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2024 EDITION



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General Committee 2024-2025



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Dean Robson
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Nick Disney
Club Captain,
Sail



Mike Ferguson
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Simon Hemingway
Committee Member



Debbie Parker
Committee Member



John Strahan
Committee Member

From the Commodore



A change of watch is a chance to reflect on the positive accomplishments of the prior watch and ensure we remain on course towards our long term goals.

It gives me great pleasure to write my first report as Commodore and advise that our Club remains in a very strong position. I will start by thanking our valued and loyal members. You are the backbone of the continued strength of the Club. As a member-based organisation, our health can be measured by our membership base which has exceeded 3,000 during 2024.

I would like to acknowledge and thank our Immediate Past Commodore, Sue Bowes. The strength of our Club is a testament to her many accomplishments, including our renovated Members Bar & Bistro; addition of the J70 fleet; completion of marina maintenance works; removal of the dilapidated Hampton Pier; and a very successful Tasar World Championships. Perhaps the most exciting development is the recent opening of The Foredeck, offering an extended indoor-outdoor clubhouse. We thank the builders Amity Building Group, project managers Gallagher Jeffs, architects Watson Young and our own team of Russell Tyson, Clive Sondheim, Garry Anderson, Sue Bowes and Dean Robson for delivering such an outstanding addition to our facilities.

As your new Commodore, my focus will be on member participation and the maintenance and development of our Club's extensive facilities, in line with the SYC Strategic Plan. Initial planning has commenced on the next major facility upgrade which examines the OTB, hardstand and yard areas. Maintenance work on the hardstand is an immediate priority, including replacement of a crane. Information on other longer-term facility plans will be provided as they start taking shape.

Participation in our core activities of racing, recreational, volunteering and social reflects a vibrant and engaging Club for like-minded members. Whilst participation in on-water events remains solid, it will be an area of continued focus. The Off the Beach, Keelboat and Recreational Boating calendars offer a full schedule of events with a variety to suit everyone. We are fortunate to have capable and passionate volunteers without whom these events could not be run, so my sincere thanks to our volunteers for

your ongoing support and commitment.

I would like to thank our loyal Club sponsors, Mercedes-Benz Brighton, Club Marine Insurance, Veolia, Noorden Real Estate, Jemson, Carlton & United Breweries, Tile Importer, Procaffé, Ronstan and Hodges Sandringham for their ongoing support.

Looking towards some of our major events, Sail Sandy continues to be one of the largest regattas in Victoria, offering competitive racing across multiple classes. SYC will host the J24 and J70 National Championships in January 2025, the International Cadet and 9er (29er and 49er) State Championships in March 2025 and the J24 Worlds in 2026. Also in March 2025, we are the Melbourne hosts for the exciting Melbourne Osaka Cup Double-Handed Yacht Race. George Shaw has been instrumental in organising this international event and it is sure to be an exciting time.

SYC continues to be an active member of the International Council of Yacht Clubs (ICOYC) and benefits from the exchange of information from kindred clubs around the world. SYC will host the ICOYC World Forum in March 2027 – a great chance to showcase our Club.

Financially, we remain in a strong position with our CEO Richard Hewett and Finance Manager Helen Tetlow continuing to do an excellent job of managing our financials, assisted by our Finance and Audit Committee. Richard leads a terrific team who continues to deliver an outstanding level of service.

Our Flag Officers and General Committee are a team of volunteers who contribute their time and expertise to governing our Club. Congratulations to the General Committee members elected at the last Annual General Meeting. I look forward to working with our new General Committee who continue to deliver the services you enjoy at the standard you have come to expect. It is a great time to be a part of SYC and I look forward to seeing you at events both on and off the water.

Mark Welsh
Commodore

...it's great to belong

From the Immediate Past Commodore

What a great honour it has been to serve as Commodore of this fantastic Club, my only regret is how quickly it has gone. I was fortunate to have served my time when we were past lockdowns and learned to live with the pandemic. My predecessor, Garry Anderson, did an outstanding job despite the restrictions and left a great legacy with the new 50T travel lift, the upgrade to the Ken King Centre and a very healthy Club.

The excellent shape of SYC is testimony to the leadership of past and current General Committees. Our challenge is the retention of younger members, hence the introduction of J70 Sailing programs, designed to attract and retain younger members, as well as create a pathway for our younger sailors to transition from dinghies to keelboats. We purchased and commissioned four J70s in October 2023 which were well received.

We have fine-tuned the programs, appointed a co-ordinator and ordered two more boats for the new season. Importantly, our youth and intermediate membership numbers are up by 12%.

Our marina occupancy remains high with participation now a pre-requisite for storage. Marina refurbishment works are complete, the new travel lift is performing well and the boat yard continues to provide an integral onsite service enabling essential repair and maintenance works to be undertaken. Participation both on and off the water is paramount to the performance of our Club. On-water, Keel, Off the Beach and Recreational Boating offered a full suite of services including racing, cruising events and nav rallies.

We delivered several regattas including Sail Sandy and the Tasar Nationals and Worlds, all of which attracted excellent numbers. Off-water, our social events were all well attended. The themed Japanese and Polish dinners run by Kol and the team proved popular.

Our financial results were in line with budgetary projection and our plan for the future continues to guide our decision-making. Our management and volunteer committees constantly implement initiatives to endeavour to keep the Club relevant.

Clubhouse improvement works were rolled out in two stages, the first being the kitchen and bar refurbishment, completed. The second stage included the northern podium works and has been named The Foredeck. Special thanks to the working group who oversaw the successful implementation of both stages.

Thank you to our members who volunteer so much of their time to the organisation and running of our events. I would also like to extend a special thank you to the General Committee members and also to our very loyal staff, led by Richard and the leadership team of Helen, Russell, Kol and James. Thank you to all our wonderful members for your support as I hand over to Mark Welsh who will be a fantastic Commodore. The Club is in good shape and the future is looking bright as the leading yacht club in Port Phillip.

Sue Bowes

Immediate Past Commodore

...it's great to belong

Sail

It is cold and damp here at SYC as I write this report in late July 2024. The fire in the Members Bar is fantastic and it is hard to get 'that table'. What a sensational 12 months it has been sailing at SYC; extremely competitive in many fleets with great entry lists and some new race boats in Division 1 and many old and new members having great times.

In July 2023 a number of SYC boats contested the Sydney to Gold Coast race. **Scarlet Runner** (Rob Date) placed 8th on IRC and **White Noise** (Daniel Edwards) also competed.

2023 Winter Series was held over 10 races with two abandoned. Entries were at 21 for Division 1, a 10% reduction on 2022, and 18 for Division 2, a 10% increase. Divisions 1 and 2 were very highly contested at the front end of the fleet in the rating championships. The PHS Division 1 winner was **Salt** (Ian Fankhanel) and Division 2 winner was **Rhiannon** (Lowa Paszko). In the rating series ORC Division 1, the results were 1st **Bandit** (Ash Trebilcock) from **Pegasus** (Andrew Lynch) and **Wicked** (Mike and Mark Welsh). ORC Division 2 saw 1st **Rhiannon** from **Alchemist** (Michael Manson) and **Young Bears** (Graeme Matthews). AMS results Division 1 saw 1st **Bullet** (Eddie and Robyn Ragauskas) from **Bandit** and **Pegasus**. Division 2 saw 1st **Rhiannon** from **Young Bears** and **Wavelength** (Alex Elliott). Our 2024 Winter Series has solid numbers and again the competition is hot at the front end with just a few points separating the leaders with almost two months still to sail.

Spring and early summer had us in for those typical cold south westerly days with a number of races blown out. The Range Series again formed part of our aggregate for three races and there was some great larger fleet racing combining the entries from HBYC, RYCV, RMYS, RBYC and SYC. 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.

ORCV's Rudder Cup, November 2023, had eight SYC entries with great results from **Patriot** (Jason Close) 1st in Division 1 AMS and in Division 2 AMS, 1st for **Street Car Racing** (Aidan Geysen). The 2023 Cock of the Bay saw an increase on the previous year with 25 SYC boats finishing. We were also up there in the results. Line honours was dominated by SYC race boats with **Veloce 4** (Phil Simpfendorfer) 1st, **Alex – Team MacAdie** (Jock MacAdie) 2nd and **Fargo** (Ari Abrahams) 3rd. Rating and handicap results also saw SYC well represented. In PHS Division 1, **Alex – Team MacAdie** finished 1st, in PHS Division 2, **Winsome** (Simon Hemmingway) also finished 1st. In AMS Division 1, **Esprit** (Gary Anderson) claimed 1st alongside **Alibi** (Dennis Hambleton) who finished 1st in both AMS and ORC for Division 2. **Niche**



Association Cup Winners

(Peter Jackson) finished 1st in Division 1 ORC and **Young Bears** finished 1st in Division 3 ORC.

The Melbourne Hobart saw only three entrants from SYC with **Maverick** (Rod Smallman and Leeton Hulley) gaining 1st in PHS. Other competitors were **Cadibarra** (Paul Roberts) and **Alex – Team MacAdie**.

The Sydney Hobart was well patronised by SYC craft with five entries. Notable results were:

- **Alive** – 4th on Line Honours and Overall IRC winner with SYC Member Dean Van Teylingen forming part of this crew. Congratulations Dean.
- **MRV** – (Damien King) finished 8th in IRC overall and 1st IRC Div 2
- **Patriot** – 9th in IRC overall and 1st IRC Div 3
- **White Noise** – 16th in IRC overall and 3rd IRC Div 3.

The Festival of Sails was held in its usual time slot in late January, with many SYC yachts making the journey across to Geelong and 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.

Thursday Twilights were fantastically attended with 94 entries with the continuation of four Female Helm races this season and the Youth Helm series. These added formats were to encourage greater participation amongst our female and young members. In total, 20 of the 24 scheduled races were completed with the winners being Division A **Lumiere** (Matt Kebell) from **Hot Chippys** (Patrick Chipp) and **Watermark II** (Dave Suda and Hershel Landes). In Division B, our podium saw 1st **Pokerface** (Madeleine Linton) from **Convict's Revenge** (Simon Grain) and **Rhiannon**.

Our day/night race, the Tam O'Shanter and Jisuma Race, saw some competitive sailing into the night before a late night drink in the Members Bar. In Division 1, **Scarlet Runner** took out AMS and

ORC, **Vixen I** (Christine Matheou-Fox) took out Division 2 AMS, **Surprise** (James Russell and Ralph White) won Division 2 ORC and **True Colours** (John Strahan) achieved 1st place in Division 3 AMS and ORC. PHS saw a whole new set of boats, Division 1 **Trigger** (Rowan Keast), Division 2 **Alibi**, Division 3 **Good News** (Ron Walker).

Sunday Sailors was very well represented again in 2023-24. This series continues to increase in popularity. There were 52 entries for a series of 13 races with only two races abandoned. 1st Place was achieved by **Hitchhiker** (David Goodman), 2nd by **Winsome** and 3rd **Razzle Dazzle** (Grahame Jones).

Our Saturday Aggregate racing was hotly contested in 2023-24 with Club Champions only decided on the last leg of the last day of racing. Keen crews were comparing points, times and results right up until the announcement of the daily results. Thirteen races were held and there were no resails required.

2023-24 Club Champions:

- Division 1 AMS – **Scarlet Runner**
- Division 1 ORC – **Wicked**
- Division 1 PHS – **Bandit**
- Division 2 AMS – **The Muppet Show** (Peter Williams and Matt Turner)
- Division 2 ORC – **Surprise**
- Division 2 PHS – **Bullet**
- Division 3 AMS and ORC – **Intrusion** (Luke Reinehr)
- Division 3 PHS – **Rhiannon**.

The Association Cup was again hosted by SYC in March 2024. Four clubs competed for one of the longest-standing trophies in Victorian sailing history. SYC carefully selected its team based on performances at Club level in February, with an emphasis on the expected lighter weather.



Surprise (Association Cup)



Wicked (Association Cup)



The Muppet Show (Association Cup)



Watermark (Association Cup)



The SYC team consisted of:

- **The Muppet Show** – AMS
- **Watermark II** – AMS
- **Surprise** – ORC
- **Wicked** – ORC.

The Muppet Show sailed exceptionally well to win all three and claim the Max Peters Memorial Trophy and combined with **Watermark II**, won the AMS Teams Trophy.

In ORC, **Surprise** and **Wicked** sailed well to finish 2nd and 3rd, to claim the R. J. Green ORC Teams Trophy. The outcome saw SYC claim the Association Cup as the best performing club. Thank you to all owners and team members for a sensational result.

SYC members have also been active in the ORCV autumn offshore races with seven members going to King Island in March and 12 to Apollo Bay in April.

Presentation Night was held in late May 2024 and was well attended by almost 200 members and guests. Club Champions were acknowledged and awarded and there were a number of special awards made.

Keelboat Sailor of the Year, **Vanessa Higgins Memorial Trophy** was awarded to Past Commodore Rob Davis for his outstanding results in one-design racing over the past year:

Results achieved were:

- 2nd 2023 RS21 World Championships
- 1st Victorian J70 State Championships

- 4th NSW J70 State championships
- 1st Australian J70 National Championships
- 2nd Australian SB20 National Championship.

The **Lou Abrahams Intermediate Sailor of the Year trophy** was awarded to a young sailor who had great success in the Tasar and J70 classes this year, Harry Sly. Harry's achievements were:

- 1st Australian Tasar Championships (86 boat fleet)
- 2nd Tasar World Championships (108 boat Fleet)
- 1st Corinthian and 1st Youth NSW J70 State Championships
- 1st Youth and 2nd Corinthian Australian J70 Championships.

This year's **Horst Hellar Trophy** for the Most Improved was won by the dedicated team on **Bullet**. Eddie & Robyn Ragauskas showed consistent improvement in summer and winter sailing and are certainly a future force to be reckoned with.

The **Club Captain's Trophy** was this year won by Peter Williams and Matt Turner on **The Muppet Show**. This trophy is awarded to the yacht that scored the lowest points across a measurement division, excluding drops. Simply the best and most consistent sailors at SYC.

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, 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 great way. 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.

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
- Stewart Simmons – 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
- Nick Disney – incoming Sail Captain.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank Mercedes-Benz Brighton, Noorden Real Estate and Hodges Sandringham for their ongoing support and sponsorship of our keelboat racing program. Thank you to Bruce Humphries who stood down from Sail Committee this year. Bruce was a long-time supporter and adversary of Race Management at a Sail Committee level. Looking forward to a fabulous year ahead.

Rob Date
Sail Captain



Club Champions 2024



Division 1 AMS
Scarlet Runner
Rob Date



Division 1 ORC
Wicked
Mike and Mark Welsh



Division 1 PHS
Bandit
Ashley Trebilcock



Division 2 ORC
Surprise
James Russell and Ralph White



Division 2 PHS
Bullet
Eddie and Robyn Ragauskas



Division 2 AMS
The Muppet Show
Matt Turner and Peter Williams



Division 3 AMS/ORC
Intrusion
Luke Reinehr



Division 3 PHS
Rhiannon
Lowa Paszko

State, National & World Champions 2023–2024



Victorian 29er Championship
1st Overall – Liam Stevens & Josh Griffith



Victorian and Australian J70 Championships
1st Overall – Rob Davis



World, Oceana & Australian ILCA6 Masters Championships
1st Great Grand Master – James Mitchell



Australian Optimist Championships
First Female – Lottie Griffith



Australian Tasar Championships
1st overall – Harry Sly & Zara Challis



J24 Victorian Championship
1st Overall – Adam Keyes-Tilly Team



Victorian & NSW Optimist Championship Open Fleet
1st overall – Augustas Buividas



Victorian Tasar Championship
1st overall – Stasi Burzychi & Sophia Kasper



World & National Tasar – 1st Super Grand Masters & 1st Female Helm – Heather MacFarlane & Chris Payne



World & National Tasar Championships Masters
1st Overall – Chris Dance & Peter Hackett

Recreational Boating

Another 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 year was no exception and there were a number of events over the past year to do just that.

Opening Day October 2023, had a theme of Red and White and the recreational boaters were well represented as usual. We enjoyed a great sail-past to wave to our Commodore, Sue Bowes and to having a good start to the new season. For many of us it was the first time in a while to get out in our boats again after a long Melbourne winter.

Our first event of the year held in early October 2023 was the Evening Cruise, but the weather did not cooperate. We plan to hold this again though as people seem to really enjoy getting familiar with night navigation skills in the company of others. We look forward to the new anchoring out option to further hone our night-time boating skills.

We finally got out on to the water for our first cruise of the season with our 2023 Melbourne Cup Cruise to Geelong in November, with nine boats registered. A couple had to drop out at the last minute, but the rest had a fun sail down enjoying the hospitality of the Royal Geelong Yacht Club and the great foreshore. After a couple of nights some returned directly to SYC, but a few decided to spend a third night at Port Arlington to enjoy some nice fresh mussels on the way back.

The Cruising in Company group had a wonderful 2024 Australia Day long weekend with a cruise to Queenscliff Cruising Yacht Club, heading off mid-morning Friday with accompanying strong southerly winds, which certainly washed the decks. By evening it had died down and we were treated to amazing sunsets from the deck at QCYC, whilst sharing elaborate platters and meeting some of the new members to the Recreational Boating group. Saturday was spent perusing the shops in the township and Sunday was a gentle southerly breeze in warm sunny conditions, which made a very enjoyable trip back to SYC.

Our Labour Day Weekend Cruise to Westernport did not happen this year. It is a great cruising ground with lots of enjoyable anchoring options and interesting things to do. We plan to go in 2025, so if you are interested keep an eye out for news about this trip. Since QCYC is the jumping-off point for our Western Port and Bass Strait cruises, several boats chose to go to QCYC instead for the Labour Day weekend, making pizza and enjoying each other's company and a little slice of paradise too.

We had a great Autumn Dinner Cruise to Docklands booking out the full western pontoon



Doug Jackson, Anne Hunting and Jenny Dumaresq

at the Melbourne City Marina. Joining us for the first time was the J24 fleet bringing the combined fleet to 21 boats and 60 cruisers for dinner.

It was an Indian-themed dinner, with our SYC kitchen providing some of the best Indian food around. We all settled in with plates full of basmati rice, dahl, three different curry dishes and great naans too. We had a fun-facts quiz with 10 Indian and 10 Australian based questions and apparently, we know more about Indian facts than Australian.

On the King's Birthday long weekend, we had 12 boats and about 30 people who cruised to QCYC to enjoy the wood-fired pizza oven and the warmth of a wood stove. We had a great time enjoying ourselves and the excellent facilities at QCYC. Since we are a kindred club to QCYC, we enjoy a substantially reduced amount for overnight berthing when we have organised events such as this cruise, so it was decided that we should gift some pizza trays to QCYC, which were well received.

We end the cruising season with the Footy Madness weekend in September each year and usually take over the western pontoon at Melbourne City Marina. For the 2023 event we were there for two nights, enjoying the amenities and proximity to the CBD. We had a full dock again and about 50 cruisers were ready to cheer for their favourite footy teams in the AFL Grand Final. On the Friday night we ate at the fabulous Chinese restaurant Gold Leaf and it was nice to get out for dinner as a group. Saturday was reserved for watching the big screen in the lounge area, taking in the party food served by our Recreational Boating Committee and watching Collingwood edge out the Brisbane Lions. This was followed by tasty pizzas and salad for dinner with a Drumstick ice cream for dessert. While not everyone's favourite team gets to play in the Grand Final, it is a great weekend to get together, enjoy the buzz of the Grand Final, watching some great athletes and having the best parking spot in the CBD.

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 for recreational boating is on fun and social cruising around the bay and a little beyond, we do more than just cruise in our boats, with a full calendar having an event just about every month of the season.

The annual SYC fishing competition was held over the weekend in November 2023 and is generously supported by RM Jacksons. The competition gives anglers a wide opportunity to compete for a range of prizes, including charter fishing trip vouchers. The scuttlebutt among the experienced anglers was that the snapper were hard to find, leading to a subdued but hopeful entry list. The three scheduled weigh-ins were not overwhelmed with fish, but popular member Paul Liddiat presented an impressive 7.25 kg monster to secure the Wayne Read Trophy.

In 2024 and with participation waning for guest speaker events, we decided to host a Dinner and Guest Speaker event, rather than a stand-alone, turn-up-if-you-remember format. We were fortunate to secure long-time, active and very entertaining member, Alistair Murray, to tell us about the history of Ronstan. More than seventy people were regaled by Alistair and we heard about Ronstan's modest beginnings to the multinational corporation that it has become. This format seemed to go well, and we look forward to hosting more.

Our Christmas party in December is always popular and 2023 saw a good crowd gather to enjoy some great burgers and salads served up 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 rain arrived and more importantly, fun was had by all.



Paul Liddiat

Our annual Recreation Boating Presentation Breakfast was run in late July. We took over the Members Bar, decorated the tables and enjoyed breakfast with friends, partaking in prize raffles and a fun quiz presented by Simon Hemingway, before announcing Chris Hunting as Recreational Boating Person of the Year 2023. Judging by the hearty applause, the award was very well deserved. About 90 of us enjoyed the fantastic pastries provided by Mike Ferguson of Fergys Foods with Tom Raft's Fruit World supplying fresh fruit boxes and a novelty prize of the largest avocado ever seen.

Navigation Rallies seem to be challenging this year, with the 2024 SYC Cup initially being postponed due to lack of entries, then ultimately cancelled, as only two entrants signed up for the rescheduled rally. Whilst disappointing, this lack of interest is reflected across other Port Phillip clubs and discussion regarding revising the rally format is ongoing. A less technical, more fun-style rally format, is being considered for 2025.

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 2024-25 season.

I must also thank a number of people whose help made for another great season of fun



Recreational Boating Breakfast 2024

and activities for our enjoyment. Firstly, to the members of the 2023-24 Recreational Boating Committee – Jonathon Dewar, Geoff Dumaresq, Mike Ferguson, Penny Goodman, Anne Hunting, Peter Hickey, Paul Marks, Hugh Pilsworth and Bruce Saunders – a massive thanks, as without you none of this would be possible.

Secondly, 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, as has the support of Kol and the Food and Beverage team. Lastly, but certainly not least, to Sue Bowes our tireless Commodore who supported our program and made her own boat, **That Boat**, a fixture at many of our events too. Thank you all for another great year. Fair winds and safe passages.

Doug Jackson

Club Captain, Recreational Boating

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Off The Beach

OTB was buzzing with activity in the lead-up to the 2024 Tasar Nationals and World Championships. Sunday afternoons saw up to 60 boats competing, with many Tasar sailors dedicating extra hours to training during the week. The months leading up to the regatta were filled with anticipation as SYC prepared to host one of the most prestigious events in the Tasar sailing calendar. Sail Sandy and Kingston Sprints regattas saw healthy competitor numbers and great sailing.

At the Tasar Nationals, SYC sailors delivered stellar performances. Harrison Sly and Zara Challis emerged as National Champions, leading a strong field of competitors. Chris Dance and Peter Hackett claimed the Masters Champions title, and Heather Macfarlane and Chris Payne were crowned Super Grand Masters Champions. Heather also placed 1st Female Helm.

The Tasar World Championships, began on 4 January 2024, bringing together over 100 boats from seven countries. Competition was fierce, with sailors battling weather conditions from light breezes to stronger gusts. The final day offered perfect sailing conditions leading to three races, with the title decided in the last race. The regatta culminated in a presentation dinner in the Port Phillip Room, where the Gold Olympian medallists Dr Beverly Jonathan McKee and Libby Johnson McKee from Seattle, were crowned 2024 Tasar World Champions, their fifth world title. SYC sailors were not far behind, with Harrison Sly and Zara Challis finishing an impressive 2nd overall, Chris Dance and Peter Hackett securing 3rd, and James Sly and Eliza Solly taking 4th place.

The performance of SYC sailors was nothing short of extraordinary. Beyond their overall placements, Chris Dance and Peter Hackett retained their Masters Champions title, while Heather Macfarlane and Chris Payne placed 3rd in the Super Grand Masters Division. Heather also remained the 1st placed Female Helm, with Claire Medd finishing as 3rd placed Female Helm. Felix Duell secured 3rd in the Junior Helm category.

The success of the Tasar Nationals and Worlds at SYC is a testament to the dedication of our sailors and the superb organisation of James Sly, Mark Welsh and Blaise Vinot. Led by Steve Aulich, the Race Management team and the 100 volunteers did an exceptional job. SYC has again proven itself a world-class venue, delivering an unforgettable event.

SYC's Optimist sailors delivered stellar performances at the Nationals in Adelaide and the State Championships hosted at SYC. At the Nationals, SYC's Augustas Buvidas showcased his exceptional skill securing 2nd place in Gold Fleet. His performance was matched by Lottie Griffith, who finished 5th overall in the Open



Fleet and 1st Female Helm. SYC secured the top club in the Open Fleet and won the prestigious OziOpti Club Championship Cup, thanks to the impressive performances of Augustas, Lottie, and Ashlea Tan. Augustas and Lottie qualified for the Australian Optimist Worlds Team.

At the State Championships in March 2024, Augustas Buvidas dominated the competition, securing 1st place with a near-perfect score. Lottie Griffith continued in strong form, finishing 3rd overall and placed 1st Female Helm again.

The International Cadet Nationals in Hobart brought challenges and triumphs for SYC cadet sailors. Despite the tricky waters, SYC cadets showed resilience and skill. Carla Maertens and her crew, Harper Miller, sailed impressively to secure an 11th place overall. This strong performance earned them a coveted spot on the Australian Cadet World Team.

The season also marked a significant transition within our Cadet class as we bid farewell to several long-standing families who have been integral to its success. After more than a decade of involvement, the Suda family moved on to the 29er class. Their commitment of supporting the Cadet class at all levels has left a lasting impact. We also say goodbye to the Maertens and Miller families, who have been valuable class members and wish them the best of luck in their new classes.

The upcoming season focusses on rebuilding and strengthening our Cadet class. We are particularly proud to see a strong female contingent leading the charge, with three poised to guide us into this new chapter. Their leadership and passion will be crucial as we work to reinvigorate the Cadet program, ensuring it remains vibrant and competitive. The support of the SYC community will be vital in nurturing the next generation of Cadet sailors. With a renewed focus on development and a commitment to

fostering talent, we are confident that the class will continue to thrive and produce exceptional sailors who will uphold our proud legacy.

SYC's ILCA sailors have again demonstrated their exceptional skills on the national and international stage with a series of outstanding performances highlighting the depth of talent within our Club.

Special congratulations to James Mitchell, becoming the World Champion in the ILCA6 Great Grand Masters Division at the Masters World Championships at Adelaide Sailing Club in February 2024.

He finished 22nd in the fiercely competitive ILCA6 2024 Open National Championships further underscoring his talent, as does his recent victory in the Oceania Masters held in Manly, Queensland in April.

Other SYC members also delivered strong performances across the various divisions of the Worlds event. Andrew Robinson sailed consistently to secure 5th place in the ILCA7 Masters, demonstrating his competitive edge. Robert Jeffreys finished 6th in the ILCA6 Great Grand Masters, Andrew Crawshaw secured 15th place in the ILCA6 Grand Masters, while Rohan Allen claimed 12th position in the ILCA6 Masters category.

Prior to the Masters Worlds, our SYC sailors also fared very well during the ILCA Nationals. In the ILCA7 Silver fleet Andrew Robinson achieved 32nd. In the ILCA6's Rohan Allan came 37th outright. While in the ILCA6 Silver fleet, Robert Jeffreys came 9th, Andrew Crawshaw 11th & Emma Prest (under 19) was not far behind with a 13th place. Our ILCA4 representatives were Thomas Jackson (under 18), coming 17th outright and Zoe Jackson (under 16), 37th outright. A wonderful achievement by all competitors in challenging sailing conditions.

These results underscore the depth of experience and commitment of the SYC community,



particularly in the highly competitive ILCA class. The achievements of our sailors not only bring pride to the Club, but also inspire the next generation of sailors to strive for excellence.

In 2024, we tried several innovative activities to bring fresh energy and enthusiasm to OTB. A highlight was the live-in weekend, where our sailors had the opportunity to trade their dinghies for an experience on the 'fast' keelboats. We partnered with **Scarlet Runner** and **Veloce 4** to give our sailors a taste of high-speed keelboat sailing. The experience was exhilarating, with our young sailors enjoying the speed and the chance to steer these exceptional boats. A huge thank you to Rob Date and the **Scarlet Runner** crew, Phil Simpfendorfer, Dean, and the **Veloce 4** crew for making this experience possible.

Another initiative was Team Racing on Friday nights during Twilight Racing. The success of these sessions has inspired us to explore more

innovative formats for the upcoming season, including some time in the Club's J70s – a popular request among our junior sailors.

Our trip to Metung at Easter was another highlight and the event saw a diverse range of classes and some promising new young faces. Special congratulations go to Emma Prest, successfully defending her title by clinching the Easter Youth Championship.

Our social events were equally memorable. The 2024 Presentation Night was a huge hit, with our sailors dressing up exceptionally well. It was a night to remember, celebrating the achievements and camaraderie of our sailing community.

While racing has been relatively quiet over the winter, our 29er sailors have been diligently training on Saturdays. Other classes have also been taking advantage of good weather conditions and training on Sundays. This

commitment ensures that our sailors remain sharp and ready for competition when the racing season picks up again.

As we wrap up an extraordinary year, the dedication and passion of our sailors has stood out. From national and international successes to new activities energising our program, the spirit of SYC has never been stronger. A special thank you to our Race Management volunteers – racing would not be possible without their tireless efforts. We are excited to build on this momentum, confident that the upcoming season will bring even more achievements and lasting memories, both on and off the water. The future looks bright with the continued support of our sailors, volunteers and the SYC community.

Nick Duell

Club Captain, Off The Beach

Wednesday Wonders

Noorden Real Estate Wednesday Wonders continues to provide SYC members competitive, no extras racing every Wednesday of the year, thanks to some dedicated volunteers and a great bunch of mid-week sailors. We do our best to match 26 ft long yachts with 60 footers in the one fleet and often get 90 percent finishing within 10 minutes over a course that averages around 9.5 nm. It is the opportunity to race against yachts of all different sizes that contributes to the unique atmosphere at SYC each Wednesday afternoon. Not even the odd raised voice at a mark rounding, as yachts of all different sizes approach at vastly different speeds, prevents the Bar from filling up afterwards with smiling faces, as the results are read out and the raffle drawn.

Winter Series 2023

The fleet consisted of 45 yachts which sailed more than one race.

You could not wipe the grin off the face of Darren Eger and his crew on **Club Comedie** after 10 races. The boat is suited to the lighter winds and flatter seas we often get in winter and this year was no exception. Taking advantage of these conditions and a favourable handicap coming off the summer season, **Club Comedie** recorded three firsts and two seconds to create a commanding lead that could not be reeled in, despite having drops in the last three races.

P'zazz (Michael Vandertop) came home fast with a 1st and 2nd in the last few races to record a well earned 2nd, keeping out the consistent

Izzi (Patrick O'Brien) in 3rd place, which recorded many top ten finishes, but no wins.

Bon Vivant (Russell Keays) won the **Century Class Trophy** by one point in a keenly fought Summer Series, where yachts and skippers with a combined age of not less than 100 qualify.

The **Misty Blue Trophy** for the best average start time of the season, went to **Arch de Triomphe** (Alistair Murray/Alex Newman/James Taylor). It was hotly contested as usual. Two perfect starts and numerous close to it were required to hold off the competition.

Summer Series 2023-24

The first race of the Summer Series was on 4 October, prior to Opening day, which is the prerogative of only Wednesday Wonders. Perhaps it was not the right move though, as the small fleet of 13 yachts were greeted by building 25 knot winds and a sea stirred up by a stiff south-westerly. The skippers and crew who decided to remain in the Bar must have known what was coming and watched on as the wind continued to build and the race was abandoned after the second mark.

The strong winds were a sign of things to come. It was certainly a windy season with four races cancelled, one having to be abandoned and only two shortened. A total of 66 yachts entered and 56 sailed at least one race which reflects the strength of the Wednesday Wonders fleet. Over the course of the season, we completed 21 races with 15 different winners. Considering a drop was worth 66 points, the finish of the

aggregate with just 44 points separating the top 10, reflected some close racing. Fleet sizes varied in line with the weather, with many crews, sensibly, remaining on shore when faced with marginal weather and choppy seas, but quick to get on the course when the sun was out and the breeze was favourable.

Coming into the last race there was little between **5 o'Clock Somewhere** (Tony Russell/Kate Mitchell/Greg Bauld) and **Magic**. However, the wily experience of Phil Spry-Bailey shone through and with a 2nd place **Magic** won the Series by 11 points. It was a great season for **Magic**, winning on three occasions and coming 2nd on three others. Following two wins in races 20 and 21, **5 o'Clock Somewhere** led the Aggregate, but with six races still to go, time penalties took their toll and she finished in 2nd place. **P'zazz** continued her winter form to come in 3rd, with two wins over the season.

It also earned **P'zazz** the **Shebessa Shield** for the lowest points for the Winter and Summer series combined.

The **Misty Blue Trophy** for the best average start time again went to **Arch de Triomphe**, with an average time of 3.3 seconds. The risk of a five minute penalty for an early start (which happened once), never deterred the crew from striving and regularly succeeding in starting on 0:00.

The **Jaffa Cup** which is awarded to the winner of the race closest to St Patrick's Day, went to **Vindaloo** (John Taylor).



Club Comedie



Arch de Triomphe

The **Noelle Coram Trophy** for the highest place-getter in the combined Summer Series of Wednesday Wonders and Sunday Sailors, went to **Winsome** (Simon Hemingway) who got the better of the duel with **Skulduggery** (Garry McCarten).



Magic

Magic also picked up the **Century Class Trophy** to top off a great season.

Wednesday Wonders would not happen without the support of our sponsors Noorden Real Estate and the volunteers in the tower who make everything happen. And a special thanks



Winsome

to Margaret Whitbread and Di Tyndall who, in addition to their work in the tower, make Wednesdays run smoothly and each Presentation Night special.

Paul Mentiplay
Sail Committee Representative



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Sunday Sailors

Mercedes Benz Brighton Sunday Sailors is sailed every second Sunday morning in winter and summer. There are about 11 races in each series with a month's break between seasons. Start time is at 09:30 with pursuit racing and handicaps. Average fleet size is 18-20 with a large variety of boats from 26 footers to 55 footers. Racing is relaxed and serious.

Winter Series 2003

Six different boats won races in the Winter Series but the overall winner **Winsome** (Simon Hemingway) placed four times but without a victory. Second placed **Bacardi** (Brett Averay) also placed three times without a win. Equal third was **Emerald** (Tony Tanner) with two race wins, along with **Firefox** (Anthony Clyne) with no wins but three placings. Other race winners included **Lumiere** (Matt Kebell) and **Hitchhiker** (David Goodman) both twice each. Other individual winners were **Sheba** (Michael Pisani), **First Light** (Mike Coulter) and **Upbeat** (Peter Dunne).

The series started with a major hailstorm near Anonyma Reef (two boats retired), and **Hitchhiker** emerged to win from **Winsome** and **Firefox**.

Race 2 was abandoned and Race 3 was won by **Upbeat**. After five races, four boats were separated by 1 point – **Emerald**, **Firefox**, **Winsome** and **Sheba**. Very close...

Race 6 and **Firefox's** 2nd placing saw them snatch the series lead and **Emerald's** 1st in Race 7, in a heavy weather race that they managed very well, saw them snatch back the series lead. In Race 8 the winner was the smallest boat in the fleet, **Sheba**, sailing over the top of three larger boats on the last leg, proudly flying her asymmetric kite. **Emerald's** 9th saw **Winsome** and **Firefox** draw within a point with two races to go. Race 9 saw light southerlies with none of the series leaders doing well (12th, 9th and DNS). Going into the last race, one point separated **Winsome**, **Emerald** and **Firefox**. **Winsome's** 3rd in the Race 10 gave her the series win from **Bacardi** with **Emerald** (11th) and **Firefox** (10th) finishing in 3rd and 4th. Very close all year.

Starts

No boat won more than one Start of the Day although **Firefox** did get the magic zero in the last race. Taking the best seven starts, the best performed boat was **Skulduggery** (Garry McCarten), 36 seconds – 1 second for every start line ping, followed by **Winsome** (51) and **Sheba** (70).

Summer Series 2023-24

Race 1 was abandoned. Race 2 was won by **Alegria** (Simon May). Race 3 in light winds was

won by **Ragnar** (Richard Ekberg). Races 4 and 5 were won by **Hitchhiker** and after Race 5 **Soulmate** (David Keyes-Tilley) with several podiums, led from **Razzle Dazzle** (Grahame Jones) with **Alliance** (Alex Hall), **Hitchhiker** and **Winsome** hovering.

Race 6 saw **La Mer** (Michael Ebeling) win by 10 minutes (there was a lot of conjecture about her handicap) with **Soulmate** retaining her series lead with another 3rd. Race 7 was light with good results to **38 degrees South** (John Chatham) and **Winsome**, which gave **Winsome** the series lead, jumping **Soulmate**. Race 8 was in strong winds and only five boats finished. **Hitchhiker** won her third race for the series from **Winsome** and those two boats were 2nd and 1st in the series. Unfortunately, **Skulduggery** blew out her spinnaker whilst surfing through the fleet at 12 knots in 25 knot gusts. A sad ending for them.

Race 9 was won by **Grumpy** (Andrew Stopp) with **Isa Lei** (Graham Chapman) 2nd, whilst a 4th for **Hitchhiker** saw her jump to a commanding series lead. Race 10 was in moderate and sunny conditions with **Upbeat** winning from **La Mer**. Race 11 was won by **Lawless** (Boyd Coulsen). Race 12 saw **Hitchhiker** absent in Tasmania and the race being won by **Alliance**. An 8th from **Winsome** saw the gap to the absent **Hitchhiker** fall to 1 point.

For the last race, race 12, **Winsome** needed a 6th or better and finish no more than three boats behind **Razzle Dazzle** to win, with **Hitchhiker** absent, lost in Tasmania. In a light race, **La Mer**, (the leader) failed to finish by the 12:30 cut-off time, by 6 seconds (they claimed) and so **Winsome** and **Razzle Dazzle** were confounded. **Hitchhiker** was crowned Series winner, and they celebrated with a glass of pinot in Bathurst Harbour, Tasmania. Well done, **Hitchhiker**.

Starts

Winsome won five Starts of the Day with other winners being **Antares** (Stewart and Pierce), **Sheba**, **Debonaire** (Phil Gomez), **Skulduggery**, **Alegria** and **Alliance**.





Allegria



La Mer



Bacardi



Firefox and First Passion



Razzle Dazzle and Emerald



Hitchhiker

Sunday Plate

Won by **Winsome** with a 1st and a 2nd in both Summer and Winter Series.

Noelle Coram Trophy (Summer Series of Sunday Sailors and Wednesday Wonders combined)

Winsome won on a tight countback from **Razzle Dazzle**.

Winter Series 2024

With nine races gone, **Emerald** leads from **La Mer** and with **First Light**, **Razzle Dazzle** and **Winsome** all equal 3rd.

Sunday Sailors race reports are produced by Leeward Larry and Luffing Lance and the

handicapper is Stuart Morrison Jack. Many thanks Stuart.

Tower volunteers include Eryl Harris, Cathy Higgins, Bruce Reidy, Stewart Simmons, Di Tyndall, Christine Walsh, Barb Watson, Margaret Whitbread and Scotty. Our thanks as no racing would be possible without you.

Sunday Sailors would be the best entrée into keelboat sailing at Sandringham Yacht Club, if you have not raced before. We have a medium size fleet with races every second weekend and protests never heard of.

Simon Hemingway

Luffing Lance



Alliance



Soulmate



Winsome and Skullduggery

Thursday Twilights

It was another popular Mercedes-Benz Brighton Thursday Twilight Summer Series with the series officially commencing in October 2023.

The season saw 20 of 24 races sailed on top of the last blast at the end of the season, with 80 different yachts competing throughout the series. On average, there were 35 boats competing each week, with standout weeks in Races 3 and 24, seeing 47 and 46 boats competing, respectively. An amazing spectacle.

Congratulations to the winners of the 2023-24 Mercedes-Benz Brighton Thursday Twilight Series winners:

Division A

1st **Lumiere** (Matt Kebbell)

2nd **Hot Chippis** (Patrick Chipp)

3rd **Watermark II** (David Suda and Herschel Landes)



Division B

1st **Poker Face** (Madeleine Linton)

2nd **Convict's Revenge** (Simon Grain)

3rd **Rhiannon** (Lowa Paszko)

This season our female helm series was again popular, with boats nominating one of their female crew as the helmsperson for the race. In total, there were six female helm races conducted in a variety of weather conditions with 17 boats participating over the series. The results of this series are as follows:

Division A Female Helm

1st **Carpe Diem** (Bec Robson)

2nd **Esprit** (Sue Bowes)

3rd **Bacardi** (Lorraine Smith)

Division B Female Helm

1st **Poker Face** (Madeleine Linton)

2nd **Lawless** (Natalie Goris)

3rd **Rhiannon** (Sarah Berryman)



In addition to our female helm series, we also conducted a number of youth helm races. 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.

We will be including the same opportunities in the upcoming 2024-25 season and we 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



J24 Season



The 2023-24 year has been action-packed for our J24 fleet at SYC, with our sailors making waves both locally and globally. In the Hodges Sandringham 2023 **One-Design Winter Series** from April to September, **Poker Face** (Adam Keyes-Tilley) took the overall 1st place, followed by **Convict's Revenge** (Simon Grain) and **Jab** (Warren Slater). In the Performance Handicap category, **Poker Face** again led the fleet, with **Convict's Revenge** and **Scrumpy** (Rodney Warner) in its wake.

September 2023 saw our sailors cruising to Docklands where we enjoyed another fabulous weekend with great company and food to match. Thanks to Richard Taylor and Kylie Balharrie of **Haywire** for organising.

At **Sail Sandy** in October 2023, **Two Dogs** (Jack Fullerton) emerged victorious, with **Poker Face** and **Panarea** (Chris Ravesi) completing the podium.

The J24 **Crew-ser Cup** is an opportunity for crews and new skippers to take the helm. The November event saw the top three boats finish on equal points with **Poker Face** (Murray MacDonald) taking the win, followed by **Bruschetta VI** (Rain Forbes) and **Convict's Revenge** (Madelaine Linton). Rumour has it there was a spot of match racing in the final race.

With the weather warming up, the Hodges Sandringham 2023-24 **One-Design Summer Series** saw 17 boats battling it out. After 28 races, **Convict's Revenge** emerged victorious, beating **Bruschetta VI** (Hugo Ottaway) by 0.8 points, followed by **Two Dogs**. The Performance Handicap was won by **Two Dogs**, followed by **Convict's Revenge** and **Panarea**.

Also running over the October to March period is the popular Mercedes-Benz Brighton **Thursday Twilight Series**. The J24 fleet is renowned for their strong performance in Division 2 and this year was no different with **Poker Face** (Madelaine Linton) winning the series on 89 points, followed by **Convict's Revenge** in 2nd place and **Bruschetta VI**, the third of the J24s, placed 4th overall.

The **Australian National Championships** in January 2024 was hosted by RANSA on Sydney Harbour. **Innamincka** (John Crawford) took the top spot, followed by **Sailpac** (Sean Kirkjian) and in 3rd place, SYC's **Convict's Revenge**. Congratulations to Simon Grain, Albert Mahoney,

Andrew Mason, Gink Yang and Madeleine Linton for qualifying for the Worlds in Seattle.

The **Victorian State Championships** in March 2024 was another triumph for **Poker Face**, followed by **Great White** (Brendan Lee) and **Bruschetta VI** in 2nd and 3rd places respectively. The Performance Handicap category saw **Ace** (David West), **Convict's Revenge** and **Bruschetta VI** leading the fleet. Thank you to the **Ace** from NSW and for the UniSA team for joining us for the event.

In April 2024, the SYC Recreational Boating group hosted the Cruise in Company event, to which the J24 fleet tagged along. This joint trip back to Docklands was a nice change, bringing together two parts of SYC that do not often get to mingle. Thanks to Rodney Warner for helping to get the word out.

It has been wonderful to see teams embracing events beyond the standard one-design regattas, including **Panarea** in the Noorden Real Estate Wednesday Wonders; and **Jabula** (Avril Sellars) and **Panarea** in the Festival of Sails. Over the 2024 June long weekend, at the Australian Women's Keelboat Regatta there were an impressive six J24s competing with four from SYC – **Jabula**, **Gridlock** (Erin Foster), **Sidetracked** (Sophie Davidson – UniSA) and **Two Dogs** (Megan Aulich).

Beyond our local waters, our sailors have also made waves on the international stage. The **World Championships** in Thessaloniki (**Jab** and **Bruschetta VI**) and the **European Championships** in Sardinia (**Bruschetta VI**) saw our Club represented with distinction.

As always, we would like to say a big thank you to our sponsor, Hodges Sandringham and specifically Amanda Thomson and Paul Bond for your support of the J24 Victoria community.

We would also like to extend a big thank you to the volunteers who turn up early on Sunday mornings throughout the year, regardless of the weather. Special shout to Cameron Way who has been capturing and sharing photos of the racing. Speaking of volunteers, thank you to the J24 Victoria Committee of Jack Fullerton, Adam Keyes-Tilley, Madeleine Linton, Hugo Ottaway, Warren Slate, Eduardo Sobelski Santos and Rodney Warner.



Looking forward, we have plenty to be excited about as SYC has been announced as the host of the 2026 J24 World Championship. We have already been in discussions with numerous international teams, including the current World and European champions, about the regatta and are encouraged by the interest shown to date. In the lead up to the big event SYC will be hosting the next two National Championships plus States and various warm-up regattas. There has never been a better time to get into a J24.

Megan Aulich
J24 Victoria President

J70 Season

The J70 class continues to grow worldwide and is approaching 2,000 boats. Large fleets can be found on most continents offering wonderful opportunities to sail locally and overseas.

SYC is to be congratulated for taking the leap and is a leader in initiating purchasing and fleet provision, allowing members of all ages to experience this exciting class and participate in one-design sailing. The stated aim of increasing youth participation has already been achieved, evidenced by the Club usage each week and the highly regarded advanced program run by former America's Cup sailor, Ben Morrison-Jack.

There are now Open Corinthian and Mixed world championships for predominantly female teams and plans to hold a world junior event beginning on Lake Garda in 2026. There is even early talk of such an event coming to Australia once our fleet is large enough to offer charters.

Looking ahead we have Club racing at SYC, Victorian States in October 2024 at Blairgowrie Yacht Squadron, Sail Sandy in October, NSW states in November and at SYC the Nationals in January 2025. This will form the first of five events next year to collectively be the JCup that selects representatives for the world championship in Cascais, Portugal in September 2026. These will be spread throughout Victoria and NSW including Lake Macquarie.

Traditional sailing options in Melbourne's winter are: race at SYC, travel north and race in the Whitsundays and/or go cruising in warmer waters (north or overseas). Increasingly sailors from SYC and around Australia are looking to the northern hemisphere summer to sharpen their sailing skills on the J70 one-design regatta circuits of Europe. Whether it be chartering or purchasing a boat, sometimes in a syndicate, the idea of fantastic fleet racing at a European location and tying in a European holiday to boot certainly has its appeal.

Corinthian World Championships in Copenhagen

In 2023 three teams travelled from Australia to Copenhagen for the J70 Corinthian World Championships: **Madness** SYC (Adam Keyes-Tilley, Nick Bez, Paul Grimshaw and Murray McDonald); **Sequel** SYC/BYC (Anthony Landgren, Matthew O'Brien, Sean O'Brien and Simon Pluim) and **Celestial** CYCA (Sam Hynes/Sam Abel/Tom Grimes/George Richardson) defending Corinthian World Champions. With over 120 teams, consisting of 550 sailors competing from 14 countries, over five days racing that covered sunshine and light winds through to big Baltic swells and rain squalls hitting 40 knots, this was a regatta for the ages. With such a large fleet, teams were split into four groups with each group racing every other

group three times. After collating all results, boats were then split into Gold and Silver Fleets for the remainder of the regatta.

Congratulations to **Celestial** on making the Gold Fleet and with a couple of wins under their belt, managed 12th overall. That left **Madness** and **Sequel** to fight it out for bragging rights in the Silver Fleet. Fortunately the team with the most SYC sailors managed that little battle. Highlights of the regatta included start lines of 60 boats with black flags from Race 1, 30-boat pile ups at the windward mark, jury boats making competitors drop kites and do penalty turns in 25 knots and screaming reaches. Last but not least the hospitality of our wonderful hosts from the Royal Danish Yacht Club was unbelievable, providing our big Viking Beer Hall each day after sailing with large vats of piping hot communal food, cold beer, tall stories and laughter all around. Roll on winter 2025.

Lake Garda – The Italian Job

From the look on the boys' faces when they jumped into Lake Garda to clean the boat, convinced by us it was not that cold, to outrunning a 30-knot electrical storm with the kite up, it was the start of a fantastic, hilarious and enjoyable sailing experience. You really have to sail in Italy to understand the splendour and experience they offer. Organising a J70 from across the world sight unseen seems a daunting task and it would be, anywhere but Italy. When three Australian J70 owners got together to buy a boat in Europe, chance landed us at Lake Garda. We had already been in communication with the world J70 president Vittorio Di Mauro, who extended extreme friendship and assistance and put us in touch with the people who could deliver this task. We arrived at Italian JCup #2 in sunny Riva del Garda at the northern end of Lake Garda to be overawed by the magnificent towering cliffs, deep blue water and for the first few days consistent wind. Our trip had been preceded by our Commodore, Sue Bowes, exchanging burgees with the President of Fraglia Vela Riva, Andrea Camin, who extended us great courtesy and the locals could not have been more generous with the assistance of Francesco, Rico and Guilia making our conversion from Australia to Italy seamless.

The racing was intense and of a standard unavailable locally. From 39 boats trying to ping the pin at the same time, to mark roundings accompanied by yelling in nine languages, punctuated by umpires whistles and the universal question, Me? Really? It left us ruing what might have been and hungry to return. As Vittorio said, the philosophy in Italy is simple – one person wins, and the rest have fun.

Adam Keyes-Tilley and Rod Warren



2024 Corinthian World Championships Copenhagen – Adam Keyes-Tilley, Nick Bez, Paul Grimshaw & Murray McDonald



2024 Corinthian World Championships, Copenhagen



2024 Corinthian World Championships, Copenhagen



2024 Corinthian World Championships, Copenhagen



JCup Race 2 Lake Garda, Italy – Rod Warren, Aaron Cole & Crew



JCup Race 2 Lake Garda, Italy



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J70 Sailing Program update



The last 12 months has been a resounding success since the arrival of four J70s. The program has unified members of all ages and sailing backgrounds; from competitive dinghy sailors wanting a taste of the keelboat world, older members wanting something fresh and athletic, all the way through to young people joining the development program, having had barely any prior sailing experience. Long-lost faces from previous programs have returned to sail the J70s and the boats have become a cornerstone of SYC.

On our last Opening Day, we launched the first two boats, **Mistral** and **Sirocco**. Since then we successfully launched the next two boats, **Zephyr** and **Auretta**, with the help of some amazing donations from many of our members. The Boating Office along with Sly Boat Building and Repair Centre, worked tirelessly to get all four boats ready to hit the water – in the shed, in the yard and on the back of their cars, as they prepared the boats for the program and assisted in moving them around the country, as far as Sydney where the program made its first appearance on the national stage.

The program kicked off at the start of November 2023. Despite having only had two training sessions, the participants of the Advanced Program competed in the 2023 Victorian J70 State Championships hosted by Blairgowrie Yacht Squadron from 17 to 19 November. Of the 23 boats, our teams finished 9th, 11th, 15th and 16th overall, including a very respectable 2nd Corinthian for our own James Sly and his team of Nick Neale, Eliza Davis, Emma Maertens and Mats Maertens. This was a very positive start to the program.

Meanwhile, younger members aged 14 to 18 began their involvement in the Development Program. Whilst many experienced OTB junior sailors stepped up to this program, there were also several participants who had not come from competitive sailing backgrounds. For some, it was the first time they had ever stepped onto a keelboat. It has been inspiring to watch the development of these sailors and we are very

excited to see their journey to the Advanced Program and the broader keelboat world in the future.

After two months of Saturday morning training, the Advanced Program members sailing in **Sirocco**, **Auretta** and **Mistral** made their debut at the NSW J70 State and J70 National Championships hosted by Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron in January 2024. The boats were trailered to Sydney where from 19 boats, our teams competed well, taking on some long-term J70 sailors.

NSW J70 State Championships Results

Overall

- 7th **Sirocco** – Harrison Sly, Hayden Brown, Brandon Demura and Felix Duell
- 11th **Mistral** – Josh Griffith, Jack Furey, Daniel Conacher, Pat Distefano and Aaron George
- 12th **Auretta** – James Sly, Rain Forbes, Annabelle Connerly (from RSYS), Emma Maertens and Mats Maertens

Corinthian

- 2nd **Sirocco** – Harrison Sly, Hayden Brown, Brandon Demura and Felix Duell
- 4th **Auretta** – James Sly, Rain Forbes, Annabelle Connerly (from RSYS), Emma Maertens and Mats Maertens

J70 National Championships Results

Overall

- 8th **Auretta** – James Sly, Nick Neale, Eliza Davis, Emma Maertens and Mats Maertens
- 9th **Sirocco** – Harrison Sly, Hayden Brown, Brandon Demura, Felix Duell and Allie McLennan
- 12th **Mistral** – Josh Griffith, Rain Forbes, Daniel Conacher, Pat Distefano and Aaron George

Corinthian

- 1st **Auretta** – James Sly, Nick Neale, Eliza Davis, Emma Maertens and Mats Maertens
- 2nd **Sirocco** – Harrison Sly, Hayden Brown, Brandon Demura, Felix Duell and Allie McLennan

- 4th **Mistral** – Josh Griffith, Rain Forbes, Daniel Conacher, Pat Distefano and Aaron George

While the program has not officially been running over winter, we have continuously seen 15 of our J70 Advanced Program members use the boats to train independently, keen to restart the program and compete in the J70 National Championships, which will be hosted at Sandringham Yacht Club in January 2025. The dedication and love for these boats is undeniable.

July saw a very successful regatta with a fleet racing format with a diverse group of our members, some of whom had never raced a J70. The regatta that was unfortunately cut short by a particularly foul Saturday forecast. However, it was a resounding success with eight teams of SYC members competing in a round-robin style fleet racing. We saw very close racing and the regatta was won by well-known member, David Suda and his team of Damien Lee, Daniel Conacher and Felix Duell. We hope to continue giving our members opportunities to use the boats in regattas going forward.

A number of our female participants raced in the SYC Women in Sailing Challenge (WISC) with our teams taking wins in both divisions of PHS. We then hosted the annual Commodore's Challenge where teams from around Port Phillip came to battle it out against our own team of Emma Maertens, Allie McLennan, Zara Challis, Rain Forbes and Carla Maertens from the Advanced Program, who took out the win over some tight battles. Our team, with Brooke Robson stepping in this time in lieu of Rain Forbes, went on to compete in the Australian Women's Keelboat Regatta, winning PHS Division 2. A tremendous effort.

Over the summer period we held some Friday Social Nights. Uptake on this was lower than was hoped due to many of our young members already spending a great deal of time at SYC. In future, these social nights will move to Thursday nights alongside our Thursday Twilights, where we will hopefully see our young members out on the water enjoying sunset racing on a weekly basis with everyone else.

As our members helped us reach the fundraising target, we will also see the arrival of two new Club J70s which will enable us to further enhance the programs and member offerings.

Finally, on behalf of all participants in the J70 program, we want to thank the members of SYC and the SYC Foundation for so generously donating to assist the purchase of boats and the continued running of the program. The J70s are a priceless asset to our Club and the future of sailing. In the words of some of our participants, "the J70 is the best boat we have ever sailed".

Emma Maertens and Maddie Commins

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Women in Sailing



Female Sailors Development Program

This program was launched in November 2023 and has been a huge success. The program is designed to build participants' overall sailing confidence, strengthen their knowledge and skills in key roles, increase their connection with other female members and encourage a higher level of competition in both womens and mixed teams racing. The program is supported by Nickie Jones, Australian Sailing's Chief Keelboat Instructor, the SYC Boating Academy, our amazing SYC keelboat instructors and coaches by YRSA-AMS.

Three weekend courses ran over the 2023-2024 season with the 56 available spots quickly filled by a very enthusiastic group of SYC female sailors. The courses delivered an engaging, jam-packed program of both on and off-water activities. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive with the highlights being skill development in new roles, increased sailing confidence and an increased connection to other female members. What an awesome weekend everyone. Thank you for the teamwork, camaraderie and all the learning. It has been amazing.

The connections made through the program have resulted in an increase in female participation in racing at the Club and across the bay. It has also helped create an active and supportive SYC

female sailors' community. We will continue to run this program through the 2024-25 summer season.

Women in Sailing Challenge (WISC)

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 Perpetual 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), as well as a cruising Division 3 (female helm).

This year's event saw a record number of 27 boats competing. Congratulations to the winners of the WISC event:

Division 1 AMS

- 1st **Bullet**
(Robyn Ragauskas)
2nd **Serious Yahoo**
(Katie Holroyd)

Division 1 PHS

- 1st **Auretta**
(Emma Maertens)
2nd **Bullet**
(Robyn Ragauskas)
3rd **Serious Yahoo**
(Katie Holroyd)

Division 2 AMS

- 1st **Rhiannon**
(Sarah Berryman)
2nd **Arch de Triomphe**
(Maddie Commins)
3rd **True Colours**
(Amy Lawton)

Division 2 PHS

- 1st **Sirocco**
(Tilly Davis)
2nd **Zephyr**
(Rain Forbes)
3rd **The Jackal**
(Monica Jones)

Division 3 PHS

- 1st **Alliance** (Lucy Allinson)
2nd **First Light** (Gemma Coulter)
3rd **Razzle Dazzle** (Sue Cramp)

Port Phillip Women's Championship Series (PPWCS)

The WISC event is Race 3 of the PPWCS that is made up of five races, each hosted by a different club around the bay. You can enter a boat with either an all-female crew or a mixed crew with female helm. This series is a great opportunity for women to race together in a competitive environment and is also the perfect chance to train a team for the Australian Women's Keelboat Regatta (AWKR). Congratulations to Robyn Ragauskas and her all-female crew on **Bullet** who won the series on AMS for the third year in a row.

Commodore's Challenge

Each year SYC runs an all-female one-design regatta. In 2024, for the first time, it was run on the Club's new J70s. Commodores from six clubs around the bay selected their best team of female sailors to compete in this competitive racing event – Blairgowrie Yacht Squadron, Hobsons Bay Yacht Club, Royal Brighton Yacht Club, Royal Melbourne Yacht Squadron, Safety Beach Sailing Club and Sandringham Yacht Club. The weather created some challenging conditions for the teams but they all rose to the occasion and had a great time.

Congratulations to the SYC team of Emma Maertens, Allie McLennan, Zara Challis, Rain Forbes and Carla Maertens who won each of their races to become overall regatta winners.

Female Helm Series – Thursday Twilights

Once a month, boats can nominate one of their female crew to helm, with an overall series winner at the end of the season. In 2023 there were 17 boats which nominated a female helm.

Congratulations to:

Division A

- 1st **Carpe Diem**
(Bec Robson)
2nd **Esprit**
(Sue Bowes)
3rd **Bacardi**
(Lorraine Smith)

Division B

- 1st **Poker Face**
(Madeleine Linton)
2nd **Lawless**
(Natalie Goris)
3rd **Rhiannon**
(Sarah Berryman)





Australian Women's Keelboat Regatta (AWKR)

The AWKR ran over the King's Birthday long weekend. 32 teams from around the country came together, including teams from Northern Territory, Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia and Tasmania, crewed by 192 female sailors. Such a great opportunity to connect and race competitively while having a fantastic time. SYC certainly had a presence at this year's regatta with 25 sailors taking part.

Congratulations to:

- Emma Maertens and her team on **Auretta** – 1st PHS – Division 2
- Megan Aulich and her team on **Two Dogs** – 2nd PHS – Division 2
- Megan Aulich and her team – overall J24 one-design winners for the series
- Robyn Ragauskas – winner of the **Rohan Brownlee Leadership and Endeavour Award** for her contribution to women in sailing.

2024-25 Season

Start planning for the new season. There are so many opportunities for SYC women to get involved.

Female Sailors Development Program

- 8, 9 and 10 November 2024 with Nickie Jones – progression for intermediate/advanced sailors.
- 14, 15 and 16 February 2025 with the SYC Boating Academy – for beginner/intermediate sailors.
- 11, 12 and 13 April 2025 with Nickie Jones – for intermediate/advanced sailors.
- 2, 3 and 4 May 2025 with SYC Boating Academy – progression from previous courses.

Female Sailors Social Nights

Last Tuesday of each month, meet at the Club at 18:30 for a 19:00 dinner, may also include guest speakers.

Female Helm Series – Wednesday Wonders and Thursday Twilights

Once a month, boats can nominate one of their female crew to helm with an overall winner at the end of each season. Dates can be found in the NOR.

Women in Sailing Challenge (WISC)

- 23 February 2025.

Port Phillip Women's Championship Series (PPWCS)

- 1 December 2024 – HBYC **Shirley Freeman Memorial Trophy**
- 2 February 2025 – RYCV **Val Hodge Trophy**
- 23 February 2025 – SYC **Women in Sailing Challenge**
- 6 April 2025 – RMYS **The Jennifer Goldsmith Race**
- 4 May 2025 – RBYC **Brighton Ladies Skippers Series.**

SYC Commodore's Challenge

- 18 May 2025.

Australian Women's Keelboat Regatta (AWKR)

- 7, 8 and 9 June 2025 – RMYS.

You can find more information on these events and other women in sailing opportunities on the SYC Women in Sailing website: syc.com.au/on-water/keelboat-racing/wisc

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



Tasar Nationals & 2024 Worlds



The Tasar Nationals and Tasar Worlds held at SYC from December 2023 to January 2024 will be remembered for a long time. It showcased why the Tasar class continues to be a favourite among sailors of all ages and abilities and why SYC is a world-class club. For those unfamiliar with the Tasar, it is a one-design 4.5m dinghy designed by the renowned Frank Bethwaite. At just 68 kg and equipped with a rotating mast, the Tasar is celebrated for its high performance and exhilarating sailing experience. Despite being 50 years old this year, the design remains as captivating as ever, offering competitive sailing for a diverse range of sailors. Its distinctive appeal is reflected in the numerous couples and parent-child combinations who sail together, fostering a unique and supportive community within the class.

The Nationals are held annually and rotate between different states, while the Worlds occur every second year, moving between North America, the UK, Japan and Australia.

The journey to hosting the 2024 Worlds began in late 2021 when the Tasar Association of Victoria decided to bid for the championship. The first step was to find a suitable location. SYC was chosen for its exceptional sailing area, in close proximity to the Club and capacity to accommodate a large fleet. The Club's impressive facilities, combined with a professional team supported by dedicated volunteers, made it an ideal choice for the championship.

In a strategic move, the Nationals were held separately from the Worlds, formatted as a two-day event. This allowed international sailors to have a pre-Worlds regatta and gave the opportunity for parents of younger children

and less experienced sailors to race in a large fleet environment.

Securing early sponsorship was crucial to the success of the event. Key sponsors included the Bayside City Council and the Victorian State Government through the Major Events Program. These partnerships provided the financial foundation needed to structure the core program of the regatta.

The year 2022 focused on laying the groundwork and promoting the championship. Three Victorian boats participated in the 2021 Worlds in Seattle, presenting the 2024 Melbourne event to a global audience.

This was pivotal in generating interest, as evidenced by the significant participation from

the USA, which sent 10 boats – the largest US team ever to compete in Australia.

The year 2023 saw the final stages of preparation. Monthly meetings ensured that progress was on track, covering aspects such as securing jurors, organising volunteers, and refreshing facilities. The race committee was assembled, functions planned, flags and trophies prepared, billets organised, and charter boats arranged. Mark Welsh played a crucial role in keeping the organisation on schedule, while under the guidance of Richard Hewett, the Club delivered an outstanding performance.

As Christmas approached, the numbers were impressive: 85 boats registered for the Nationals and 108 for the Worlds. With everything in place, the only remaining challenge was for the weather to cooperate.

On 28 and 29 December, boats were meticulously measured and checked. Racing commenced with two thrilling races on 29 December, but the following day saw a dramatic turn as the weather conditions were more suited to the Tasmanian west coast than to competitive sailing here. Fortunately, 31 December brought a glimmer of hope, as Port Phillip displayed signs of summer. In a condensed two-day championship format, with three races on the





final day allowing for a discard, the competition remained fierce until the very end.

Congratulations to Harrison Sly and Zara Challis, sailing **Skippy**, for clinching the **Australian Championships**.

The **2024 Tasar World Championships** began with a buzz of activity on 2 January, as boats underwent registration and measurement. By 3 January, the excitement reached fever pitch with the final registration and Invitation Race day. Despite heavy rain and a race against time to clear eight Japanese boats through Melbourne's customs, the event kicked off seamlessly. The opening function was a vibrant celebration, starting with a Welcome to Country ceremony on the northern podium, followed by a buffet in the Port Phillip room. With formalities out of the way, it was time for racing.



Day 1: The day's races were marked by intense competition and challenging conditions. Despite initial hurdles, including three false starts and fifteen black flag disqualifications, the fleet finally launched into action.

Day 2: Day two greeted competitors with perfect sailing weather, sunshine and a gentle breeze. The conditions tempted many to relax, but the racing was intense.

Day 3: The third day presented its own challenges with a fickle northerly wind and unusual currents due to recent rains. Despite a difficult start, Harrison Sly and Zara Challis excelled, leading the first race, followed closely by Lachlan Heath and Carmen Walker (AUS). In the second race, the Japanese teams shone, with Satoshi and Saori Kami securing victory.

After a rest day, racing was cancelled on **Day 4** due to weather conditions.

Final Day: The championship concluded on 5 January with a dramatic finale. Jonathan and Libby Johnson McKee (USA) emerged as the 2024 Tasar World Champions, displaying outstanding skill and resilience. They narrowly edged out Harrison Sly and Zara Challis, who claimed second place with two firsts in the final heats. Chris Dance and Peter Hackett (SYC) finished third, rounding off a thrilling regatta.

Throughout the event, competitors enjoyed a range of formal and informal functions. Highlights included a Japanese Bento night featuring the presentation of the 2026 Worlds in Okinawa, attended by Japanese officials, daily post-race bbq at the Ken King Centre, a relaxed beer and pizza night at a local brewery and a formal closing dinner for 270 people. Competitors consistently praised the quality of the race management, the facilities and the food served by the Club.

The Tasar Association of Victoria extends its heartfelt thanks to everyone involved in making this event truly memorable. Members of SYC should take considerable pride in their Club for delivering a world-class event.

Blaise Vinot

President, Tasar Association of Victoria

Race Management

The 2023-2024 sailing season was a fantastic example of what our Club can achieve, thanks to the extraordinary efforts of our Race Management team. This season was marked by a series of well-executed events, each showcasing the skill and dedication of our volunteers.

One of the crowning achievements of the season was the Tasar Nationals and Worlds, held from 27 to 31 December 2023 for the Nationals, and 2 to 9 January 2024 for the Worlds. These events were a true testament to the capabilities of our Club, with over 200 sailors participating. The event demanded an immense effort from our volunteers, with 50 to 60 individuals contributing over 2,000 volunteer hours across the nine days. Despite varied weather conditions, their expertise ensured that the races were competitive and ran smoothly, proving once again that our Club can host world-class events.

The Optimist State Championships also stood out, with just over 40 volunteers stepping up to ensure the event's success. Their involvement was crucial in managing the logistics and on-water activities, contributing to a well-organised and enjoyable regatta for all participants.

Keelboat Club racing, which is the backbone of our sailing season, was made possible by our pool of around 60 dedicated volunteers. These

individuals were responsible for the smooth running of our regular series, including Wednesday Wonders, Thursday Twilights, Saturday Series, Sunday Sailors and one-design racing. In total, it took approximately 3,500 volunteer hours to ensure that Club racing was conducted safely and efficiently throughout the season.

For our OTB Club racing, there was again a great showing of Race Management support from both the parents of our youth sailors and our senior OTB sailors. Weekly racing throughout the last season saw a number of valued volunteers stepping up and taking on new responsibilities, which was fantastic to see. With approximately 1,500 volunteer hours completed throughout the season, once again our volunteers delivered an exceptional racing experience for our sailors.

This year, our Race Management team clocked in at least 7,000 volunteer hours, a massive achievement that underscores the dedication and commitment of our volunteers. Their willingness to contribute their time and expertise is what makes our Club's events not only possible, but also so successful.

Looking ahead, we have an exciting line-up of events, including Sail Sandy in October 2024, the J24 Nationals in January 2025, the J70 Nationals in January, and the 29er and Cadet State Championships over the March long weekend.

These events promise to be highlights of the coming season and if you would like to get involved, we would love to hear from you.

In preparation for these events, we have also focused on volunteer development through a series of well-attended training courses through winter. These included tower courses, mark laying, and start boat procedures, all of which have been instrumental in enhancing the skills of our existing team and new volunteers.

We also held a Race Management information night that covered the various opportunities available for volunteering. It was especially encouraging to see a positive number of new volunteers getting involved with all aspects of Race Management this year. For those who missed this event but are interested in getting involved or learning more, we encourage you to contact the SYC Boating Office. There is always room for new volunteers, and we welcome anyone eager to contribute to our Club's success.

As we reflect on the season, we extend our deepest gratitude to every volunteer who played a part in our success. Your dedication, passion, and countless hours of hard work are what drive our Club forward and make our events possible and memorable for all involved.

Clay Williams

Sailing Coordinator

Sailing beyond Port Phillip

Van Diemen's Land Circumnavigation Cruise 2024

There are some extraordinary group cruise adventures in the world and Australia has one of the most wild and spectacular – circumnavigation of Tasmania, previously known as Van Diemen's Land. It is ruggedly beautiful but surrounded by some of the most treacherous waters in the world. The six-week journey is a world-class adventure not to be taken lightly, or without extensive preparation.

Only 40 places are available for cruising yachts and motor cruisers and applications to The Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania are received from all over the world. The highly experienced team of VDLC sailors mentor those with little or no blue water sailing, teaching them how to prepare themselves and their yacht for such a journey. Preparations begin six months ahead and participants are encouraged to undertake training in ocean survival and radio communication protocols. Advice is given on emergency equipment, route plans, anchorage guides, VDLC cruise manual, fuelling and provisioning and scheduling crew.

The result is a group of like-minded people sharing the experience of incredible scenery, wild waters and history. Each day we watch the weather patterns, make new route and back-up plans. We explore harbours and rivers, visit convict colonies, meet up for barbecues, sundowners, group dinners at pubs, train journeys, hikes and make new friends.

Most yachts and motor cruisers start their circumnavigation from Hobart. The Victorian fleet departs from Queenscliff, sails across Bass Strait and joins the Tasmanian fleet at the north western tip of Tasmania. This year the Victorian fleet comprised 14 vessels. As usual, the weather called the shots and the initial plan of a leisurely cruise to Tasmania became a sprint through The Rip and a night sail across Bass Strait.

One of the differences between racing and cruising in company, is that as cruisers we plan our routes for pleasurable sailing and are not forced to continue into bad weather. We pick a safe, protected anchorage and socialise until the dangerous weather passes and the seas are safe for passage.

Sailing down the west coast, we experienced the stunning Macquarie Harbour, the Gordon River and Port Davey. Sailing around the craggy south-western tip, we journeyed into the magnificent D'Entrecasteaux Channel until finally reaching Hobart. We waited out a gale in Hobart, enjoying great hospitality at RYCT. Passing magnificent cliffs, across the southern edge of Tasmania with weather and waves coming from the South Pole, we continued up the east coast. So many stunning islands and spectacular vistas. Maria Island, Wine Glass Bay, a dash to Killiecrankie Bay on Flinders Island, Deal Island then finally across Bass Strait to home. So many memorable highlights, so much breathtaking scenery, great camaraderie, fun adventures and so many new friends. This VDL circumnavigation is an experience that we can highly recommend. Some participants are even on their third or fourth circumnavigation.

We are especially grateful the VDLC organising committee: David Wier, Tony Cowley, Peter Lewis (Cruise Commodore), Bill Newman (RGYC), Lee Renfree (QCYC), John Hall, Jeremy Firth, Grant Ford and David Meldrum.

Penny Goodman and Mike Ferguson



VDLC 1



VDLC Circumnavigation Map



VDLC Sundowners on Hitchiker in Port Davey Bathurst Harbour



VDLC Chris Hunting Hitting 14 kts



VDLC Atmospheric Crew Enjoying an Oyster Smorgasbord at Get Shucked South Bruny Island



VDLC Briefing

Sailing overseas



2024 Cowes St Malo Race James and Campbell Russell on Quailo II



J24 Europeans 2024 Hugo, Adam, Sophie and Tao Sardinia



Paul and Bronwyn Ridgeway Tasar National Championships 2024 at Porthpean Sailing Club



14ft Skiff worlds Torbole Lake Garda Italy Ben Strong Sail 5400



J24 Europeans 2024 Hugo, Adam, Sophie and Tao Sardinia Sail 5400



2024 Cowes St Malo Race James and Campbell Russell on Quailo II 2



Ashlea Tan 2024 IODA Optimist European Championships in Italy



J70 2024 Corinthian Worlds Copenhagen Adam Keyes-Tilley and Crew



J24 2023 World Championships Greece Bruschetta VI Hugo and Crew



J24 2023 World Championships Greece Hugo and Crew



J70 Lake Garda Rod Warren, Aaron Cole and Crew Italy

Belle – a journey of dreaming, acquiring and restoring

We feel very fortunate to share this little anecdote about our last year and how **Belle** came to be a part of our life.

We now spend every moment we can on the boat, racing double-handed on a Wednesday afternoon, ORCV races, adventuring around the bay, out of Port Phillip heads and family fishing trips to Portarlington. **Belle** is a Simonis Voogd designed 60-foot yacht built in 2004 by Indigo Yachts in South Africa. One of only two IY60s, her sister yacht resides in Rhode Island. She crossed the Atlantic three times before making her way down south. After sailing at Hamilton Island Race week and other regattas across the southern states, she changed hands a few times before settling into a pen at SYC for a long eight years, mastless and idle.

Over the past four years our regular and favourite walk through the marina always ended on D arm, admiring the elegant lines of **Belle**. Imagining, wondering, a crazy dream, envisioning the opportunity to bring her back to life. It was an impossible dream, unlikely and maybe just one of us thought on many levels, a little too big. We both love a project and having previously restored houses, cars, boats and farms, this felt like the right challenge. We had been actively racing our J24, gaining some ocean experience on bigger yachts, racing a Sydney 38 and we had a shared passion and love for being on the water.

One day, through mutual connections, the stars aligned and we struck a deal to purchase her.

While not everyone may find this challenge an appealing prospect, we had already done some due diligence and knew the pedigree of this boat. We pinched ourselves to make sure this was really happening and dived headfirst into the project. To keep us motivated and focussed, we set a goal: sail to Docklands for New Year's Eve 2023. We took ownership of **Belle** in the second week of September 2023.

On day one we started emptying out the boat and readying her for being hauled out of the water. Richard could not bear the thought of her hull emerging covered in years of growth, so donned his diving gear and did a first clean of the hull. After a couple of days of intrepid deck cleaning she was pulled out and ready for some time in the yard. Stephan Morrison-Jack, friend and shipwright, has been the most invaluable support. His team at Tidal Marine sanded, painted and polished the hull. We gave her a pretty thorough health check, the rudder was removed, bearings serviced, new fittings attached and she was starting to look pretty good.



All the while waiting in the busy, dusty, back blocks of the rigging yard was an amazing, vast, black carbon mast, hidden and forgotten, as only 25 metres of mast and rigging can be. Our timing between projects was perfect and we were lucky and extremely happy to focus three solid months at the Club. Donning our hi-vis each day we became regular fixtures in the boat and rigging yard. Evenings were spent relentlessly researching, sourcing parts and upgrades for systems.

After careful stripping and mousing the mast we sanded and sanded and, just as we thought we were done, Stephan would mischievously suggest, "Perhaps it needs just a little more, keep going". After four weeks, we were finally satisfied. The next challenge was painting. Three six-metre long domed greenhouses from eBay did the trick, creating an eighteen-metre long workspace. Richard became an apprentice to Stephan, who expertly guided him in the

spraying, artfully getting the right mix of paint and application. The paint was dry, rewiring complete, new lights installed, halyards run and fresh rigging attached, the mast was ready to be stepped.

The inimitable Bernie was cajoled to work his magic, knowing that if we did not step the mast before Christmas, we would miss our chance to sail to Docklands and our planned January of sailing. Blake at Doyles helped us sort through the sail wardrobe, undertook a few repairs and upgrades, all amidst his busy Sydney Hobart schedule to ensure we were operational.

The day of our inaugural sail arrived. We gathered some good sailing friends and ventured out into the bay under a lovely 8 knot northerly breeze. What an exhilarating experience – this boat sails beautifully. Fast, stable and light; it was an amazing feeling. We achieved our goal – **Belle** was back!



We sailed to Docklands, enjoyed three days living aboard and thoroughly tested the impressive sound system. January was spent sailing 20-mile legs around the bay from mooring to anchor, in light winds to 25 knots.

Our first major race was the Festival of Sails passage race. With a new boat and needing crew, we reached out to our trusted J24 sailing friends. The J24 community is filled with experienced sailors who have raced various craft across oceans and bays. The passage was a great success, our team performed well and **Belle** excelled. However, the second day did not go as smoothly. While tacking up the channel and leading the race, we suffered a blown outhaul block that sent the boom into chaos. After dropping the main sail onto the deck, our race came to an end. A few weeks of carbon repair gave us the opportunity to continue improving, maintaining and servicing. It has been quite a year and we have to remind ourselves that we are only eight months into this sailing journey with her, and she is one mighty fine big boat. **Belle** has been designed and set up for short-handed sailing, which is something we both love. Sailing **Belle** is a steep learning curve, but it is always a pleasure.

We particularly like training and racing with the Code Zero and A4 sails, though when things do not go according to plan there is a lot of sail to manage.

Our list of dreams continues to grow, as does our list of jobs. It would be fair to say that if we were not able to do most of the work ourselves including electrical, mechanical, plumbing and restoration, this project would not have been practical. It has been wonderful to have so many people at the Club positive and supportive, with many stories and memories of **Belle**.

What is next? After the frustration of a winter of too much or too little wind, we are looking forward to our summer with **Belle**, Club racing, The Rudder Cup and a long, slow trip to Tasmania. Our future planning may look to Sydney-Noumea, Melbourne-Osaka, more racing and getting to know how to sail this big boat better. We are excited for her future, for bay and ocean adventures.

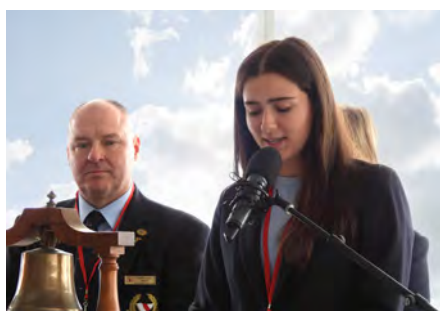
Special thanks to Sue Bowes, Stephan Morrison-Jack and Barney Walker

Kylie Balharrie and Richard Taylor



Opening Day 2024

The Commodore's theme for Opening Day 2024 was 'Rock Around the Dock'





Club Persons of the Year

Congratulations to Past Commodore, Garry Anderson and to Clive Sondheim on being awarded Club Persons of the Year 2024, presented by Commodore Mark Welsh on Opening Day.

Garry and Clive have been instrumental in holding to account the builders and various subcontractors in Stage 1 and 2 of the Clubhouse Improvement Works, from beginning to end of both projects. They have even suggested some alterations to the design of some key aspects of the works, which have impressed both the architect and the builder.

They have a depth and breadth of industry experience, with Garry's engineering background where he owned and chaired Hunt Engineering & Staff Pty Ltd, a local fabrication, laser cutting and tank manufacturing business, and Clive from a construction background as Managing Director of his own business, Royson Industries.

Clive was often seen walking around the northern deck in a hi-vis vest and hard hat keeping an eye on things, especially on a Wednesday morning before racing. Garry was ever present, even during his road trip up north in his caravan over July and August, he was on the phone daily keeping a check on things.

For a bit of fun, Garry and Clive were awarded their own personal protective equipment with personalised hard hats and hi-vis vests as a memento of their considerable contribution to the Clubhouse Improvement Works.



Past Commodore, Garry Anderson and Clive Sondheim

Thank you both. We are very lucky to have members like you whose expertise we can tap into when needed.

Congratulations Garry and Clive

Life Membership

Congratulations SYC Life Member Philip Burn

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, Philip Burn was recently awarded Life Membership by Commodore Sue Bowes at the Annual General Meeting on 17 September 2024.

Philip joined SYC in 1963 and he has been a tireless contributor to the Club over an extended period.

Philip spent some 15 years on General Committee filling many roles including as OTB Club Captain, Treasurer, Rear Commodore, Vice Commodore and Commodore between 2008 and 2010. In fact Philip had the privilege of being the Commodore to officially open the current Clubhouse.

Even after Philip's time on General Committee he has continued to contribute in a wide range of other capacities. He was involved in Race Management for a very long period, has been a member of the SYC Foundation since 2011 including eight years as Chairman, he was instrumental in setting up the SYC Boating Academy in its formative years, he was involved on the Committee for our Centenary celebrations as well as being extensively involved in the Melbourne to Osaka Yacht Race over several races.

Philip also secured SYC membership of the International Council of Yacht Clubs.

A consummate professional with extensive managerial experience and expertise, Philip has also been an invaluable management resource for the staff on constitutional and governance matters of significance over the last 20 years. Most recently he also pulled



Life Member Philip Burn with wife Jane and their two children Andrew and Sarah

together the business plan for the SYC J70 Sailing Program.

In congratulating Philip we also extend our heartfelt appreciation to Philip's lovely wife Jane. Philip's various commitments to SYC meant extended time away from home.

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

Recreational Boating Club Person of the Year

Congratulations to Chris Hunting who was awarded the Recreational Boating Person of the Year. Chris is certainly very well-known having been a member of SYC since his teenage years. We would not like to tell you how long ago that is. He is no stranger to boating and sailing activities with 'mucking about on boats' being his favourite pastime.

Chris has an extensive sailing background including sailing in Cadets with Rob Ware, Jeff Henderson and Tony Manning among others. All these people are still very involved with SYC. In his younger days Chris crewed on ocean racing boats, including a couple of Sydney Hobarts and more recently ORCV races on *Independent Endeavour*. Chris has also crewed on *Barnstormer* for the past 15 years, racing most Wednesdays and Saturdays. Another of Chris's favourite sailing events is the Van Diemen's Land Circumnavigation Cruise which he has participated in three times. The Recreational Boating cruises have also been a passion for Chris since buying his beautiful Clipper Hudson Bay 39 motor yacht, *Amalfi III*, a few years ago. *Amalfi III* is a regular cruiser and participates in almost every cruise. Chris is always ready to discuss anything to do with boats and to share his knowledge and experience with other boaters, new and old. Chris is often a behind-the-scenes kind of person, but is always available to help out if needed, whether that is to lend a hand fixing something, helping people get their boat on or off a mooring, or to crew on some else's vessel.

Chris enjoys the camaraderie of the Recreational Boating members and the relaxing time spent with like-minded people. Sometimes when Anne is not available, Chris will take *Amalfi III* out solo to join in on our cruising events. During those solo trips Chris can often be found enjoying sausages, a valid food group according to him,



Clubperson of the Year 2024 Chris Hunting

in case he does not catch a tasty snapper or two along the way. Chris and Anne are regulars at our Recreational Boating events and together can be counted on to really make a difference in the smooth running of our events.

So, when you see Chris around the Club, please offer him a hearty congratulations for well-deserved recognition and say thanks for making a difference.

Congratulations Chris

The Dick Morrison Stirrer's Trophy

Commodore Mark Welsh announced on Opening Day that John Strahan was awarded the **2024 Dick Morrison Trophy** as Stirrer of the Year. The Strahan family has a long-standing connection with SYC spanning several generations. John is well known around the Club not only for his sailing prowess on the water with his beloved Bavaria 44, *True Colours*, but also for his musical background with his band Donkey on the Edge, who have played several gigs at the Club.

John, who considers himself a bit of a foodie, has been passionate about the food offer at SYC and over the last year has often had chats with Kol about some of his ideas. One thing he was keen to reintroduce was 'dimmys' after racing, so he started a bit of a movement to bring them back to the Members Bar & Bistro.

When the dimmys were put back on for a trial run, John and his crew did their best to eat them all to make sure none were left over. John even offered to donate a dim sim steamer to the Club.

On a serious note, John has been very generous in supporting the Club with the supply of furniture through his business for The Foredeck on the northern podium.

We always welcome member feedback and especially from a member who is so passionate.

Congratulations John



John Strahan

Club Marine SYC Boating Academy

The Club Marine Sandringham Yacht Club Boating Academy has had a strong last 12 months. Participation in all programs is up nearly 50%, new programs are being developed to increase participation and our SYC Instagram page is starting to create some buzz with regular reels.

The Season Pass recommenced at the start of July 2023, after multiple interruptions and delays. For those not familiar, the Season Pass is a 12-month training membership with unlimited access to racing at SYC and includes all of our Academy courses. Then at the conclusion of their Season Pass, these members can transition to annual membership and the SYC joining fee is waived. In recent years, 40% to 50% became crew members. In the last 14 months we have had 41 such holders, with 34 still current. So if you are after some new crew, reach out and we will facilitate connections where possible.

Our learn to sail keelboat programs continue on a steady climb. Utilising the SYC Beneteaus, we assisted with the running of the Female Development Program. Three courses were held over the last 12 months with 60 sailors taking to the water. Along with the Women in Sailing Challenge, SYC is keen to assist with increasing female participation and become a leading SheSails club. We also held female learn to sail courses on Wednesdays which saw six participants in the inaugural course. Both programs will expand into 2024-25 with more courses on offer.

Our Pacer fleet had a great work-out last season, being put through many roll tacks and mark traps. Between OutThere Sailing, School Programs and Adult Dinghy classes, Sunday was the only day of the week when our fleet did not touch the water. Star of the Sea College and St Leonard's College lead these programs with a combined 60 plus students involved in their respective programs. Both teams competed in the Victorian

Team Sailing Championships, with Star of the Sea winning first overall in Girls division and St Leonard's scoring a podium finish in their division. Star of the Sea then sent eight sailors, all youth members of SYC, to the Nationals in July. Along with other SYC coaching staff, Tom Johnston coached St Leonard's and I coached the Star of the Sea team. The success we had with these programs shows how respected our Boating Academy is, with more competing schools confirmed to join SYC this coming season.

SYC's recent purchase of four J70s has had a positive effect on youth sailing, with many teenagers getting involved in the Development Program. Participants from School Programs, OutThere Sailing and regular Off the Beach sailing have enjoyed the new challenge and the opportunity that has been created. This year we are keen to provide more opportunities for those visiting students beyond their School Program and get them involved in some of our J70 sailing. At the end of 2022-23 we were the top Discover Sailing Centre in Victoria and in the top five Australia-wide. This year we saw an increase in total participation to 1,642 participants, just shy of a 50% increase. This is an incredible result and I would like to thank all SYCBA instructors, coaches and my fellow boating colleagues for helping us achieve this outcome. We will strive for another increase leading into another season, with the goal to crack being the 2,000 participants mark which was last achieved pre-covid in 2019-20. With multiple courses commencing in coming weeks already fully booked, we are off to a great start.

Lastly, I would like to thank all SYC staff and members for their support of the Club Marine SYC Boating Academy. Be sure to follow the SYC Instagram page to keep up to date with amazing reels. It will be bigger and better this year.

Nick Neale

Discover Sailing Manager



At the Olympics

I know SYC members followed the Olympics closely and were thrilled to see Australia do so well on the world stage ... 4th overall on the medal table from a country of 27 million is something to be proud of.

I thought you might like to hear a few insights from my visit to France for my first-ever Olympics outside Australia, visiting Paris and then on to Marseille to support our sailors in my capacity as Australian Sailing President.

My wife Tracey and I, along with SYC members Rich and Carrie Wormald, were thrilled to be in Paris to see Jessica Fox win her first gold medal. Wow, that was something special! We attended a cocktail party at the Australian Ambassador's digs in Paris, with spectacular views of the Eiffel Tower, and got to rub shoulders with some Olympic legends such as Dawn Fraser and Kieren Perkins. Chef de Mission, Anna Meares, made a magnificent speech about being an Olympian, talking about how much courage it takes and what a magnificent achievement it is to simply qualify for the Olympics and to represent Australia.

Australia had the third largest team in Paris, behind the USA and host nation France. We had a team of 460 athletes in total, of whom around 100 brought home medals from the 53 events we were on the podium for.

And so to Marseille we went, to support our sailing team of 12 athletes across eight classes, one of our youngest teams ever, with an average age of 24.

The conditions looked tough from the outset. It was stinking hot and humid and the breeze, even when it was in, was puffy and shifty. It then pretty well shut down in the second half of the regatta, making it very tough in particular on those who sailed in the second week.

We sweated all week in Le Comptoir Marseillais, the restaurant chosen as our Friends & Family venue, but what a week we had. There was a continual stream of parents, friends, brothers, sisters, cousins, partners, Patrons, sailing dignitaries, World Sailing hierarchy and on and on. We enjoyed the camaraderie and the action, brought to us live on the big screen, with live tracker on a second screen.

We cheered on our sailors and were proud of them all. Zoe Thomson (ILCA 6), Jim Colley and Shaun Connor (49er) and Brin Liddell and Rhiannonn Brown (Nacra) showed flashes of form and can hold their heads high as first-time Olympians. Nia Jerwood and Conor Nicholas (470), Olivia Price and Evie Hazeldine (49FX) and Breiana Whitehead (Kite) went that step further of making it to the Top 10/medal races. So that leaves us with our blazing stars. Grae Morris



L-R Alistair Murray AM, Richard Wormald, Anna Meares OAM, Ben Houston, Iain Brambell OLY

(Windsurfer) thrilled us with his performance, qualifying on top for the final. The 20 year old was brilliant in the final, not showing a hint of nerves, but was outgunned by the Israeli. Well done on the silver medal, Grae ... precious metal. Likewise for our superstar, Matt Wearn. I was with his parents, Karen and Brad all week and they could not have been happier or prouder. He was supreme under pressure, so cool, calm and collected, even as the medal race was postponed again and again. The suspense was killing us, but he brought home the bacon against Pavlos Kontides of Cyprus, the same sailor who Tom Slingsby beat in the medal race in London 2012, and with the same final margin of 16 points. Congratulations too to Matt for representing sailing so proudly as Australia's flag bearer at the closing ceremony.

So it was gold and silver for Australia and we were ranked the equal 4th sailing nation. It was not our best Olympics, but it was solid and there are plenty of green shoots and potential for Los Angeles and Brisbane within our young team.

Of course it was a team effort and credit must go to the Australian Sailing CEO, High Performance Director, coaching staff, physios, chefs, communications staff, boat building team and administration staff. It takes a village to raise and maintain a sailing team. We also enjoy tremendous

support from the higher levels of the sport, from World Sailing, the Australian Olympic Committee and from the Australian Institute of Sport.

All in all, being at the 2024 Olympics was an experience of a lifetime. Tracey and I will aim to be there in Los Angeles in four years. It is the undisputed pinnacle of small boat sailing competition and in fact, of sport in general. It was so special being just a small part of Australia's sensational performance across all sports, to see Aussie flags everywhere and to hear the 'Aussie, Aussie, Aussie' chant at so many events.

Finally, I must say it was a little disappointing that there were no Victorians in our Australian Sailing Team in France. Western Australia had the greatest representation, but I must point out we are very proud of Grae Morris' coach, Authur Brett, who is Victorian through and through even though he lives in Perth.

It would be great if in future our OTB activity at SYC goes from strength to strength across the board and includes the Olympic classes, so we can see some young champions from Sandringham, standing on the Olympic podium, with medals around their necks.

Alistair Murray AM

Australian Sailing President

Social Group Update

Our 2023-24 social year has been quite busy. Melbourne Cup Day is a fabulous day on the Club social calendar with Tommy Raft, our much-loved SYC bookie and team of many assistants. The 2023 event was a little smaller than we would normally have due to the main Members Bar closure for renovations. However, it was a colourful and excited crowd checking who were the lucky winners in the sweeps, raffles and the best-dressed categories. Thank you to our generous donors – Tommy Raft of Tom Raft's Fruit World, Taco Cantina Mentone, Eryl Harris, Margaret Whitbread and Black Rock House. Unclaimed monies were donated to the new SYC J70 program and Challenge Kids with Cancer.

For St Patrick's Day we decorated the Members Bar in green and shamrocks. Along with 180 Irish hats donated for members by Hobsons Bar in Sandringham, there was Irish music and themed music-menu items, making for a fun day all round.

Basil, Sybil and Manuel of the Fawlty Towers British television sitcom fame, entertained us with a dinner show in April and the event sold out very quickly. This globe-trotting tour-de-force has been smashing records and collecting accolades since its humble beginnings in 1997. The original Fawlty Towers: The Dining Experience, it has been labelled one of Australia's greatest theatre exports, captivating audiences for 27 years running, touring globally in 43 countries, welcoming well over 1 million guests through its doors. It is the longest-running Fawlty Towers show of any kind, worldwide. Basil, Sybil and Manuel served up chaos as we were treated to a delicious 70s-style, three-course meal and much hilarity ensued. Our apologies for the 'hamster' on the loose. The night was one worth getting off the couch for. It was a fabulous show with lots of laughs all night long.

Mother's Day at the Club is a great place to be and this year we invited Isi Dye to serenade all the mums in the house. He performed his Crooners Chow with many old favourites taking us back in time.

In May, we braved the autumnal chill and boarded a coach to the award-winning and SYC favourite, Oakdene Vineyards for our annual wine-tasting and lunch. SYC member, Peta Davis of Oakdene Vineyards and the vintner took us through the list of delicious wines with generous tastings. We lunched on a scrumptious three-course meal in the Mr Grubb bistro, then back to SYC Members Bar to finish off the day.

Christmas came early with our Christmas in July dinner. The weather was more suited to a northern hemisphere Christmas. Wicked Santa made a special visit and he mostly behaved himself under the ever-watchful eye of Mrs Claus. The Port Phillip Room and foyer were decorated by

Social Group members and Noreen Maher did a splendid job on the Christmas tree. A delectable three-course Christmas meal was enjoyed by all and we danced the night away to the sounds of the Noisy Johnnies. Our members love a party as indicated by the full dance floor all night. Thank you to our MC, Club member, Bill Stubbs. Bill and Gillian are very generous with their time for our Social Group and we are very lucky to have such talent in our midst. I would like to mention the donations for the door prize, a fruit and vegetable box from Tom Raft's Fruit World and to Margaret Whitbread for wine and home-made Christmas cake. When our MC asked everyone to look under their side plate for the winning sticker, nobody came up to collect the prize. Perplexed, we waited as Bill asked everyone again, as "someone must have it". Gillian then thought to check under Bill's plate and, you guessed it, he had the winning sticker. That brought the house down. However, Bill generously donated his prize to another person on his table.

Our final event of the last 12 months was Coxy's Music Trivia. We like to offer various trivia styles each year and this time we went with a single show of music trivia. There is probably no-one reading this who would not know of Geoff Cox. He is an Australian much-loved larrikin, musician and media personality, known most notably for his show Coxy's Big Break and Postcards, as well as performing with Skyhooks, Little River Band and others. Coxy's trivia style was a winner with the evening being well-attended and enjoyed, from the many glowing accounts. Competition was fierce for the perpetual trophy, the Jaffa Cup and this year it was won by Cath and Chris Furey's team, Furey's Folly.

These events are brought to you by the hard-working members of the Social Group: Michelle Anderson, Robyn Coombs, Eryl Harris, Helen James, Noreen Maher, Tommy Raft, Lorraine Smith and Margaret Whitbread. During the year we welcomed new members Michelle and Helen.

Next year we hope to have lots more entertaining social events including a show and lunch, a dinner and show, trivia, Melbourne Cup Day fun and the car show, to name a few. If you think you may have a good idea for an event, please share it with us.

Subscribe to e-news if you have not already, as it is a great way to keep in the loop on what is happening around your Club, as well as upcoming events and functions. e-news comes out every Friday. Other ways to keep in touch are via the Club website, posters, flyers and by Facebook: Social at SYC

Susan Tuma

Social Group Chairperson



Live Entertainment on Twilights & Sunday Sessions



Daryl Braithwaite gets the crowd going



Peter Miller

Twilight season kicked off with our very own Haley White's group, Dynamic Duo. It was great to have Haley perform as one of our twilighters for a change, as she is one of our well-loved regulars for Opening Day.

This year with the renovations commencing and the lack of space and compromising acoustics, we decided to tone it down on Thursday nights and stick with solo and duo performances. However, there was no compromising on musical talent as our list shows: Rob Gaston, Peter Miller, Lisa Mio and Gary Young, Tim Watson, Danny Spencer, Gary Eastwood and Jezza, Jason Vorherr, Tommy McEwan and Aisha and last but not least, one of our very own members, John Strahan (Strahaney) and his fabulous band, Donkey on the Edge. What an exciting way to end the season, they stole floor, literally, you could not get past it was so crowded with members celebrating in full yachtie style.

The Andy Wilson Trio welcomed in the New Year and members adorned themselves with glow sticks and New Year paraphernalia, making for a magical atmosphere.

We also introduced our Summer Sunday Sessions which commenced with Fabian and Brock on Discover Sailing Day, followed by another member's band, the jazzy, very cool Better than The Wizards, performing their own songs – a brilliant band and well supported by all their mates, the Intermediate members.

On St Patrick's Day we had The Craic, which was also well supported by our Irish clan whose family joined the trio sharing their beautiful voices with us. It was a special day with the Irish singalongs and if you were not born Irish, you were on that day.

Next on the agenda was Joshua Batten, who was the support act for Daryl Braithwaite. This

time Joshua played covers along with some of his brilliant original songs. With over 500 songs in his repertoire, there was something there to please everyone. A very talented young man – keep an eye out for him in the future.

Now, who does not love the 80s and a dress up? An electric night with members clad in their finest 80s attire, grooved the night away to the sensational Absolutely 80s consisting of Brian Mannix, Scott Carne and Ally Fowler.

Finally, the pièce de résistance, the phenomenal Daryl Braithwaite at our Christmas party! Daryl fans were overjoyed to see their idol from the past rocking the stage singing their beloved hits, ending his performance with show stopping hit, The Horses. Such was a very special night. Daryl and his band were absolutely brilliant.

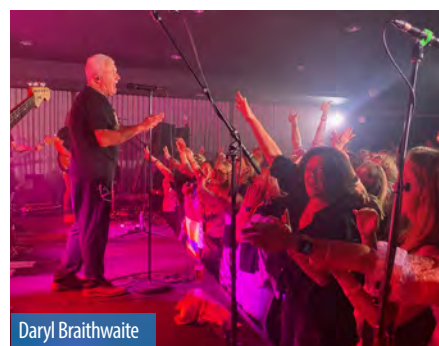
I hope you enjoyed our musical adventure throughout the year. We are very lucky to have such talented musicians performing at our wonderful Club.

Stay tuned for more exciting acts in the future.

Robyn Coombs



Lisa Mio and Gary Young



Daryl Braithwaite



Joshua Batten



John Strahan (Strahaney) from Donkey on The Edge



Danny Spencer

Key draw



SYC church



Monday bbq



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SYC Plan for the Future



- Participation is now a prerequisite to boat storage
- Our bar and kitchen works have enhanced the overall food and beverage offering
- Solar panels on order for the sail locker roof areas.

The current plan (2023-2028) was populated and based on the member feedback from our 2022 survey. There has been good progress but there remains lots of work to do.

2024 Member Survey will assist future planning – have your say!

The next version of our plan (2025-2030) will be based on our 2024 survey which is out now – scan the QR code and have your say to help guide our future planning.

Whilst this next version of the plan for the future will take a five year view, many of the actions and outcomes will benefit this Club for generations – so be sure to have your say in the future of your Club.



SYC has made good progress towards a number of the goals in our strategic plan, some of which include;

- We are nearing completion on the marina refurbishment program
- The Clubhouse improvement works stages 1 and 2 are now complete
- Addressing youth retention via the SYC J70 sailing program with four boats now onsite and the programs underway (two more

boats on the way ETA December 2024)

- Our community engagement goes from strength to strength with our annual Challenge Kids with Cancer day, a signature event
- Our safety focus remains front and centre in all decision making
- Discover Sailing, Sail Pass and Season Pass are all key parts of our boating offer
- The widening of the eastern channel making the Harbour far safer for all users

The Season Pass



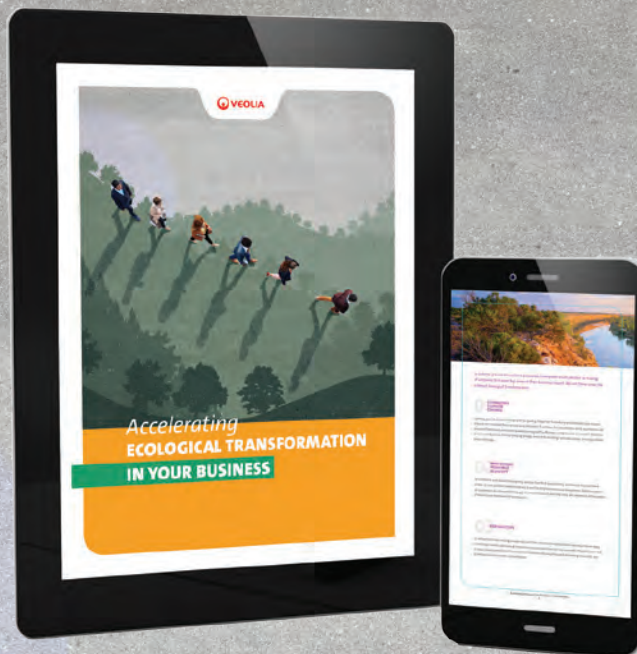
Sandringham Yacht Club
Boating Academy

12 month access to all Club Marine SYC Boating Academy courses, club racing, buddy system, 3 hour discover sailing experience for 4 people.

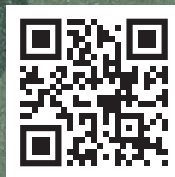
Nomination fee is covered if you transition to 'crew membership'. For more info scan the QR code.



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Reciprocal Clubs

One of the great benefits of being a member of SYC is the incredible reciprocal rights program we have with many clubs around the world. Here are three outstanding clubs that would be well worth a visit if travelling abroad.

The Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club (RHKYC)

The RHKYC is one of the oldest and most prestigious clubs in Hong Kong. Its rich and colorful history stretches back over 170 years of social and competitive sailing and rowing. Fast forward to 2024 and the RHKYC has evolved into a multi-faceted and cosmopolitan organisation, and its membership enjoys a very comprehensive range of facilities, both on-water and onshore. Kellett Island in Causeway Bay is the club's principal club base and acts as the parent site to the two smaller branches of the club, at Shelter Cove near Sai Kung, which is the base for cruisers, and Middle Island in Repulse Bay, which is the home to dinghy sailors, sail training, and rowing. The RHKYC is one of the largest yacht clubs in the world and its facilities are breathtaking in size, stature and location. Home to the Rolex China Sea Race, they also host various large-scale races and regattas that take place out of the Kellett Island site. If heading to Hong Kong a visit to the famous RHKYC Clubhouse is a must.

For more information: www.rhkyc.org.hk

The Royal Cork Yacht Club (RCYC)

The RCYC is based in Crosshaven, Cork, Ireland and is the world's oldest yacht club founded in 1720 (that makes it 304 years young). It is the organiser of the biennial Cork Week and has hosted many National, European and World Championships. The club encompasses a wide variety of sailing activities from Optimist dinghies to racing National 18s and 1720s, Toppers, ILCAs, RS Fevas and more. Reciprocity includes a warm Irish welcome to their wonderful clubhouse and if you manage to visit when the time is right, you would be welcome to join in the club sailing.

For more information: www.royalcork.com

Fraglia Della Vela Riva (FVR)

Situated on Lake Garda in northeast Italy, FVR is one of the most dynamic sailing clubs on the international scene. Founded almost a century ago in 1928, its iconic clubhouse is located on the waterfront in Riva del Garda, next to the harbour, the Spiaggia degli Olivi and the Rocca. Every year FVR hosts over 20 sailing events, including several European and international championships. It is well known for holding the Guinness World Record for the largest single-class regatta in the world, with 1055 young Optimist sailors taking part in 2012. Reciprocity includes clubhouse access, sailing and a warm Italian welcome.

For more information:
www.fragliavelariva.it/en



Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club (RHKYC)



Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club (RHKYC)



Royal Cork Yacht Club (RCYC)

To view our full list of reciprocal clubs visit:
www.syc.com.au/about/reciprocal-clubs

If you are planning a visit to any of these clubs, upon request SYC will arrange a letter of introduction. Typically, the reciprocal rights include clubhouse access. Please speak with our friendly team at guest relations prior to you visiting any of these clubs, so we can assist them in welcoming you.



Fraglia Della Vela Riva (FVR)

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**V O L V O
P E N T A**

Sandringham Harbour

A lot has happened in the last 12 months in the Sandringham Harbour. The most notable thing is the old, dilapidated Hampton Pier was demolished and removed in late 2023. Then to make the eastern channel wider, far safer and compliant with Australian standards, the swing mooring ground was consolidated in late 2023 and early 2024.

A number of vessels in the mooring ground were also repositioned towards the east and a number of vessels were also removed. The more compact mooring field has made things far safer for all water users, especially in an easterly.

Looking into 2025, a new Hampton Pier will be constructed. The new pier design will be shorter than the previous pier and it will orientate to the north. The design is being finalised and we have had appropriate input. Procurement and permits for construction are being assembled in late 2024 and construction will start in early 2025, with an expected completion date of spring 2025. The work is funded by the State Government.

As part of SYC arrangements with Parks Victoria, SYC will continue to cater for emergency services from our Club. Vessels in distress will continue to make their way to SYC and we will assist as we

have done for as long as everyone can remember. It makes imminent sense with our road access, concrete hardstand and pontoon access in close proximity, that SYC continue to assist in this way. We are more than happy to do so.

On behalf of all SYC members, we again commend the team at Parks Victoria on their great work in the Sandringham Harbour. The works have already made a significant safety improvement and they will for many more years to come.

As updated information from Parks Victoria is made available we will keep members informed via the weekly e-news.



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Clubhouse Improvement Works

On 26 October 2024 we officially opened 'The Foredeck'.

The Foredeck is a stunning new room on the northern podium which adjoins the expanded Members Bar & Bistro. This new space is the culmination of two stages of improvement works that commenced on 31 July 2023 and were undertaken over a 15 month period. The works have delivered members a wonderful new area for our enjoyment, including the following benefits:

- A modern member area which will make all members feel very proud – please bring your family and friends.
- Stunning views overlooking the marina, harbour and start line – all in the one space.
- A family-friendly space on the lower podium with a boat, synthetic grass and picnic tables – where kids can have fun with parents keeping a watchful eye over them.
- An elevated and highly visible race awards areas on those super busy occasions.
- A great regatta and after race space for members and guests.
- Upgraded audio visual system for announcements and broadcasting of sporting events on larger televisions.
- A much improved layout of the Bar and point of sale, more bar surface area and increased all-weather seating capacity.
- New comfortable furniture throughout with refurbished leather seats in the Lounge.
- Member-accessible plumbed water stations.
- The works also introduce a pod and pave flooring solution that will cope with wet customers, has also addressed the podium issues that existed.
- The project in stage 1 also delivered many improvements back-of-house in the kitchen which have made things far safer and enhanced our capacity and menu offering.
- We have also upgraded our bag rack set up and we now offer bike racks in the undercroft.

We would like to extend a thank you to our internal working group, to the Amity Building Group, Watson Young Architects and Gallagher Jeffs. A number of companies also contributed to our set-up including our friends at CUB (new beer system), Schweppes (new soft drink system) and Procaffe coffee for their amazing support.

We hope you enjoy your new and improved Members Bar & Bistro and The Foredeck this summer.



The ribbon cutting at the opening of The Foredeck with (left to right) Past Commodore Sue Bowes, Commodore Mark Welsh, Clive Sondheim and Past Commodore Garry Anderson

SYC to build 5-star hotel; update

SYC to build 5 star hotel, resort, wellbeing centre and wind farm overlooking Port Phillip

Well that was the April 1st headline that threw a cat amongst the pigeons at SYC. The club released an email and facebook post announcing "A major tourism coup for Victoria and Bayside tourism. It went on to announce that SYC has signed an MOU with the 5 star Mayjing Hotel Group to build an \$85m resort style hotel and wellbeing centre on the site of the existing clubhouse overlooking Port Phillip Bay. It was to feature 80 hotel style apartments spread over 8 levels with one entire floor dedicated to a wellbeing centre. In a stunning outcome for SYC, its Members and local tourism, the resort hotel and wellbeing centre stated it was on track to start construction in late 2025". Pickle ball courts, a water slide, wind farm and suspended hardstand were all features of the redevelopment. Only problem was ... it was an April fools prank.

The Commodore Sue Bowes, CEO Richard Hewett and President of Australian Sailing Alistair Murray were all in on it and it got a bit of traction. By 11am a couple of members turned up at reception expressing interest in the apartments. So we issued a retraction to clarify things but not before we received expressions of interest for \$20m in apartment sales, an offer to fund the construction of a pickle ball court, north of 150 emails with some constructive feedback, someone wanted to take us to VCAT and an awful lot of confusion. Anyway thanks for playing along.

...it's great to belong



Our Marina

On 5 August 2024 SYC embarked on the seventh annual stage of major marina refurbishment works.

This stage saw refurbishment of the main walkway and all finger pontoons on A West and all finger pontoons on F Row. The existing timber whalers, through rods, cleats, knee and pile brackets were all replaced. This stage of works completes what we started back in 2017 and has included several kilometres of timber whaler replacement, 179 new service pedestals, 40 new fire hose reels and new LED walkway lights. Other waterfront improvements have included the breakwater renourishment, wavescreeen maintenance, dredging and sludge removal, a new travel lift, new fuel ATM, launch ramp works and the refurbishment of the Ken King Centre including new marina entrance, synthetic grass area, furniture, bbqs and enclosed glass area.

In August 2024 we also embarked on essential services maintenance as foreshadowed in the plan. Fisher Brothers Electrical was commissioned to do a health check of our electrical set up and throughout the course of this year will be doing a range of improvement works. In September

we also replaced the fenders on the fuel jetty with pro fenders. Other works in the marina foreshadowed this year include a deep clean of our concrete pontoons, fender replacement on the adjoining hardstand area and replacement of our fixed ladders on the fuel jetty. As with all maintenance in our salt-laden facility, there remains lots to do and we continue to chip away at the list to ensure our marina stays in great shape.

We have 360 marina berths, 330 of which reside in our rental pool and 30 are licensed to members. Whilst our occupancy is high, we will always do our best to find room for boats which 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. New boat owners to SYC need to meet the relevant prerequisites including full membership status, the boat needs to be in good condition and appropriately insured, and the owner needs to commit to participation in Club events. Given our significant investment in our marina facility over recent years, new boat owners are also required to pay a one-off initial marina capital contribution fee.

The marina turned 31 in 2024 and if we continue to invest in its upkeep, it should service SYC well for many years to come.

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Kol's Kitchen

Our Hospitality Manager, Kol Gemmell shares a hearty dish which is very popular at SYC.



Ikayaki Grilled Squid



I am so excited to be in our new bar and kitchen after the renovations and we are now offering two menus. Our new tapas menus have been embraced by everyone and we have sold over 4,000 of the Poke bowls. The whole area has been enhanced with new furniture.

With the new outdoor undercover balcony open for summer we are able to offer different zones. The Lounge for relaxing, the Members Bar & Bistro for dining, overlooking the bay and The Foredeck. We also have new furniture throughout.

In the kitchen we welcome Head Chef Liam, formally of the Marine Hotel, a great addition to the team. In the Bar, Zac and Caitlyn have now become full-time managers working closely with Pete. It was so sad to see Teresa (Te) go. After 28 years with SYC, I could not beg her to stay any longer.

It was great to see our Feast Nights back. It was amazing to see the support for our Japanese feast, which was held over two nights. Thank you to George Shaw for bringing the Consulate General to dine. Alex and Jarek hosted the Polish feast, the food was fabulous and there was a big turnout for the event. The new large screen TV in the Members Bar & Bistro is very popular and it will be great to watch our favourite sporting events such as the recent Olympics.

Ingredients

- 4 calamari tubes
- 50ml light soy sauce
- 50ml yuzu or lemon juice
- 30ml kewpie mayonnaise
- 1 small daikon, peeled
- 2 knobs fresh ginger, grated
- 3 tbsp spring onion, sliced and washed
- 1 tsp shichimi togarashi (chilli powder), optional
- Salt and pepper to taste.

Method

1. Preheat bbq to medium high
2. Combine soy sauce and yuzu in a bowl and set aside
3. Blend daikon until smooth
4. Place calamari on bbq and cook until medium rare
5. Remove from heat, season with salt and pepper and slice on a chopping board
6. Drizzle mayonnaise over calamari and top with blended daikon
7. Sprinkle ginger and spring onion over the daikon
8. Pour yuzu soy mix over dish and garnish with chilli powder.

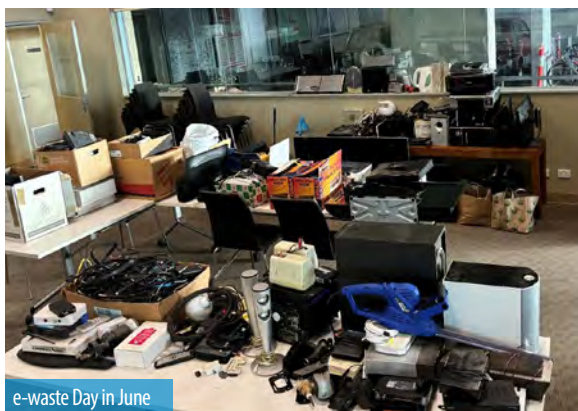
Environmental Update

The Environmental Sustainability policy consists of four major pillars of work: reduction of power usage, sustainable planning and development, waste reduction and recycling, and compliance and governance. The power reduction target was established and set in the SYC Plan for the Future with a target 25% reduction by 2028 from 2019 usage and we are currently at around 5%. With the introduction of sub-metering in electrical switchboards last year, we now have over 12 months of usage data which has allowed us to identify high power usage areas, such as the marina, that now accounts for over 50% of power usage at SYC. To any boat owners reading this, we could do with your help. Please consider if you need to continuously run your fridges, freezers and dehumidifiers. Maybe we could assist with some timers?

There have been a number of activities undertaken during 2024 to reduce power usage, such as more LED lighting upgrades to the offices and in the new Bar & Bistro, along with more energy-efficient equipment in the new kitchen.

A key objective this year has been to get started with solar PV across the Club roofs. I can report that we have been successful and I am expecting that by the time you read this report, there will be a 33kW solar PV system installed on the lockers roof. Our plan has been to look at installing solar PV as a follow-up to any roof replacement, starting with the lockers roof which was replaced last year. Next roof is potentially the Concessions building, scheduled to be replaced sometime in the next couple of years.

We are conscious that sustainable planning and development needs to be incorporated into any



e-waste Day in June

planning for new facility upgrades and improvements. This includes looking at eliminating fossil fuels where possible, such as considering all-electric options for any new outboard motors. Another is taking into account potential sea level rises in the future.

The recent release of the Victorian Government's Port Phillip Bay Coastal Hazard Assessment has predicted that the SYC site will be impacted by the predicted sea level rise and storm surge, as storms become more intense. We have connected with Bayside Council to be kept up-to-date on their plans for mitigation in the short term and resilience in the long term.

With the introduction of the Victorian Container Deposit Scheme, SYC has registered as a Donation Partner with all funds going to the SYC Foundation. So, if you are dropping off your bottles and cans to a Return-It depot or kiosk, please use the code C2000008462 to ensure that your donation gets to the SYC Foundation. At the same time, the Environmental Sustainability Working Group and General Committee are commencing evaluation of the medium and longer-term impact of the reports predictions to the Club and its facilities.



One of our less glamorous tasks is the monitoring of the recycling waste bin for contamination such as plastic bags and non-recyclables. This is where we need your help to ensure that the recyclables are recycled and do not head to landfill because of contamination.

Our e-waste day in June was another great success about one-third of the Auditorium was taken up with waste which has been diverted from landfill and recycled.

SYC is maintaining its Clean Marina Level 3 accreditation and is committed to running cleaner and more sustainable regattas with initiatives such as the 'No single Use Plastic Pledge', no plastic straws or bags, no disposable coffee cups and water refill stations instead of bottled water.

The Environmental Sustainability Working Group consists of General Committee member Simon Hemmingway, Finance Manager Helen Tetlow and Club members Chloe Tame, Freya Vickery and Graham Lee. I would like to thank them for their contribution and commitment to improving sustainability at SYC.

Andrew Wilson

ESWG Chair

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Heritage Committee

The SYC Heritage Committee is comprised of a passionate group of members dedicated to preserving and celebrating our Club's rich history. Over the past year, the Heritage Committee has focused on ensuring our collection of artefacts and our history are captured digitally. This has included an extensive audit of all heritage items, an update of our digital catalogue and, with the assistance of Club member Lex O'Connor, the development of an online environment to archive the significant number of photographs and images of memorabilia which we hold. In time, this searchable online space will be accessible by all Club members as an invaluable resource. One of our projects which we have been working on for some time, is to put together a full set of Off The Wind magazines. With a generous donation from Margaret Phillips late last year, we have been able to achieve this, with the omission of just one edition (Vol 1. No. 2) over the past sixty-plus years. This is quite remarkable and we are now planning to digitally capture the full set

before having the originals bound and preserved as part of our archive collection. Philip Strong, our Club Historian, was also delighted to find many treasured pieces of memorabilia relating to our Off The Beach history in the donation, and has catalogued this and added it to the collection.

We continue to update and rotate the displays in the cabinets in the foyer and members areas and have revamped the collection of memorabilia on display in the Ken King Centre training room. Committee member Graeme Watt, continues to develop and expand our boat history and we encourage any members who have photographs or information about significant SYC boats to make contact with Graeme or the Heritage Committee. Several of the older photographs of Past Commodores in the Commodores room have been restored. Research is underway to identify and locate images of some of the missing commodores from our archives, information which was sadly lost when the SYC clubhouse was destroyed by

fire in 1955. Over the past year there have been a number of additions to our series of video interviews with Past Commodores and Life Members, and these are available for viewing on the Club website. This series provides an invaluable archive, unearthing and capturing numerous stories of our Club and members which have previously been untold.

Earlier this year we were delighted to welcome Nick Disney to the Heritage Committee, an extremely fitting addition as Nick continues the legacy of his father, Graham Disney, in preserving our history, and sorts through the extensive collection of memorabilia held in his family home. My gratitude also goes to our other committed 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
Vice Commodore

66 years on



Russell & Sue



Ken & Russell



Excalibur III

A small gift revealed a rich part of history in our Club, starting over 66 years ago. In 1957/8 David Stamp sailing his International Cadet *Excalibur III* teamed up with Russell Kemp for the sailing season which included trips to Swan Bay in the Stamp family's 22ft Bluebird keelboat, towing the International Cadet to sail around in. In the 1958/59 season Russell purchased *Excalibur III* from David and teamed up with Ken Chapman as crew. They sailed in the VYC regatta in that year scoring two second places. In Club racing they won the Bryson Trophy

for which Russell received a silver engraved stopwatch. Russell said, "I was hoping for a transistor radio like the one Darryl McKenzie won the year before". Just as well he did not win the transistor, for it probably would not have survived.

Recently Russell generously handed over his prize from 66 years ago to Commodore Sue Bowes, for display in our cabinets.

Russell and Ken became lifelong friends and are still active members of our Club, currently sailing on Wednesdays.

In between then and now both Russell

and Ken joined Beaumaris Yacht Club and sailed with their families and supporting and serving on committee at that club.

Russell, sailing with his children, has won four Australian Championships as well as four Victorian Championships in the Pacer class.

A quick check shows the Kemp and Chapman families are still going strong in sailing and involved in the running of Beaumaris Yacht Club.

It is a wonderful contribution and a great legacy to sailing.

From all our members, thank you, gentlemen.

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Happy SYC Members

It's great to see so many smiling and happy SYC members around our great Club.

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SYC Foundation

One of the main focuses of our great Club is to encourage and retain our members by getting them to participate in any or all the programs we have running across the year and enjoy the ongoing changes being made to our Club facilities. A key focus our General Committee has been working on across the last 18 months, is the area of membership where we have seen the largest gap across our age categories; that being the 18 to 40 year group and for many and varying reasons. The plan to try and break these previous cycles was the introduction of the J70 program.

The Foundation has previously released some funding, with the support of our members' contributions, for the initial purchase of the first four J70s. Due to the success of this program, we have been able to provide further funding for an additional two boats and the ongoing running of the program. This ongoing Foundation support of the program allows the existing members' funds to be channelled into our current programs and exciting new facilities.

For those who continue to pay the voluntary Youth Development contribution, I thank you. For those who have not in the past, I would like

you to reconsider as we would not be able to fund all the requests if not for ongoing member support.

Although the Voluntary Youth Development pledge is a large contributor to the funding of the Foundation, there are other areas where members can assist, one being a bequest.

This bequest, in an individual's Will, can be completed in several ways:

- a residual bequest – what is left of an estate once all legacies and costs have been paid
- a percentage of an estate
- a pecuniary bequest (a specific sum)
- assets such as real estate, shares and or significant works of art.

Although in the past we have received some funding from our generous members via this



The SYC J70 Sailing Program has utilised and been the beneficiary of the SYC Foundation

bequest method, we are always available to talk about what plans you may have regarding your specific estate planning requirements.

If you are interested and able to assist, please get in contact with me and we can discuss the many ways that can be a win-win scenario.

Ashley Trebilcock
Chairman, SYC Foundation

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Challenge Kids Day on the Bay



What a Fabulous Day It Turned Out to Be. The day could not have been better, with the wind easing just in time, allowing us to hit the water and soak up the sunshine on a perfect 33 degree afternoon.

This year was record-breaking, with 172 families from Challenge, along with boat owners, crew members and volunteers. We had over 300 people enjoying a delicious lunch provided by Challenge and skilfully prepared by our dedicated volunteers and SYC. DJ Jay Vinney added the perfect vibe, energising the atmosphere with his funky house music.

After lunch, 34 boats both sail and power along with two jet skis, set off to explore our beautiful backyard, Port Phillip, to give the kids and their families a day they will never forget. That mission was undoubtedly accomplished, as evidenced by the outpouring of positive feedback and the heartwarming stories shared by the skippers and crew upon their return. It was truly special to see the smiles on these kids' faces, as some

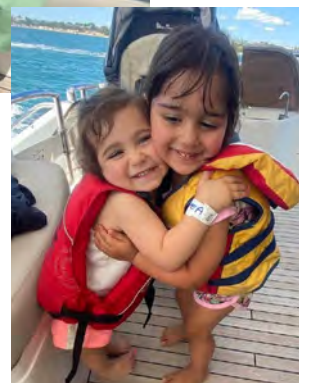
have never been on a boat. Their parents and siblings also enjoyed a much-needed day of respite. It is incredibly special for them to have a day of relaxation and enjoyment; a rare break from their busy lives filled with medical appointments and stress.

We have all been touched by this devastating disease, whether directly or indirectly. It is heartbreaking to see these young children facing such challenges at the start of their lives. But we brought a bit of joy back into their lives, if only for a day. Everyone who contributed should feel immensely proud of what we achieved together.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the amazing volunteers who made this day a success – our boat owners, boat and shore crew, bbq team, DJ, and our SYC staff.

A fabulous effort made by all for this worthy cause.

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Carmody	Jack	Goussard	Timothee	Leslie	Andrew	Ogilvy	Hamish	Sellars	Avril	Wong	Raymond
Cassano	Pierre	Goussard	Zelie	Levenspiel	Henri	Ogilvy	Nicky	Sellars	Donald	Wright	Patrick
Clark	Blanche	Grant	Alan	Levenspiel	Miles	Ogilvy	Nicholas	Sharma	Nivedita	Yamashita	Joe
Clarke	Judith	Greenhalgh	Jessica	Lewis	Mark	Ogilvy	Thomas	Sheppard	Luke	Young	William
Cole	Gary	Guignard		Liddell	Haydn	Oldham	Jenson	Smith	Brent	Zhao	James



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1 October 2023 –
31 October 2024

MEMBER NAME YEARS OF SERVICE

Andrew Arblaster	44	Geoff Dumaresq	8	Alister Payne	42
John Ballantyne	25	Robert Edwards	14	Michael Quinn	23
Geoffrey Best	54	James (Syd) Guthrie	65	David Satchell	67
Valerie Boyd	17	Ian (Stack) Hudson	6	John Wilson	23
Andrew Creek	76	Robert Jeavons	30	Nancy Wood	26
Gordon Dobie	46	David Page	11		



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