



RYE YACHT CLUB DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



Commodore's Report

It is almost hard to believe 2017 is drawing to a close and Christmas is only weeks away; the year has been a busy one for the Club and the various Committees who work so tirelessly behind the scenes to the make club a success.

Once again the Junior Sail Training Program continues to grow from strength to strength and is such a wonderful sight in front of the Clubhouse on training days to see so many young sailors on the water. Congratulations to Kate Hyde on her success as Australian Sailing Instructor of the Year a great follow on to Bob's win last year. Our fleet of junior boats continues to grow thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and hard work of Bob and Jean Cooper who spend many hours planning and developing the program. To all our instructors, coaches and volunteers who contribute so much of their time to help run these programs the club is indebted to you for without this support the club could not grow. I would encourage everyone that can assist in any of the club's programs get involved. If you think of a program that would benefit you or the club's growth please let me know.

The Club will be running several State and National titles over the season and I would like to thank our volunteers for their support and assistance in the continued growth of the club within the Australian Sailing community. Working closely with Australian Sailing on a number of programs I know the club is held in high regard. I would also wish everyone that is travelling to their own nationals in Victoria or interstate the very best of luck and good sailing.

To those involved the Sailing, Executive and Social Committees thanks for your hard work over the year and in particular Peter Kinsman for helping run and plan out so many of the club's infrastructure projects.

I do hope you will be able to find the time to visit the Club over the festive period to sail or simply share the magnificent facilities with your families and friends.

On behalf of my fellow Flag Officers we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and commitment to the Club throughout 2017 and we wish you and your families a wonderful festive season and best wishes for the New Year.

Gordon Hyde
Commodore

Rear Commodore's Report

Ladies and Gents,

Just a short one this month as due to the weather there hasn't been much sailing and I've been away for most of it.

Getting Rescued

RYC now has some impressive rescue boats and equipment for your sailing safety; please be aware though, the priority of rescue craft is the rescue of sailors, not the recovery of boats.

During sailing days, crew may be removed and boats abandoned, particularly so as not to compromise the safe coverage of the rest of the sailors on the water. Having said that however, depending on availability of rescue craft and the situation, all efforts will be made to recover your boat. In the event that you have a failure and require assistance, you should do a continuous wave from side to side. It may not be evident that you have a problem, so keep doing it until someone attends you. Other sailors should also pass the message

on to Committee boats if they see someone in distress. When it is evident that help is on the way, you should secure any loose items (masts/ sails etc) and pull up your centre/dagger boards.

Under the new rule amendments, you are not required to carry a tow line or ring unless specified by your class and all our rescue craft are fitted with polythene (floating) tow ropes on a bridle to the transoms. The rescue boat will slowly manoeuvre close and pass this line to you. The tow line should be wrapped once around your mast (forward beam or centreboard case if your mast is compromised), and held in your hand. The rescue boat will slowly get under way, and if there are any issues during the tow, you can immediately release the tow line. If there are no issues the rescue boat will tow you to the shallows off the club. You release the tow line and wade your boat ashore (hallelujah!).

The club takes no responsibility if there is any additional damage caused during the rescue and the provision of a rescue boat doesn't alleviate your responsibility as a sailor to sail and return to the beach safely - regardless of the weather, your physical condition or any other factors. If the conditions are too windy, light, hot, cold, physical, slow, tidal, tiring or in any other way compromising of your safety, please return to the beach before it becomes an issue requiring outside intervention.

I realise the above section is a little more stern than my usual flippant remarks, but having been dismasted, taken part in rescues and searches, I believe water safety is one area we need to conduct properly. Again, and as always, if you have any questions about being rescued or conducting a rescue, please contact me or the Duty Sailing Committee member and we will be happy to help.

Junior Members' Contributions to the Club

I just wish to thank all the junior members whom have been contributing to the Club this season. Members like Ed Fuggle helping to clean hot plates after the Bunnings BBQ, Sarah Wallace helping out her Mum in the canteen and Charlie Sansom (Junior Club Captain), being part of the Executive Committee to name a few. Other junior members such as Kye, Ed, Jaimee, Claire, Chris, Isaac and Aaron (apologies to those I have missed out) also helped out during Discover Sailing days, Green Fleet and working bees.

Please know your efforts have been noticed and are greatly appreciated. Being a member of a club has responsibilities as well as benefits, and it is impressive to see our junior members are willing to shoulder some of these.

**Regards,
Luke**

Sailing School Report:

Coming up to Christmas, I want to remind all Junior Sailors of the dates of the Summer Green Fleet Series over the Christmas New Year period. The dates for this event are as follows:

Wednesday 27th December
Thursday 28th December
Saturday 30th December
Sunday 31st December
Wednesday 3rd January
Thursday 4th January
Saturday 6th January

Start time on each day is scheduled for 10:00 am. All Junior Sailors in our Tackers courses, our Junior Start Sailing 1 & 2 course and our Junior Development Squad are invited to take part. Races will be of short duration (maximum 10 minutes) and courses will be set to suit the participants on the day. Some may be "off the beach sprints" and others may start and finish on the water. All will be held inside the 5 Knot markers.

Our next Adult Learn to Sail (Start Sailing 1 & 2) course will start on Saturday 13th of January. This course will run from 9:00am until 2:00pm and run for 6 weeks. Also starting on the same day will be a Better Sailing Course. This course will start at 3:00pm and finish at 6:00pm.

Sunday 21st January will be the BBQ and Certificate Presentation for the current Tackers 1, 2 and Junior Start Sailing 1 & 2 courses. We invite participants to “bring a friend” along on this day who you can take sailing with you. Parents and siblings can also come along to the Certificate Presentation and BBQ. A reminder email will be sent closer to the date to ascertain numbers for catering purposes.

The next junior courses will start on Saturday January 27th and Sunday January 28th. More information will be handed out to course participants after Christmas.

A reminder too that we have 2 Discover Sailing Days in January, these are great days for members to bring friends and siblings to “try” sailing. The dates for these are Sunday 7th January 10.00am – 4.00pm and Friday 26th January (Australia Day) 1.00pm – 4.00pm. These are days when we require volunteers for various tasks like cooking the BBQ, rigging boats, taking visitors out in club boats, helping the Opti younger sailors etc. A roster will go out closer to the date but if you are able to help don't hesitate in contacting Peter Kinsman or myself.

That's all for now, see you at the Club soon.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all!

Bob Cooper
Sailing School Principal

Social Committee Report:

By the time most of you read this edition of Sandbar, we will have celebrated Christmas with our annual end of year get-together at the club. Thank you to everyone who came along to share a delicious meal and some Christmas cheer. Hopefully you enjoyed the night and the cameo appearance from Ruby-the-Reindeer, who was in charge of delivering lolly-bags to RYC's Juniors.

How lucky we are to have such a great club and such lovely people to share it with. This season we say hello to some new additions to our sailing family, including: Sebastien Hannoun (Senior Sailing Member), Joe Spolidoro and Jennifer White (Adult Students), Rod and Samantha Naismith and their children Stephanie and Sally (Sailing Family) and Skip Walker-Milne (Senior Sailing Member). A warm welcome to you all!

Bunnings BBQ Result...

Continuing the thanks-giving theme, the Social Committee would like to express our huge thanks and gratitude to all Members who were able to help out before, during or after the Bunnings BBQ on Saturday 11th November. It got off to a dramatic start when we arrived to find the Red Cross already setting up, but the mix-up was quickly taken care of and we were able to continue as planned, resulting in a successful day and \$1823 raised for our club. This was a fantastic team effort and we appreciate all your help (especially Ed Fuggle's brilliant cleaning up at the end of the day!).

Inaugural 'Sunday Session'...

Thank you also to everyone who came along to our first 'Sunday Session' following sailing on Sunday 19th November. It was a lovely evening for a freshly prepared meal of paella and a Spanish salad on the patio and just to relax after a big day of slow/fast sailing and beach activities. Feedback from those attending was very positive, so we're looking forward to our next session on Sunday 14th January 2018. If you would like to join us next time, please book and pay at the canteen by 12pm on the day. Sunday Sessions will be held

around 5pm (depending on race finish time) on the 2nd Sunday of each month until the end of the sailing season (except December).

Coming Up...

It's been great to see RYC members enthusiastically support new initiatives organized by the Social Committee recently. A highlight late last season was the infamous Music Trivia Night, organized by Rhonda and Gavin Wall. So successful was this event, we're bringing it back! Keep an eye out for details of our *Music Trivia Night: Round 2* sometime in Feb/Mar next year. At this stage we are working around various State/National Titles to find a suitable date. More info soon!

And finally...

The Social Committee welcomes your feedback and suggestions. Just as RYC's membership is constantly growing and changing, so too do the expectations of members. Please feel free to discuss any ideas you may have for new or different social events or activities with any of our Social Committee members (Mim, Bec, Megan, Tarni, Rhonda, Carol, Yolanda, Derina or Kylie). New contributors and members to our Committee are always welcome! ☺

In the meantime, we look forward to seeing you around the club over the Christmas/New Year period. It's always a fun time of year, with lots of informal and impromptu gatherings taking place if the sailing is good and the weather is conducive to fish and chips on the beach. Please make use of our superb waterfront facilities, but do spare a thought for the un-seen volunteers who clean up after us all on a regular basis. If you can leave our facilities clean and tidy and perhaps take excess rubbish home with you rather than using the club bins, it would be a Christmas gift to lighten the load for those hard-working souls who usually do this thankless job.

Wishing everyone a safe and very happy Christmas.

Bec Marthick
Social Committee Secretary

Around the Club News by Peter Kinsman

The Shire has instructed us to have the septic's pumped out. Thanks to Alan Ames the septic tanks were located and are ready to be pumped out. We are obliged to maintain the septic's in good working order to ensure we protect the environment.

Under our Lease, the Shire has responsibility to connect RYC to sewerage and has budgeted \$90,000 to have RYC connected to the sewer and we will know in February if this is approved for this financial year. In the meantime, we will continue to follow the advice from the Shire to ensure we are managing our septic's.

Many thanks to the members who have continued to help in the working bees on the first Saturday of each month. This helps keep our grounds in top condition and many hands do make for light work.

Thanks to the members who voted for the purchase of the new Capel Sound for \$20,000. The boat has been used for just 42.5 hours and is in perfect order. Whilst we will continue to use Southerly as our main start/finish boat, we will have the new Capel Sound as a backup and as an additional rescue boat.

It will also allow us to better support the Sailing School and also the regatta's that we will be running this season.



The new Capel Sound

Ever had a bad day? Think again ☺

Today we had our septics pumped out. If you ever thought you had a bad day at work, think again. We heard about the time our cleaner fell through a lid and into an 11-foot-deep septic. Fortunately, it had just been pumped out and so he was able to spread out his arms and legs and soften the fall.

That was bad enough but then

We were then told about "Blow-fly Bob" who used to pump septics in the Rosebud area. Blow-fly Bob had a young lady that used to work with him.

One day Blow-fly and the young lady were getting ready to pump out a tank on the Rosebud foreshore and the lid broke and the young lady fell into the septic.

Fortunately, she was able to take a breath before she went under and put up her arm above her head.

Blow-fly Bob was quick enough to grab her by the arm and haul her back out of the septic.

Despite the incident, she was back at work with Blow-fly three days later!

So if you think you have had a bad day at work, then think if you really were over your head in ##### and think again ☺

"Sandbar"
Newsletter of Rye Yacht Club
PO Box 387, RYE, VIC, 3941

Surface Mail

