highly successful, winning national championships in five consecutive years, competing at two Route Des Iles Regattas in France (5th 2006), winning the Key West Regatta in America, competing in two World Championships and also winning the North American championship in 2008. Bruce is very humble, but quietly proud of his sailing achievements and he was always proud to represent our wonderful Club.

On behalf of all members we thank Bruce and congratulate him on this prestigious and highly deserved accolade.





## **Club Marine SYC** Boating Academy

nother 12 months have gone by for the Club Marine Sandringham Yacht Club Boating Academy and normality is a word that comes to mind, with a successful run of Academy courses without external interruptions. Just the occasional gale force winds to spice up things. Participants of all ages enjoyed our facilities and the learning environment we create for them.

With the keelboat programs utilising the Club Beneteaus and off the back of the successful skipper and crew networking evening held in September 2022, many keelboat participants have found their way into Club sailing. At Off the Beach, new programs have been introduced in an effort to assist youth sailors transition to owning their own boat and getting involved in racing dinghies. With help from the Victorian Laser Association (VLA) and the use of their five ICLA 4 boats, our new program, Out There Squad, was born. The OutThere Squad program is targeted at teenagers who have out-grown Optimists and provides these sailors with a similar pathway to those who would learn to race in an Optimist or Cadet. In late May 2023, SYC saw 13 participants in the program with a number now progressing into boat ownership. In July 2023, a Come and Try an International Cadet Day was held. Over 20 past academy participants from Tackers and OutThere programs





experienced International Cadet sailors. The success of the Come and Try Day has led to the creation of an additional OutThere Squad program, using the Club-owned International Cadets. In August, a youth Start Racing course was developed to teach the basics of racing around the OTB racing course, in the Club's

> Pacers. These programs have been successfully trialed and with positive outcomes, will continue into the next season to help provide more options to retain and develop our younger sailors.

Bialik College, Firbank Grammar, Star of the Sea, St Bede's College, St Leonard's College and St Mary's College are a few of the schools that attended SYC last season for discover sailing experiences or learn to sail programs.

Star of the Sea and St Leonard's expanded their programs into Team Sailing and both competed at the annual Team Sailing State Championships. At next year's event, both teams will be accompanied by an SYC coach who will support them with training at SYC, leading into the State Championships at Mornington Yacht Club in March 2024.

Quarterly reports via Australian Sailing have not been available over

the last 12 months, however with total participant numbers since August 2022 over 1,100 we are trending upwards. Many courses are already booked out with over 100 bookings active within the next six months. These numbers will continue to grow as we get closer to the summer months and the always busy, school holiday periods.

In exciting news, the Season Pass membership is once again being offered. Prior to the pandemic, the Season Pass had a conversion rate of 40% from pass-holders becoming members of the Club. We hope to achieve an even greater conversion rate this season.

The 2022 Australian Sailing Awards saw our own Zara Challis named a finalist for Instructor of the Year. We thank Zara for the massive contribution she has made to the Academy, where you will still find her on most days of the week. Even with university and other part-time work, she still commits to SYC programs, acting as a role model for new staff, coaching school team sailing programs, Tackers, the list goes on.

Thanks also to our naming-rights sponsor, Club Marine, for their ongoing support. Thanks also to our growing team of instructors. We have an exciting season ahead and as a team, are looking forward to providing opportunities for all to get involved with sailing at SYC.

#### **Nicholas Neale**

Discover Sailing Coordinator





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## The Mackenzie Family and SYC

his is a story of the Mackenzie family and their significant contribution to the Club and its history, as seen by Daryl Mackenzie, a fourth generation member of the family who is extremely proud of his father, uncle and grandfather who all played a valuable role in the Club's history.

First there was Duncan Mackenzie, who initially had a power boat interest. He was one of the group who split from the Port Phillip Yacht Club to form the Sandringham Yacht and Angling Club in 1911. When they tried to affiliate with the Victorian Yachting Racing Association, the name

was initially rejected because of the angling reference, but by dropping that reference it became Sandringham Yacht Club in 1914. Duncan was the Club's first Commodore in 1911 and served in that role until 1913.

Due to his service during those formative years he was also the Club's first Life Member. He was instrumental in fund-raising and building the first clubhouse and actively cooperating with the Port Phillip Yacht Club in planning a new pier to protect members' vessels. He also designed the Hampton State School which was opened in 1913. He passed away in 1938 aged 77.

Following in his footsteps was Duncan's son, and Daryl's uncle, A.D. (Aubrey Duncan, affectionately known as A.D.) Mackenzie, who was born in 1909. He initially held the position of Assistant Engineer of the Public Works Department and did a great deal of work with erosion surrounding SYC. In 1929, having lost out to Black Rock Yacht Club on the purchase of the decommissioned Cerberus to use as our breakwater, he was involved in the purchase of the J7 submarine which is now a feature of our floating marina.

After a 22 year separation, the Port Phillip and Sandringham Yacht Clubs amalgamated in 1933 and the clubhouse was relocated to the Crown land previously allocated to the Port Phillip Yacht Club. A.D. Mackenzie was largely responsible for renewing the leases for the land where the Club currently exists.

A.D. was also undoubtedly the driving force behind the initial stone breakwater. He now





held the position of Chairman of the Melbourne Harbour Trust which was allocated £500,000 towards improving ports in the State by the government. Part of this was allocated to the Sandringham breakwater. He also visualised the reclaiming of four acres of land for a slipway and hardstands. In 1953 the new breakwater was completed, and more land was reclaimed.

In 1954, a disastrous fire destroyed the clubhouse together with sails and memorabilia. It was again A.D. who came to the fore. He provided heavy equipment to clean up the site and provided a transportable office building for use as the

His committee immediately embarked on designs for the new clubhouse. After receiving a £200 pledge from members, the new clubhouse was opened in 1955. Obtaining a liquor license was the final act A.D. completed prior to hosting the successful 1956 Olympics.

He was universally respected and instrumental in fundraising for a clubhouse upgrade which was opened in 1963. He had a reputation for getting things done and certainly deserved his Life Membership.

In his spare time and with the help of his mates, A.D. built the yacht *Tam O Shanter* over two years at the rear of his Alicia Street property. She was eventually sold to the Royal Australian Navy and the yacht went on to compete in a Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race.

The family story does not end there as it was time for Daryl's father Eric to step up. Eric,

A.D.'s brother, was a fisherman and not initially involved in sailing. It was through Daryl's commitment to off the beach sailing that he became interested. Daryl started sailing Cadet dinghies at the age of 11 before advancing into Gwen 12s. During this period, Eric became active in working bees and in particular the operation of the slipway. He operated the winch-house most weekends and in keeping with family tradition, he was also elected a Life Member for his services to the Club.

Having sailed into his 20s Daryl married, took up football and eventually gave away sailing.

On reflection, Darrell is very proud of his family heritage at the Sandringham Yacht Club. From his family's involvement in the initial founding of Club, through the rebuilding of the clubhouse, the construction of the breakwater and the operation of the slipway, his family has played a significant role. He thinks his Uncle, A.D. was a "Bloody Genius". Building the family home, the yacht *Tam O Shanter*, as well as dealing with all the Club issues all on a volunteer basis, was truly remarkable and not often seen in today's busy world.

Thank you to the Mackenzie family and to Daryl for sharing the history the three Life Members in

#### **Rowan Simpson**

with the help of Daryl Mackenzie and references to Under Full Sail, Sandringham Yacht Club 1911-2011

### **Social** Activities





t is very pleasing that in the past 12 months our social events have proceeded without fear of the lockdowns and restrictions of 2020-2022.

November 2022 saw a return of one of our most popular events of the year, Melbourne Cup Day. Our famous race-caller Tommy Raft, together with his hard-working team of bookies (plus Kate the face painter) made for a fabulous day. The Members' Bar and Harbour View were flowing with champagne, beautiful floral decorations, gorgeous hats and stylish outfits. The sweeps kept the bookies busy and there were lots of happy punters at the end of the day when we finally relaxed to the music of Kris McGill. Thanks to Noreen Maher (World Wide Ticketing), Tommy Raft (Tommy Raft Fruit World) and Peta Davis (Oakdene Vineyards) for great prizes. This event could not be possible without their generosity, along with the helpers on the day. We would be lost without them and are very grateful.

In the Members' Harbour View we enjoyed live music on a few Friday nights and some fun Sunday Sessions. In the Port Philip Room, we enjoyed a two-band night featuring Club members, John Strahan fronting Donkey on the Edge and Chris Disney, Kate Goss, Nathan Goss and Fordy in Dizo and the Deros. We look forward to enjoying more of these musical events.

On 8 February 2023 we were privileged to screen the Netflix movie *True Spirit*, about Jessica Watson's record-breaking solo navigation. With Jess in attendance, 275 SYC members watched the dramatisation of her incredible journey. It was a fantastic evening with an inspirational and very special lady. If you missed the movie, jump on Netflix. Afterwards, a Q&A was run by Alistair Murray with Jessica, including a cameo from Jesse Martin. Importantly, the night also raised several thousand dollars for the Stroke Foundation in memory of Cam Dale, Jessica's life partner, who appeared to be fit, healthy and without symptoms.

Our annual winery bus trip in April was to Yering Station in the Yarra Valley. We were spoilt with a premium wine-tasting, a tour of the old cellars, then treated to a delicious two-course lunch while gazing out on the beautiful Yarra Ranges,

before heading back on our somewhat rowdy funbus. As always a great day out.

Our Trivia series was held in June and July and hosted by Anna from The Original Bingo & Trivia Company. There was lots of fun to be had with extra points for the best paper plane and the longest strip torn from a Mintie wrapper. Thanks go to member Peta Davis of Oakdene Vineyards for donating prizes. The winner of the 2023 Jaffa Trophy was the team 'Potty Mouths' which included one of the donors of the Jaffa Cup Trophy, Lorraine Smith.

'Trivia in the Bar' as it was known, was introduced in 2003 as a means of keeping people in the bar after Happy Hour and was held on the last Friday in the month from June to October. The 2003 season was presented by Pauline Rose and from 2004 to 2008 by Di and Alan Tyndall. In 2004 the Jaffa Cup was donated in memory of Patrick Johnson-Bell, an inaugural participant of the first night in 2003, aptly named after his boat Jaffa and his trivia team. Boat Books sponsored the series from 2004 to 2016. Social Group members have run the nights since 2009, with the exception of 2012 to 2014. It was recommenced in 2015 for three nights each year with Peta Davis of Oakdene Vineyards the key prize donor. Lockdown prevented it being run in 2020 and it was only held in June 2021. With lockdowns and restrictions finally over we returned to our schedule in 2022 and with professional presenters. In 2024 we may change the dates and run the series in May, June and July.

On 8 July 2023 we held the Tiara Gala evening, our first Ball since 2018. Sparkling diamante tiaras were aplenty with a few interesting headpieces as well. We are fortunate to have Bill Stubbs MC these events and grateful to have him assist whenever we ask. The room was filled with wispy tea lights and gorgeous gold table decorations. The dance floor took a beating from the first song to the last, thanks to the White Tree Band. It is obvious there were many members itching to put on their dancing shoes. I am sure there will be numerous members looking forward to more dinner-dance events next year. Thanks to the team who put together an excellent event.



The Burt Bacharach Tribute Show and Lunch event on 10 September was presented by renowned Jack Howard and the Ambassadors of Love. We look forward to holding similar lunch shows next year.

Events planned for 2024 include many favoured repeats. We also hope to have the return of the car show early in the year. Our last one was in 2019 so get your fenders polished and bring your beloved wheels down to the Club.

Thank you to all the people who work so hard to bring you the Club's social events: Robyn Coombs, Eryl Harris, Noreen Maher, Lorraine Smith, Di Tyndall, Margaret Whitbread and Vanessa Yates as well as Tommy Raft and others who always help when needed.

Keep informed about our upcoming events and functions by subscribing to Enews, as well as the website, posters, flyers and Facebook page: Social at SYC

#### **Susan Tuma**

Social Group Chair

### **Friday** Fun



Did you know that on Friday evenings in the Members' Harbour View, we have a weekly spinning wheel raffle and members' name barrel-draw?

It is called Key Draw and the action starts at 18:30 each Friday night with raffle tickets on sale at \$15 for 15 tickets, with 10 wheel-spin chances for great food and beverage prizes. The wheel is spun at 19:00 and then followed immediately by the barrel-draw.

All current, financial members' names are in the barrel and, if you are present and your name is drawn, you win that week's jackpot. If the winning member is not present, the jackpot prize pool increases weekly by \$25 and is capped when it reaches \$1,000. It is then split into two lots of \$500, with one \$500 drawn until it is won on the night and the remaining \$500 going back into kitty.

This popular event encourages members to enjoy some Friday Fun while contributing to the Overboard Fund which has also paid for items such as the weather station screens in the Members' Bar and Ken King Centre and the binoculars in the Members' Lounge.

Thanks to the roster of volunteers for their organisation and administration of the tickets, wheel-spinning and key-draw-ing expertise every Friday. Those on the roster currently include Sue Bowes, Robyn Brooke, Helen Cameron, Sue Lary, Kate and David McCutcheon, Gill Stubbs, Amanda Thomson and Jenny and Stewart Vickery. Appreciation is extended also to the always entertaining compere Bill Stubbs and back-up hosts Martin Bridgman, Charles Pukallus, Dean Robson and George Shaw.

All members are very welcome to participate in this activity at your Club on a Friday evening to enjoy the merriment, the company of your fellow members and to experience the skill of the game.

#### **SYC** church

t has been over 10 years since a group of Sandringham members have been gathering in the Members' Bar on Sunday to wind down and debrief about their week. This has been affectionately referred to as 'church'.

Drinks from 15:30 on **Youngbears**, followed by a larger gathering in the Bar from 16:30 and was established by David Horsburgh and Graeme Matthews as a fun get-together of friends and members. At one stage all wore Hawaiian shirts. Then it was suggested a beach with palm trees was needed. So, in the corner a 'beach' was erected complete with surfboard.

The beach has been abandoned but during drinks from the Members' Bar, the problems of the world and the Club are still solved and sinners forgiven. If you are at a loose end on Sunday at 16:30, come down and meet the regular SYC church goers in the Members' Bar.









### The Vikings

023 was the 50th year the Vikings lunch has been held. The lunch started after Jack Lees got lead poisoning while helping Ron Hayton cast a lead keel for his boat *Gannet*. Jack was seriously ill and his many friends decided it would be better to have his wake while he was still alive and could join in – as you do!!

A room in Mario's was hired with a very long table called the Vikings Table and a great seafood lunch followed – so great that Jack decided it was too early to leave this mortal

world and recovered. Every year since, a celebratory lunch has been held. The Vikings Lunch has become a moveable feast - sometimes held at the KKC when seafood has been picked up from the markets sometimes held at other venues.

Hendo, Don Blainey and Graeme Coutts were conveners through the 70s and 80s along with long time members including Frank Buxton, John Strahan, Murray Fensham, Paul Jacka, Tom Clark and David Jones to name a few.

Each year the numbers just grew and grew. The guard has now changed but Hendo is still at the helm and the lunch is welcome to all who are interested.

The 2023 lunch was memorable not just because of the great food and company, but also because it was the first time women have been invited - on the condition they dress as pirates!

Each year money is raised to contribute to the Junior Overseas Fund and in 2023 \$5,500 was handed over.

### **Monday** Barbeques



he Monday Barbeque Lunch meets from 12:00 every Monday at the Ken King Centre to share good cheer and stories. Attendees bring whatever they want to eat and drink and a glass. Plates, cutlery and condiments are provided. This has been happening since Peter Stevens' birthday, on Monday 10 July 2000.

Stewie Howarth, Geoff Sealy and Michael Haigh had been out fishing on Stewie's wooden boat

**Cathryn E.** They came into the Club for lunch and although the clubhouse was open it was not serving food. Problem solved – the fish catch that morning was cooked up and everyone celebrated Peter's birthday. Even a cupcake was found to stand in for a cake.

The Club then established a happy hour on Mondays from 12:30-13:30, so a group of members met in the Bar for drinks and then moved to the barbecues under the old clubhouse for a leisurely lunch. The lunch was organised by Stewie, Michael and Geoff until 2007, when the baton was handed to Jan with Geoff Wright and Barry Read as his deputies. In 2009 Geoff took on the role as lead organiser with Barry Read as his deputy. Since Geoff's passing Barry has kept the tradition going, ably helped by Neville McAllen (Nifty).

There has been a monumental change to the well-tried format over the last year. Women are now WELCOME. While the barbecues are still fired up, many take a more relaxed approach and bring a prepared lunch.

Lunch is open to all as long as you bring good humour and are prepared for a few laughs.

### **Monday** is Happy Hour



or the last 30 years a group of
Sandringham members has met on
Mondays at 17:00 in the bar for a
Happy Hour. In the old clubhouse the
group gathered around the 'Tree of
Knowledge' but these days it is around the
high tables near the northern entrance.

There have been many waves of members who have formed the group over the years. It is always fluid and always friendly. A good chance to chew the fat and solve the problems of the world. The group is inclusive, so if you are in the Bar on a Monday afternoon, you can add your pearls of wisdom.



SUPPORTERS OF THE SYC J70 SAILING PROGRAM

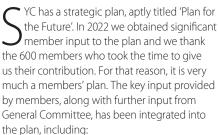
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### **SYC Plan for the Future** 2023-2028







- keelboat sailing is the most important aspect of membership
- · the marina and clubhouse are the most important facilities
- · finish the marina refurbishment
- complete clubhouse enhancements, including a larger Members' Bar and new wet bar on deck
- enhance the overall food and beverage offering
- a vibrant club is key and boat storage should be linked to member participation

- enhance the youth retention and pathway on-water programs
- offer training/mentoring opportunities
- · continue to evolve and review our membership offering
- · continue improvements to OTB facilities
- advocate to get the Sandringham Harbour plan implemented
- · continue to improve the social aspect of the Club.

Whilst the plan for the future takes a five year view, many of the actions and outcomes will benefit this Club for generations. The plan itself is in a new, easier to read format with clear key targets set for the next five years.

Our vision is to be the best yacht club in Australia. We want to be the best club we can be for you, the members. We have also embraced safety as



a big theme within the plan and it is evident in the wording of our vision and mission statement.

The plan has six key pillars: on-water; membership; facilities; community and environment; governance, risk and finance: and communications.

The plan for the future gives us our direction and bearings and provides a platform for committees and SYC management to implement and review the plan, supported with the necessary capital and operational provisions.

We also take the view that it is a living document that will be flexible and evolve with the needs of our members.

You can download the plan in full by scanning the QR code. We hope you enjoy the read.

#### **Richard Hewett**

Chief Executive Officer

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### Reciprocal Clubs



ne of the great benefits of being a member of SYC is the incredible reciprocal rights program we have with many clubs around the world.

In June 2023 Leisa joined me on a business trip to the Southern California region. Southern California especially San Diego, is a must see for sailors and we have had quite a few trips there over the years. San Diego Yacht Club (SDYC) is one example. Very much a private but friendly club, once you are signed in, the club is yours. We had membership privileges for as long as we were there. What this means is you can get a drink or a meal there at any time the club is open. We stayed locally within walking distance of the club, which was handy.

SDYC where such luminaries such as Dennis Connor, Doug Peterson, JJ Isler and Roy Disney call their club, is a wonderful establishment. Dennis Connor was also a former Commodore of the club and he and his family have been regular Saturday and mid-week sailors. Last time I was there Dennis was on the dock preparing



for the Wednesday Etchell hit-out. This time we saw Roy Disney's Transpac weapon *Pyewacket* 

SDYC has grounds similar in size to SYC, however instead of a working yard it has tennis courts, a full-size pool and two storey OTB centre. While we were there, they were running one of the US Sailing Open events for the OTB. It was good to chat to the sailors and see the set-ups. Another bonus of our timing was Father's Day in the US which the club celebrated with a club member car show. Being the dedicated petrol heads Leisa and I are we were in heaven! There were some great cars from a Singer Porsche (essentially a new 'old' Porsche 911 in carbon to your specifications – one million dollars and four years later it is yours) to the new Rivian 4WD fully electric SUV complete with tow-bar.

We also enjoyed SYC reciprocal rights at the Del Coronado Yacht Club on Del Coronado Island. Del Coronado Island is famous for the Hotel Del Coronado, made iconic in the Marilyn Monroe movie Some like it hot. Del Coronado is also home to the Navy and scenes from Top Gun Maverick were filmed at the base.

Our next club was the Newport Harbour Yacht Club (NHYC) in Newport just south of Los Angeles. NHYC is remarkable in that it looks new but is built in a classic 1920's style. Turns out both are correct. The clubhouse is only three years old and was funded over a 25-year fundraising effort by some visionary club leaders, when they discovered the club slowly sinking into the harbour around 30 years ago. Interestingly, membership numbers around 900. Like SDYC, NHYC is a very active racing and social club.



We had only just arrived when he heard an Australian accent. This turned out to be well known America's Cup, Admirals Cup and Etchells sailor Phil Thompson, who has called Newport home for some years. Phil had also sailed many miles with our brother-in-law Bernie Case. The people you meet.

The last club we visited was the Santa Barbara Yacht Club (SBYC) about 90 minutes north of Los Angeles. Another dedicated racing club, SBYC has hosted Farr 40 Worlds, Melges, J24, Laser and other one-design regattas. Once again, the SYC reciprocal rights gave us full access to the club and its facilities.

Leisa and I would like to thank SYC and especially those who promote and support the reciprocal rights program. We can also say with confidence, that SYC is a club with the facilities, sailing program and social events to rival any club in the world.

**Rob Hartnett** 

### Sandringham Harbour Plan

xcellent progress is being made with the implementation of the Sandringham Harbour Plan. This is what SYC members and harbour users can expect.

#### Stage 1 (late 2023)

- The existing pier will be demolished and removed. During the works an exclusion zone will be put in place.
- A number of vessels in the swing-mooring ground (those on the western boundary of the mooring ground) will be repositioned towards the east. A number of the noncompliant vessels on the moorings will also be removed.
- The above works and initiatives will make the eastern channel into our marina far wider, far safer and compliant with Australian standards.

#### Stage 2 (2024 or 2025)

- A new pier will be constructed. It will feature a low landing to the east and a floating pontoon to the north.
- The floating pontoon will provide berthing options for short-term visitors. It will also cater for emergency services (which can also be coordinated with ambulances as the pier



will be engineered for such purpose).

• Further consolidation of the swing mooring ground.

On behalf of all SYC members, we commend Parks Victoria on their great work in putting together the plan. The Sandringham Harbour is not only our backyard but it is also one of the iconic yachting and boating destinations within Port Phillip. The above works will ensure that it continues be a safe and efficient maritime precinct for many more years to come.

As updated information from Parks Victoria is made available, including plans and exclusion zone information during the demolition works, we will post it online which you can access by scanning the QR code.



#### **Richard Hewett**

Chief Executive Officer



### Clubhouse Improvement

Works

t is hard to miss, but SYC is currently refurbishing the member food and beverage outlets in the main clubhouse.

This includes the Members' Bar, northern podium and Members' Harbour View. It also includes consolidating the two kitchens at the northern end of the building, which will give us the ability to considerably enhance our menu offer, cater to the vastly increased numbers, as well as making things safer for our staff and ultimately assist with staff retention.

There are two stages and components to the scope of work.

The first stage, which is currently underway, addresses our kitchen and bar areas. It also integrates the Members' Harbour View and Bar. The works commenced on 31 July and are scheduled to finish on 18 November 2023

We have designed the kitchen around our members' needs and in addition to making the work environment safer, it will be more efficient. What is more, we will be offering not one, but two menus. We will have a standard menu across the seven day trading week, including all of your Club favourites and a bigger range of new dishes. The addition of a char grill and pasta cooker will make a good addition to our capability. Then from Wednesday to Sunday we will also have a second menu, e.g. tapas, on offer and this will feature up to 15 other dishes that will change very regularly. It also means we have a much better chance of coping at the peak periods, with our meal production increasing to up to 170 meals per hour.

On Thursday Twilight evenings when we take up to 400 meal orders in 60 minutes, a shortened menu is still likely to be the offering, but it will be enhanced.



The second stage is the northern podium works. The podium itself requires repair as the membrane has failed. This will be repaired and new tiling installed. The podium will also feature the construction of a members' indoor/outdoor wet bar offering weather protection. This area will overlook the harbour and Port Phillip. A planning permit is required and our application has been submitted. As there is a detailed architectural and tender process to go through, the next best opportunity for construction of the wet bar would be from April 2024 onwards. We believe the combined Stage 1 and 2 works will mean the overall member hospitality experience at our Club will be a much improved one. A more modern member area with a fresh feel, more efficient food service, better layout of the bar and point of sale, more bar surface area, increased all-weather seating capacity (+35%). It will also have new and refurbished furniture. the addition of member-accessible plumbed

water stations and finally, all of the unsightly cleaning aspects out of sight. We will also be adding a QR code ordering system to complement the traditional service model.

The new set-up will also give us an elevated and highly visible race awards areas. Stage two will also deliver a family-friendly space which is proposed on the lower podium, where kids can have fun with parents keeping a watchful eye over them.

We would also like to extend a big thank you to our friends at CUB (new beer system), Schweppes (new soft drink system) and Procaffe coffee (new coffee, milk and grinder machines) for their amazing support.

We hope you enjoy your new and improved Members' Bar this summer and in due course, the addition of the wet bar in mid-2024.

#### **Richard Hewett**

Chief Executive Officer



Stage 2 (mid-2024) delivers a new members area on the northern podium ... this space is 210sqm, can seat 80 members, and overlooks the Harbour & Port Phillip





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#### **DAILY SPECIALS** (once the new bar opens)



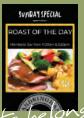












...it's great to belo

#### **DECEMBER** MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY **FRIDAY** SATURDAY SUNDAY Club Tour & Info Session OTB Twilight Race Onen for Lunch & Dinner Mercedes-Benz Brighton Discover Sailing Day Happy Hour 3pm - 6pm Key draw OTB Racing Open for Lunch & Dinner Aggregate Race Open for Lunch & Dinner 4 5 Mercedes-Benz Brighton Sunday Sailors Hodges Sandringham One Design Kingston Sprint Series OTB Christmas Party Mercedes-Benz Brighton Club Tour & Info Session OTB Twilight Race Open for Lunch & Dinner Rec Boating Christmas Party Mercedes-Benz Brighton Noorden Property Twilight Sail Wednesday Wonders Open for Lunch & Dinner Happy Hour 3pm - 6pm Key draw Aggregate Race Open for Lunch & Dinner Kingston Sprint Series Open for Lunch & Dinner Open for Lunch & Dinner Onen for Lunch & Dinner Onen for Lunch & Dinner 16 Mercedes-Benz Brighton 12 15 Club Tour & Info Session Trophy Race - SYC 2-Handed Le Cascadeur OTB Twilight Race Open for Lunch & Dinner Happy Hour 3pm - 6pm Noorden Property Mercedes-Benz Brighton Mercedes-Benz Brighton Twilight Sail Open for Lunch & Dinner Open for Lunch & Dinner + Stand-alone Race J70 Sprint Series Sunday Sailors OTB Racing Open for Lunch & Dinner Wednesday Wonders Open for Lunch & Dinner Open for Lunch & Dinner Happy Hour 3pm - 6pm Selfies with Santa 5.30-6.30pm Happy Hour 3pm - 6pm Selfies with Santa 5.30-6.30pm Happy Hour 3pm - 6pm Key draw Open for Lunch & Dinner 18 19 20 24 SYC Band Night -Daryl Braithwaite Noorden Property Mercedes-Benz Brighton Open for Lunch & Dinner Wednesday Wonders Open for Lunch & Dinner Twilight Sail Open for Lunch & Dinner Open for Lunch & Dinner Open for Lunch & Dinner Happy Hour 3pm - 6pm Selfies with Santa 5.30-6.30pm Happy Hour 3pm - 6pm Happy Hour 3pm - 6pm Selfies with Santa 5.30-6.30pm Happy Hour 3pm - 6pm Key draw Open for Lunch & Dinner Open for Lunch & Dinner 25 30 Boxing Day Public Holiday Tasar Nationals Noorden Property Open for Lunch & Dinner Christmas Day New Year's Eve Open for Lunch & Dinner Open Lunch only 11.30am - 4pm Tasar Nationals Tasar Nationals + Presentation Public Holiday Wednesday Wonders Open for Lunch & Dinner Happy Hour 3pm - 6pm CLUBHOUSE CLOSED Ken King Centre 7am - 10am Happy Hour 3pm - 6pm Key draw Open for Lunch & Dinner Open for Lunch & Dinner IZZI: Patrick O'Brien Wednesday Wonders Winter 2022 Winner. Photo credit Chris Furey 1.2 FREE 0 DARYL Wine BRAITHWAITE FRIDAY 22 DECEMBER









**DAILY SPECIALS** 



















### Our Beautiful Marina

n 2023 our marina celebrated her 30th birthday – what a wonderful milestone.

This year we implemented our 7th consecutive year of major investment as part of our major refurbishment plan.

In 2023 we are refurbishing 33 individual finger pontoons on D and E rows. We also refurbished the lower landing behind the fuel jetty. We are also investing in dry berthing for our Club rhibs in this area. The third rhib and dry dock is being installed in late 2023. In addition to the marina woks, we continue to carry out staged maintenance works on the wavescreen with a further stage planned this year.



#### **Marina Berths**

We have 360 marina berths, 320 of which are now in our rental pool and 30 are licensed to members. The occupancy of the marina remains high and our aim is to have a 70% yacht to 30% powerboat ratio. Just as important is that our marina

tenants are active in Club life. In a recent policy change, it is now a pre-requisite for all new tenants to commit to participation in Club events.

Whilst our occupancy is high, we will always do our best to find room for boats that are keen to race and get involved in Club events. There is a steady flow of boat movements, both in and

out, so make sure you help us spread the word that we are looking for active boat owners to come to SYC.

#### **Richard Hewett**

Chief Executive Officer





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### **Environmental** Sustainability

The SYC Environmental Sustainability Working Group (ESWG) has continued to oversee and support environmentally sustainable practices and initiatives at our great Club during the last year, with a continued focus on the ongoing and permanent reduction of our environmental footprint and impact.

Responsibilities of the Working Group include the promotion of environmentally sustainable practices, identification of environmental issues and advising on the development of sustainable practices in the Clubs' operations.

Chaired by General Committee member Jack Fullerton, the ESWG is diligently served by several SYC members who bring a broad range of professional expertise, as well as a great passion for the ongoing sustainability of our Club. Over the past year, the Working Group consisted of General Committee members Andrew Wilson and Simon Hemmingway, SYC Finance Manager Helen Tetlow and Club members Chloe Tame, Freya Vickery and Graham Lee.

#### What the working group has been doing

Meeting monthly, the ESWG has been focusing on continued efforts to reduce the impact SYC has on the environment and surrounds, in line with the policy formed at its inception. The policy consists of four major pillars of work: reduction of power usage; sustainable planning and development; waste reduction and recycling; compliance and governance.

During the last three years the Working Group has achieved a number of great improvements around our Club, covering many of the logical

first steps in helping us develop more sustainable practices. In 2023 the ESWG has focused heavily on forward planning, incorporating the 'planning and development' portfolio which focuses on providing input on future SYC developments, as well as providing recommendations on planning for a more sustainable future. This has included recommendations for the current clubhouse redevelopments as well as clubhouse maintenance and refurbishment, covering sustainable building materials, lighting choices and heating and cooling.

The clubhouse is a large facility which requires a significant amount of power and lighting. Two notable achievements were made in our efforts to reduce our power consumption, allowing the clubhouse to consume the same average power with increased activity.

This has been achieved by installing power metering across the Club, allowing for accurate measurement of power usage from various parts of the facility. A program to replace the internal incandescent lighting with energy efficient LED lighting was completed for all appropriate areas.

This replacement program will heavily contribute to our goal of a 25% power usage reduction (proportionate to activity) by 2028. The ESWG continues to assess opportunities for the installation of solar panels on the Club's roof spaces. In the coming year focus will be given to the installation of solar in suitable locations, taking into consideration the harsh environment in which the Club resides.

Notable other initiatives that have been completed include the removal of single-use

plastics across the Club's volunteer operations and at the Ken King Centre, as well as the removal of single use coffee cups making way for the exclusive use of members' keep cups.

The ESWG continues to monitor the usage of power across our marina, with the intention of raising awareness for members to monitor their ongoing power consumption and providing opportunities to help reduce their carbon footprint with energy-smart solutions for their boats.

Our annual e-waste collection day, held in June, was a great success with a truckload (literally) of various electronic waste collected and sent for recycling rather than to landfill. This successful activity will continue to be an annual feature.

#### Looking to the future

The ESWG will continue to provide input into the ongoing improvement of environmental policies and initiatives around SYC. During the ongoing redevelopment of our Club we have opportunities to make environmentally sustainable design choices which will put SYC at the forefront of sustainability for many years to come. The ESWG members will continue to implement new initiatives leading to the reduction of our environmental footprint and with members' support we can have a positive impact on the spectacular environment in which we love to spend so much of our time.

#### **Jack Fullerton**

Chair, ESWG

### **Congrats**Robbie & Tilly

Congratulations to SYC members Rob Davis and daughter Matilda Davis and crew, for finishing 2nd in the RS21 World Championships in Porto Rotondo, Italy. In a 10 race series, Rob, Matilda and the team secured second place in the 53 hoat event – what a fabulous result



### Heritage Committee



he Heritage Committee is committed to preserving, researching, curating and promoting the rich history of our proud Club and have implemented a number of initiatives and projects over the past year. Under the stewardship of Geoff Henderson, the library collection has been moved to a digital borrowing process for members, ensuring that members are able to access the diverse collection we are fortunate to hold and we can track the location of these resources. Thanks to the acquisition of a number of new glass display cabinets, we are now able to showcase a wide range of memorabilia in the entrance foyer, upstairs foyer and the Members' Lounge area. These displays include one dedicated to our Wednesday Wonders, one to Melbourne to Osaka memorabilia as we plan for the upcoming 2025 race. Another holds a number of our rare and fragile books and others hold trophies and other items relating to classes which have been sailed at Sandringham over the years, such as the Gwen 12. These displays will be rotated periodically.

2023 also saw the commencement of a project to capture the stories of prominent Club members through a series of video interviews, including our Life Members and Past Commodores.

To date we have produced nine of these video

interviews and will continue to build this important oral history of the people and stories which make our Club what it is. We have commenced the restoration of some of the Past Commodore photographs located in the Commodores' Room and will continue with this project over the coming months. Thanks to some

valuable donations by Club members, we have

also been able to sort and catalogue the entire collection of *Off The Wind* publications, dating back to the 1940s.

This collection will soon be bound and stored in the Members' Lounge, providing yet another valuable resource which captures our Club's history.

As a committee, along with the wider SYC community we were saddened at the passing of our Club Historian, Graeme Disney, earlier this year. Graeme was a committed and passionate member of the Heritage Committee and he



leaves a strong legacy and commitment to preserving and sharing the stories of this great Club.

My thanks also to our other Heritage Committee Members Philip Strong, Kate Mitchell, Graeme Watt, Rowan Simpson and Geoff Henderson for their contribution and energy in maintaining our heritage.

#### **Cathryn Furey**

Rear Commodore

### 2023 Victorian Sailing Awards

Congratulations to the following members who won awards at the presentation held at SYC in September 2023. To read up on their incredible contribution, selfless volunteering and feats on the race track, scan the QR codes for more information.



**Graeme Watt** Lifetime Achievement Award





Felicia Brown Volunteer of the Year





**Rob Ware** Lifetime Achievement Award



Gevsen

Aidan



Alex Newman, Matt Turner, **Peter Williams** and crew Team of the Year Award

Teale



Nicola

#### **New Members**

September 2022 to August 2023

Mark

i	JRN	AME	NAME

Alderman

/ (luciiilaii	IVICIIN
Alderman	Tina
Antoniou	Elliana
Arkell	India
Attalla	Abanoub
Austin	Rod
Baker	Oliver
Baker	Sonny
Balmer	Elizabeth
Batson	Archie
Batson	Ruby
Bauer	Irena
Beazley	Andrew
Beazley	Anna
Beazley	Eboni
Beazley	Hamish
Beddoes	Carolyn
Bertram	Valerie
Berwertz	Antoni
Berwertz	Franek
Bond	Tracey
Bonich	Joseph
Boothman	Wayne
Borg	Brian
Bott	Harry
Bott	Isabella
Bott	Sam
Bow	Cameron
Boyd	Jenny
Boyd-Turner	Nick
Bresnehan	Dave
Brown	Adele
Bruce	lain
Caffery	Shauvaune
Catel	Emilie
Cathie	Veronica
Challis	Paul
Chapman	Susan
Chen	Jian
Clark	Hunter

Clark	Jordan
Clark	Kylie
Clark Clarke	Karen
Clemente	Murray
Cole	Harvey
Collard	Amanda
Com	Jana
Connors	Gerard
Cone	Owen
Corke	Reginald
Costa	Daniel
Cozens	Shaun
Curtis	Jane
D'Angelo	Adriano
D'Angelo	Christophe
D'Angelo	Luisa
D'Angelo	Valentina
Dacy	Lana
Daou	George
Davies	Amy
Davis	James
De Vos	William
Decker	Torey
Di Medio	Peter
Dommers	Eric
Dooley	Grant
Dowdney	Sallie
Dunn	Michael
Dziemidowicz	
Ekeberg	Kris
Elsworth	Mark
Falletti	Benoit
Fankhanel	Tammy
Farrant	Jake
Farrant	Mardi
Fleming	Angela
Fluitsma	Troy
Forbes	Peter
Fyans	Raymond
Gault	Megan

Geysen	Aidan
Giles	Andrew
Giles	Angus
Giles	Connor
Giles	Portia
Gilmore	Archer
Giorgi Robecchi	Elisabetta
Gioutlou	Emmanuel
Glod	Dragos
Golinski	Joshua
Gomes	Angelique
Graham	Angus
Guzman	llana
Hall	Thomas
Hammond	Patricia
Harris	Jeremy
Harris	Nichola
Hearne	Brian
Heller	Lleyton
Henderson	Hugo
Herkess	Sharon
Hickey	Annie
Hickey	Archie
Hickey	Finlay
Hocking	Fay
Hogan	Diana
Hogan	Sean
Holland	Anne
Holroyd	Tess
Homann	Scott
Honour	Hazell
Hubbard	Matthew
Hunt	James
Hutchison	Frederick
Imming	Frank
Ingvorsen	Lawrence
Insermini	Finley
Jahn	Julian
James	Matthew
James	Will
Janczewski	Jaroslaw
Johnston	Geraldine
Jones	Allegra
Jones	Bradley
Jonker	David
Keast	Jerome

Kemper

Dirk

Kemper	Marion
Kendall	David
Kenner	Timothy
Kiernikowski	Jacob
Kiernikowski	Riley
Kirk	Susan
Kumata	Sky
Kyriacou	Tony
Landreth	Harold
Leighton	Joshua
Leighton	Oliver
Levin	Levi
Liddell	Veronica
Lisica	John
Lovell	Richard
Lynch	James
Macaulay	Ross
Maertens	Thorsten
Manley	Angela
Marriott	David
Matthews	Glenn
McArthur	Gaynor
McArthur	Jack
McArthur	Lachlan
McArthur	Paul
McConnell	
	lan
McDonald	Murray
McKenna	John
McNamara	James
Mckenna	Robyn
Micheletto	Jacqueline
Micheletto	Nicola
Miller	Sienna
Мо	Mika
Moran	Albie
Mortola	Giuditta
Nanayakkara	Nikhil
Nanayakkara	Tharen
Nicholson	Christine
Niu	Dun
Noack	Desmond
O' Byrne	Angelika
O'Brien	Michelle
O'Brien	Pamela
O'Connor	Annabel
O'Connor	James
O'Connor	Patrick

010	
O'Connor	Sam
Oroszvary	Andrew
Parfit	Lucille
Parsons	Sharon
Paterson	Anne
Pawlukowski	Mark
Peck	Marie
Pentifallo	Hellen
Piccolo	Michael
Plympton	Kim
Potter	Carly
Provan	David
Pryor	Julia
Psoras	Costas
Raghunathan	Kalpana
Reed	Kent
Reed	Kim
Roberts	John
Roberts	Margaret
Ross	Bronwen
Ross	Luke
Saleika	Eddy
Sanguinetti	James
Schelosky	Lukas
Schildkraut	Yuval
Scholz	Gerlinde
Schreiner	Angelica
Seignior	Albee
Seignior	Gary
Sellars	Avril
Selvay	Bronte
Shackleton	Michael
Shen	George
Sholl	Tim
Smart	Henry
Sorokin	Alexande
Spiers	Murray
Stace	Sophie
Steendam	Wendy
Stoupas	Jim
Stout	Richard
	Chris
Strahan	
Sykiotis	Nicolas Aubrey
Tan	
Taylor	Marie
Teale	Glyn
Teale	Lewis

leale	Nicola
Telders	Alex
Telders	Eva
Temby	David
Thomas	Rowan
Thompson	Caspar
Ungar	Wendy
Van	Jillian
Van Geelen	Teri
Vanheems	Emma
Vaughan	Asher
Vaughan	Austin
Vaughan	Fiona
Vaughan	Hugo
Vesali	Ash
Von Cavallar	Lane
Wallis	William
Walsh	Emma
Walstab	Daniel
Walstab	Kirra
Walstab	Ollie
Wardley	Kate
Warner	Charlie
Warner	Samantha
Warner	Sarah
Waters	Clinton
Watson	Cooper
Watson	Jamie
Watson	Nick
Weatherhead	Trenham
Wee	David
Weller	Michael
Weller	Paris
Welsh	Don
Westaway	Jack
Westaway	Tily
Whittle	Elizabeth
Widdison	Jack
Widdison	Max
Wilkes	Wendy
Williams	Roland
Wilson	Richard
Wilson	Tobias
Wise	Loretta
Won	Daniel

### Happy SYC Members and happy SYC members around our great Club ... it's great to see so many smiling and happy SYC members around our great Club ... it's great to belong!





















### ...it's great to belong













### **SYC** Foundation

he Sandringham Yacht Club Foundation has been supporting both Junior and Senior members for more than 25 years. Although most of the Foundation funds are generated by the ongoing support of SYC members, the Off the Beach community is working with traditional fund-raising methods while thinking of new methods to raise these much-needed funds. Members' ongoing support of the Foundation's funds is crucial to the future success of our SYC sailors:

- · J70 Sailing Program Fund
- · Junior Overseas Fund
- Youth Development Fund
- Sports Equipment Fund.

During the last 12 months, with the resumption of international competition and the drive for our new J70 Sailing Program, the Foundation has been proactive in working through the larger than normal volume of requests for assistance. Requests granted include:

- \$25,000 for 13 OTB youth members to assist with travel to overseas competitions
- \$155,000 from the Youth Development Fund and J70 Sailing Program Fund towards the

fund raising for the purchase of the new fleet of J70s

- \$4,000 for the purchase of a new electric jockey boat mover for the hardstand
- \$7,000 to assist with various other youth programs.

As you can see from the above, we need to ensure that we are continually replenishing the funds so that the Foundation is able to provide ongoing financial support to the programs.

Contributions to the Foundation can be made in several different ways and we are always more than happy to work with our members with any specific requirements. One avenue of contribution is via a beguest.

There are several types of beguests including:

- a residual beguest what is left of an estate once all legacies and costs have been paid
- a percentage of an estate
- · a specific sum or a specific asset.

While the Foundation cannot provide specific advice on estate planning, if you are considering



making a bequest, we encourage you to communicate your intention to your family or other beneficiaries. If you would like a Foundation member to talk you through the options, please contact helen.tetlow@syc.com. au who will coordinate a suitable time.

I thank you in advance for any assistance that you can provide to the Foundation to ensure the ongoing success of our SYC sailors.

#### **Ashley Trebilcock**

Chairman, SYC Foundation







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Ticket proceeds go to the OTB Junior Overseas Fund

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Tickets go on sale to 2023/24 members on Monday 2 October

### **Ross Wilson** Christmas Band Night



oss Wilson & The Peaceniks performed at SYC on 23 December 2022 in an exclusive Christmas show for members and was a big hit.

On a beautiful summer's night several hundred members dined in the expanded member only areas including the Members' Bar, Harbour View, lounge and outdoor northern podium overlooking Port Phillip and Sandringham Harbour. Then they ventured into the Port Phillip Room when Ross

Here is a photo of the band before the show with Commodore Sue Bowes ... with not one but two Ross Wilsons!

Wilson put on a great show.





### **Annual** Challenge Kids Day on the Bay



fter a hiatus of a year due to rising numbers of Covid, it gives me great pleasure to say that this year we were finally were able to get the kids back out on the water again on Sunday 26 March 2023. We had a total of 92 kids and their families and 18 volunteer boats consisting of 10 sail and seven power.

The Ken King Centre was a hive of activity as everyone gathered to enjoy a scrumptious bbq cooked by our enthusiastic volunteers. Families were allocated into groups, the kids were donned with PFDs and off they headed with their skipper to their allocated boats for a fun day.

The boats headed off in all directions, Docklands, Williamstown, the Cerberus, out to enjoy the experience of sailing/boating. Many of these families had never been on a boat before, so it was a very special experience. The weather was not conducive to a raft-up or a swim this year but, all in all, they had a wonderful time and

once again the smile on their faces said it all.

Thank you to all involved in making this event a success year after year, to the boat owners the crew, the bbq cooks, SYC staff, all the helpers on land and shore. Your work is invaluable and I thank you once again for participating in this very special event.

Challenge is a support network for kids with cancer and their families and they do a brilliant job and we are proud and privileged to say that have been supporting this charity now for over 23 years.

Unfortunately the 2022 event was cancelled due to Covid, but I wish to thank all those who had committed their boats and given of their time.

The 2024 event is scheduled for Sunday 11 February and if you would like to be involved, please contact SYC or me.

#### **Robyn Coombs**









### **Victory Cup**

rguably, the most prestigious golf trophy available to the local yachting fraternity is the Victory Cup. It has been contested since 1947 and the competition is open to teams from all the Port Phillip yacht clubs.

The 2023 competition was played at Rosebud Country Club on Thursday 6 April by 41 golfers, representing five yacht clubs and I am delighted to report that SYC was successful in wresting the Cup from Mornington Yacht Club, holders of the Cup since 2019.

The Cup is contested as a single stableford event with the highest four scores counted. The top four SYC golfers were:

- Brian Hanna 38 points
- · Paul Jacka 37 points
- · Robert Kerr 35 points
- Patrick O'Brien 35 points.

The other notable achievement was Brenda Cuthbertson with a 'nearest the pin'.

In all, 14 players represented SYC – by far the largest contingent and a credit to our Club, although you may not agree when you see the fine fellas who won the Cup. As the holders, SYC will host the 2024 version of the Cup and planning is underway already. Let's aim for an even greater turnout.



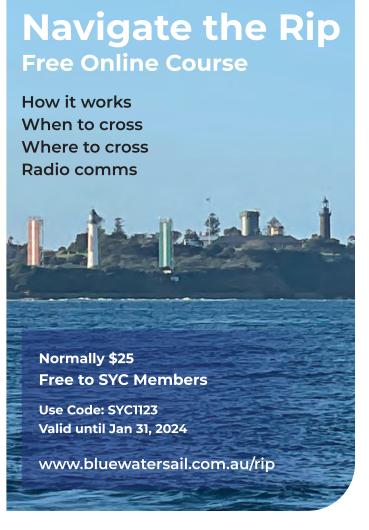
Finally, a big thank you to Sundance Marine for again sponsoring the event and providing the prizes, also to Andrea Seignior, many thanks for your efforts in communicating to members.

#### **Chris Carlile**

Chris authored this report before sadly passing away later in 2023.











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### **Vale**

2023 has been a particularly sad time as we have had to say farewell to so many SYC members. Below is a list of those who have passed in the last 12 months. We make special mention of four members who made an exceptional contribution to our wonderful Club.

#### Vale Keith Edward Ellis

Past Commodore and Life Member, Keith Ellis was a greatly revered and well-regarded member of SYC for more than 54 years. He joined SYC in April 1968 and served the Club tirelessly over an extended period. He served on a wide



range of Club committees serving in many capacities for more than 15 years culminating in becoming Commodore in 1987-1988. Keith was awarded Life Membership in 1999

for his long and very significant contribution to the life of the Club. Please scan the QR code to read the full tribute to Keith. RIP Keith Edward Ellis 21 October 1932 – 9 April 2023

#### Vale Graeme Disney OAM JP

One of our all-time favourite members. Graeme Disney departed our shores peacefully in July 2023. Known universally as Mr Diz, Graeme was an incredibly well-known figure not just at SYC, but right



throughout the local community. A Life Member, Club Chaplain and Club Historian, Graeme was awarded an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in recognition for his service to the community of Sandringham, contributing to a range of local government, yachting, church and local history organisations.

It was these things, along with family, that were the five main aspects of his life. Please read our Club tribute in full by scanning the QR code.

RIP Graeme Disney 9 December 1938 - 15 July 2023

#### Vale John 'Les' Black

Past Commodore and Life Member, John 'Les' Black was a highly esteemed and wellregarded member of our great Club for more than 47 years. Les was one of SYC's most passionate members whose love of



the Club knew no bounds. His voluntary efforts are legendary and his contribution has left a legacy that has shaped our success in so many ways over the past 35 years. We will forever be indebted to Les' contribution which still resonates today. In his role as a Flag officer and Commodore, Les was instrumental in making the floating marina happen. It was

a huge undertaking and its construction was a major feat. Please read our Club tribute in full by scanning the QR code.

RIP John 'Les' Black



#### Vale Chris Carlile

Highly esteemed, charismatic and a well-regarded member of our Club for 50 years. we also said goodbye to SYC Past Commodore and Life Member Chris Carlile, Chris filled countless honorary roles in the Club going back



the entire term of his membership. His contribution to the governance and leadership of the Club was immense and started by serving as the Treasurer in the late seventies. He served as a member of the Sail Committee for multiple terms, including as Sail Captain. He served as a member of the General Committee, also over multiple terms. He commenced his six year period as a Flag Officer in 2008 and was Commodore of SYC for a two year term in 2012 and 2013.

Chris was delighted and highly honoured to be awarded Life Membership in 2018. Please read our Club tribute in full by scanning the QR code.

RIP Chris Carlile 29 November 1947 - 14 June 2023



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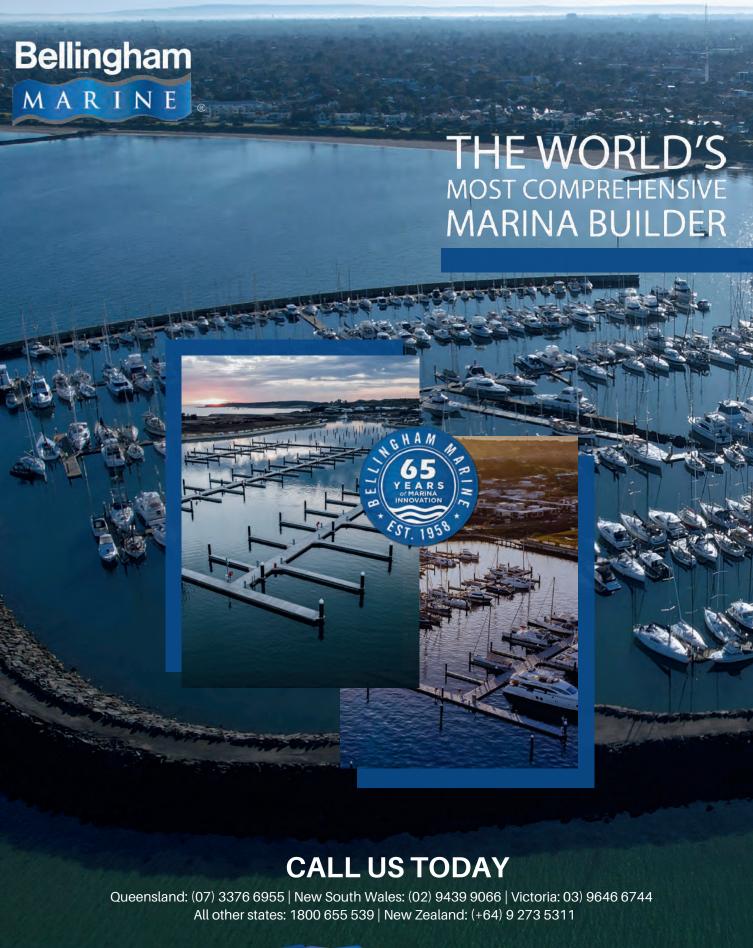
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20

55



Tony Hampton	17	Bert Sweep	5
David Haw	36	Jim Walsh-Buckley	13
Steve Hill	35	Robert Watt	48
Jeffrey Malley	36	Frank Weir	24
Colin Mews	24	Paul Welsh	22
Peter Mowson	6	Gary Wilson	45
Allen Page	17	Jeffrey Woolhouse	22
Don Shields	43	Mike Wortman	17
Les Silverman	5		
John Stewart	43		







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