



IN THE WIND

ROYAL PERTH YACHT CLUB NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2023

**MERCEDES WINS
GOVERNOR'S CUP**

**159TH
OPENING DAY**

**AMERICA'S CUP
40TH
ANNIVERSARY
AND GALA DINNER**

**SINGAPOREAN
SAILORS VISIT
RPYC**

**POWER
CHANGE OF
SEASON**

**CAMP QUALITY
30 YEARS OF SAILING ON THE SWAN**

WE'VE GONE DIGITAL

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ROYAL PERTH YACHT CLUB

FESTIVE SEASON

WARDROOM & CATALINA BAR OPENING HOURS

Sat 23 Dec	Closed	-
Sun 24 Dec	Closed	-
Mon 25 Dec	Closed	-
Tues 26 Dec	Closed	-
Wed 27 Dec	1100-1500	Coffee, Grab & Go Food
Thurs 28 Dec	1100-1500	Coffee, Grab & Go Food
Fri 29 Dec	1100-1500	Coffee, Grab & Go Food
Sat 30 Dec	1100-1500	Coffee, Grab & Go Food
Sun 31 Dec	1100-1500	Coffee, Grab & Go Food
Mon 1 Jan	Closed	-
Tues 2 Jan	1100-1500	Coffee, Grab & Go Food
Wed 3 Jan	1100-1500	Coffee, Grab & Go Food
Thurs 4 Jan	1100-1500	Coffee, Grab & Go Food
Fri 5 Jan	1100-1500	Coffee, Grab & Go Food
Sat 6 Jan	1100-1500	Coffee, Grab & Go Food
Sun 7 Jan	1100-1500	Coffee, Grab & Go Food
Mon 8 Jan	Closed	-
Tues 9 Jan - Onwards	Normal Trading and Menu resumes	





ROYAL PERTH YACHT CLUB

Patron

The Honourable Chris Dawson APM,
Governor of Western Australia

Crawley

PO Box 5, Nedlands WA 6909
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www.rpyc.com.au

Fremantle Annexe

T: (08) 9430 4590

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DECEMBER 2023



14 Governor's Cup



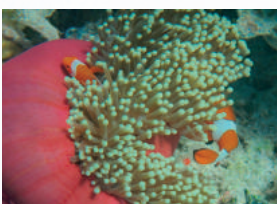
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CELEBRATE

NEW YEAR'S EVE AT ROYAL PERTH YACHT CLUB

Save the Date

SUNDAY 31ST DECEMBER 2023

**RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH US AT RPYC
WITH A FAMILY-FRIENDLY CELEBRATION!
MORE INFORMATION IS COMING SOON...**



COMMODORE'S MESSAGE



■ Dr Janet Hornbuckle
Commodore

What a start to our 159th sailing season! With a perfect spring day, it was great to see the Club buzzing on Opening Day which saw our Guest of Honour His Excellency the Honourable Christopher Dawson AC APM, Governor of Western Australia officially opening the season. Whilst a long day on paper with Members getting down early to dress their boats, the Opening Ceremony, Sail Past and afternoon racing followed by the Opening Day Party into the evening, the day certainly went by in a flash for me. I especially enjoyed the Sail Past and all of the VIP's enjoyed

being on the finish line to watch the keelboats cross in a spinnaker finish. Thank you to our volunteers for the afternoon and the whole RPYC Team for putting on a magnificent event.

We have an action packed racing calendar for the upcoming season which will keep our volunteers and Boating Ops Team very busy. If you would like to join our team of on-water volunteers please have a chat to the Boating Office to find out what is involved and what support and training is available. Even as an active Keelboat Skipper I have been volunteering for on water events since the 2011 World Sailing Championships, including the RPYC Mini-Series and the Walpole In The Trees Regatta. It is so rewarding to give back to the sport that we enjoy and support the Club and other Members. On-water volunteering is a great opportunity for Social Members too. Please get in touch and give it a try.

We have several events planned for the lead into holiday season including our RPYC Christmas Twilight Markets

on Thursday December 14th from 4pm onwards and a family friendly New Years Eve Party. Unfortunately, we have had to cancel a couple of events recently due to very low numbers of Members registered for the events including the Melbourne Cup Lunch. In a fast-paced world where everything is perceived as 'instantly available' many of us either forget to book or don't book early due to FOMO* on other things that might come up instead. This makes planning for the special Member events very difficult. So please book ahead to reserve your spot and choose to celebrate the New Year at RPYC with family and friends. We certainly don't want to cancel NYE!

Congratulations to Olympic Gold Medal Holder and ILCA 7 World Champion Matt Wearn OAM who was awarded Australian Sailing Male Sailor of the Year at the annual awards ceremony at the beginning of November. On the same evening Elise Richichi OAM and team member Tessa Parkinson OAM were inducted into the Australian Sailing Hall of Fame.

Our Paralympian Members also had their success recognised with Colin Harrison, Jeff Milligan and Rachel Cox receiving their Paralympian pins, along with Hansa Sailor Natalie Alexander who received her pin for basketball. It's fantastic to see the achievements of our Members recognised on the National stage.

Finally, I wish every success to Hilary Arthure and her crew on *Wyuna*, and Simon Torvaldson and his crew on the new *Atomic Blonde*, the only WA yachts competing in this year's Rolex Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race (RSHYR). The preparation required to enter this race is immense and an achievement in itself, even more so when you are not an east coast based boat! It is also great to see two of our Youth Members doing their first RSHYR with Antun Janekovic and Andy Buchanan sailing on *Wyuna*. If you are a Club Member and participating in the RSHYR this year on a different boat, please let us know so we can follow your journey too.

See you on the start line!

*FOMO – Fear of missing out! ■



ESTD 1865



ROYAL PERTH YACHT CLUB

DONATE THIS XMAS

TO FAMILIES IN NEED THROUGH FOOD BANK | EVERY \$30 DONATED FEEDS A FAMILY OF FOUR

Royal Perth Yacht Club are committed to giving back to the local community, we are once again working with Food Bank to provide a Christmas Hamper to those who need it most.

Every donation counts! Tax deductible receipt provided.

MORE INFORMATION // HOW TO DONATE

If you are interested in donating and want more information please contact Reception.
reception@rpyc.com.au // 9389 1555



2024

DIGGERS' CUP ANZAC DAY

SAVE THE DATE

THURSDAY 25TH OF APRIL 2024



VICE COMMODORE'S MESSAGE



■ Andrew McAullay
Vice Commodore

We have had several new staff that we welcomed into the Boating office. If you haven't already, drop in and say hello to Premo Jacniacki, who joins us as Sports Administrator and Anna Klynne as Boating Administrator, who we all know as one of our dedicated race officers. Welcome to the team.

Sailing World Champion Matt Wearn and AST teammate Ethan McAullay came down to the Club for a Wednesday race. They were meant to go head to head in the Elliott 7's, but the weather Gods had other ideas and racing was cancelled on that day. We managed to get them back, in the following weeks, but sadly on separate days. It was fantastic to see them both here, chatting with fellow Club Members. The OTB pathways have given them a great stepping stone into top level sailing, if you pop down to OTB on a Sunday you may catch a glimpse of some future champions to follow in their footsteps. Thanks for coming down guys, and good luck with your campaigns.

While speaking of Matt, he has been named Australian Male Sailor of the Year. Alise Rechichi and Tessa Parkinson have been inducted into the Australian Sailing Hall of Fame. The Australian Sailing Awards were presented in November.

At the Australian Sailing WA Awards, WA Para Sailor of the Year went to Elliott Coe, Matt Wearn was WA Male

Sailor of the Year and the Club Sustainability Award to RPYC. Good Work Team.

The Americas Cup 40th Anniversary has now been and gone. A great period of exposure for the Club, with the Australia II team back in Perth for the week. I attended the Anniversary Dinner held by the Club, it was quite possibly the best function I have attended here. Congratulations to Simon and team in the kitchen, and well done to all staff for a fantastic night.

RPYC Opening Day numbers were strong once again, a beautiful day for sailing and plenty of people enjoying the days off water festivities. 101 boats on the water was a spectacular site for all those watching on.

This season we will be focusing on greater co-operation with our neighbouring Clubs. We are looking to do more combined racing at all levels. In meetings that we have had, all Clubs have the same issue of falling numbers. In order to bring some fun back, more combined events mean bigger fleet sizes. And as we all know, A crowd attracts a crowd.

From next season the OTB Mini Series will become a Matilda Bay event, with greater variation of fleets and a greater party atmosphere off the water. We are also looking to combine Sunday OTB activities with our friends at MBSC.

Liam Cox and Lawson McAullay travelled to Royal Tangar Yacht Club in Morocco, for the U21 ILCA World Championships. An incredible experience for both of them. Massive congratulations to them both, with Lawson finishing 16th and Liam 100th.

Orlando Ligovich travelled to Royal Varuna Yacht Club Pattaya, Thailand as part of the Australian Optimist Development Squad. There he competed in the Eastern Seaboard Regatta. Orlando

continues to excel in the Optimist fleet, due to his effort and dedication. He is one to keep an eye on.

Tuesday Night Womens Training is going great guns. Strong numbers in registrations and attendance sees the E7's put to use. Joining the group in their preparations for their Blind Sailing campaign at The Rutland Sailing Club, in the UK, was the Lost at Sea team.

Kylie Forth (helm) and her team, Erin McGlew (main), Del Kilcullen (tactician) and Kiara Parkinson (jib), will be a force to be reckoned with.

Thank you to Pamela Hahn and Bev Rosevere who both, after a combined total of over 63 years have sadly retired from the Wednesday Race Management Team.

Their smiling faces will be missed in the Wardroom after Wednesday racing.

The Singaporean Optimist Team, coached by Griselda Khgn spent 10 days training from the Annexe. This also gave two of our top Optimist sailors Celina and Orlando, the opportunity to train with them, and learn from a past top Optimist sailor.

Some may remember Griselda from when she coached our Optimist Squad, while she was in Perth training for the Tokyo Olympics.

It's fantastic to see that international squads are choosing RPYC as a training venue, giving our OTB sailors opportunity to join in with other country's international programs.

COMING UP:

We will have two RPYC boats heading to Hobart this year, Hilary Arthur and team on *Wyuna 2* and Simon Torveldson and his new JPK 11.80 *Atomic Blonde*.

We wish them all the best and safe sailing.

A contingent of ILCA sailors will head to the ILCA Worlds at the Adelaide Sailing Club in January.

After claiming his first World Title in the ILCA 7, at the Sailing World Championships, Matt Wearn will look to win back to back ILCA 7 Worlds as he prepares for his Olympic defence in Marseille. Hot on his heels will be Ethan McAullay, both members of the Australian Sailing Team. Good luck to both of them and all of the RPYC sailing competing.

We are looking forward to welcoming the team from the Japan Junior Yacht Club Union, who will compete in the Refined Edge Mini Series this February. A wonderful cultural exchange with the junior Japanese sailors being home stayed with RPYC members. If you see them around the Club please make them feel welcome. ■



REAR COMMODORE'S MESSAGE



■ Mark Busio
Rear Commodore

Hello Members, Family and Friends.

This is my first *In the Wind* article as Rear Commodore. I would like to thank the Members for their support and best wishes on my appointment as Rear Commodore. Please be assured that I will be working tirelessly for the interest of all Members.

We have now begun our 159th summer season and what a wonderful season Opening Day we had. The weather was stunning and the day's celebrations were enjoyed by all. I would like to congratulate the GM and all of our staff on what was a well organised and professionally run event.

I very much enjoyed my time as your Captain Power. The support I received from the Power Committee and the Power Community was outstanding and I can't thank you all enough. Together we achieved significant growth in power activity and engagement within the Club. I have no doubt that our new Power Captain, Fiona Laing, will do a wonderful job - I know we will all offer her every support.

I have now taken on the challenging but exciting role of Chair of our House Committee and am fortunate to have had our now Commodore set a solid framework for this committee during her

tenure over the last two years. I am also grateful to have our GM, Rick Coate, working hard to foster an improved culture amongst our food and beverage team. This has already uplifted levels of service and delivery and, I hope you will agree, has led to a vastly improved Member experience. Our task as a House Committee is to continue this work and solidify the gains already achieved and to this end we will continue to look for more ways to improve the Member experiences that our Club can provide.

The House Committee has established a Membership sub-committee which will provide a more direct focus on all things membership. Its terms of reference is to focus on increasing Club membership and engagement across all sectors of the community. Michael O'Loughlin has been appointed as Chair of this sub-committee and is joined by Tony Strickland - we are currently seeking to lock in a third member. The other members of the House Committee are Kim Short, Lorraine Bennet, John Guhl, Elliot Coe and Estelle Bradley - Operations Manager.

The Committee, together with the Operations team are also working hard to improve our maintenance of your Club and grounds. As you will no doubt be aware we have recently had some unexpected maintenance items arise - thank you for your patience as the team works to resolve these matters. We are currently working on a ten year maintenance plan so that we can better identify and budget for routine maintenance. Planned capital works are being progressed, with contractors and dates being locked in.

Christmas and the New Year will be here before we know it and we have some great events:

- On Sunday 3rd December we have the 'Rib-River

Run' - this has been a very successful event over the past few years and I encourage you all to get involved - if you don't have a rib reach out to the Club - we will make every attempt to find you a spot!

- On Tuesday 5th December we have 'A Taste of Greece' New Members' Night. Having just been to Greece I am looking forward to this one. Please do take the time to come down and warmly welcome our new Members.
- On Thursday 14th December we have our 'Christmas Markets' and Twilight Sail. This exciting event will commence at 4pm on the lawn, with

festive food, drinks, local artisans, carols, live music, last minute gifts and more! Santa will also be making an appearance! I would love to see you all there!

- Finally, we listened to your requests - and I am delighted to say that we have planned a fabulous 'Family New Year's Eve Celebration' for the 31st December, commencing at 6.30pm. Dress up as a pirate and you could win a prize, we will have a DJ, face painting and more! Food and beverage available for purchase at the Catalina Bar (No BYO).

Thank you Members one and all. ■

MEMBERSHIP

Tony Strickland, Membership Chair

Welcome to our new Members - December 2023

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

Mr Domenic Caccamo, Mr Charles Doube, Ms Anna Flanders, Mr Peter Giannas, Mr Kayne Ottley, Mr Juan Roman, Mr Anthony Warman, Miss Ruby Wilner, Mr Charles Farmer, Darren and Mrs Lisa Farnsworth, Mr Nathan and Mrs Sarah Miller, Dr Ian Timms and Mrs Melanie Porter and their children Louis and George, Mr Matthew and Mrs Emma Wright and their children Claudia and Sebastian, Miss Winnie Cheng, Ms Amelia Gardiner, Ms Carolyn Lawler, Ms Eileen George, Ms Belinda Werder, Master Jackson and Master Lachlan Innes, Miss Giselle and Master Lorenzo Zampatti, Mrs Margaret Armitage, Ms Vivienne Miskelly, Mr John Kellen, Mr Brett and Mrs Davinia Costello, Mrs Robyn and Mr Robert Deathridge, Mr Shaun and Mrs Grace Mellowship, Mrs Priscilla and Mr Jack Miller, Mr Carl and Mrs Deanne Morrone and their daughter, Zara, Mr David Officen and Ms Donna Cashman, Mr Andy Cross, Mr Jason Davis, Miss Sophia Pracilio, Ms Catherine Ryan, Miss Claire Woodwell, Dr Amit Dahiya, Mr Darren Goodison, Ms Helen McGahan, Mr Darren Smith, Dr Matt Zimmerman, Miss Hannah Ahlberg, Miss Anna Garvey, Mr Brian Handcock, Mr Rafael Paixao Seguin Brito Louzgiro, Dr Katherine Sanders, Mr Cory Smith, Miss Yuhual Chen, Master Charlie Davis, Master Raphael Fitzpartick, Master Ben Williams, Miss Acacia Ingram, Masters Victor and Vincent Jacniacki, and Miss Lalita Richards.

We are also delighted to welcome back Mr David and Mrs Martine Eysers and their son, Jake, Mr Jon Wallwork, Mr Paul Cornwell and Mr Liam Maginn.

COATE'S NOTES



Rick Coate
General Manager

Dear Members

Suddenly, we are counting down the days until Christmas and the New Year. 2023 has been an amazing year of firsts and best-ers filled with learning and discovery for the team, Committees, and a new GM. Commodore Dr Janet Hornbuckle as our first female Commodore, first Female Life Member in Pamela Strickland, first (of more to follow) Sustainability Award from Australian Sailing, The Youth Match Racing Championships, Gold in the RS Venture Connect World Championships in Rostocker, Germany by Genevieve Wickham and the Blind Sailing Team most recently competing in the U.K. Not to mention some successful 'best ever' events like our 159th Sailing Season Opening Day, and the 40th Anniversary of Australia II's America's Cup Victory.

It's been very pleasing to see our team respond to achieving higher levels of service. The One Club One Team mantra along with realising the little things are important has translated into a harmonious, engaged team. As always, if you have feedback, an idea or suggestion, see something that needs repair or is a safety hazard, please don't delay in speaking up so we can continue to constantly improve.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Capital projects are classified in two ways; aspirational (like to do's) and obligational (must do). We are undertaking a 10-year capital asset repair and replacement review, for all the Club's \$20M worth of Assets. As you well know the marine environment is particularly brutal and our Crawley Clubhouse needs a refurbishment. In consultation and collaboration with the General Committee, these projects have been approved as immediate priorities in 2023/2024:

1. Southerly Crawley Car Park resurfacing and line marking. (Obligational)
Cost is approximately \$95k.
To be completed over 3-4 days in early- mid January 2024.
Multiple trip hazards, poor access for wheelchairs, poor aesthetic presentation.
Does not include the easterly gravel / pond area due to asbestos buried beneath and sub drainage works being excessive.
2. Northstar Software. (Obligational)
Membership, Accounting Software, new website, and new Point of sale.
Cost approximately \$163K.
Implementation begins April 2024 and go live 1 June 2024.

Old systems at end of life, website not functional, improved experience for Members and data extraction capabilities for management & committees.

3. Boat Lifter Walk out Fingers (Obligational)
Cost is \$27K.
Commencing 18 December for 10 days.
Concrete cancer is in need of attention and repair.
4. Fremantle Annexe Anodes (Obligational)
Cost \$56k
Completed November 2023
Cathartic protection for the Marina infrastructure.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership remains steady. Our 4-week free trial Membership has been well received. We are now focused on recruitment and induction with the newly formed Membership Committee (see table below).

FINANCES

The strong upward trend continues thanks to improved governance, partnership with Committees, Member patronage (thank you!) over 20K of covers since June 1, increased functions and events, active cost control, budgeting, and cost recoveries. As at 31 October, after depreciation of \$561K, we

recorded a Net Profit of \$18k which is an improvement of \$215K from last year.

Budget	-(\$149,880)
Variance	\$168,355
Last Year	-(\$196,450)
NET PROFIT	\$18,476

Cash at bank is over \$800K meaning we have been able to use surplus funds for Capital Projects, interest, and debt reduction.

MEMBER TOWN HALL

We plan to present an update and forecast to Members in late February. I would strongly encourage you to attend as owners of the Club.

In closing, and on behalf of the Team; thank you to each Member who recognises that you are the owners of the Club. So, investing, patronising, supporting, and contributing is ensuring the Club improves and prospers now, and in the future. If you have anything on your mind or would like to share a Dad joke or two, please drop in, email, or call anytime.

I wish you, our loved ones a safe, joyous Christmas and a prosperous New Year with much time spent on the water and at our wonderful Club.

At your service
Rick Coate
General Manager. ■

	NOV 2022	DEC 2022	FEB 2023	APR 2023	MAY 2023	JUL 2023	AUG 2023	SEPT 2023	OCT 2023
CENTREBOARD	33	33	35	34	34	29	30	28	29
CREW	226	230	224	224	223	228	229	228	231
ELITE	1	1	2	3	3	3	3	3	3
FAMILY (EX FULL MEMBER)	26	26	26	26	26	24	23	22	21
FAMILY	254	255	252	253	254	253	253	250	254
FULL	539	545	537	541	547	546	541	547	540
FULL-FAMILY	254	256	253	254	254	253	252	250	254
FULL U/30 (18-29YRS)	90	93	92	86	84	88	89	87	86
JUNIORS W/FAMILY	136	137	133	146	152	150	146	140	149
JUNIORS U/18	60	63	57	60	59	56	56	56	59
HONORARY LIFE	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	8	8
OUTPORT	113	113	115	115	114	116	115	111	112
PERMANENT	35	35	34	34	34	34	34	34	34
RECIPROCAL	34	34	34	35	35	35	33	33	33
SOCIAL-FAMILY	12	14	19	21	23	23	24	23	29
SOCIAL-FAMILY	12	14	19	21	23	23	24	23	29
SOCIAL	104	102	103	106	112	115	119	117	117
TRIAL SOCIAL	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	7	10
UNDER NOMINATION	32	32	53	44	17	16	15	42	18
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	1968	1990	1995	2010	2001	2000	1999	2009	2016
MOVEMENT	-	22	5	15	-9	-1	-1	10	7

CAPTAIN SAIL'S REPORT



■ Alan Thomas
Captain Sail

It was a great start to the Season; with the warmest Opening Day in years and a sea breeze that arrived just in time - it must have heard the cannon fire signifying the start of Summer Season. With 66 boats start across the various fleets, the Commodore rang the bell getting the party started! The atmosphere at the Catalina Bar was great, with many Members enjoying the perfect weather for our Opening Day of Summer Sailing Season. So with the sailing season underway let's review a few way's to enjoy sailing at our Club;

SEASHELLS TUESDAY NIGHT SERIES

Once again supported by Seashells Hospitality Group the Series started with yet again a great south easterly testing the fleet. In the end Como Buoy was undoing just less than half the fleet failing to find it in the darker than usual night.

WEDNESDAY MID WEEK RACING

Wednesday Racing continues to be a highlight of many Members' week with fleets across the 3 Divisions, regularly in excess of 45 boats. The Stage and Studio Productions Winter Series was a tight contest amongst the 3 Divisions and congratulations to the crews on winning boats, *The Fox* (Division A) *Farr Lap* (Division B) and *Osprey* (Division C). The famous Keith Frame Memorial replica rudder's are one of hardest fought trophies at the Club.

THURSDAY NIGHT TWILIGHT SAILING

Come down for a relaxed cruise with your friends and family. The Opening Twilight Sail was almost perfect with light winds and warm weather enjoyed by the fleet in attendance. The Catalina Bar is open for drinks and dinner with some great value meals, mostly of which are well priced at \$20 and rotate weekly. The Elliott 7's are also starting the Short Course Championships on Thursday evenings.

SATURDAY RACING

The aim of this season is to grow participation in all fleets. As such we are looking to encourage all racing fleets to increase the number of boats on the line and the number of times raced on Saturdays; If you're needing crew please contact the Boating Office, as they do their best to match crew suitable for your boat.

ELLIOTT 7

The Elliot's continue to be widely used by Members with plenty of opportunities to join the fun via one of our various squads and/or training programs; Travis is currently



juggling Youth and Woman's Squads along with Team Racing and Racing Skills with Colin Harrison. If you think you'd like to broaden your sailing experience at the Club please touch base with Boating Operations. You can join in on a number of the Squads or just one at a time.

So plenty of sailing is scheduled this season for the Keelboat section of the Club. Don't forget you can also have some fun at our Off The Beach Section which has a range of fleets training and racing on a Sunday, so if you want to definitely get wet come down on a Sunday for the OTB experience. ■



ROYAL PERTH YACHT CLUB

WA KEELBOAT CHAMPIONSHIPS



RPYC FREMANTLE

SATURDAY 2/3/24 - MONDAY 4/3/24

FARR 9.2, S80, S97 CHAMPIONSHIPS



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CAPTAIN POWER'S REPORT



■ Fiona Laing
Captain Power

The RPYC Power Community came together with family, friends and volunteers to celebrate the 2023 Power Change of Season and Prize night at the end of September and what a night it was.

A special thanks to Deb Allpike for helping me with the theming and decorating for the night. I think we did an awesome job. There were prizes, music, a beautiful spring themed three course menu prepared by Chef Simon and we finished the night with Jenga on the balcony where more than 40 people joined in.

Congratulations to the prize winners and to all those who competed. The results for the 2023 RPYC Club Championship Time Trialling season were as follows:

1st Championship - *NORTHERN REWARD* - Chris & Mike Hopkins

2nd Championship - *CORINNE ADELE* - Razvan & Ioana Vlad

3rd Championship - *AU* - Gary Silcock & Diane Hansen

1st Consistency - *AU* - Gary Silcock & Diane Hansen

2nd Consistency - *CORINNE ADELE* - Razvan & Ioana Vlad

3rd Consistency - *NORTHERN REWARD* - Chris & Mike Hopkins

RPYC Seafarer Winner: *AU* - Gary Silcock & Diane Hansen

Most Improved/Rookie's Award - *CORINNE ADELE* - Razvan & Ioana Vlad

Kylie Cup - *CORINNE ADELE* - Razvan & Ioana Vlad

The following Friday night a large number of the RPYC Power Community made the trip over to SoPYC for the CPYA State Championship Series Prize Night. Thanks John and Deb Allpike for ferrying us across on *Bon Voyage*.

It was a very successful season for our time triallers. Gary Silcock and Diane Hansen on *AU* winning CPYA overall Consistency Champion for the 2nd year in a row; and Raz and Ioana Vlad on *Corinne Adele*, winning the Graham Cerini Trophy for Best First Year Skipper. *Meeka*, another RPYC newcomer, and *Charisma* picked up 1st on consistency in State heats with many others picking up places. Royal Perth also took out third place in the CPYA Teams event.

So let's take a look back at the 2023 Time Trialling season.

We had 12 boats nominate for the season with an average of 8 boats completing at each event, including our 2 newcomers, *Corinne Adele* and *Meeka*. We soon learned that they were ones to watch.

Six different competitors featured in the top three places for championship over the 9 events.

We had late withdrawals during the season with an assortment of excuses, no navigation devices, entangled in mooring lines, engine problems to name but a few.

The customary jetty parties with drinks and Jenga followed many time trials and it was great to see some of our volunteer checkpointers also come and join in on the camaraderie, what would we do without them.

We also joined in festivities at our hosts Clubs during the season with Lunch at Claremont Yacht Club after the Lloyd Anderson (including the famous Corica apple strudels), Bogan night at SoPYC following the Ti Tu, Pig on the spit at Freshie after the Kylie Cup, and Lunch at Flying Squadron after Cork Evans.

Many took the opportunity for staycations at Freo, Rottnest and Mandurah over the winter.

Time trialling requires many volunteers to make it a success

and we have had over 40 volunteers assist us this season. Without these wonderful people we would not have been able to run our events.

So I'd like to personally thank all the volunteers on checkpoints, VIP boats, Power Committee, CPYA and those behind the scenes coordinating.

Also, thank you to RPYC staff particularly Boating Operations for your assistance.

Just some of the events to look forward to in the coming months are:

- Rib River Run, 3rd December.
- RPYC Christmas Party and Christmas Twilight Markets, 14th December, yes Power Boats are encouraged to join in.
- and Mandurah Staycation weekend, 2nd – 4th March.

Keep an eye on the Boaties Bulletins sent out via email and our very own RPYC Power Community Facebook group, for more information and other events.

A big thank you to Michael O'Loughlin, Stuart Gibson and Ioana Vlad who volunteered their time to be part of the Power Committee. I look forward to working with you and building on the great work done in the past to support our Power Community.

I look forward to seeing you all out on the water this summer, enjoying fun times with friends and family. Stay safe. ■



MORE INFORMATION AND MOORING AVAILABILITY COMING SOON....



ROYAL PERTH YACHT CLUB

WA10DA

2024 STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS



RPYC FREMANTLE

SATURDAY
9TH MARCH

SUNDAY
10TH MARCH



SCAN THE QR CODE TO VIEW
REGATTA WEBPAGE AND TO
REGISTER.



2024 ILCA State Championships

By Dana Jolliffe and
Premo Jacniacki

Over two days, seven races, and in various wind conditions, 57 ILCA Sailors competed in Matilda Bay for the 2024 ILCA State Championships.

The first day saw a late start to racing, with registrations held from 10am on Saturday morning, and racing scheduled to commence at 3:30 pm. Sailors ended Day 1 with a picturesque sunset and prepared for an early start on Day 2.

Unfortunately, the wind did not turn up for the scheduled morning racing session. However, thanks to the afternoon breeze and our race management team, four full races were conducted to conclude the series.

Congratulations to all sailors, and thank you to all our volunteers and the race management team! Looking forward to what lies ahead for the ILCA Class in WA!

OPEN RESULTS:

ILCA 4 FLEET:

- 1st - *Seas The Day* – Jasper Stay (RFBYC)
- 2nd - *Veritas* – Thomas Cooper (RFBYC)
- 3rd - *Odyessey* – Maciej Tarasewicz (RFBYC)

ILCA 6 FLEET

- 1st - *Col-de-ILCA* – Xavier Bates (RFBYC/FSC)
- 2nd - *Speedy Kiwi* – Joshua Till (RPYC/FSC)
- 3rd - *Whitecap* – Isaac Bizco (RPYC/RFBYC)

ILCA 7 FLEET

- 1st - *Bundy* – Zac Littlewood (RFBYC)
- 2nd - *Spike* – Lawson McAullay (RPYC)
- 3rd - *Dice* – Stefan Elliott-Shircore (FSC)

MASTERS RESULTS

ILCA 4 FLEET

- 1st - *Velocity* – Michelle Luinstra (FSC)

ILCA 6 FLEET

- 1st - *Silver Fox* – Rijk Batley (SoPYC)
- 2nd - *Private Idaho* – Alastair McMichael (RPYC)
- 3rd - *Aqua Loco* – Craig Williams (SoPYC)

ILCA 7 FLEET

- 1st - *Clear* – Christoph Bottoni (FSC/CVLL)
- 2nd - *Fr8 Train* – David Whait (FSC)
- 3rd - *Slide Rules* – Michael Coote (SoPYC/FSC) ■



EST. 1865

OPENING Hours

CATALINA BAR

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	11:30am - 3pm
Thursday	4pm - 9pm
Friday	Closed
Saturday	11:30am - 8pm
Sunday	8:30am - 6:30pm

Governor's Cup 2023



■ Mercedes and her winning team

On Saturday 11th November, 65 boats started in the Governor's Cup on a gusty south easterly from Royal Perth Yacht Club.

Being a handicap start, Matilda Bay was filled with yachts of all classes and sizes as they anticipated the fall of their number. They jostled for position with fellow starters, and as per usual, a couple were confused by the definition of fall ("Boats shall start at or after the FALL (when their number disappears)") and commenced racing in the minute before.

As the numbers ticked down, boats headed out to the first mark in small groups, until only the few were left. The last few starters had plenty of space and time to get a good run at the line and by 1430 all were on their way to Royal Fresh Water Bay Yacht Club, pursuing the yachts already on course.

Just days before her 110th birthday, Mercedes started at the fall of 59 and glided through the waves, her gaff rigged main perfectly harnessing the breeze. She took just over an hour and forty six minutes to traverse the 9.2 nautical mile course and lead the fleet into Freshwater Bay. As one of the oldest boats on the Royal Perth Yacht Club Register, Mercedes is not unfamiliar with winning the Governor's Cup, notably under her original owner and Life Member the Late Horace Rumble. (See photo right from 1952)

Congratulations to skipper Kane Williamson, and crew Gary Smith, Joanne

Spence, Junior Member Orlando Ligovich and his father Peter for their well-

deserved win adding to the legacy of this classic wooden boat. ■



■ 1952 crew of Mercedes, on board is Horace Rumble, Bob Rumble, Peter Rumble, Bill McGillivray, Dick Lovegrove and Owen Atkinson.



What a night it was!

What a fabulous finale to the 40th anniversary celebrations of a truly historic day.

On the 26th of September 1983 in Newport, Rhode Island, Royal Perth Yacht Club's challenger for the America's Cup, *Australia II*, achieved the seemingly impossible when her intrepid skipper (John Bertrand) and determined crew won the critically important, utterly exhausting, final race that wrested the coveted America's Cup away from the New York Yacht Club after 132 years.

Australia II broke the longest winning streak in sporting history!

Many *Australia II* Team anniversaries, special events and reunions have been held in conjunction with Royal Perth Yacht Club since 1983, but none has been quite as wonderful, or quite as poignant, as that held on the evening of our 40th anniversary on the same date in 2023.

Sadly, we have lost nine of the 36 Team members over the years. Some were key to our success; others were highly valued for their specialist skills. All are greatly missed. Still, the remaining members in WA, in the east and overseas were keen to have a 40th

anniversary reunion in Perth-Fremantle and keen to share stories and lessons learned, not only with those old enough to remember but to inspire younger generations.

The RPYC 40th Anniversary black tie Gala Dinner for



- 400 people, in the presence of the Governor of Western Australia, His Excellency The Hon. Chris Dawson and the WA Minister for Sport, Recreation and Culture, The Hon. David Templeman MLA, proved a triumphant and very meaningful conclusion to weeks of publicity and special events -- public and private -- for members of the Australia II Team.

Immediately prior to the Gala Dinner, RPYC honoured the Team and their partners by

transporting them on board three vessels, escorted by a flotilla of yachts, up the beautiful Swan River from the Fremantle Annexe of the Club to the Crawley headquarters close to sunset.

The three boats carrying Team members, yacht club officials and staff led by Commodore, Dr Janet Hornbuckle were *Black Swan*, the former tender for *Australia II* at Newport, now owned by Steve Wall, *Bon Voyage* (John and Deb Allpike) and *Silver Mist* (Peter and Emma Milner).

Australia II Team member, Skip Lissiman, who travelled with other Team members on *Black Swan*, said the trip brought back a lot of memories for those who knew her so well from Newport and from the Cup Defence in Fremantle in 1987.

"Steve was a fantastic host and we regaled him -- and others on board -- with memories and stories involving this much-loved boat in earlier days," Skip said.

"The trip up the river was very special, very reflective but also a relaxing and joyful way for Team members and Club members to share memories of people and events so important to us all."

According to fellow Team member, John Longley, another highlight of the trip for Team members was to arrive at the Crawley docks with a direct line of sight to the old *Australia II* mast, now forming the flagpole on the dais in front of the Clubhouse, where official photos were later taken.

Before dinner in the massive tent on the Club's grounds, each Team member was introduced to the seated dinner guests by name and

by their role in 1983, as they walked across the stage acknowledging greetings and descended the steps at the end to take their own seats at marked tables.

This was a brilliant move since, apart from the usual spokespeople, the Team is often presented as an amorphous mass and most people have no idea who most of the members are (especially 40 years on!) or what role each might have played on or off the water.

According to John Longley, "it was both wonderful and gratifying to see each Team member welcomed and thanked equally enthusiastically and respectfully by the dinner guests."

A short Cup film followed to repaint the picture of the win and its aftermath 40 years later. It was also instructive for those who weren't involved in '83, couldn't remember much, or were too young at the time to appreciate its significance. ►



- Throughout dinner, entertainment was provided by pre-selected groups of Team members who took to seats onstage to tell behind-the-scenes stories and to explain and discuss important but lesser known or understood aspects of the 1983 challenge, the win and its aftermath to those who love sailing.

The format was designed to follow the old yachting

tradition of mates yarning informally with mates about yacht racing and associated matters.

"I had my doubts that this format, devised by relatively new GM, Rick Coate, would actually work but I was completely wrong. Everyone there loved it!" said John Longley.

A highlight of the dinner was the humorous address given by Minister Templeman, wearing his replica 'Bob Hawke jacket' with pride while also imitating the unmistakable voice of the former Prime Minister, who had been present at RPYC

in high spirits late on the night the Cup was won and who told Australians that any boss who sacked anyone for not turning up to work in the morning was "a bum"!

For many members of the Team and dinner guests, another highlight of the night was the rare and invaluable opportunity to catch up with old sailing friends and acquaintances, some of whom we'd not seen or spoken to since the 1980s.

REMINDER TO MEMBERS:

The fantastic **Exhibition and Film Australia II 40 Years On** at the Maritime Museum on Victoria Quay, Fremantle, remains open till the first week in February 2024. Take your family, your visitors, take a friend. Buy tickets for Christmas presents! There's so much to see and do for adults, teens and children alike. Check the Western Australian Museum website for opening times or phone for more details.





► “At the end of the formalities, there was such a buzz in the air as people reconnected, or met for the first time, and said what a wonderful, insightful night they’d had,” said John Longley. “Everything was spot on. It was a perfect evening.

“Hats off to RPYC and to GM Rick Coate, because it’s hard to get everything right on such a big occasion – to get the vibe right – especially if you are a relative newcomer, but Rick nailed it.”

Skip Lissiman said that the evening further cemented the long-standing connection between RPYC and local

America’s Cup Challenge teams since 1980.

“The format for the evening and its execution proved to be a fantastic way not only to retell the America’s Cup story 40 years on, but also to enlighten those who knew little about it.

“Everything was done with grace, dignity and high regard for the history and importance of the Cup win – the pinnacle of Australian sporting achievement on the international stage – and with due respect and appreciation for all those who contributed to it.

“Special thanks to Commodore Dr Janet Hornbuckle, Flag Officers, members, management and staff – and everyone who attended – for a magnificent evening the *Australia II* Team will never forget.” ■



AMERICA'S CUP 40TH ANNIVERSARY GALA DINNER





By Dana Jolliffe

Setting Sail for the 159th Time: Welcome to the 2023/2024 Season!

As always, Opening Days at Royal Perth Yacht Club are no small affair, and although we are still a year off from our 160th Opening Day, the 159th Sailing Season celebrations we're nothing short of exciting. ►



► The day begun of course with our official Opening Day Ceremony, hosted by our Commodore, Dr Janet Hornbuckle, the first female Commodore of the Club. The Ceremony was attended by none other than the Governor, Christopher John Dawson himself, who delivered a small speech to our Members. Following the 'boom' of the RPYC Cannon, the 159th Sailing Season was officially declared as open, and the sail past was to commence.

Commodores' from various Clubs' and special guests joined us out on-water to watch the sail past and first race of the season from the Power Boat raft up. Thanks to Members Tudy Robbins, Darren Heath (*Xantippe*), Paul Zanetti, Zane Lewis, David and Ann Upstone, and Gary Silcock (*Au*) for volunteering your vessels for our guests to watch all the action from.

We had over 90 boats participate in the sail past, including Keelboats, Off The Beach Dinghies and Power Boats. It was fantastic to see so many of our Members dress up as Pirates, and decorate their vessels

to match! As always we recognised our best dressed Members with a hamper filled with artisan goodies.

Best Dressed Power Boat: *At The Office* – Mike O'Loughlin

Best Dressed Keelboat: *Red Elliott* – RPYC Women's Squad

Best Dressed OTB Dinghy: *RPYC Hansa Fleet*

Our first races of the season commenced immediately after our sail past. Both in our Off The Beach fleets and our Saturday Summer Keelboat Series, with the finish line behind the VIP Flotilla. Conditions were perfect with a steady 10knots of wind and gusts up to 16knots and a taste of summer temperatures in the low 30s. Great to see some colourful spinnakers out making the most of the Summer Racing.

Following our on-water activity, the Catalina Bar was alive with Members, guests, lawn games, live music and a bouncy castle. The function continued into the late hours of the night with guests enjoying the Catalina Bar dinner and cocktail specials as well as the balmy evening weather.

If the 159th Opening Day was any insight to the season ahead, its going to be a good one. See you out on the water, or at the Catalina Bar this Summer Sailing Season! ■



159TH OPENING DAY







■ 2008 Camp Quality Tania and Allan Coutts getting their yacht *Equalizer* ready to sail



■ 2006 Camp Quality Day @ RPYC

Camp Quality 30 years on – Sailing on the Swan

30 years ago Allan Coutts started Sailing on The Swan for 'Camp Quality' children & their families with the Beaufort Rotary Club, which later amalgamated with Mt Lawley Rotary.

Allan had the Community Service Portfolio at the Club & was deciding what line he was going to follow.

At a restaurant over a few wines & delicious dinner, Allan & I came up with the idea to ask some of the sailors from our Farr 9.2 Association if they would be willing to take some children from Camp Quality out for a sail around the Bay. At the time we had about 7 Yachts in the Farr Assn & when asked the skippers all put their hands up "We're in Couttsie" was the response. (these yachts are still at RPYC helping out). So it started.

"It had to be a "Pirate Theme" which has continued to this day.

We arranged for a Sunday sail from RPYC with the Rotary club providing the lunch, bouncy castle, games, face painters etc. which has continued.

The children loved the sail, rain hail or sunshine, and it became more realistic & exciting as the yacht leant over. This was such an adventure for them as they become 'pirates' for the day chasing the other 'pirate yachts.' In earlier times the children loved firing water pistols & lollies across the deck as they fought off the other pirate yachts. The yachties have been very generous providing these surprises for children. Over the years dolphins have appeared, dancing around the yachts causing much excitement for these young pirates.

As the number grew, we needed more yachts & Royal Perth Yacht Club agreed to take this on as a yearly event.

During the 30 years we have meet some wonderful families from Camp Quality & many have come back to sail

again & reconnect with other families they've met, often asking to be on the same "Pirate Ship" as last year.

Skippers & crew must be commended for their costumes on the day, & on occasions I have wondered who is under the pirate dreadlocks! Well done to all the skippers & crew as this sets the scene for a great day.

During the 30 years there have been many skippers & crew & I greatly appreciate the response from members when asked to help "I'll be there" was always the answer. Thankyou.

This makes me very proud to be a member of Royal Perth Yacht Club.

Thanks to everyone for your special effort as it contributed to the success of the day.

Each year we have had Commodores, Rear Commodores officiate on behalf of RPYC. This year we had our first lady Commodore Janet Hornbuckle who looked the part as she presented the photographs along with Allan's wife Joani who has carried on this special day. Thankyou Commodore Janet.

Special thanks must go to our photographer Bevan Marshall for these excellent shots of the families & their designated yacht over the years.

The team at Royal Perth Yacht Club are to be commended for their continued support in organizing this day. This year many thanks to the friendly Staff & special thanks to Travis, & Dana who worked tirelessly to make it a success. ►



- (Pictured to the right top)
2006 RPYC Camp Quality Day
- (Pictured to the right)
2016 RPYC Sailing on the Swan



- I would like to thank the Mt Lawley Rotary Club who helped with the organizing and contribution to the cost of the lunch, followed by beautifully decorated 30th Birthday Cup cakes for everyone. The Pirate Treasure Chest packed with goodies & numerous vouchers were enjoyed by all the children..

Royal Perth Yacht Club contributes to this worthwhile event as part of the Club's Community Service Programme.

The Camp Quality organization made a huge contribution on the day, as this event is one of the most popular on their Calendar. Being a family day means all the family can be involved.

Thankyou to everyone who took part to help put a smile on these little 'Pirates' faces for a carefree sailing day on the Swan. ■



By Joan Coutts

Sailing on the Swan –



" I liked fighting other pirates on the Bermuda triangle "

Thank you



" I liked attacking other boats on the Seven Seas "

Thank you

Cameron age 8



■ Snorkelling Hoga

9 Lives' Wonderful Sail 2 Indonesia (S2I) Rally

After sailing 3,200 miles in 17 weeks since leaving Darwin in mid July 2023, '9 Lives' has reached the end of the Wonderful Sail 2 Indonesia (S2I) Rally. During this time we have met 50 boat crews from Europe, NZ, USA, Canada and developed a fantastic supportive community of like-minded yachties.

Indonesia has exceeded expectations as a cruising destination. The rally had 20 scheduled stops between the Mollucu (Spice) islands in the east and Batam, just off Singapore. Scheduled stops included a wide variety of cultural activities, dinners, wildlife and tours to local attractions. The Indonesian people have been incredibly welcoming and friendly wherever we have been

and go to no end of effort to share their community with us including personalised invitations to their homes, giving gifts, having lots of laughs and even more photos and selfies.

The population is predominantly Muslim apart from Hindu Bali and some Christians in the Spice islands. It has been wonderful to come to understand their culture,

customs, dress code and being woken by the mosque pre-dawn. Deep down the people are the same. Although they don't drink alcohol and some islands are dry, many will provide you with a beer if you ask. Food varies from location to location and is very cheap at local warungs, as are other goods and services.

As to sailing in Indonesia, it has generally been on the

beam or downwind with very few jibes or tacks. As per the SE monsoon, the winds have been predominantly SE and only rarely above 15kts. Volcanoes and mountains often create significant wind shadows or draw the wind in. As the season nears the official end (October) and we get close the equator the winds have dropped with considerably more motoring. Nights are usually calm

- and around 23°C after days averaging 32°C. It's been very dry until late October when we got a few afternoon tropical thunder storms.

Each stop has been different and there are too many stories to tell but our favourite locations have been:

KAI ISLANDS

Our first stop and well off the tourist trail. The people were super friendly and welcoming. It was a mix of Muslim and Christian refugees kicked out of Banda by the Dutch. The beaches are pristine and coral colourful, though it will be a battle to keep it that way with the plastic.

WAKATOBI

Wakatobi Marine National Park is made up of four island groups and has some of the best snorkelling and diving of the trip. Not the calmest anchorage but the drift dives along the Hoga 30m drop off were fantastic. Tourists haven't returned yet after Covid.

KOMODO NATIONAL PARK

Located just off Labuan Bajo, at the west end of Flores. This town was the first tourist location we visited and the base for many Phinisi schooners, local timber boats which take tourists to the islands (in various states of comfort). A variety of great international restaurants made a welcome change to the nasi goreng diet.

Despite being dry, barren and virtually unpopulated, the islands were very scenic with good walks to viewing spots. As well as seeing the Komodo dragons on land, the islands were full of fantastic snorkelling locations including with the manta rays (up to 5 at a time) and fast drift dives with incredible coral variety.

BIMA

Set in a beautiful natural harbour on the north coast of Sumbawa. Whilst not a particularly attractive town, the welcome reception on the jetty with singing, dancing and



■ Snorkelling Lamungan

local treats was amazing. The rock star treatment continued on a day tour with 12 cars and police escort with sirens, lights and traffic light blocks. We were taken to traditional hill villages and the people were all adorned with their traditional woven fabrics. Also VIP treatment at the local TAFE where we spoke to hospitality students and saw them making batik fabrics.

BADAS

Badas was our second stop in Sumbawa at a tiny harbour where we rafted med style. One attraction here was the whale sharks, which were 2.5 hour drive and 1 hour local boat ride away. Getting up at 1.15am meant a long day but well worth it as the massive squid boats attract the whale sharks with krill and running water and you can swim with them as they linger in the area. Being circled by these magnificent animals is an amazing experience with one looking you in the eye and another coming up underneath you. A real western coffee shop on the way home was the icing on the cake for the day.

The other experience was buffalo racing, which is a big event in the local area. The locals provided our own opportunity to give buffalo racing a go – you stand on a slippery wooden frame

between two buffalo that charge through the mud at crazy speed “steered” only by the whip. Mark stayed on the second try and fortunately only slightly bruised. A great experience not covered by travel insurance!

KUMAI

Kumai is a port town located 20 miles upstream on the muddy Kumai River in Kalimantan. Definitely the worst town we stayed in, not helped by dragging anchor in a thunder storm with a 2 knots current. The reason for going there was it's the gateway to the Tanjung National Park and where you change to a local Klotok boat, adapted to accommodate visitors on the Sekonyer (Crocodile) River. At the park, which is the biggest wild orangutan sanctuary in the world, we watched rehabilitated orangutans at three feeding stations and one even got onboard our tour boat. We also spotted Gibbons, Macaques and Proboscis monkeys, crocodiles, tarantulas and other critters and plants on night walks.

BELITUNG

Belitung has been dubbed the Virgin Islands of Indonesia but is not overrun with tourists (due to a lack of flights from Singapore since Covid). It has picture perfect white sandy beaches with granite

boulders. The water is crystal clear, turtles swim, there's some good snorkelling and lots of islands and outcrops to explore. Sit back at a local waterside warung and enjoy crab, prawns, fish curry soup and a Bintang.

The S2I has been our first sailing rally and we've found it invaluable for having a large group of new friends and contacts. Along with a few of our own friends who joined us on *9 Lives*, the company and camaraderie has been invaluable. Across the fleet everyone has experienced problems with engines, dragging anchors, equipment failure and lightning strike but there has always been at least one person in the group willing and able to help and most issues have been resolved quickly. Whilst there have been a few unexpected schedule changes, the local rally coordinator has been a wealth of information on local contacts and activity programs we would not have had by travelling alone.

Now we have crossed the equator and changed status from Pollywogs to “Shell Backs”, we look forward to joining the Sail Malaysia Passage to Langkawi. A one month rally up the west coast, in the company of 30 boats mostly from the S2I. The journey continues. ■



REFINED
EDGE

BY BRIAN BURKE HOMES

2024 REFINED EDGE MINI SERIES



SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE
SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE

17TH - 18TH FEBRUARY 2024



Singaporean sailors hone their skills at the RPYC Annexe

Venturing from Singapore down to Western Australia, the journey proved to be more than just a geographical shift for a group of Singaporean sailors seeking a unique and enriching training experience at The Annexe in Perth.

This pristine haven for sailing enthusiasts offered an unforgettable combination of reliable breeze, focused training sessions, optimal conditions, and definitely added a layer of excitement and novelty to the training sessions. Navigating the expansive Indian Ocean not only provided a thrilling experience but also presented challenges that encouraged the Singaporean sailors to push their

boundaries and expand their skill sets.

The warm embrace of The Annexe in Perth extended beyond the open waters, as the Royal Perth Yacht Club (RPYC) showcased unmatched hospitality, offering a private training space and exceptional facilities that added a luxurious touch to the overall experience. The RPYC staff and fellow sailing enthusiasts

whom we had the pleasure of meeting contributed to a warm and inclusive environment, turning The Annexe not just into a training ground but a home away from home for the visiting Singaporean sailors. An experience that we're beyond grateful for!

In conclusion, The Annexe in Perth stands as a beacon for sailors seeking an unparalleled

training experience. For the Singaporean sailors who made the journey down, it was more than just a change in scenery; it was a transformative encounter with superb winds that allowed fantastic training sessions and profound learnings that definitely fine-tuned their skills in their sailing journey. A huge thank you to the Royal Perth Yacht Club! We look forward to coming back again! ■

21st GEOGRAPHE BAY RACEWEEK 2024
GEOGRAPHE BAY YACHT CLUB
FEB 3RD - 9TH 2024

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Blooms and Victories: Celebrating the 2023 Power Change of Season

On Sunday the 30th of September the River Room was abuzz from the early hours of the morning with the vibrant energy of Spring, marking the much-anticipated 2023 Power Change of Season event.

Captain Power Fiona Laing, Deborah Allpike, Mike and Lesley O'Loughlin arrived promptly at 8am with one goal in mind, to make the Change of Season Celebration the best one yet. They got stuck into work, transforming the River Room into an explosion of Spring, through the use of tealights, ivy, bouquets and more. The empty, stark River Room was now a floral wonderland bursting with festivity and a sense of excitement. We could not thank Fiona, Deborah, Mike and Lesley enough for all their efforts in putting this together, and Darren from Stage and Studio Productions for generously letting us use his amazing theming.

At 6:30pm the River Room was full to the brim of eager Power-Boaties, sipping the cocktail special of the evening, the 'Captain Power

Gin Sour' excited to find out who the season winners were. Chef Simon produced three refreshingly-spring themed dishes, a deconstructed Bruschetta, followed by a Lamb Shoulder and a Lemon tart to finish. Nothing like setting a theme with delicious food to match.

It was time to reveal the Season Winners, the most anticipated part of the evening.

Seafarer Trophy Winner: *Au* – Gary Silcock (Skipper) & Diane Hansen (Navigator)

RFBYC Kylie Cup Winner: *Corinne Adele* – Razvan Vlad (Skipper) & Ioana Vlad (Navigator)

Most Improved Rookie: *Corinne Adele* – Razvan Vlad (Skipper) & Ioana Vlad (Navigator)

3rd Place Consistency: *Northern Reward* – Chris Hopkins (Skipper) & Mike Hopkins (Navigator)



2nd Place Consistency: *Corinne Adele* – Razvan Vlad (Skipper) & Ioana Vlad (Navigator)

1st Place Consistency: *Au* – Gary Silcock (Skipper) & Diane Hansen (Navigator)

3rd Place Championship: *Au* – Gary Silcock (Skipper) & Diane Hansen (Navigator)

2nd Place Championship: *Corinne Adele* – Razvan Vlad (Skipper) & Ioana Vlad (Navigator)

1st Place Championship: *Northern Reward* – Chris Hopkins (Skipper) & Mike Hopkins (Navigator)

Congratulations to all our Season Winners, and thank you to all who attended the festive evening!

We cannot wait to see what the 2024 Power Season brings and are looking forward to seeing our 100, and 101 boards out on-water. ■



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■ Captain Sail Alan Thomas winner of the Wednesday Winter Series Div. A Rudder
Photo courtesy RPYC

The BW8s got off to a great start this Summer Season on October 14th with great numbers and good racing. Not only was the 14th the Club's Opening Day (and my wife's birthday), it was the 17th anniversary of the launch of the BW8 sailing yacht, which is when Royal Perth Yacht Club instigated the co-ownership of first six boats. Whilst that co-ownership arrangement has, after 15 years, now completed, the boats continue on in great condition, high demand and being closely raced.

WEDNESDAY WINNER

Well done to Captain Sail Alan Thomas and Crew of *The Fox* for taking out two of the three Mini Series during the Stage and Studio Productions Wednesday Winter Series and also taking out first place for the overall Series in Division A. Alan had to work hard in fending off *Time Out* and *Déjà Vu* but, for his efforts now has another of the very sort-after rudder trophies to add to his growing collection.

GALACTIC CUP

The first weekend in November saw the return, for the third year of the BW8's annual windward-leeward regatta, the Galactic Cup. We had 13 of the 14 boats from RPYC and RFBYC compete in the regatta with some pretty strong breezes in the first session, giving rise to some exciting downwind legs. Returning to sailing in the fleet this season after a long break, Geoff Lansell in *Prima8s* seemed to revel in the 30 knot breezes and came away with wins in both the morning races. The wind moderated a little in the afternoon when another two races were programmed. In the first race of the session, Alan Thomas in *The Fox* showed the way to win that race, which also counted as the first heat of the BW8 State Championships. The second race of the afternoon got away to a good start, but unfortunately the Race Officer had to abandon the race, just as the first boat was approaching the finish, due to a massive wind shift – a sad end to the first day; but that's sailing. Day two saw some steadier winds and more great starts on a short line and tight racing for the three morning races. Once again Geoff Lansell took out the first two races but fell away in the third when he shredded the cover on the boat's spinnaker halyard. This let Duncan Cameron, on *Privateer*, slip over the line in first place. Geoff's great performances



■ Geoff Lansell and the crew of *Prima8s* – winners of the Galactic Cup
Photo courtesy George Vaskovics



■ Close racing around the bottom gate in the Galactic Cup
Photo courtesy George Vaskovics



■ The BW8 Galactic Cup

- ▶ with four wins and 9 points was just enough to take out the Galactic Cup, followed by Duncan Cameron (13 points) and defending trophy holder Chris Pye in *Pieces of Eight* third (15 points).

GOVERNORS CUP

Whilst eleven entered, seven BW8s sailed in the Governors Cup starting in two groups a minute apart. The fleet stayed together, a bit like a cycling peloton, gradually hauling in the breakaway early starters, but also holding any later ones



■ Seven BW8s in the Governors Cup
Photo courtesy RPYC

off from passing. The attached photos shows all of the seven boats in close proximity working up towards Nedlands. The lead BW8, *Hooked*, made it up to eighth place by the finish.

In other good news the BW8 Association has taken delivery of its newly extruded mast

sections and already has had interest from one yacht class to purchase five sections. This, together with the Association building its own spare masts, will mean that over half of the fourteen sections will have been taken up within a month of landing in Perth. This was a relatively common section in

WA and was used on a number of classes such as the Farr 9.2. Anyone with an interest in the section should contact the BW8 Association.

With the festive season well underway, the BW8 Fleet wishes all sailors a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. ■

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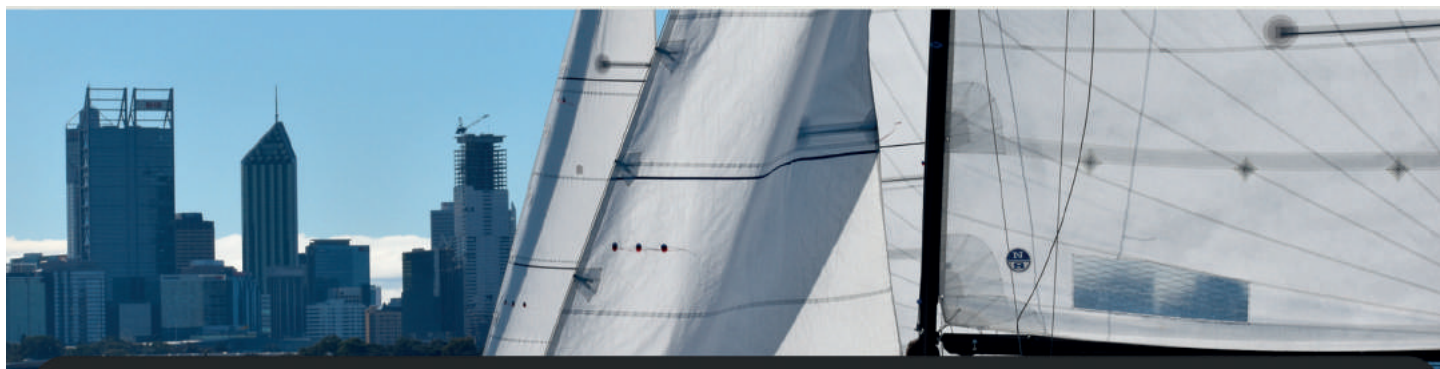
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DIVISION 2 REPORT



The commencement of the 23/24 season at our Club unfolded in splendid fashion, with an Opening Day blessed by what many are calling the best weather in recent memory. The sun graced us with unseasonable warmth, the winds were perfect for getting the crews into their stride and the boats were splendidly adorned for the traditional sail past. An enviable fleet of nineteen Division 2 boats, including the Farr 9.2s in their separate start, gathered to celebrate the season's kick-off.

A focal point of discussion among Division 2 enthusiasts revolves around the intricate world of handicaps. Balancing the performance of planing boats with asymmetric spinnakers against the sturdier displacement boats with symmetric spinnakers is no small feat. The agility of sports boats, particularly in light winds, is undeniable, and they can significantly outpace displacement boats when the breeze picks up. Excelling on reaches, they become unbeatable, yet face challenges when sailing

directly downwind due to their shallower angles and frequent gybes.

In response to the ongoing handicap debate, this season introduces a separate Sports Boat result within Division 2, relying on Australian Sailing's Class Boat Handicap (CBH). This fixed boat-based handicap remains constant throughout the season, providing a fairer platform for diverse boat types. Additionally, results based on the Australian Measurement System (AMS) will be recorded,

offering a fixed boat handicap more tailored to displacement boats.

At the time of this writing, only three yachts within Division 2 had renewed their AMS subscription. As the season progresses, it is hoped that more sailors will contribute to the AMS results by obtaining or renewing their certificates. It's worth noting that certificates from previous years can be reactivated, provided there have been no modifications during that time. A wider participation in ►





- the AMS category would add another layer of excitement and fair competition to Division 2 races.

It also seems timely to remind skippers about the signing on process within the Top Yacht portal. It has been two years since this system was introduced, and this season you need to be aware that there will be penalties for

those forgetful skippers. Sailing Instruction 6.2 now reads:

It is the Skipper's responsibility to record themselves and all other persons on-board their boat. Boats that fail to Sign On via the Top Yacht App shall receive a 30% scoring penalty without a hearing for each breach.

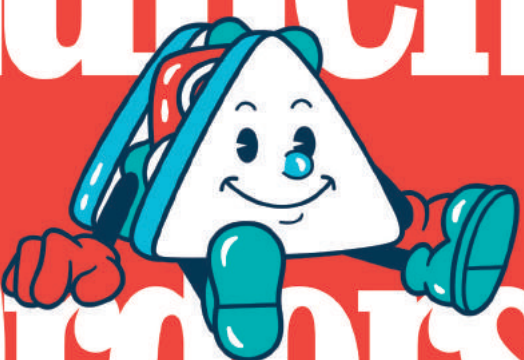
Maybe add a "SIGN ON" note to your course sheets so that you will get a final reminder before the start of the race.

In addition to the usual Saturday courses, Division 2 sailors are in for a treat before the Christmas break with the Windward Leeward Two Race Day, injecting a dose of intensity and fast


paced boat handling into the sailing season.

The last race of 2023 is the Marathon Race, taking the fleet beyond the regular confines of Melville Water, past EFYC (East Fremantle Yacht Club). This elongated course promises an extended and exhilarating challenge for sailors, testing both their endurance and navigational acumen. ■

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ROYAL PERTH YACHT CLUB

DIVISION 3 REPORT

Nicholas Challenor , Fleet Representative



A SYMPHONY OF SAILS AND SUCCESS

As the sails unfurl and the winds beckon, Division 3 at the Royal Perth Yacht Club continues to be a spectacle to behold. This season has been promising so far, with an impressive fleet gracing the waters, showcasing both the steadfast veterans and the enthusiastic newcomers. At the heart of our division are the staples, the seasoned sailors who have become synonymous with Division 3's spirit. Barry Rosen on *Argo* and Mal Wilson with *Breakin Even* continue to be

the pillars of our community, exemplifying dedication and expertise. Their presence on the water is both a comfort and an inspiration to us all. Adding to the vibrancy, we've seen more outings from Eric Heenan on *Spray*, Chris Chapple on *Thunderation*, and Alistair on *Green Flash*. Each of these boats brings its own flair and style to the races, enriching the diversity

of our fleet. A delightful development this season has been the increasing number of Endeavour 24s. We warmly welcome Robin Wilkinson aboard *Little Tiger* to the fleet. His entry has sparked a provoked interest in Saturday racing, evident in Man Singh dusting off the cobwebs to join the fray. This resurgence is a testament to the inclusive and evolving nature of Division 3.

The highlight of the season, undoubtedly, has been the majestic *Mercedes*. Seeing her out in all her glory has been a treat for the eyes and the soul. Her recent triumph in taking out the Governor's Cup is not just a victory for her crew but a celebration for all of Division 3. I am sure everyone will join me in congratulating Kane Williams and his crew on representing the Club well. As we look forward to more races, more camaraderie, and more achievements, let's take a moment to appreciate the wonderful tapestry of talent, history and passion that makes Division 3 at RPYC. ■



PRIZE NIGHT

It's been an active time for the Endeavour group. We recently held our 53rd Prize Night which had over 50 Endeavour enthusiasts attend including RYPC's first female Commodore, Doctor Janet Hornbuckle. There were many great speeches across the board and we're looking forward to the 54th Prize Night. Special thanks to the Boating Operations Team and hospitality team who put on an excellent event.

The trophies awarded were as follows:

State Championships –
M. Dymond

State Championship Handicap – R. Wilkinson

Winter Regatta – M. Singh

Sucker Mug – M. Muskett/
H. Shedden

Crew Member of the Year –
S. Harris (Sophie)

Constructors Award –
S. Harris (Simon)

Endeavour Person of the Year –
J. Salter

WINTER REGATTA 2.0

Following the success of our Winter Regatta, we decided to run a second one. Special thanks to Barbara de la Hunty (new owner of *Three Cheers*) from the Scouts for taking some fantastic photos.



THE ENDEAVOUR BOAT WORKS

England Expects has been given the full TLC package with a fresh hull and bottom paint job and even new toe rails. Well done to Alex Pauza who is now in the running for the constructors championship trophy.

Amber is also undergoing a huge TLC package with her interior being gutted by Alex Aberle-Leeming. The word on the street is that her new form factor will be a hybrid between twilight sailing and competitive racing. There's a permanent 60L fridge going in along with some lightweight cabinetry. Talk about clever.



UPCOMING ENDEAVOUR EVENTS

Rottneest Weekender:
25th November.
Heat 2: 25th November.
Heat 3: 16th December.
Heat 4: 13th January.
Heat 5: 3rd February.
Heat 6: 9th March.
Heat 7: 6th April.
Twilight Racing:
Thursday 30th November
(Ladies Skipper Race).

There will also be ad-hoc social sailing through the summer so look out for the events/notifications. ■



■ *Little Tiger* with Robin and Kelly Wilkinson heading upwind. ■



■ Barry Rosen showing us how starts are done.



■ Tom Addis with his Endeavour *Jacqui* and Crew.



■ Heading down to the bottom mark (Left to right – *Breeze*, *Argo*, *England Expects*, *Nirvana*, *Little Tiger*)

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FARR 9.2 REPORT

Jeremy Kerr, Farr 9.2 Association President

The Farr 9.2 fleet have had a cracking start to the 2023/2024 season, with two of our Metro Series heats complete, having a mixed set of sailing conditions and podium places.

Just before the season opening, the Farr 9.2 Association formalised the upcoming year with the 2023 Annual General Meeting. Members gathered at the mezzanine of Boston Brewing in Victoria Park, for a few formalities and maybe a sample of the local beers. As the previous years' committee had served their terms, this year called for a changing of the guard; newly elected committee members were:

President: Leon Koch

Vice President: Peter Cook

Treasurer and Secretary: Jeremy Kerr

Measurer: Victor Johnson

Assistant Measurer: Mario Tascone

Handicapper: Leon Koch

Ordinary Committee

Members: Kevin Schroeder, Tarla Elward and Jon Wallwork

Results from the 2023 Stage And Studio Productions Wednesday Winter Series fared well for Farr 9.2 *Farrlap* (Andrew Hossen), winning the prized rudder for their first place in the series. Well done team!

RPYC Opening Day hosted the traditional Commodore Mark Hansen pennant for the Farr 9.2s in

light winds, which provided a stellar start to the season for new team *Eufarria* (Peter Cook), first over the finish line, followed by *Lionheart* (Warren Westaway) and *Frenzy* (Murray Rowe).

The following Saturday saw the first Farr 9.2 Association race for the season, Heat one of the Swan River Metro Series. Despite the forecast of very variable light winds, the

summer conditions came good with enough breeze for a decent race. After a competitive start from the full fleet, *The Black Smoke* (Jeremy Kerr) worked their way to the slight increase in pressure to the right of the course, and made it first to the top mark, holding lead for most of the race, until *Elusive* (Richard Brisbane-Cohen) took a fast downwind run to overtake and finish ahead, with *Eufarria* across the line third. Handicap results had *The Black Smoke* first, *Elusive* second, and *Lionheart* third. ▶



■ Farrlap team.





► Heat two of the metro series, two weeks later, had much stronger winds, but seemingly all backwards as an east-north-easterly, sailing downwind to Smith/Lucky being an unusual experience. The gusty, variable breeze caused a diverse set of decisions in sail selection and spinnaker usage. After a detour the long way around the start line, team *Eufarria* put on a great show surfing back into the fleet with full kite flying. After

managing the conditions, *Itinerant* (Mark Hansen) finished first, *Farrlap* second and *Elusive* third over the line. To keep things simple, the fleet managed to organise themselves by handicap too, with consistency results the same order.

New owners of *Seahawk* have been out sailing regularly too – Pedro Araujo and Juan Roman have started racing on RPYC Saturdays, with a little help from Bruce Meakins from *Farr Fetched*. Similarly, *Toravean* (Jon Wallwork) has been a regular contender in Wednesday racing, currently at the top of the results for mini-series one, with *Eufarria* (both Peter Cook and John Palmer) and *Frenzy* chasing closely in second and third. We'll be following the results closely! ■



S97 REPORT

On Thursday the 24th of August 2023 we held the Annual General Meeting of the S97 Association. Here are the members of the board for the next twelve months term:

David Hepburn as President, John Hughes as Secretary, Alastair McMichael as Treasurer, Simon Plunkett as Class Representative, Maxy D'Alesio as Measurer/

Handicap, Shandel and Maxy D'Alesio as magazine Scribes.

The S97 class had their first Metropolitan Championship heat during an invitation race at the Mounts Bay Sailing Club Opening Day on Saturday the 7th of October 2023 with seven boats on the start line. Sean Wallis on *Skallagrigg* was fastest and Grant Cullen on *Second Wind* was first on handicap.

The following Saturday was the 159th season Opening Day at Royal Perth Yacht Club with a beautiful

sunny day and a multitude of boats participating in the traditional sail past. The S97 fleet had seven boats racing in the second Metro Championship heat. Sean Wallis on *Skallagrigg* was again the fastest and Bill Quinn on *Déjà Vu* was first on consistency.

A week later, the S97s were invited to Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club Opening of their 127th Season. The race was valid as the third Metro Championship heat and there were just four boats on the start line. Fiona McCabe on *Skallagrigg* was the fastest and Maxy D'Alesio



■ *Skallagrigg*

Photos courtesy Ironbark Photos



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- on *Total Recall* won on handicap.

The Governor's Cup is Royal Perth Yacht Club's oldest perpetual trophy and has traditionally been presented to the winning skipper by the Governor of the day since 1904. In 1934 Freshwater Bay Yacht Club Members were invited to participate in the event and from that year onwards the cup legacy continues between the two Clubs, with the start and finish alternating location every year. One of the most memorable wins occurred in 1962 when Horace Rumble, after 43 years of attempts on his boat *Mercedes*, finally crossed the finish line in first. He also won again in 1968 and 1969. On Saturday 11th of November 2023, the Governor's Cup race was held with 65 starters at RPYC and the full course finishing at RFBYC. Over half a century after its last win *Mercedes*, led by skipper Kane Williamson, won again the trophy on a gusty and cloudy day. Alastair McMichael on *Silver Fern* was tenth overall and first of the S97's. ■



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OFFSHORE REPORT

OCEAN RACING NOTES

This season, the WA blue water fleet has sailed several offshore races in generally mixed conditions. The George Law, Westcoaster, Geraldton and Geraldton Return Race have all seen smaller fleets than usual. Some of the 'usual suspects' are away, and others are under repair. *Crush*, the Tp52 and Fast 40 *Enterprise NG* are ahead in the Division 1 stakes and the Spacesailor27 *King Canute* (SOPYC) are doing well in Division 2. Currently there are no RPYC yachts competing with the fleet as they are away on other adventures. The IRC State Championships will take place at the beginning of December as part of the Annual Rockingham weekend with the RFBYC Dolphin and Gordon Craig Races.

COCKBURN SOUND REGATTA 2023 AND GBRW 2024

It is fantastic to see lots of RPYC Yachts supporting both regattas. They are great for meeting sailors from other Clubs and fantastic for crew cohesion. Good luck to all involved.

A SEASON OF MADNESS:

The Rolex Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race is considered a huge challenge on any ocean racer's calendar. It is hard, hard, hard, and every boat experiences issues, which require you to problem solve; Preparation is the key. This year for the first time in many years, your Club has two representatives in this event. Dennis Vincent and

Hilary Arthure's Sun Fast 3600 *Wyuna*, and Simon Torvaldsen's new *Atomic Blonde*, a JPK1180 are entered. Simon's boat is brand new out of the mould in Nowra (NSW), was delivered to Sydney in October and has been fitted out to Grand Prix standards. She is a delight to see and sail on (I was very lucky). We can expect to see a great performance from *Atomic Blonde*. For this race, Simon has elected to employ some professional crew. He also has a couple of Perth based crew on board Mike Foster and Steve Humphries.

Wyuna on the other hand has a different philosophy. Our goals are to start and finish the race, to push ourselves and the boat though any difficulties encountered, and to arrive in Hobart with friendships strengthened by the experience...and a few buckets kicked as well.

There is nothing easy about bringing a yacht to the east coast. You either sail there or truck it. I had fantastic advice from others who have already done this. We decided to truck over and sail back. Wayne Henderson's BoatCo is a giant of professionalism and knowledge.

In early October *Wyuna* left RPYC Annexe and was brought to FSC where her rig was pulled by Rigging WA, her decks were stripped of all hardware, wheels were removed, winches and mast wrapped. She was loaded onto the flat bed truck. Before all that huge preparation had taken place. All sheets and



halyards were replaced, new Sails from Doyle, electronics ordered, motor serviced, and lots of spares purchased. That was just the start. So in the first week in October, I was the owner of a big trainer sailor!

After six days on the road, *Wyuna* arrived at White Bay 6 Marine Park at Balmain. Under WA ownership but with an amazingly caring and skilled staff, we were made to feel at home. *Wyuna* was unloaded and spent a week on the hard having a few repairs carried out and waiting for the crane driver so the riggers could do their work. It is very nerve wracking having to trust new riggers and shipwrights with this work, as we are a very close-knit group in WA and know each other well. However, I should not have worried, they were each beyond excellent. It was fun spending time in the boatyard watching people work on the TP52s there

(including *Zeus*, managed by Steve Thomas) and the rig of *Scallywag* (100-footer), which makes *Wyuna's* mast look like a toothpick!

Departing WB6 a week later for our trip to the Cruising Yacht Club, Ian Ball and I felt exhilarated as we drove under the Harbour Bridge past *Commanche* and *Wild Oats X* who were out on a Wednesday afternoon sail! We arrived at CYCA to a warm welcome and a safe and secure floating pen for the next two months. The next couple of days were spent putting the boom and all the deck hardware back in place. Like making a jigsaw puzzle.

This whole exercise was a logistical nightmare. I had a few sleepless nights worrying about lining up all the trades and whether it would all work again. An enormous Excel spreadsheet and lists (lots



► of lists), govern my life these days. Plenty of planning and preparation certainly paid off. I feel so lucky and grateful to have had the support and encouragement of many amazing people. Firstly, my crew. We are a crew of seven, 4 from RPYC and 3 from FSC. This brought to the crew the correct balance of knowledge, previous experience, qualifications, and strength. On crew are Todd Giraud, Ian Ball, Máire Connolly, John Rayner, Andrew Buchan and Antun Janekovich. I need to thank our Club for support and encouragement; our path has been smoothed by the Club on occasions. We have had Kingsley Piesse always available to offer wise counsel and practical help as well as others in the Offshore family. Anthony Kirke, Dave Davenport, Adam Shand and Billy Leonard, who have all travelled this road before and were full of excellent advice. Will Hammond made new sails for us and took us out training off Fremantle to experiment with a pole (now delivered) which will allow us to pole back our A-sails and sail deeper. The RSHYR is essentially an upwind/downwind race. I have often maintained that it takes a village to get *Wyuna* on water. The village has come up trumps.

We have to do an official qualifier of 150 NM in 24 hours (our Exmouth Race of 700 NM was 3 weeks too early- didn't count). On Friday 1st December we will be participating in the Cabbage Tree Island Race. The crew is flying in for this. This race will be an opportunity to

run our systems and iron out any issues.

We will line up on Boxing Day with our bigger sister *Atomic Blonde*. Also making the trip south with some other WA sailors on other yachts. Kingsley Piesse is about to do his 40th race on *Chutzpah*; Mike Hughes is on *Maretimo*, Mark Lovelady on *Rockall 8* (the old *Atomic Blonde*) and Mark Williams (Normally a *Wyuna* crew in WA, but unable to make time commitment because of work) on *Avtros Flying Fish*.

Look out for our Commodore Janet and GM Rick, who have been invited as guests on the official vessels at CYCA. However, most of all to celebrate our Club and the total lunatic behaviour of two of our skippers (you must be mad to do this). Wish us luck on Boxing Day. If you are in Sydney, get in touch or come and say hello. The buzz on the docks in the days before the race is fantastic.

There is a public FB page called *Wyuna Sailing* which we will use to document our adventure. Feel free to join in. The CYCA RSHYR website has a tracker which will track both the Cabbage Tree Island and Hobart Races. It uses Google Earth rather than Yellowbrick where many ocean races are found. Feel free to come with us on the journey. We certainly need to know our Club is behind us in the many challenges ahead.

...to be continued. ■

Photo courtesy JPK



Ahoy, fellow sailors! The Metro Series Championship has once again unfolded its sails, marking the beginning of the sailing season for five of the Swan River clubs. In a gripping display of nautical prowess, 14 individual boats surged to the starting line over the five thrilling races.

Shadowfax's Triumph: Under Jim Gooding's seasoned command, *Shadowfax* emerged as the undisputed champion of the Metro Series. With a perfect scorecard they have set themselves up to be the boat to beat for the rest of the season!



Consistency Trophy for *Don't Panic!!*: While *Shadowfax* claimed the championship, the Consistency Trophy found a deserving home with Mat Selby's *Don't Panic!!*. This is Mat's first season in the S80 fleet and after taking out the Consistency result in the state championships in March, is definitely one to watch.

Phil Slee and the *Miss Behavin* Crew's Borrowed Triumph: Sailing's essence lies in camaraderie and sportsmanship, epitomized by Phil Slee and his *Miss Behavin* crew from KBSC. They very generously were allowed to borrow Command from Mike McCubbin to participate in the

Metro Series. Despite being away from home waters, Phil Slee and his crew showcased why they are multiple state champions, securing commendable placings in both the championship and consistency results tables.

Our gratitude extends to Bay Marine for their unwavering support and continued sponsorship of the Metro series. Bay Marine's commitment to promoting and sustaining the sailing community is greatly appreciated.

A fantastic showing in the Governor's Cup this year, Les

Marshall on *The Fifth Element* taking out second place! Not far behind was 2 more S80s with Anna Flanders on *Rebel* coming in fourth and Dave Beresford on *Sweet Babs* taking fifth. Three of the top 5 boats from the 67 starters!

A shout out to some newcomers to the fleet this season, the previously mentioned Mat Selby on *Don't Panic!!*, John Schlafrig on *Zinfandel*, and Anna Flanders on *Rebel*. Anna has been going through the Sailor Development Program under Tony Strickland in the winter break. She has also kindly made her boat

available for the program's spinnaker, racing and skipper courses – thanks Anna! We look forward to seeing you all in amongst it at the start line this season.

Which leads me lastly onto the Sailor Development Program, which continues to go from strength to strength with both morning and afternoon sessions on most weekends. Big thanks to those volunteering their time and boats to support the development of sailors for the sport.

Until next time, all the best for the season ahead. ■



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Whilst the Club has had a number of Firsts this year, since Opening Day on October 14, the Race Management Team has also had a number of **Firsts**.

- **First** Retro Race: 13 boats, Strong breezes, a capsized, lost 'phone & car keys. Soggy but safe sailors.
- **First** dismasting on a Saturday – *True South*. Great recovery by the crew and our Safety Boat *Pelican*. Hope to see them back on the water soon.
- **First** Twilight: 11 boats – don't forget to shine a torch on your sails or simply hail the finish box with your sail number.
- **First** Night Race: Light winds under a very round bright full moon.
- **First** Handicap Race: Governor's Cup: 83 boats registered, 66 boats started and 65 finished. A fantastic result for the wonderful *Mercedes R3*– 110 years old. A significant win on Remembrance Day commemorating 105 years since the end of the First World War – when she was just 5 years old.
- **First** of the Elliott Championship races: six teams on a Thursday night.

- **First** Y Flag on a Saturday: 23knt Easterlies proved a challenge for some boats and crews. Whoever invented Easterly breezes needs a stern talking to! Did you Notice that the team on *Challenger* also wore their PFD's? Another **first**!

And all of that just in the **first** month of the season.

Now for the **first** of our reminders! Please advise Race Control or the Boating Office if you retire from a race, particularly if you are sailing at another Club. Searching the river for boats who have actually returned to their pen is time consuming and ties up valuable resources unnecessarily. A simple radio or 'phone call solves the problem.

Matilda Bay and the Swan River are **first** class sailing facilities – make the most of them and join us at every opportunity. See you out on the water. ■



Our 2023 Finding Freedom Fundraiser, held on Friday 26th August and hosted at Royal Perth Yacht Club was a huge success, enabling us to purchase two (2) new Hansa 303's and will allow us to continue our supported sailing programs for people with disabilities.



During the luncheon we were overjoyed to hear that Genevieve Wickham and Grant Alderson placed First in the RS Venture Connect Inclusive World Championship 2023 being held in Rostock, Germany.

Genevieve and Grant also finished 3rd (on a countback with 2nd) in the Inclusion World Championship in the SV14 class. A stellar effort to both of you!



Tony Carter, Peter Moore and myself travelled to Geraldton early October for the Geraldton Yacht Club (GYC) Fundraiser. Sailability WA donated two of our 303 Hansa Libertys to GYC for their program.

GYC are now looking for volunteers to help run a Sailability program and are working with local and state government agencies and the community to put the necessary infrastructure in place for their own supported sailing program.



Remembering Robert Crofts and Genevieve Wickham's representation at the Para World Sailing Championships in 2019.

We held our AGM on 17th October and are pleased to advise our incoming Committee members are Peter Hugo, Rod Angwin, Graham White, Reg Cornelisse and Lorelle Hughes, who will join Peter Moore (Secretary), Ross O'Brien (Treasurer), Colin Harrison, Greg O'Neill and myself (President). We thank our retiring Committee members Tony Carter, Barry Honey and Stu Coll for your support and valued contributions. We won't be letting Tony off easily though - he has kindly offered to take the lead on organising our 2024 Finding Freedom luncheon!



We opened our Supported Summer Sailing Program on Wednesday 18th October and are now fully booked for our Wednesday and Thursday activities. Our fully trained volunteers enjoy helping people with disabilities to Act, Belong, Commit and get

into sailing! Our mid-week supported sailing program is sponsored by Healthway.

We are pleased to support Kylie Forth in the Blind Sailing International League Racing Championship to be held in Rutland, England from 16th to 19th November. We wish skipper Kylie, Erin McGlew on main and their new team members, Del Kilcullen as tactician and Kiara Parkinson as jib hand all the best in the Championship and look forward to hearing from them when they return back from the Northern Hemisphere.

And lastly, Sailability WA is proud to support the

2023 WA Hansa Class State Championships being run by Royal Perth Yacht Club on 2nd and 3rd December. To register for this event see the RPYC website here: <https://www.revolutionise.com.au/rpyc/eventsregister/206386/>

Contact our team if you have any queries regarding our supported sailing programs.

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Administration Coordinator
E: admin@sailabilitywa.org.au
W: www.sailabilitywa.org.au ■

**We are seeking
Volunteers to
assist our mid-week
Supported Sailing
Program**



**Wednesdays and Thursdays
9.30am-12.30pm**

**Please contact Rachael Cox, our Program
Coordinator (office@sailabilitywa.org.au)
if you can assist?**

FREMANTLE Annexe

As we embrace the changing winds, we wanted to provide you with a quick update on recent developments at our esteemed Club.

Summer is on the way!

MAINTENANCE MATTERS – ANODE REPLACEMENT

In our ongoing efforts to maintain the highest standards for our facilities, we are currently replacing all the anodes throughout the marina. These essential components protect your boats from corrosion, ensuring they remain in top-notch condition. This is not an easy exercise as we have to move all boats from

their pens onto the collector jetty so that the barge can get in and do the work.

Your safety and the longevity of your vessels are our top priorities, and we appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we work to enhance the infrastructure of our marina.

FREMANTLE ANNEXE BUSY BEE

We kindly ask all Members to review their belongings stored within the marina including the hardstand and tender rack areas and promptly remove any unauthorised items. This includes all kayaks, paddle boards, poles, anchors, fenders, cray pots, plastic chairs and tables – ONLY



tenders are to be stored on/in these racks.

To facilitate this process, the team will be conducting a Busy Bee Clean-up of the Fremantle Annexe on Friday, 8th December 2023. This will include all jetties, hardstand areas and storage areas.

A FRIENDLY REMINDER – REQUEST AHEAD BEFORE ENTERING THE MARINA

As the boating season gets into full swing, we kindly remind all Members to contact the marina office in advance if you would like to bring your rib or little boat into the marina. We only have a small area to house visiting boats. This proactive communication allows us to better accommodate everyone and ensure a smooth and organised experience for all Members. By coordinating in advance, we can maintain a safe and efficient harbour environment for everyone to enjoy.

Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated, and it reflects the spirit and camaraderie that defines the Royal Perth Yacht Club community.

Finally, the shade sails have been erected in the Alfresco area and Garden BBQ areas.

Happy boating everyone. ■



FROM THE

Archives

CAN YOU HELP?

Greg Navarro of Bunbury has recently purchased a Power Boat named *Fresca 11*. She was penned at Royal Perth a decade or so and was allegedly owned by Colin Keevil. We have searched our Yacht and Boat Registers but cannot find any reference to this Power Boat. We have also searched our Archived Records and Membership Records but are unable to locate the name of Colin Keevil as a past Member. If you have any information please contact your Club Archivist, email: clubarchivist@rpyc.com.au

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

In the next couple of months, possibly in the New Year, as something a bit different, I would like to display in the Wardroom, pieces of Memorabilia owned by Members. These items do not have to be sailing objects but can include family or military heirlooms, keepsakes and any special items from your family collection. Please email me if you have an interest in this idea and also let me know if you think it should not proceed.

This Display will not take precedent over other programed displays such as the Naturaliste Race and others.

QUIZ

Quiz Number 77:

What must binoculars include to enable measurement at sea?

The answer is: A set of binoculars require a reticule or graticule which is used to gain distance of objects of known height. Commodore Mark Fitzhardinge you are a winner, please collect your fine bottle of **RED** from the Archives Room.



Quiz Number 78:

Name the Ship - Probably the strongest wooden ship ever built, used in expeditions in the Arctic and Antarctic regions by the Norwegian explorers Fridtjof Nansen, Otto Sverdrup, Oscar Wisting and Ronald Amundsen between 1893 and 1912.

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

To err is human, but to really foul things up you need a computer.
Paul R. Ehrlich



ARCHIVE UPGRADE

By the time this Magazine becomes available, your visit to the Archive Room will notice some major changes. We have now a cabinet displaying many of the Club's Historical Documents a large percentage that are dated well over 100 years old. Some of the items displayed are our First Rules Book dated 1879, an early letter written by Commodore Shenton dated 1880 and an original Lloyds Register dated 1885. These are just a few of



our Historical Documents on display. Many that have not been viewed by Members particularly those Members who have joined in the last 10 to 15 years. Why not call in and have a browse and see how an active Archive works. And don't forget we have a computer available where you can search the Data Base and also view old Race Records such as Governor's Cup and Naturaliste Race Winners.

"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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SUSTAINABILITY AT RPYC

BASED ON THE UN'S 17 SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

03

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

- Encourage staff to keep up to date on all vaccines.
- Have covid-19 measures in place in case of another pandemic.
- Hand sanitiser places around the club

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



11

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

- Oil collection recycling
- Containers for change
- Environmental training for Staff and Contractors

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



06

CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

- Accredited Clean Marina
- Accredited Fish Friendly Marina
- Filtered water station placed around clubhouse for refilling bottles
- Rainwater collection system

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



12

RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

- In the Wind
 - 40% recycled paper
 - Vegetable Ink used
- All printing done by Optima Press
 - Green Stamp accreditation

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



07

AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

- Battery collection recycling
- Solar panels placed on the gate house, with the intention of having more put on the main club house

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



13

CLIMATE ACTION

- Rainwater collection system
- Containers for change
- Oil collection recycling
- Bio Cups for use

13 CLIMATE ACTION



08

DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

- Flexible working environment
- Capacity to work from home.
- Promote diverse and inclusive working environment.

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



14

LIFE BELOW WATER

- Sustainably sourced Seafood
- Dolphin Watch partner - Staff Member allocated to Program
- Accredited Clean Marina
- Accredited Fish Friendly Marina

14 LIFE BELOW WATER



15

LIFE ON LAND

- Compost
 - We recycle our coffee grounds, shredded paper, cardboard and kitchen waste.
 - This compost then goes into various garden beds around the Club
- Chef's herb garden

15 LIFE ON LAND



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