



Corinthian 2019

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ROYAL GEELONG YACHT CLUB *Statement Of Purpose*

"To be one of Australia's cornerstone yachting and boating clubs, hosting world class events and home to the nation's best sailors."

Royal Warrant

By Admiralty warrant 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.

PATRON: The Honorable Linda Dessau A.C., Governor of Victoria

RGYC Board



John Kint
Commodore



Stuart Dickson
Vice Commodore



Brenton Carnell
Rear Commodore



Roger Bennett
Club Captain



Brian Marshman
Treasurer



Christie Alberts



Peter Alexander



Phil Francis



Simon Guthrie



Chris Manton



Paul Smart

RGYC GENERAL MANAGER

Phil Clohesy

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COVER IMAGE

Geelong Waterfront Safe Harbour Precinct Project
Architect's concept image

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CORINTHIAN 2018 CORRECTION






The 2018 paper edition of Corinthian contained incorrect Alpha Division racing results. The error was corrected for the online edition.

DISCLAIMER

The information contained in this publication has been prepared to the best knowledge of those who contributed. If an error has appeared, please contact the RGYC office so a correction can be made in subsequent editions. The opinions expressed in Corinthian 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.

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Commodore's Report



It is with pleasure that I provide my Commodore's Report for 2018/19. In what has been an incredibly busy year, we are well placed to bring our long-term plans to reality in the coming year.

Firstly, I thank all our members for your great support and enthusiasm for our brilliant club. Your ideas, voluntary work and loyalty to our club makes all the effort worthwhile. Thank you one and all.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

As noted in the Treasurer's Report and the Audited Annual Financial Statements, the club remains in a very sound financial position. We have once again delivered a very strong profit and cash surplus, even after Government grants are deducted. This is most pleasing and positions us well as we enter the construction phase of our redevelopment.

Our club is well supported by many local, national and international partners in our events. Their contributions are essential to the continued growth and success of our programs and I thank them for their support.

RGYC is grateful for the continued support of the City of Greater Geelong and the Government of Victoria who have contributed so much to our major events and the Geelong Waterfront Safe Harbour Precinct Project.

VOLUNTEERS

Probably the most pleasing aspect of our work over the past twelve months has been the focused effort in rewarding, recruiting and training of our great band of volunteers. We have introduced a comprehensive series of training modules across many elements of race management and race support for our many on-water programs.

The Race Management Team Training Matrix is an innovation that is attracting attention from many clubs throughout the Australian Sailing network.

I offer my heartfelt thanks to our huge array of volunteers and I particularly thank the volunteers who work to support the growth and

development of volunteering at RGYC.

The Board has recently resolved to further assist our volunteers through the purchase of four additional race support vessels and an upgrade of our racing and training equipment.

The further development of our volunteers' skills and the improved on-water support assets will be a lasting legacy from the World and National Championships that our club is about to host over the coming Summer of Sailing.

The RGYC Foundation continues its strong efforts in supporting the club's future sailing endeavours – thank you.

GEELONG WATERFRONT SAFE HARBOUR PRECINCT (GWSHP) PROJECT

Over the past twelve months we have achieved much in this huge project. Stage 1 has commenced with the Minister for Planning providing Ministerial Approval for the entire project.

We have secured a total of \$19.35m in funding, made up of:

- \$7.85m – State Government of Victoria
- \$5.5m – Australian Government
- \$3.0m – City of Greater Geelong
- \$3.0m – Royal Geelong Yacht Club

The On-Water Design and Construct tender has been let, with work currently underway for the manufacture of the floating marina berths, wave attenuator floating pontoons and piles. We expect to see construction of the on-water assets over the coming months.

In parallel, the design of the land-based component of Stage 1 of the project – the Maritime Education complex, comprising the Off The Beach building and the Victorian Sailing School, is well underway.

We expect the demolition of the Marina Office and Victorian Sailing School in the next month or so.

At this time next year, we will see the wave attenuator and floating berths in place and the new OTB/VSS building will be nearing completion. Exciting times!

CLUB SAILING PROGRAMS

Our club sailing programs are once again very well supported by skippers and crew.

The sailing programs and activities that have been very well supported by our members include: keel boat racing (Summer and Winter), Off The Beach (Summer and Winter), cruising, Women in Sailing, navigation rallies, Learn to Sail (Tackers, Green Fleet, Out There Sailing, keel boat courses and dinghy courses), coaching programs, Barwon Sports Academy

program, interclub racing and State and National Championships.

The Fireball National Championship held in February this year was an outstanding success. Thank you to the many volunteers who delivered these great championships – now for the Fireball Worlds in 2022!

The 2019 Festival of Sails was a fantastic event, with plenty of feedback that it was one of the best ever! Well done volunteers and staff – a magnificent effort.

The club power boat navigation rallies are set to return this year.

WORLD, NATIONAL AND STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

In what will be the biggest year of significant regattas in the club's history, our club will host the following events over the coming season:

- Springsail - State Dinghy Championships and Coaching Regatta: September 2019
- Cadet National Championship: December 2019 / January 2020
- 2020 Festival of Sails: January 2020
- Oceania and Australian (Incorporating Sail Melbourne) 49er, 49er FX and Nacra 17 Championships: February 2020
- 49er, 49er FX and Nacra 17 World Championships: February 2020
- Wooden Boat Festival of Geelong: March 2020
- Laser Masters National Championship: March 2020
- Laser Masters World Championship: March 2020

As you can see, we are in for a busy and exciting year ahead! There will be disruption to our normal routines, and I encourage all members to embrace these exciting times and get involved and enjoy.

I take this opportunity to thank our brilliant Board – you have been visionary, professional, accountable and diligent. Your workload has been huge and your unified support is well recognised and acknowledged.

I thank retiring Board Members Brenton Carnell and Paul Smart OAM for their passionate and dedicated hard work.

I thank all our members for your support of the Board and your support for us to continue serving our members' interests to our full capacity. What a year we have just had! What a year we have in front of us!

John Kint
Commodore

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General Manager's Report



Over the past twelve months, our club has focused on a number of key areas:

- The [Geelong Waterfront Safe Harbour Precinct](#) (GWSHP) Project
- Club Sailing, Coaching, Training and Learn to Sail Programs
- Volunteers
- Upcoming State, National and World Championships

Importantly, the Board and staff maintained focus on our financial performance and financial position. This effort has resulted in the outstanding financial results reported at this year's Annual General Meeting.

The next twelve to eighteen months will be challenging as we roll out Stage 1 of our building project and at the same time ensure that member services and facilities are well managed.

GEELONG WATERFRONT SAFE HARBOUR PRECINCT (GWSHP) PROJECT

Expanded details of this project are provided elsewhere in this edition of Corinthian.

At this time last year we had secured \$15.6 million in funding and the design team was about to be appointed. Currently, we have a total of \$19.35 million in funding secured, the Master Plan adopted and planning approval in place.

Members are able to view the progress of the project on www.gwshp.com.au.

CLUB SAILING PROGRAM

Our many and varied programs operated very successfully under the guidance of our Sailing and Boating Committee and Sailing Office staff.

The regular club sailing activities including the Leura Park Summer Sailing Series, the Deakin University OTB Summer Program, VRCA Twilight Sailing Series, the Davidsons Winter Series, and the cruising activities were extremely successful. Combined with other club events including the Tuff Marine Series, Gannett Cup, McAllister Cup and the Commodore's Winter Wonders afternoon mini-series, we had more than sixty club races throughout the year.

The Off The Beach section including Cadets, Optis, Green Fleet, Lasers, Mixed Fleet, Barwon Sports Academy, Club Coaching Programs and regattas continued to be extremely active. The International Cadet Worlds in Poland was a highlight for our young members who competed at such a high level.

The Women in Sailing Program is starting to expand and this is an area of growth that we will pursue in the coming year.

The club's Sailing Academy also experienced further growth as one part of our recruitment and development of new sailors.

This remarkable sailing program required a significant number of skilled volunteers and volunteer hours. Thank you to all our volunteers, on and off the water, who make our sailing programs happen.

VOLUNTEERS

Over 200 volunteers supported our club in many and varied roles throughout the year.

The introduction of the Race Management Team training by the Sailing and Boating Committee is innovative and timely. As our on-water programs and regattas continue to expand and diversify, our club needs

to grow our band of trained volunteers, particularly from a race management perspective. The many training courses that the club now provides for our volunteers are of the highest order.

The club recently introduced a [volunteer management software system](#). Whilst it may take some time to iron out some small wrinkles, this system will support the club's management and engagement of volunteers for years to come.

WORLD, NATIONAL AND STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The coming Summer will be one of the most significant periods in the club's history in terms of hosting and conducting major regattas.

A list of these events is provided elsewhere in this edition of Corinthian and I thank all members for the support and assistance required to conduct these regattas.

RGYC has an international reputation for our ability to attract and deliver world standard events. We all face a significant challenge this coming Summer to further enhance our club's reputation as being able to deliver best practice events and promote Geelong and Corio Bay as the place to visit.

I thank the Board, under the astute leadership of Commodore John Kint, for their unbelievable time commitment, support, advice, hard work and vision.

I also thank our talented staff for a job very well done in an environment that is challenging and constantly changing.

Finally, I thank our members - you are fantastic.

Phil Clohesy
General Manager

Geelong Waterfront Safe Harbour Precinct Project

SOME FAST FACTS REGARDING THIS TRANSFORMATIONAL PROJECT

• FUNDING: \$19.35 MILLION

- State Government of Victoria \$7.85 million
- Australian Government \$5.5 million
- City of Greater Geelong \$3 million
- Royal Geelong Yacht Club \$3 million

• STAGE 1 WILL INCLUDE:

- A 425 metre long Wave Attenuator (public accessible)
- 28 new floating berths
- A new Maritime Education complex incorporating the Victorian Sailing School, Marina Office and Off The Beach facilities
- Public realm and access improvements
- A 'Changing Places' facility for people with disabilities

• APPROVALS

- Master Plan adopted by Council in May 2019
- Planning approval via Planning Minister achieved August 2019
- Marine, Coastal Act Consent - pending
- Parks Victoria Works Permit - pending

• DESIGN TEAMS (LAND COMPONENTS)

- Lead Design: Terroir Architects
- On Water Design and Construct: Poralu Marine Australia Pty Ltd

• ESTIMATED TIMELINES

- On-water – Stage 1

1. Design and manufacturing of on-water components (piles and pontoons) is currently underway. The specialty nature of the structure requires the units to be manufactured in Ireland and France following a public tender process.
2. Piles will be driven in late November/ December 2019.
3. Marina berth pontoons will be connected to the piles in early January 2020.
4. Wave Attenuator pontoons will be connected to the piles early February 2020 for the public section. These will be completed by the end of January. The outer section and associated lighting and utilities will be completed in February 2020.

5. Handover early March 2020.

- Land Elements (Maritime Education Complex and associated public realm) - Stage 1

1. Primary planning approvals (Incorporated Document) achieved August 2019.
2. Detailed design of OTB/VSS complex is currently underway.
3. Victorian Sailing School Demolition: Early October 2019.
4. Secondary planning approvals submitted December 2019.
5. Construction tenders issued by: February 2020.
6. Builder appointed: Late March 2020.
7. Off The Beach building demolition & new building construction commences: April 2020.
8. Construction completed: December 2020.



Concept design



Member for Geelong, Christine Couzens MP, and RGYC Commodore, John Kint, turn the first sod to begin the GWSHP Project on 23rd August, 2019.



Announcement of the appointment of Project Architect, Terroir on 25th September, 2018.



Concept design

Sailing and Boating

It is with considerable pleasure that I report on the operations of the Sailing and Boating Committee (S&B) over the past year. The 2018/19 season has been one to remember. We have successfully hosted the regular Club Aggregate Series, the Festival of Sails and several State and National titles and many training activities.

ALPHA COURSE

Whilst participation levels in club racing are declining slightly, with a drop in the number of Division 1, 2 and 3 and Etchells racing, VX1's are seeing an encouraging upward trend. Corio Cruisers racing continues to engage a regular fleet that enjoys the longer distance races.

Participation numbers aside, the Summer Aggregates were keenly contested and, as always, the competition went down to the wire for many.

OFF THE BEACH SAILING AND TRAINING

OTB sailing continues to go from strength to strength with Optimists, Cadets, Lasers, Fireballs, Tasers, 29ers and the odd Contender going out each week.

A great number of our sailors successfully represented us at State, National and International events. Congratulations to all those sailors, their coaches and their support teams. The success of these sailors is built on the significant training programs provided by our highly regarded coaching team. My thanks to all involved.

RACE MANAGEMENT VOLUNTEERS

This year we have commenced an ongoing program to recruit new and retain existing Race Management Team (RMT) members.

Over the last few months we have concentrated on ensuring our existing and new volunteers have had the opportunity to participate in training in preparation for the many events we are hosting in the new sailing season.

RGYC will be showcasing the very best of what RGYC and the Geelong region has to offer and we need many trained and enthusiastic volunteers.

A new volunteer system is being introduced to support event rostering and provide better access for volunteers to manage their involvement in our programs.

THE YEAR AHEAD

The 2019/20 year promises an unprecedented number of regattas at RGYC. The Club will be hosting events including the exciting Festival of Sails, the historic Wooden Boat Festival of Geelong, the Cadet Nationals and four Olympic Class Sailing World Championships, which will see competitors and support crews from across Australia and around the globe.

RGYC is about to undergo major redevelopment of the site so we will all be working together to maintain our sailing programs during the building program.

S&B will develop a new Strategic Sailing Plan which will encourage the growth of our keel boat fleet, the continued development and transition of our OTB sailors, together with some new formats of sailing that will cater for Members' changing needs.

On behalf of Sailing and Boating Committee thank you all for the support and enthusiasm that makes RGYC sailing and boating so successful. It has been a great year, and with your continuing support, an even greater year to come.

Roger Bennett

Chairman, Sailing and Boating

Australian Sailing Victorian Awards Night

The Australian Sailing Victorian Awards Night was held on 21st June, 2019. Whilst the Club did not pick up any of the major awards this year, we were successful with two Geelong youth sailors announced in the 2019 Victorian Institute of Sport Squad.

RGYC Members announced as training partners were Michael Parks in the Laser

Radial Class and Ollie Manton in the 49er Class. Michael also picked up first place in the Victorian Sailing Cup in the Laser Radial Class.

Well done on becoming a part of this squad and in their World Championships that they are competing in this year.

RGYC member, Jake Newman, was also recognised as the Trailable Yachtsperson of the Year. Jake has a remarkable career in sailing with his start in Cadets at RGYC through many different classes to premier ocean races around the world. We congratulate Jake on his success.



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Opening Day 2018





Learn To Sail @ RGYC

An important way the club is building our sailing future is through our [Learn To Sail](#) programs. The activities are designed to meet the needs and abilities of a wide range of participants and to encourage them to take up sailing. Young learn-to-sailors begin their practical lessons using Optimists. School programs and dinghy courses use the Pacers, while keel boating is learnt on the club's J24's.

Youth Out There sailing is a new program that RGYC piloted with fifteen participants and three more who undertook an "experience" program.

The activities include sailing dinghies and keel boats as well as experiencing the club's five new stand up paddle boards.

RGYC Learn To Sail instructors range in age and experience and they have worked across

91 programs with 444 participants. We then add five Discover Sailing Days with 313 more new sailors who have great fun under the guidance of our friendly instructors.

Our new facilities, to be built in 2020, will support the training programs and encourage the growth of sailing.

Sailability

During this season of Sailability, I became aware of the Laser class definition of their "Masters" divisions.

If you are over 35 years old you are a "Master", over 45 years old you're a "Grand Master", over 55 years old you're a "Grand, Grand Master", and over 65 years old you're a "Legend"......

Within the RGYC Sailability family I believe we have a "Bloody Legend", David Purnell. David attends the Monday Sailability program, and has done so for a number of years.

In his mid-eighties, David fronts up every week, helps set up and pack up our sailing equipment and enjoys taking our clients out on the water in the Hansa dinghies.

A lasting memory of David was when the breeze had picked up from the North East in one of our sessions. There was David in the dinghy, surfing the waves with a huge grin on his face, and a grin on the client's face as well. David's enthusiasm and expertise is clear to all.

It is for these attributes that David has been awarded the "Lofty Thomas Award" for the 2018/19 Sailability season.

This award recognises outstanding dedication by a volunteer for our program and the awardee is chosen by the program coordinators; Janet Torode, Alan Goss, Lindsay Goss, Tony Minchin and myself.

This season we had the normal situation of occasional poor weather and pauses in our program due to events both within and external to RGYC. Overall we made many clients happy throughout our season, which of course is the objective of the Sailability program at RGYC.

We welcomed a number of new volunteers into our group and I'm hopeful they, along with our regular crew, will again support the Sailability program in the future.

During this season we were very pleased to be selected as one of two beneficiaries in the Geelong East Rotary Bi-annual Dinner Auction which was held at RGYC.

We held our "Thank You" BBQ in April with the bulk of our 35 volunteers present. Special thanks go to Bev Lee for the delicious carrot cake which rounded off our lunch.

This coming season promises to be challenging with the revamp of the yard and buildings requiring changes to our equipment



and how we conduct our activities. Funds raised will go towards maintenance of our aging fleet and completing changes to our equipment required by the building program. I'm sure we will navigate these changes to ensure we provide maximum enjoyment and opportunities for our clients.

You don't need to be a member of RGYC, or even be a sailor to assist our program. Contact the RGYC Office if you would like to join the team.

Graeme Ritchie
Sailability Coordinator RGYC

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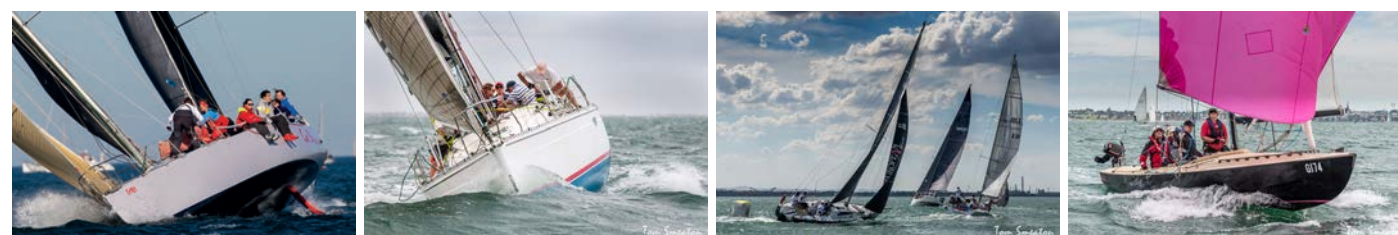







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'Esoterica' in Indonesia

The Indonesian Anambas Islands are comprised of 255 islands, of which only 26 are inhabited. The island group, in the southern end of the South China Sea, is located midway between the Malaysian peninsula and Borneo. The population is 50,000, mainly Muslim. Villages generally are 'kampung air', built on stilts over the water.

We were one of only 26 yachts that visited the area in 2016, the second year that yachts could clear into Anambas with the Sail Malaysia Rally. In 2017 Tarempa, the main town, became an Official Port of Entry, in a bid to attract more yachting tourism. We visited again that year, staying for nearly three months in an area that can only be described as Indonesia's best kept secret. That season nearly 60 yachts visited, some like us staying for several months.

The Anambas Islands provide clear waters, sheltered anchorages and pristine reefs with prolific fish life for snorkeling and diving. There are hundreds of smaller islands for exploration that have beautiful anchorages with coral reefs and sandy beaches, some with small villages on the shoreline.

On our first visit we were seeking a quiet anchorage away from the busy town harbour of Tarempa when we discovered one such gem. As we approached the bay a fisherman waved to us from his boat, ensuring we

understood where the edge of the fringing reef was, and he guided us into a small bay where we dropped anchor. We disembarked from our dinghy onto the stilt platforms in front of the houses, to be greeted by the same fisherman. His name was Alvian, he spoke some English, and delightedly he told us that we were the first yacht that had ever anchored in front of their village! After introducing us to his extended family the next question was 'Do you like coconuts?', and with an affirmative reply we set off, with about half the villagers following, to the small coconut plantation, whereupon one of the locals climbed the tree and dropped a number of coconuts at our feet. Two were quickly opened on the spot, some straws materialized, and we were treated to fresh coconut juice as we were then given a tour of the village, comprising about 100 people. It was a wonderful warm welcome, followed up by dinner in Alvian's house, local spicy foods enjoyed whilst we all sat around on the floor, conversing in a mixture of English and Indonesian.

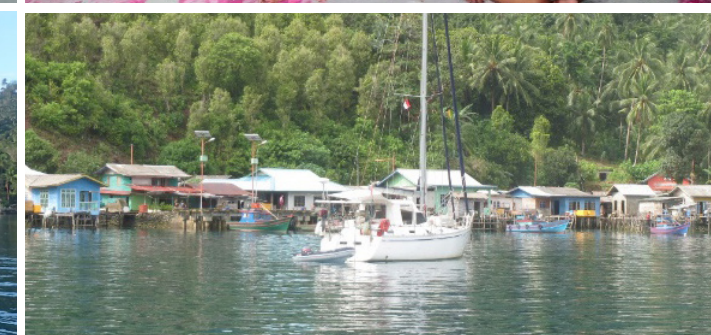
We have been back several times to this village, called Kampung Butan but known to us as Adel's Anchorage, after Alvian's young daughter. We have taken children's clothing (surplus to our family's needs), calculators for the children, and some monetary assistance for one of the villagers who was injured and unable to work. It delighted us on our return



trip in 2017 to see young Adel proudly wearing a dress that had previously belonged to our grand-daughter.

John and Kerryn Peirce departed RGYC early 2013 aboard 'Esoterica' and have cruised the East Coast of Australia, across the top to Darwin, the Kimberley, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand. They are currently in Borneo.

John Peirce



Vision Impaired Sailing Day 2019

The Vision Impaired Sailing Day, "In the Cockpit", is run in April every year at RGYC and this was its sixteenth year. Our Members support this event by providing their yachts to take vision impaired guests out on the Bay. The visitors always enjoy the trip and several of them participate in the operation of the yachts in crew roles.

Ray Goodwin and Jan Jones who have organised this event for so long were presented a plaque by the Corio Bay Lions Club in recognition of the work they do for this community. Congratulations Jan and Ray.

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EXPERTISE is hard to come by, and boat building expertise is even harder to nail down.

That was one of the reasons RGYC member Mal Lawrence was determined to return his Martzcrafft 46 to Queensland in October last year for upgrades and refinements before its designer-builder Brent Martz wrapped up his boatbuilding business to retire on his 70th birthday.

Brent built 90 Martzcrafft 35s and 13 Martzcrafft 46s over his career as a boat builder in Sydney and on the Gold Coast.

Rigal, Brent's last 46, for himself, was being finished in a shed on his property at Mt Tamborine and Mal had ordered improvements to the retractable centreboard, bulkhead passthroughs (to increase headroom) and a new hardtop to replace the canvas dodger on the 2002-built yacht, which Mal had bought in Sydney in 2017.

Other work to be done included making and fitting davits, under-seat lockers on the stern quarters, aft-mounted solar panels, remodelling internal doorways, rewiring, some replumbing and installing electric winches.

The yacht had to be delivered to the Gold Coast by October 29, before Mal, a marine engineer, took up a new job.

An ad on the RGYC noticeboard saw member Ed Featherston join Mal and his fellow marine engineer John Harper, from Cairns, Qld, aboard for the 1023 nautical mile delivery trip.

Retired civil engineer and RGYC member Graeme Hiller heard about the trip while attending the RGYC Cruising Group's October dinner and also joined the crew at short notice.

After an overnight stop at Queenscliff Cruising Yacht Club there was an early morning run through the Rip into Bass Strait, with the main and genoa then set to clear Cape Schanck in a fresh nor'easter.

Boisterous conditions prevailed from Cape Paterson through Cape Liptrap into Waratah Bay, where the yacht came in at 3am. John and Graeme got up for anchor watch while Mal and Ed knocked off for a well earned rest.

Mal's system of two-man watches – six hours on, six off – worked well, with the crew getting good rests to avoid fatigue and everyone sharing both day and night watches.

After departure at 9am, it was two-sail reaching between the spectacular Wilson's Promontory islands until late afternoon, when a 35-knot north-easter swept in to the north of Rodondo Island.

Two long tacks under reefed sails saw little progress against the strong tidal race so the "5-knot rule" (motor on if the speed drops

below 5-knots) was invoked to head directly to idyllic Refuge Cove before dark.

Long passages can demand early starts, so after a full day's rest, it was a 4am departure the following day.

In the pitch black, with a lumpy swell converging through the narrow entrance at high tide, strong eddies slewed the yacht, which we had nicknamed Malzcrafft, through three 180 degree turns that headed us first towards one rocky headland, then the other.

Mal calmly revved up the Volvo 55 Saildrive to regain control and headed out into a very confused sea from the westerly swell running around Wilsons Promontory into an opposing north-east second swell.

Crossing The Paddock, Malzcrafft threaded its way through the oil and gas production platforms off Gippsland's 90-Mile Beach.

By daybreak next morning the Cann River light was abeam and by noon we were at Gabo Island, where John had a rare sighting of a killer whale in the bay!

The crew went exploring, visited the historic lighthouse and keepers' quarters and that night joined marine biologist Catherine Brownleigh and her two French research assistants to watch the tagged muttonbirds fly back in from Antarctica to their burrows.



At sea again whales were frequently sighted, along with flipper-waving seals, dolphins cavorting around the bow, muttonbirds and albatrosses as the crew took on headwinds to 40 knots and 1.5m to 2.5m swells en route to Bermagui's narrow and tricky port entry.

After an overnight stay, refuelling and topping up provisions, we set sail for Southport.

Stemming the East Australian Current and encountering hour-long fog patches with visibility down to 50m, the crew had to sound the fog horn at the mandatory "one blast every two minutes" as the AIS had lost signal and we did not have a radar unit.

North of Sydney a southerly buster rolled up with sheet lightning and a few jagged bolts hitting the sea nearby.

Mal disengaged the auto pilot and swung the bow into the wind before the front blasted in at 56 knots.

With thoughts of the "Perfect Storm" movie coming to mind and with a huge grin, he yelled: "Hang on ... we're in the eye of the monster!"

Under bare poles and heeled hard to starboard, the sturdy Martzcrafft took it in her stride as the swells suddenly switched direction and the wild wind moderated from 40 to 30 knots.

During the night we motored closer inshore to escape the 3.8 knot East Australian Current and head seas that saw us down to only a knot.

The north-east swells got up to 3m and were beginning to break, with a few waves sluicing the decks for the first time on the trip before rain flattened the seas and the wind began to die out to under 10 knots.

Off Newcastle it was a case of "threading the needle" through the lines of parked ships in the night watches, with Mal anxious not to cross the "pointy end" of any of them.

His "must have" navigation units included up-to-date paper charts, plotter, an AIS receiver patched in to the deck mounted iPad with an iSail navigation app for instant course and waypoint information. All this plus Garmin hand-held and mounted units for back up and speed over the ground, course made good and updating trip averages.

These kept us well clear of anchored and moving ships, although at one stage Mal had to do a 360 degree loop to pass astern of a ship.

A welcome favourable reaching breeze set in and Malzcrafft topped 7 knots as we slid past Port Stephens.

Next day saw a steady 25 knot south-westerly and, with waves building to 1.5m-plus, we

surfaced at up to 11.9 knots and had trouble with a slow big tanker trying to overtake us as we kept up a satisfying 8.5 knots all day.

Moonlit surfing was magic and by dawn the Martzcrafft 46, which had proved her worth throughout the trip, was approaching Nambucca Heads, lifting its average from 5.4 to 5.9 knots overall.

By 1800 hours we were off Yamba, still surfing, with the crew enjoying the sunshine and dodging behind the container ship Maersk Virginia.

Another great night of full moon sailing downwind was followed by the breeze dropping out by dawn.

The "5 knot rule" was invoked again as we closed the Southport Seaway in calm conditions against a 2-knot ebb tide.

We arrived at the Gold Coast City Marina, Coomera, at 1230 hours after a 12-day delivery and Malzcrafft was slipped, pressure hosed off and securely blocked up in the yard next morning.

Within a day Brent had fitted the new hardtop and had begun work on the other tasks to get the yacht ready for its return trip home.

Ed Featherston

Winter Series Racing



DAVIDSONS WINTER SERIES 2019

DIVISION ONE

- 1st – Spirit of Rani, Phil Francis
- 2nd – Allora, Paul Smedley
- 3rd – Baltic, Peter Bone



DIVISION TWO

- 1st – Fleurieu Warrior, Trevor Brown
- 2nd – Onda, Gian Macolino
- 3rd – Lupa Wylo, Geoff Sadler



COMMODORE'S WINTER WONDERS 2019

- 1st – Bundaberg, John Kint
- 2nd – Elixir, Chris Williams
- 3rd – Lupa Wylo, Geoff Sadler

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VRCA Twilight Racing 2019



DIVISION ONE

- 1st – Larriken 2, Darren Pickering
- 2nd – Extasea, Paul Buchholz
- 3rd – Bundaberg, John Kint

DIVISION TWO

- 1st – Joan D'Arc, Douglas Gaylard
- 2nd – Diamond Belle, Jon Apted
- 3rd – Two Farr, Will Baum

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2018 Etchells World Championship

Two teams represented Royal Geelong Yacht Club at the Queensland State and World Championships held at Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron (RQYS). The RQYS was very well prepared and the venue itself is tailor made for large scale sailing events such as the Etchells Worlds. There were 94 boats competing at this championship representing Australia, Great Britain, Hong Kong, Nigeria, USA, New Zealand and Bermuda.

The RGYC boats were: "Perfect Balance" (AUS1387) crewed by Bendan Garner (Helm), Ben O'Brien (Bow), Josh Garner (Apprentice) and Chris Manton (Main Trim) and "Voodoo Spirit" (AUS 1024) crewed by Guyon Wilson (Helm), Alastair Lee (Bow) and Ben Ramage (Main Trim). In addition, Rod Hagebols was the team coach and support crew.

As a lead up to the Worlds, Perfect Balance sailed in what turned out to be a very windy pre-Worlds (Queensland States) regatta. Gusts of up to 26 knots provided lots of excitement on the downwind legs of the races. There were many breakages, wipe outs, man over boards, holes in boats and sinkings. As it turned out, the conditions were not ideal as practice because the Worlds were sailed in very moderate 6-12 knots of breeze.

The racing was conducted on Moreton Bay which is approximately 75 minutes from the marina. Each day we spent two and a half

hours to get to and from the race course. Rod was using Chris Manton's VSR5.8 RIB as coach boat for the event and towing two Etchells to and from the race course was not ideal but really helped the teams relax before and after racing. The typical day had both teams dock off at 0945hrs and return by 1800hrs. Both Voodoo and Perfect Balance worked well together as a team setting up for speed testing before the first race of the day which gave Rod a chance to give some input, take photos for rig analysis and give feedback.

The Etchells class has placed restrictions on coach boats having any communication/contact with the boats they are coaching from the first Preparatory Signal of the day until racing has concluded for the day, not even between races. Coaches were also held 200 metres below the start line until the Race Committee dropped their orange flags, usually five minutes after the start. Coach boats then had to stay 200m from any part of the course where an Etchell might sail. The race signal boat was situated in the middle of the 1.3km long start line. Choosing the correct end of the line was very important as small changes in wind or current direction would influence/favour boats at one end.

We contracted Meteorologist, Ken Batt, for the Pre Worlds and Worlds. Ken provided forecasts and current modelling each day.

This was valuable as the conditions in Moreton Bay were some of the trickiest any RGYC team member had ever encountered. Swirling currents, breezes switching from gradient to thermal with cloud interference made each day a real challenge.

The conditions for the Worlds ranged from 8-12 knots from South East to Northerly over the course of the week.

Both teams sailed very well considering their limited preparation and recent experience in fleets of that size. Both teams had moments of glory but at this level it's consistency that wins the regatta. You could safely say the top ten boats were capable of winning the Worlds but the winning boat had Matt Belcher, Olympic Gold medallist, and the runner up boat had Matt's crew, Will Ryan, the Silver medallist, on board. Apart from those teams, the fleet was stacked with the cream of one design sailors such as John Bertrand and Steve Benjamin. Perfect Balance finished 56th and Voodoo Spirit was 60th overall. Both teams should be pleased with their performance on and off the water. Each team's process and willingness to learn and try things out of their comfort zone is to be congratulated. Royal Geelong Yacht Club could not have been represented any better. Well done team!

Rod Hagebols

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The beginning of the tow each morning – Guyon Wilson (Left) always on the go.



The Start line at 1.3km

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Festival of Sails

EVENT CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The 2019 [Festival of Sails](#) was a huge success with many positive comments again proving the three-day format over the Australia Day long weekend is the preferred model for participants and visitors. The racing, by all competitive sailing measures, was an overwhelming success with extremely positive feedback from our participants.

Entry numbers were up on 2018, with a total of 307 boats, confirming the Festival of Sails' position, not only as the largest keelboat regatta in the Southern Hemisphere, but the oldest sailing event in Australia. This event is older than Wimbledon, the Ashes, the Melbourne Cup and the modern Olympics. We were delighted to have Sir James Hardy OBE as our Festival Ambassador. Sir James is identified in the Australian community as a successful yachtsman. He became a household name when he represented Australia at the 1964 Olympic Games in Japan and then again in 1968 in Mexico. One of his greatest yachting achievements was his skippering in three separate challenges for the America's Cup. He is an inspiration to sailors and offers encouragement to all who enjoy our sport.

The Festival launched on Australia Day, Saturday 26th January with the running of the historic 176th Passage Race. The traditional race from Melbourne to Geelong saw 230 yachts depart Williamstown in light air. Principal Race Officer Denis Thompson once again demonstrated his skill as an outstanding race officer along with his race management team. These expert race officials delivered an almost perfect regatta, getting the fleet away on time and without incident, and despite a slow drifting start to the Passage Race, the breeze gradually built throughout the day

to get the fast boats to Geelong by early afternoon.

The three days saw participants compete in 100 races over 6 courses in yachts ranging from million-dollar Grand Prix racers, sports boats, multihulls, trailer boats, classic yachts, family cruisers, to children's dinghies. We are very pleased to welcome yachts from many of our kindred clubs and commend the efforts of skippers and crews from interstate who join us.

After racing, large crowds enjoyed the high quality entertainment program. With entertainment stages at the newly designed regatta village at RGYC and Eastern Beach, the crowds had plenty to cheer about. The main bands featured were the Royal Australian Navy Band, Russell Morris and Vika and Linda Bull, who all drew large crowds.

Australia Day crowds enjoyed the waterfront festival between Royal Geelong Yacht Club and Eastern Beach Reserve. Locals and visitors to the region enjoyed free entertainment, roving performers, food vans and market stalls. There was a free 'come and try' sailing activity on Eastern Beach with Discover Sailing. This event was a huge success with over two hundred people taking to the water. Many of our junior sailors assisted with this activity. We also held our inaugural 'Regional Artisan Food Fair' along with buskers' entertainment at Fairnie Park.

While the Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race cycling event on Saturday and Sunday did not affect the sailing component of the event, it must be noted that it certainly impacted the waterfront festival over the weekend. It is pleasing to know that the cycling event is now scheduled for the weekend

following the Festival of Sails and that we are planning to use Steam Packet Gardens again next year.

Events of this type and size would not be possible without the considerable involvement from our volunteer team. RGYC is extremely fortunate to have a huge supporter base, both within and outside the club. We operated a newly structured volunteer system that spread the work load considerably. Under the leadership of our Volunteer Coordinator the process worked extremely well, and the feedback from our 210 volunteers was extremely positive and encouraging.

Our key supporters for the 2019 event were, again, the State Government of Victoria and the City of Greater Geelong and I thank them for their continued support of this truly world class event. We are extremely fortunate to have such a magnificent sailing venue in Corio Bay.

Thanks to [Geelong Connected Communities](#) for supporting the waterfront festival. Special thanks also to our Major Sponsors and the many other event sponsors who got behind the Festival of Sails and contributed to its success.

The Executive Committee and the Operations Committee and our staff worked tirelessly throughout the year and special thanks must go to those involved with the planning and implementation of this iconic event.

After the success of 2019 we look with confidence towards a bigger and better event in January 2020. I hope that you will join us.

Stuart Dickson

2019 Festival of Sails Chairman
Vice Commodore RGYC



Van Dieman's Land Circumnavigation 2019

ANOTHER "MAGIC" CRUISE AROUND TASMANIA

Definition. Cruising = fixing yachts in exotic places.

Rae and I had decided early that we would be taking part in this cruise, as we had intended to participate in our second cruise in 2017, but work circumstances meant that we had to withdraw. Even starting with plenty of time to prepare "Magic", our Beneteau Oceanis 351, this proved to still require a bit of a rush at the end.

We undertook a shakedown cruise to Apollo Bay and King Island in company with Bill & Julie Newman on Maatsuyker after Christmas 2018 to rediscover our cruising skills and rhythm and allow some practice with the dinghy. Julie still breaks up laughing whenever she describes how we landed in the water while trying to beat a wave to the beach in the dinghy.

On February 23rd 2019 most of the mainland fleet arrived in Queenscliff early to allow for some flexibility in departure time for Tasmania. Much of the waiting time was spent checking

and discussing the various weather models. There was a touch of nervous anticipation amongst the crews.

As several boats were sailing shorthanded, we weren't looking for boisterous weather for the initial crossing to Three Hummock Island off the North West tip of Tasmania.

Cruise Commodore of the mainland fleet, Bill Newman, on Goggo led the way out of Queenscliff in very comfortable conditions and we raised mainsails in a pleasant 10-12 knots of North Easterly breeze and bright sunshine.

Of course these perfect conditions didn't last and as the sun went down, the wind built from the East and as we cleared the protection of the Prom, the seas built up from the stern quarter, providing a rolly ride in strong winds overnight. Angles were sailed to provide a smoother ride rather than running straight down the rhumb line, so we crossed paths with several yachts during the night. On Magic we enjoyed being able to adjust sails (with furling main and jib) from the safety and protection



of the cockpit. With a full set of clears to zip in joining the dodger and bimini, we can be out of the cold and wet (not at all like sitting on the rail during ocean races). Morning dawned with eased conditions and several yachts in close proximity, with everyone arriving within a couple of hours in Coulomb Bay.

Drama unfolded shortly after, and in what is synonymous with the cruise, others immediately banded together to lend a hand and resolve problems from simple to quite



complex. Sundancing had lost their prop on the crossing, and once they dropped anchor, had to stay there in exposed windy conditions for a couple of days until parts could be fabricated to allow Bill and Russell and others to install the spare prop that was fortunately aboard Sundancing.

Adventures continued in Strahan and the Gordon River, with our shaft seal developing a leak and requiring replacement – a bit scary when you are way up the Gordon River and a very long way from a slipway and spares. Going below after a day in the dinghies up the Franklin River exploring, it was alarming when Rae noticed that the floorboards were floating! The "sinking party" is one of the highlights of the trip, where the great camaraderie of the participants came to the fore once again. Offers of help came from all directions and in no time an emergency pump, a compressor and wet vac and many hands appeared to assist in getting rid of the unwanted water in the bilge (and most of the beer from the fridge, just in case that was adding to the problem).

Russell, Alan, Stuart and others had no hesitation getting cold and wet helping. Again Bill Newman and the extended VDLC family came to the rescue. A phone call to a supplier in Hobart found the part, a friend picked it up and passed it to the crew from another boat that was coming to Strahan the next day. So two days later we fitted it, while still in the water! Something I never would have contemplated on my own.

Already Allways Sunday was being referred to as the rescue boat, with Russell "McGyver" Gerischer proving he could fix almost anything, and was always ready to help, to ensure others were having a great time. Not one to sit still for long, Russ was often seen buzzing around in his dinghy, checking boats and helping others.

Once Bill (with some clumsy assistance from myself) had replaced the shaft seal, we promptly had another party in the cockpit of Magic, which was proving to be a very popular spot, for two reasons. One, it has a big ice chest in the cockpit table, and two, it has full covers so we can fit a lot of people in the cockpit and keep dry, and the weather was a bit wet.



Port Davey saw the fleet spread around with some up at Melaleuca and others in various bays. Goggo, Crispian & Patternmaker were catching crays near Breaksea Island. Most of the Geelong boats seemed to congregate together at various spots around the cruise, and Claytons Corner was one where we were all together for a couple of days. Some of us were lucky to be tied up to the jetty, while others dinghied ashore to enjoy a feast around the fire in the hut.

We had a fright one afternoon, soon after Russell & Natalie had arrived for sundowners, when an almighty roar started up that sounded like an aircraft trying to land beside us. It turned out to be the wind generator, which although it had a seized bearing, had succumbed to the 40 knots gusts and decided to work again! With the bearing protesting loudly, on advice from Russ, a wet towel (which had come up on our anchor the previous day) was deployed to tame the beast, which was then secured to avoid a repeat performance.

On the longer passages, we got in the habit of being the "Dawn Patrol", weighing anchor first and heading off generally about an hour in front of the rest of the fleet, to allow for our slower motor-sailing speed. The fleet would progressively overtake us during the day, but we would arrive just behind them at the next anchorage. Being shallow draft meant this wasn't usually a problem because even though the anchorages were pretty full, we could generally get in closer than others. With a really good Sarca anchor and 70 metres of chain, we were never too worried about dragging anchor, even when it was blowing 30-40 knots.

The Dentrecaux Channel must be one of the best cruising grounds in the world, and a week is nowhere near enough time to do it justice. With great anchorages around every corner, you are never far from another perfect spot, whatever the weather. Goggo caught enough flathead to feed the fleet, and one of Rae's highlights of the entire cruise was our overnight stay in Missionary Bay. We took the dinghies ashore as the tide dropped in the afternoon, to search for oysters on the rocks at the waterline. With a fire built, the rocks were placed in the embers, cooking the oysters to perfection. You can't get any fresher than that!



Hobart provided a chance to explore the town, try the whisky distillery and replenish the fridge, while also enjoying the end of cruise dinner and presentation night for the Hobart fleet. Several yachts took the opportunity for a crew change, with some having to return to work and other commitments.

A pleasant sail down the Derwent to the Iron Pot, turned into a fast reach in 20-25 knots past Cape Raoul, then up into Port Arthur. Once everyone was happily anchored, we started exploring and over the next few days most visited the Port Arthur settlement ruins. We sat here for a few days, held up by strong winds from the North and West. At one time, even though it was only blowing 10-15 knots in Stewarts Bay, just miles away at Tasman Island it was blowing 40 knots!

This was then the story of the rest of the cruise, picking the lull between fronts for the next hop up the coast. Unfortunately this meant some very short stays in some anchorages such as Wineglass Bay, and extended stays in others such as Beauty Point. Although it is a lovely place, and the locals couldn't have been more welcoming or helpful, reflecting the fantastic hospitality we enjoyed throughout the whole cruise, after a week it was a bit like the Bermuda Triangle.

The VDLC is perfect for those who would like to do some more extended cruising, but perhaps lack the experience or confidence to do it alone. Sailing in an organised event with a fleet of other boats, many with lots of experience, provides a safe and supported way to enjoy the cruising experience, and gain some skills and knowledge along the way. With the resources of the excellent anchorage guide, and the mandatory safety requirements ensuring you and your vessel are well prepared, this cruise in company is an excellent way to visit Tasmania.

This part of Australia is a world class cruising destination, and the West Coast with the Gordon River and Port Davey some of the most remote and dramatic wilderness you will ever experience. Added to that is the experience of sharing it with old and new friends, making it truly unforgettable.

Rae and Steve Hassell

RGYC St Ayles Skiff Program



With two St Ayles Skiffs now completed and available to RGYC members and visitors from our grass area and a third well on its way, we are on the verge of a new chapter of on-water activity for our club and the Geelong community.

Peter Doyle has been leading a team of RGYC members and other skilled helpers to engage Geelong's many 'Cultural and Language-Diverse' (CALD) communities in building and then using ten of these beautiful Scottish off-shore rowing boats. The goal is to establish an active St Ayles Skiff building and rowing scene which draws together people from many cultures and backgrounds in building and then mucking around in boats. So far, the program has seen mixed build-teams of Christian Iraqis, Muslim Persians, Indians, Pakistanis and Nigerians all under the guidance of refugees from the Royal Geelong Yacht Club!

The mucking around will see the boats used for a range of activities. While being available for use at any time, the organised skiff program will see them on the water for members, guests and visitors for social rowing every Sunday morning from October 13th. The

skiffs will also compete with the other thirty St Ayles Skiffs in Australia at regattas (including the 'Spirit of St Ayles Cup' at our own Wooden Boat Festival), distance and over-night river touring ("raiding" in St Ayles Skiff parlance) and off-shore fun from sheltered beaches. They are also a wonderful platform for regular health and fitness training.

Royal Geelong Yacht Club is a foundation supporter of this program as it adds a new dimension to the future of our club. It presents a new activity for existing members and leverages our prime waterfront position to attract new members who are not sailors. It also plays directly to the club's obligation to our Safe Harbour funders that we will be more open to the community.

History shows that one of the club's leaders in the late 1800's, Sir Charles Sladen, instigated the first regatta on Corio Bay and was one of the Stewards. Sir Charles set a condition that rowing events would always be included in the regattas. While it's taken us a while, the advent of the St Ayles Skiffs sees us finally complying!



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Alpha Presentation

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

Presentation to Commodore John Kint of the Royal Melbourne Yacht Squadron "140 Years on Port Phillip" book. Presented by Jan Jones on behalf of RGYC Women in Sailing

FESTIVAL OF SAILS 2019:

Cardinal Puff - Jeremy Capon

Best Performed RGYC yacht over the 2019 FOS:
Mayflower Trophy

Kavala - Dave Ruffin

Best Performed RGYC yacht in the 2019 FOS
Passage Race: Lionel Windsor Trophy

Goggo - Bill Newman

Best Performed RGYC yacht in the 2019 FOS
Passage Race: Myer Emporium Tray

WOMEN IN SAILING:

Diamond Belle - Helen Wallace

1st: Womens Helm Race: Montgomery Family Trophy

VX ONES:

Slick - Brian Case

1st: VX One Aggregate

Public Enemy - Jarrod Wallis

2nd: VX One Aggregate

KC - Kim Clarke

3rd: VX One Aggregate

ETCHELLS:

Wicked - Rod Hagebols

1st: Etchells Aggregate: Capt A D McPherson Tray
1st: Etchells Handicap Aggregate: Apted Cup
1st: Etchells Post Christmas Series: Harold Troon Perpetual Cup

The Moe Szyslak Experience - Tony Mackenzie

2nd: Etchells Aggregate
1st: Pre Christmas Series: Martini Marine Perpetual Trophy

Voodoo Spirit - Guyon Wilson

3rd: Etchells Aggregate

CORIO CRUISERS:

Baltic - Peter Bone

1st: Aggregate: J.A. Fitzgerald Tray

Bundaberg - John Kint

2nd: Aggregate: Licensed Victuallers Trophy
1st: Gannet Cup Race: Gannet Cup
3rd: Twilights
3rd: Post Christmas Twilights
3rd: Summer Mini Series

Déjà vu - Bill Lodge

3rd: Aggregate: Corio Cruiser Bowl

Allora - Paul Smedley

2nd: Non Aggregate Series

Panache - Michael Melican

1st: Queenscliff Race: Murray McAllister Trophy

Time Out - Lovro Ljubanovic

1st: Last Race of the Season: Club Captain's Trophy
1st: Portarlinton Race: Geelong Media Trophy and the Mayfair Perpetual Trophy

Lupa Wylo - Geoff Sadler

3rd: Post Christmas Twilights

Vivacite - Roger McLennan

1st: Corio Cruisers Combined Races: Kan Walker H28 Trophy
1st: Long Races: Kevin Bell Trophy

DIVISION 3:

Diamond Belle - Jonathan Apted

1st: Aggregate: Dr Kennedy Beta Tray
1st: Club Course Races: Poldi Steel Trophy
1st: Mixed Course Races: Bruce Henderson Tray
1st: W/L Races
1st: Summer Mini Series
2nd: Post Christmas Twilights
2nd: Twilights
3rd: Non Aggregate Series

Revolution - Peter Stephens

2nd: Aggregate: Nhilla Cup
1st: Mixed Course Races: Bruce Henderson Tray (Shared)

Fleurieu Warrior - Trevor Brown

3rd: Aggregate
1st: TWL Races: Niola Cup
1st: Race 12: Bruce Henderson Trophy
1st: Last Race of the Season: Club Captain's Trophy and the Striproll Trophy
2nd: Gannet Cup Race
2nd: Queenscliff Race
2nd: Two Handed Series
3rd: Tuff Marine Series
Most raced boat of the season: Race Committee Trophy

6 Foot 10 - Geoff Baum

1st: Portarlinton Race: British Paints Trophy

Onda - Gian Paolo Macolino

3rd: Queenscliff Race

DIVISION 2:

The Usual Suspects - Daryl Speakman

1st: Aggregate: Sea Wren Cup
1st: Club Course Races
1st: Last Race of the Season: Club Captain's Trophy & the Striproll Trophy
1st: Non Aggregate Series
3rd: AMS

Buck - Stirling Parker & Gary Foley

2nd: Aggregate: Betty Cole Perpetual Trophy
2nd: AMS
1st: TWL Races: John Collins Cup

Gentlemen's Relish - John Mackay

3rd: Aggregate
1st: Mixed Course Races: Arthur Collins Warroo Cup
1st: W/L Races: Beta Cup
1st: Portarlinton Race: W H MacKinlay Cup – Killarra Trophy

Joan D'Arc - Douglas Gaylard

1st: Twilights
1st: Post Christmas Twilights
1st: Pre-Christmas Twilights: Victorian Regional Channels Authority Trophy

Reverie - Ian Hunter

1st: Race 12: Mistral 111 Bowl

Spirit of Rani - Phil Francis

1st: AMS
2nd: Summer Mini Series
3rd: Gannet Cup Race

The Ugly Uncles - Geoff Newman

1st: Twilight Races 5 & 15 Series: Foundation Shield

Two Farr - Will Baum

1st: Two Handed Series
2nd: Tuff Marine Series
3rd: Twilights

DIVISION 1:

Larriken 2 - Darren Pickering

1st: Aggregate: Howard Hitchcock Perpetual Shield
1st: W/L Races: Coca Cola Shield
1st: Club Course Races: W.H.(Jockey) Jones Perpetual Trophy
1st: Races 1, 11, 22 Series: Nelson Cup
1st: Last Race of the Season: Club Captain's Trophy and the Striproll Trophy
1st: Tuff Marine Series: Tuff Marine Trophy
1st: Twilights: Victorian Regional Channels Authority Trophy
1st: Pre Christmas Twilights: Victorian Regional Channels Authority Trophy
2nd: Post Christmas Twilights

Vitesse - Scott Farrimond

2nd: Aggregate
1st: Selected Races Series: Cutty Sark Perpetual Trophy
1st: IRC
1st: TWL Races: E H (Eustace) Wilson Memorial Trophy
1st: Mixed Course Races: Kevin Morrison Trophy
1st: Race 2: Lorna Anderson Trophy
1st: Post Christmas Twilights
1st: Twilight Races 5 & 15 Series: Foundation Shield
1st: Portarlinton Race: H P Douglass Shield
2nd: Twilights
2nd: AMS
3rd: Aggregate

Local Mocean - Stuart Richardson

1st: Glover Cup Race: Josh Glover Cup
3rd: AMS

Phoenix - Jennifer Carnell

1st: AMS: Sir Winston Churchill Perpetual Trophy
2nd: IRC

Spirit - Dale Robertson

1st: Race 12: Wilfred Libby Memorial Trophy

Razors Edge - Paul Loughnan

3rd: Two Handed Series

SPECIAL AWARDS

THE LOFTY (SYD) THOMAS AWARD

The most enthusiastic volunteer in the Sailability program

David Purnell

THE BOLLE TROPHY

For any achievement which promotes sailing as a sport of fun and personal or group development not driven by commercial interest or abnormal finance

Bill Newman

THE WILLIAM SMITH BOARD

For the best found and maintained boat on the Club register

The Usual Suspects, Daryl Speakman

THE W.H. THACKER MEMORIAL SHIELD

For the member considered to be the most enthusiastic for the season

Laura Cora Macolino

THE VERFURTH TROPHY

For the member who (in the opinion of the Board) makes the most outstanding contribution to yachting during the year

Mike Kelly



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Australian Women's Keelboat Regatta 2019

ROYAL GEELONG YACHT CLUB TAKES ON THE 2019 AWKR

Our growing list of competitive sailors tell their stories of this year's [Australian Women's Keelboat Regatta](#) held at Royal Melbourne Yacht Squadron on June 8 – 10.

BAILE DE LUNA - J 24



Jan Jones, Avril Sellars, Laura Cora Macolino and Georgina Scarborough took one of RGYC's J24's to the northern reaches of Port Phillip Bay for this event. Jan reports:

"On our first day of racing on RGYC's Baile De Luna we came 15th out of 22 boats as it was our first time sailing together and learning what each of us could do.

The second day we put it together by coming 5th and 6th and we all were happy with that.

Our third day saw wind gusting up to 30 knots at times. Unfortunately we ripped the main and had to retire.

Thanks to all the crew, and helpers along the way who got us to the regatta: Howard Hughes, Don Sellars driving Avril and Jan up to St Kilda, Gian (G.P.) Macolino for sailing the boat up to Melbourne and back to Geelong, Ray Goodwin, Billy Parker, Peter Kirman and Emma Powell. A huge thank you to Paul Loughnan for being our sponsor and supporting the Australian Women's Keelboat Regatta 2019."

THE ADVENTURES OF LE CASCADEUR AT AWKR

Four Royal Geelong members, Lucy Townson, Sue Harman, Kate Wylie and Susannah Gillam crewed on Le Cascadeur, a Hobsons Bay boat skippered by Leo Eeckman (also from Hobsons Bay) at the AWKR.

A variable northerly on Day One was an opportunity to learn how to work together effectively and try out the full set of headsails and spinnakers.

By Day Two the boat felt good through the water, crew communication was effective and sound decisions were made. Overall, the team was working well to utilize the strengths of everyone on board. By the end of five races Le Cascadeur was in third place for AMS in Division 2, with two S80's in strong contention for high placings.

On Day Three many parts of Port Phillip Bay experienced lighter breezes, but soon it was coming in at just over 20 knots with gusts in the low 30's on the race course. With two S80's to beat to secure our position, race 6, the final race of the series had to be a good one. We sailed well for the first half of the race but up the second beat problems with the reefing line and outhaul meant we had to drop the main and finish under headsail only.

Our final result for the event was equal 3rd on points but 4th on count back. We were all happy with how we had performed given the high calibre of the fleet and we thoroughly enjoyed the event.

CA BOUGE

Liah Hunter skippered her newly painted boat with an RGYC crew, who wanted to compete in the event for the experience. The crew consisted of Liah Hunter, Helen Wallace, Michelle Donlen, Mim Glasby, Cara Derbyshire, Claire Formby, Jodie Roberts, Maree Moloney & Svetlana Pashchenko.

Sailing in Division 1, the women had their hands full with a big fast boat in the strong conditions. The traveller broke on day two but rapid repairs were made between races.

A torn mainsail on the last day put paid to a potentially good result but quick action from the crew not only avoided more serious damage but also ensured that other boats weren't hampered in their pursuit of results. Evidently some good skills and experience on display.

Women's Helm Race

The annual Women's Helm Race, with 5 yachts entered, set sail in approximately 15 knots of wind. Baltic, Reverie, Diamond Belle, Ca Bouge and Onda all had a fantastic start with spinnakers flying. Reverie broke their

rudder on the second leg, retired from the race and then had to work out how to get back to the club. All returned safely.

Congratulations to the winners, Helen Wallace and her crew on Diamond Belle.

Thank you to our race officers for the day, Linda Carr and John Garner and thank you to Alison Weatherly who put together the sailing instructions for the race.



Off the Beach Sailing

Off the Beach at RGYC enjoyed another vibrant year through the 2018-2019 season. Beginning with the Opening Day in September through the Aggregate racing series to the Presentation Night, each Class grew in stature and skill.

Highlights of the season started even before Opening Day with a successful Springsail Regatta and coaching weekend which attracted over 120 boats. This is always a great start to the sailing season.

Optimists had spent some of the Winter season in training at Albert Park. Under the guidance of Brian Case, assisted by enthusiastic parents, they were a constant feature of racing on Saturdays and Sunday afternoons. As the days grew longer, Tuesday evenings found them out on the water.

The Cadet fleet grew to a maximum of 17 boats. Cadets are always a strong class in Geelong and the senior skippers were determined to make their mark in regattas around the Bay and later for the Nationals in Tasmania.

The mixed fleet of Contenders, Tasers, 420, 29ers and Sabres were joined by an ever-expanding fleet of Lasers, now regularly numbering 15.

The combined fleet was managed on Saturday afternoons by Steve Nuenhoffer, Nina, Roger, Arthur and supported in the radio room by Ray. We extend our gratitude to all for facilitating racing.

Christmas and, specifically Christmas night, saw the Spirit of Tasmania full of sailing boats of all classes heading to the Apple Isle for the various Nationals. The Cadets and Optimis were based in Sandy Bay, the Lasers in Devonport.

RGYC were proud to contribute to the Tillet Cup victory for Victoria and delighted to contribute three skippers and crews to the Australian team for the International Cadet World Championship in Poland. Team Coach, Tony Bull, led the team to Poland and returned with strong showings from our young sailors. We also saw Optimist sailors being selected to compete and represent Australia at a high level in South East Asia, New Caledonia and later in the season, France.

It is a credit to the junior sailors to see them invited to participate in Etchells and keel boat racing during the Festival of Sails. There are, of course, two larger vessels, J24s, available at the Club. The new, cool VX1 sports boats grew to a fleet of five very quickly. It is great to see them in full flight across the bay.

The fundraising efforts were aided by the "Italian Night". This supposed once off event has now been successfully held on five occasions and perhaps will become a regular function each season. It seems to be one of the must-be-seen-at dinners and deservedly so. Much appreciation to all involved. The annual Trivia Night, Silent Auction and Bravo Presentation Night rounded out an excellent season.

In addition to the much-anticipated physical changes at RGYC, the Club is investing in training and skill acquisition. This is a multi year program with courses in First Aid, mark laying, VHF radio, motor boat handling, safety boat handling and instruction in both being offered to members.

It is expected that this will expand the race management skills at the Club to confidently host the many planned regattas. In concert with this is the substantial investment in new support vessels for race operations.

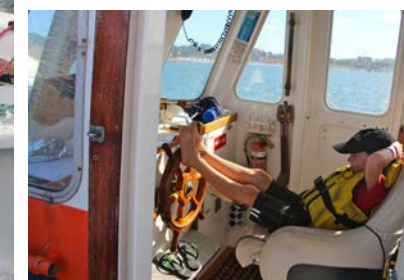
Though it will prove challenging at times, it is anticipated that the Club's building program will encourage greater participation and encourage a growth in membership.

Springsail will begin the new sailing season and the next big event will be close to Christmas with the International Cadet Nationals followed by large Laser and '9er/ Nacra Regattas. All these certainly highlight the ambition of the Club and the confidence it has in sailing now and into the future.

The foreshore and Corio Bay are looking forward to the next season with even more sails and sailing.

Diarmuid McCoy

Chairman, OTB Working Group



Bravo Presentation

CADET CLASS

B E Purnell Trophy - 1st State Championship
Smooth Criminal - Jarrah Harris-Moore - Evie McDonald

C.H.Fleet Perpetual - Most improved skipper
Lulu Di Sciascio

Deakin Wordly Perpetual Cadet - (one trophy only) - Skipper
Sparkle - Emma Kelly

Deakin Wordly Perpetual Cadet - (one trophy only) - Crew
Sparkle - William Farnell - skipper only

Doug Hocking Perpetual - 1st Fleet Handicap Nom. Race
Anaconda - Elliot Hughes - Charlie Haigh

E.J.Fairnie Perpetual Cup - 1st Championship Skipper
Sparkle - Emma Kelly

G.M 'Gar' Vautier RAAF Memorial Trophy - Cadet Member declared the best for the season
Jarrah Harris-Moore

Garner Crews Race Perpetual - 1st Crew Race
Assassin - Emma Williamson

Geoff "SOOS" Spedding Perpetual - 1st Fleet Handicap Special Race
Little Devil - Georgia Delaney - Ashley Delaney

Gordon Jackson Memorial Cup - Best found, prepared & maintained boat
Anaconda

Gordon Jackson Perpetual - Maiden Skipper -
Caitlin Murgatroyd

Gordon Jackson Perpetual Cup - 1st Championship Crew
Sparkle - William Farnell
Heath Championship Perpetual - Red Division Crew - Not Awarded 2018-19
Landfall Perpetual - 1st Single Handed Race
Assassin - Imogen Farnell

Mackinlay Cup - 1st WL Fleet Handicap
Wildcard - Lulu Di Sciascio - Charley Stephens

Margaret & David Wane Perpetual - 1st Red Division - Not Awarded 2018-19
Mermaid Perpetual Trophy - Best performed skipper in National Championship
Sparkle - Emma Kelly

Mermaid Perpetual Trophy - Best performed skipper State Championship
Smooth Criminal - Jarrah Harris-Moore

Naval Auxiliary Patrol Perpetual - Best in National Championship
Sparkle - Emma Kelly - William Farnell

Neil R Ritchie Cadet Captains Bowl - 1st WLT Fleet Handicap
Need For Speed - Molly Grimes - James Smith

OTB Committee Trophy - Crews Award
Evie McDonald

OTB Committee Trophy - Sailor most worthy who has not received a championship placing
Imogen Farnell

OTB Committee Trophy - Encouragement Award -
Georgia Delaney
Redlands Trophy - National Championship Co-Ed team
Sparkle - Emma Kelly - William Farnell

Robin Robbins Perpetual - 1st Fleet Handicap Last Race
Aquilo - Cooper Field - Tom Grimes

Ruth Plummer Club Member Award - Cadet whose activities embody the spirit of the Cadet fellowship -
Milli McDonald

Searle Bros Perpetual - 1st Handicap
Need For Speed - Molly Grimes - James Smith

Senior Members Cadet Race - 1st Place (2018-19)
Aquilo - Liam Robinson - Cooper Field

Senior Members Cadet Race - 1st Place
Zeus - Brendan Garner - Sam Williamson

Tasman II - 2nd Championship
Smooth Criminal - Jarrah Harris-Moore - Evie McDonald

Tillet Trophy - Winning State in Nationals - Victoria
W L Curtis Perpetual - Best in FOS
Smooth Criminal - Jarrah Harris-Moore - Evie McDonald

Club Championship results
Sparkle - Emma Kelly - William Farnell
Smooth Criminal - Jarrah Harris-Moore - Evie McDonald
Wildcard - Lulu Di Sciascio - Charley Stephens

Club Handicap results
Need For Speed - Molly Grimes - James Smith
Wildcard - Lulu Di Sciascio - Charley Stephens

FIREBALL

Bryan Inns Perpetual Trophy - National Championship 1st Handicap
Orinoco - Nathan Field - Jarrah Harris-Moore

LASER

Cameron Dawson Ford - 1st Yardstick results
Mi Te Salty - Campbell Scott

Geoff Wood Perpetual - 1st Handicap - 1st Handicap
Mi Te Salty - Campbell Scott

Club Yardstick results
Mi Te Salty - Campbell Scott
Slammer - Chris Jones
Fascination - Clive Humphris

Club Handicap results
Mi Te Salty - Campbell Scott
Alexandrite - Alexander Gregory
Fascination - Clive Humphris

MIXED CLASS

Ross Heyward Perpetual - 1st Handicap
Mi Te Salty - Campbell Scott
Waroo Perpetual - 1st Yardstick results
Makani - Sophie Alexander - Dom Randall

Yardstick results
Makani - Sophie Alexander - Dom Randall
Slammer - Chris Jones
Mi Te Salty - Campbell Scott

Handicap results
Mi Te Salty - Campbell Scott
Vivid - John Henderson
Fascination - Clive Humphris

OPTIMIST CLASS

A K Lloyd Trophy - 1st Club Championship
OTB Committee Trophy - Encouragement Award -
Sam Henderson

Championship results
The Albatross - Mason Mahoney
Top Gear - Khan Harris Moore
Frank - Riley Cantwell

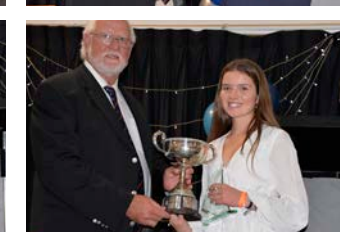
Handicap results
Frank - Riley Cantwell
Pirate - Oliver Beretta
Serendipity - Jorja Mahoney

YOUTH MIXED

John Sykes Perpetual - Encouragement Award -
Dominic Randall

OTB Committee - Encouragement Award - Not Awarded 2018-19
Yardstick results
Makani - Sophie Alexander - Dom Randall

Shake n Bake - Gabriel Nolan - Ben Townson





Bravo Training

SKILLS AND FUN!

Sailing activities on Bravo course constitute a large part of the RGYC program. With so many young sailors coming through, training is an important component of our Off the Beach activities.

Junior sailors have access to a set range of training and coaching programs in the International Optimist and International Cadet under Jasmin Galbraith and Tony Bull respectively. Our two premier dinghy classes provide a nice contrast as single and double handed (one or two people) options.

Our sailors range from 8 years old through to 16 and we encourage all who have done the Discover Sailing courses to come down and really get into sailing. Our junior sailors coming through these programs have competed all over the world.

On top of these formal courses, a free coaching session is run every Friday night in season and it is open to all classes and sailors. Come along and try it out!

The future looks bright with up to 5 International 29ers expected in the fleet this

year and the Lasers are also becoming very active with multiple championships coming up over the next few years at RGYC. Some more programs may be in the wind to cater for our ever growing fleet.

The program at RGYC is based on alternating skill acquisition and high performance sessions, but the main aim is simply to get out and have fun!!

Cadet Worlds Poland 2019

I recently had the privilege of coaching the Australian International Cadet Team at the World Championship in Krynica Morska, Poland.

Royal Geelong Yacht Club was well represented with 5 sailors in the 14 member team.

The trip consisted of a few days' training at the venue followed by the Polish National Championship, with 120 boats competing. It was a huge learning curve for all.

We then competed in the World Championship proper.

The regatta was very shifty wind-wise. As one of our parents described it, "Big, persistent shift then changing to oscillating with some geographical influences overlaid." No wonder it was hard sailing! The Race Committee managed to get in our full quota of 12 races which was well done in light of the conditions.

Congratulations to the new World Champions, Julian Finterbusch and Franco Barone who hail from Argentina. They sailed very well over the range of conditions.

Sailing at this regatta was in quite foreign and extremely tough conditions. The European lakes, although large, are quite shallow and a short chop quickly builds up and makes the going pretty tough. In Australia we sail in much deeper waters and it takes more wind to build up a comparable sea state which even then is much more regular in its wave action.

These conditions in particular had an impact on our heavier crews as it was harder for them in the constant acceleration / deceleration factor. We were also much more static in our body movements whilst sailing up and downwind. The crews and countries which did well were much more dynamic in rocking and ooching their boats through the water.

The other issue we had to come to terms with was the propensity of the Race Committee to lay very biased lines toward the pin or far end. It was not uncommon to see 80% of the fleet on port tack within a minute of the start. All the starts sported the black flag which means if you are over the line at any time in the last minute of the starting sequence, you are automatically disqualified. This naturally enough makes the fleet very nervous. But it is the same for every boat and I was very proud of the way our sailors adapted to the different skill requirements.

To get two boats into the top ten was testament to our sailors embracing of the challenges. All our sailors had some encouraging results.

The RGYC component of the Australian team did very well with Elliot Hughes and Olive Hooper (on loan from Sandy Bay Sailing Club) winning Heat 11 to jump up into ninth overall. Well done and congratulations to them. Our best performing Aussie boat was Hugo Alison and James Gough from Tasmania.

The other RGYC Members' results.

Emma Kelly and Will Farnell: 26th, including a third place in Heat 3 and a great first day but the lighter conditions and sloppy waves meant it was hard going. It was a very commendable effort.

Jarrah Harris-Moore and Evie McDonald: 36th. Once again, a heavier crew. (These kids keep growing!) It was their last regatta together and whilst it was not perfect, they have a lot to be proud of, being the current Victorian Champions.

Over on the Promotional course we had skipper Milli McDonald and crew, Emma Suda (Sandringham YC) come away with fifth overall including a 1st and 2nd in the regatta. Nice!



Congratulations to all on the way you sailed and conducted yourselves.

To the parents, supporters and sponsors on behalf of the team. I cannot thank you enough. The support of RGYC Members is also greatly appreciated. Thanks in particular to Paul Loughnan at European Affair. The team looked very smart in your wonderful gift of spray tops and gear bags.

To RGYC Past Commodore, Mike Kelly, our Team Manager, a fantastic effort mate. The whole adventure was so well structured and organised. It was a delight to work with you.

The social aspect of these events is so big and the whole group (sailors and supporters) were able to make new friends and catch up with old ones. It was hard to say goodbye, but that is how a junior regatta should be.

On a personal level it is such an honour to be involved and I thank all our sailors for their support and confidence. I hope for the opportunity to coach some of you again and to enjoy watching others grow, both on and off the water.

Signing off with humble gratitude,

Tony Bull

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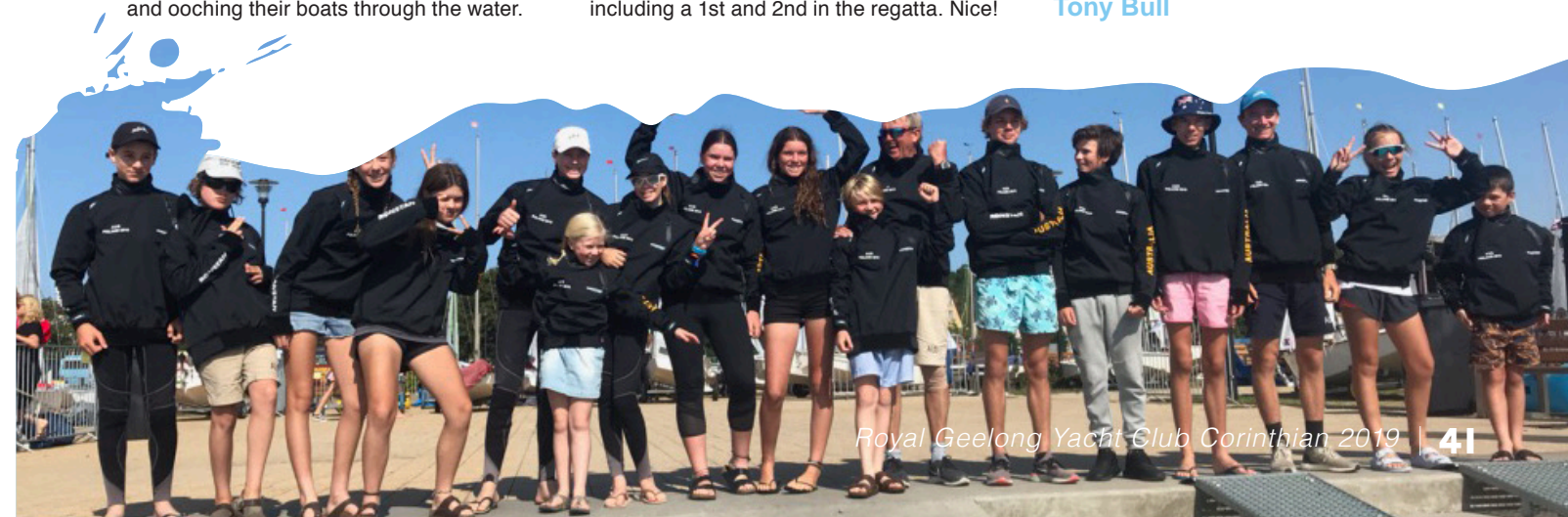
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RGYC Hosts Springsail

Our popular pre-season regatta and training event was held on 22nd - 25th September.

The sailing events and training sessions attracted 124 entries from numerous clubs around the Bay and beyond. Our race management team operated the events with their usual efficiency and the training sessions were well received. The popularity of this event

is a good indicator of the health of Off The Beach sailing and the willingness of RGYC volunteers to support this part of our sport.

RGYC placings:

Mixed Fleet:

2nd **Assassin** M. Case, S. Case
3rd **Makani** S. Alexander, D Randall


International Cadet:

2nd **Anaconda** E Hughes
4th **Smooth Criminal** J Harris Moore, E McDonald

Laser – 2nd **Swoosh** M Parks

Optimist – 4th **Turbo** M Purnell





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Volunteers Report

THE POWER BEHIND THE EVENTS

Royal Geelong Yacht Club thrives on the energy and skills of its volunteers working in all areas of the Club.

The RGYC Board, a team of volunteers, works to meet short, medium and long term needs of the Club so that our facilities are the best we can afford and our activities meet the challenges of the changing world of sailing and boating. The demands of developing and implementing the Geelong Waterfront Safe Harbour Precinct Project are the most significant the Board has ever faced. The Board's work is supported by the many committee members who work in specific areas such as Yard and Marina, Governance and Off the Beach.

The Race Management Team is able to provide the services to our sailing events at club level and for regattas of championship standard. Our Sailing and Boating Committee knows that we are able to improve skills through training. A significant effort is being made to increase training opportunities for all who would like to be part of an expanding event calendar. The increasing age profile of

our volunteers is a challenge that can only be met by recruiting more, younger participants. The positive response of large numbers of Members to the training courses has been very welcome and it reflects part of the recruitment strategy.

Event operations are the essential activities carried out by volunteers and staff that ensure that all the equipment is sufficient for the task and in the right place at the right time. The adaptability of the people involved in these tasks is a key quality underpinned by their sound teamwork.

Community activities run by volunteers are important to the Club and its place in this city. We share the waterfront with all who visit us and we are recognized for what we contribute through events such as the Festival of Sails, the Wooden Boat Festival, Gala Day Parade, Sailing for the Vision Impaired, Sailability and try sailing events.

RGYC is introducing a volunteer management system that enables people to register with the Club on line and nominate their skills,

experience, areas of interest and availability. We have numerous events throughout the year and the system will provide a consistent, efficient approach to rostering yet still retain the personal contact with the volunteers through the RGYC Office and volunteer team leaders. Visit rgyc.com.au and go to the Volunteers section on the Home page to register.

Club Members, event competitors and visitors acknowledge the success of our large volunteer team, especially those who contribute to the weekly sailing programs that are at the heart of the Club.

It is clear that volunteers also benefit from their participation in our events. Volunteering is fun and there are substantial health benefits from working in teams or individually on meaningful activities.

Why not become a volunteer at this great club?

Chris Williams

Volunteers Committee Chairman



Sailing Report

LIMEBURNERS POINT LASER SAILING CLUB AUSTRALIA TO FIJI SHORTHANDED YACHT RACE 2018

As reported widely in the sailing media: "The leading yacht is nearing the halfway stage of the inaugural Limeburners Point Laser Sailing Club Australia to Fiji Shorthanded Yacht Race. "Anaconda Australia", a Beneteau First 44.7 with Laser "Anaconda 208323" strapped to the deck, as sole entrant, is set for line honours and an impressive race record.

Skipper Frant Bucek said, "We have punched out a few 200 nm days in pretty trying close-reaching conditions to set ourselves up for some fast motor sailing when the breeze drops out and swings onto the nose".

The race, coinciding with the inaugural Fiji Oceania Laser Masters Championship, is

open to all yachts carrying a Laser on deck and is a handicap event factoring the elapsed time divided by distance from port of departure plus the Laser's result in the Oceania Championships. There may also be a cycling leg incorporated provided the bike is carried on board with the Laser.

Trophies of recycled "old school" Laser cubes will be awarded."

Frant and Anaconda with crew Marcel Bucek (as far as Eden) and Greg Williams left RGYC on September 22nd and made the run to Fiji in time for the regatta on October 13th. Anaconda then did a four day cruise in the nearby islands with some additional

family members on board before heading to Bundaberg over the following ten days. Frant completed the return to Geelong sailing solo.

The trip was so enjoyable that Frant and his crew will head for Fiji again on September 13th. Frant will compete in the Laser Masters from October 9th and then with family on board cruise the outer islands and return to the East coast over a month.

Anaconda's adventures show that you could cruise Tasmania one year and Fiji the next over a similar time. Cruising Fiji will definitely be warmer!



VX1 Class

THE EXCITEMENT MACHINE

Season 2018/19 saw the establishment of the [VX1 Class](#) which drew a lot of attention for all the right reasons. This exciting and very fast sports boat created some very memorable action while new teams got to know these modern racers.

RGYC was also fortunate to hold the VX1 National Championship during the Festival of Sails where 27 boats faced the start line. It was a spectacular sight and a fantastic event for the Club and the five RGYC teams found the competition tough but hugely rewarding.

It was terrific having an American team compete and Sandra Askew (USA) has become a friend to the Geelong fleet. Sandra and her husband also own Wizard, the recent winner of the Fastnet ocean race.

The VX1 is a very simple to rig and light boat to transport and many of the Geelong fleet have found themselves competing in QLD, NSW and the ACT during the summer. This fleet is on the move in more ways than one.

RGYC also hosted the Victorian Championship earlier in the season which brought three boats to Geelong from the ACT for an intense five races.

The Geelong VX1 fleet has been actively promoting the class with Open Days where RGYC members have been taken out for a sail to get a great feel for speed and modern sailing. These events have been well supported by the Club.

The future for the VX1 looks very bright as more sailors are seeking the speed and ease of handling of these yachts combined with very competitive racing and a fantastic social program. It's a Class suitable for all age groups. Crews in the National Championship ranged from young Optimist sailors to highly experienced sailors in their seventies. Notably, three of the Geelong fleet are family combinations, another indicator of how successful this class will become.

Keep an eye out for the next 'VX1 Come and Try Day' and join in the fun.



Sailing on the Lakes

RGYC AT THE YACHTING WESTERN VICTORIA REGATTA AT LAKE BULLEN MERRI EASTER 2019

Every year over the Easter break, Yachting Western Victoria puts on an event for all types of OTB and trailable boats. For the past few years the regatta has been held at the wonderful location of Lake Bullen Merri in Camperdown. The lake is an inactive volcano and extremely deep. As always, several RGYC members ventured down to Lake Bullen Merri this year to participate in both the regatta and the camaraderie.

The main regatta runs from Good Friday to Easter Sunday with a special stern chaser race in memory of Jake Lane held on Easter Monday. The stern chaser handicaps are calculated over the regatta. The sailing conditions vary through the ranges and direction, sometimes all within the one leg. The saying "The race isn't over till it's over", is definitely true here. While it can be shifty on the lake, the race committee always do a stellar job of the running the races.

Easter is the only time of the year camping is allowed here and only for competitors

and some support crew. The site opens on Thursday and Past Commodore John Garner is always first in line to set up a great camping spot and fly the RGYC club burgee.

The weather was magnificent and with a great initiative to allow juniors free entry, the numbers were up on previous years to 70 boats. The RGYC contingent made up a good percentage of that with 22 boats, and a few crewing on boats from other clubs. RGYC had 5 Fireballs, 5 International Cadets, 4 OK Dinghies, (including keel boat legend Paul Bucholz), a Sabre, an Aero, a 29er, 2 Lasers, an Opti, a VX One and a Maricat. We also had two support craft for post sailing activities and on water refreshments.

The divisions for the event were broken down into five categories, plus the RL24 state titles. Fast cats, slow cats, fast monohulls, slow monohulls and juniors. RGYC featured well in the monohull and juniors' results. Full results can be found on the Yachting Western Victoria Facebook page.

Racing on a lake is always a lot of fun and very challenging but the racing is just a part of what makes this regatta so great. Sitting around the camp fires with friends telling sailing stories of years past is always a highlight. Camping with friends, family with like-minded fellow yachties ensures a fun, safe environment for people of all ages.

The kids (and sometimes big kids) get out on the water skurfing, skim biscuiting, water skiing, wind surfing and stand up paddle boarding to take part in some of the post-race activities enjoyed by many. Others prefer to grab their camp chair, stoke the fire and relax with a beverage of choice. Either way there is something for everyone.

I know we will definitely be there next year. So, do yourself a favour and lock it in your calendar.

Brendan Garner



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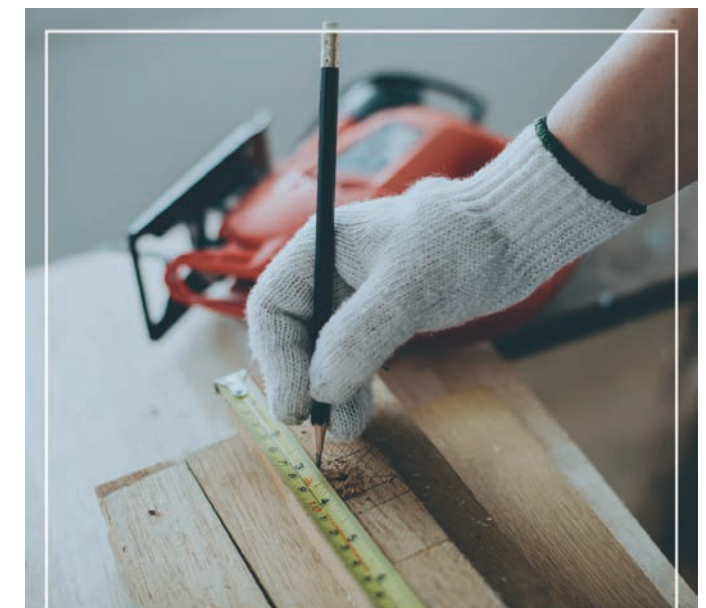
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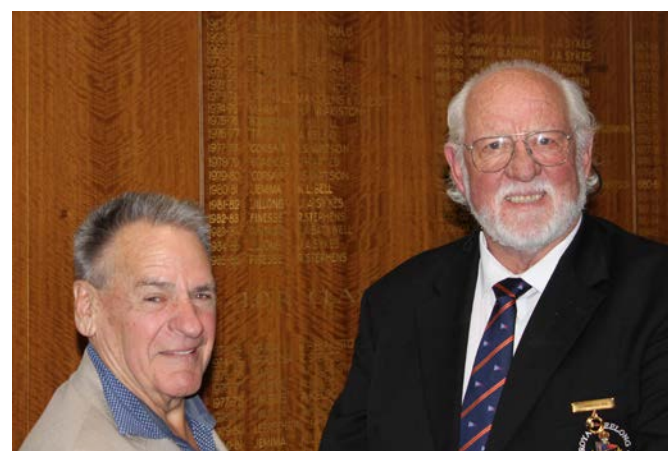


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Past Commodores' Dinner



Our most senior Past Commodore, Ron Earney
with Commodore John Kint



Paul Buchholz elected as Honorary Life Member

In Memory Of...

It is with great sadness and regret that we record the passing during the year of the following esteemed members:

JAMES GARWARD

Joined 1956

ROMA HILL

Joined 1960

GREG SALT

Joined 1962

JEAN LUCAS

Joined 1953

THOMAS LANCASTER

Joined 1981

ADRIAN KELLY

Joined 1951

WILLIAM NORRIS

Joined 1990

RGYC Staff and Sub-Committees

This year, we have welcomed new additions to our staff team - Emma Powell, Nathan Bassett, Rob McLay and Sarah Pettiford.

CURRENT RGYC STAFF

General Manager – Phil Clohesy

Marina Manager – Paul Walters

Marina Assistant – Graeme Chapman

Marina Assistant – Daniel McDonald

Sailing & Boating Manager – Peter Kirman

Sailing & Volunteers Administrator Assistant – Emma Powell

Major Events Manager – Nathan Bassett

Major Events Administrator – Sarah Todd

Commercial Partnerships Manager – Steve Hassell

Club Operations Administrator – Libbee Roddis

Marketing & Communications Coordinator – Sarah Pettiford

Finance Manager – Rob McLay

Accounts Administrator – Ann Hardy

RGYC SUB-COMMITTEES

As well as the RGYC Board, a number of sub-committees work tirelessly throughout the year to ensure that the Club continues to run smoothly and is continuing to give our Members the best possible experience. We thank all of those who have volunteered their time and efforts on each of the sub-committees in 2018/19.

Strategic & Events Planning

Chair: Phil Francis

Governance

Chair: Past Commodore Chris Williams

Finance

Chair: Past Commodore Treasurer Brian Marshman

Workplace Health & Safety

Chair: Phil Heath

Sailing and Boating

Chair: Club Captain Roger Bennett

Yard & Marina

Chair: Chris Manton

Volunteers

Chair: Past Commodore Chris Williams

Festival of Sails

Chair: Vice Commodore Stuart Dickson

Off The Beach

Chair: Diarmuid McCoy

Sailability

Chair: Graeme Ritchie

RGYC 2019/20 Summer of Sailing

MAJOR EVENTS CALENDAR

SPRINGSAIL

Saturday 21st September – Tuesday 24th September 2019

CADET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Friday 27th December 2019 – Saturday 4th January 2020

FESTIVAL OF SAILS

Saturday 25th January – Monday 27th January 2020

49ER / 49ER FX / NACRA 17 OCEANIA CHAMPIONSHIPS
(INCORPORATING SAIL MELBOURNE & THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS)

Wednesday 30th January – Monday 3rd February 2020

49ER / 49ER FX / NACRA 17 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Thursday 6th February – Saturday 15th February 2020

THE WOODEN BOAT FESTIVAL OF GEELONG

Friday 6th March – Monday 9th March 2020

LASER MASTERS OCEANIA & NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Friday 13th March – Wednesday 18th March 2020

LASER MASTERS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Thursday 19th March – Saturday 28th March 2020



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