

JUNE 2023

TIDINGS

ROYAL FRESHWATER BAY YACHT CLUB

KEELBOAT CHAMPIONS & DINGHY PRIZE NIGHTS

JOHN ANDERSON AWARDED
THE JOHN BARON-HAY
GOLD MEDAL

SIR JAMES HARDY OBE
A YACHTING GREAT
HAS PASSED



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We value our members' opinions. Feel free to send any comments, suggestions and feedback to rfbyc@rfbyc.asn.au



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Winter has well and truly set in and the Club winter activities are underway.

We closed the summer sailing season with Champions Prize Night and Dinghy Prize Night. Keeping to tradition, the dinghy fleet dressed up for their event and this year's theme was Disney. Many excellent outfits, great decorations in the Roland Smith Room and plenty of fun.

Our Power fleet time trialling season opened with another special day at the Club. The 2023 event coincided with the Kings Coronation which added a nice touch to the festivity. The Power series is running on most Saturday afternoons until mid September.

Winter Series activities include the Keelboat Frostbite Series and Dinghy Winter Series. The DTC area is always a flurry of activity, and the DTC Café is open on sailing days too. We encourage all members to use the DTC Café. Whether you are heading out on the water or just in the area, grab a bite and a coffee and enjoy what your Club has to offer. Opening times are listed in the weekly emails to members.

Wednesday special dinners and Trivia Night's have continued through the winter months and are proving to be very popular. There's time for Wine Dinners, special events such as Bastille Day and even a Truffle Dinner!

Bring your friends along and enjoy your Club this winter.

See you at the Club.

rfbyc.asn.au

What's on at the Club?

View the club calendar on the website to keep in touch with upcoming events and current activities. Members are able to book for a table in the Bowline or for an event using the Club website by logging in to MyRFBYC.

Use Front of House and Gybe Sheet (weekly club emails) as your handy reference for things to do at RFBYC.

We welcome new applications for membership

Do you have a friend who has been thinking about joining the Club? Well, encourage them to join, it is a great time to be part of the RFBYC community!

Members who would like to nominate a person for membership should have at least 5 years of membership themselves in a voting category. View more information about eligibility and the process on the membership page in Tidings or on the Club website, simply click on the 'Join RFBYC' button at the top of any webpage at rfbyc.asn.au or get in touch with our Membership Coordinator for assistance.

Membership flyers and application forms are available to pickup at the main noticeboard in the Clubhouse.

MyRFBYC on the Club website

Attention members, login to MyRFBYC on our website to view member only content and to access your own member portal. You can view your account, select your interests, make and view bookings and a lot more. Click on the MyRFBYC button at the top of any page. When you are logged in as a member, the button will change to read 'Logout'.



PETER CHALMER COMMODORE



THE LAST THREE MONTHS from the end of the summer season have been busy with several projects that will enhance the Club infrastructure and our service to our members.

After researching other major yacht and sporting clubs' management systems, the implementation of a new club-wide software, NorthStar, has proceeded smoothly. It has taken a lot of time and commitment from our staff and leadership teams to come up to speed with the capabilities of the new system. I sincerely thank all staff for making space in their schedules to attend training meetings. Our old system that is being replaced, whilst working, was aged, disparate and very complex when interrogating data from the Club's 26 different softwares that required multiple different logins by staff. The Northstar system went 'live' on the May 1st. Out of those 26 original softwares this leaves only 3 as necessary stand-alones. Benefits from this system are increased efficiency of data and time, security and major benefits to staff efficiency in operating across the whole of the club data and thus delivering better data to committees and

to the CEO for our decision-making process.

A capital works project that has been on the Club's 'to do list' since 2010 is the repair of the Campbell Deck and refurbishment of the Athol Hobbs Room. This room is probably the Club's most overlooked and underused asset. The essential repairs to the Campbell Deck outside the room have, over the past few years, been less in scope than the necessary full renovation because of priorities being elsewhere. We now have an opportunity to address the whole situation fully and incorporate renovations to the Athol Hobbs room that will create a much more member and guest friendly environment. This renovation and refurbishment project will deliver an efficient and desirable income-producing function space including aged or disability access via a lift, a ladies' bathroom and a UAT, modern décor with weather buffering to outdoor areas, practicable serving of food from the

kitchen below via the lift, updated bar and refrigeration and expansive Swan River views from panoramic windows. This is subject to final tender costings and budgets but if acted upon will provide the signature facility of the Club with a view over the grounds to the river that is unequalled.

The Marina and Site Masterplan group is looking at whole-of-precinct projects and directions that aim to benefit the Club in the future. These include improved pedestrian and vehicular access into the Club, increased parking availability, rationalisation of hardstand and marina berths, sustainable power supply and refurbishment of the slipway amenity.

As a response to updated Work Health and Safety Laws our Risk and Assurance group is currently reviewing the Club's position on exposure to risk and its management. Operational, financial and reputational risk are currently the focus but other considerations such as external risks

and compliance are also included. The ambition is to update all policies and registers as soon as possible and continue our registration of any risks when identified.

I thank all staff and Committees for their great work during the Club year and commend them for the positive changes made to date and those that are still being progressed. ■

TIM CUMMINS

VICE COMMODORE



WITH THE SUMMER SAILING season concluding, the Club remains busy even as we move into the cooler months. Frostbite sailing is underway, the power time triallers are competing at Club and State level and the unwavering St Ayles skiffs are continuing to brave the chilly mornings.

For those members who may not be aware, the Club also conducts other regular activities such as chess and bridge groups in addition to monthly Monday trivia nights. Please get in touch with the Club if you would like to get involved with your fellow members.

HOUSE & SOCIAL

Following some great work and careful consultation by House Committee in conjunction with valuable input from Head Chef Derrick, I am pleased to report that a new member dining menu is now available. This menu combines a mix of member favourites, some well executed regular offerings and the introduction of a few new exciting dishes. This new extended menu can now be enjoyed anywhere within the Members Bar, Bowline Restaurant or out on the terrace and top lawn when the sun is shining creating a more relaxed dining experience. As always, House Committee is keen for feedback and we hope you enjoy the new format.

As you would have read recently, Brightspark Foundation has been selected

as our Club's community charity partner for the next two years. Brightspark Foundation is dedicated to funding Western Australian based scientific research into child health. Funding the early stages of research into child health is fundamental to the advancement of knowledge and solutions to improve the wellbeing of children. The Club is very excited to partner with Brightspark Foundation and members will shortly see further initiatives to raise the profile and support for this very worthy cause.

The move to electronic communications has been adopted by the Club for many years now for environmental and sustainability reasons, however we do also recognise that important member publications such as Tidings Magazine can sometimes be lost amongst endless emails and other electronic communications. The Club is now offering an opt-in option for members who prefer a hard copy of Tidings to be posted to their homes. To opt in go to your My RFBYC > My Details > Member Interests > Tidings by Mail > Edit > Yes/No, or phone the Club.

MEMBERSHIP

It is with sadness that Life Member Mr John Walsh, a long serving Membership Committee member, recently passed away. Amongst various other volunteering roles including Honorary Treasurer at the Club, I would like to recognise John's contributions to Membership Committee. John served over a long period of time that included countless interviews with new members that he conducted in his own cheerful and informative way. He will be sadly missed.

The recent introduction of a Q&A panel discussion at New Members' Nights has been warmly received. The most recent being our own Suzzi Ghent and Cam Owen's insight into their respective sailing careers, in particular their domination of the World Hobie 16 Open and Masters World Championships. It was a truly inspiring and entertaining evening. I would encourage all members to join the next New Members' Night to listen to the many stories and experiences our members have had both home and abroad.

As I pen this article, the Club is preparing for a town hall meeting open for all members who would like to hear about the proposed renovations to the Athol Hobbs Room and Campbell Deck. This project has long been planned and not only addresses critical maintenance and end of life items but also addresses challenges in terms of member access (with a lift), amenity and functionality. This exciting investment to our Clubhouse will update and refresh spaces to improve the overall standard and appearance in a manner sympathetic to the heritage of Cappoquin House. I encourage all members to attend this information evening, details of which will be circulated shortly. ■

MARTIN JURAT

REAR COMMODORE SAIL



THE SUMMER SEASON is over and there is lots to report on since the March Tidings. Prize night was fast and fun, congratulations to the winners. Thanks to Debbie Blaauw and Sharon Skinner for their great work organising seemingly endless but seamless presentations of more prizes than I can remember. Next year I aim to breathe during the announcements.

I had the pleasure of attending the dinghy prize night with fancy dress, table seating, magic tricks and dancing – a few ideas for the keelboats next year to make it a party night with awards. I'm looking forward to your ideas.

Since my previous article listing the winners in the Dragon States, an appeal was heard by Australian Sailing and the resulting decision flipped the top two places, with first place to Richard Lynn and second place to Willy Packer. Congratulations to both, and the Dragons for changing the silverware on the dock on closing day. Richard Lynn, Ethan Prieto-Low and Adam Brenz-Verca participated in the Dragon World Championships in Turkey and placed 11th.

RFBYC placed first and second in the State Youth Keelboat Championships with Marcello Torre (three males and three females) and Lucy Alderson (all females) skippering. Great to see the number of females sailing at RFBYC and Lucy also placed second at the State Women's Keelboat Championships.

Flying 15 Nationals and Worlds were a great success. Thank you to our volunteers and our Sailing Administrator Sharon Skinner, recognised for her outstanding contribution and professional delivery of the events. We achieved some great results too:

in the Nationals, Grant Alderson and Luke Paterson placed 2nd, Lachy Gilmour and Ryan Donaldson 6th, and Philippa Packer and Dean McAullay 8th. In the Worlds, Lachy Gilmour and Ryan Donaldson placed 3rd, Grant Alderson and Luke Paterson 7th, and Philippa Packer and Dean McAullay 8th.

In the Inter Club Keelboat Championships there were five teams competing and RFBYC was awarded 1st overall. It was nice to come away with top places in the individual sessions. Congratulations Team RFBYC:

- Veterans Team (1st): Grant Alderson, Dean McAullay, Philippa Packer, Luke Paterson, Gordon Blaauw, David Yu.

- Women's (4th): Lucy Alderson, Sophie Townes, Jenny Spearman, Pia Hooper, Sandy Anderson,

Caroline Gibson, Robyn Johnston.

- Open #1 (did not sail due to lack of wind): Will Boulden, Vass Katsaitis, Owen Ready, Will Drew, Alex Negri.

- Open #2 (1st): Ethan Prieto-Low, Raffie Torre, George Boulden, Adam Brenz-Verca, Jess Grimes, Sasha Epps.

Offshore has also been busy with *Cannonball* skippered by Dan Cannon first in Division 2 on IRC and second overall in IRC for the 59th Cape Naturaliste and Return Race. In the Exmouth Yacht Race David Davenport's TP52 *Crush* took out Line Honours and IRC overall.

The St Ayles Skiffs are always busy but mainly around dawn. In the Australian 5 Row Competition 15 teams competed including five from RFBYC. Entrants Australia-wide row in their home waters, their time is recorded in an App and the fastest over 5km wins. The *Flying Fish* team, consisting of Mark Endersby, Frederic Flippe, Andrew Sutherland, Freddie Butler and I were declared the National Champions.

Volunteers are the backbone of our Club and it was great to see John Anderson awarded the John Baron-Hay Gold Medal for Outstanding Contribution to Sailing in WA at the Ron Tough Yachting Foundation Awards evening. It is wonderful that John Anderson has been recognised for his amazing contribution and close to our hearts when the Gold Medal was renamed to include John Baron-Hay's name to honour his contribution as an RTYF board member and past Commodore and Vice Patron of RFBYC.

Over winter there is a lot of training and refresher courses offered for volunteers, including Arbitration, Protest Committee, Safety Boat courses, radio familiarisation, first aid, time keeping and mark laying. We need trained volunteers for most things and in particular have a shortage of mark layers. Don't hesitate to contact Debbie Blaauw, Sharon Skinner or myself and we can point you in the right direction. ■

JAMES KORNWEIBEL

REAR COMMODORE DINGHY



THAT'S A WRAP for Summer Season 2023 and thank you to all the sailors, volunteers and RFBYC Team who participated and supported all the on and off water activities over the season.

The Summer Season was well celebrated at the Disney themed Prize Night. Congratulations to all the sailors and placegetters for their achievements and those winning individual, club championship and consistency trophies. Further congratulations to Alex Molyneux on being awarded the Huck Scott Club Person of the Year award, Angus Cameron for the John Cassidy Most Improved Skipper, Alisdair Cameron for Marianne Stenz Most Valuable Crew, and Alex Eyles on being awarded One Sail's Most Improved Junior Sailor.

As our dinghy fleets grow there is an increasing need to reconfigure and support our members who required dinghy storage at

the Club. To help alleviate the short-term boat park storage, the Bosun and his team have built WASZP storage racks which enables WASZP stacking creating more space for additional dinghies in that area.

You will also notice the DTC Fitness centre is now fitted out with new equipment. Look in the upcoming Gybe Sheet and Dinghy Digest for upcoming fitness classes and further information about how to gain access to the equipment.

There is no rest for many of our sailors. The Winter Series kicked-off on the back of the Summer season with over 105 boats competing. It is great to see good fleet numbers across Optimists, Lasers and 29ers and strong growth in the

Foiling Windsurfers and Wing Foils.

I am pleased to share that RFBYC will be hosting the 2024 Mirror Nationals from 27–30th December. This is a great opportunity for our sailors to compete in a national level of competition on our doorstep and encourage sailors to see how they can get involved. If you would like to try a Mirror, please reach out to Peter Judge (Mirror Fleet Captain), the DTC team, or myself.

Thank you all for your support over the summer season and looking forward to the winter racing and preparation for next summer. ■

GEOFF WELLS

REAR COMMODORE POWER



OUR CAMP QUALITY DAY ON 2 April was a great success with 13 boats being made available to take 21 well deserving families (111 people in total) out for a morning river cruise to the harbour and then back for a nice lunch on the upper lawn.

Many thanks to all the skippers who made themselves, their boat, and their crew available to help on the day. It is this spirit of community that makes our Club a great place to be.

The 2023 Time Trialling season is now well underway. Unfortunately, the weather wasn't too kind on our Opening Day resulting in the festivities being moved to the Roland Smith Room. That didn't stop a great afternoon of food and entertainment which morphed into the evening's Coronation party. With the big screen on the lawn and plenty of Coronation quiche and cake available we welcomed our new King and Queen.

Our Opening Day time trial was won by *Kizuri*,

Evan Moore and Alison Clegg, closely followed by *Gusto*, Robert and Adam Hancock, and *Sirius*, David Groucutt and Don Tregonning. Getting into the season proper we have had two handicap wins by *Kizuri* and one by *Tigkey*, Lachlan and Lorna Lewis. *Havana*, Tim Cummins and Ken Stevenson, continues with their record of Least Points lost.

With regards to the Inter-Club State Time Trialling competition, Team RFBYC have had an excellent start. In Heat 1, *Havana* was victorious with only four points lost. Second was *Kizuri* then *Azure*, Stephen Lewis and Andrew Jordan, in fifth place. We did even better in the recent Heat 2, with *Havana* in first place,

Kizuri in second place, *Xindi*, Geoff Wells and Dianne Clarke, in third place and *Azure* in fifth. Well done to all those who have been competing so far, these are excellent results given we are competing in a field of around 40 power boats.

Rapidly approaching is our Social Cruise and Lunch on Saturday, 1 July. This year we are heading to The Point Bar & Grill. A two-course set menu for \$65 has been organised and we'll be providing the boats to take you to/from the lunch. All members and guests are welcome. Look for the email with booking details.

As I mentioned during my Opening Day speech, my Power Committee and I extend an invitation to any

members who would like to get involved in time trialling but are unsure of the first steps. We are happy to provide both on-land and on-water tuition, either on your own boat or with one of the regular competitors. It really is good competitive fun and a great way to use your boat and interact with other Club members during the winter. Don't forget we have great prizes each week for 1st, 2nd and 3rd along with a new initiative where you could win a \$75 Bowline voucher if you competed and are in the Bar when results are announced. I look forward to seeing you there.

below left: *Havana*, winner of CYP A State Heat 1 at SoPYC. Skippered by Tim Cummins with John Anderson as navigator

below: RFBYC taking out 1st, 2nd, 3rd and least points at the last CPYA State Heat at CYC



ST AYLES SKIFFS

SATURDAY 17 JUNE 2023



ST AYLES SKIFFS

YOU WANT ME TO ROW ALL THE WAY TO GUILDFORD?



WHAT COULD POSSIBLY GO WRONG with a plan to have 25 Freshie members row to Guildford and back in the middle of June? mmmm...let me see...
WEATHER: Ten days out the Saturday was forecast with violent thunderstorms.
RIVER IN FLOOD: Record rain over June, possibly all surging down the river. What the hell... let's do it!

Two of our lovely Saint Ayles Skiffs (SAS), *Dotsie* and *Shadow*, were towed by RIBs to a beach by the Narrows on Saturday, June 17. The row from there to Guildford was in four stages, with crew changes at Claisebrook, Tranby and the Ascot Kayak Club. Coffee and munchies were available at each changeover spot to provide sustenance to weary muscles. As it turned out the weather was wonderful on both days and the heavy rains had, for the most part, not made it yet into the river system.

Your scribe had put together various snippets of history and points of interest for the coxswains to read out as we gracefully slid by various landmarks. Alas, the chatter on each skiff usually drowned out the cox's dulcet tones. There is something about the SAS that attracts a splendid group of people, and the

assembled 25 on this excursion were certainly testimony to that!

On arrival at Guildford, we left the boats at the Grammar boatshed overnight and decamped to the Rose and Crown hotel. As the oldest operating hotel in WA, it took us back to a wilder time in the colony's history. There is a historic 200m tunnel to the river to bring grog...it was too dangerous to transport it in plain sight!

Dinner and drinks were served in the cellar below the Rose and Crown. With barely 2 metres of 'freeboard' John Longley had to duck as he wandered around networking. Charles Colvin gave a splendid rendition of Banjo Paterson's 'A Bush Christening' in memory of our recently passed John Walsh who was so involved in the SAS phenomenon. The great acoustics amplified a rousing rendi-

tion of the Catalpa song honouring the brazen escape of the 6 Fenians in 1876, initially in a rowboat not much longer than our SAS skiffs.

Sunday morning saw us in the hands of Gay Sweeney from the Guildford Historical Society who led us around historic Guildford imparting many snippets about this earliest of European settlement in WA. She stressed the major river traffic from Guildford to the coast in the 1850's. There are still plenty of examples of architecture from this early period, but one recent addition is a stunning statue of a WW1 soldier astride his horse.

Time for the return trip and we glided back down the river helped by about half a knot of current. At Claisebrook we hitched the boats to RIBs and towed them back to Freshie after rowing about 40km. Another great weekend of rowing! ■

Gill



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RFBYC CHARITY SUPPORT BRIGHTSPARK FOUNDATION



SUPPORTING OUR WIDER community is an important ongoing commitment by Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club and we would like to thank all RFBYC members who nominated a charity to be considered for the inaugural two year charity partnership.

The response was excellent with 21 submissions received.

After careful consideration by House Committee and General Committee it is with great pleasure that we advise our members

the membership that BrightSpark Foundation has been chosen as our 2023-2025 charity partner.

Keep an eye on Front of House, Gybe Sheet and other communications from the Club to get involved

with the fundraising efforts and to find out more about how the BrightSpark Foundation is changing the lives of children in our community.

We look forward to your support.

The BrightSpark Foundation is dedicated to funding Western Australian based scientific research in child health. Funding the early stages of research into child health diseases is fundamental to the advancement of knowledge and solutions to improve the wellbeing of children. Since establishment in 1977, the BrightSpark Foundation has supported hundreds of WA based researchers to investigate child health projects.

'BrightSpark Foundation – supporting WA's emerging medical researchers to solve child health challenges'

VISION

To make a difference to the health of children and their families, by funding emerging WA-based researchers who have 'bright' ideas for improving child health.

MISSION

To identify leading WA-based researchers, with a focus on emerging talent, and increase merit-based funding for their scientific endeavours into child health related illnesses.

**Bastille Day
Dinner and Show**

\$130 pp

An evening not to be missed!

Friday 14 July
Roland Smith Room 6.30pm

Proudly supporting BrightSpark Foundation

Ticket Includes:
Canapes
Glass of sparkling on arrival
2 white and 2 red wines per table
Three-course sit down dinner

Live entertainment by Catherine Summers

Dress code: Black tie or lounge suit
Bookings: 9286 8200

Catherine's voice is a blend of deep raspy Amy Winehouse, soft mellow breathy Diana Krall and a powerful bluesy Joss Stone! She never fails to deliver playful singing spirited live music.



Bernard Huybens

*from the
Mediterranean
to Singapore*

Aphrodite

SAILING THE INDIAN OCEAN WITH KAY COTTEE AO



The GFC did offer opportunities: for example the fire sale of boats in Spain. One day my boss, who owns a JPK FC 38 ft racing yacht, calls me from Germany: ‘Bernard, I saw this beautiful red yacht in the marina of Palma in Majorca. She is for sale. Why don’t you go and look at her?’ A few phone calls later I understood that the owner, Martin Varsavski, had been gently asked by his banks to come up with cash quickly. Leverage can be your friend or your enemy. Martin is a serial entrepreneur, ‘young, rich and restless’ according to Forbes. And to make a long and complicated story short, after an inspection in Gibraltar, I end up the owner of the 92ft *Aphrodite* built in 1993 by Vitters shipyard (www.vitters.com). She is designed by Andre Hoek (www.hoekdesign.com)—these two names make for a serious pedigree—but the real inspiration are the famous Olin Stephens’ ketches like *Kialoa III*, *Sayula* winner of the first Whitbread, *Eb Tide*, *Cyclos II*, *Victoria of Strathearn*, etc. The Nautor Swan 82ft ketch by S&S shows similar deck layout, rig and hull lines.

I live in Singapore so next came the issue of bringing the boat to Asia. Transport by cargo being outrageously expensive, I contacted a friend who delivers boats. Simon tells me no problem: we sail from the Mediterranean through the Red Sea and then on to the Maldives and Phuket in Thailand. A trip of 6200nm or six to eight weeks. At the

image: the Rock of Gibraltar as Aphrodite sets out to Singapore

time piracy from Somalia was making this passage very dangerous. Simon tells me he will call his ex-SAS friends to join the delivery. The plan was to buy Kalashnikovs in Egypt and to scare the Somali pirates away.

My insurance company did not like the idea and told me to hire a specialised accredited security team, the cost of which was very high at the time.

The alternative was to sail the classic route from the Mediterranean to Cape Town, then to go to 38–40 degrees south to catch the strong westerlies.

This is called the Brouwer Route, discovered by a captain of the VOC (United Dutch East India Company) on one of the trips to Batavia from Holland to get spices from the Indonesian islands of the Banda Sea and Halmahera. The Dutch were selling them at huge profits in Europe. Traditionally, ships stopped in Cape Town and sailed north after the Cape of Good Hope, with variable winds and slow passages.

Captain Henrik Brouwer in 1610 got into a storm in the South Atlantic



Ocean and the winds pushed him to 40–45 degrees south. He encountered the strong westerly winds of the Roaring Forties. After his stop in Cape Town, he decided to go south again because he figured out that he would find the same westerly winds in the Indian Ocean (the location of the West Australian coast, discovered by Dirk Hartog in 1616, was not known to Europeans at that

time). The new route halved the time to reach Batavia. Henrik Brouwer's ships sailed where no ship had sailed before. Just imagine that. I am sure they kept 'a good lookout at all times'!

Aphrodite was berthed in the Burriana marina North of Valencia, next to the Whitbread yacht *Merit*. Through a chance





British sailors. One member of the crew was a young and fit Australian soldier who was taking a long service leave after 10 years with the SAS including several tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan. He had never sailed before but was a quick learner. He was very fit!

The start of the voyage was not easy as *Aphrodite* encountered strong Southerly winds when entering the Atlantic Ocean, breaking most of the Wedgwood bone china tableware service when a cupboard door opened. This was not the first time Wedgwood china travelled by sail to Asia: In 1792, the English monarch George III sent an Embassy headed by Earl Macartney of Lissanore to China in an attempt to negotiate a preferential treaty of commerce and friendship with the Qianlong Emperor. One of the gifts to the emperor was Wedgwood china.

More favourable winds followed and *Aphrodite* sailed as close as 200nm from the eastern point of Brazil before veering SE to reach Cape Town on 3 December. A seven week non-stop trip of 6900nm across the

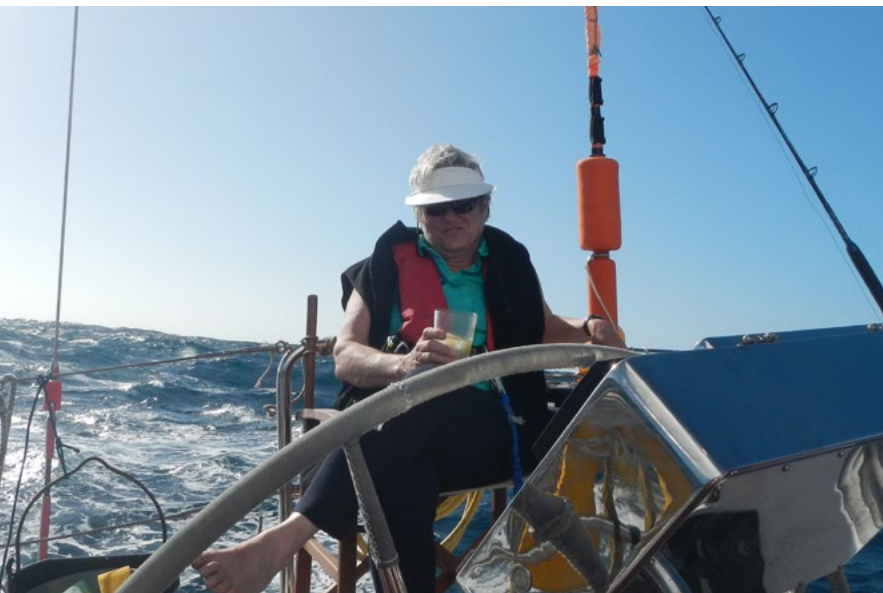


contact, we were able to buy second hand gear from the Volvo 70 *Pirates of the Caribbean*, including sails with large skulls! The trip to the supermarket the week before was truly epic and included several Spanish hams at EUR40 each. Food for seven crew for eight weeks!

Aphrodite left for the long voyage on 15 October 2013, with Simon and a crew of six Australians and



top: fuel dock Valencia; bottom far left: Cape Town with Table Mountain; middle: skull sails on Pirates of the Caribbean; right: *Aphrodite* next to Whitbread yacht Merit



Canary Islands, close to the Cape Verde Islands, almost touching Brazil and through the doldrums or horse latitudes.

In Cape Town, only three crew stayed on the boat and four new crew from Australia joined *Aphrodite*, including our celebrated Kay Cottee AO. Kay Cottee AO (née McLaren, born 25 January 1954) is the first woman to sail a single-handed, non-stop and unassisted circumnavigation of the world. She performed this feat in 1988 in her 37ft (11m) yacht *Blackmores First Lady*, taking 189 days. Since 1988 she hadn't done much long distance sailing.

The North Sails loft of Cape Town took care of sail repairs and the galley was restocked with excellent and cheap South African wines. Two weeks after arrival, *Aphrodite* left Cape Town and sailed to 38–40 degrees South.

Favourable Westerly winds, and an Indian Ocean with surprisingly little wave height made for a much easier trip. On one run, the sheets were not touched for 2,000nm. The

trip to Bali of 5800nm was done in a respectable 28 days or an average speed of more than 8 knots. Maximum wind was 45kn and *Aphrodite* regularly reached speeds of 14kn. Days on end albatrosses were following *Aphrodite*, soaring up and down with only slight changes of their wings. Their heart beat is the same as when they are on land.

Aphrodite did not have any major gear or mechanical issues, a testament to the quality of her build. She sailed with a fairly small 100% genoa, a staysail and in-mast furled main and mizzen sail, an asymmetrical spinnaker and a mizzen asymmetrical. Because of the small genoa, she needed 12kn of wind to get going. I now have an 135% genoa, and she sails in 8kn winds with decent speed.

After the end of the voyage in Lombok, our young soldier decided not to return to the army and started a Mine Rescue Course in Perth. My wife and I met his new local girlfriend for dinner at Steve's in Nedlands. He later told us that he proposed to her by giving her an iron ore sample. He is now married into

West Australian mining royalty. They have two young daughters and live in a penthouse on Bondi Beach.

Aphrodite has been used on family trips in Lombok, the Anambas archipelago and Phuket. My 84 year old mother joined a week cruise in Phang Nga Bay in Phuket. She—the boat, not my mother—has done several seasons of charter in the Mergui archipelago with Burma Boating (www.burmaboating.com). Covid-19 forced her to stay in harbour for almost three years; that was very painful. On the cards is exploring further east in Indonesia: Komodo, the Banda sea and Raja Ampat in particular.

Aphrodite will participate in the Phuket Kings Cup this year with several members of RFBYC on the crew. She has a new set of Doyle sails in Contender Fibercon Pro-Hybrid – a woven Dacron with 30% dyneema fibers. The previous set of sails has lasted 15 years and were a bit tired. Previously when my skipper told me that we needed new sails I told him that if they still have three sides they are fine.

above: Kay Cottee mid Indian Ocean and surprisingly little wave height in the Indian Ocean;
this image: Albatross seen from the deck





Aphrodite is now offering charters in the Anambas archipelago located 155nm NE of Singapore from May to October. The Anambas are 255 islands in a square of 100 x 100km. Multiple bays, anchorages, crystal clear water, coral and white beaches with almost no tourism. The other season she charters in the Mergui archipelago of Burma or in Phuket Langkawi.

These islands in the South China Sea were first explored in 1825 by Hyacinthe de Bougainville with the corvette *Thetis*. He was the son of Louis Antoine de Bougainville, contemporary of James Cook, who is the first Frenchman to sail around the world in 1764 on the corvette *La Boudeuse* (the Sulky One). Hyacinthe later visited Sydney as related in the book 'The Governor's noble guest: Hyacinthe de Bougainville's account of Port Jackson, 1825 translated and edited by Marc Serge Riviere.' He was received by the governor Sir Thomas Brisbane.

As a young officer Hyacinthe de Bougainville was on the crew of the ship *Geographe* of the Nicolas Bau-

din expedition in 1800 – 1803 and he sailed the West Australian coast (see <https://museum.wa.gov.au/fc/aos/dj> for an account of the expedition). The second ship of the expedition, the *Naturaliste* was captained by Jacques Hamelin who explored the Swan River. They made beautiful drawings. The expedition brought back kangaroos from Kangaroo Island were kangaroos were tame as they had never been hunted as well as black swans. In France the animals were given to Josephine, the wife of Napoleon. She kept them at her country house of Malmaison two hours south of Paris (you can visit the Chateau de la Malmaison). When Napoleon came to see his wife he was bored and was shooting the swans. Luckily, he was a very bad shot.

Bougainville was a colleague of lieutenant Thomas Vasse who drowned in the surf near the location of Busselton in 1801. The river Vasse is named after him.

Guests can join *Aphrodite* in the Anambas by flying from Batam to Letung in



the Anambas. Batam is an hour ferry ride from Singapore. RFBYC members will get a solid discount off the list price. Contact me on gbhuybens@gmail.com or via our website www.aphrodite92.com

If you fly from Perth to Singapore on the 11:45am flight you can have breakfast on *Aphrodite* the following morning at 10am anchored in a magnificent bay near Letung airport.

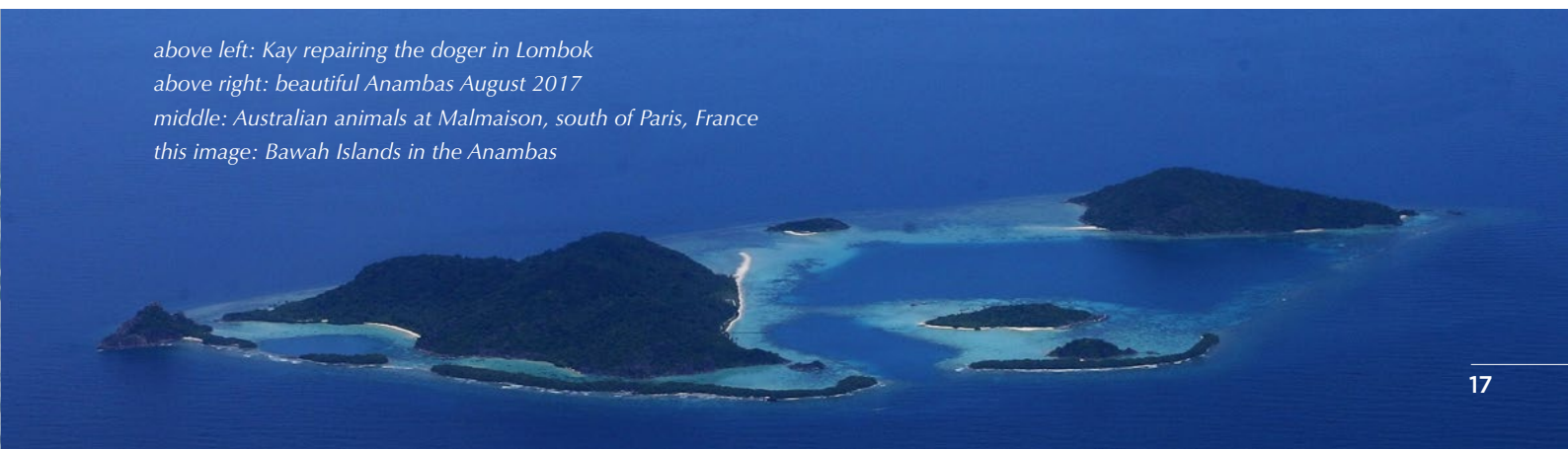
I look forward to seeing you on *Aphrodite*. ■

above left: Kay repairing the doger in Lombok

above right: beautiful Anambas August 2017

middle: Australian animals at Malmaison, south of Paris, France

this image: Bawah Islands in the Anambas



FOR SALE
'BLACKBIRD'
ADAMS 10



Friendly price to the right buyer

New mast • Carbon pole and carbon bowsprit • Latest sail wardrobe from UKSailmakers, including asymmetrical kites • Below deck harken roller headsail • Lazy jacks for convenience • New Yamaha high torque 4 stroke outboard • This boat is well set up for Div 1 club racing or perfect for twilighting with large cockpit and stable heavy keel

Martin Webster 0409 097 071

Couta

Couta Boat 'Kasey' 26
Classic Wooden Boat

\$40,000



Designed: Ken Lacco
Built: Mick Riley
Usage: Pleasure, Competition
Launched: Victoria, 1986
Refurbished: Western Australia, 2010

Call for a viewing located at
Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club:
Peter Ferry 0411 886 252
(Current Share Holder)

FOR SALE
'Margarita'
POWERBOAT NORTHSHORE 37



FOR SALE \$75,000

The beautiful 'Margarita' is for sale. This iconic Northshore 37 is great for River and Rotto trips, and penned at the Club. A fantastic opportunity to get into boating at a low cost.
6 berths | kitchen | bathroom

Brian McConnell 0450 442 939

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rfbyc

Training Opportunities

- VOLUNTEERS
- COACHES
- INSTRUCTORS



01



PROVIDE FIRST AID & CPR REFRESHER

- Wednesday, 7 June
- Saturday, 10 June



02



RECREATIONAL SKIPPERS TICKET

- Commencing Monday, 12 June
- Commencing Tuesday, 11 July over three days



03



POWER BOAT HANDLING COURSE

- Saturday, 24 June
- Saturday, 22 July



04



SAFETY BOAT OPERATOR COURSE

- Saturday, 1 July
- Saturday, 5 August



Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club
www.rfbyc.asn.au
training@rfbyc.asn.au

For further information and to register:

- <https://www.revolutionise.com.au/rfbyc/events/>
- Contact: Training Centre Team on (08) 9286 8211



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EXPEDITIONS

Sail into Uncharted Luxury with Eclipse Expeditions.

Experience the pinnacle of sailing luxury as you embark on an extraordinary Kimberley adventure aboard our brand new Leopard 50 catamaran.

Accommodating 8 guests in 4 beautifully appointed ensuite cabins, prepare to be captivated by the perfect blend of opulence, exclusivity, and exhilarating exploration on our bespoke multi-day sailing tours.



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RARE OPPORTUNITY
CLASSIC WOODEN DRAGON
'SOLENT'
P.O.A.

She is a competitive boat having all the latest 'go fast' gear (including a complete set of sails) but also likes a gentle sail with easy to manage trim systems • Honduras mahogany hull with teak deck and floor. Exquisite craftsmanship. Launched in 1965. Beautifully maintained with refit in December 2019. (She has been at the Club since 1982 and it would be wonderful to keep her here)

Contact **Jeff Sinton** jsinton@iinet.net.au
 or **0407 383 544**

John Baron-Hay GOLD MEDAL
 Outstanding Contribution to Sailing in WA

John Anderson

- Commodore, Vice-Commodore & Rear-Commodore RFBYC, 2000-06
- YWA Administrator of the Year 2002
- Accredited Sailing Judge WA 2014 - 2023
- Protest Committee for Club, State and National Championships, RFBYC Club Arbitrator
- On-water umpire and protest committee for West Sail
- Championship (Gains) ISAF Team Racing World Championship 2007-09
- On-water volunteer for ISAF "Perth 2011" Pre-Olympic Sailing Championships, 2010-11
- Treasurer and Secretary of Flying Fifteen International, Australia 1981-83, 1987-90
- Treasurer, Secretary and President of Flying Fifteen International, WA 1980-89. Life member
- Treasurer and Committee, International Dragon Australasian and World Championship Organising Committee 2016- 2019 and responsible for all on-water and administrative management of the Championship in 2019
- Volunteer coordinator for the Flying Fifteen National and World Championships and responsible for all on-water administrative management of the Championship in 2023.

Responsibility in Establishing:

- YAWAIS High Performance Programme
- BWA's Joint Ketchboat Programme
- International Commodores' Forum
- Warren Jones Youth Regatta at RFBYC

GOLD AND BRONZE

2023 RON TOUGH YACHTING FOUNDATION AWARDS

IT WAS WONDERFUL TO SEE SPECIAL MEMBER, John Anderson awarded the 'John Baron-Hay Gold Medal' for outstanding contribution to sailing in WA at the 2023 Ron Tough Yachting Foundation (RTYF) Awards presentation. Congratulations John, truly well-deserved for your commitment and amazing service to our sport of sailing over 30+ years.

John was instrumental in the creation of the High-Performance program in WA, the Bakewell-White 8 (BW8) Program, and has been (and continues to do so) heavily involved in administration for sailing as well as volunteering on-water for many State, National and International events.

It was also really special and close to our hearts when the RTYF announced the renaming of the

Gold Medal to the 'John Baron-Hay Gold Medal' in memory of John Baron-Hay who was a past RTYF Board member, Life member, past Commodore and Vice Patron of RFBYC.

Junior member, Brenn Armstrong was recognised for his outstanding competitive sailing in the O'pen Skiff class and was presented with the RTYF Bronze medal. In January 2023, Brenn won the O'pen

Skiff National Championships. Well done, Brenn. Can't wait to see where sailing takes you in the future.

It was great to see so many sailors from WA awarded grants to assist with further developing their sailing skills. A big thank you to RTYF for their continued and generous support of sailing in WA. ■

below: the Board with Gold Medal Winner 2023, John Anderson; opposite page clockwise: Brenn Armstrong – 2023 RTYF Bronze Medal with Philippa Packer (RTYF Chairman) and Bette Baron-Hay; Brenn with Mum and Chelsea Hall; Grant Recipients; John Anderson – RTYF Gold Medal Winner 2023 with Philippa Packer (RTYF Chairman) and Bette Baron-Hay; award winner details.



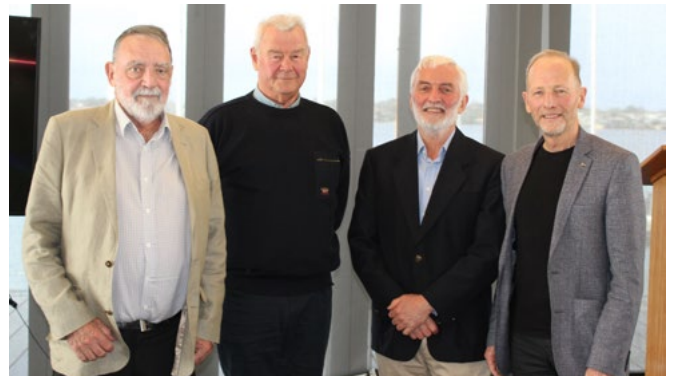
OVER 30 CREW LUNCH

23 JUNE 2023



OVER 30 CREW LUNCH

GUEST SPEAKER, KIM SWARBRICK



KEELBOAT CHAMPIONS PRIZE NIGHT



KEELBOAT CHAMPIONS PRIZE NIGHT



DINGHY PRIZE NIGHT



DINGHY PRIZE NIGHT

THE 2023 DINGHY PRIZE NIGHT on Friday 26 May was well-attended, with the Disney theme inspiring some elaborate and imaginative costumes. Congratulations to all our prize winners, and special thanks to MC Andrew Gill and Rear Commodore James Kornweibel for hosting the evening. We look forward to doing it all again next year!



DINGHY PRIZE NIGHT CONTINUED



TRAVEL GRANTS INFORMATION

RFBYC Travel Grants are awarded to assist and encourage our members to participate at national and international competitions. The funds are derived from member donations and are awarded to help offset the costs incurred when travelling away. The following members received travel grants between April and June 2023:

APPLICANTS	CLASS/TEAM	EVENT NAME	AMOUNT
XAVIER BATES	ILCA 6	KIEL WEEK, ILCA 6 YOUTH WORLD & EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS	\$950.00
MAX GODFROY	MOTH	MOTH NATIONAL & WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, FOILING WEEK (ITALY)	\$700.00
ADAM BRENZ-VERCA	DRAGON	TURKISH NATIONAL & WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS	\$650.00
KIERAN BUCKTIN	ELLIOT 7	NATIONAL SAILING LEAGUE FINALS	\$300.00
MIA LOVELADY	ELLIOT 7	NATIONAL SAILING LEAGUE FINALS	\$300.00
VASSILIS KATSAITIS	ELLIOT 7	NATIONAL SAILING LEAGUE FINALS	\$300.00
MARCELLO TORRE	MATCH RACING	GOVERNOR'S CUP	\$450.00
ETHAN PRIETO-LOW	DRAGON	TURKISH NATIONAL & WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS	\$650.00
THOMAS COOPER	OPTIMIST	2023 EAST COAST REGATTA	\$300.00
			\$4,600.00



ARGONAUT NATURAL RESOURCES FUND

Rated "Top Performing Australian Equity Long-Only Fund" by Morningstar

FY2021

+56%

FY2022

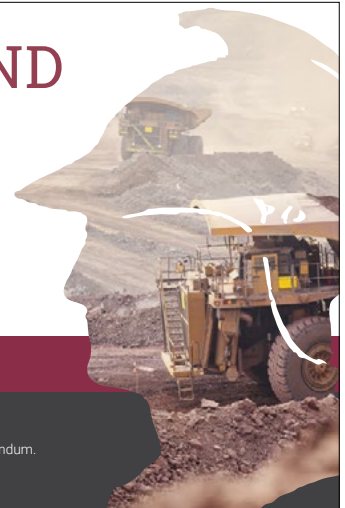
+44%

FY2023
(Year to date)

+27%

Since Inception
(Jan 2020)

+202%



Open to Sophisticated Investors (\$50,000 min). To register interest, call **08 9224 6888** or scan the **QR code**.

* Fund performance figures through 31 March 2023. Morningstar rating is for calendar year ending 30 September 2022. Past performance is not indicative of future performance. Argonaut Funds Management Pty Ltd (ACN 101 152 863) ANRF, AFSL No. 224815. AFM Artemis Pty Ltd (ACN 635 051 615) is the Investment Manager of ANRF, and Corporate Authorised Representative (No. 1277645) of Argonaut Securities Pty Ltd (ACN 108 330 650), AFSL No. 274099. ANRF is a Wholesale Only Fund. Investors should refer to the ANRF Investment Memorandum.

argonautfundsmanagement.com

MEMBERSHIP

NEW CLUB MEMBERS



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

We welcome new applications for membership.

Applications need to be endorsed by two current members with at least five years of eligible membership. Further information about completing an application for membership is available on the Club website, or by contacting the Membership Coordinator for assistance.

Go to rfbyc.asn.au or scan the code.

DATES TO BE AWARE OF:

- Submit completed application forms to the Club by the last Monday of the month.
- General Committee reviews applications on the last Tuesday of the month. Successful applicants are selected into the process of becoming a member.
- Names of the applicants for membership are displayed on the Ballot Sheet (except Juniors).
- Applicants for Ordinary and Reciprocal membership will be invited to attend an interview with the Membership Committee, usually on the second Monday of the following month.
- All membership applications which progress to the final stage of the membership process will be ratified by General Committee on the last Tuesday of the month.
- Applications for Junior membership are not required to go through the selection process and are tabled at the next General Committee meeting for election (last Tuesday of the month).

If you would like assistance with our membership process or have a few questions about the Club activities and benefits of membership please get in touch with Susan, our Membership Coordinator. Use the contact form on our website, phone the Club (9286 8200) or send an email to membership@rfbyc.asn.au.



MEMBERSHIP

NEW CLUB MEMBERS

ORDINARY

Member	Proposer	Secunder
Tilly Rowell	Lucy Alderson	Grant Alderson
Ronald de Roo	John Royce	Past Commodore Dean McAullay
John Newall	Robert Black	Dan Fisher
Sophie Raven	Past Commodore Dean McAullay	Simon King
James Phillips	Jock Packer	Arthur Phillips
Denis Watson	Derek Gascoine	Stretton Joel
Chris Stavrianou	John Poynton AO	Andrew Stavrianou
Julia Flipo	Frederick Flipo	David Michael
James Flipo	Glenn Whiddon	Frederick Flipo
Shane Farrell	Liam Forrester	Nick Syme
Sam Matyear	Gavin Chapman	Chris Kelly
John Brooksby	Grant Pearce	John Hocking
Josephine Bedetti	Vice Patron Peter Ahern	Chaya Ahern
Rosalind Potts	Rory Argyle	Robert Black
Jess Grimes	Ethan Prieto-Low	Lachy Gilmour
Edward Hamersley	Sean Martin	James Healy
Adam Hamersley	Sean Martin	James Healy
Jane Miels	Alistair Brogan	Tim Mahony

ASSOCIATE

Member	Proposer	Secunder
Selma de Roo	John Royce	Past Commodore Dean McAullay
Andrea Jane-Thompson	Peter Thompson	Peter Smith
Lisa Begley	Andrew Jordan	Justin Boelen
Laura Freeman	Luke Paterson	Nick Gray
Sasha Epps	John Low	Vice Patron Peter Ahern
Kate Ryan	Gavin Ryan	Bill Foster
Emma Hannaford	John Black	John Hannaford
Paul Williams	Past Commodore Dean McAullay	Simon King
Tim Arnold	Sean Martin	Martin Ashby
Retha Dutton	Sean Martin	Paul Stark
Gino Bedetti	Vice Patron Peter Ahern	Chaya Ahern
Soraya Chapman	Gavin Chapman	Glen Matyear
Michelle Matyear	Glen Matyear	Gavin Chapman
Jane Whiddon	David Michael	Chris Michael

RECIPROCAL

Member	Proposer	Secunder
Michael Ledger	Gerard Hardisty	Alex O'Beirne
Reece Tripi	Peter Ryan	Richard Baird
Peter Gibbs	John Longley AM	Doug Kerr

JUNIOR MEMBERS

Member	Member	Member
Bodie Blackwell	Lorens Groot	Melle Groot
Kai Holloway	Charlie Johnson	Marc-Alexander Fifis Petyuk
Alby Thompson		

MEMBERSHIP NEW CLUB MEMBERS



VALE 2023 PAST CLUB MEMBERS

CONDOLENCES are extended to the families of the following Members whose recent passing is known to the Club

Life Member John Walsh 1938–2023, joined in 1967, elected as Life member 2016;
Harold Durant 1922–2023, joined in 1983; Tony Fitz-Gibbon 1953–2023, joined in 1983, resigned 2022;
David Nelson 1957–2023, non-member acknowledged by the Club due to service in the sailing community.

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS' NIGHT



NEW MEMBERS' NIGHT

Held in March in the Members' Bar, we introduced another great group of members and heard from a member couple as our guest speakers. Cameron Owen and Susan Ghent shared their individual journeys in the sport of sailing and how they came together as a team, achieving their ultimate goal in the sport in 2022. They gave an insight into their Club community and what membership of Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club means to them. At the request of the Vice Commodore they gave up their secret to doing well in sailing, to have fun!

This was followed by the introduction of our newest members, announced by Jenny Spearman. The evening finished up with our traditional bell ring and time for the guests to mingle and meet their fellow members. Our New Members' Nights are not to be missed, a lot of fun and a great opportunity to meet your fellow members. Always with an excellent dinner in the Bowline too. Keep an eye on the Club calendar and member email communications to find out about the upcoming New Members' Nights at RFBYC.

Do you have a friend who is thinking about membership of the Club? Well get them in! It is a great time to be part of our Club community, we welcome applications for membership. If you have any questions or would like some help with the process, please contact our Membership Coordinator. ■

Annual Combined MESS NIGHT

DATE: FRIDAY, 1 SEPTEMBER 2023

WHERE: ROYAL FRESHWATER BAY YACHT CLUB

TIME: EVENING COMMENCES AT
7:00PM AT RFBYC. GUESTS
TO BE SEATED AT 7:25PM

DRESS: MESS DRESS OR BLACK
TIE WITH MINIATURES,
COCKTAIL DRESS FOR
LADIES

COST: \$110 PER PERSON
INCLUDING DINNER, BEER,
WINE AND SOFT DRINKS

BOOK: PHONE 9286 8200
OR RFBYC@RFBYC.ASN.AU



Some helpful hints to make sure you have a fantastic night at the Combined Mess Night.

Mess Etiquette and Protocol

Diners are asked to observe the following matters of etiquette and protocol.

- After moving into the dining room, please remain standing until the Dining President is seated.
- While Grace is being said, all diners are to remain seated.
- After meals have been served, please wait for the Dining President to commence eating.
- Apart from a possible recess, until the "Loyal Toast" has been honoured, please do not stand up or leave the dining table.
- When honouring the "Loyal Toast", in accordance with Naval Tradition, please remain SEATED. Diners who do not drink Port may drink water.



SIR JAMES HARDY OBE A YACHTING GREAT HAS PASSED



bottom image: Sir James Hardy and Tony Manford. The friendship between Jim and Tony began in 1949 when they competed against each other as juniors in the Cadet Dinghy class in Adelaide for the Stonehaven Cup which was awarded to the winner of the Australian Championship. Tony won the event.

AUSTRALIA HAS LOST ONE of its yachting greats. Sir James Hardy OBE has passed away on the 15 June 2023.

Born in South Australia in 1932, he began working in the wine business for the famous Hardy's family brand name. He progressed through a variety of roles and eventually served as chairman of the family company that produced some of the nation's most popular wine brands. The company released a sparkling wine range in his honour in the late 1980s.

He will be better remembered by anyone that sails as having a sailing pedigree that stands out.

EARLY CAREER

In his early sailing career he:

- Won his first National Championship at the age of 16 in the Flying Dutchman Class.
- Was a reserve for the Tokyo 1964 Olympics
- Won the 505 Worlds in 1966 in Adelaide
- Competed in the Mexico 1984 Olympics
- Competed in four Admiral Cup Teams, winning with *Impetuous* in 1979

AMERICA'S CUP

In America's Cup history he was:

- Skipper of *Gretel II* in the 1970 America's Cup challenge

- Skipper of *Southern Cross* in the 1974 America's Cup challenge
- Skipper of *Australia* in the 1980 America's Cup challenge
- Reserve Helmsman for *Australia II* in the record breaking 1983 America's Cup win to Australia. His experience and expertise from previous campaigns was crucial to *Australia II* progressing through the Challenger Series with eight wins from nine races and on to challenge for the Cup itself.

ACHIEVEMENTS

He was awarded an OBE in 1975 and knighted in 1981 by Queen Elizabeth II for services to yachting and the community. In 1994 he was inducted to the America's Cup Hall of Fame and in 2000 he was awarded the Australian Sports Medal. In 2017 he was an inaugural inductee to the Australian Sailing Hall of Fame.

'Gentleman Jim' is and always will be one of the very best-known faces and names of Australian yachting.

He is survived by his wife Joan, brother David, sister Pamela, and sons David and Richard. ■

HAROLD VERNON DURANT

1922 – 2023



He was one of five children born to Bob and Mary Durant. His early passion was for bicycle riding and he represented his school (Fremantle Christian Brothers College) in the 1935 State Schoolboys Championships. When his Aunt May bought him a special bike in 1937 he won the Swansea State Consistency Trophy. His first job was for his brother's butcher shop in South Fremantle where on Saturday mornings he would load up a bicycle and deliver meat to seven local hotels. His father pressured him to stop racing, pointing out that Track racing was dangerous and an accident could jeopardise his brother's business. However, the offer of a job from Swansea Cycle and Motorbike

HAROLD was born in Beaconsfield WA on 4 February 1922 and died 12 May 2023. A remarkable life, living to 101 years old.

Company in Fremantle enabled him to continue in competition.

World War II came around and on 4 November 1941 Harold enlisted and after initial training was posted to 5th Australian Independent Company which later became 5th Australian Commando Squadron. Harold's exploits with the Commandos against the Japanese in PNG were hair raising and included a mission on his 21st birthday in pouring rain when he and a comrade were tasked with silencing a Japanese machine gunner. It was while on leave that he married his first wife Bettye. He was discharged 24 January 1946.

On returning from the war Harold found the scene in Fremantle had changed. Whereas before the war the port was a huge employer and everyone rode bicycles to work, after the war no one was interested in racing and the fraternity dwindled. Bicycles were no longer the preferred means of transport. Despite this he managed the WA Professional Track Team for two years which included taking the team to Davenport in 1955. In the 1960s he

resigned from Swansea and took on management of the BP service station and Avis agency opposite Shack Motors in Fremantle.

In 1983 he joined RFBYC and Chris Kelly sold him his S80 Yacht named *Ned Kelly* which enabled him to indulge his competitive spirit and love of the water. He subsequently sold this to a member of Princess Royal Sailing Club in Albany in order to purchase *Airborn*, a Sparkman and Stephens 36' in partnership with Bill Foster.

Bettye died in 1985 and he met Lynette Lovell in 1987 during the America's Cup Defence series. Lynn became a regular crew member on *Airborn*, particularly for twilight sailing at RFBYC and 'Cruising in Company' events. They married several years later.

Harold was a member of the Cottesloe sub branch of the RSL where he served as President, ably assisted by Lynn who was herself formerly a member of the Australian Army.

His life was one of achievement without fanfare! ■



VALE

JOHN FRANCIS WALSH

1938 – 2023



John joined the Club in 1967 and was a member for 56 years. John was elected as a Special Member in 1987 a Life Member in 2016.

John was kind, generous, humble and humorous. He was a great raconteur and took delight in telling stories well into the night. This included reciting Banjo Paterson's 'The Man from Snowy River' from memory.

Courageous and skilled, with many talents, he sometimes referred to himself as being a bit of a bushy and was the last man to ride a horse across the Fremantle traffic bridge.

John loved many things during his colourful life, his wife Di and their family; Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club, sailing as well as ocean racing, he was a stalwart of the Farrawa crew. He loved the great Australian outdoors and was fond of shiraz and

WITH DEEP SADNESS, the Club informs members of the passing of Life Member, John Walsh, on 30 May 2023.

single malt whiskey, to name but a few.

During his time at the Club he served as Honorary Treasurer and also provided expertise and input to numerous committees including General Committee, Sailing, Off-shore, House and Membership.

He was a long-time volunteer and gave his time freely as a member of both river and offshore start teams and managed the Twilight Start Teams over numerous summer seasons.

In 1986 Commodore Baron-Hay asked John if he could organise a regatta and typically the reply was 'Yes. I can do that. What is it all about?' The task was running the largest yachting regatta in the history of Australia: The Louis Vuitton Cup to select the challenger to RPYC for the America's Cup.

This involved some 14 nations competing against one another over a period of around three months. The 'Challenger of Record' was the Yacht Club Costa Smerelda based in Sardinia and whose Patron was the Aga Khan. It was a massive task involving many volunteers and boats and it all came together superbly.

He introduced the annual ANZAC Dawn Service to RFBYC with spectacular success and was an enthusiastic member of the St Ayles Skiff group. He participated in the build of the boats and towed Dotsie to a regatta in Geelong. He was a regular early morning rower.

A funeral service was held at St Columba's Catholic Church on Saturday 10 June, followed by a Celebration of Life at Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club in the Roland Smith Room. ■

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

11 JUNE	DINGHY WINTER SERIES RACE DAY 2 (PM)	13 JULY	MID WEEK WINTER SERIES
15 JUNE	MID WEEK WINTER SERIES	15 JULY	POWER YACHT CPYA STATE HEAT TIME TRIAL 4 (RFBYC)
17 JUNE	POWER YACHT CHARTER DAY PERPETUAL TROPHY TIME TRIAL	16 JULY	KEELBOAT WINTER FROSTBITE SERIES RACE 4 (PM)
18 JUNE	KEELBOAT WINTER FROSTBITE SERIES RACE 2 (PM)	20 JULY	MID WEEK WINTER SERIES
22 JUNE	MID WEEK WINTER SERIES	22 JULY	POWER YACHT CLUB TIME TRIAL
24 JUNE	POWER YACHT CPYA STATE HEAT TIME TRIAL 3 (RPHYC)	23 JULY	DINGHY WINTER SERIES RACE DAY 4 (AM)
25 JUNE	DINGHY WINTER SERIES RACE DAY 3 (PM)	27 JULY	MID WEEK WINTER SERIES
29 JUNE	MID WEEK WINTER SERIES	29 JULY 2023	POWER YACHT CPYA STATE HEAT TIME TRIAL 5 (SOPYC)
02 JULY	KEELBOAT WINTER FROSTBITE SERIES RACE 3 (AM)	03 AUGUST	MID WEEK WINTER SERIES
06 JULY	MID WEEK WINTER SERIES	05 AUGUST	POWER YACHT JOHN COWEN MEMORIAL TROPHY TIME TRIAL
08 JULY	POWER YACHT VICE PATRONS' TROPHY TIME TRIAL	06 AUGUST	KEELBOAT WINTER FROSTBITE SERIES RACE 5 (PM)
		10 AUGUST	MID WEEK WINTER SERIES - FLAG OFFICERS' WINTER CUP
		12 AUGUST	POWER YACHT CPYA STATE HEAT TIME TRIAL 6 (RPHYC)
		13 AUGUST	CLUB BEST REGATTA
		17 AUGUST	MID WEEK WINTER SERIES
		19 AUGUST	POWER YACHT CLUB TIME TRIAL
		20 AUGUST	KEELBOAT WINTER FROSTBITE SERIES RACE 6 (PM)
		24 AUGUST	MID WEEK WINTER SERIES
		27 AUGUST	POWER YACHT JM ZEFFERT PERPETUAL TROPHY TIME TRIAL (KYLIE CUP) INCORP. CPYA STATE HEAT 7
		27 AUGUST	DINGHY WINTER SERIES RACE DAY 5 (PM)
		31 AUGUST	MID WEEK WINTER SERIES
		02 SEPTEMBER	POWER YACHT PATHFINDER PERPETUAL TROPHY TIME TRIAL
		07 SEPTEMBER	MID WEEK WINTER SERIES
		09 SEPTEMBER	POWER YACHT CPYA STATE HEAT TIME TRIAL 8 (CYC)
		10 SEPTEMBER	DINGHY WINTER SERIES RACE DAY 6 (AM) FINAL
		14 SEPTEMBER	MID WEEK WINTER SERIES
		16 SEPTEMBER	POWER YACHT CLOSING DAY CLUB TIME TRIAL
		17 SEPTEMBER	KEELBOAT WINTER FROSTBITE SERIES RACE 7 (AM) FINAL
		21 SEPTEMBER	MID WEEK WINTER SERIES
		28 SEPTEMBER	MID WEEK WINTER SERIES

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2023 RFBYC Club Best Regatta For the Tom Worsley Perceptual Trophy



CLUB BEST REGATTA 2023

Sunday, 13 August 2023

A contest between fleets sailing in the BW8s
to find out which is the best fleet in the club

All fleets are encouraged to put an entry in
Entry Fee \$200 Notice of Race on Club Website
Expressions of Interest close Wednesday, 9 August 2023
Racing from 10am - RFBYC Members Only .



Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club | www.rfbyc.asn.au | 9286 8200
For further information email: sailadmin@rfbyc.asn.au