



Windward

Sailing at its best

Date: October 2016



Daniel Lavery and friends

Contents

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| Commodore's Report | Page 1 |
| Committee Photos | Page 4 |
| Rear Commodore Report | Page 5 |
| Division Reports | Page 6 |
| Social Committee Report | Page 7 |
| Alan Anguin | Page 8 |
| Lift Project | Page 10 |

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From the Commodore's Desk

Commodores AGM report 2015-16 season

The Season in Brief

Looking back we have had an excellent run with the weather, this is one of the few seasons where I have had to turn my race card over and make entries on the back. Not only has the weather been excellent but so has the support been to me and the Club from the General Committee and members, for which I am very grateful. On the water I have been impressed by the quality of the course laying and starting teams, it would be hard to find better in any club, even twice our size. On behalf of all sailors I thank the rescue boat crews, and especially from all those who required rescue or assistance. Turning our attention to the land, we have had a fabulous social and bar program, the highlight has to be the theming for our Arabian Nights New Year Eve. Thank you to everyone who helped at each function, setting up, cleaning up, serving at the bar, setting the trivia, showing their talent, playing in the band or making a friend of a dolphin and making each event enjoyable for everyone. All those involved with working bees, facility improvement and finances have also done a great job. Both the facilities and finances are in good shape. I am especially excited about the extension to the top of the ramp to eliminate the sandpit which was the hardest four metres to cross after each sail!

And the Season in more detail

The season's great success was set up by the various committees who plotted a course over the 12 months with more than 70 sailing events and 80 social events planned, including Vic's Friday nights. The real excitement of opening day was to celebrate what was achieved over the winter, 1. The repair of the rock wall with thanks to Parks and DEPI for contributing to the funding and to John Tilleard for project managing. 2. The refurbishment of downstairs to create a more attractive space for training, briefing and social activities. 3. The purchase of six Pacers for the Sailing School and Club use. Eight donors were generous enough to each fund the purchase of one Pacer and over \$90000 was raised. 4. The new Rib Rescue boat

was "christened Norm Dewar" in recognition of his huge contribution to the club over many years. 5. Replacement of the concrete apron in front of the boat shed, thanks to Gerry Lewis for managing this project. And 6. The sourcing and placement of the storage container for the tractor.

On the sailing front we got in an almost record number of races with fleet sizes generally up on previous seasons, the championships had up to 70 boats racing. Our new Pacers were a great help in the running of our start racing and start sailing sessions, all of which were fully booked. Seeing all the young sailors and their families pitching in to make this fun for all bodes well for our Club. The new Pacers also came into their own for teams racing and the Sandy Point cruise. Discover Sailing Day was another example of a highly successful event put on to attract new members and share what we have to offer the community. We had 91 registrations over 36 separate families. Some joined on the day and all went away with membership application packages. While it was very windy the highlight was Mike Sandiford, Michael Vandenburg and Simon and Emma Morris taking the brave for a sail.

Congratulations to Matt Stone who took out the Victorian Mosquito Spinnaker State titles which was another successful event run at our club.

We also ran the Laser State Titles over the March long weekend, Somers Yacht Club once again proved its reputation as a super friendly club that can run high level titles in a very professional manner. Conditions were excellent and varied, with 78 boats – including sailors from as far away as NSW, Queensland and even Sweden - competing in three Laser divisions. The creation of the Hobie Hawk titles provided a wonderful opportunity to see 15 of our junior sailors out on the water. This was a real testament to the success of our sailing school and our aim to involve more



Commodore's report continued

young families in the club.

Somers sailors once again proved their superiority on the bay by winning the Westernport Challenge again. Congratulations to all those sailors, rescue boat and Race Management members who made sure that the Westernport Challenge Shield stays on in the Somers clubhouse.

Each year our social and bar events get better, every loves a theme from Bastille Day to the Vegas Night lots of fun was had by all. The quality of the salads and music by the Jets at the BYO BBQs keeps on impressing.

An exotic Arabian Night brought in the New Year, with 160 Sheiks and Sheikesses rattling and rolling to the band Hazard. Lisa Tuck, Di Nutting, Janus, the social committee, created a fabulous Arabian Casbar theme to the decorations and many members toiled in the heat to gild the club. As always Somers people came dressed up for the occasion with the most wonderful creations!

A revised format for our new members function attracted more than 40 new members who had joined in the past 12 months.

The revived SYC Golf trophy was hotly contested by 31 golfers vying for the Ottocraft Trophy.

A Club is made great by its members and what a great club we have! We need to look no further than the spontaneous reaction of members to the misfortune of David and Caroline who lost their house in the Crib Point fires. In under a week a benefit night had been organised, auction items donated and more than 150 people attended to lend their support. More than \$8000 was raised, but we will never know the full extent of the full community's generosity.

What makes our club great is because we have great members! We share a common belief in the club as a centre of sailing and social activities. We share a common belief in the value of volunteerism

Congratulations to Marg Tilleard as this year's McCutcheon awardee, Marg has been a great contributor to the Club in many areas but specifically as membership secretary for eight years.

On a sad note many of you will have heard of the

passing of Peter Johns and Alan Angwin. Both were past commodores at the time the erosion was lapping at our door. Unlike King Canute they were able to stop the relentless march of the sea!

We finished the year with 695 members, thank you Richard for taking over the membership and wrestling with new systems from Yachting Australia.

The first act of the talent night was a formal one. We called a Special General Meeting to update the Club rules, and I am pleased that all resolutions were passed unanimously.

This winter we have installed an ice machine so now you will be able to put your bottle of white in an ice bucket! On the downside to maintain bar margins there will be a small increase to the price of beer, on the upside our bar volunteers won't have to fossick around for 50 cent pieces.

We have been successful in getting a grant of \$1960 for training our members so they have new skills to contribute to the club. Our banking has been transferred to Balnarring Bendigo and we received a sponsorship grant of \$2750.

Our survey of members survey indicated that there was a strong desire to add a lift to the Club house, so far over \$28,000 has been pledged so today we move to the next stage, details of which will be presented later at this meeting.

I would like to thank the General Committee and Office Bearers, in particular recognise the contribution of those who are leaving the committee. John Hatton has been treasurer for five years starting with filling in for a "month or two", he will hand the baton on to Tim Brock. Libby Moore Social Coordinator will be succeeded by Lisa Tuck, Libby will continue to champion the lift project and has taken on responsibility for the Windward newsletter, accordingly we thank Jill Doboudin for her significant contribution as editor over the last five years. Peter Houghton will move from the General Committee to the facilities committee where he will continue to oversee OH&S and the Lift Project. Finally thank you to Cheryl who has supported me and the club.

Chris Gurney

Somers Yacht Club Committee 2016 /2017



Richard
Fakhry

Norm
Dewar

Amanda
Nutting

Chris
Gurney

Stephen
Brown

Roy
Higginson

Tim
Brock

Lisa
Tuck

Grahame
Tiplady

Libby
Moore

Absent : John Tilliard, Mike Sandiford, Emma Morris Anthony Davenport

Have you renewed your membership yet?

You can find the link on our Website or In the Weekly Newsletter.

If you need help please contact
Richard Fakhry 0418 576 622
or Grahame Tiplady 0409 802 921



Somers Yacht Club

Home Our Club Social Dates Calendar Committee Sailing **Membership** Newsletter

Membership Renewal

New Membership

My Sailor Information

Rear Commodore's Report October 2016

Hello Sailors!

Not long to go now till Opening Day – time to finish off - or in my case start to think about !- that overdue boat maintenance!

And ...talking about maintenance...please all come along to the Working Bee at 9am on Sunday 16 October for some Club maintenance. There are plenty of jobs large and small – even if you can only stay for a short while it is much appreciated.

The new season's sailing instructions and notice of race will shortly be uploaded to the website and distributed around the Club. Thanks to Mark Graham for the hours of work behind the scenes making this happen.

A few new things for this season include relocating the start line to below the leeward mark -to try and avoid congestion issues with racing boats sailing through the starting area - and an extra wing mark for Division 2 for better reaching angles.

I expect you will all have posted your Somers YC Calendars on the frig and marked your calendars accordingly (!) – but in case you are not so organised, I will recap some of the coming season's attractions:

Opening Day Regatta starts early at **1.30pm Saturday 22 October**. We aim to run a nice short race to blow the cobwebs away and allow enough time to get ready for the Opening Cocktail party at 6pm.

At popular request we have increased the number of back to back races .As was the case last season, the Pre Christmas Series will all be back to back races and we have scheduled the Autumn Series similarly.

The first of our own Teams Racing events will be held on Cup Day - get your team together for a fun day of racing right outside the Club - or come along dressed in your finest to watch the racing – horse and boat!

November 5 and 6 will see Somers again supporting the “Women on the Water” coaching regatta (formerly SBR regatta) at WYC. We will send a RIB and support staff and quite a few of our female sailors will attend this weekend of coaching and racing. Entries are now open on WYC website.

But.....for those not involved in the ‘WOW’ regatta, Somers is holding a one day ‘Blokes on the Bay’ Regatta – ALL sailors (males and females) are invited

to participate - trophies for Blokes only!

International Judge - Robert Ware – is kindly visiting the Club on SATURDAY 26 November to run an interactive Rules session for us. **(Note date change from program)** Please come along at 10 am sharp to go through some scenarios of where we get into strife on the water.

Sailing School will again hold 4 courses – Start Sailing and Start Racing over the Xmas /New Year period and then two more courses in January and February . Bookings will be open shortly – watch our website .

The pacer fleet has been fitted with self bailers , bow bumpers and reinforced transoms– thanks again Michael Vandenberg for your hard work.

Thanks also to Garry Morris, Norm Dewar and their team of sea rescue helpers who have been getting the patrol boats serviced and ready to go.

Congratulations to Sailing Committee member Adam Gristwood who has recently taken the role of running the Boatshed at Albert Park – the largest sail training facility in Victoria. Sadly this means that we won't see quite as much of Adam around the Club and Emma Morris especially will miss his help in running some of our Sailing school programs. Congratulations Adam! We hope you can still sail with us some Saturdays at least.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on the water again soon,

Amanda



DIVISION 5 REPORT

September 2016

With only three weeks until opening day I hope all the winter maintenance is almost done and that lots of Div 5 boats will be back on the water soon.

We look forward to Nick Ede joining us in his newly acquired Solo, instead of his usual spot in the RIB.

The WOW Women on Water Regatta is coming up soon on November 5 and 6 at Westernport YC. This will be a fun weekend of coaching, racing and socializing for female sailors of all ages and sailing levels. Entries are open via this link http://websites.sportstg.com/assoc_page.cgi?client=1-9925-0-0-0&ID=305770&&news_task=DETAIL&articleID=47498706

Hope to see lots of Somers Div 5 women there. Somers YC Pacers will be available for charter by our members. Let me know if you need any help getting your boat over to Westernport.

There are another two exciting opportunities for Sabre sailors this summer. For the first time Sabres are invited to the ISAF World Cup of Sailing at St Kilda on December 9, 10 and 11. This international event will not be returning to the Southern Hemisphere for at least four years. Entries and details via this link <https://sailingworldcupmelbourne.com/> Then the Sabre Nationals are coming to Black Rock Victoria on December 28. Entry and details here- <http://www.sabre.org.au/> The Sabres pride themselves on welcoming all ordinary club sailors to their titles which is how they get up to 120 boats on the start line. It will be a great warm up to the Sabre states which are coming to Somers in February.

See you all again soon!

Pre Season Working Bee
Sunday October 16
9am Start
All Welcome
Refreshments
and sausage sizzle
provided



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Social Committee Report

AGM Roast

Over 70 members and friends enjoyed the Sunday Roast provided by Vic following the AGM on Sunday 25th September.

AFL Grand Final

Over 50 members and friends watched the AFL Grand Final at the Club House On the big screen. Steve Brown provided Party Pies and Sausage Rolls and the Doggies came home to win the premiership.



The Social Committee are excited about welcoming you to the events for The 2016/17 Sailing Season. Vic's Friday nights continue to be popular, especially the themed nights of Halloween planned for Friday 28th October and more recently the Octoberfest evening. Now that daylight savings and the warmer weather is here, come and enjoy a drink on the deck with your friends!

Family BYO BBQ

Saturday 29th October

Enjoy the Yacht Club facilities from 6pm.
BYO Meat, Salad, Plates and Cutlery.
Kitchen Closed. BBQ dish washing facilities outside.
Bar open

Family BYO BBQ with resident band 'The Jets'

Saturday 19th November

Enjoy the Yacht Club facilities from 6pm.
BYO Meat, Salad, Plates and Cutlery.
Kitchen Closed. BBQ dish washing facilities outside.
Bar open

Christmas Cocktail Party

Saturday 10th December 2016

7pm

Dress – Smart Casual and feel free to frock up!

This event was very popular last year so book early.

Come and enjoy a complimentary glass of bubbles on arrival and Vic's finger food! Bar Open.

\$28 Per Head

Chicken & Mango Pappadums

Garlic Bread Cases with Basil, Olives and Capers

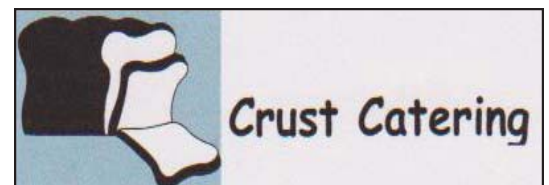
Prawns

Gyoza

Blinis with Smoked Salmon

Thai Noodle Balls

Whiting Gougons



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Vale Alan Angwin: 19/5/44 – 11/7/16

Alan was born in Castlemaine, but grew up in Bentleigh – his father moved out of the family home into care only a few weeks ago, and the house has just been sold. After schooling at Brighton Grammar, Alan completed a printing apprenticeship, but later switched to an advertising agency as an account executive. Then came a dramatic change in career when he completed a Diploma in Early Childhood Education, and became a kindergarten teacher – one of the few males at that time. He soon made numerous improvements, and was called on by many other kindergartens for advice. He was then recruited by the Government, and served as a senior administrator/advisor in early childhood education until his retirement in 2008. During this time he completed a B Ed, a masters degree, and finally a Ph D – all part time!



Music was also a passion of Alan's – he learned the trumpet at an early age, and played in many combos over the years. He also took singing lessons, and progressed from the local church choir, to soloist with a major city choir performing in services and concerts, participating successfully in eisteddfods and a semi-finalist one year and a finalist the next in the prestigious Sun Aria Competition where he was in illustrious company. He also performed in a number of musical comedies and Gilbert and Sullivan operas, and in the chorus of the Victorian State Opera, and the Australian Opera.

At his local church he had met Jan, and they married in 1966 and had two sons and three grandchildren. With other family members they had built a holiday house at Somers in the late 1970s and joined the Somers Yacht Club where Alan later became Commodore.

Sadly Alan was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease in 2003, which was eventually terminal.



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Lift Project

At the AGM Peter Houghton presented the concept of an accessibility lift and accessible change room and toilet to members.

He discussed the need for an accessibility lift to assist in carrying heavy items upstairs, assisting parents with young children and assisting those who are infirm. We are following the lead of other Sporting facilities with minimal accessibility such as Merricks, Hastings, Black Rock, Sorrento and Albert Park Yacht Clubs, to mention but a few.



Peter explained that the project is in its infancy, with the committee seeking pledges of money from members to assist in getting the plan underway.



Recently a bank account was opened at the Bendigo Bank to allow members to donate money if they would prefer, rather than to make a pledge.

The committee has moved to the next stage of seeking permission to build the lift and having detailed plans drawn.

Once the plans are completed SYC can seek donations from various benevolent organisations, fund raise actively and establish a tax deductible account with the Australian Sports Foundation for Donations.

If you would like to pledge money towards the Lift Project you can do this electronically via the Survey Monkey Link

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7BYLWK7>

Or

You can fill out the form on the adjacent page and submit it to the Libby Moore care of Somers Yacht Club .

Libby Moore

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LIFT PROJECT

HOW CAN I CONTRIBUTE?

Make a Pledge

You can fill out the 'Pledge' form at the bottom of this page,

OR

Go to the SsYC website and click on the 'Lift Project' link

All amounts pledged will be recorded and acknowledged by the club. You will not be called on to pay your pledged amount until works begin on the installation of the lift. This could be next year or even later

Make a Donation

You can make a donation that will be held in trust by the club until it is needed when works begin. This can be done in a number of ways:

A direct deposit to our Bendigo Bank account

BSB: 633-000
Account Number: 155281033
Account Name: Somers Yacht Club Inc
(Please include the word 'Lift' in the reference section)

Via your credit card (Visa or Mastercard)

Please see Libby Moore to provide details

By cheque

Please make out to 'Somers Yacht Club'

All amounts donated will be recorded and acknowledged by the club. You will receive a 'Lift Debenture' to the value of your donation. Should the project not go ahead, all amounts donated will be refunded to you.

SOMERS YACHT CLUB LIFT PROJECT PLEDGE FORM

I, _____ hereby pledge an amount of \$ _____

for the purpose of installing a lift at the Club. I acknowledge that the project is a medium-term enterprise and that the amount pledged may not need to be paid until approvals for the project have been obtained. I also understand that, should the project be abandoned for any reason, this pledge will become void.

Signature: _____

Date: ____/____/____

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Phil Johnson in his
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Scarlet Buccaneer





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Club Contacts

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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| Secretary | Roy Higginson | 0408 838 057 | royhigginson@bigpond.com |

COMMITTEE

| | | | |
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OTHER ESSENTIAL CONTACTS

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| Honorary Solicitor | Tim Rintoul | 5983 1116 | timsue.r@bigpond.com |
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