



IN THE WIND

ROYAL PERTH YACHT CLUB NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2023

**AUSTRALIA II
AMERICA'S CUP
40TH ANNIVERSARY**

**FSC WINTER
SERIES WRAP UP**

**HISTORIC
MILESTONES
IN RPYC**

**MATT WEARN
WORLD
CHAMPION**

**SUSTAINABILITY
AT RPYC**

**COMMODORE'S
BALL**

**WOMEN'S
SAILING**

**SEAFARER
MARATHON
TT EVENT**

**OPENING DAY
CELEBRATIONS**

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SEPTEMBER 2023



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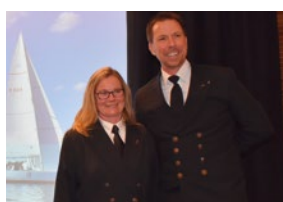
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AUSTRALIA II 40 YEARS ON GALA DINNER

TO BOOK YOUR
TICKETS SCAN
THE QR CODE

TUESDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER
2023

CELEBRATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY
OF OUR 1983 AMERICA'S CUP VICTORY

HEAR THE UNTOLD STORIES DIRECTLY
FROM THE AUSTRALIA II TEAM

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COMMODORE'S MESSAGE



■ Dr Janet Hornbuckle
Commodore

The 159th Sailing Season is fast approaching and I'm certainly looking forward to the warmer summer months! Though I've written many ITW articles over the past 10 years on General Committee this is my first as Commodore! I am honoured to be elected as Commodore of Royal Perth Yacht Club and not just as the history making first female Commodore in our 158 years. The first full female Members joined the Club in 1985 and we have come a long way since then to include women in the sport of sailing. Our female Members include Olympians and world champions as well as those competing at national, state and club level. Two other female Club Members will go down in Club history this year too. At the recent AGM Pamela Strickland was elected as the first female Honorary Life Member, in recognition of her exemplary and dedicated service to Race Management and Hilary Arthure is the first RPYC female skipper to compete in the Sydney Hobart Race. Congratulations to Pamela and Good Luck to Hilary and her crew on *Wyuna*.

I would like to thank and congratulate Shawn Offer as outgoing Commodore for his hard work over the 10 years served on General Committee and in particular over the past two years as Commodore. He navigated the Club through some challenging times, demonstrating resilience and

determination and improving the governance of the Club which will hold us in good stead into the future.

Prior to ending his term, Commodore Shawn Offer presented several awards at the AGM. Congratulations to those receiving Commodore's Commendations including Michael Jones and Jess Myers for their commitment to the Off the Beach Section, Man Singh for his involvement in bringing younger Members into the Endeavour fleet and Mal Wilson for his significant contribution to all areas of the Club readily putting his hand up to volunteer for mark laying, checkpoint duty, driving RHIBs during training and assisting Members in general. Congratulations also to Colin Harrison OAM who was the worthy recipient of a Horace Rumble Award, given to a Member or staff member for exemplary service, in particular for the work he is doing with the Saturday Morning Keelboat Skills training.

I would like to introduce and welcome our new General Committee elected at the AGM:

Vice Commodore Andrew McAullay

Rear Commodore Mark Busio

Honorary Treasurer Brad Wearn

Captain Sail Alan Thomas

Captain Dinghies Michael Jones

Captain Power Fiona Laing

Ben Fitzhardinge

David Hinton

Mike O'Loughlin

Rob Scharnell

I look forward to working with them along with our General Manager Rick Coate and his team over my term as Commodore. We still have a lot of work to do to strengthen our financial position and motions passed at the AGM including 10% increase

to annual subscriptions, increases to HSS payments linked to CPI, the introduction of a Capital Improvement Contribution for 2023-24 and a new Corporate Membership Category will certainly assist us. We will focus on Member benefit, sustainability, and consistently high-quality F&B services. This is your Club and please continue to provide feedback on how we are doing.

Finally, we are fast approaching the 40th Anniversary of Australia II winning the America's Cup, the world's oldest sporting trophy and which is still considered the greatest achievement in the history of Australian Sport. [We all hoped the 'Matildas' might challenge them for that title but it was not to be...] To celebrate this historic occasion there is a special exhibition at the WA Maritime Museum starting on September 9th and running through to February, and a weekend for special free events in Fremantle over the September long weekend, including a light and drone show depicting the final race. RPYC is celebrating the occasion with a special Gala Event on Tuesday 26th September. We encourage

Members and their guests to come and join us at this event which is also open to the public. RPYC and Partner Yacht Club Members can book their discounted tickets through Tracy call (08) 9389 1555 or email reception@rpyc.com.au and public tickets can be booked through <https://www.rpyc.com.au/australia-ii-40-years-on-gala-dinner/>. Look forward to seeing you there!

Massive congratulations go to our Corinthian Member Matt Wearn for his success in the recent ILCA 7 World Championships in the Hague. He achieved his World Champion status in the same manner as his Tokyo Olympic Gold Medal, coming from the back after a wobbly start and going into the final medal race with enough points to assure him of the Gold Medal as long as he did not get disqualified. He also won the Gold Medal in the recent Olympic Test Event held in July in Marseille. Matt's success at the World Championships in addition to the performance of our other Australian Sailing Squad Member Ethan McAullay, finishing 17th, has guaranteed Australia has a spot in the ILCA 7 event at the Paris Olympics next year. Well done! ■

MEMBERSHIP

Tony Strickland, Membership Chair

Welcome to our new Members – August 2023

The Commodore, Flag Officers and Members of General Committee welcome the following new Members to Royal Perth Yacht Club:

Mr Nick Brown, Mr Benjamin Castledine, Mr Ryan Ellett, Mr Joseph Jones, Ms Shirin Mousavi, Mr Mario Reale, Mr Matthew Reynolds, Mr Jack Rigg, Miss Emma Ryan, Ms Jacinta Schweizer, Mr Justin Somper, Dr Jennifer Weishaupt, Ms Getty Williams, Mr Michael Zhao, Mr Jason and Dr Jo-Anne Allery, Mr Greg Brown, Mr Chris Carpenter, Ms Nina Conti, Ms Ella Geddes, Miss Tahlya Holloway, Mrs Nicole Jones, Mr Steve and Mrs Sarah Maccora, Mr Samuel Rifici, Mr Evan Schweizer, Mrs Helen Tulic and Mrs Katarina Van Der Haar.



MELBOURNE CUP PINK PARTY

TUESDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 2023

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VICE COMMODORE'S MESSAGE



■ Andrew McAullay
Vice Commodore

Since the last *In the Wind* a fair bit has happened.

Largely we have now had our AGM and we welcome the new Captains to the Regatta Committee.

Mike Jones – Capt Dinghies
Fiona Laing – Capt Power and
Alan Thomas – Capt Sail.

As you have probably gathered, I will remain Regatta Chair for the next two years.

In that time we will be focusing on more interaction with our fellow Yacht Clubs. That being more combined racing for both One design and Mixed fleets.

This will be across keelboat and OTB fleets, as we look to increase fleet sizes and provide more exciting racing.

The Power Boat model already does this, as they time trial as a combined group. In this area we are working with our neighbours at MBSC to encourage their power Members to join in the Time Trialling scene at RPYC.

We will be working with RFBYC to participate in more combined Club windward leeward events at the approx start time of 1400, rather than the late afternoon time slot. If this goes well we will look to expand it to fixed mark racing for the greater fleets.

We will also introduce a sports boat fleet, to race within Division 2, and invite all sports boats to participate.

On the OTB front we look to do the same, MBSC and ourselves have targeted a number of dates where we will combine forces and work together on

and off the water.

These will be exciting times, and I look forward to seeing larger fleet sizes.

Moving back to the past season.

The March long weekend saw the State Keelboat Regatta, such a great event, with atmosphere off the water. The type of event we need to encourage more fleets to get involved with.

Our ILCA sailors continue to do their thing.

At the ILCA Euros in Andora Italy (180+ boats) Ethan 6th and Matt 3rd. Ethan was elevated to AST from this result.

In Hyeres, Matt Wearn, Ethan McAullay and Lawson McAullay. With Matt finishing 4th.

Matt wins Olympic Test event in Marseille. The medal race king came from nine points down, winning the race and making up the points gap in another huge international victory for the Olympic champ.

International competition is not just for the young ones John (Robo) Roberson represented RPYC at the ILCA Masters Pattaya Thailand finishing 12th Great Grand Masters.

Proving our girls can do it too. Lili McAullay ILCA 6 Youth Worlds in Poland. Lili getting her first 1st place in a world championship heat, hopefully many more of them to come. Well done Lil.

Mini Series was bang on, it was great to see the Japanese team back, a huge thanks to all the volunteers and staff, guests and to our fabulous sponsors Refined Edge. The event saw Goldy's retirement. During his 8yrs at RPYC, Goldy has made an immeasurable impact on our Club, our youth division and Off the Beach Section made great leaps forward. He won't be a stranger, he has become a Club Member and will be active with the windsurfing fleet. He will also continue his Australian Sailing role.

As part of our ongoing relationship with the Japan Junior Yacht Club Union, we sent two Optimist sailors to the JJYU event at the Tokyo

Olympics sailing venue, Enoshima. Celina Trinh 25th and Orlando Ligovich 12th and 1st international. This year coached by Lawson McAullay.

For the first time we had two foilers travel to Europe for the IQ Foil youth Euros on Lake Garda. Well done Jiaya Marns-Morris and Ben Robinson.

The 59th Annual Cape Naturaliste Race was run and won, and in record time. Congratulations to all the Sailors who took part. *Crush* set the new race record of 15hrs 38 mins 32 sec, that may be hard to beat.

Teams Racing Squad went to the UK for the Cumberland Cup, final results were 4 wins from 15 races. Finishing 9th from the 10 teams.

Your team:
Chris Pye (helm)
Andrew Waldby (helm)
Vera Waldby (bow)
Nick White (bow)
Sandy Anderson (trim)
Jenny Spearman (trim)
John Bucknall (main)
Dave Spearman (main)

Mark Crier, Andy Feathers and Robbie Gibbs competed in the Etchells Australasian Championships at Mooloolaba.

RPYC hosted the Australian Youth Match Racing Championships. Congratulations to the winners, Cole Tapper from Cruising Yacht Club of Australia.

2nd - Will Sargent Cruising Yacht Club of Australia.

3rd - Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club.

4th - Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron.

5th - Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club.

6th - South of Perth Yacht Club.
7th - Royal Perth Yacht Club.

First time match racing for our young team. Although finishing 7th, they were never out classed and always looked an opportunity to win a flight. Back into training a number of them have joined in with the Teams Racing Squad to further hoan their skills.

The Seabreeze averaged from 12 to 24 knots with gusts up to

28 knots. All sailors handled the conditions really well. We had a few breakages due to the weather, but nothing too major.

A Fantastic event and a great advertisement for the Club. Thanks to our sponsors BMS Insurance Brokers and Healthways.

The Sailing Season ended with the Diggers Cup. Congratulations to our 2023 Winner, *Terra* skippered by Mark Hannaford.

We celebrated the 100th Power Opening. Following our official ceremony, we fired the cannon took a 100 year over-due trip down memory lane to the old PYC historic site. Thanks to Challenger for forging the path for all our Flotilla Sailors to follow.

It was great to see how far the RPYC Power community have come.

The Seafarer Time Trial and Dinner sponsored by Bay Marine is the 3rd Heat on the Cruising & Power Yacht Association of WA Calendar.

In total we had 31 competitors on the water.

Following our on-water fun we hit the River Room for a well-deserved Italian Buffet Dinner. We had presentations, raffle prizes, and the 30L of Anti-Fouling Paint prize from Seacraft Paints.

Thanks to all who attended the Time Trial and Dinner, It was an absolutely fantastic evening.

Big thank you to all our volunteers and RO who helped us. This event would not be possible without all hands on deck.

Finally, Thanks to our Regatta, Race sail, OTB and Power committees. Members of these work extremely hard to drive boating in the direction that we want. The time commitment can sometimes be onerous, but we appreciate the hard work that they have put into the Club. Thank you for your two years and I look forward to working with the new committees for the next two. ■

REAR COMMODORE'S MESSAGE



■ Mark Busio
Rear Commodore

Hello Members, Family and Friends.

As I write this Sandy and I are holidaying in England and will shortly be heading to Greece where we will be catching up with other RPYC members and sailing the Ionian islands.

What a winter it has been! Whilst we have certainly had

our share of rain, we have also been fortunate enough to have had a smattering of fine and super calm glassy days. I know that you all have been making the most of these and getting out on the water whenever you can.

Unfortunately, due to work commitments I have not been able to participate in as many Time Trialling events as I would have liked to this year. It has been fabulous to see so many of our regular time-triallers continue to do so well, and of course our newer Members appearing in the top-three RPYC boats. It will be very interesting to see who our Club Champions will be this year!

This year, after 4 years as Captain Power, sees me passing on the mantle to our new Captain Power, Fiona Laing. Fiona is relatively new to power boating, but brings

great enthusiasm and is last year's RPYC Consistency Champion. She is also a very skilled and accomplished sailor, competing on most Wednesday afternoon and Saturday races. Additionally, Fi is pretty good on the helm and skippering whenever she gets the chance. A very big welcome Fiona, I know the Power Community will show you the fantastic level of support they have shown me over the last years. I know there will be plenty of great events and fun times ahead.

I would like to thank all of you wholeheartedly for your support, but particularly the Power committee, without whose support we could not have achieved the vibrant and strong power community we have today.

A big round of applause to Mike O'Loughlin, Dianne

Hanson and Jen Sisson, as well as previous committee members, John Allpike and Geoff Harrison (*Felix*).

Moving into my new role as Rear Commodore I feel extremely honoured, and look forward to making a positive contribution to our great Club in the years ahead. We undoubtedly have some challenges to face, but I see these as an opportunity for improvement and growth. You can be assured that I shall be working diligently on behalf of all Members. As Rear Commodore I will be heading up the House Committee – membership of which is yet to be finalised and will be confirmed and advised in due course.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Club – thank you one and all. ■



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EDGE

COATE'S NOTES



Rick Coate
General Manager

Congratulations to Commodore Dr Janet Hornbuckle on her appointment. It is an auspicious moment in the Club's 158-year history to have our first female Commodore and honorary Life Member. Congratulations to one and all GC Members on your elevation or election. As leaders of the Club, you are now highly visible and will set the tone, standards and culture through your words and actions. The team and I are here to support you as partners. I am very excited about the coming years as we find our cadence and

look to constantly improve the Club for Member, the team, and the community, through transparency, communication, events, facilities and of course our core business; boating.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Commodore Shawn Offer for his dedication, service, and leadership of the Club over the past 13 years on GC. As Commodore, Shawn has made substantial improvements including strengthening governance, strategy, communications, and teamwork. The transition to a new GM, with new ideas and style has been managed with astute diplomacy, guidance, and care; always considerate of Members and the Team's competing needs and challenges. Thank you Shawn and thank you Annabelle for supporting the Club. To Robbie, Tony, and Paul; thank you for your service on GC.

After six months since commencement as your GM, we can start to see the 'green shoots' of progress, both operationally and financially.

The Team morale is high and the concepts of 'can do' and Member first is beginning to be habitative. We have now chartered our course (Strategic Plan) to make our RPYC boat go faster and more efficiently. Will see us now get the right crew in the right positions, sailing the course, with calmer seas and smooth sailing. We will continuously improve life for the passengers (Members) and crew (Team), trim the sails, and maintain the rigging.

Major Capital projects being investigated by GC for FY 2023/24 are:

- Northstar Software (May 2024).
- Wardroom Refreshment. (April 2024).
- Carparks resurface. (January 2024).

Our Team focus is very much on Safety, Service (to Members and each other), innovation, fun and communications. Sustainability, financial stewardship, and community engagement remain high priorities. A combined GC

and Team function is planned for later in the year. We are concentrating on planning :

- 40th America's Cup Anniversary Flotilla and Gala Dinner on Tuesday 26th September.
- Power Change of Season on Saturday 30th September.
- Summer Season Opening Day on Saturday 14th October.
- Community Open Day in November.

Financially, as the end of the July, the overall loss of Year to Date was -\$35K against budgeted loss of \$150k, (after depreciation of -\$151k) which delivered a favourable improvement of \$116k.

Membership remains steady and we have had a positive response from our four-week free trial Social Membership.

As always, we are here to serve the Members. Your support, patronage, and feedback, large or small is valued, as it is your Club. Please email genman@rpyc.com.au, call, or pop in anytime. ■

		This time last year								
		AUG 2022	OCT 2022	NOV 2022	DEC 2022	FEB 2023	APR 2023	MAY 2023	JUL 2023	AUG 2023
CENTREBOARD	CEN	31	30	33	33	35	34	34	29	30
CREW	CREW	215	214	226	230	224	224	223	228	229
ELITE	ELITE	1	1	1	1	2	3	3	3	3
FAMILY (EX. FULL MBR)	FAM/XF	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	24	23
FAMILY	FAM	255	251	254	255	252	253	254	253	253
FULL	FULL	539	539	539	545	537	541	547	546	541
FULL - FAMILY	FULL/F	257	251	254	256	253	254	254	253	252
FULL U/30 Aged 18 to 29		88	87	90	93	92	86	84	88	89
JUNIORS W'FAMILY	JUN/F	126	128	136	137	133	146	152	150	146
JUNIORS Aged under 18	JUN	65	65	60	63	57	60	59	56	56
HONORARY LIFE	HONL	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
OUTPORT	OUT	121	119	113	113	115	115	114	116	115
PERMANENT	PER	35	35	35	35	34	34	34	34	34
RECIPROCAL	REC	33	33	34	34	34	35	35	35	33
SOCIAL - FAMILY	SOC/F	9	12	12	14	19	21	23	23	24
SOCIAL - FAMILY	FAM/S	9	12	12	14	19	21	23	23	24
SOCIAL	SOC	98	101	104	102	103	106	112	115	119
TRIAL SOCIAL									1	6
UNDER NOMINATION	NOM	27	45	32	32	53	44	17	16	15
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP		1942	1956	1968	1990	1995	2010	2001	2000	1999

Movement

14 12 22 5 15 -9 -1 -1

CAPTAIN SAIL'S REPORT



■ Alan Thomas
Captain Sail

Welcome to the 2023/2024 season.

I'm looking forward to my first season in the role of Captain Sail. This season is shaping up as a busy one for both Keelboat and Off the Beach division.

Each of the fleet captains are keen to grow participation numbers during the season.

I would like to encourage Members to get involved in all the activities being offered as the more you use the Club the greater the enjoyment you will experience.

The Elliott 7s are now offering Members an opportunity to improve skills with the sail training program being run on Saturday mornings by Colin Harrison (congratulations to Colin on being honoured at the AGM with a Horace Rumble medal) or you may like to join in and try the action packed Team Racing being headed up by Andrew Walby. The youth squads are also going strong. So lots of opportunities to enjoy the Elliott 7s.

I would also encourage Members to enter the Seashells Night Series which is sailed on Tuesday each

month that aligns with the Full Moon, don't forget you need a life jacket and flashlight. A two night stay at a Seashells Resort is a great prize for the Series Handicap Winner.

The Etchells sailor's have an exciting year ahead with the chance to finish the season

off as the World Champion, with the Etchells Worlds being run on Gage Roads from 18 to 24th March 2024.

I'm looking forward to our Opening Day coming up and all things sailing at our great Club this 2023/34 season. ■



23/24

SATURDAY SUMMER SERIES

ROYAL PERTH YACHT CLUB

SATURDAYS

OCTOBER 2023 - APRIL

2024

22 RACES

DIVISION AND ASSOCIATION
RACING



REGISTRATION AND
MORE INFORMATION
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FOUR WEEK FREE TRIAL ^{AT} ROYAL PERTH YACHT CLUB

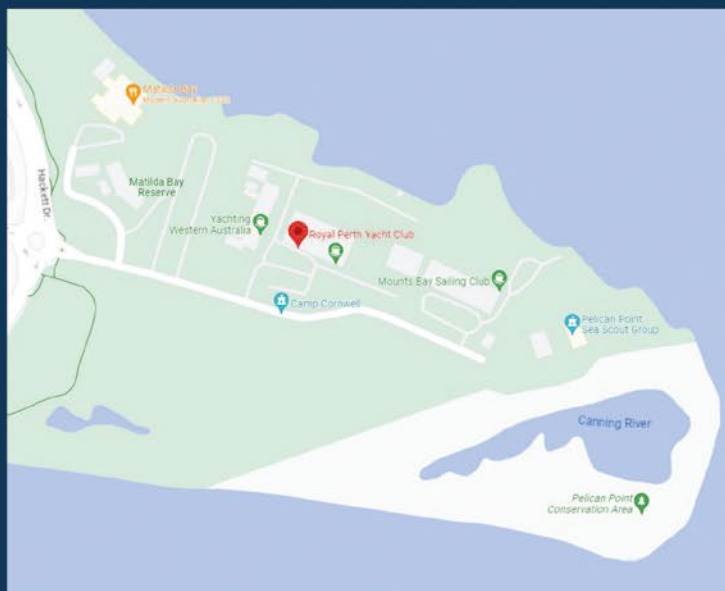
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CAPTAIN POWER'S REPORT



Fiona Laing
Captain Power

It is with enormous pride and honour that I take over the mantle of Captain Power from Mark Busio. I just wanted to take a moment to thank him for his tireless contribution to the Power Committee over the last four years and congratulate him on his new role as Rear Commodore. Although I'm relatively new to power boating I have a true passion for the Club and boating, having sailed for more than 35 years. I'm truly excited to lead and continue to harness the energy that is the Power Community.

The Power Time Trialling Season is in full swing with up to 12 RPYC boats competing in the State Championship and Invitational time trials

with some beautiful calm days, even if a little chilly. Debriefing after events is often held on the jetties with a game of Jenga, building great friendships and a sense of community. A very warm welcome to our newcomers, Corinne Adel and Meeka, who have been very competitive and could give us all a run for our money in the end of season results.

We held a fun time trial introduction session at the beginning of the season, which saw over 20 Members attend. A big thank you to Felix for his excellent presentation, and to Members, for sharing their special tips and tricks with other competitors. There was certainly some spirited banter on how the check-pointers called the times, resulting in greater clarity which will hopefully help us all achieve better results.

The Seafarer once again saw large numbers competing from all Clubs. The event went off without a hitch thanks in no small part to our fantastic volunteers, the Boating Operations team and of course, Brian Smith from CYCA who was Race Officer on the day. Thanks also to the sponsors of the event, Bay



Marine and Seacraft Paints. The Seafarer Dinner saw a sold-out attendance including visiting Clubs, RFBYC, SOPYC, Claremont Yacht Club and Fremantle Sailing Club.

I for one, am looking forward to the end of the cold and wet weather but the fun on the water doesn't stop there, with a number of events already planned over the summer months with more to come:

- Change of Season dinner and prize night on 30th September
- Rib River Run on 3rd December
- Cruise in Company to Mandurah on the March Long Weekend

Although these events are organised by Power, we encourage all Members to get involved, whether Power, Social, Sail or OTB.

We are committed to engaging with the local community, supporting Club organised charity events, promoting boating safety, and environment stewardship.

Our wonderful Club remains dedicated to fostering a vibrant and inclusive environment for all power boat members and I look forward to welcoming your participation and support as we look to build on the wonderful achievements so far. We get out what we put in. ■



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ROYAL PERTH YACHT CLUB

2023/2024 SUMMER RACING



SUNDAY RACING

22ND OCT 2023 - 14TH APR 2024

RACING STARTS 13:30

Classes: Opti Int., Opti Open, Hansa 303,
Hansa Lib, Laser, Finn, Tasar, Sabre,
Techno, Foil One, Windsurfer (Invitational)



REGISTRATION



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more information

OFF THE BEACH – CAPTAIN DINGHIES REPORT



■ Michael Jones
Captain Dinghies

Firstly I would like to thank the Members of the Club who voted for me to take on the role of Dingy Captain. I had no intentions at this present time on taking on such a role as I had only been a Member at RPYC for a couple of years. Another shock to me was at the AGM I received the Commodores Commendation, this was a great surprise. Also Congratulations to Jess Myer who also received the Commodores Commendation at the AGM for service to OTB.

I would like to thank Dave and Heather Hinton for their time and service as Dinghy Captain for the last couple of years. Dave thought his time was up on committee and he was going to become a sailing Member of the Club, oh no he got voted in as a General Member of the Committee. Congratulations Dave on this appointment. You have and will be doing some great work behind the scenes.

This coming sailing season is starting to take shape, we have just appointed two new staff to the Boating Office. Premo Jacniacki and Anna Klyne. These two are going to be a great fit to our Club working under our Boating Operations Manager Travis Burtenshaw.

We continue to do great in our overseas competitions and it's great to see our sailors doing well.

Matt Wearn: Gold Medal and 2023 ILCA 7 World Champion, Netherlands, The Hague, Winning the Paris 2024 Olympic Test Event.

Lili McAullay: 47th 2023 ILCA 6 Youth World Championships in Dziwnow, Poland. This is Lili's 1st major International Regatta.

Ethan McAullay: 17th 2023 ILCA 7 World Champion and second Australian, Netherlands, The Hague, 31st place Hyeres, France.

Lawson McAullay: 98th place, Hyeres, France. This is Lawson's 1st major International Regatta.

John Robinson (Robo): 12th Great Grand Master 2023 ILCA 7, Masters World Championship, Thailand.

Orlando Ligovich and Celina Sutedja with coach Lawson headed over for the All Japan International Friendship Regatta sailed at Japan Junior Yacht Club. This was a great opportunity for learning both on and off the water. They also caught up with the kids which came across for the 2023 Mini Series.

Jaiya Marns-Morris and Ben Robinson sailed in the IQ Foil Youth Worlds in Switzerland.

This had been a busy time for all that have travelled overseas, well done and you have all done us proud at RPYC. Sorry if I missed anyone.

Not to forget that we have other classes sailing in the OTB that have been traveling. We had Roger Best go over to Queensland and sail in the 2023 International Finn Class Championships which he finished in 24th place. Well done Roger.

Our youth sailors recently competed in the Australian Match Racing Championships, this team sailed their hearts out and never gave up. They put in their all, well done

Antun Orlando, JJ and Del.

I would like to wish Liam Cox all the best for the upcoming 2023 Under 21's World Championships in Morocco, Tangier, from the 15th October to 22nd October. Also Genevieve Wickham and Grant Alderson will be sailing 23rd to 27th August 2023 in the RS Venture World Championships in Germany.

Locally all of the winter series are coming to a close with one or two races to go at Huck Scott at FSC, South of Perth and The Royal Freshwater Bay Winter Series which has seen the Hansa and 303 head over to compete, well done all involved.

We have a busy summer coming up with all our local regattas; Youth Sail, Sail Freo, ICR, RPYC Mini Series and State Championships for Optimist, ILCA, Tasar, Hansa and 303. Then you

have the classes which will be traveling, Optimist National titles at Bright and Seacliff Yacht Club, ILCA Australian and Oceania Championships at Adelaide Sailing Club. Other events which are on at Adelaide Sailing Club are ILCA 7 World Championships, 24th Jan to 31st Jan 2024 and ILCA Masters World Championships, 2nd Feb to 10th Feb 2024.

ILCA Oceania Solidarity Program 2024 has opened again and invites youth Females under 16 to apply for the program. Last year we had our own Addison Heatley receive this grant from ILCA Oceania. This is a great opportunity for young female sailors to get into the ILCA class in their first major championships. Good luck to whomever the winner is this year.

See you around the OTB happy sailing. ■

ROYAL PERTH YACHT CLUB

ILCA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

@ ROYAL PERTH YACHT CLUB - CRAWLEY

SAVE THE DATE

18TH - 19TH NOVEMBER 2023



GATHER YOUR FRIENDS FOR

Bottomless Bingo Brunch

Royal Perth Yacht Club

Save the date
Sunday 26th November 2023

BOTTOMLESS

Enjoy 2 hours of
free flowing drinks

BINGO

Exhilarating rounds of
Bingo

BRUNCH

Delicious Menu prepared
by Chef Simon

PRIZES

With Prizes for the
Winning Individuals

***VEGETARIAN, VEGAN & GLUTEN FREE OPTIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE.**





SUSTAINABILITY

In an era defined by growing environmental concerns and a pressing need for sustainable practices, institutions around the world are recognising the importance of embracing eco-friendly initiatives.

As awareness about climate change and environmental impact deepens, the Club has taken commendable steps towards becoming a beacon of sustainability within the yachting community.

Below are just some of the efforts undertaken by the Royal Perth Yacht Club to adopt greener practices, reduce its carbon footprint, and contribute to the preservation of our oceans and planet.

Based on the UN's seventeen sustainable Development Goals here is how we target two of them:



Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

Ensure availability and sustainable management of all water and sanitation for all.

What we do:

- We sponsor a Fishing Line Bin in conjunction with Swan River Sailing
- No Plastic bags
- No Straws
- Rain Water collection system
 - Installed under the hardstand and collects rain water from the hardstand building and goes into a massive tank.
 - Water is used to wash down the boats.
- Accredited Clean Marina
- Accredited Fish Friendly Marina
- Filtered water station placed around clubhouse for refilling bottles
- Spill Kits and drip trays on jetty



Goal 15: Life on land

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

What we do:

- Compost
 - We recycle our used coffee grounds, shredded paper, cardboard and kitchen waste.
 - This compost then goes into various garden beds around the Club.
- We are partners with the Swan River Trust
- We are currently in the process of planting native plant beds
 - These plants consume less food and less water.



The mighty return of the Australian Youth Match Racing Championships



bms.

The Australian Youth Match Racing Championships is a highly esteemed event in any young sailor's calendar. This year is especially important as it is the first year since 2019 that the regatta has been able to proceed due to the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic. Hosting the return of the 5-day regatta is an absolute achievement for Royal Perth Yacht Club with attendance from 4 interstate Clubs and 3 local teams.



ROYAL PERTH YACHT CLUB



▶ Visiting teams consisted of Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club, Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club, South of Perth Yacht Club, and a team of our very own skippered by Antun Janekovic.

The first few days of the regatta offered up conditions that the fair-weathered sailor would often avoid, however the 7 youth squads tackled the miserable Matilda Bay head on. Winds on day one ranged from 12 to 24 knots, and gusts up to 28 knots with day two and three behaving much the same. Our Elliott 7's breezed around the course, with the talented sailors negotiating conditions and the complicated tactics of the match racing sport.

The first-round robin was completed on the first day of sailing, finishing with both CYCA squads skippered by Cole Tapper and Will Sargent snagging an early lead. This lead could almost guarantee a place in the finals hosted on Friday.

All four days of sailing were nothing but a spectacle, the 6 Elliott 7's illuminated the choppy and dark Matilda Bay with colourful sails and venturesome sailing. Our final day, saw the almighty battle between Tapper and Sargent for 1st and 2nd places, and RFBYC and RSYC for 3rd and 4th places.

The AYMRC were sponsored by both Australian Sailing, and BMS Insurance Group. Royal Perth Yacht Club is grateful for the support in hosting this fantastic event. We would like to thank all sailors, coaches, Clubs, sponsors and volunteers, umpires and race officers for making this prestigious event a success.

Final placings as follows: First Place: Cole Tapper (CYCA), Second Place: Will Sargent (CYCA), Third Place: Marcello Torre (RFBYC), Fourth Place: Brooke Wilson (RSYC), Fifth Place: Daniel Kemp (RPAYC), Sixth Place: Stefan Elliott Shircore (SoPYC), Seventh Place: Antun Janekovic (RPYC). ■





Images courtesy of Sailing Energy

Is Matt Wearn one tough cookie?

Is Matt Wearn one tough cookie, or a serial Houdini?

Remember Tokyo '21? At the end of the first day he was mid fleet, and after the first race of the second day it was even worse. His worldwide army of followers were downcast, "how could this be happening to our Matt?" Then he came through and went into the medal race with an unassailable lead and we all celebrated.

After that event, one of Australia's most enduring Olympic sailors, Mark Bethwaite, phoned me to ask for Matt's contact details, he wanted to congratulate him on the most amazing Houdini act he'd ever seen.

Then again at the recent World Championships in Holland he made us suffer, ending the first day of competition looking a bit ordinary. Yet again he played his "get out of jail free card", going on to win his first ever World Championship by a comfortable margin.

Yes, that's right, our Olympic Gold Medallist has never won the Laser World Championships before, he's had a few second places but this was a big win for him. His first comment after the win told the story, "It's quite emotional to be honest. Three seconds in a row, that always





► hurts. It's been a tough 18 months as well and coming back from a bit of illness, so from that sense it feels even more special."

Going into the final qualifying race before the medal race, Matt's closest rival was Britain's Micky Beckett. In a race reminiscent of Ben Ainslie epic demolition of Brazilian Robert Scheidt at the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, Matt took the Brit to the back of the fleet and dumped him there, again giving himself an unassailable lead going into the medal race.

Back in March last year I wrote in these pages, "It is quite possible that by the end of the year the two best Laser sailors in the world could come from Royal Perth Yacht Club". Well we've not quite got the best two in the world, but we've got the best two in Australia, with Ethan McAullay finishing the worlds in 17th place, the second Australian on the leaderboard.

Since joining the Australian Sailing Team a couple of

years ago Ethan has climbed steadily through the ranks and particularly this year has had some impressive race results. At the Worlds, in a fleet of 138 boats, he achieved four single figure results.

Conditions at the event in The Hague, Holland, were particularly difficult with the wind from a different direction almost every day and strong tides, something that West Aussie are not familiar with. He commented that picking lay lines in strong tides is very difficult and caused some big pile ups at the windward mark.

Ethan's two bad results, 47th and 51st, were the result of misjudging the tide on lay lines, which at the windward mark in such a huge fleet can be very expensive. He said that on one occasion it took him three attempts to get around the mark.

His single figure results show that he has good boat speed, and he said that this got him out of trouble a few times.

Assessing the event he said, "it was a tactical week, how you got around the top mark determined how you finished, with so many boats it was hard to catch up."

Asked how he thought he'd go at a venue without the tides, he commented that we'd find out in Adelaide, where the next World Championships will be held at the end of

January next year. Between now and then Ethan will be home in early September, before going over east for the Australian regatta circuit, doing Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne.

Will we have the two best Laser sailors in the world by February next year? There are two Royal Perth Members who believe we can. ■



9 Lives cruising wonderful Indonesia

MOLLUCA ISLANDS



After cruising from Brisbane to Darwin in 2022 the question for 2023 was “where to now?”

Quiet wilderness of the Kimberley and down the west coast or head north to foreign lands? As Darwin is on Indonesia’s doorstep and there are 18,000 isles and incredible cultural diversity to discover the choice was easy. A major detour before the Darwin to Rotto leg.

So, we joined the 2023 Wonderful Sail to Indonesia (S2I) Rally to provide companionship and a 4 month sailing itinerary through 20 islands from Kei in the east to Batam in the west (near Singapore). The rally is organised by Indonesian Tourism to highlight some

of the off the beaten track beautiful spots in the country. It attracted 56 boats - 22 are Australian and others from Europe, USA, Canada, NZ and Hong Kong. The fleet is split 45% cats / 55% mono and one power.

After the wet season spent on the hard in Darwin, we prepared 9 Lives (Spirited 380 sailing catamaran) for travels ahead with new antifoul, deck painting, motor servicing and other jobs. It took 6 weeks to get through the wish list and go for a sail.

Before leaving, we welcomed visitors from Perth, Gary

McDonald (Sandie Rabbit) and Nigel & Alana Chesterfield-Evans (S97 *Satchmo*) for a Darwin harbour cruise. Chrissie Payne flew in to join us as crew for the first 3 stages of the rally and for the pre-departure gathering with the

other 12 boats leaving Darwin. The rest of the fleet were in Thursday Island.

9 Lives cast off the Aussie shores at Coburg Peninsula on 17 July 2023 arriving Kei Islands, SE Mollucas 460 NM ▶





▶ from Darwin. With a dominant southeast trade wind at 15-20 knots, 9 Lives breezed along at average 8-9 knots. It was easy sailing until we crossed into Indonesian waters close to midnight and found a maze of fishing boats with a variety of coloured lights. As these were on boats or nets strung between them, spotting and dodging them required a full-time watch and lots of guesswork. Some had AIS and appeared on the chart plotter, but there were no guarantees.

Just after dark on the second day we neared our destination and wondered why some red lights weren't moving. No matter how much we dodged, we never passed them. Concern in Mark and Chrissies tones was allayed when Jane came on deck and realised they were phone towers on shore and we were very close to land. It's amazing how lights can play tricks with tired sailors.

Arriving at the lovely natural harbour of Debut in the dark proved a little tricky as we didn't spot a pearl farm until the last minute and hooked the props on it. The local fishermen weren't far away and zoomed out to help Mark who was diving, to free and guide us in. They were very helpful and jumped onboard with lots of chatter and laughter, not to mention the selfies. An unwanted glitch and no damage done but a warm Mollucan welcome received.

In the next couple of days, the other rally boats arrived from Thursday Island, swelling the number to over 44. Formalities on arrival were quick and professional but shore paperwork for cruising permits, quarantine and immigration took a while, however staff from Telkomsel were on hand to quickly put us in touch with mobile services on the dock.

The Mollucan (Maluku) Islands spread over quite a wide area. Like most Indonesian islands, they have small villages scattered all over, with a focus on fishing and small scale food production. The people are all very friendly and welcoming with smiling faces and willing to help. The local coffee was thick and dark, Bintang beer was on hand and cold but they tried to make pizza and hamburgers to please the western pallet which is a shame as crews were longing for some good Indonesian food.

Here and at other islands we have been welcomed with ceremonies, dancing, music, school visits, festivals, village tours and cultural events. Each island and the many communities are unique but the people all love to dance and sing. Young, old, male and female all join in traditional styles or line dances and western styles. They are

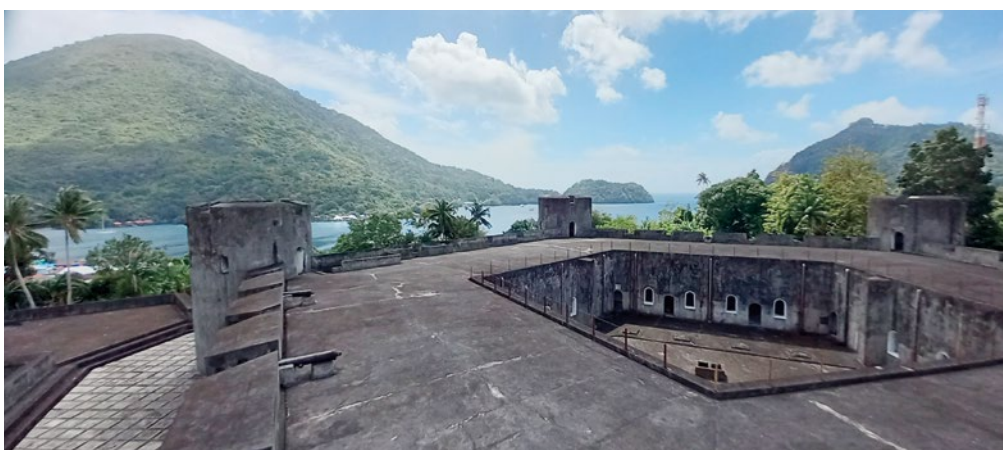
particularly happy when you join in.

Despite their local spices the food is often basic fish, chicken, casava and rice with assorted vegetable and banana dishes. Sambal and chilli are the magic ingredients to spice them up and there are local variations and speciality foods. The best food has been at the formal dinners organised and cooked by the community members.

The Kei Islands had some incredible white sand beaches, fringed with palms and other trees. Swimming in clear, warm water and snorkelling on coral was what the crews craved after navigating north Australian waters with crocs and other nasties. We weren't disappointed.

The Banda Islands are known as the Spice Islands and with some of them being the home of nutmeg, clove, almond and cinnamon, they are what attracted the Portuguese, Dutch, English, Spanish and Arab traders in the 16th - 19th century. The islands are littered with forts, canons and churches.

Seeing these spices still being grown and largely harvested in traditional ways was fascinating. Tuna fishing is also a big industry here. Tourism is minimal which is why sailing here gives access to places not easily reached. The snorkelling was fantastic, ▶





▶ especially at the base of the lava flow which provides minerals to accelerate growth - over 5 times the normal rate. We had to med moor 3 abreast in 35m of water with stern lines to trees and lateral anchor off stern to keep us off the coral shore. But we had

schools of angel fish around our stern that made you feel like you were swimming in a fish tank. The stern anchor snagged but a neighbouring yacht free dived to 18m to release it.

It was then on to Kota Ambon which is a large regional city, with a busy very deep harbour with lots of fishing and other industry as it is the major centre in the Maluku. It was a struggle to get an anchor spot in 35m water and several boats dragged on steep coral seabed. The market was huge, colourful and teeming with traders and minibuses.

Ambon also hosts the Darwin Ambon race which were arriving a few days after we left.

CHALLENGES

Navigation charts aren't very accurate if they exist, so chart plotters are supplemented with satellite pictures from multiple sources. Information is obtained from other yachties blogs to help plan the hops between the islands, that can usually be completed in a day or overnight. There are often places to stop enroute. ▶





► Anchoring is usually a challenge. Most islands are volcanic and have steep drop offs. Anchoring in less than 20 metres is rare and can be impacted by rocks, coral and/or seabed rubbish. Wind bullets off hills and currents can also cause swirls and surges so Mediterranean style anchoring with stern lines to shore and/or rafting up is sometimes required.

Fish attracting devices (FADS) are all around the islands and need to be watched. Some are large and well-lit at night to catch squid, however others are small and pop up all along the coast, along with fishing boats which are usually long and narrow with one or two crew.

Sailing is generally easy as the wind is 10 - 15 knots SE, so tacking is rare. Remember the saying "gentlemen don't sail to windward". The screecher and kite are

used more than the jib and with the low swell and waves, and tides of ~1.5m, cruising is easy. *9 Lives* and crew

have been performing well, enjoying the company of a wide variety of other yachties and look forward to further

exploration and islands as we head towards Malaysia. We still haven't met all the other boats. ■



FSC Winter Series wrapped up by *Jolie Breeze*

HOW DID THEY DO IT?

The FSC Winter Series, consisting of 4 Valmadre and 4 Performance races concluded on Saturday 12th August. The series had been characterised by very light winds and competitors had been praying to Anemoi for more breeze. In a classic example of “careful what you ask for” more breeze came - in the form of ‘Jolie Breeze’. David Hepburn and his under-talented crew, representing RPYC, took out PHS and IRC for the whole series in Division 1.

With a total of 21 boats registered in Division 1 it was a highly competitive fleet. 13 boats in the fleet were from FSC with the other 8 representing 5 other Clubs. *Cougar*, *Scotty Glaskin*, and *Jolie Breeze* represented RPYC.

Like answers to most deeply philosophical and esoteric questions the answer is not simple. However in a, rare, moment of deeply lateral thought David decided to recruit the crew based on their good looks, charm and personality. Coincidentally they were the only ones prepared to sacrifice 8 Saturdays of sitting in front ▶





Photos courtesy
Fremantle Sailing Club



■ David Hepburn with award.

► of the fire watching the Tour de France, World Aquatic Championships and the FIFA women's World Cup. Nevertheless the choice proved to be remarkably fortuitous. What the crew lacked in experience, knowledge and expertise was more than compensated by their ability to sit motionless on the leeward rail for hours at a time. It is possible that the skipper also made a contribution but it is beyond my knowledge of the finer points of sailing to opine on exactly what this may have been.

Certainly, the one point that we, eventually, learnt was that in an easterly for any course mark close to the beach, getting inshore, out of the waves by the shortest route paid off. Forget about rumb line to the mark, just get out of the waves!

The end result speaks for itself. As well as numerous podium finishes during the series, in the Valmadre *Jolie Breeze* took out 3rd on IRC and 4th on PHF. In the Performance series it was 1st on PHF and 2nd on IRC and 1st on both PHF and IRC for the whole series. Expensive bell rings!!

FSC did an excellent job in organising the event and arranged free berthing for visiting yachts at FSC for the duration of the series. The event is a great interlude during the winter months to sail offshore with a decent size and highly competitive fleet. I'd encourage all skippers to make a note in their calendars to enter for the 2024 series. It would be great to see some more RPYC boats competing. ■



OPENING DAY CELEBRATION PROGRAMME 2023

10:00am	Catalina Bar opens.
11:00am	Club Office opens. Light lunch available from the Catalina Bar.
12:45pm	Catalina Lunch service concludes. Members and visiting sailors assemble on lawn, in the Catalina Wing and throughout the Catalina Alfresco area. Club Office closes.
1:00pm	Please stand for our National Anthem. Opening Ceremony for the 2023/2024 Sailing Season commences.
1:30pm	Cannon fires from the ceremonial deck. Our Season is open! Sailors disperse for Sail Past and racing. Catalina Bar reopens for Meal and beverage service.
2:00pm	All Sail and Power Boats head to designated marks in Matilda Bay in preparation for Sail Past to commence at 2pm. Separate instructions will be provided for the Sail Past. Off the Beach, Keelboats and Power. Racing to commence at conclusion of Sail Past. Please see SSI's for further information.
4:00pm	Evening celebrations commence with meals available! The main lawn will come alive with activities for the kids (big and small) from 4pm. Racing Results Presentations to follow (estimated time of 4:30pm.)
5:00pm	IT'S PARTY TIME!! What's on offer?! Live music, delicious meals from the Catalina Bar, drink specials and a party to remember. No need to book, just bring along your family, crew and friends. See you there!





WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE 14TH OF OCTOBER

OPENING OF THE 2023/2024 SEASON

Members, crew, family and friends are invited to attend the Opening Ceremony.

Any visiting yachts should be berthed along the Club Jetties and we ask that all skippers and crew join us on the lawn by 12:45pm.

ATTENTION SAILORS – WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

All yachts are requested to dress ship for the Opening Ceremony. RPYC Yachts are asked to remain in your pens until after the conclusion of the Opening Ceremony.

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

You'll find Opening Day courses and Sail Past Instructions in the Foyer near the Club Office.

Copies of the Red Book are available from the Club Office and online at www.rpyc.com.au

RESULTS

We know the best part of the day is catching up with friends, fellow sailors and crew and talking about the day out on the water.

Similar to last year, results will be announced for first place over the line only. We will aim to present between 4:30 - 5:00pm.

SAIL PAST – DRESS YOUR BOAT.

Salute RPYC's first Female Commodore, Dr Janet Hornbuckle, Flags, Committee members and VIP's.

It's open to all boats, large and small, sail or power! We'd love to see you out there joining the Sail Past.

A more detailed map with 'sailing' instructions will be available from the office or collecting them from the Foyer on the day.

DRESSING OF THE SHIP – BEST DRESSED COMPETITION

Why not get in the spirit of Opening Day? Dress your boat, dress your crew (of course you'll need to be back in whites for racing) and be in the running for a prize for best dressed boat!

CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT

The main lawn will come alive with activities for the kids (big and small) from 4pm. Enjoy lawn games and many other activities to keep everyone entertained.

PARTY ON INTO THE EVENING

Food will be available from 4pm to 8:00pm with mouthwatering choices available. We'll have cocktail, wine and beer specials!

There's something for everyone – so join us to kick off the season in style. Live music commencing from 5:00pm.

PARKING

On Opening Day please remember that Parking is limited to the cars of officials, invited guests and Full Members. We will have staff on the gates, so please ensure your car is displaying the current (nonrestricted members only) 2023/2024 RPYC sticker.

An area will be designated for official guests' parking.

Members may be directed to car parking areas by car park attendants or Club staff. We ask that you please co-operate with these personnel.

Members are asked not to park their cars in areas other than those allocated as car parking bays.

Time limits on Loading Zones must be strictly observed to allow Members the opportunity of boat loading.

Once parking space in the Club grounds is full, Members should park in the area opposite the main entrance to Club grounds.

CLUB OFFICE

The Club Office will be open from 11am until 12:45pm. Members' cards, EFTPOS and cash can be used for purchases on the day.

ENTERTAINMENT

We expect the dance floor to kick off in style at 5:00pm. Live music will bring the atmosphere alive, so be sure to wear your dancing shoes.

Historic Milestones in the Evolution of the Royal Perth Yacht Club

CELEBRATING INCLUSIVITY AND ACHIEVEMENTS

1985: PIONEERING INCLUSION FOR WOMEN IN SAILING

Flash back to RPYC in 1985. Planning was well underway for the hosting of the 1987 America's Cup, Jon Sanders was prepping for his triple circumnavigation of the globe, and two Perth women make RPYC history.

It was on May 27th of 1985 at a General Committee meeting, chaired by Commodore Peter Dalziell, where the movement to elect all 14 names presented on the Ballot was approved. A decision that went down in Club history.

What made this occasion so momentous? Featured on this particular ballot were



L/R: Brian Birt, Ken Stokes, Alisa West (new member), Don Thomas (nominator), Mike Cullen, Rita Maffescioni (new member), Peter Hallam (nominator). Photo: The West Australian Newspaper August 1985

the names of Alisa West (pictured left below) and Rita Maffescioni (pictured right below) - the very first women admitted to RPYC as 'Senior' (now known as 'Full') Members. Before this historic day, it was expected

that female's enter into the membership categories of 'Associate' 'Intermediate' or 'Junior' membership, but never 'Senior'. A major milestone for women at the Club, and of course for WA women in sailing!

2023: A NEW HORIZON WITH A FEMALE COMMODORE

Fast forward to the present day, and the Royal Perth Yacht Club finds itself at the forefront of yet another transformative chapter. In a development that mirrors the evolution witnessed in 1985, the Club now boasts a monumental milestone: the election of Commodore Dr. Janet Hornbuckle as its first female Commodore.

Commodore Dr. Janet Hornbuckle's ascendancy to this esteemed position stands as a testament to the Club's unwavering commitment to progress, equality, and inclusivity. Dr. Hornbuckle's achievements, her expertise in yachting,





earning the profound respect and admiration of her peers.

Pam's approach to her responsibilities is a reflection of her dynamic character. She navigates challenges with poise, demonstrating a remarkable ability to make sound decisions even under the most demanding circumstances. While whispers of her occasional anxiety over the gravity of her decisions may circulate, her unwavering and authoritative calls over the radio leave no doubt about her competence.

However, Pam's impact reaches beyond her official duties. She stands as a beacon of mentorship and education, generously sharing her wealth of knowledge and passion with those around her. Her contributions are not confined to start boats alone; they extend into the horizon of the Club's future.

In being appointed as the first female Honorary Life Member of the Royal Perth Yacht Club, Pam's legacy reaches a pinnacle. This well-deserved honour not only recognizes her exceptional contributions but also underscores the pivotal role she has played in shaping the Club's identity. Her presence has been a constant force for progress, a guiding light for all those who have had the privilege to work alongside her.

As the Royal Perth Yacht Club continues to chart new waters, Pam's influence will undoubtedly continue to resonate, inspiring generations to come. Her journey to becoming an Honorary Life Member not only celebrates her achievements but also sets an enduring example of dedication, expertise, and unwavering passion for the sport and the community that she holds dear. ■

► and her leadership prowess have earned her the respect and confidence of the Club's membership. Her election goes beyond mere symbolism; it serves as a beacon of inspiration for women within the sailing community and beyond.

Dr. Hornbuckle's appointment signifies not only the Royal Perth Yacht Club's willingness to break through gender barriers but also its recognition of the immense talent, passion, and dedication that women bring to the sport. Her leadership will undoubtedly shape the Club's trajectory, further fostering an environment

where all members can thrive, irrespective of gender.

PAMELA STRICKLAND'S JOURNEY TO HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

In a well-deserved tribute to her immeasurable contributions and steadfast dedication, Pamela Strickland, affectionately known as "Pam" to all who have had the privilege of working with her, has achieved a remarkable accolade at the Royal Perth Yacht Club. Pam's journey to becoming the first female Honorary Life Member is a testament to her unparalleled commitment and her invaluable

role within the sailing community.

Pam's legacy within the Royal Perth Yacht Club has been forged through years of tireless service and expertise. Her presence has been a constant on the water, serving as a race official across a myriad of events ranging from the vibrant energy of Saturdays and the camaraderie of Twilights, to the competitive spirit of Tuesday Nights and the prestige of the Keelboat Championships. Beyond the formalities of her title as a Regional Race Officer, Pam's reputation has soared to greater heights,

COMMODORE'S BALL







By Lawson McAullay

JAPAN JUNIOR YACHT CLUB UNION (JJYU)

International Friendship All Japan Junior Yacht Club Regatta 2023

WAKAYAMA SAILING CENTER, WAKAYAMA PREFECTURE (WESTERN JAPAN) - 21-23 JULY 2023

The Japanese Friendship Regata has come to an exciting close! Amidst scorching heat and moderate winds, Orlando and Celina showcased great determination and skill.



Day 1 of the Japanese Friendship regata saw 5 races in extreme heat and light to moderate conditions.

In the first three races we had an unpredictable westerly breeze of 5-8 knots. In which Celina and Orlando struggled to get off the start line in good positions. In these races both sailors showed unwavering determination and grit as they attempted to sail back through the fleet.

The fourth race saw an increase and a slight swing in the breeze to the west southwest. Celina and Orlando found their feet on the start line having two

cracking starts allowing them to be in great stead around the top mark. Unfortunately, Orlando was infringed at the top mark falling out of the boat which set him back in the race. Celina went on to have her best race of the day.

In the fifth and final race both sailors once again had great starts which put them on the front foot to get keeper scores.

Overall, both Orlando and Celina showed vast improvements in their starts which gave them the ability to follow their strategy throughout the race.

Day 2, the final day of the Japanese Friendship Regatta saw the completion of the last 2 races of a 7 race series where we once again experienced extreme heat and light to moderate conditions. In the first race we had a westerly breeze of 5-8 knots. In which Celina had a terrific start off the pin crossing the fleet while Orlando was front row near the middle of the line. However, as the race went on the lack of big fleet racing in Perth meant they struggled to manage the fleet at mark roundings and downwind which made them loose places.

Race 2 saw similar wind conditions. Orlando had a great

start from the pin allowing him to break free of the initial chaos from the mid fleet pack and finish in a great position. However, Celina was caught up in the chaos of people not laying the pin boat and ended up near the back of the fleet. She showed determination and fought the whole way to the finish line.

The results did not reflect the vast improvements of Orlando and especially Celina on the start line and first upwinds.

Orlando finished 12th overall and was first in the international category. Celina finished 25th overall. ■

Seafarer Marathon Time Trialling Event 2023

After months of planning, countless hours of data entry and numerous meetings, we finally got to see our Seafarer Marathon Time Trialling Event take place.

We had 72 boats compete including participants from Fremantle Sailing Club, South of Perth Yacht Club, Claremont Bay Yacht Club, Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club, Mandurah Offshore and Fishing Sailing Club and of course, Royal Perth Yacht Club.

We had over 40 volunteers man the checkpoints, start box and results centre. Our fabulous staff co-ordinated the whole process including processes such as taking nominations, the delivery of checkpoint packs, on-water photography, the prize giving and the running of the social event afterwards.

We also had spectator boats take out about 20 VIPs and their guests. These VIPs included representatives from some of our sponsors. Our generous sponsors for the Seafarer were Bay Marine Boat Maintenance and Seacraft Paints. The lucky or skilled recipients of these prizes were thrilled and grateful to be the winners.

A little bit of rain didn't put off our intrepid time triallers and after a few mishaps like

continued engine problems and picking up an ecosystem on mooring lines we had 7 RPYC boats complete the course.

Unfortunately, we didn't manage to take home the much-coveted overall Seafarer trophy for least points lost as this went to *The Dolphin* from South of Perth Yacht Club with a loss of only 7 points.

RPYC's best performing boats on the day were:

Au with a loss of 12 points, winner of the RPYC Seafarer Invitational Trophy, also 2nd on Consistency overall and winner of a Bay Marine \$300 Voucher.

Followed by *Charisma* with a loss of 23 points and *Elysium* and *At The Office* both with a loss of 33 points.

Afterwards people gathered on their boats or had jetty parties before heading up to the Club for our Italian inspired dinner and presentations whilst listening to the dulcet tones of Dean Martin singing *That's Amore*.



A fun-filled evening was had with members of our Club and other Kindred Clubs.

It was great to see many of our checkpoint volunteers join in the evening festivities. Time Trialling is a volunteer heavy activity and without

these kind souls we wouldn't be able to run these events.

Our Power Community would like to acknowledge and thank our very generous sponsors and volunteers who make these events possible. ■



Women's Sailing at RPYC

Since the Women's State Keelboat Championships in March 2023, the hastily assembled group of dinghy and keelboat sailors from as young as 11 up to their 30s, have continued to train together with goals of competing at a national level in 2024 and internationally in 2025.

By Kiara Parkinson

Back in March 2023 we heard a rumour that RPYC was in need of a team for the Women's State Keelboat Championships, and so armed with a clipboard and pen I set out to the OTB Clubhouse to round up a team of dinghy sailors. We pulled together a team for the states, and then continued to sail together for the Interclub Championships. In the interest of keeping the momentum going we have continued to enjoy training together since.

Over the winter season we have been taking the opportunity to train on the Elliott 7s in Colin Harrison's Racing Skills Program on Saturday

mornings and were joined by the sailors from FSC Women's Racing and Mentorship Program for a few of these training sessions.

On Sunday afternoons we have then been putting these skills into practice by joining in the Frostbite series, having finished a race in an Elliott every Frostbite so far (with some fill-in crew from the youth team). To best develop a wise set of skills, all sailors have been rotating through different roles on the boat; I don't think we've yet had two races with the same skipper!

Looking forward, our intention is to continue training and racing at

a Club level in preparation for the states, and long term, the plan is to compete in the 2024 Australian Women's Keelboat Regatta (Melbourne), and the 2025 Helga Cup (Hamburg, Germany) – lots of training ahead!

This has been an excellent opportunity to work together as a team, to provide a pathway for dinghy sailors to try keelboat sailing, and as I've been told "it's much more fun on a girls only boat!"

So if you or anyone you know is interested in sailing with us please do get in touch.



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ENDEAVOUR 24 REPORT



DIV 3 CONSISTENCY

Well done to Barry Rosen on *Argo* for placing second in the Division 3 Consistency.

WINTER REGATTA

We recently held our E24 Winter Regatta where we had 9 boats compete over a 3 race event. Mark Dymond on *Mystral* placed first, followed by Man Singh on *Breeze* and third place was Robin Wilkinson on *Little Tiger*. It was fantastic to see Jacob Salter, Simon Harris, Tony Finch and Alex Pauza battling out the mid field.

The back of the pack also had a great race. Keep in mind *England Expects* still has silverware from Britain onboard, *Jacquie* with her permanent mast dropping tackle and *Halcyon* with her 25kg Rocna anchor to ensure a good nights sleep in a lee-shore at Parakeet bay. Well done to all involved. ▶

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► NEW ENDEAVOUR OWNERS

We would like to welcome two new endeavour owners. Alex Aberle-leeming who has purchased the famous *Amber* from Peter Cook. Tom Addis is the new owner *Jacqui* who successfully completed his first race during the winter regatta.

INITIATIVES

The E24 community has had some good success with working with other like minded communities such as the UWA Outdoor Club. And more recently we have been in discussions with the Scouts WA Club.

YOUR ENDEAVOUR 24 COMMITTEE

Man Singh (President)
 Nic Challener (Vice President)
 Ian Passmore (Secretary)
 Jacob Salter (Treasurer)
 Robin Wilkinson
 (Committee Member)
 Alex Pauza
 (Committee Member). ■

RESULTS OF THE 2023 E24 WINTER REGATTA

Yacht entry	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3
England Expects	6	DNS	DNS
Little Tiger	4	4	2
Breeze	1	2	4
Halcyon	9	8	DNS
Mistral	2	1	1
Vagabond	3	3	5
Nirvana	7	5	3
Jacqui	8	9	6
Mindarie	5	DNF	DNS



FARR 9.2 REPORT

Jeremy Kerr, Farr 9.2 Association President

We have an exciting new lead-up into the 2023/2024 season, with the addition of two new teams into the Farr 9.2 fleet, plus a new racing schedule for some great events over the summer.

You may have seen a for-sale (foresail?) notice around the Club, with Pat Jones listing *Seahawk* on the market recently. *Seahawk* has now found a pair of new happy owners in Pedro Araujo and Juan Roman. Pedro and Juan have some experience as crew within the fleet on *Farr Fetched*, as well as a dinghy-racing background, but have now taken the exciting role as new skippers of a race-ready Farr 9.2. They have

been spotted out regularly on weekends over winter, getting familiar with the boat and ready for the Summer season. They plan to participate in Club and class racing, as well as some occasional cruising over to Rottnest.

In other exciting news for the fleet, *Eufarria* has joined us at RPYC as well, previously owned by George Carter at Fremantle Sailing Club. Peter Cook and John Palmer have recently bought *Eufarria* up from FSC to RPYC Crawley, Peter having previously skippered the Farr 9.2 *Seahawk*, including as part of State Championship racing. The pair will add a competitive team into

our fleet racing, both on Wednesdays and Saturdays as the 2023/2024 season starts – as well as a much-needed increase to the number of Farr puns around the Club.

We are very happy to have these four new owners included into the Farr 9.2 family; please make them welcome if you see them around.

Of course, with two new boats racing, I'm sure there will be plenty of opportunities for new crew looking to join the superb Farr 9.2 fleet; please get in touch with Jeremy on 0417 095 745 if you are interested.

In preparation for the season, we have been beavering away with Travis at boating operations to organise an updated sailing schedule for the summer. This year, we'll have the flexibility of our Metro Series courses at RPYC specifically tailored for the Farr 9.2 fleet, and some improvements around including our teams (with friends and family) into the post-race results and social events. The racing calendar will be out soon, along with the Notices of Race for the Metro Series. Keep an eye on your inbox for details.

We're looking forward to a great summer of racing; see you out on the water! ■



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■ Jeff Crookes standing in as MC for the S80 Awards Night.

END OF SEASON AWARDS NIGHT

We'll start with our very successful end of season awards night back in June. This year we did something different and held it at The Dutch Trading Co, in Vic Park. All the well-rehearsed jokes and witty observations were for naught as a positive RAT on the morning kept the President locked away. By all accounts it was a very well received night with plenty of stories of success and shame over the season. Thanks to Jeff Crookes who organised the venue and trophies for the night, and also picked up the mic as a last-minute MC. Congratulations to all the award winners! Even to our head-less chook award recipient, Phil Slee, for failing to appreciate the tides in Broome and trapping his dingy under the dock!

FROSTBITE

It's been a common feature of the Frostbite series this winter – light winds. There have been some painful legs up to Foam and around Poplar, but it's been beautiful weather otherwise. *Rum Rummer*, *Sweet Babs* and *Grand Piano* have been making regular appearances on the start line. Although, a confession, in the light breezes we've underestimated our time to line from the pens on occasion...

KEELBOAT INSTRUCTOR TRAINING

In a joint venture between RPYC and S80 WA, Australian Sailing conducted a Keelboat Instructor course over the weekend of Saturday 12, Sunday 13 August. The trainee instructors were a mix of volunteers who assist in the training with the

Sailor Development Program (SDP), and likely prospects as instructors for the future. The benefits were to strengthen the capabilities of the SDP people, and qualify instructors for the RPYC Keelboat Crew 'n' Helm course. The course was run by Chief Instructor Nickie Jones and Olympic Gold medalist Tessa Parkinson. Needless to say, there was some expectations we felt pressure to live up to.

The feedback from the trainee instructors was amazing. Nickie and Tessa changed a lifetime of bad habits, making them better sailors, and giving them the right methods to pass on to new sailors.

We utilised the S80 WA training boat, *Grand Piano*, and Jeff Crookes and John Berry generously loaned *Fusion* for the weekend. S80 WA are very appreciative of the Club's recognition of the deficit in the ranks of qualified keelboat instructors and for their timely response and material assistance in ensuring the course was a success. Congratulations to our freshly minted Keelboat Instructors: Todd Black, John Boswell, Nick Challenor, John Connell, Jason Froud, Jeremy Kerr, Leon Koch and Andre Linthorne. ■



■ Chief Instructor Nickie has a highly attentive audience.



■ Senior Instructor Tessa bringing back a group of well-trained instructors, with S80 WA President Andre Linthorne in the "admiral's position".



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DIVISION 3 REPORT

Nicholas Challenor , Fleet Representative

Greetings to the vibrant community of the Royal Perth Yacht Club! As the new contributor to the *In the Wind* articles, I'm thrilled to share the tales, triumphs, and challenges of our beloved Division 3.

Winter in Perth has its own charm, especially for the sailors of Division 3. While the crew of *Breakin Even* shares tales of European adventures, back home, the spirit of our division remains undeterred by the cold. This season, we've seen a heartening increase in participation in the Wednesday afternoon series, with four more boats joining the ranks compared to last year. It's a testament to the growing passion and camaraderie within our community.

However, every silver lining has its cloud. While our

Wednesday series has seen a surge, the Sunday afternoon frostbite series still awaits more of our sailors. Only half of the boats that grace the waters on Wednesdays venture out for the frostbite races. It's a reminder that every division has its unique challenges and preferences, and there's always room to grow and evolve.

Before I sign off, a special note of gratitude is in order. A heartfelt thanks to Mal Wilson, who has been the beacon for Division 3. His dedication as the Div 3 rep and the fantastic articles he's contributed over the years have been nothing short of inspirational. Mal, your legacy is a guiding light for all of us.

Here's to more adventures, challenges, and stories from Division 3. Fair winds and following seas to all! ■



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S97 REPORT

Photo courtesy RPYC



■ Skallagrigg

We are approaching the end of the winter and many brave sailors faced the challenging conditions, attending several events.

The Fremantle Sailing Club Valmadre Offshore Series was sailed over four races commencing in late June and finishing in mid-August with the competition sailed under PHF and IRC. Two S97s attended the series in division one. Congratulations to Sean Wallis on Skallagrigg who ▶



■ Hornet's Nest



■ Jolie Breeze

Photo courtesy RPYC

Photo courtesy Ironbark Photos

► won the series on IRC thanks to an incredible sequence of results (1, 1, 1, 1) and to David Hepburn on *Jolie Breeze* who finished third on IRC (2, 2, 9, 7). On PHF *Skallagrigg* ended the series in second place and *Jolie Breeze* in fourth.

Also, congratulations to David Hepburn who won the Fremantle Sailing Club Keelboat Winter Series in division one, both on PHF and on IRC, which is a remarkable result at the end of an eight races series (composed by the Valmadre series and the Performance series combined).

During the winter we had a good turnout of S97s in the Stage & Studio Productions Wednesday Winter Series and the Sunday Frostbite Series. The Frostbite Series is held between May and September. Steve Cowle on *Hornet's Nest* is in fifth place overall (at the

time of typing this article) and the best of the S97s in Division A, with two more races to go.

Another interesting event held at Royal Perth Yacht Club on the 20th of June was a lecture on sail trimming presented by Andrew Harry, who is the Western Australia North Sails representative. There was a big attendance with over fifty people on a Tuesday night.

Five boat owners have purchased new sails or sections of the mast during the summer months, showing that the S97 fleet is continuing to invest in their boats for future racing.

The S97 class association Annual General Meeting will be held before the end of August. We will update our readers on any decisions made in the next edition of this magazine. ■

■ (Background image)
S97 fleet.

Photo courtesy Ironbark Photos



Photo courtesy Tim Campbell Photography

■ Terra

OFFSHORE REPORT

WYUNA GOES NORTH

The Fremantle to Exmouth Race was the culmination of the 2022-23 Ocean Racing season. Departing on 6th May, The 700 nm race takes yachts north, against currents, past islands and reefs. It is Australia's longest single destination race.....and we were doing it!

Wyuna, the RPYC Jeanneau Sun Fast 3600 was entered. She already has a track record of long ocean passages, having previously competed in the Melbourne-Osaka double-handed, the Melbourne to Hobart, Rolex Sydney to Hobart and Bali Races. This along with her immaculate maintenance gave the crew confidence that we could do well.

Earlier in March, *Wyuna* had sailed the 200 nm Cape Naturaliste and Return as its qualifier. This was an excellent warm-up and proved to be a great learning experience as several of the crew were going to Exmouth too. It was a huge learning opportunity for me. Conditions were 25 knots easterlies and gusting 30 knots on the beam. This made for a wet and bumpy ride to the Cape. My brother JJ was also on board, doing his first overnight passage. As the sun set and the moon hid behind a thick cloud cover, we both became very seasick and cold. We felt like we wanted to die... and this continued for 7 very miserable hours until the sun came up

and wind died down. This put pressure on everybody else, but in the time of need we were able to jump and help with the occasional break to have a spew. I learned that I need to manage my seasickness better. I also learned that I needed to have sailing gear of better quality and more fit for purpose. Cotton hoodies and tracksuit pants are not suitable for ocean racing (at least in bad weather!). I invested in a proper set of wet weather gear and a lot of travelcalms. In further preparation for the Exmouth race, Hilary also helped organise a SSSC course for *Wyuna* crew at the Club. We provided the entertainment that weekend for those on the Wardroom balcony as we swam around in our wet weather gear and messed around with a liferaft! It was a huge advantage to do this as a crew as the learning could be boat specific and a lot more fun.

The morning of the Race was cold, grey, and rainy. We were dressed in the wet weather gear even before we got on the dock. Our crew consisted of Hilary Arthure, Simon Torvaldsen, Steve Humphries, Travis Burtenshaw, Mike Foster, Manfred Greitschus Andy Buchan and myself. There was a huge collective wealth of knowledge on the boat, and lots of crew were close friends.

We made our way to the starting area off Port Beach with a sense of excitement.

There were 24 yachts racing and about 20 other craft going north as part of the Rally. We were a Division 2 boat, but also have one of the higher IRC Ratings in the division, so we would have to sail well.

Starting the race in bumpy conditions, we sailed conservatively in the 20 knot breeze from the east with a full main and the J2. We worked our way to the top of the pack and rounding the Cottesloe mark we were alongside our rivals *Merlin*. A restored 35ft yacht, visiting from Esperance for this race.

Our navigator Steve Humphries is a jack of all trades. Besides being an excellent navigator, he was also our cook and meal preparation person, as well as being the overseer of watches and crew morale!! Some of the food that emerged from the 'galley' – a 1 burner stove, was worthy of a Michelin Star. Especially for the hungry crew.

Some food had been pre-cooked and brought in large food thermos flasks. We also had lamb cutlets dipped in mint sauce, and some survival food, heated in hot water and accompanied with quick cook rice. Guess which I enjoyed most. We had lots of sandwiches, apples and frozen sausages which were thawed out as our race progressed. Along with tons and tons of snacks, we were not going hungry.

Going into the first night, we peeled to the J1 and then the Code Zero. Lots of work for Andy and myself on the bow. It was at this time that the kite sheet stripped. We swapped it with the other sheet and it made for some interesting gybing techniques for the rest of the race. The breeze was up to 30 knots and building. This might not be an easy race. Off-watch, as I laid in my bunk, I heard another yacht inform Race Control by radio that they were going home with a broken foil. This put some reality into the situation. With the increasing breeze we decided to change down to the storm jib overnight to protect the other sails, as the race was a long one. We were still averaging good speeds with it. As one of the bow team this was a sail we specially packed on shore beforehand and one I hoped I would never need to see again.

Later that night we also reefed the main, I had never done this on this boat during a race before, and as the pressure rose to close to 40 knots later, we further shortened sail to the second reef. And still we scooted along making good speed. It was also during this night that a large 'L' shaped tear was noticed in the leech a bit above the second reef.

That tear did not get any worse and the next day the breeze abated enough for us to drop the main and do some repairs. ▶



■ A cloudy sunset for the first evening



■ Enjoying some sunshine after the first few days of strong easterlies



■ Fossy performing some sail repair during the glass-out at Dirk Hartog Is.

► This involved large sheets of stickyback, metho and the chopping board (without the knife). Hoisting the main again we thought it looked pretty good. Fossy is a craftsman! On the second night out, we pulled in two reefs again as the breeze continued to be strong, however by then, we were back on the J2, and the storm Jib was thankfully in its bag where it belongs. Progress was good as the sun disappeared over the horizon in a perfect sunset.

By Monday morning we had some light reaching conditions. Hoisting the Zero we made good progress past Steep Point. The weather was noticeably warmer and the 'dress code' had changed to shorts and t-shirts. The breeze swung further south, and after a sail change to the A2 (that big purple kite), we were pleased with how we were going. An estimate of 5 hours was given to pass Dirk Hartog Island.

It seemed to take forever to get alongside Dirk Hartog Is. The breezes were light and as it got dark there were rumblings of thunder. With lightning in the foreground, I was for once glad not to be near the carbon wheel or mast.

Progress was very slow on Tuesday, Dirk Hartog seemed to go forever. We spent the time fixing anything that needed it, Steve and I had a saltwater shower from a bucket and we generally got

things ship shape. It was great to have a few moments catching up and having a few laughs with the others on board. Sadly, it took almost 24 hours from the initial 5 hour estimate and the island became one to remember.

That night a large lightning storm loomed in our path. While the strikes were every few seconds, I was reassured it was only sheet lightning and wouldn't strike down... It was very eery! I later learned that Steve and Hilary had prepared a grab-bag downstairs just in case and it was ready to go. I'm glad I didn't know that at the time. The rain came down as we passed through and the weather became miserable for the next 12 hours. There were lots of squalls and the rain found its way down my collar.

Our initial predictions were that we would arrive in Exmouth on Wednesday. However, with Tuesday being such a light day we knew we would be at sea an extra 24 hours. Steve did some interesting improvisation to create a ketchupy/sausage/boiled egg concoction for dinner. Not being an egg person, I opted for just sausages.

That evening we made some excellent navigational decisions. We could see on the AIS, that the rest of the fleet were 'parked' inshore of us, so we decided to head



■ Team Wyuna rocking our tropical dock shirts at presentations

offshore in search of wind. We found some, and managed to pull back 30nm on *Merlin*. As dawn approached their mast appeared just ahead.

With the A3 up and Fossy on the wheel, we managed to average 99% on our polars for over 2 hours. As dawn broke, we rounded the Cape changed to the J1 and set off to catch them. The sea was choppy, and we were pushing against current. Hilary with thirst in her eyes was not giving up yet, so we were all on deck trying to get every inch on them. Simon was reminding us we were not in the cruising division. The race with *Merlin* was on. They fell away in the strong current, but we held up. With the large swell I felt sick for the first time all race but managed to keep a lid on it. After a couple of hours, we crossed the line to finish 90 seconds behind *Merlin*. We were greeted with cheers from the teams, beers, prosecco, and lots of snags by the volunteers.

We spent a lovely few days afterwards in Exmouth. It was warm, the atmosphere was great, and it was perfect to relax before heading back to wet and cold Perth. I had a great time and celebrated my 18th birthday with the team. Simon, Steve, Fossy and Andy had commitments back in Perth and departed on Friday. However, Hilary, Dennis (Vincent), Travis, Manfred and I represented *Wyuna* and RPYC at the Presentation Dinner. We were 1st in Division 2 IRC and 2nd on PHS. *Merlin* was the inverse. *Selkie*, the Northshore 38, was a very close 3rd in our division. Conditions favoured the big boats for overall IRC placings.

It was an enormous effort to get us and *Wyuna* safely to Exmouth and so I would like to thank Hilary and Dennis as well as the rest of the crew for sticking with me and giving me this opportunity. I am looking forward to the next adventure on *Wyuna*. ■



■ Enjoying a relaxing afternoon as we glide along the coast



■ Morning after a stormy and raining night, at least there was wind!



■ Steve working his magic heating up some potatoes to go with the lamb chops! Simon double checking its up to scratch!

Just because it is winter we don't stop sailing thanks to our glorious climate and the races the Club provides. Winter also gives the BW8s a chance to sail in a mixed fleet through the Frostbite Series where they make up half of the Division A Fleet and also continue in the Wednesday Winter Series where they make up a quarter of Division A. We have had quite a range of conditions with some absolute magnificent days but sadly we lost a couple of days sailing due to weather.

After a long enforced break, it was great to see our new Captain Sail Alan Thomas get back into sailing *The Fox* early in the season. Alan and his crew took out the first Wednesday mini-series – welcome back All!

There has been some very close racing in the mid-week series with the BW8s creating a race within the race. The "Closed Class" rules keep the boats equal by having the same layout and same cut sails – leaving passing to tactics and crew work. In this area some of the fleet have been benefitting greatly from the Club's Racing Skills Development sessions run by Colin Harrison. It is pleasing to see the skills levels of sailors improving at the Club – well done RPYC.

The Frostbites have been dominated by Mike Kinney in *Mad Hatter* – after 6 races his handicap score is three 1sts, a 2nd and two 4ths and he was never outside third across the line. A lot of the racing has been in light breezes which has been a great opportunity to let new crew develop the skills of racing.

With the Frostbites coming to an end the Class will be once again coordinating a whole of fleet refit in the second half of September. We have been working with Grant from Bay Marine to get this a slick operation trying to ensure



■ Primates and Hydrate Close

race days are not missed. This year six of the boats will be required to undergo an insurance survey during the refit.

The BW8 Class Association, with the exhaustion of the mast sections it uses being no longer available, have been busy having a new die built and are about to extrude a large number of sections to ensure the Fleets viability into the future. The section is also used on many other classes including the Farr 9.2s so this will be a benefit wider than the BW8 class.

I have recently noticed a number of new black sail bags along the jetty and the Class's sailmaker advises me that five mainsails and six No.1 Headsails were delivered to boats at the Club. I expect to see some fresh red number sails flying in the summer season when we take on our rival fleets from Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club and South of Perth Yacht Club. ■



■ Frostbite Series, Batteries not Included and Hydrate



■ Close racing at Wednesday Winter Series start

RACE MANAGEMENT

Phillippa Berkhout, Race Management



Digger's Cup marks the beginning of our off season. But.....is it really?

The team, in fact, remains quite connected to RPYC throughout the winter months by continuing to volunteer at a number of sailing competitions.

Frostbite is a winter regular. A box start and finish is unusual for us as we are usually out on the water for the starts. Winter weather patterns make for interesting sailing especially when courses are shortened. This decision, when needed, certainly keeps us all on our toes.

The National Youth Match Racing Championships was a week of exciting and intense sailing in Matilda Bay. Teams came from Tasmania, NSW and WA. Strong winds tested everyone but the teams raced every day. The on-water umpires were amazing to watch, following the boats so closely to ensure compliance with the rules. It was an absolute pleasure seeing the Elliots out on the water manned by so many enthusiastic sailors.

The Ron Tough Match Racing saw the S80s out in the Bay competing for this coveted trophy. Regardless of the size of the fleet, match racing still requires a lot of volunteers, including mark layers, umpires, and everyone on the Committee Boat.

Many of the team also volunteer to help the Power section of the Club. This includes Power Opening Day and Time Trialling.

Before we know it, October's Opening Day will be here. Planning has already started because the Season 23/24 sailing calendar is challenging in terms of the number of events and thus volunteers.

We are all looking forward to another season of volunteering. Why not come and join us. We don't bite and would love some new faces on the team.



Finally, the team heartily congratulates Team Captain, Pamela Strickland for being awarded Life Membership of RPYC. It is an honour that acknowledges and

recognises her hard work and dedication to the Club over many years. We look forward to celebrating with Pamela when we are together again as a whole team. ■



In June, Sailability WA President Gary Griffiths was fortunate enough to undertake some celebrity sailing on *Heaven Can Wait* with British-Australian Actress Miriam Margoyles, who was in Australia filming for her new documentary series *Miriam Margoyles – Australia Unmasked*. Our Member, Kylie Forth, will feature in the documentary who was trimming the headsail and Incoming Commodore, Dr Janet Hornbuckle (our first female Commodore in 158 years) was on the helm.



Sailability WA has awarded its annual Volunteer of the Year Award to our Committee Secretary, Peter Moore PSM.

Genevieve Wickham and Grant Alderson are busy training for the RS Venture Connect Inclusive World Championship 2023 being held in Rostock, Germany from 23-27 August. We wish them every success in these championships.

In preparation for the 2023/24 Summer sailing season which will open on 18 and 19 October we have our annual volunteer training session scheduled in for 13 September and annual working bee at the Dinghy Division on 27 and 28 September.

We are looking forward to another fun season of finding freedom on the water with our sailing community. ■



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FREMANTLE Annexe



Danny Gavin
Harbour Master

The Royal Perth Yacht Club (RPYC) Annexe, nestled along the picturesque coastline, is renowned for its stunning views, boating community, and vibrant social events. In the past two months, the marina faced its fair share of challenges with high tides and gale force winds testing the mettle of the team managing this non-profit yacht Club. Despite these obstacles, the spirit of camaraderie prevailed as the marina hosted a memorable Christmas in

July function, uniting boaters, friends, and family in a celebration of resilience and joy.

I have always said the Annexe is our little piece of paradise between Crawley and Rottneest. Others have said it's the jewel in the crown of RPYC. Either way, the Annexe is special.

Just ask those 61 people that attended the Christmas in July function at the Annexe. 14 boats rafted up on B jetty and were adorned with Christmas lights and decorations - it looked fantastic. Chef Simon and his team served up an amazing spread of glazed ham, turkey, barramundi, and roast veggies. Dessert was a delicious pudding. Drinks were flowing and a great night was had by all. The fire was roaring, enough to keep us all a little warmer. The music cranked up after 9pm and the dance floor was packed. A rendition of Nutbush City Limits had all the ladies doing the moves. By the way, a fun fact on that one - this dance routine is only performed in Australia, nowhere else in

the world does it. After all that merriment, the morning proved to be a slow start for most but by the afternoon all boats had departed. Until next year...

Being in the middle of winter, don't forget that if the winds are too strong for Rotto, you can pop into the Annexe for a weekend stay. There are plenty of bars and restaurants to try out and its nice walking around Freo. For those into country music, Honky Tonk Blues is an American saloon-style dive bar that has just opened on High Street and has some fantastic live music.

We have had some horrendous weather in the last few months. Gale force winds, extremely high tides and so much rain, but the Annexe and all boats have survived. One issue that did arise was the failure of some power sockets and circuit breakers due to moisture. This was highlighted when we had the big raft up for the Christmas in July function. Darren saved the day with a few external 15amp power boards. I am currently getting all of the

faults rectified after testing all of the power points. I am also adding new locks to the circuit breaker boxes which should assist in keeping the moisture out as well. In better news, no clears have been blown out this year and only 2 boats suffered broken ropes which were fixed very quickly. So, we have been very lucky.

The jetty barrows and trolleys are about to go through some refurbishments. Tyres, tubes, wheels that are faulty or worn out are all getting replaced. The same applies for any hoses and hose fittings on all jetties that need replacing.

I will be on annual leave from mid-August to mid-September heading to the warmer weather in Europe. The team at Crawley will be keeping an eye on the Annexe and Bosan Dan will visit weekly to check on everything. If you do notice something that requires attention, then please call the team at Crawley.

Bring on the Sun! ■

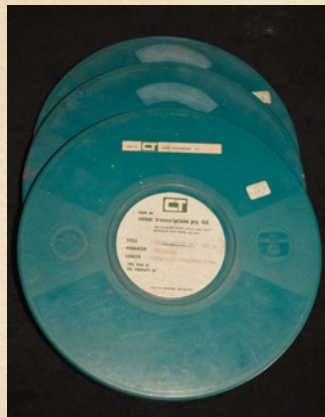
FROM THE

Archives

RECENT DONATIONS TO THE ARCHIVES

We would like to thank the following Members and Friends of RPYC. During the last few months we have had an unprecedented number of donations to our Archives which I would like to acknowledge.

Ross Miller from Melbourne located 5 reels of 16mm film of the Little America's Cup. I am not sure of the content of the film; however John Rosser and I will view the 5 reels in the near future to ascertain their Historical and Archival value.



Lawrie Davidson, a Perth local on behalf of his sister in law Elizabeth Henry who was a great friend of John Fitzhardinge, has contributed to our Archive collection one water colour depicting Castle Hill Light House Newport Rhode and one pencil etching of Founders Hall in Newport. Both these paintings were from Past Commodore John Fitzhardinge. Included in the donation were two America's Cup Artefacts. These objects will be valued assets to our Archive Collection.



■ Castle Hill Light House, Newport Rhode



Two other special artefacts that were also donated in July were two limited edition America's Cup Commemorative Plates in mint condition. **Jenny King**, I thank you for this magnificent donation.

Further to our Book Collection, was a mint copy of "Winning and Defending The Cup" by Angus and Robertson. Thank you **Fonz**.



■ Founders Hall in Newport

By Jon Readhead – Club Archivist



On the second August, having travelled over from the Eastern States, **Debbie Hodgson** the Granddaughter of Commodore WH Taylor (1941 - 1943), and her family donated a Rear Commodore's Trophy that was won on 11th December 1926 by Taylor sailing *Willana*. Debbie, in April of 2018, had made a previous donation of the Venemore Trophy also won by Commodore WH Taylor sailing *Willana*. We are forever grateful to families such as the Hodgsons, who have RPYC in mind when donating family artefacts.

For general access to records, family and Club History inquiries, give us a call or drop down to the Club and visit your Club Archives.

**Contact details: 0408 945 611
email: clubarchivist@rpyc.com.au**

A rare piece of textile donated, was Gra Rosser's Mess Jacket kindly donated by **John Rosser**.

A further unique donation of a mint condition America's Cup Port Collection was made by **Commodore Greg O'Neill**. This valued artefact can be seen displayed in the Wardroom Trophy Cabinet as part of the 40th Anniversary of the 1987 winning of the America's Cup.



QUIZ

Quiz Number 76:

What is a Kamal, and what is its basic construction?

A Kamal is a navigational instrument consisting of a piece of string attached to a block of wood. The device is used with a measured string held in the navigators teeth, and the block of wood stretched to the strings length.

Jenny Richardson you are a winner, Please collect your fine bottle of **RED** from the Archives room.

Quiz Number 77:

What must binoculars include to enable measurement at sea?

First correct entry drawn wins. Please email your entry to clubarchivist@rpyc.com.au or by phone to Jon on 0408 945 611.



QUOTE OF THE DAY

Always No sooner does man discover intelligence than he tries to involve it in his own stupidity.
Jaques Yves Cousteau

"Among national assets, archives are the most precious; they are the gift of one generation to another and the extent of our care of them marks the extent of our civilization".

Quote by Arthur Doughty, July 1916 during the battle of the Somme.

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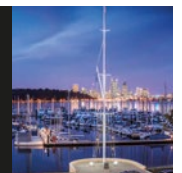
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