

## Navigator's Report –

How many organizations qualify for a sesqui-centennial? Not many I'll wager! You can thrust out your chests and hold your heads high because in this year of 2009, the Royal Geelong Yacht Club can! Link that achievement to Australia's largest sailing regatta and every member of this 150 year old club should be bursting with pride to proclaim, 'I belong to that club!'

What a wonderful opportunity for all members, from cadets to veterans and all those in between, to show our pride in this great club, by doing our utmost to follow club rules and regulations whenever we use the rapidly improving facilities!

It's really so easy. Firstly, you and I have to obey the rules, and surely that is not difficult!

Then, if inviting guests or seeing someone unknowingly breaking a rule, we can make them feel at home with a polite request for them to do as we do and obey our rules. Perhaps to remove a hat, or maybe not to enter if wearing thongs, etc.

If you add a polite, 'We have a great club here and as a member, I am proud to welcome you aboard!' (Or other words in a similar friendly manner) they WILL feel welcome!

Unfortunately, that will all be far too difficult during Audi Victoria Week, but it should not reflect how we, the members, behave then and for the rest of the year!

The improvements to the facilities within our club are really magic! The concertina doors, new furniture and the 'blazing log' fire that has been so cozy during winter, are a genuine testament to the management team!

Our expanding racing fleet and the yachts taking part seem to be getting bigger and faster each year and our fine cadet fleet is not only producing national champions, but is giving young sailors the experience that will ensure a prosperous future for our club!

The ocean-going members of Royal Geelong and their boats have kept the Club burgee before the eyes of the rest of Australia when taking part in events such as the Sydney/Hobart, Melbourne/Tasmania, Airlie Beach/Hamilton Island Race Week whilst our ever victorious Cadet Fleet display their talents - and their club, on the National and International scene.

In doing so, it's not always a success that illustrates the pride and respect we have in our club, but often it's the sailing skills whenever and wherever they take part.

Sadly, the 'Navigator' who put so much work into our Club, especially this publication, is no longer with us. 'Soos', as we all knew him, thank you, for the pride you had in our club and the example you set for us.

There is so much to respect and be proud of when it comes to OUR club, the Royal Geelong Yacht Club.

Now 150 years of age and celebrating its sesqui-centennial it's a shame that I, and perhaps a few others, will not be here for the Demi-semi-sept-centennial celebrations! (175th) although I know I'm going to try!

Happy Birthday!!

Bob Appleton.

## The Register

### Royal Geelong Yacht Club:

#### Objects of the Club:

Rule No. 2: To encourage and foster the sport of yachting and yacht racing in Corio Bay and other waters in every respect; maintain from the funds of the Club, accommodation for members of the Club and their guests, and to provide all facilities for the care and supervision of all yachts of members.

**Royal Warrant:** By Admiralty Warrant of date of 27th March 1924, the privilege of wearing The Blue Ensign of Her Majesty's Navy with the Club Pennant was extended to yachts of this club.

**Patronage:** Under the patronage of His Excellency, The Governor of Victoria, Professor David De Kretser.

#### Flag Officers 2008/2009

Commodore: Graeme Ritchie  
Vice Commodore: John Kint  
Rear Commodore: Andrew Nielson  
Club Captain: Kym Murphy

**Honorary Treasurer:** Peter Landers

**Committee Of Management:** Brian Case, Geoff Baum, Grant St Quentin, Bruce King, Richard Ince, Paul Smart, Lucy Townson

**General Manager:** Scott Taylor

**Immediate Past Commodore:** Michael Kelly

**Corinthian Publication Committee:** Teri Dodds, Bob Appleton OAM, Paul Smart, Chris Williams

**Editors:** Teri Dodds & Bob Appleton

**Photographers:** Teri Dodds, RGYC Members

**Production Editor:** Teri Dodds & Bob Appleton

**Art, Design, Production:** Snap Printing. 16 Bellerine St, Geelong.  
Ph: 5223 3600

**Printer:** Snap Printing, Paul Smart, Director

**Publisher:** Royal Geelong Yacht Club Inc. Eastern Beach, Geelong,  
P.O. Box 156, GEELONG 3220  
PHONE – Office: (03) 5229 3705

**Internet Page:** [www.rgyc.com.au](http://www.rgyc.com.au)

**E-mail:** [info@rgyc.com.au](mailto:info@rgyc.com.au)

Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication has been prepared to the best knowledge of those who contributed. If any mistake has been made we apologize and ask you to inform us so a correction can be made in subsequent Year Books. The opinions expressed in this Year Book are not necessarily those of the Royal Geelong Yacht Club. All rights are reserved. No part of this publication can be reproduced, in whole or in part, without the written permission of the publisher.

## Index

Commodore's Report .....	1	General Manager's Report .....	11	Photo Comp Winner .....	25
Opening Day .....	2-3	Aerobatic pilot Pip dies .....	11	Lady Skippers .....	25
Cruising Group .....	4	Skandia Geelong Week gallery .....	12-13	Off the Beach Regatta .....	25
Profile: Jimmy Blacksmith .....	5	Skandia Geelong Week Report .....	14	RGYC team .....	26
General Sailing and Social .....	6	Queenscliff Race .....	15	RGYC Race Management .....	26
Social Event;		Anzac Day - Bob Appleton .....	15	Flag Officers & General Committee .....	27
Trivia Night .....	7	Circumnavigation of Tasmania .....	16	Sub-Committees .....	27
Santa Sails in .....	7	Masters Games Report .....	17	RGYC Members .....	28-29
Girls' Night In .....	7	Etchells Worlds .....	18	Obituaries .....	30-31
150th Birthday .....	8	Twilight Series .....	18-19	Weddings .....	30
Optimists .....	8	Presentations - Alpha .....	20-23	Airlie Race Week success .....	30
Skandia Geelong Week;		Presentations - Bravo .....	24	Looking Ahead .....	32
Media Launch .....	9	Women's Keelboat Regatta .....	25	Businesses/Sponsors .....	33-37
Xmas Racing .....	10				