

Sailing at its best

August/September 2015



Mike Sandiford moving up in the world

Somers sailors' Adriatic odyssey



Somers six about to set sail

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From the Commodore's Desk

WE are now only a couple of months away from the start of another sailing season. Many members have taken the opportunity to escape overseas from the particularly cold winter we have experienced. It was great to see the Bursa sisters both competing in Hobie events in Italy, Meagan in the Hobie 14 World Championships and Michelle in the European Women's Hobie 16 Titles with Michelle taking out second place in her event. Congratulations to both of you.

We have now taken delivery of our new Pacer training fleet and are awaiting delivery of our new Brig rescue boat. These purchases will be entirely funded from our donation program in association with the Australian Sports Foundation.

Thanks to the generous support of members and friends of the club, we have raised to date \$89,100. We are also making modifications to the downstairs area of the club using funds from the donation project. Our aim is to reach our target amount of \$120,000, so if you are yet to contribute, please consider making a donation in support of the club at www.asf.org.au Donations over

\$2 are tax deductible.

The club received another accolade recently at the Yachting Victoria 2015 Awards night when the club was awarded the best "Discover Sailing Program of the Year". Sailing as a sport faces many challenges in attracting new participants. This is particularly so for off-the-beach clubs like ours and many clubs now struggle. Yachting Victoria has again complimented Somers on our membership retention levels and the general success we achieve in engaging membership participation within club activities.

Membership renewals will be mailed out in the near future, together with next season's sailing and social program. We are adopting the Yachting Victoria database for the first time as previously foreshadowed. Help is available if required in completing the process, and I request your patience in this first year of implementation.

Please remember we have our upcoming Annual General Meeting on Sunday 4 October, followed by Vic's Roast.

- Jeremy Pearse

THE AGM SUNDAY ROAST

Sunday 4 October, 2015 at 12.30 pm

Roast dinner and dessert

\$30 per adult/\$17per child

**Bookings via the
Somers Yacht Club website**





Rear Commodore's report

DAYS lengthen, nomads return, glimpses of warmth, Somers stirs and thoughts turn to boating. Another sailing season approaches – more of the same – but better! There are some changes to watch out for.

First off, we will have our six new training Pacers and our new rib. Stand by for opening day christenings.

Then we are trialling some new divisions – based on classes not just yardstick. All the Hobies will race together in Division 2, leaving Division 1 for A-class, Tornado and Mossie (with and without spinnaker). And we have created a new Laser Division for all Lasers: standard, radial and 4.7. That means there will be six divisions in all. The club calendar is on its way to the printers. It will look reasonable familiar but nothing stays completely the same!

The sailing school schedule has been rejigged so that Start Sailing and Start Racing run concurrently straight after Christmas with Start Sailing running again later in January and Adults Start Sailing in February. Places fill quickly so enrol soon.

We will make use of the new Pacers for some teams racing events – starting with a club event on Sunday 1 November to polish up skills before the senior teams racing championship to be held at Balnarring on Melbourne Cup Day 3 November. Teams racing will be new for many of us but it is a fun, action packed format. Let's see how these new Pacers go. Can we show our neighbours how to do it and take off the Westernport Teams Racing Championship?

To start the season with lots of race practice, this season's Pre Christmas Series is to be all back-to-backs: 10 races in all. That should shake out the cobwebs for sailors, rescue boat crews and race management!

Last year's inaugural Sarah Blanck (all female) Regatta at Westernport Yacht Club was a great success. It's on again on the 7-8 November for Lasers, Sabres, Pacers and Optis. Somers has committed support. On the Saturday of that weekend though we will run a two-race "Somers Spring Regatta" for anyone who doesn't meet the gender or class restrictions of next door's regatta. All clubs invited.

This season's Summer Cup will be run on a trapezium course so that we get some variety over the Christmas period and experience with that format.

We won the Yachting Victoria Award for the success of last year's Discover Sailing Day. Let's do that again on Sunday 3 January!

And speaking of winning, this year's Westernport Challenge will be held at Cowes. Start planning for a long day!

Our reputation for hosting successful friendly and competitive regattas sees the Lasers back here again for the March long weekend State titles – but they only want two days so we will squeeze in a club stay-at-home regatta on the Monday as well.

And in the run to the finish don't forget the second rendition of the Hobie Hawk World Cup in April.

It's another busy season.

As this is my last "Report from the Rear" I express my thanks to all Somers sailors, rescue boat crews and race management personnel for making the job a pleasure. That applies doubly to the members of my sailing committee who have consistently supported all club endeavours and tackled and resolved all the issues brought before them with enthusiasm, imagination and goodwill.

- John Tilleard

Windward newsletter—October edition
Editorial copy deadline is Friday 2 October
and at latest Wednesday 7 October

The Pacer project picks up pace

AFTER many phone calls and rearrangements, at 3:00pm on a Thursday in mid-August, a side loader truck with a 20-foot container appeared in Burke Road Somers looking a little lost! Amongst the ti-tree, the container was lowered to the ground and the customs seal was ceremoniously broken.

I don't know how they fitted but in that container, hanging suspended from a plethora of straps, were our six new Pacers ending their journey that started from a factory in Indonesia via Singapore in Somers. (Not to mention, masts, booms, sails, rigging and dollies.)

After a bit of head scratching, grunting and sweat the impromptu gathering of members (all over 60 years of age!) had the boats and all their gear in Chris Walter's giant shed waiting for the ministrations of Michael Vandenberg who is taking charge of the boats' preparation and their long-term welfare. Thanks Michael.

Thanks to Grahame, Alan, Janus, Mike and Dennis. And to Chris Walter for generously loaning space in his shed. Not to mention all the generous donors who made the Pacer Project a reality.

- John Tilleard



The great ceremonial opening to reveal the six new Pacers.



The new Pacers are unwrapped in Chris Walter's giant shed.



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Somers Yacht Club members: 10% discount

Somers' Snow Bunnies hit the slopes

IN late July, Eillen Poon, Caroline Briggs, Jules Pearce and Alli Hatton joined around 50 other participants for Hotham Women's Ski Week.

The week is designed to improve and enhance our skiing skills to keep us up with our children, husbands and friends!!

Our incredibly patient instructor, Alison, groomed us from "Indigo Gals" to "Black Diamond Babes" in five days with six hours on the slopes each day!

With a lot of laughter, fear and falls we conquered, among



other things, Mary's slide and One Tree Hill, a really steep slope covered with fresh powder snow and a narrow gully to end. And we did it three times!

Not all hard work. The program includes drinks, dinners, massages and awards to encourage us everyone on!

We also ate and drank in style and had lots of fun . . . after all, we are Somers girls! Any girls out there who want to ski keep it in mind for 2016!!

- Jules

Club membership matters

IT is that time of year again to renew your membership to the yacht club. A letter will be mailed to you at the end of August with details on how to renew. Fees are due by 1 October. The calendar for the next year will be included as well. If your address has changed and you have not told me now is the time to let me know.

After eight years I am now passing the role of membership secretary on to Richard Fakhry and will step down from the committee at the AGM.

It's time. Being membership secretary has been a great way for me to meet lots of you and feel a part of this great club.

Welcome to new members:

Barbara Wilson
Robert and Isabella Burns
Paul and Lyn Boag
John Attoe
Please make them welcome

- Marg Tilleard

Facilities improvement

THE club has been a hive of activity during the winter as we implement improvements to our facilities.

The following works are in progress or have been completed:

- * Graham Tiplady has done a huge amount of work creating our renovated training and briefing space downstairs
- * Instant hot and cold water font next to the bar
- * Cold water tap in training room

- * Varnishing of the upstairs floor
- * Rock wall repair finished
- * Extending and repair of concrete apron
- * Mini wallet lockers
- * Resolving tractor and new rib storage

So far the work has been done by a few so if you are at Somers and can help, give Grahame a call.

- Chris Gurney

A difficult topic - raising awareness of child abuse

AS you know a lot has been going on in the media and Royal Commission into Child Abuse. Yachting Victoria and common sense say we need to raise awareness to ensure it does not happen at our club. Apparently the best way to avoid it happening is to raise awareness within the club and as a result perpetrators are likely to move on.

The following information was presented at the YV conference:

Child Safe Objectives

- Build safer organisations for children and young people.
- Reduce the risk of abuse and harm of children and young people in your care.
- Develop an aware and open culture to minimise opportunities for child abuse to take place.

Grooming Techniques

To get close to children, people who sexually offend use grooming techniques which allow them to form special or power-based relationships with children, such as:

- Asking children to keep secrets from parents, siblings and friends.
- Buying children lollies, sporting equipment,

swap cards and other things a child may like or value.

- Paying special attention to a child and making them feel special.
- Using threats, bribes and/or physical violence.

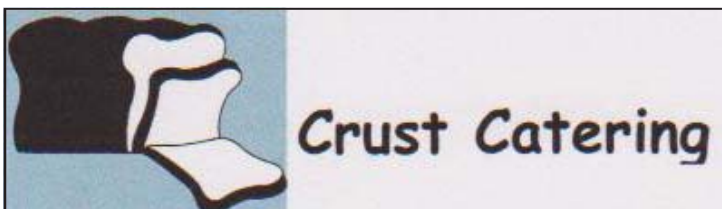
Visible grooming

- Situations where adults are involved with a child more than you would expect in their role/relationship.
- Where an adult seems to be particularly interested in a particular child or activities that allow for additional intimacy eg. overnights, swimming, time alone.
- Situations where a child is given gifts or taken on outings which are unexpected or unusual in any way.
- A child seems to have a special relationship with aspects to it that are "private" and do not involve other adults or children.
- Where a child may be keeping secrets or have built a relationship with a secret friend.

Reporting

Children and adults can report any concerns to Emma Morris or a flag officer.

- Chris Gurney



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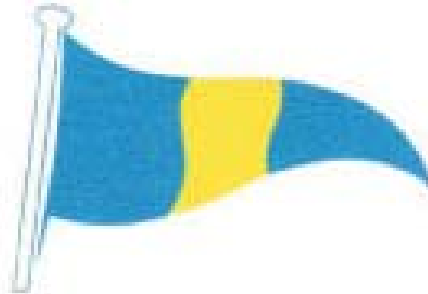
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SOMERS YACHT CLUB INC.

**NOTICE OF 53rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
SUNDAY 04 OCTOBER 2015
10.30 AM**

AGENDA

APOLOGIES – Please enter names on the sheets provided at the meeting.

**CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE
52nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON 28th SEPTEMBER 2014**

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

COMMODORE'S REPORT

TREASURER'S REPORT

**ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS
AND PROFESSIONAL OFFICERS**

GENERAL BUSINESS

Please note: Nominations for Office Bearers and Professional Officers to be submitted to the Honorary Secretary by Friday 11 September 2015.

Gurney, Sandiford and Clifford Croatia capers

WE converged at Split in early June to pick up Taifun, a Benetau 42.5 from Sunsail and headed north away from the more popular parts of the Dalmation coast. We self-catered, buying delicious fish and produce from markets in Split and re-stocking as required. Mike used international bargaining language to buy fresh fish from a fisherman for one wonderful lunch. The conditions were perfect: warm and sunny, calm every evening and good winds for sailing during the day.

Most evenings we moored in near solitude and ate char-grilled fish in local restaurants. We explored the islands by sea and on foot, swam twice a day and had the occasional local beer or wine. Mike and Amanda produced a fantastic "bring out your dregs" lunch on the last day (half a packet of pasta, half a loaf of stale bread, olive oil, garlic, anchovies, tomatoes combined to make an amazing pasta with sauce and croutons) thoroughly recommended! It was the trip of a lifetime and we came back even better friends.

- Cheryl Gurney



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Somers Arts Fair

THE Somers Primary School is getting ready to put on its only fund raising event of the year, the Somers Arts Fair, which takes place on 26 October.

Thanks to the tireless work of the school, associated parents, and the Somers community, the Somers Arts Fair has become a hugely successful event on the Mornington Peninsula's calendar.

The success of the school is in large part a result of the success of the arts fair. Vital equipment and school programs, which are the envy of many schools nationwide and which would otherwise be impossible for the school to afford, are funded with money raised by the arts fair.

The Somers Arts Fair committee is seeking support from the Somers community in the form of sponsorship.

Social events

The Jets unplugged

The jets will have a "practice" on Saturday 5 September. Members and friends are welcome to come and listen or bring food for a BYO BBQ. The bar will be open.

AGM Roast and Silent Auction

Sunday 4 October

Following the AGM a roast lunch will be held with a silent auction for some amazing items which have been donated for the Pacer Project by local businesses.

Tickets to the roast will be sold on Trybooking .

Oktoberfest

Friday 9 October is our annual Oktoberfest celebration. The bar committee will supply German specialties and Vic will cook Friday dinner with a hint of Deutsch.

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Coaching Regatta 7 - 8 November

WESTERNPORT YACHT CLUB, BALNARRING BEACH, VICTORIA

The Sarah Blanck Perpetual Trophy Regatta is to encourage the involvement of women and girls in all aspects of sailing; competing, coaching or as officials. This regatta is on and off water coaching as well as racing on both days for women and girls of all ages and abilities, including "advanced", "intermediate", and "novice."

ENTRIES OPEN: 1ST SEPTEMBER 2015

Numbers are strictly limited.

Contact: Peta Pietromonaco for further information: ppietro@bigpond.net.au
NOR, Sailing Instructions and Entry will be available via:
www.westernport.yachting.org.au



Club Contacts

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Commodore	Jeremy Pearse	0419 804 349	alplas@bigpond.net.au
Vice-Commodore	Chris Gurney	0413 433 620	chris.gurney33@gmail.com
Rear-Commodore	John Tilleard	0419 517 193	john.tilleard@moroka.com.au
Treasurer	John Hatton	5983 5898	hattonjande@bigpond.com
Secretary	Roy Higginson	0408 838 057	royhigginson@bigpond.com

GENERAL COMMITTEE

Immediate Past Commodore	Malcolm Otto	5983 1431	malindi3@bigpond.com
Social Coordinator	Libby Moore	0413 860 371	elpmoore@gmail.com
Bar Management	Stephen Brown	0407 334 018	stephenbrown48@gmail.com
Membership Secretary	Margaret Tilleard	0409 003 136	margaret.tilleard@moroka.com.au
Sea Rescue & Safety Officer	Norm Dewar	5983 1690	dewars01@bigpond.com
General Committee Member	Grahame Tiplady	5931 3301	grahame@ocean-clocks.com

OTHER ESSENTIAL CONTACTS

Honorary Solicitor	Tim Rintoul	5983 1116	timsue.r@bigpond.com
Clubhouse Booking	Dennis Paskins	0409 480 306	verdenp@bigpond.com
Facilities Manager	Simon Boadle	5983 5561	boadles@gmail.com
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
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Windward Editor	Tony Duboudin	5983 1360	tonyduboudin@bigpond.com
Bar Roster	Di Nutting	0458 200 788	di.nutting@bigpond.com
Yard Manager	Peter Foulsum	0415 857 584	foulsums@bigpond.net.au
Friday Night Dinner	Vic Crust	0450 784 969	vcrust@bigpond.com
Booking & Catering	(Friday night meals must be booked by Thursday 5 pm)		

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