

Sailing at its best

May 2019

Written for members by members



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Somers Yacht Club Inc. No 7635, Alexandra Ave, Somers. Tel: 5983 5568. Website: somersyachtclub.yachting.org.au Editorial: Libby Moore . Tel: 0413 860 371 or email elpmoore@gmail.com





From the Commodore's Desk



With sailing over and Presentation Night approaching, it's a moment of transition before winter trips and pursuits take over. For me and Marg, the month between sailing and Preso Night presented an opportunity for a quick visit to family. So thanks to fellow flag officers Amanda and Mike and to the rest of the committee for looking after things while we were gone. That happens around here!

Special acknowledgement to Amanda who has had an unusually busy time with Finance and Facilities during her two years as Vice Commodore. Most of you will have heard that Amanda and Steve are heading to Perth for a year or two, so Amanda will be postponing her nomination for Commodore while she is gone. We wish Amanda and Steve "happy sailing" in Perth and look forward to their return.

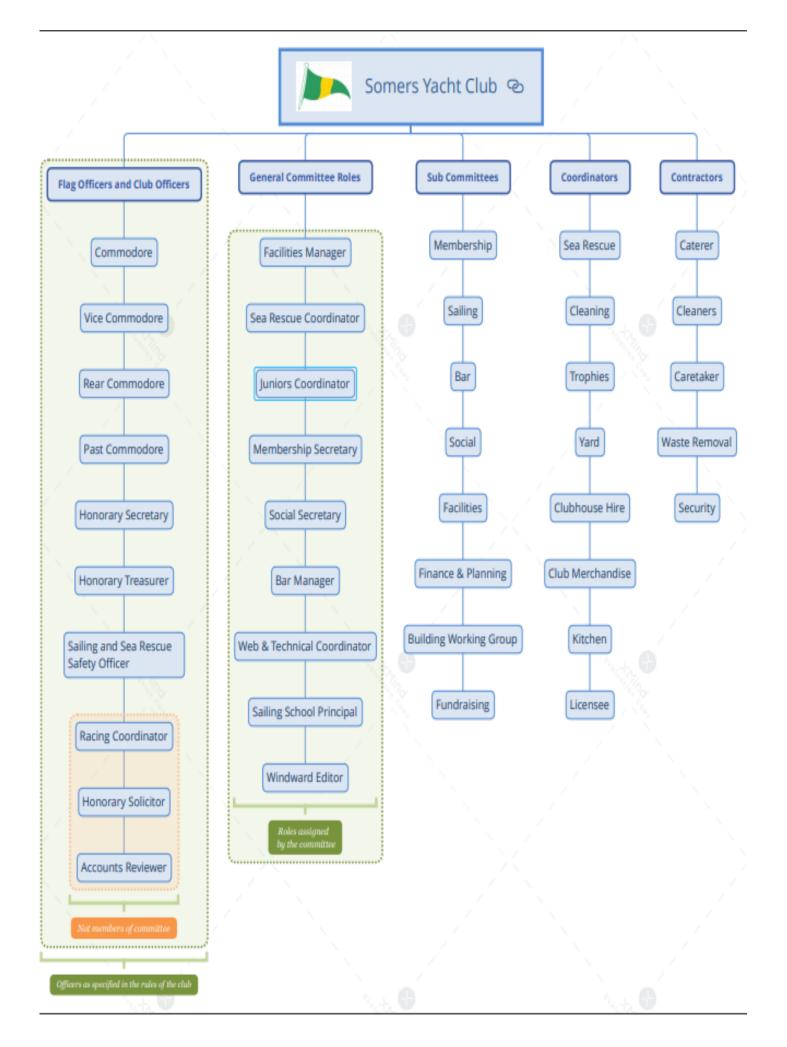
That's a good segue to the AGM in September when new Officers and committee will be elected. If you enjoy what this club provides for you and your families, don't be shy to put up your hand to help. You can nominate for a specific position or for a place on the general committee – or talk to me, or one of the current committee, about the variety of specific jobs that need doing. Most people know that the Vice Commodore looks after Finance and Facilities, the Rear Commodore oversees sailing activities and the Commodore waves his arms and acts important. But there is an army of people also working toward the continued success of the club. To give you a feel for the range of roles, here's a chart that is indicative of the current structure. Of course it is always a workin-progress but as you can see, this is something of a remarkable institution - there are over 60 spots on committees or with specified roles who keep things moving along. And that's not counting sea rescue and bar workers!

One of the strengths of this club is that we keep a succession plan rolling in the background - but that's not meant to exclude anyone who is keen to Get involved. There are plenty of spots to fill!

Gala Fundraising Night



Windward page 3





Vice Commodore's Report



Dear Members,

Although the sailing season has ended and you probably think the Vice Commodore has gone into hibernation, there are still several aspects of the Club's finances and facilities that we have been progressing.

The good news is that fundraising for the building redevelopment has come to an end!

The finance and planning subcommittee - comprising Tim Brock, Jeremy Pearse, Leon Moran and Ben Davidson - have been monitoring our accounts carefully and are very pleased with our financial standing.

Now we can move our attention back to the normal works around the Club that might need to be actioned at present or in the future - such as regular maintenance and new projects.

We are installing solar panelling on the roof (good for our Club finances and good for the planet!) as well as working on the car park with its eternal drainage issues, and other works around the Club.

Many thanks to the ever present, super capable Grahame Tiplady who has tirelessly managed our facilities over several years. Ably assisted in the clubhouse and yard by Mal Otto, Simon Boadle, Simon Morris, Nigel Beddoe, Pat Moore and Gerry Lewis we are lucky to have such qualified help. Thanks to David Goble who this winter is taking over the facilities management role from Grahame .

Thanks also to Rudi Bortoluzzi for his many years of service to the Club - who in the background has been supplying products for the cleaners, painting marker buoys, casting new anchor blocks as well as many years of service driving the tractor. We will miss you Rudi! My other news, which some of you may know already, is that in June I will be heading off to live in Perth for up to 2 years. Steve has been offered an exciting role as the inaugural CEO of Andrew & Nicola Forrest's children's charity (Thrive by Five, part of their Minderoo Foundation).

I will be coming back to Victoria regularly, especially over the Christmas and January break, and will be keeping in touch with Club news in the meantime.

I look forward to finishing off my duties at the Club when I return.

Cheers, Amanda





Report on the Gala Fundraising and Auction Night with William McInnes

On April 13 the Yacht Club did itself proud for the Gala Fundraising and Auction night. The clubhouse looked amazing, the food was delicious, the complimentary champagne and wine was appreciated, the auction items provided a distraction and William McInnes proved to be quite a character.

People as they arrived were greeted by a club transformed with displays of William McInnes at different times of his career and beautifully decorated tables. They were welcomed with a glass of champagne and canapes and chatted and surveyed the auction items until it was time to sit down and be welcomed by Steve Clifford who was MC for the night.

The three course meal that followed was outstanding and no one went hungry I am sure. Antipasto piled onto boards made by our own Mal Otto. Salmon and beef accompanied by salads and potatoes were followed by bite size desserts presented on tiered cake stands. The waiters were very professional and if we did not know they were members you might have thought they were professionals.

William McInnes provided us with memories of his times at Somers and his appreciation of the sense of community that we have. He then helped Andrew Satchwell auction off two items which made for some hilarity as William was not quite sure about being an auctioneer. The raffle was drawn and then Maz O'Connor auctioned off the antipasto boards made by Mal. After much competition and good salesmanship by Maz they sold for \$110 each. Amazing. This could not have happened without the huge team (over 50) that put the night together and even seemed to enjoy themselves whether preparing the food, working in the kitchen, the bar, being a waiter or running the auction. Not to mention those involved in decorating, setting up. And of course the cleaning up the next day. Too many to name individually but you know who you are.

\$ 21000 was raised towards the Clubhouse Project

So thank you to all who contributed in some way to the evening and those who came along

and supported it. We have had much praise for how the evening went and the main thing was that everyone seemed to have a good time.

Thank you to the businesses who donated items for the night

Champagne and Wine –

Cellarbrations, Jackalope, Quealy Winemarkes, 4Pours and Peter and Deirdre Brown of Springhills Winery Auction and Raffle Prizes –

Food on the Hill at Red Hill, Woodman Estate, Jaegerister, That Little Shop in Balnarring, Vine Cycling Tours, Zeega of Flinders, Balnarring Bowls Club, Peninsula Mapping and Laminating, Balnarring, Bunnings Hastings, Cerberus Golf Club, Phase 2 in Balnarring, Flinders Golf Club,

Peninsula Hot Springs, Elm Hair Design Balnarring, The Heritage, Wise and Co in Balnarring, Commonfolk Coffee, V Escape Flinders, Merricks Store, Leisa Wharrington, p4 Design,

They have supported us so consider supporting them

Also thank you to the members who donated items. The generosity of our members continues to overwhelm -Andrew Vukosav Malcolm and Diane Otto Dennis Middleton Russell Dunstan Anthony Poon Eileen Khoo Maz O'Connor Sue Darcy Grahame Tiplady Phil Johnson Leonie Jones Jenny and Chris Thomas Diana and Brian Gristwood Bob and Jane Welch Sue Byrne. What a wonderful community we have that we can put on such an event.

Marg Tilleard, Chris Thompson, Sue Darcy



Season 2018-2019





Division 2 Report

Heat 3 and 4 of the Autumn series were started in fairly marginal conditions, which made some of us pike it. Nevertheless there were 6 entrants and 2 finishers in Eli and crew, and Luke and Emma in the first race, and Luka the only finisher in the second race. Heat 5 and 6 were started in very mild conditions, with Nigel and Abi leading Maz, Luke, Phil, Malcolm and Peter to the finish. The second race, with a little more wind saw Nigel and Abi in the lead again, with Luke, Phil, and Peter T following. Race 7 was won by Nigel, Simon and then Emma, and was the last race of the season, but the weekend before was Easter Regatta, which was dominated by Nigel, Maz showing great form, Simon and then Steph, with Gideon third. The last race for the season was also, sadly the last race for Malcolm Kemp, who celebrated his FIFTIETH year of sailing at Somers, and now has his beautiful Paper Tiger for sale, as he has decided to stay on the beach.

Congratulations Malcolm for being such a stalwart for Somers and the Paper Tiger Class. We all wish you well and will miss you on the water.

Steph Schwarz

Division 4 Report

Congratulations to Richard Jagger for winning the club championship! Richard sailed a consistent and brilliant series to dominate from start to finish. Dave Fakhry came home with a wet sail to claim 2nd (also winning the club handicap title) with Nick Ede 3rd. Steve Clifford cleaned up in the Autumn series, a great result for a consistent season with strong improvement from start to finish.

Nick Ede and Georgia Wood-Freeman had a marvelous w/e of coaching at the annual Indented Head Laser coaching w/e led by Head VLA Coach Mark Tonner-Joyce. Next on the horizon is the Mid-Winters at Sorrento where Simon Wilkins will defend his crown won last year.

Lucy Ede completed a strong season coming 3rd in the Victorian Youth Championships held in April. Lucy continues to train hard, having been selected for the Elite Sailing Program at the Victorian Institute of Sport. It's amazing how much she has improved in a short time of being coached by the top Australian Sailing coaches Johnny Rogers and Carrie Smith.

Division 5 Report

Congratulations to our 2018/19 champions- Yardstick- Mal Otto in Impulse 6.6 "Number 12" and Handicap- Grahame Tiplady in Impulse 6.6 "Spur of the Moment". We have enjoyed having you in Div 5, even if we rarely see you after the start as you are so far in front of the Sabres, Pacers and 125s!

There are lots of opportunities for sailing over our off season, including Black Rock Icicle Series every Saturday afternoon in May as well as morning coaching for Sabres. More info

- http://www.bryc.com.au/news/icicle-regatta/

Also, Albert Sailing Club Winter Series- every Saturday from May to September and a weekend regatta on Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd June. Last year seventy boats in adult and junior monohull dinghy classes sailed in the regatta. More info- <u>http://</u> <u>albertsc.org.au/index.php/racing/2018-winter-season/</u> Next is the Mid-Winters Regatta at Sorrento Sailing and Couta Boat Club on the Queens Birthday long weekend. More info- <u>https://sscbc.com.au/</u> <u>midwinters/</u>

Lastly, the Mordialloc winter series on Sundays from August 4 to September 15 and the Vic Dinghy Championship in late August. More info-<u>http://www.mordiallocsc.com.au/</u>

Looking forward to catching up with you all at Presentation Night and don't forget your winter boat maintenance!

Wendy Wilson

Victorian Youth Laser Radial Championships Lucy Ede won Bronze





Division 4 Report Continued

Laser States 16/17 February McCrae YC

In the Standard fleet racing was tough and competitive. Having lost the Saturday due to 30+ knot winds, four races were scheduled for Sunday and be on the water at just after 9 am.

Race 1: Bad first half of the beat as the wind shifts were better on the right than where I was on the left. Windy conditions and was hard work: Finished 9th

Race 2: Slight drop in the wind. Went left and the wind shifted to the left so I was 1st to the windward mark! A poor first downwind leg meant I lost 4 places. Finished 5th

Race 3: Terrible race, wind shifted right when I was left on both beats. Finished 11th.

Race 4: Another upwind wind shift meant I was 2nd to the windward mark and spent the race trying to hold off some very fast guys including a former World Masters Champion, unfortunately finished 5th. The sun finally came out for a lovely day as we came in. I was 7th overall (was on equal points with 6th but lost on a count back) which was disappointing (I was 6th last year). Some flashes of some good stuff (1st and 2nd in two different races) but not my best day's racing. Some things to work on for future regattas!

George Mac Regatta 23/24 February

First day at the George Mac regatta at Royal Brighton Yacht Club. Glorious sunshine and a good breeze! Three races for the Lasers, first one for me was a good one and I was a long way ahead. Other two not so great as I got muscle cramps.

Second day and no wind to begin this morning then a nice breeze filled in which shifted just after the start of the first race. I played the shifts right and was miles ahead going down the reach when the race was abandoned! Still not sure why!?

The race was restarted and I had to duck a few transoms just after the start to get clear air and had to work hard in a good race to get past the radials. Good practice! Final race I got away well (after a general recall and a black flag) and played the shifts and was first to the windward mark with a lead. The wind dropped and then filled in from behind allowing some of the radials to catch up a bit down the run. On the next beat I headed right to where I could see wind and pulled away before the wind dropped to nothing and the course was shortened to finish at the windward mark. I finished (slowly) about 25 mins ahead of the first radial before the sea breeze came in and turned the beat into a run

for the remaining radials! First in my class and a good week end racing against some top radial rig sailors! Well done to Owen McMahon for winning the radials!



George Mac Regatta Pic by Will Hocking of me not hiking hard enough

Vic Laser Masters 16/17 March Royal Geelong Yacht Club

A great weekend weather-wise but a tough weekend sailing. A large number of top sailors from NSW came down for the regatta in preparation for the Worlds in 2020, this included multiple and current world masters champion Brett Beyer.

Racing was extremely competitive (more so than the States back in February). Conditions on Saturday were light and variable and out of three races my best was a 10th. Sunday was had more breeze (actual sitting out weather) and the wind was still shifty and variable. A good shift in the first race on Sunday had me up to 5th but I made a mistake and finished 10th in that race and 11th in the second. I was 13th overall (out of 26) and 8th Victorian

based sailor. Lots of practice needed before the Worlds next year!

Rigging up at Royal Geelong with the new sail





Division 4 Report Continued

Laser States at Macrae Report by Daniel Laverty in the 4.7 fleet:

Laser States were held at McCrae yacht club this year. I am almost grown out of my Opti and I am considering moving into a Laser. For this reason, I decided to do the Laser States. I was pretty nervous. The first day had winds gusting to 45 knots, thankfully the racing was abandoned. On Sunday the weather was better, we sailed 4 races in the 4.7's. Unlike Opti regattas, there were no coaches in this regatta. I had to keep all of my lunch and snacks in my boat. This was concerning as I capsized many times; three times before the racing even started and five times in total in the first race! This was humbling. I was so tired after 3 races that I couldn't participate in the fourth.

Overall, I finished 14^{th} out of 17 boats in my class. My best race was 5^{th} , the wind was gusting 10 knots and had a consistent 5 knots during this race. The bad things about sailing the laser for me were: being too light in weight, needing longer arms-the mainsheet in ridiculously long in this boat and getting completely exhausted. The great things about sailing the Laser were: being on the water with friends, getting experience in another boat and going much faster than an Opti!

I also want to say a massive "Thank you" to Harry Taylor for graciously letting me use his boat and Patrick Poppins for letting me use his boat trailer.



Extremely windy Saturday at McCrae

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Division 4 Report Continued

Easter Regatta Lake Boga Yacht Club 19-22 April

Day 1 was glorious sunshine and 28C but no wind! So we all enjoyed the camping by the lake and had a few beers. Day 2 was another glorious day (32C) with 6-9 knots wind! 3 shifty tricky races today (60 degree shirt in one!) and I won the last one. Day 3 was warm with changeable wind! 2 shifty and tricky races this morning and I won the second one. Racing was cancelled this afternoon as a lightning storm was on its way! Day 4 (final day) was warmish with more changeable winds! 1 tricky race this morning and unfortunately I missed out on a big shift and finished 2nd which wasn't enough to win it (I needed to win today to win my division), so 2nd overall. This was a really great regatta, good location, 90 boats across multiple classes on two different courses, well organised, camping on the lake shore- just awesome!

By Simon Wilkins with contributions from Nick Ede and Daniel Laverty



Lake Boga YC Regatta Day 2 morning and ready to go!

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Swish Report

Appreciation of SWISH

We had another great year of SWISH, very much enjoyed and appreciated. A few cancellations due to bad weather were compensated with perfect sailing experiences: sun, scenic view, ambience, smooth gliding over the water. Topping it all up were the visits from the dolphins mingling with the boats and sticking around for the whole session. A very special place!

Thank you SWISH for giving novices like me the opportunity to take part in this great asset to living in Somers. I hear that not only the inexperienced but also the experienced sailors enjoyed these Friday sailing afternoons, not to forget the *Après* with drinks and nibbles and debrief.

A wonderful achievement, Wendy, bringing it all together. Thank you for a remarkable effort to you and all the volunteers who contributed their time and help.



Gabriele Eggers







Sandringham Yacht Club Commodores Challenge

It is mid May. The sun is shining within a beautiful blue sky. Somers YC is all packed up for the winter but 5 intrepid members yearned for more excitement on the water, and we found it at Sandringham Yacht Club in the Commodores Challenge. Sailing Beneteau 7.5 metre fixed keel yachts, 6 teams of 5 women, representing 6 clubs participated in a 6 race regatta. Our team consisted of skipper Michelle Bursa, crew - Wendy Wilson, Amanda Nutting, Maureen Cooper, Karen Buckingham.

Here are the highlights - It was a blast! We sailed brilliantly for a group of OTB sailors who spent 3 hours the day before working out how to rig then sail a keel boat, fly the spinnaker and work as a 5 person team. We started the day thinking we would be happy just to have a fun sail, probably at the back of the fleet. Then Michelle produced 6 amazing starts that had us in the first half of the fleet for every race and often the first to the windward mark. Michelle is a cool and calm skipper that never lost her nerve in the highly competitive starts, even when we were so tightly packed we could shake hands with our competitors. Not once did Michelle raise her voice when she needed to jibe and we were still untangling the spinnaker (almost every downwind). She encouraged us and just made it work. Amanda earned her keep trimming the jib and flying the spinnaker, and was key in directing the rest of us when we fumbled with the spinnaker (ie. every launch and retrieve!). Wendy had to keep her wits about her as she moved from the main, to the jib, to the spinnaker pole, to launching the spinnaker. Maureen was our 'light as a gazelle' foredeck hand, launching/retrieving the spinnaker, setting the spinnaker pole, dropping the jib. I got to man 'the office', as Amanda called it, pulling up and releasing halyards. My arms and my brain were like jelly by the 6th race, which I think was the general state of all the team.

The six 30 minute races where fast and furious. By the time we set sails, we would have to change again. Tack, tack, jibe, sails up, wine glass, fuss, fuss, sails down, do it again... relentless.

So what was the result for all our hard labour? We finishedSECOND!!! Yes, Second! (2nd for 5 races and 3rd for 1 race).

Despite all our spinnaker issues, and sailing against teams of experienced keel boat sailors - including a highly tuned youth squad complete with their coach -



we came second. I think the pod of dolphins escorting us may have given us the X factor.

Congratulations to the bright, young team from Royal Brighton for their win. Thanks to the teams from Royal Melbourne, Sorrento, Black Rock and Sandringham for making the day an exciting one. A big thank you to Sandringham Yacht Club and its volunteers for organising this great event and running it so smoothly.

What's next sort out those spinnaker bugs and watch us fly next year!



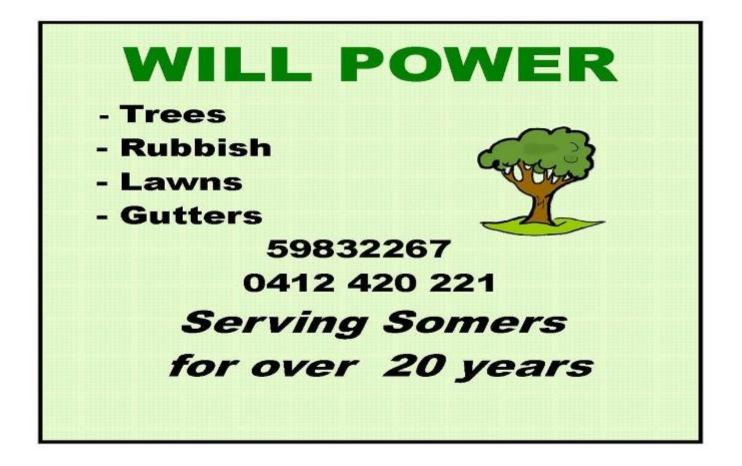


Easter Bunny Yacht Club Visit

Easter Bunny and helpers arrived at the yacht club in style in Bev Dewar's Mercedes convertible and there was a great crowd of kids and adults gathered to welcome them. The hunt was a huge success as was the coffee cart for the parents. A big thanks goes out to all of the fantastic band of bunny helpers (including the hot cross bun team) we had helping out on the day as they did a wonderful job of hiding tags, directing traffic and handing out eggs. Until next year!!!







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Vale Hugh Morris

Hugh Crosses the Final Finishing Line

Many members are very saddened by the passing of another of their founding members with the death of long time Somers weekend resident and yacht club member **Hugh Anthony Morris**. Hugh was a long time sailor, an excellent competitor and twice club champion.

Hugh was born 30 January, 1943. His parents purchased a block in Somers in 1948 and subsequently the blocks on either side to house the growing extended Morris family. Hugh and his wife Ann eventually purchased a block on The Promenade which accommodates three generations of the family.

Somers & sailing and sailing were a big part of Hugh's life. He owned 8 yachts over his life. With the exception of his last yacht, they were all named "Tarni" - an aboriginal word meaning "of salt water". We recall his early yacht which was a Gwen 12 before he moved onto a Quickcat and later an A -Class catamaran both of which he built himself.



Hugh and Anne Morris on Tarni

His last yacht was a large blue water catamaran which he moored in front of his house on The Promenade. Hugh's children and grandchildren have followed in his footsteps with their love of Somers and sailing. Hugh was very proud when his son Simon was presented with the Somers Yacht Club "Don McCutcheon" award for best volunteer two years ago. Don's son Murray presented the award to Simon on the 50th anniversary of Hugh and Murray jointly being awarded club champion.

Hugh died on Monday 22 April 2019 after a difficult battle with Parkinson's disease. His passing is a huge loss to Somers Yacht Club. We are sure that all members send their condolences to Ann, his sons Anthony, Nick and Simon and the rest of the immediate and extended Morris family.

The article was written by fellow founding members Murray McCutcheon and Michael Morse based on their own recollections and on part of the eulogy delivered at Hugh's funeral by his sons.

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Meet the General Committee



Commodore John Tilleard



Membership Richard Fahkry

Web and Technical

Grahame Tiplady



Vice Commodore Amanda Nutting



Social Lisa Tuck



Newsletter Libby Moore



Rear Commodore Mike Sandiford



Juniors Kate Dutton



Sea Rescue Norm Dewar



Treasure Tim Brock



Sailing School Emma Morris



Bar Steve Brown



Secretary Roy Higginson



General Committee Sean Bly .



Yard Manager's Report -Simon Morris



Thanks to Peter Foulsum for doing a great job over many years in keeping our boat yard in good order and now I have the overwhelming job of continuing the task this season.

You may find your boat has been moved from its old home to a new one. I am trying to keep all classes together creating a social environment as well as re moving any boats that aren't sailed or have not paid their yard space dues.

The main change so far is the northern access lane has been moved back further to the north and a second row of monohulls has been added to the centre parking area behind the paper tigers.

May I take this opportunity to remind sailors that your boats should be tied down to the ground to avoid any damage from high winds being caused to people or property. Your boat should also have a minimum of third party insurance at all times.





Club Contacts

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Commodore	John Tilleard	0419 517 193	john.tilleard@ moroka.com.au
Vice-Commodore	Amanda Nutting	0411221800	<u>mail@amandanutting.com</u>
Rear-Commodore	Mike Sandiford	0400 515 635	mikes@unimelb.edu.au
Treasurer	Tim Brock	59313768	timbrock@ozemail.com.au
Secretary	Roy Higginson	0408 838 057	royhigginson@bigpond.com
COMMITTEE Social Coordinator Bar Management Membership Secretary Safety Officer (ex oficio) General Committee Mem Grahama Tiplady	Lisa Tuck Stephen Brown Richard Fakhry Norm Dewar I bers	0418 590 891 0407 334 018 0418576622 5983 1690	lisatuck1@bigpond.com stephenbrown48@gmail.com rtfakhry@ozemail.com.au dewars01@bigpond.com
Grahame Tiplady		0409802921	grahame@ocean-clocks.com
Emma Morris		0425 784 877	simemmorris@bigpond.com
Kate Dalton		0412333910	kdalton@bigpond.net.au
Sean Bly		0433488749	sbly@westnet.com.au
Libby Moore		0413 860 371	elpmoore@gmail.com
OTHER ESSENTIAL Honorary Solicitor	Ben Davidson	0400 480 207	
Clubhouse Booking		0409 480 306	verdenp@bigpond.com
Facilities Manager		5983 5561	boadles@gmail.com
Occupational Health/Safe		0408 373 481	peter@bobus.com.au
Race Management	Mark Graham	0417 530 230	markgraham58@gmail.com
Liquor Licensee	Rob Welch	9592 2597	robwell42@gmail.com
Web Site Manager	Grahame Tiplady	5931 3301	grahame@ocean-clocks.com
Sailing school	Emma Morris	0425 784 877	simemmorris@bigpond.com
Windward Editor	Libby Moore	0413 860 371	elpmoore@gmail.com
Bar Roster	Di Nutting	0458 200 788	di.nutting@bigpond.com
Sea Rescue	Garry Morris	5983 1093	gnsmorris@yahoo.com.au
Friday Night Dinner	Vic Crust	0450784 969	vcrust@bigpond.com
Yard manager	Simon Morris	0425734922	simemmorris@bigpond.com



Saturday June 8th 2019