



Windward

Sailing at its best

September 2019



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AFL TOYOTA GRAND FINAL 2019



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From the Commodore's Desk



September 2019

Dear Members

Annual Report 2018/19

Somers Yacht Club continues to be the hub for off-the-beach sailing on Western Port Bay and a social and community hub for Somers and surrounds. In 2018/19, Somers Yacht Club had nearly 350 memberships incorporating over 730 individual members, 49% female. Through the season, 186 skippers and crew participated in club races. 40% of active sailors are female.

Sailing and Sea Rescue

In the 2018/19 season, we had a total of 186 skippers and crew participating in 36 club races, with an average of 37 boats per event. Volunteer support to make this possible sees sea rescue, tractor duties and race management amounting to more than 500 person-afternoons through the season. Although these numbers are slightly down on the previous year, this level of participation and support remains remarkable and keeps us amongst the most successful off-the-beach clubs in Victoria.

Congratulations to all sailors who enjoyed the 2018/19 season and special mention of our line honours Club Champions for 2018/19: Matthew Stone, Emma Morris & Tegan Davies, Michael Vandenberg, Richard Jagger, Mal Otto and Daniel Lavery.

Somers retained the Western Port Challenge trophy after an exciting, fast, 80 boat race, hosted at Somers. Congratulations to all those members who sailed and especially those who featured in the results. Well done (again) to the skilled army of race management and sea rescue volunteers, especially Mark and Di Graham

who ensure racing at Somers is always fun and fair. Congratulations, also to the three teams who represented Somers in the teams racing regatta at Westernport Yacht Club.

The Weather Gods played fair and foul for the Tasar States, serving up some memorable sailing conditions. Thanks to all who helped the club make it a professional and friendly event on and off the water. And congratulations to the large contingent of Somers Sailors who impressed all by venturing forth in their Tasars, some for the first time!

In other notable achievements, Matt Stone is again the Mosquito Spinnaker National and State Champion. Emma Morris and Maz O'Connor are State Womens Hobie 16 Champions and Emma and Zoe Morris just missed out being National Womens Hobie 16 Champions. Meanwhile Zoe and Matilda Morris won silver in the State Hobie Dragoon Championship. Daniel Lavery won the Silver Fleet at the Opti Nationals in Tasmania, and not to be outdone, sister Lucy won Green Fleet! I should also mention Chloe Lavery who, at 7 years old, was one of the youngest Opti Nationals competitors.

SWISH (Somers Women in Sailing Happiness) continues to introduce new female sailors to the sport. And we had a strong contingent of female members participating in the Women on Western Port Regatta at Westernport Yacht Club. In an outstanding achievement, a Somers Yacht Club team of five women off-the-beach sailors took to a Beneteau 7.5 metre fixed keel yacht and placed 2nd in Sandringham Yacht Club's Commodore's Challenge. With Skipper Michelle Bursa, the crew showed their OTB skills by winning every start.

Our Sailing School continues to be fundamental to the success of the Club by introducing new junior and adult sailors and their families to the joys and challenges of sailing, and the satisfac-



Commodore's Report continued

tion of club membership. What a pleasure to see Emma's young instructors introducing the next cohort of students into the joys of sailing and all round SYC fun. Congratulations to Jack Cassano who won the Hobie Hawke Titles in big seas and strong winds.

Social and Bar

Under Lisa Tuck's leadership, the large and active social committee has run many and varied successful functions throughout the year, contributing to the club's *esprit de corps* as well as supporting regattas and fund raising. It's great to see the tried and true Friday night dinners stronger and more consistent than ever while the car rally was an innovative new event. Golf, bridge, Pilates, yoga and "funky dancing" are now part of the regular community calendar. Meanwhile the bar continues to be a major fundraiser for the club. Thanks to Stephen Brown and his committee – and all the bar volunteers – for keeping the bar successful and profitable. We hope that the new storeroom and lift make your job a bit easier!

Building Project and Capital Raising

The building project and associated fundraising activities remained a focus for much of the 2018/19 year. The club is deeply indebted to Cameron Harvey and the Building Working Group, and to Steve Clifford and the Capital Raising Committee for a great outcome on both fronts. The amazing generosity of members substantiates the importance of the club to us all. We also recognise the extensive in-kind member contributions to the works and to the fund-raising efforts. The club should be proud of the spirit of involvement and camaraderie that was generated around this project and around the very successful and enjoyable fund-raising events. Thanks to Margaret Tilleard and Chris Thomson for leading the organisation of those special club occasions.

The club acknowledges the generosity of Morn-

ington Peninsula Shire, The Coast Real Estate, the Balnarring Branch of Bendigo Bank and the Australian Sports Commission's "Move it Aus" Community Sports Infrastructure Program for their funding assistance to the project.

The success of capital raising and grant applications leave us in a strong financial position to complete further upgrades over the next 12 months lead by a refit of the Men's facilities.

Finances

The annual financial reports demonstrate that the club's overall financial position is strong. Even with the major commitment of the building project, we have maintained reserves for further capital works and acquisitions. I acknowledge the excellent reporting and sound advice from the Treasurer and the Finance and Planning Committee which allows General Committee decisions to be well-informed.

Lease and Carpark

I am pleased to report that we have been successful in securing a new 21-year lease over our property including an adjustment to the boundary to bring in the concrete entrance apron (previously excluded) and the adjacent treed area. The lease was eventually negotiated directly with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning after excising the lease area from the foreshore reserve.

Despite assistance from the Shire and some funding from DELWP and Parks Vic, achieving a lasting improvement in the serviceability of the carpark remains a challenge. The Shire's contractors are scheduled to carry out a major re-grade as soon as conditions allow.

Vale

We were saddened during the year to lose past Commodore Don Ede, members Hugh Morris and Felicity Carter and past members Beryl King and Pauline Brock.

Commodore's report contd. Vice Commodores Report

Acknowledgements

I acknowledge the commitment and support of my fellow Flag Officers, members of the General Committee and its subcommittees and all members who contributed to another successful year. Special mention of the excellent work by Grahame Tiplady who is standing down as Facilities Manager and Stephen Brown who is handing the mantle of Bar Manager to Keith Moore. Farewell also to Kate Dalton who has been looking after the interests of our juniors. Welcome to David Goble in the role of Facilities Manager. Libby Moore is also leaving the committee but will be helping Richard manage the membership database. We also farewell stalwart contributor Rudi Bortoluzzi who is moving to Melbourne.

In my two years as Commodore, I have been supported and encouraged, not only by my fellow flag officers and committee, but by members across the board. Thanks to you all for making the job achievable and rewarding. Special thanks to Margaret, who has been a constant support, always seeing the gaps and steering my attention, while encouraging a continuing sense of community across the membership.

We are amongst the most active member-run sailing clubs in Victoria. It has been a privilege to contribute.

John Tilleard

Commodore



commodore@somersyachtclub.com.au



As my term as Vice Commodore comes to a close, I would like to thank the Finance and Planning subcommittee, the Facilities subcommittee and all the other Club members who have helped me on the finance and facilities front over the last two years.

There has been a lot happening in the background, including arranging a new fridge for the storeroom, full floor resurfacing, rubbish recycling, solar panel installation and much needed ceiling fans for the Club room.

And of course the major Clubhouse redevelopment which included substantial fundraising.

I'm looking forward to continuing my involvement from Perth as an active member of the General Committee and wish all the best to our new Flag Officers .

Thanks everyone
Amanda Nutting



A photo of Steve and I sailing in Western Sicily - the Egadi islands.

We were on a 44 foot Jenneau for a week with friends.

Great fun - but a bit tricky as weather forecasts completely unreliable.

Rear Commodore's Report



While it is some months ago now, the end of the sailing season last year came so quickly, I barely had time to pause and reflect. Another busy, successful, sailing season at SYC completed safely, and suddenly my tenure as RC is almost up. My special thanks to all our wonderful sea rescue and race management volunteers who helped navigate the good ship SYC safely through the 2018-19 season.

But the work hasn't quite finished. Over the winter months the sailing committee has been working on the program for the new season. It is now finalised with the special help of Mark Graham as our racing coordinator. Thanks also go to the Social Committee under Lisa Tuck's lead for an exciting program of social events in the upcoming season.

In response to ongoing feedback from sailors regarding the length of our Championship series races, this year we will be trialling a new class based series (the ND Series). Championship race days will now comprise two races, weather permitting. The first will be the Championship series race, the second the ND Series race. Whilst this represents quite a change in race format, it is being trialled in direct response to feedback from sailors. Let's give it a go with a review at the end of the season. Meanwhile, as always, constructive feedback is always welcome.

Juggling our many and varied classes across the four mixed open class divisions is always a difficult task. Setting courses suitable for the various divisions without straining the patience of race management and sea rescue, is an ongoing challenge. Over the winter months the sailing Committee has been deliberating on such questions, and there will be some tweaks for the forthcoming season. So sailors be warned. Make sure you read the Sailing Instructions before our Season opening. While there are too many to thank here for helping me in my term as RC, I especially do want to thank the members of the Sailing Committee for their dedication and professionalism over the last two years. With best wishes to the incoming RC and team for the forthcoming season.

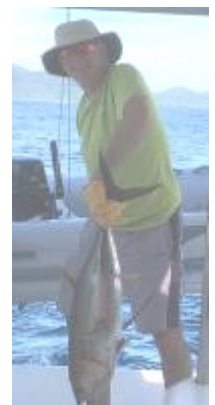
May the weather gods be with you.

Mike Sandiford

The Seychelles Catch

In early May, the Boadles, Middleton's, Gurneys and Mike Sandiford departed the marina from Mahe, the largest island in The Seychelles aboard a 44ft, four cabin catamaran. The Seychelles are closer to Africa than India – and a long way from everywhere. You could be bored with tales of the gin and tonics in the sunset (tonic water was hard to find and more expensive than gin!), early morning swims and snorkelling from the boat, restaurant meals on the islands, palmed fringed sandy beaches and lovely sailing – or hear about the lumpy seas that made some queasy, the thunderstorms and getting dumped from the dingy by the shore breaks – but the real story of this expedition was 'the catch'. Before leaving Mahe, Mike and Simon discussed trawling for fish and based on local advice, special lures were purchased. On day two as we sailed from St Anne to Praslin the lures were firmly attached to the stern and occasionally checked. Late morning Simon was thrilled to successfully land a modest sized fish – it could supplement but not replace our evening meal. Later in the afternoon as we approached Praslin, almost in the marine national park (no fishing), Mike's line was checked, and it was very tight. Great excitement as Simon and Mike hauled the catch aboard! What a stunner – a huge yellow-fin tuna. We didn't have anything to weigh or measure it with but with very basic boating equipment the fish was cleaned and prepared. So we had sashimi for starters, barbecued tuna steaks for dinner, nicoise salad for lunch – meals that were repeated over successive days. It was a wonderful trip all round – but the real highlight was the 'catch'.

Cheryl Gurney



Division Reports

Division 2 –Steph Schwarz

There is some great news for the Div II 14 foot catamaran sailors as the 16ft cats have been moved into Div I, where we believe is their right place, so please 14 footers let's show our strength by fronting up to every race we possibly can, and with the practice we will get better and might even score a place.

You reluctant people come down, jump on a 14 footer and we'll show you how to sail it and have fun. You'll soon experience the enjoyment and safety of these boats, you might even be persuaded to buy one, as there are plenty for sale.

So come down, introduce yourself to us, most of us have our boats parked in the middle lane of the yard and we'll show you the rest.

Happy sailing season.

Steph Schwarz PT3014



Lucy Ede at Sail Mordy

Laser Report-Nick Ede

The winter season has been largely quiet for the Somers Laser group. Many of our younger sailors are in their later years of school so study has taken precedence. Lucy Ede has been out a few times just to keep her muscles use to the rigors of Laser sailing. Daniel Laverty has been training with Krystal Wier. Lucy and Nick swapped days at the Victorian Dinghy Championships held at Mordialloc in late August. Surprisingly Nick didn't do any damage to the good score card she had established on the first day. It was nice and windy with lots of sunshine but the water is still freezing.

Probably the hardest part of Laser racing is downwind so Nick embarked on two long downwind training sessions with VLA coach Mark Tonner-Joyce. The weather both days was terrible with strong winds gusting to 30 knts in between rain and hail storms. Many lessons were learnt though on how to catch and connect waves downwind. Both sessions started from Black Rock YC. Session 1 saw us sail to Fawkner Beacon before turning on a long run to St Kilda whilst session 2 saw us sail to Mordialloc.

The upcoming season is going to be amazing with Laser 2020 kicking off with State Titles at Sandy. This will be followed by the Open Nationals at Sandy, Australian Youths at Sorrento, Sail Melbourne at Sandy, the women's radial and men's standard Worlds at Sandy and last but not least, the Australian and World Laser Masters at Geelong in March. Somers sailors will be competing at all these regattas.



**Summer
of 2020**

**Lucy and
Amanda**



Somers Yacht Club Represented at Hamilton Island Race Week



Somers Yacht Club represented at Hamilton Island Race Week.

Nothing like a last minute decision, when all the stars aligned, for an opportunity to drive to Airlie Beach and sail the beautiful waters of the Whitsundays.

'Offshore Account' a 26ft trailer sailor was crewed by Simon and Emma Morris, Nigel Beddoe and Ant Davenport. Simon took three days to drive solo while the rest arrived rock start style by plane. All four of us had close accommodation onboard in the marina with plenty of fun.

Racing consisted of 236 boats from 22ft to 80ft yachts. 7 different divisions started each race, with different course lengths and navigation. Most races were around Islands and for our division an average of 17 nautical miles long. Only once did we have a buoy to go around, but when trying to anchor it in 40 meters of water and 30 knts of breeze, the anchor did not hold and the mark was nowhere to be seen by the time we got there. This particular time our trailer sailor division was first start, down wind with the spinnaker, 30 knts and decent swell, heading to our mark location it couldn't be found!. There was one marker a little further, but looking into the sun directly north we could not tell what colour it was. We soon were close enough, it was red and marking rocks, so a quick change of plans to abort, drop the spinnaker (which got stuck) and headed for our next location. Our next issue when we turned around and had to beat up-wind with another 180 boats larger boats, spinnakers up, coming towards us, looking for the

same missing mark.

We had many great spinnaker runs, riding the waves and fighting the tiller, even a few booms dipping the water with the spreaders not far off with a max speed of 14.6 knts!

Certainly we will not forget coming to the finish line and calling starboard on Wild Oats X after running out of water (they even tacked for us!) .

The whole event was so well supported by the Oatley family, with multiple live bands every evening, free BBQ's and ice, guest speakers and heaps of fun. It did feel like Schoolies for Adults.

We left our trailer sailor up in Airlie beach for a couple of weeks to finish off the school term and now currently Simon and I are back in the Whitsundays with our girls enjoying the school holidays on board again for two weeks cruising and then travel time home. The boat will certainly not reach its max speed this time with the amount of food, water, and other cruising gear on board like two inflatable pups and a tender behind!

Emma Morris



Girls sleep over camp at Albert Park

On 7-8 September the Victorian International Optimist Dinghy Association (VIODA) hosted a girls sleepover camp at Albert Park lake. Both Chloe and Lucy Lavery along with their mum Maureen attended. There was a great mix of girls from ages 7 to 14. They came from a variety of locations from Apollo Bay to Sorrento. The event began at 9am Saturday morning at the Albert Park Sailing Club. Some of the more experienced girls were able to get out on the water for training on Saturday; however, due to gale force wind warnings, the younger and slightly less experienced girls did games and theory in the clubhouse. In the afternoon there were more fun activities including a Great Land Race and a very helpful physiotherapy session. The girls learnt that the rate of injury is actually quite high with sailing and that fluid (not static) warmups and stretches prior to sailing are recommended to get our muscles ready. One of the coaches who trains with the Victorian Institute of Sport (VIS) shared about her long journey of rehab after developing a serious sailing injury, highlighting this important issue.

For dinner we cooked up a great big pot of Spaghetti Bolognese in the clubhouse which was followed by the guest speakers. They were Lily and Matilda Richardson. These 17-year-old twin girls are amazing role model to our younger sailors, they are one of the top 420 female sailor teams in the country. The day was finished with big bowls of popcorn and watching the 'Parent Trap' on a big screen!

Sunday morning started bright and early, we would expect nothing less with so many girls sleeping together on the floor of the clubhouse! After an early breakfast and a little bit of play, they were back on the water at 9 o'clock for training and games. For something different, the girls sailed to the opposite end of Albert Park Lake, tethered their boats

and had mid-morning tea on the shore. The fun weekend ended at lunchtime with big smiles, but tired girls!

"The thing I liked the most about this weekend was making friends and bonding with girls from other clubs, from different age groups" -

Lucy Lavery



Lucy Sailing Magic Mavis

Chloe sailing Quack



Issi Dye –Tribute to Bobby Darin and Johnny O’Keefe

Friday 11 October 2019

8pm

On Friday October 11 Issi Dye performs his Bobby Darin and Johnny O’Keefe Tribute Show at SsYC

Issi Dye has been a household name in entertainment in Australia for over 45 years! In the 1960’s Issi appeared on Television programs like Bandstand, Kommotion, The GO! Show, Countdown and Uptight.



Dinner service with Vic will be as usual between 6 - 8pm.

Please book in separately for dinner with Vic.

This is a once only special event for the Somers Yacht Club on a Friday night!

<https://www.trybooking.com/BFHGI>

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Kayak Stolen from Yacht Club

Have you checked your Kayak or boat in the Somers Yacht Club Yard lately ?

A Kayak was stolen and the event was filmed on CCTV . Do you know these people this car or have you seen this Kayak ?

Is your Kayak still in the racks?



Supporting your community.

Proudly sponsoring Somers Yacht Club.

We understand the significant role that clubs, projects and community groups play in building the fabric of a local community and in bringing people together.

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Drop into your branch at Balnarring Shopping Centre, Balnarring or phone 5983 5543 to find out more.



Balnarring & District **Community Bank®** Branch

The Winter of 2019



To Matt and Tash Stone
Emily Anna Stone
Born August 16, 2019 at 6.33pm
2800 grams, 48 cm length

Sailing in the
Whitsundays



The Easter Bunny Visit



Bastille Day



Australian Sailing Awards
for Somers Sailors

Lucy Ede VIS Squad

Emma Morris
Instructor of the year

Wendy Wilson
She Sails Award



Somers Champions



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Somers 2019





Somers Yacht Club's Own She Sails Event

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SOMERS YACHT CLUB
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Membership Renewal

Membership- renewal notices were posted on Monday 2nd September to all current financial members, addressed to the postal address nominated as the primary address in your database details.

If you have nominated a Somers residential address, or a Somers PO Box, please check as soon as possible.

This year there is a paper form for those who do not wish to use the on-line system.

Just complete and return by mail.

If you have NOT received the information within two weeks, please contact the membership secretary, Richard Fakhry on 0418 576 622

or rtfakhry@ozemail.com.au

As for last year, we will schedule four Friday night renewal sessions at the Club for those unsure of the process.

Dates to be provided next Newsletter.

Please do not leave this until the last minute to renew. Do it now whilst it's fresh in your mind!

WILL POWER

- Trees
- Rubbish
- Lawns
- Gutters



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***Serving Somers
for over 20 years***

Farewell the General Committee 2018-2019



Commodore
John Tilleard



Vice Commodore
Amanda Nutting



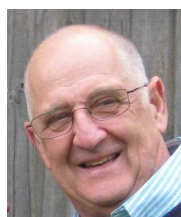
Rear Commodore
Mike Sandiford



Treasure
Tim Brock



Secretary
Roy Higginson



Membership
Richard Fahkry



Social
Lisa Tuck



Juniors
Kate Dutton



Sailing School
Emma Morris



General Committee
Sean Bly .



Web and Technical
Grahame Tiplady



Newsletter
Libby Moore



Sea Rescue
Norm Dewar



Bar
Steve Brown



Working Bee

Sunday 20 October

0900

BYO Tools and Gloves





Club Contacts

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Commodore	John Tilleard	0419 517 193	john.tilleard@moroka.com.au
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Secretary	Roy Higginson	0408 838 057	royhigginson@bigpond.com

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Sean Bly	0433488749	sbly@westnet.com.au
Libby Moore	0413 860 371	elpmoore@gmail.com

OTHER ESSENTIAL CONTACTS

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Friday Night Dinner	Vic Crust	0450784 969	vcrust@bigpond.com
Yard manager	Simon Morris	0425734922	simemmorris@bigpond.com

Annual General Meeting

Notice of Annual General Meeting for Somers Yacht Club.

Please note new date.

This will be held at the club at 10:30am on Sunday 29th September 2019.

Followed by Vic's **Sunday Roast** at 12:30.

To book for the Roast - <https://www.trybooking.com/BEELJ>