



Windward

Sailing at its best

Date October 2018



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From the Commodore's Desk



September 2018
Annual Report 2017/2018

Dear Members,

Thanks to past member John Kelly for opening our 2017/2018 season with recollections of years past.

Somers Yacht Club continues to be a successful club – the hub for sailing on Western Port Bay and a social and community hub for Somers and surrounds. In 2017/18, Somers Yacht Club had nearly 350 memberships incorporating 760 individual members and including more than 230 active sailors. We are a multi-generational family club with 208 Junior Members and sailors ranging from 7 to 84 years of age. 42% of members and around 34% of sailors are women or girls.

Sailing and Sea Rescue

Our Rear Commodore (and statistician) reports that in the 2017/18 season, we had a total of 228 skippers and crew participating in club races, with an average of 40 starts per event. Volunteer support makes this possible with Sea Rescue, tractor duties and race management amounting to more than 550 person-afternoons through the season. All this despite cancellations and inclement weather including 10 race days with winds gusting over 23 knots! By any measure this level of participation and support is remarkable and must put us amongst the most successful off-the-beach clubs in Victoria.

Congratulations to all sailors who enjoyed the 2017/18 season and special mention of our club champions for 2017/18: Brian Gristwood, Emma Morris & Tegan Davies, Chris Gurney & Toby Ottaway, Richard Jagger, Wendy Wilson and Daniel Laverty. Congratula-

tions also to all junior sailors who competed during the season and to all their supporters and helpers. We love to see junior sailors having fun on the water.

Great that Somers retained the Western Port Challenge trophy in an arduous race off Balnarring. Congratulations to all those members who sailed and especially those who featured in the results.

Many members including our Race Management and Sea Rescue teams did us proud in hosting the Hobie National Championships over the New Year period. We had nearly 200 visitors at the club with 61 boats competing over 4 days of exciting racing – a major commitment by the club and its volunteers – not something to do every year. I'm sure the Hobie sailors appreciated our efforts but, in any case, it was worth it to see local sailors Robbie Lovig & Torben Wick become National Champions in the Hobie Tiger class with Michelle Bursa & Glenn Douglas in second and local sailors Meagan Bursa & Pip Pietromonaco, Emma Morris & Tegan Davies, Elly Morris & Genevieve Holden, Susannah Gillam & Wendy Wilson finishing 1st, 2nd, 5th and 6th in the Women's Division.

In other notable achievements, Matt Stone is again the Mosquito Spinnaker National Champion. Congratulations Matt.

A highlight of the club year was the instigation of SWISH (Somers Women in Sailing Happiness). This initiative, the brain child of Wendy Wilson has seen a blend of experienced and new lady sailors taking to the water in the Club Pacers on a Friday afternoon – and now other at other venues as well. Thanks, Wendy. In another initiative, "Sailing 101" provided valuable mentoring to help new sailors transition to racing.

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 pleasure of club membership. The club remains indebted to Emma Morris and her instructors and helpers for their continuing dedication to this role.



Commodore's report continued

Membership and IT

Managing membership data still proves to be a major commitment for our membership Secretary, and this year a change in IT provider at Australian Sailing meant a complete revamp of the membership renewal process by our IT guru as well as a rebuild of the club's website. We have high hopes that the new membership database will end up better and simpler for everyone, but please feel free to seek some help with the inevitable teething troubles.

Social and Bar

Thanks to the bar committee and volunteers (and to the Hobie Nationals), the bar had a bumper year in 2017/18 contributing a record amount to club revenue. Congratulations to Di Nutting who was awarded the McCutcheon award this year in recognition of her continuing contribution to the bar committee – as well as to a range of design and decoration decisions around the club. Meanwhile the club's social committee delivered successful functions throughout the year with ongoing massaging and refinement of the social calendar providing fun and camaraderie – from the Opening Day Cocktail Party through to the AGM Roast. Vic's Friday night dinners continue to be popular, bringing members and guests to enjoy the club regardless of season. It's also great to have the buzz of younger members around the club and see Junior functions well attended. As well as a strong golfing contingent, bridge, pilates, yoga and "funky dancing" are all growing activities that are confirming the club's place as a community hub.

Lease and Carpark

We continue to be engaged in discussion with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) about renewal of our lease which is due next year. As part of those discussions, I am pleased to report that the Shire are providing advice to Parks Victoria and DELWP in an effort to develop a long-term solution to carpark maintenance.

Finances

The club is fortunate to have a skilled Treasurer and wise heads on the Finance and Planning Committee. Excellent reporting and sound advice allow the General Committee to make well-informed decisions. As you will see from the Annual Financial Report, the club is in a strong financial position.

Vale

We were saddened during the year to lose past Commodore Rod Nutting and members John Alsop, Peter Darcy, Rod Nuske, Hugh Bailey and Ian Robeson.

Building Project and Capital Raising

The building project and associated capital raising activities have occupied a lot of time and effort during the year, but the project has also generated great interest and camaraderie amongst members and I acknowledge all those who have been active in their support. I am pleased to report that, despite quotes substantially exceeding early estimates, the generosity of members through direct giving, fundraising and *pro bono* contributions of time and materials has allowed the project to proceed. An addendum to this report summarises progress. On behalf of the club, I thank the Capital Raising Committee and the Building Working Group for their tireless contribution to the success of this project. Special mention of Steve Clifford, Cameron Harvey and Dennis Middleton whose contributions are "above and beyond".

Acknowledgements

I acknowledge the commitment of my fellow Flag Officers, members of the General Committee and its subcommittees and all members who contributed to a successful 2017/2018 year. I particularly acknowledge the contribution of immediate past Commodore Chris Gurney and Cheryl. Chris leaves the committee at this AGM but we look forward to Chris and Cheryl's continued contribution to the club. At last count, there are over 60 members who have a defined role in the running of the club and many more who contribute or volunteer on a regular basis. That makes it a remarkable "organic" organisation – long may it continue to thrive.

John Tilleard
Commodore

Commodore's report continued

Annual Report 2017/2018

Addendum: The Building Project

This report is to consolidate for members the various updates and weekly news items that have been presented on this topic during the year.

Progress

At the 2017 AGM, members received a report on a proposal to undertake a building project to include:

- a lift
- a family / accessible change room
- a first aid room
- refurbished women's facilities
- storage areas
- a meeting room

Since that time:

- Plans have been developed and refined
- Approvals have been granted
- A capital raising campaign continues
- A building contract has been awarded
- Works are underway with scheduled completion in early December.

By decision of the General Committee on 26 May, ratified on 17 July, the building contract was awarded to Tuecon Pty Ltd for a contract sum of \$410,000. The contract price significantly exceeded early project estimates, but generous member donations have enabled the project to proceed.

Finances

As at June 30, 2018, available funds for the project were:

Direct giving, fund raising events and Bendigo Bank Grant	\$332,294
Commitment from club funds	\$100,000
TOTAL	\$432,294

The budgeted cost of the project is:

Building works and lift	\$486,000
Contingency	\$10,000
TOTAL	\$496,000

This leaves a shortfall of: \$61,706

There is also a cost of nearly \$40,000 for relocating a fire hydrant closer to the clubhouse, but this cost has been underwritten by member pledges.

The General Committee determined that the club was able to progress with the project, despite this funding shortfall because of the club's strong cash position. A detailed cashflow forecast indicates that, even if ongoing fundraising and grant applications were completely unsuccessful, the club could cover the cost of the project, including the shortfall, while retaining cash reserves continuously above \$100,000.

There are several grant applications outstanding that could help with the shortfall. They include a "Pick my Project" application for \$70,000, a Community Sports Infrastructure application for \$170,000, two Mornington Shire Council applications for \$5,000 each and a "Stronger Communities" application for \$20,000. In the meantime, the Capital Raising Committee is gearing up to restart activities after a break over the off-season and is confident of being able to address the shortfall.

Schedule

The project start was delayed by additional approvals needed when the CFA required installation of a new fire hydrant in the carpark closer to the building. Now that the project is underway, progress has been excellent. The works schedule indicates that the new women's facilities will be complete in time for opening weekend, with the rest of the works completed by early December. The club will remain functional as the works are underway, but there will be some inconvenience to sailors, members and visitors until completion.

John Tilleard
Commodore

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Meet the General Committee



Commodore
John Tilleard



Vice Commodore
Amanda Nutting



Rear Commodore
Mike Sandiford



Treasure
John Tilleard



Secretary
Roy Higginson



Membership
Richard Fahkry



Social



Juniors



Sailing School
Emma Morris



Sean Bly



Grahame Tiplady
Web and Technical



Libby Moore
Newsletter



Norm Dewar
Sea Rescue



Steve Brown
Bar



Yard Manager



Simon Morris
has taken over
the role of Yard
manager.
Is your boat
ready for the
season ?



Somers "girl power" at Sail Sandy this weekend. Well done Lucy, Chloe and Lucy!



Sailing School News



Sailing School 2019 - Expressions of Interest:

We are collecting expressions of interest to gauge the numbers of students for the season ahead and give people plenty of time to plan and get their membership finalised. Official offers for enrolment will come via email to those that have registered interest via try booking.

You must register your interest to gain an offer to enrol. You can express your interest through the link below

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

Sailing School Reunion

Save the date - Saturday 24th November

For anyone who has attended sailing school and their families over the last 7 years. A night full of fun and games, and catching up with mates. Reunite those old friendships and remember those summer days on the water.

This will also be an opportunity to express your thoughts on where and what direction Somers Yacht Club juniors may go in the future.

More info to come.

Emma Morris

simemorris@bigpond.com

0425 784 877



Sailing School 2-16-2017



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Division 4 Report

Laser sailors from Somers YC have been sailing far and wide at a number of different events!

Lucy, Simon and Nick travelled to Sorrento for the Zhik Midwinters on 9/10th June. A lovely light wind and yet sunny winter weekend. Full rigs and radials (25 boats) started on the same line but were classified separately. Five races were possible on Saturday and two more squeezed in before the wind dropped to nothing on the Sunday. Simon, leading overnight after 5 races (including two 1st places), finished off the regatta on the Sunday with a 3rd and a 1st to win the full rig Laser division. Nick finished 6th overall. In the radials, Lucy finished 6th overall with a great 1st place in race 4.



Zhik Midwinters podium, the winner the only one not paying attention to photographer Nick.

Simon travelled to the UK in June/July and with a borrowed boat competed in two regattas in Cornwall. First up was the Mounts Bay Sailing Club Laser open on 1st July with a reasonable breeze on a warm day. First race was hard fought and Simon ended up 4th. Second race Simon was lying 2nd but a coming together with a local who decided to squeeze in at the windward mark resulted in a 720 and another 4th meaning a win was needed in the last race. Simon led from a great start and won the race resulting in 2nd overall behind his Dad, Keith. Not the only Wilkins sailing regatta 1-2 in the UK but certainly the first in about 25 years!



Simon (2nd), Keith (1st), Gary (3rd overall), Linda (1st Lady) with St. Michael's Mount behind.

Second regatta for Simon was at Helford River Sailing Club on 7th July. Another glorious sunny day in the high 20s on the Cornish coast. Tight racing in a mixed handicap fleet (Laser, Laser radial, Wayfarer, National 12, Solo etc.) of three races resulted in Simon finishing third behind the National 12 (2nd) and overall winner 13-time Laser World Masters champion Keith Wilkins (aka 'Dad').



Lasers getting ready
at
Helford River Sailing Club, Cornwall, UK

Division 4 Report Continued

Harrison and Lucy Ede travelled north to Manly Brisbane to escape the winter cold, competing in the Queensland Winter Youth Championships at RQYS 6-10th July. The regatta ran over 4 days with winds ranging from 5-25kts. The last two heats were very windy, much to the liking of Harrison who finished with a 6th and a 2nd in the last two windy heats. Lucy had a very consistent regatta with a score card of 5th, 4th, 4th, 6th, 5th, 4th, 3rd plus two final discards from the very windy heats. She finished 4th overall and 2nd girl from the 15 competitors, a very satisfying result.



Lucy with a good lead over some of the other radials on Saturday at Sail Mordi



Lucy 2nd girl at RQYS Youth Week

In August Lucy and Simon competed in Sail Mordi (26/27th August) at Mordialloc Sailing Club. Saturday was a sunny light wind day and only two races were completed. Sunday was breezier and the wind slowly picked up as it moved further round to the south and four races were completed although the last windy race was tough for all! Simon finished 3rd overall and in the prizes with Lucy 4th (and second lady).



Simon rigged and ready to go on Sunday morning

Coming up next for keen Laser sailors is the Springsail regatta at Royal Geelong YC 22nd/23rd September (Laser Masters Words venue 2020), Sail Sandy 13th/14th October at Sandringham YC (Laser Standard and Radial Worlds venue 2020), and Sail Country 3rd/4th November at Albury Wodonga YC (2018 Victorian Laser Inland Championships).

See you on the water!

Simon Wilkins and Nick Ede

Swish Report — Women on the Water

Women on Water. Albert Park YC

Sailing in September in Melbourne? Sounds cold.

But it was wonderful!

Six Somers lady sailors braved the elements to sail on Albert Park Lake, under the skyscrapers and amid the swans. This was another WOW (Women on Water) event; all ages, all abilities and each division with its own coach. Wind went from non existent to wildly fluctuating. But we all learned something new, met new people, sailed a new course and came away keen to do it again.

Thanks to Suzanne for her coaching, encouragement and energy.

As always, thanks to Wendy Wilson for sharing her passion for sailing and enabling other Somers women to also experience mastering the wind.



Karen, Colleen, Wendy, Wendy and Katrina, rigged and ready.
Kaz not pictured.

Colleen Moore

WILL POWER

- Trees
- Rubbish
- Lawns
- Gutters

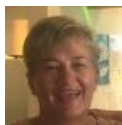


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for over 20 years***

Swish Report — Season 2018 Summer Sailing



It is only a couple of weeks until the first SWISH session of the new season.

However several members of the group have already tested the water! Colleen, Karen, Caz, Wendy D, Katrina and Wendy W all participated in CITY SAIL, a weekend of coaching, racing and lots of socialising for women and girls at Albert Park Yacht Club. We brought “Swish weather” (light winds and sunshine) for the Saturday. Sunday was a bit more challenging- moderate, gusty winds resulting in a few capsizes! Our coaches Glenn Collings and Susannah Gillam shared their sailing knowhow with us. Colleen skippered a Pacer with great support from her crew Karen. Katrina sailed a Pacer with her friend Sally, who we hope will join us at Somers sometime soon! Caz skippered a Pacer, and was lucky to have one of the Albert Sailing Club instructors, Geoff as her crew. Wendy D did an amazing sail in a Sabre and also tested one of the new Somers helmets. She showed enormous determination in the testing conditions on Sunday and continued to race despite two capsizes. Wendy W enjoyed some great racing in her Sabre. The volunteers at APYC did a great job with race management, helping rig and launch/retrieve boats and feeding us all weekend. ASC allowed a sleepover in their club rooms on the Saturday night.

Bookings are open for the 2018 Montalto Women on Water at Westernport YC on November 10 & 11. Come and join the seventeen Somers women and girls who have already entered! More info and booking link here <https://www.revolutionise.com.au/westernportyacht/montalto-women-on-water-regatta/>

Friday afternoon social sailing for women resumes on October 26, 2pm to 5pm. A short sail in the club Pacers followed by drinks and nibbles. All welcome- even if you have never sailed before an experienced sailor will look after you! More details and a try booking link to follow soon in the Weekly News and on Facebook.

Wendy Wilson

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.

That's why we're delighted to support Somers Yacht Club and their contribution to our community.

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



Balnarring & District **Community Bank®** Branch

Social Events October/November 2018



Opening Day Cocktail Party 'The Jets'

**Somers Yacht Club Sailing Season
2018 - 19**

Saturday October 27th 6pm

Dress: Smart Casual

Members are invited to welcome in the new sailing season with delicious finger food and a drink or two from the bar!

Please register your name through Trybooking to assist with catering and name tags.

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

Please remember this is a member's only event.

BYO Family BBQ

Saturday November 3rd

6pm Bar Open

Enjoy the sunset and a drink on the balcony with friends.

BYO Meat, Salad, Plates and Cutlery

Washing up facilities available next to the BBQ.
Kitchen Closed.

(Non-members are required to be signed in)

Melbourne Cup Lunch

Tuesday 6th November

1pm Bar Open

BYO Lunch and have a fun day out.

Join in the Best Hat competition

and the Cup Sweep with Tim Brock.

No Bookings required.

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Membership News



Membership Renewal

Please do not leave this until the day before Christmas!

Registration this season has been complicated by the poor data transferred to the new system, so please be patient and try to use it noting the information in the instruction sheet and the information below.

By now members should have received their renewal information in the mail.

It would have been sent to the postal address nominated previously entered into our database.

If you have nominated a Somers address, please check with the post office.

Many members have successfully renewed on line using the new system.

There are others who have been experiencing trouble, generally the issues noted below.

Please try and follow the instructions, noting the two items below:

Incorrect birthdate not giving access

If you are locked out or rejected, your birthdate could be incorrect in the system.

Log in to My Sailor and change your birth details there.

<https://www.sailing.org.au/login>

If you can't remember your user name and password, select "Forgot Log in Details" and you will be sent an email with the correct log in details. You can then change your birthdate.

This one below is causing the most trouble.

Not renewing all members of the couple, family and/or children.

When you have entered all details of Adult1, there is a line at the bottom of the page

NEXT STEP – After adding me: with a drop down menu giving three options.

To view the member (you)

Back to member listing.

**To add another member (adult 2, or child)
Use this option to add other members.
It should take you back so you can add in Adult 2, and repeat the process to include Children**

Again, this year's renewal and the accuracy of completing the membership details for all members of the couple or family accurately very important. Be sure to complete all your contact details, boat details, including kayaks where applicable.

If you have any difficulties with this, please call Richard Fakhry on 0418 576 622.

Registration nights will be held at the Club on Friday 14th and 28th September, commencing at 5pm.

Kayak Registration and Storage.

There are a number of kayaks, windsurfers and paddle boards in the yard that have not been registered

If you do require storage please register your kayak as a boat under the Class as kayak and add colour or other identifying feature.

There is no registration fee applicable, simply the storage fee of \$60 for each craft.

The racks are becoming quite crowded, and any kayak unpaid for this season will be removed.

We are currently investigating the best form of uniform identification.

Richard Fakhry

Somers Welcomes New Members

David and Joanne Andrewes

Alexander and Norene Kallas

Cary and Pat Pedecnini

Peter and Sandi Harris

Brett, Christine and Nicholas Whiteoak

Andrew and Debra Day

Bruce Hart, Di McCaffrey, Caitlin Hurly and Liam McCaffrey



Lasers Autumn Racing 2018

Vale Ian Alexander Robeson



Born 30/7/1953

Died 4/8/2018

Keith Robeson
working on his
boat with a
young Ian
looking on
(1960s)



Ian's family were one of a number of foundation members of the Somers Yacht Club and had a significant influence in the establishment of the club in those days. Ian, himself, was an enthusiastic contributor to club life. Initially, in the 60's and 70's, he was an active member of the younger set and took part in all the activities associated with this, like our infamous Head of the River! It was a great time to be to be a member of the Yacht Club at Somers.

Ian went to Wesley College where he completed his schooling in the early 70's. In his working life he worked for Kodak industries. The Robeson family were keen sailors in a Heron and later in a Mirror dingy.

Ian's real interest in sailing at Somers was in the Sea Rescue activities and responsibilities. This blossomed over the years and he was even known to use his own boat for sea rescue for a number of years. He also had a passion for computers and technology and helped set up many of our systems in the Race Control Tower. He was particularly instrumental in establishing the camera to monitor the eastern beach and a camera to check the race finishes, which have both been very useful in those congested race finishes. His radio communication was another area in which he was invaluable and combined with his rescue boat skill made him a great asset to the club and a true volunteer.

It is quite clear how valuable and dedicated he was to the club, because in 1987 he won the McCutcheon Award for outstanding contribution to the Somers Yacht Club.

The whole Robeson family made a fabulous contribution to the Somers Yacht Club for over 50 years.

Ian, rest in peace.



The Robeson family
Keith, Cecelia, Ian and Debbie

Wedding News

Congratulations Caitlin and Sean

Caitlin Davies and Sean Bly were married at SYC on Saturday October 13th . Fortunately the weather was perfect .



SWISH participants discussing sailing tactics



Rhian, Caitlin , Tegan and Sophie with Eddie watching



SWISH on Albert Park Lake

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Club Contacts

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Secretary	Roy Higginson	0408 838 057	royhigginson@bigpond.com

COMMITTEE

Social Coordinator	Lisa Tuck	0418 590 891	lisatuck1@bigpond.com
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Membership Secretary	Richard Fakhry	0418576622	rtfakhry@ozemail.com.au
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Sean Bly	0433488749	sbly@westnet.com.au
Libby Moore	0413 860 371	elpmoore@gmail.com

OTHER ESSENTIAL CONTACTS

Honorary Solicitor	Ben Davidson		
Clubhouse Booking	Dennis Paskins	0409 480 306	verdenp@bigpond.com
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Friday Night Dinner	Vic Crust	0450784 969	verust@bigpond.com
Yard manager	Simon Morris	0425734922	simemmorris@bigpond.com

A chance for all past sailing school students and their families to reconnect, enjoy a **BBQ** dinner and look to the future for SYC Juniors.

SYC Sailing School Reunion

Saturday, 24 November 2018 from 6pm

6pm BBQ dinner - \$10 per family / Bar open

Reconnect with friends in our new clubhouse – Watch past years' SS videos

Hear about Sailing School 2019, options/next steps for juniors who have completed Sailing School and what's in store for our juniors this season

7pm - Beach games for kids & Drinks on the deck for adults

For catering purposes, **please RSVP by 5pm on Fri, 23 Nov.** using this link:

<http://www.trybooking.com/YVNW>

We have some fantastic events for juniors this summer – mark the dates in your diary!

- ◉ 7 Dec - Santa visits SYC
- ◉ 9 to 15 Jan - Sailing School
- ◉ 5 Jan - Discover Sailing day
- ◉ 7 Jan - Games & Party night
- ◉ 11 Jan - Twilight junior / novice races
- ◉ 19 Jan – Westernport Youth Regatta
- ◉ Sailing School - 16 Jan - Juniors Movie night
- ◉ 10 Feb – Great land Race
- ◉ 27 Jan - Family talent & trivia night
- ◉ 16 Feb - Sailing School Presentation & Games night and more! DETAILS ON SYC WEBSITE!

