

DECEMBER 2022

TIDINGS

ROYAL FRESHWATER BAY YACHT CLUB

HOBIE 16 WORLD CHAMPIONS

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PUBLICATION

Registered by Australia Post

Publication No 63312300018

To contribute or advertise in the next issue send your copy by Friday 10 February 2023 to pr@rfbyc.asn.au

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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

The summer season is in full swing even though the weather doesn't always match!

Following another great Opening Day, we have held the annual Melbourne Cup luncheon, ICR Regatta, Rockingham Race Regatta and club racing for dinghies and keelboats has been well attended. Twilight sailing on Wednesday evenings has been popular and so has the new Twilight dining with live music. Even if you're not up for a Twilight sail on the Swan River, come along to enjoy a Wednesday evening at the Club.

There are plenty of reasons to visit RFBYC, keep an eye out for some of the shoreside options such as Summer Sunday Sessions, Trivia Nights and save the date for the Rock the Dock party (Friday 10 February).

We're on the water all year round, try jib and main keelboat racing on a Thursday afternoon, row with the St Ayles Skiff group or if you're ready for a challenge, check out the new foiling options at the Club and go for a fly!

See you at the Club.

rfbyc.asn.au

Connecting crew with yachts

We welcome new crew to come sailing with us. Using the Club app, members can post a Boat Profile if they are looking for crew and sailors can post a Crew Profile with their availability to crew on yachts in Club racing. Using SailPass through the member app, guests can come along and test the waters and its free! Visit the Club website for more information. SailPass information is in the On Water / Keelboat section.

75th Bunbury and Return Ocean Race

We will be celebrating the 75th race in February 2023. If you have any articles, stories or race history to share please get in touch with the Offshore Racing Administrator in the club office. The race start will be held off Fremantle on the morning of Saturday 11 February. We will display race history for the race opening function and in the clubhouse during the event.

What's on at the Club?

View the club calendar on the website or by logging in to the app. Book in to an evening out at the Club, register for a course or plan your summer season on the water.

Check out Front of House and Gybe Sheet (weekly club emails) to know what's on at RFBYC.

New Members' Night

We will take a break over the festive season and aim to hold the next New Members' function in February and again in March.

We welcome new applications for membership

Do you know that we now have an online application form? It's easier than ever to apply for membership of the Club. Members who would like to nominate a person for membership should have at least 5 years of membership themselves and can provide their details to the applicant. View more information about eligibility and the process on the membership page in Tidings or on the Club website.

Visit the membership section of the Club website by using the 'Join RFBYC' button or get in touch with our Membership Coordinator for assistance.



PETER CHALMER COMMODORE



VICE PATRON RON PACKER passed away recently and the Club will miss him greatly. He joined in 1962 and has held offices of Commodore, Life Member and Vice Patron in those years. He also served on many Boards including the Western Australian Yachting Foundation, Warren Jones Foundation and the Flying Fifteen Association.

Ron was highly respected for his knowledge, sailing ability, good humour and long-term commitment to the Club. His readiness to contribute wherever and whenever he could will continue to benefit our sailing into the future.

ENJOYING THE CLUB

As the summer is here more members, their guests and children are enjoying all the many benefits of the Club. An information bulletin went out to members in the last week of November which reminds members of their responsibilities under our By-laws. We all should be aware and adhere to the rules on behaviour, hats, thongs and mobile phones. These also include no more than 5 guests per member generally and that members are responsible for their guests' behaviour at all times when at the Club. Please save your guests, or more especially yourself, any embarrassment by informing them of the basics when inviting them to share your Club.

Added to that the Outside Bar at the Club will be open more this summer and I encourage members to consider this option if you've just stepped of your boat in casual attire.

PARKING

Part of that bulletin also referred to parking within our grounds. On sailing days it is restricted to Members only. Marked parking bays should be filled first before anyone needs to park on the grassed areas. If necessary to park on the grass, please be considerate of how you park and allow others to have space to park next to you.

OK, now on to the more exciting topics.

The Club is performing well in all aspects and we should all be very proud of our venue and its facilities, activities, services and staff.

I gained insight into our Club's place in Australia when I had the honour and privilege to attend the Australian Sailing National Awards in Sydney recently. I am very pleased to say that our members Ben Durham (Coach of the Year), Holly Hunt (Instructor of the Year), Hayley Clark (Sports Professional of the Year), Shelley White (SheSails) and Zoe Thomson (Female Sailor of the Year) were all nominated. Congratulations to all nominees. Both Ben and Holly were awarded the National trophies in their categories.

Part of that day was spent talking to Flags and staff from other Australian Clubs and gaining insight into Club performances, obstacles and opportunities. I came away having learnt more about other Clubs and with more awareness of the strengths in our Club and our ability to determine our future.

CLUB MASTERPLAN

An important part of this future is tied to creating a Masterplan of our visions out to 2032 and the longer term of twenty to thirty years out. The working group have held several productive meetings already and topics aimed at creating long term opportunities range from:

- an integrated Club software program that provides efficiencies and greater benefit to members as well as staff,
- rationalisation of precincts of the Club such as Entry, Clubhouse, Back of House, Marina, Dinghy Centre and Yacht Hardstand,
- creating a better entry and access to our front gate without the Club losing our heritage aspect,
- better member parking availability and areas

without losing our unique driveway,

- performing critical water ingress repairs to the Athol Hobbs Room and simultaneously updating that venue to become a valuable and unique function area that will be accessible to members and guests of all ages,
- marina berths, floating docks, tender storage and hardstand areas in response to the changing dynamic in boat sizes, shapes and numbers. This discussion considers our water lease which is due for renewal in the not too distant future,
- the Shipwright's lease also expires in two years and discussion will take place around the relevance and benefits of that service versus various other opportunities that exist for that precinct in the longer term.

Information on broader costings of opportunities is underway and we expect to have plans fleshed out more early next year.

I wish you all a happy festive season and look forward to seeing you at the Club. ■

TIM CUMMINS

VICE COMMODORE



SEASONS GREETINGS TO ALL Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club members as we move into a very busy period on and off the water. I would firstly like to wish good luck and fair sailing to all those competing and representing Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club at various regattas and championships over the coming months.

Importantly I would also like to acknowledge the considerable effort and service by many of our Club volunteers and staff who if not for their valued contributions we could not hold such events, thank you.

Despite an unseasonably cool start to the summer calendar not a day goes by that something isn't happening at the Club. Various Committees and Club staff have been busy planning and executing many events including of course a very successful and spectacular Opening Day enjoyed by many.

Strategic work includes the continuation and refinement of the Club's Masterplan which is an adaptable planning tool. This process looks to forecast future trends and identifies the infrastructure and facility needs to best cater for our sport of sailing, boating and social aspects of our Club. This will soon be circulated to all members for review, and I encourage your feedback as we set the course for the Club for the next 20 years and beyond.

Work is also underway to seek Planning Approval for the proposed renovation to the Athol Hobbs Room and Campbell Deck. Given we are sited on an A Class Reserve, the proposed works trigger the need for a lengthy 8-month statutory process including approval from the Minister for Environment. I am pleased to report this process has commenced and we will now move into the detailed design phase. The Committee looks forward to sharing these preliminary plans to members shortly, seeking feedback for this exciting and well overdue improvement to our main clubhouse.

Membership continues to build with strong numbers across a range of age groups. It is pleasing to see and welcome many new members who are active sailors joining our fleets and sailing programs.

On the social front, the Melbourne Cup Charity Lunch in partnership with Zonta House Refuge Association was well supported, yet again being fully

booked this year. Thank you to the tireless efforts of the Melbourne Cup Committee comprising Diana van der Worm, Sue Baker, Jenny Fairthorne and Deb Hanrahan who organised a wonderful event.

Amongst other Club activities, House Committee is also planning a 'Rock the Dock' event to be held Friday, 10 February. Don't miss out and make sure you book early for this concert event that will be held on the main wharf featuring the popular cover band 'Some Like it Yacht'. Members are invited to raft their boats to the main wharf and join in the atmosphere. Numbers are limited so get in quick to avoid disappointment.

I wish all members and their families a safe and enjoyable Christmas. ■

MARTIN JURAT

REAR COMMODORE SAIL



THE 126TH OPENING DAY ON 15 October was another big turnout for both off-the-beach boats and keelboats. The day started with a very impressive dinghy sail past in the morning from Optimists to WASZPs.

Regrettably the Parmelia Ball Challenge St Ayles Skiff rowing was cancelled due to the conditions and as there was not a fleet in the Club willing to go up against the hardened Couta rowers.

The Australian Sailing WA Awards was a big event, congratulations to the winners nominated by RFBYC: Zoe Thompson (Female Sailor of the Year), David Davenport (Off-shore Sailor of the Year), Tim Cummins and Ken Stevenson (Motor Yacht Person of the Year), Haley Clarke (Sport Professional Award), Shelly White (She Sails Award), Ben Durham (Coach of the Year), Holly Hunt (Instructor of the Year) and Steve Ward (Lifetime Achievement Award). In the Australian Sailing National Awards, RFBYC was the only club to have two winners, Ben and Holly.

The honour board for World Champions has some fresh paint; Suzzi Ghent, who with Cam Owens was crowned the Hobie 16 World Champions and Masters' World Champions in Costa Brava.

Congratulations to Ethan Prieto-Low, Adam Brenz-Verca, Raffé Torre and George Angus, winners at the Harken International Youth Match Racing Regatta. Also, a great result for Marcello Torre and his team with 4th place overall.

More congratulations for the ILCA European Championships, Zoe Thomson gained 8th place and Elyse Ainsworth 29th place out of a fleet of 110 entries. Zac Littlewood placed 14th from 169 entries in the ILCA 7 Class.

More humble achievements are often celebrated with a bell ring during presentations, but what does the bell ring mean? Thankfully the ringer does not necessarily shout drinks for the whole bar, but the expectation is that they go straight to the bar, buy two jugs of beer or a bottle of wine, to fill the glasses of their fleet and friends. A bell ring is a joyous sound, please don't ring it without following through with the drinks!

Our Commodore excelled in the Governor's Cup with a first over the

line. Having sailed back to RFBYC his victory was celebrated as he rang the bell and shouted the whole bar before leaving to attend the results at RPYC. Unfortunately, a minor technicality for starting a little early and the ensuing time penalty saw the result dropped to a third place.

A brief summary of various meetings and various outcomes: The BW8 fleet handicaps now follow the skippers, not the boat. In mid-week racing, the BW8's are now also a sub-division of A Fleet. Boats registered for either or both IRC and AMS voted to continue to allow boats to be registered under both handicap systems if they wish. The flags on the Tam Thompson will move to the port side sometime soon as time allows. Aaren Kanther is organising a camera to film the starts from the Start Box, which we hope to replay in the bar.

The next Fleet Captain meeting will be 'soon'. I had hoped before Christmas, but that may be pushed to January. The

next meeting will focus on the Fleet Captain Terms of Reference and hopefully clarify and facilitate the links between sailors, sailing committee and sailing administration. Discuss concerns and suggestions with your Captain and consider stepping up if your Captain is weary of doing the job for many years.

Good luck to our Contender sailors at the World Championships here at RFBYC in January.

While December will be cooler than average, next year is predicted to be a scorcher: best place to be is on the water, see you there. ■

JAMES KORNWEIBEL

REAR COMMODORE DINGHY



WHAT A GREAT START to the season with lots of sailing and impressive achievements by Club members.

Congratulations to Ben Durham for being awarded Australian Sailing's National Coach of the Year and Holly Hunt for being awarded National Instructor of the Year in Sydney last month. An outstanding achievement and great recognition of the impact our Club members are having on the world stage and the quality of our instructing team.

Congratulations to Zoe Thomson who placed 8th overall in the recent ILCA 6 (Laser) Women's World Championships. She has also recently been selected for the 2023 Australian Sailing Team.

Sunday 'Off the beach' sailing has had good consistent fleets across the Optimists, Open Skiffs, Lasers and 29ers, and Bic Techno's. The Club recently conducted a survey where the dinghy sailors were asked to express their interest in future sailing pathways. Whilst there was ongoing support for the existing dinghy classes and keelboats, there was a great deal of interest in foiling classes as a future pathway.

This finding has been reinforced by the exciting inclusion of the IQ Foiling Windsurfer to regular Club training and racing, along with several new additions to the WASZP fleet. We are looking forward to seeing the IQ WindFOIL fleet grow as several sailors are interested in transitioning from the Bic Techno Windsurfer. As the IQ WindFOIL has been selected for the 2024 Olympics, this is an exciting transition for the Club.

The new Wing Foiling courses, that are being run through the DTC, have been receiving great feedback from participants. The 'Foil Labs' provide an exciting and safe pathway to experience foiling through an Australian Sailing endorsed program. Look out for course dates in Gybe Sheet and Dinghy Digest.

Dinghy pathways into keelboats is another area of focus. Last month we held an Etchell crossover session with 15 juniors and their parents 'learning the ropes' on a one-design keelboat. Dirk, Keith, and John who kindly volunteered their

boats and time, were impressed at the talent of the young sailors behind the tiller. We are hoping to have a few more crossover sessions during the season to allow our junior sailors and parents to experience a variety of sailing pathway options and get to know other Club members in other fleets.

Over the weekend 3-4 December, the Club hosted the 33rd annual ICR regatta with 143 boats competing over 9 classes. It was a sensational weekend of racing with perfect weather and variety on both days. Thank you to Rob Hubbard and Kim Lawrence who ran a great regatta across two courses in Freshwater Bay. Gill Australia and Monkeyfist Marine's ongoing support for the event is greatly appreciated providing awesome prizes for placegetters and on-the-beach chandlery support. There were over 70 volunteers that made the event possible. Big thank you for Liz Moore and Carolyn Elms for managing the DTC cafe with their teams. An

event this size takes a great deal of organisation and preparation by the On-water sailing team led by Debbie Blaauw with Sharon Skinner, Chelsea Hall and Libby Boyd. The results can be found in the ICR section under special events on the RFBYC page <https://rfbyc.asn.au/icr-regatta/>

Finally, congratulations to the following RFBYC members for their selection into the WA State Sailing Squad: Ona and Pol Rafart, Angus and Alasdair Cameron, and Zac Sprunt and Vass Katsaitis in the 29ers; Charles Toyn, Imogen Bates, Maciej Tarasewicz and Isla Molyneux in ILCA 4; Xavier Bates, Amy Moore, Dominic Beer, and Giacomo Helliard on the ILCA 6; and Drina Bucktin, George Elms and Caitlin Shaw on the WindFOIL.

I hope you have a great Christmas break and good luck to the sailors who are competing in National events over the summer. ■

GEOFF WELLS

REAR COMMODORE POWER



I MUST START THIS ARTICLE by congratulating our new State Champion Time Triallers, Vice Commodore Tim Cummins and navigator Ken Stevenson on *Havana*. Tim and Ken were successful in winning both the State Championship and the Bob Stanford Trophy for least points over six State Heat events.

These trophies were last won by a Freshie boat back in 2009 so it is great to have the silverware back in our hands. Well done to Tim and Ken!

In the overall Team's event RFBYC finished in second with 144.6 points, behind SoPYC on 71.5 points. The difference has been getting smaller each year, so we are looking for 2023 to be the year we regain the State Team's trophy.

Other notable mentions go to *Key Largo* (Rory Vinnicombe and Graham Hogg) who scored a 2nd place on Consistency in Heat 4 and *Mako* (Lloyd Clark and Steve Roe) who scored a 3rd place on Consistency in Heat 7. Thanks also to Steve and Emma Lewis for providing *Azure* to transport us to and from the prize event at RPYC, including a special farewell display with the silverware.

Our Sailing Opening Day was well supported with 16 boats rafted up on the main

wharf and then taking part, with a few others, in our traditional sail past, taking the salute from our Commodore and Captain Gary Lawton from HMAS Stirling.

Looking ahead to 2023 we have several events prior to the Time Trialling season commencing in May. On Friday, 10 February we have the 'Rock the Dock' party and I highly recommend you book your space on the wharf to raft up. The following week Friday 17 evening we have our traditional Twilight Time Trial, a very popular event. This year we will be utilising the lawn area and outside bar so it will be a great evening to enjoy our Club. Look out for the nomination link soon.

On Sunday, 2 April we are hoping to be able to conduct the annual Camp Quality Day. This has been postponed the last couple of years so hopefully in 2023 we will be able to take out all the well

deserving children and parents on the river. Please make a note in your diary if you will be able to provide your boat on the day. This day has always been well supported by members and we look forward to that continuing.

If I could ask members to ensure their pen mooring lines are not causing a navigational hazard in the pen system clearways when their boat is not present. Some of us may have rather long lines and these can be taken by the current out into the clearway. There are many methods to prevent this, simply loop the lines on a hook, or consider a weighted retraction system. The Bosun can advise what might work best for you.

I'll conclude by taking this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and safe Christmas and New Year, whether on water or on land. ■



DRAGON BITES

THE DRAGON FLEET ROARED into Season 2022-23 with the pre-season Women's Helm Regatta (see separate report) getting boats ready, several training and technical sessions getting sailors ready and some national/international sailing firing up the enthusiasm!

WEDNESDAY TALKS

Willy Packer presented the first of a series of talks to Dragon owners and crew. *Sailing Faster and Better* (than Willy) is a long-held goal for most of the fleet, so it was generous of him to share his racing knowledge. There's been plenty of talk among the rustling sails as to how Willy does it and now, we know.

Grant Alderson, Club Coach and champion sailor provided a great technical talk on equipment and tactics. Delving into Grant's thorough knowledge of sailing, boat rigging, sail-setting and racing preparedness is always well rewarded. Every time Grant provides a briefing, an on-water coaching session, or even a walk down the jetty he shares great practical knowledge.

John Standley both entertained and challenged his audience with a thought-provoking session on Rule 18. How can it be that even some of our esteemed sailors still grapple with this one? John's very practical, very entertaining Dragon Rules Quiz resulted in most scoring a B+ (I'm being generous) or less. There were no Distinctions awarded. We all need to read, review, discuss and invoke the rules on the water.

MID-WEEK DRAGONNING

The Summer 2022-23 Robert Oatley Wines Mid-Week Series has

regular Dragon starters including Trish Ford in *Canewdon Witch*, Sandy Anderson in *Blue Marlin*, guest appearance of Susie Parker helming *Blue Marlin*, Gerry McGann in *Seajoy* and John Wallis in the lovely woodie *Solent*. Thursdays are great afternoons to try out a few different settings, practice some of the tips offered by Willy and Grant or even give the crew the helm.

DRAGONS FURTHER AFIELD

Sandy has been giving the Tassies a bit of support by sailing her *Plum Crazy* in a couple of their events over winter/spring. Sandy and regular crew Caroline Gibson came 3rd in the Tasmanian State Championships. More recently Sandy and Susie Parker challenged the Tassie's in a weekend regatta. At times we were well placed, but conditions played havoc with the event. Eventually the entire regatta was abandoned after multiple 180-degree windshifts, breeze strength dropping to nil forcing prolonged start delays, 40knot winds forcing abandonment and shipping traffic causing the entire course area to be closed off. That was just on one day. And it was iceberg cold!

Sandy and crew, Susie Parker and Deb Henderson, are off again at the end of November to compete in the NSW State Championships

in preparation for the Prince Phillip Cup in January 2023. Good luck to Sandy Anderson, Ian Malley and Ray Chatfield and their crews who are heading to the harbour city for the National championship.

As part of longer-term regatta preparation, we've welcomed Peter Bowman back to the fleet as he drops in to Perth from his home in Adelaide to sail *Akula* with Steven Cole and Jeremy Shellabear – looks like there are plans afoot for a serious international assault.

Our RFBYC members have again been making Dragon tracks in Europe. Richard Lynn, with Ethan Prieto-Low, has impressed with his return to the Class and his credible 7th at the Dragon Gold Cup Regatta in Belgium. Whilst not regulars in our fleet, Peter Gilmour with Sam Gilmour sailed into 4th place for Japan and Torvar Mirsky sailed AUS 551 into 5th place. It's great to see these champions getting in some training for when they return to WA and hopefully joining our fleet! Despite some setbacks Rob Campbell placed 19th in the Gold Cup for GBR. We really look forward to welcoming Rob and Penny back soon and it's good to see *Penny Farthing* is back on the water getting ready for them.

DRAGON BITES

SEASON 2022-23 GETS UNDERWAY

What a beautiful day RFBYC Opening Day was for our fleet. We had ten starters with *Scoundrel* (Willy Packer) taking out first place, *Hotspur* (Ethan Prieto-Low) 2nd and *Blue Marlin* (Sandy Anderson) 3rd.

We're seeing some great sailing already this season and first place has been shared around with Jennie Fitzhardinge taking the blue flag in Race 2 in her beautiful *Aeolus*, Geoff Totterdell in *Shapes* coming first in Race 3 and Trish Ford first in *Canewdon Witch* in Race 4. Well done to the handicapper! So far there has been 16 yachts on the water for at least one of the last four races. Looking forward to seeing a few more of the remaining fleet on the water for Saturday racing.

ON-WATER DRAGON TRAINING

On-water Dragon training offered by Ray Chatfield on Saturday mornings has been quietly introducing some new talent to the joy of Dragon sailing. The four sessions so far have been held in good conditions and have allowed Ray to take sailors through all positions including helming. Two or so hours on the water have been enough to sort out the many ropes on a Dragon, and participants have commented on the fact they make sense once you understand them!

We've had a couple of experienced Laser lasses from CYC undertake their maiden voyage on a Dragon with great enthusiasm. Others have been refreshing themselves after a break from sailing Dragons. Some of these have already been called upon to stand in for Saturday afternoon crew.

As Ray said "The objective is to provide an easy and enjoyable pathway into sailing Dragons. It has been very successful with new recruits now sailing as full-time crew".

Call Ray on 0438 800 934 if you want to join in a single session or more. It's a great way to refresh as well as to step up to Dragons from other classes.

RULES AND REGATTAS

At its recent AGM the IDA voted "NO" to the Dutch proposal for GPS devices to be allowed on board in Grade 1 events. The Technical Committee is now working through how regatta organisers can ensure that GPS devices, including watches and handhelds, are not used during racing. It appears that the Class Rules do not cover the enforcement issue so there is ongoing discussion about modifications required to the Class Rules. Seems simple – just don't use them!

DRAGON CLASS REGATTAS FOR THE DIARY:

- Prince Phillip Cup National Championship – 31 December 2022 to 7 January 2023, RSYS www.rsys.com.au/sailing/regattas
- WA State Championship – 25 and 26 February 2023, RFBYC
- Dragon World Championship – 29 May to 3 June 2023, Bodrum Turkey www.dragonworlds2023.com
- 75th Edinburgh Cup – 15 August to 18 August 2023, Cowes UK www.britishdragons.org
- Dragon Gold Cup – 9 September to 15 September, Torquay UK www.britishdragons.org

If you are planning an overseas trip in 2023, view the IDA website for events being held around the world. You might enjoy a day or two watching a regatta or better still get a gig on board and go racing! www.internationaldragonsailing.net/fixtures-results/regattas-2023

And that's the joy of sailing Dragons. ■



Gill



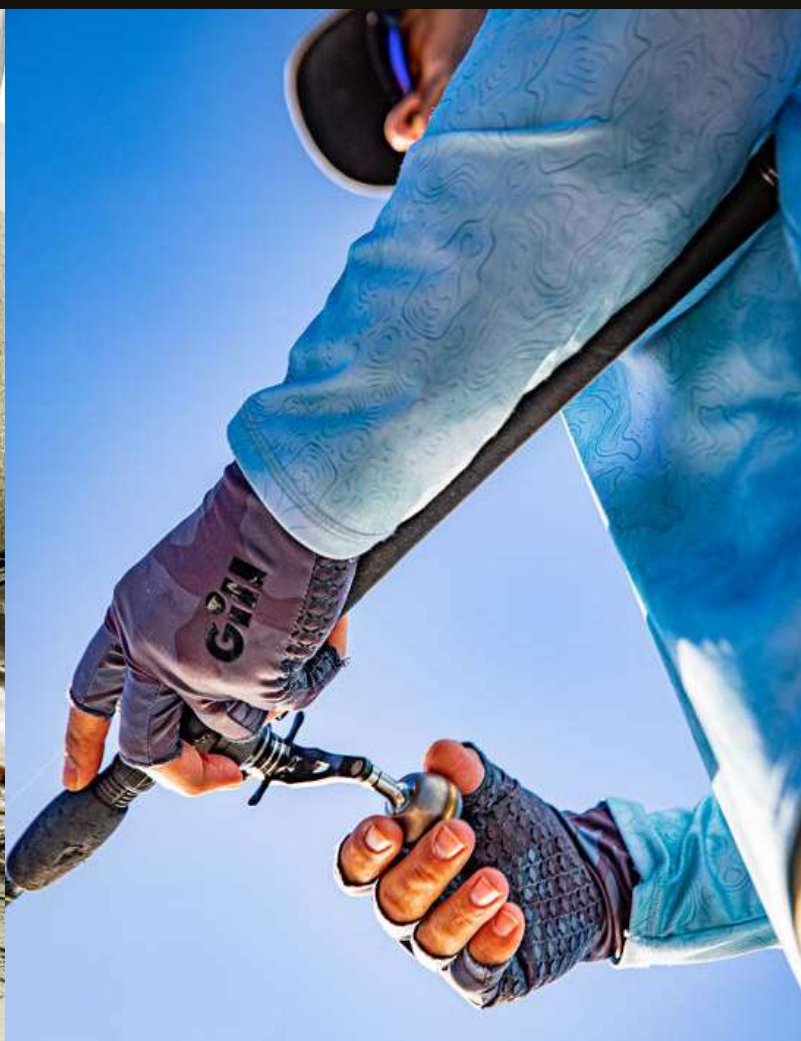
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HOT CONTEST IN THE DRAGONS

WOMEN'S HELM REGATTA

THE 2022 WA INTERNATIONAL DRAGON CLASS Women's Helm Regatta, racing for the Saracen Trophy, was strongly contested by ten local helmswomen on Freshwater Bay on Sunday, 2 October.

This pre-season shakedown regatta attracted the largest fleet so far and had boats and crew being primed for Summer 2022-23. Yachts were made available by generous owners to the group of sailing women to contest the trophy on equal footing in the one-design class.

Windy conditions, not forecasted, created some nervousness among helmswomen, owners and crew as the 20 knot south easterly buffeted the yachts heading out into Freshwater Bay at 11am. Race Officer Rob Hubbard invoked the Z-Flag 'No Spinnakers' clause for the first race which enabled teams and wind strength to settle down.

Rob Hubbard and Mark Layer John Anderson established a true and fair course in the consistent pressure of a fluctuating east/south-east breeze. The course provided for challenging upwind legs as helmswomen determined the favoured line to the top mark set slightly west of Point Resolution Spit. Thirty-degree fluctuations resulted in a good split in the fleet upwind. Plenty of nerve was required as yachts converged for the close mark roundings

with strong gusts sweeping through from Point Resolution.

Conditions settled and subsequent races of either two or three windward/leeward laps were sailed with spinnakers flying. RO Rob said, 'these were perfect Dragon conditions with flat water, fluctuating wind pressure, and large wind swings meaning the skipper and crew were continually evaluating their position on the course and changing gears to maximize boat speed.'

The racing was close, and the ultimate winner was not decided until the fourth and last race of the day. Favourites Philippa Packer sailing *Saphira* and Trish Ford sailing her own *Canewdon Witch*, both with a lifetime of competitive racing, were challenged by the Club's highly regarded younger yachtswoman Lucy Alderson sailing *Scoundrel*. Less experienced helmswomen were often challenging these leaders as they criss-crossed positions during each race.

In many cases the finishes were so tight they couldn't be called until one of the boats crossed the line,

and importantly, most boats showed at different stages of a race that they could be very competitive.

However, it was the nail-biting last race that was to determine the trophy winner. With Philippa Packer and Trish Ford on equal points after the third race, it was Philippa Packer who successfully defended her title by winning Race 4 taking home the Saracen Trophy, again.

The Saracen Trophy is named after *Saracen DKA98* owned and raced by Stephen Parker (former Vice Patron RFBYC) and David Cruickshank (former WAIDA President) between mid-1960's and mid-1970s. In 1982 Ruth Reinhart acquired ownership and became the first woman to own and race a Dragon at RFBYC.

The Helmswomen would like to pass on their enormous thanks to the boat owners and their crew, the organisers and volunteers:

Icefyre (David Meager), *Seajoy* (Gerry McGann), *Relentless* (David Lynn), *Gazelle XIV* (John Anderson), *Wizzardry* (Ray Chatfield), *Scoundrel* (Willy Packer), *Indulgence* (Kevin Palassis), *Blue Marlin* (Sandy

continued on page 12

continued from page 11

Anderson), *Saphira* (Ian Malley), *Canewdon Witch* (Trish Ford).

Sandy Anderson (recruitment of helmswomen), Ray Chatfield (boat rustling), John Anderson (Mark Laying), Rob Hubbard (Race Officer)

and his on-water team, Steven Cole and Yacht Grot (prizes), Susie Parker (Trophy Donor), WAIDA Committee and RFBYC staff.

For women interested in furthering their sailing experience by

helping or crewing on a Dragon, lessons are held on Saturday mornings at Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club. Contact Ray Chatfield on 0438 800 934 for more information. All are welcome to give it a go. ■



above left to right: Helmswomen Caroline Gibson, Robyn Johnston, Annette Koenders, Lucy Alderson, Chelsea Hall, Philippa Packer, Elise Manners, Laura Wheeler, Susan Parker, Trish Ford.

Venue: RFBYC. Photo credit: Deb Henderson



Philippa Packer with the Saracen Trophy.

Venue: RFBYC.

Photo credit: Deb Henderson



Downwind left to right Scoundrel (Lucy Alderson), Relentless (Susie Parker), Canewdon Witch (Trish Ford).

**FOR SALE
'ROULETTE'**




\$12,000 FOR A 1/4 SHARE IN CLUB CHAMPION COUTA BOAT

'Roulette' is a standout performer having won club championships three years on the trot and is a consistent place getter at the top of the Couta fleet. It's a perfect entry level price for someone interested in first-class racing in Freshy's competitive and fun Couta fleet. 'Roulette' is well maintained with recent engine overhauls and new running rigging.

Top boat. Top bunch of owners.

Rob Broadfield on **0409 493 902**
robertbroadfield@me.com

**FOR SALE
'KITE'**



'Kite' is a Davidson 36. She is probably the most used Yacht at RFBYC over the last 15 years. We have won (I think) every Club trophy over that time. Boat is simple to sail with no backstay or traveller. Half share available for \$15k.

gerrymcgann@iinet.net.au
or **0438 642 738**

THE ALLIANZ NEW CALEDONIA OPTIMIST CHAMPIONSHIP 2022



IN OCTOBER 2022, I travelled with the Australian Optimist Development Squad (AODS) and the Australian Optimist Girls Team to Noumea for the Allianz 2022 New Caledonia Optimist Championships. There were 69 sailors from Australia, New Zealand, Tahiti and New Caledonia.

We arrived with two training days to familiarise ourselves with the local conditions of Bay of St Marie.

After two training days with our coaches, Jack Lewis and Shelley White, we discovered at what time the sea breeze would usually come in and how to tell whether it would come in at all! On the second training day we had some friendly practice races with the local, Tahitian and Kiwi sailors participating in the regatta.

We had a rest day before the regatta started and we went to an island offshore from Noumea for some snorkelling to look at the corals and reef fish – it was a great way to get to know my other team mates.

Day 1 of the regatta saw conditions that were quite windy thanks

to the trade winds coming in at 18–20+ knots. This was a good opportunity to practice sailing and bailing techniques. For Day 2, the winds eased off to 15 knots requiring us to review and reset our sail settings. Days 3 and 4 became quite shifty with lots of opportunity for places to be gained (or lost) around the course.

We aimed to complete five races each day, and with 69 sailors on a crowded start line, the RO was forced to use the U flag and the black flag on many occasions to keep sailors behind the line.

Overall, my key learnings and new experiences were:

- Starting on a congested start line can be tricky. Positioning yourself on the front row is critical to

avoid being spat out the back and chewing dirty air!

- Always have your eye out to pick the shifts – they can make or break a good race.
- Don't sweat a bad race – the best you can do is learn from it.
- It was great to sail with the other kids from around Australia, and I hope to get an opportunity to see them all again at the Nationals.
- Bring local sailing gear to trade at the end of the regatta with sailors from other countries. It's a great way to bring home a souvenir!

Thanks to Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club and the Ron Tough Yachting Foundation for supporting my travel to New Caledonia. ■

THE *allurement* OF

ROTTNEST



It is not yet seven o'clock as my wife Una casts off the dock lines. The morning's blue sky is cloudless, the temperature, a pleasant 23°C.

Denis Glennon

FOR SAILORS

The twelve knot south easterly is perfect. We look forward to cruising with it on the port quarter. Our course is set to a waypoint, slightly northeast of Phillip Rock, to try for a squid or two, which hopefully will be entrée for this evening's onboard dinner.

Our Grand Banks, *Grand Spirit* is a gentleman's cruiser, replete with traditional teak, her lines easy on the eye and her size just right for a couple, of our vintage. She is making eight knots in calm waters, leaving the cares of the shore in the eddies of her wake. This is our favoured, easy-going, no stress on our boat, cruising speed. Cruising at twenty knots and more, is not for us.

The glorious heat warms my being, and apart from the occasional swish of the bow wave or the wake of a fast-passing craft, I am conscious only of the serenity and stillness of unhurried, leisurely cruising.

ANTIDOTE OF SEA To be at sea at times like this always fills me with a surge of well-being.

Beyond the shore side, out of the marketplaces, away from the surface narratives, we find quiet contentment, balm for spirit – a place of nourishment for any hurried, or harried soul.

The ocean, with its inveigling allurements, invites a letting go of all thoughts that offer but a short-lived sense of inner well-being. With its perfectly innocent, lyrical language, the ocean speaks its healing – its own *lingua incognita*, as does our destination – the western bays of Rottneest Island.

Grand Spirit's twin engines make deeply contended sounds, so quiet, we converse easily. The steady, kind wind barely caresses us as our boat slips through the lazy ocean. For a time,



above: Art of Rocky Bay Terns

left to right: Denis; Dolphin Accompanying Grand Spirit; Humpback Whale Breaching off Crayfish Rock; Humpback Whale Diving; Rainbow Bee-eater on Rocky Bay Beach

below: Grand Spirit in Rocky Bay

facing page top to bottom:

Osprey in Golden Light;

Angry Osprey, Rocky Bay;

Osprey & Gull in tussle for food

holding the remote autopilot control, Una and I stand at the bow rail. A miniature, inimitable rainbow appears dancing on the bow wave. We have never seen it before; we will never see it again. For a while we are accompanied by five dolphins leaping and surfing joyfully. We know then *Grand Spirit's* kind soul is present. Aft, the white sparkling wake disappears into the horizon of cloudless sky and azure sea, the mainland fading into a far-off haze.

For the next hour, we cruise under autopilot, no need to tend to course or wheel, only experience the pleasure of unhurried cruising in sparkling waters. We are approaching Phillip Rock, to drop anchor at our waypoint – a patch of sand and seagrass, on other trips, a successful habitat for squid. The clank of the anchor shank as it departs the bow roller does not intrude upon the tranquillity, but blends with it. Engines

are stopped. The anchor holds us in silence, in still waters. Within twenty minutes we have two squid on board – the fins for bait, the mantle for entrée this evening. No need to take more.

Standing on the marlin board, only in shorts, I prepare the squid and breathe in the sun, the stillness, and splendour of it all. The sea is almost calm, the balmy south-easterly breeze has abated. It is gentle and warming. Not a cloud in the sky.

We still have five or so nautical miles to reach Rocky Bay/Narrow Neck and plan to be on our mooring before the 'Fremantle Doctor' arrives. We wish to set the craypot while the sea is calm.

EASTERN BAYS Thomson Bay is already filling with boats of all sizes and classes as we cruise through them. Those lucky enough to be already anchored or on

their mooring are enjoying morning coffee or a swim. Day visitors to the island are disembarking from the ferries.

Abeam of Bathurst Point lighthouse the turquoise colour of the ocean is brought to glistening life by the morning sun. We head almost true west, past Longreach and Geordie bays where yachts and power boats swing gently beneath the prized cottages on shore. Each time we cruise this northern coastline of the island we admire its stark beauty, the sheltered anchorages and the empty white beaches of Parakeet, Little Parakeet, Little Armstrong, Catherine and Ricey bays – all inviting and exuding their own attractions, each one a paradise, but destinations for other sailors.

Una remarks on the concentration of craypots floats we must avoid as we pass Crayfish Rock. Hopefully, the crayfish are plentiful; we have



brought a supply of oily fish heads as bait. Soon, we are following the leads into Rocky Bay or Narrow Neck, to our mooring. These western-most bays are not easily accessible from land, and their seclusion, solitude, protection from the strong south westerly breezes, and breathtaking seascapes, make them incredibly attractive for sailors. The osprey and her chick are in the nest at the entrance to Stark Bay, and we wonder if we will be able to photograph them on our early morning walk tomorrow.

Friends in other craft greet us as we arrive. Two pelicans perched like sentinels on the cardinal markers launch lazily into flight as we approach.

ROCKY BAY It is not yet noon and we are swinging on our mooring. Radio skeds completed; the mood perceptibly changes from one of down shifting to leisureliness. Deck chairs are unpacked, the tender lowered, and the craypots baited and set.

Soon, a friend, as he has done many time before, knocks on the hull and drops off two fresh crays – the main course for dinner, now destined to be lobster thermidor.

Sea temperature is around 23° – perfect for a swim or snorkel on the nearby reefs before the obligatory afternoon ‘Rotto’ siesta and pre-dinner sundowner, on the aft deck.

SUNSET As we sip a glass of 2002 Tempus Two Uno Semillon, the spectacular sunset confirms our belief that all sunsets are unique, and rarely is one average on Rottnest. The sun disappears, leaving behind trails of cinnabar, stretching to just above where sea and sky seem to merge. Pastel-blue clouds hover above the afterglow. Eastward the sky is more striking still, a full moon is rising just as the sun is disappearing. The





waning silvery clouds become vividly illuminated by the rising moon, full and golden, which is soon drifting serenely across the silhouette of the lighthouse over the headland of Stark Bay. The moon appears to hang in a sky of pale purple and blue, its golden light casting a shimmering staircase across the calm sea. There are many beautiful hours at Rocky Bay, but one of the most captivating and forever memorable, is the twilight hour.

Paradise surrounds. Just being here is sufficient. We need only commune with its wonder and intimacy and experience the marvel of nature encompassing us. Sun, sky, sea, stars and self interweave and interlace themselves. Contentment abounds. Any sailor's heart would be overjoyed.

DINNER We shower, dress in best shipboard attire, prepare table with Irish linen, Waterford crystal glass and Christofle flatware. Tonight's dinner on *Grand Spirit*, is a seafood delight.

Together we unhurriedly prepare the squid, the crayfish, a summer salad, and creamed potatoes. The ingredients for one of our favourite onboard desserts – Crepe Suzette, are also leisurely set out, as we listen to Michael Hoppe's album, *The Forgetting Heart*.

Both of us enjoy the pleasure that accompanies easy-going onboard preparation, cooking and dining.

For entrée we savour the squid, sauteed in garlic and butter, and

garnished with lemon and cracked pepper.

The music is a selection of Una's favourites – *Gabriel's Oboe* from *The Mission*, *O Mio Babbino Caro*, *Nes-sun Dorma*, *Benedictus*, *Pie Jesu*, *Le Nozze di Figaro*. The wine complementing the lobster thermidor is a glass of Serafino 2019 Chardonnay. Time passes pleasantly as we enjoy the splendid match of the fresh seafood, crisp clean wine, tranquil sea, soothing dinner music and being together on *Grand Spirit*.

The sea breeze has subsided further, as we conclude the main course to the strains of Hauser's collection of *Song to the Moon*.

Soon it is time for dessert.

DESSERT When made in the classical way, Crepe Suzette Flambé must rank as one of the great desserts of the world. We enjoy it, accompanied with a 2010 South African, Groot Constance, Groot Constantia, listening to the album *Hauser Plays Morricone*. Enjoying the symphony of fine food, music and ambience of Rottneest, is wonderful, by any standards.

As we sit on the aft deck and watch the star filled sky, millions of light years away, the Milky Way prominent, with its spiralling arms embossing a broad stripe in the heavens, I think, what a privilege it is to be alive, here, with Una. Relaxing on *Grand Spirit* at Rottneest Island on nights like this create a unique rapture.

Una retires to bed.

I am reluctant to go below. I am held in the ocean's joyous embrace. The voice of the sea is seductive, murmuring, whispering, inviting my soul to wander for a spell in abysses of solitude and to lose itself in mazes of pleasant inward contemplation.

I sit alone, content, in a reverie of suspended thought, thankful for where I am, grateful for nature's gifts, bestowed generously.

DAWN In the Western bays of Rottneest, those who rise before sunrise are treated to one of nature's most glorious times - the twenty or so minutes before dawn breaks on sheltered waters. Enjoying a cup of tea, I gaze at the ocean – exquisite and luminescent. The golden rose light of morning is unveiling a beautiful panorama – the moon hanging low in the western sky, the radiance of the first fingers of light pulling the mantle of darkness away from my world, the calm sea, the horizon to the north east veiled by an amethystine haze, and the wavelets breaking, yet glistening on the barely visible reefs.

Setting out to check my craypots, the sound from even the slowest speed of my outboard motor disturbs the splendid silence. The calm of the sea is broken by the bow of the dinghy, just as it is being transformed to a mix of ultra-marine and pale purple by the light of the rising sun, gently brushing its glimmering surface.

The first pot has six crays; three are 'size'. The second has eight, two are 'size.' Another bounty from the



main image:
Close-up Humpback Whale Breaching
facing page left:
Pelican Pendulum on Stark Bay Beach
facing page right:
Laughing Pelican at Rocky Bay

ocean. After I bait and reset the pots, I switch off the motor and sit motionless in a little lagoon within the reefs. The timeless serenity of these wonderful, western most bays, again enters, my consciousness.

Admiring *Grand Spirit* silhouetted in a near mirror-like sea, I think of the joys still awaiting us – an early walk on the beach where the only footprints in the white sand will likely be ours, fresh crayfish for lunch, and the weather forecast promising six more days like yesterday.

As I motor slowly and quietly back, to prepare a light breakfast, I recall the many cruises Una and I have enjoyed in various parts of the

world, yet nothing surpasses the harmony of sea, land, and sky abounding Rottnest Island's western bays.

Denis & Una Glennon

Denis and Una owned their fifty-foot ketch, *Calypso V* for twenty-two years before purchasing *Grand Spirit*, eight years ago. Together, they continue to cruise to 'wherever their hearts take them.'

In the contemplative and seeking spirit of his Celtic seafaring forbearers, Denis takes time to ponder why we go to sea, and how its myriad moods, awakens his senses to behold, the wonders and mystery of his chosen land.

He is an accomplished aerial and wildlife photographer. His lens focuses on subjects, which most visitors to Rottnest rarely see. Denis captured all photos, on the island or in its surrounding waters.

He has been a member of RFBYC for nearly forty years and if this article can seduce some readers to visit his beloved Rottnest Island, he will feel well rewarded.

If by chance you find yourself at anchor, close to his and Una's beloved *Grand Spirit*, hop in the dingy, knock on the hull, come aboard, share a story, sip a wine, and savour the sinking sun. ■

HOBIE 16 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

COSTA BRAVA, SPAIN



HOBIE 16 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

COSTA BRAVA, SPAIN



THE HOBIE 16 WORLDS IS a unique event where the boats are supplied and a beach team have the hard task of maintaining them for the two weeks of racing. The 2022 championship was hosted by Club de Vela La Ballena Alegre near Sant Pere Pescador, Costa Brava, Catalonia Spain.

225 teams from 22 countries took part for competitive racing and plenty of fun. Competitors, the race management team, the Hobie beach team, family and friends stayed together at the one location and with 50 brand new equally matched Hobie 16's on the beach, there was no need to venture far away.

There were six event categories sailed over three series in the world championship and we entered in two, the Masters event for skippers age 45 and over and the Open event. Delayed once to May 2022 we were grateful of the decision by the International Hobie Class Association to postpone again to September. This gave us the opportunity to better prepare ourselves. When the WA border reopened after two years in March, we travelled to the Victorian State Championship, QLD State Championship and Bad News Regatta in QLD, picking up valuable lessons along the way and that

helped structure our training plan over winter.

After many chilly sessions on the water in Perth, close winter series racing and a rules session with John Standley, we felt well prepared ready for sunshine and some great racing. The Hobie community are close and we really enjoyed seeing friends again from all over the world. With around 30 sailors from Australia we had a great team vibe too, if you weren't racing you were supporting your mates on the beach and cheering them on.

We went in to the Masters competition with the goal to learn as much as we could about the boats and the venue in preparation for the Open event and do as well as we could. Wind conditions were moderate to fresh through most of the four day event although we did have some long waits ashore in the morning waiting for the breeze to fill in. Teams change boats in

between racing which makes for fair racing, no one gains an advantage from any particular boat and the beach team keep them as equal as possible. We didn't notice any significant difference between boats, part of the skill is being able to do a quick changeover and setup the boat to your own preference. There are limited settings that you can adjust but it's critical for your speed to get it right. We have a checklist in priority order and we each have our tasks, we work to a set routine for the changeovers and it is something we prepare for before the event.

The racing was close, competition was tough but enjoyable, it was great sailing. We were fairly relaxed in this one and delighted to be crowned Masters World Champions with our team mates Darren Smith and Claire Bisgood from Nedlands Yacht Club by our side in second place.

continued on page 22

HOBIE 16 WORLDS CONTINUED



We had six days off in between our events and watched the Female, Youth, Grand Masters and Great Grand Masters championship followed by the Qualifying Series for the Open World Championship. We had pre-qualified through our top ranking in the Australian fleet and would go in at the Semi Finals stages for the main event, the Open World Championship. During our break we made time to visit Roses in the north of the bay, the historic city of Girona and L'escala which were very close by. Local anchovies were a tasty surprise and there was plenty of history and interesting ruins to explore. Mostly we enjoyed the time cheering for our fellow Australian teams, catching up with old friends and making some great new ones too.

Then, down to business for the three day Semi Final series and, all going well, two days in the Final round. Again we were aiming to

do as well as we could but really we had our sights set on the world championship title. It was going to be tough, there was plenty of depth in the fleet with no less than five past world champions, the current champion and current European champion. We felt prepared and had done everything we needed to do to give ourselves the best chance.

By now the weather was starting to turn, it was the start of autumn, the mornings were getting cold and there were rain and thunderstorms about. The conditions were a challenge for Race Officer David Brookes and his team, they worked hard to get as many races in as possible. The fleet was cut to 96 teams for the Semi Finals and again to 48 teams for the Finals. You're given a boat draw on a slip of paper at the beginning of the series, it tells you which sessions you race and the number of the boat you are

on. All teams compete in the same number of races and must race each other competitor at least once in the Semi's. We managed to keep our noses clean in this Series and made the final cut, sitting in second place going in to the last two days and only a couple of points off the lead.

In the Finals all 48 teams compete in every race and change boats in between. The weather forecast we had, looked unfavourable for racing on day two, the final day, so we went in to day one with the goal of being in front by the end of the day knowing it could be the last day of racing.

Racing in the pack was hectic but if you managed to get clear air in front you could extend away from the fleet. One of the highlights of the day was racing closely around the gate mark splitting tacks with Gavin Colby / Josie Mark, Daniel Bjornholt / Josephine Frederiksen and Yamil Saba / Gonzalo Cendra

HOBIE 16 WORLDS

WORLD OPEN CHAMPIONS



and realising that we were surrounded by the last three world champions.

We kept our race strategy simple and rather than taking risks to go for a win we were content with low scores and we got some good numbers on the board, our worst race result was an eighth place. Our main competitors were picking up some inconsistent scores which supported our strategy. We held a slim lead at the end of the day.

The final day was the most challenging of all, sitting on the beach rigged up ready to race with a wind that would not settle. Thunderstorms in the distance and rain around was dragging the wind direction around and the strength would not stay up. Around midday they sent us off the beach to try for a start but with only a third of the teams launched we were quickly turned around back to shore for more waiting.

The time limit for racing had nearly expired and people started coming to congratulate us, we wouldn't have it, racing was still a possibility and we did not want to lose focus. The race committee vessels came near to the beach ready to call the end of racing and then, the wind came! It was all go, with limited time the Race Officer needed to try for one more race to be fair to all competitors in the competition. With the defending champions Yamil Saba / Gonzalo Cendra hot on our tail we could still lose the win. If we placed outside the top eight and they made the top four they would place ahead of us. They set up on the start line below us as we prepared to start but then gybed around and went above us to the start boat end of the line. We decided to keep our cool and not attack. Even a small mistake manoeuvring in a Hobie 16 in the wind conditions we had could be disastrous.

We looked ahead and sailed our own race, doing what we trained to do and came around the first mark in the lead. We held the lead on the downwind leg as it started raining and the wind started to rotate. Visibility reduced, the next mark position was adjusted and it became very difficult to see. We took note of Saba who was making a comeback from mid fleet, we put a loose cover on them as the wind rotated 40 degrees and quickly dropped in strength. We saw a committee boat coming towards us with flags flying. Fantastic, race abandoned and best of all, we didn't crack under pressure when it counted.

We stood on the podium that night alongside Yamil and Gonzalo (VEN) with our team mates Darren and Claire (AUS) in third, Daniel and Josephine (DEN) fourth and Gav and Josie (AUS) fifth.

Ecstatic to be crowned Hobie 16 World Champions. ■



NATIONAL CHAMPS AT LAST! COUTA NATIONALS OCTOBER 2022



AFTER MANY YEARS OF OCEAN RACING, I was introduced to Couta boats some 25 years ago by Russell Barrett, a good friend, where I crewed in the National championships at Sorrento on his boat *Wattle* (C28).

Wattle was a 26'6 'original', an authentic Couta boat built in 1928 by Mitch Lacco which proved to be seaworthy enough to be sailed two up from Westernport through Port Phillip Heads to Sorrento. We didn't do very well in the regatta, but I greatly enjoyed the sailing and it lit an interest for me in these over-powered and headstrong Harley Davidsons of the sea.

At RFBYC I've become a Couta boat owner and have greatly enjoyed racing on the Swan River on my boats *Roulette* and now *Swift*. Our fleet is very competitive, but I have had the urge for a few cracks at the National Championships in Sorrento (Vic) and Pittwater (NSW) where the competition is next level. I became carried away four years ago and bought *CoutaTah* (C2005), a renovator's delight with the idea of competing in the 2017 National

Championships in Sydney. I syndicated her with Ross Youngman, an old university buddy, and some of his long-suffering friends from Sydney. We comprehensively failed to perform in the Championships but did show some form over subsequent years and even jagged a win in the NSW State Championships in 2020, one place ahead of my mate Russell sailing the now beautifully restored *Wattle*.

Encouraged that we could get *CoutaTah* into a competitive state, we thought it worth another campaign of *CoutaTah* in the 2022 National Championships to be held on Pittwater in mid-October.

The crew we assembled was predominantly from RFBYC (myself, Mark Lovelady and Jonathan Strauss) spiced up with a bit of local knowledge from NSW crew members Ross, Garry Clubley and

Holgar Schumann with Victorians Tony Weeks and Rob Williamson, who knew the Victorian competitive landscape.

The regatta was four races with one discard comprising three windward return races on Saturday and a passage race on Sunday. Day one went very well for us, we scored 1st, 1st and 4th to put us three points ahead of *Wattle* (amazingly placing 2nd, 2nd, 5th) on the leader board. The Championship was down to the last race where we had to keep *Wattle* no more than two places ahead of us. In the end we beat *Wattle* in the passage race by one place to finally earn the National Championship and Russell's enduring regret that he had introduced me to Couta boats all those years ago. ■

Two passage races and two windward-leeward races for the 2022 Rockingham Race Regatta. In partner with The Cruising Yacht Club Rockingham and Barchetta in Cottesloe.

Sailors and supporters enjoyed the TCYC hospitality ashore on Saturday evening and again on Sunday morning.

Saturday – one around the buoys race was held off Cottesloe Beach followed by the Dolphin Race, a coastal passage race from Cottesloe to Rockingham.

Sunday – one around the buoys race in Rockingham followed by the Gordon Craig Ocean Race, the return coastal passage finishing at South Mole in Fremantle.

It was a fun weekend offshore, the fleet looked great racing off Cottesloe and in the pristine waters of Rockingham.

A big thank you to our fantastic Club volunteers, Race Officer Geoff Brown, Gael Brown, Deb and Shawn Daniels on our Race Committee boat *Tam Thompson*. Our mark laying /

support boat was manned by David Riddle and Commodore Peter Chalmer. This team have been regulars for the event for the past few years they must really like it and they do such a wonderful job that we keep inviting them back again.

Save the date and join us for the regatta event in 2023 – Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 November. Both power and sail are welcome. Let's get more of our keelboat fleet out for the weekend, you're all invited! ■



Susan Ghent

ROCKINGHAM RACE REGATTA

26 & 27 NOVEMBER 2022

An annual weekend for Sail and Power





ROCKINGHAM RACE REGATTA







ROCKINGHAM RACE REGATTA

Entries are to be submitted to
Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club
by 5:00pm on Monday, 9 January 2023

2023 JESS Match Cup

A World Sailing Grade 5
Open Match Racing Event in BW8s

Sunday
22 January, 2023

Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club
Perth, Western Australia



Gill

For information

Contact the Sailing Administrator at Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club
Phone (08) 9286 8200 or email sailadmin@rfbyc.asn.au
Notice of Race available at www.rfbyc.asn.au



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ZAC LITTLEWOOD

2022 SAILING REPORT



I STARTED THE YEAR training in champagne conditions out of Perth, before flying to Sydney for a four-week block under Rafa Trujilo, our new Australian Sailing Laser coach. We had the whole squad there, five to six days a week on water, in the lead up to leaving for our first World Cup of the season in Palma de Mallorca.

Unfortunately, in the last week of training I had a crash on water and injured my back. I had great support and managed what I could in the lead up to Palma and was raring to go a few weeks later. However, two days before the event started, I got COVID-19 so was unable to compete in the event. It was a bit upsetting with the timing of getting COVID-19, but the next World Cup was in Hyeres, France three weeks later. I started getting back into exercise a bit too early and ended up with some issues related to my heart and spent the weeks leading into Hyeres getting checks at hospitals in France and doing what I could to compete. Luckily, the team doctors gave me approval, so I competed.

I started the event well, winning the first race and placing myself in the Top 20 going into final series. However, I didn't race well along

with suffering some bad post-COVID-19 symptoms and struggled to get through the last two days of finals racing and ended up finishing 35th.

After Hyeres, the team went to Lake Garda, Italy for a training camp before flying to Senior Worlds in Mexico. Garda has some of the best sailing, cycling, food, gym that I've ever done, so it was a great lead up to try and gain my fitness back and recover before the peak event of the year.

Mexico Worlds can be summed up as a big learning experience. I ended Day 1 in the protest room for a port starboard on the first race. I was disqualified, and the following day I didn't sail my best and on the fourth race I was over the line, so I received another disqualification in qualifying series. This made it extremely difficult to qualify for gold

fleet (top 55). I ended up qualifying in silver fleet for the event. I can go back to reasons why the three events didn't go my way, but I knew I just needed to get my health and fitness sorted and everything would work out.

The following months consisted of training at home and getting myself back to the fitness level I was at the start of the year. I went back to Europe in July and spent five weeks in Marseille, where the 2024 Olympic Games will be held. We were training with the Top 50 in the World and competed in an exclusive coach's regatta where I placed, 25th. I felt like I was back on track and continued to train in Europe, where we travelled to Belgium which is near the venue for the 2023 World Championships. After this, the team went back to Australia for another month of training

ZAC LITTLEWOOD

2022 SAILING REPORT



preparing for the Senior European Championships in November. This was the second peak event of the year and was my chance to make a comeback this year and show the improvements I've made since Mexico Worlds.

It was odd to have an event in November, especially in South France but I was fortunate enough to have another opportunity at competing. We arrived in Hyeres, eight days before competition and surprisingly enough it was warm with light winds. I felt competent and was raring to go with the forecast for the first few days, cold and windy. In the first 3 days of qualifying, I posted a race win along with some mid fleet scores which I wasn't happy about. I was getting into trouble with Rule 42, hitting marks (doing lots of penalties) and wasn't sailing clean. However, for the first time since Worlds earlier in the year, I qualified for gold fleet in 35th. The finals series consisted of, 4–12 knot onshore breeze which was some of the hardest decisions you'd have to make in relations to

upwind strategy. I managed it well and rounded most races in the Top 15, with a decent final's score card going into the last day.

The last day of finals racing consisted of 0–6 knots, so we waited onshore then on water for most of the day. The race committee sent all the fleets in, except gold fleet men an hour before last warning signal. By this stage, there was no wind, so half the gold fleet men were on the tow in. 15mins before last warning signal, the flags went up and the race committee attempted to start the race. 5–10 knots filled the course, and half the fleet were frantically towing back to the course for the start. The race started with everyone crossing my bow at the pin end. I chipped up through the fleet to be positioned left going up the first beat. I managed to pop out first at the top mark and lead the fleet until the downwind where I was overtaken. I had a decent second beat but lost again on the downwind and finished 7th in the race.

This race bumped me up to 14th overall at the Senior Europeans. It's a result, not near my best but one I'm happy with considering how the season has panned out. It was quite a mental battle this year, questioning if it was sickness or sailing ability that was the issue, so it's satisfying to see that putting in the hours in getting my health and fitness back, was a major part of this result. This season wouldn't have been possible without the support of RFBYC along with my support team at WAIS and Australian Sailing Team. The support received after the start of the year, was a major part in the way I was able to come back and put a result on the board, five months later.

The next two months, the Laser Team will be doing Nationals, Sail Melbourne and a month training in Adelaide, in preparation for the 2024 World Championships. We will then travel to Andora, for the 2023 European Championships and then Palma and Hyeres, for two World Cup events. ■



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ICR – OUR PREMIER DINGHY EVENT

2022

THIS YEAR SAW 9 Classes; 14 fleets; 143 boats, plus an additional 17 registered in the green and orange fleets. All up including the training fleets, we had 160 sailors on the water over the weekend.

A fantastic effort by all, especially those that made their regatta debut over the weekend in the intermediate fleets.

We would like to recognise our sponsors, Gill Australia for the place-getter prizes and Monkeyfist Marine – Remy Donraadt and Peter Mudford for the pop up shop during the event. In addition, thank you to D’Orsogna and Baker’s Delight in Mosman Park for providing us with extra-special deals on produce to feed our hungry sailors and volunteers.

A big thank-you to our awesome team of volunteers (refer to list on the right). We had 63 volunteers both on and off the water, this event certainly would not have been possible without you.

Special mention and thank you to our Race Officers, Kim Laurence and Rob Hubbard, our Canteen Co-ordinators, Caroline Elms and Elizabeth Moore and Jury, John Standley who went beyond the call of duty in the lead up and during the event.

ICR fleet winners are detailed below:

Anderson, John	Eyles, Jarred	Milne, Anne
Armstrong, Ed	Eyles, Suzanne	Molyneux, Louise
Armstrong, Rochelle	Fethers, Andy	Molyneux, Simon
Atkinson, Kate	Fleet, Adam	Monro, Scott
Best, Kate	Foley, Andrew	Moore, Elizabeth
Best, Sam	Ford, Trish	Page, Monika
Blaauw, Gordon	Gill, Andrew	Pang, Lian
Bougher, Richard	Gillham, Sam	Rebane, Cindy
Bromberger, James	Hale, Penny	Sharpe, Kirsty
Brown, Tristan	Heatley, Aaron	Standley, John
Cameron, Debbie	Hoffman, Jennifer	Stanton, Michael
Cameron, Duncan	Hoffman, Simon	Stanton, Sharon
Capewell, Sam	Hubbard, Rob	Stephan, Marc
Chalmer, Peter	Kahn, Benjamin	Stephan, Pat
Clarke, Ian	Kornweibel, Natasha	Tarasewicz, Anna
Cooper, Karin	Langstraat, Mandy	Thomson, Karen
Crier, Mark	Laurence, Kim	van de Veire, Boudewijn
Deany, Ian	Ligovich, Lisa	Van der Struyf, Dirk
Dempsey, Sarah	Ligovich, Peter	Wellington, Russelle
Duthie, Brenda	Littlewood, Anne	Whelan, Sandra
Elms, Caroline	Lovelady, Rachel	Wright, Richard



	Boat	Winners	Club
29er	Knot Bothered	Axel Fleet and Jamie Randall	SoPYC
Bic Techno 293	Resolute	Roy Woodcock	RFBYC, RPYC, FSC
Contender	Black Tie	Simon Barwood	RFBYC
ILCA 4	In the Zone	Charles Toyn	FSC, RFBYC
ILCA 6	SKA	Antun Janekovic	RPYC
ILCA 7	Spike	Lawson McAullay	RPYC
Mirror	Take a Bite	Ella Maesepp and Marianne Perrie	WYC
OK Dinghy	Flight Risk	Scott Olsen	FSC
Open Skiff Intermediate	Thylacine	Oceana Vitales-Jones	RFBYC
Open Skiff Open	Sent It	Murray Duthie	SoPYC
Optimist Intermediate	Wave Shredder	Sijja Deng	SoPYC
Optimist Open	Aquamarine	Orlando Ligovich	RFBYC
WASZP 6.9	Foiled Again	Jamie Bougher	RFBYC
WASZP 8.2	Whiskey Alpha	James Kornweibel	RFBYC



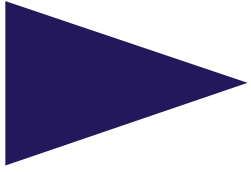
see images overleaf

ICR 2022



ICR 2022





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Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club

invites you to take part in the

TWILIGHT

Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club
Power Committee invites all time triallers, power or sail,
and their guests to join us for a summer twilight time trial and dinner

FRIDAY, 17 FEBRUARY 2023



TIME TRIAL

Course No. 224 commencing at 1800 hrs

This will be followed by a "Cook Your Own" BBQ.

Tickets for the BBQ are \$28 Per Person and include a complimentary drink on arrival.

Visiting boats are welcome to tie up alongside the main wharf.

Nominations close on Monday 13 February

(A minimum of 16 boats required for the event to proceed)

For further information contact

Sharon Skinner, Power Administrator

power@rfbyc.asn.au or or phone 9286 8200



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23rd International Flying Fifteen Australian Championship and World Championship Regattas

incorporating:
The 59th Flying Fifteen Australian Championship
The Flying Fifteen 2023 World Championship
and The Flying Fifteen 2023 International Championship

As Chairman of the World Championship Organising Committee and on behalf of the global Flying Fifteen sailing community, I would like to thank John Wilson and Endeavour Homes for their cornerstone sponsorship of the 2023 Flying Fifteen Australian and World Championship treasury. This substantial sponsorship underwrites the funding requirements for the event providing a level of financial certainty that enables the Organising Committee to conduct a World class event on the beautiful Indian Ocean offshore the port city of Fremantle. We look forward to providing sailors with a superb sailing program and to extend the best of West Australian hospitality to Flying Fifteen sailors from around the World and across the country in March 2023.

We will shortly publish the Notice of Race on the Flying Fifteen World Championship 2023 website flying15worlds2023.com and start to take entries to this prestigious event.

Regards,
Humphrey Hale
Chairman - Flying Fifteen World Championship
Organising Committee Fremantle 2023



9 - 25 MARCH 2023
Fremantle, Western Australia



Organising Authority



Host Venue



Supporting Club

MELBOURNE CUP DAY



MELBOURNE CUP DAY





75TH BUNBURY & RETURN OCEAN RACE

CELEBRATING
75 YEARS OF THE
ICONIC YACHT RACE
FROM PERTH TO BUNBURY
AND RETURN

The Bunbury and Return Ocean Race is neither the longest nor the toughest of WA's ocean races but it was the first. It will always have a special place in the State's yachting calendar.

1969 race programme

**RACE START - SATURDAY
11 FEBRUARY 2023**



If you would like to share some race history with us for the event, you can send images / articles / quotes and stories to offshore@rbyc.asn.au or get in touch with Suzzi at the Club

*images from
Bunbury and Return
race history,
left: Gelsma, 1954;
inset: the start 1948*



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 October and December 2022:

APPLICANTS	BOAT/TEAM	EVENT NAME	AMOUNT
DOMINIC BEER	XTASEA	ILCA NATIONALS 2023	\$300.00
ADAM BRENZ-VERCA	SWAN RIVER SAILING TEAM	HARKEN & BOLLE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH MATCH RACING CHAMPIONSHIP	\$400.00
ALASDAIR CAMERON	ALASDAIR CAMERON	29ER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS	\$300.00
ANGUS CAMERON	FULL SEND	29ER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS	\$300.00
RAY CHATFIELD	WIZZARDRY	PRINCE PHILLIP CUP - DRAGON NATIONALS	\$300.00
HARRY COOPER	LIGHT FURY	2024 MUSTO AUSTRALIAN OPTIMIST CHAMPIONSHIPS	\$300.00
NICHOLAS COOPER	LORD OF THE WIND II	2023 MUSTO AUSTRALIAN OPTIMIST CHAMPIONSHIPS	\$300.00
NICHOLAS COOPER	NICHOLAS COOPER	SAIL SYDNEY	\$300.00
THOMAS COOPER	NAUTI BUOY	SAIL SYDNEY	\$300.00
ALEXANDER EYLES	WINDRUSH TSUNAMI	2022 MUSTO AUSTRALIAN OPTIMIST CHAMPIONSHIPS	\$300.00
GRAEME FARDON	DRAGON - SAPHIRA	PRINCE PHILIP CUP - DRAGON NATIONALS	\$300.00
ZACHARY LITTLEWOOD	KAVORKA	2022 ILCA SENIOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS	\$450.00
IAN MALLEY	SAPHIRA	PRINCE PHILIP CUP - DRAGON NATIONALS	\$300.00
AMY MOORE	CONTROLLED CHAOS	OCEANIA & AUSTRALIAN OPEN & YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023	\$300.00
LUCAS PAGE	ITS ALL G	2023 MUSTO AUSTRALIAN OPTIMIST CHAMPIONSHIP	\$300.00
ETHAN PRIETO-LOW	SWAN RIVER SAILING TEAM	HARKEN & BOLLE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH MATCH RACING CHAMPIONSHIP	\$400.00
OWEN READY	COLUMBUS RACING	HARKEN & BOLLE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH MATCH RACING CHAMPIONSHIP	\$400.00
MILAN ROSE	OKALANI	SAIL MELBOURNE	\$300.00
MARCELLO TORRE	MARCELLO TORRE	HARKEN & BOLLE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH MATCH RACING REGATTA	\$400.00
			\$6250.00



WHEN THE CLUB RAFFLED AYERS ROCK

IT WAS ABOUT August in 1986 when Brian McGuigan launched a promotion for Wyndham Estate Wines. The deal was, every restaurant, grog shop or licensee in WA which purchased a pallet of Wyndham Estate wine would receive a bonus in the form of an invitation to a weekend party trip to Ayers Rock and Alice Springs. Bear in mind that a pallet contained 12 dozen bottles – no small tipples!

The Catering Manager at RFBYC at the time was Karl Van Kruysen and it was decided the Club would participate and then hold a raffle over several weeks to allocate the 'bonus' to a member. The rules were:

1. Anyone who purchased a bottle of Wyndham Estate wine was issued with a raffle ticket but only Club members were eligible to win (I think we had several).
2. You had to be present when the raffle was drawn.

As usual Jenny and I were present on that Friday (10 Oct 1986) at 7.30pm when the raffle was drawn. It just happened that the WA Agents for Wyndham Estate Wines (Lloyd and Jan Meredith) were old friends of mine and were present for the ceremony. They asked Jenny to draw the ticket.

FIRST DRAW:

Lachlan Hatch, one of our crew. Not present and not a member at that time. RE-DRAW.

SECOND DRAW:

Don't remember but not present anyway! RE-DRAW.

THIRD DRAW:

Basil Twine!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

This was greeted with much hissing, booing and call for another re-draw. No way was I going to let that go so I said to Lloyd Meredith that we had a very busy schedule and I didn't know when we could fit it in. He replied: We had better reschedule because the trip was on the following weekend and we were to be at the airport on Friday no later than 4.00pm.

ROLL ON FRIDAY 17 OCT 1986

4.00pm. Jenny and I (having re-scheduled our social calendar)

arrived at Perth Airport and were ushered into the VIP lounge for a cocktail party, given silly caps to wear and a glass of wine to drink. It turned out I knew quite a number in the crowd which included the Merediths, Peter Treleaven, Stewart Van Raalte. Fay and Brian McGuigan were the hosts and were introducing everyone to everyone as they poured Wyndham Estate Wines.

5.00pm. We boarded our chartered F28 Jet and settled in with a glass of Wyndham Estate (WE) wine poured by Brian McGuigan.

8.45pm. We arrived at Uluru (then named Ayers Rock), checked in to the new Sheraton Hotel and were invited to join a cocktail party with WE wines and fortunately, food.

Around midnight we went to bed to be woken at 5.30am Saturday so we could climb Ayers Rock.

SATURDAY

7.00am. We began climbing the Rock (and made it to the top). Then after a poolside Champagne BBQ breakfast, boarded a coach for transport via several waterholes and comfort stops to Alice Springs. Brian McGuigan was always on hand to offer a glass of WE wine if needed during the coach trip.

On arrival at Sheraton Hotel Alice Springs we just had time to check into our rooms before joining a pool party to relax with a glass of WE wine.

7.30pm precisely. We were all seated at a formal banquet comprising about five courses with carefully matched, specially selected, Wyndham Estate Wines. Fine and mostly coherent speeches accompanied

the appropriate toasts. The seating was prearranged and lucky me, I was placed next to an extremely attractive young lady. As our conversation drifted on (Jenny said I was trying to chat her up) I found we did have something in common when it turned out her father was an old classmate of mine from school.

After the dinner there was still time for a visit to the Alice Springs Casino.

SUNDAY

10.00am. We checked out of the hotel and joined a coach trip to Hornsby Estate Winery. Yes, they do grow grapes at Alice Springs, and make wine! Let me just express my opinion that the wine was 'very young and had not had a chance to develop and mature'. However, the lunch was fine and the entertainment by the legendary Ted Eagan and his wife was fascinating. Ted accompanied himself (singing) with his favourite instrument: a freshly emptied beer carton which he strummed and tapped.

After lunch we re-boarded our F28 Jet to fly home via Kalgoorlie. If anyone needed it there was still some WE wine to help while away the time before we landed at Kalgoorlie. This was always in the plan so we could visit the 'Two-Up' school but someone suggested it was really so we could get some HANNANS beer.

Final arrival back in Perth was at the fairly civilised hour of 7.00pm Just in time for a light dinner and a glass of Wyndham Estate wine.

Jenny and I still drink wines marketed by the McGuigans but these days it is mostly (by necessity) the non-alcoholic variety. ■

MEMBERSHIP

NEW CLUB MEMBERS



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

We welcome new applications for membership which can be completed online via the Club website. Applications need to be endorsed by two current members with at least five years of eligible membership. Members who are nominating a person should provide their Club membership number and email address to be included on the application. When the form is submitted online, an email request to verify the application and write a few words in support will be sent to the member.

Further information about completing an application for membership is available on the Club website. 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.
- Membership applications are placed on the notice board for a period of 26 days (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

Grantham Kitto
Elyse Ainsworth
Timothy Few
Cardin Langer
James Dunn
Tony Riggall
Giorgio Di Giulio
Adam Miethke
Thomas Brownbill
Nicholas Brownbill
Donald Strang
Sharad Shetty
Breton O'Mahony
Simon Haywood
Mark Endersby
Benjamin Kahn
Claire Webster
Charles Maasdorp

Proposer

Vice Patron Peter Ahern
Grant Alderson
Shann Evans
Vice Commodore Tim Cummins
Chris Bingemann
Rob Black
William Packer
Justin Tremain
Charles Thomas
Willy Packer
Mark Hohnen
Marina Eftos
Sean Martin
Grant Alderson
Mark Butler
Vice Commodore Tim Cummins
Adrian Pelliccia
Craig Knell

Secunder

Martin Webster
Zoe Thomson
Rod Stewart
James Healy
Nick Unmack
Rob Black
Eugene D'Orsogna
Christopher Michael
Willy Packer
Charles Thomas
Tony Ruse
Mark Tremain
Martin Ashby
John Hay
Frederic Flipo
Jay Halligan
Aaron Hood
Helga Weaving

ASSOCIATE

Member

Kate Bingemann
Dianne Clarke
Emma Lewis
Sally McMillan
Oriole Riggall
Amber Gibson
Anne Hocking
Irene Boyatzis
Nichola Strang
Neema Shetty
Christopher Webster

Proposer

Chris Bingemann
Rear Commodore Geoff Wells
Stephen Lewis
Mark Butler
Rob Black
Nick Gray
Richard Baird
Scott Monro
Mark Hohnen
Marina Eftos
Adrian Pelliccia

Secunder

Michael Bingemann
Vice Commodore Tim Cummins
Vice Commodore Tim Cummins
Andrew McMillan
Rob Black
Luke Paterson
Tony Bush
Evan Moore
Tony Ruse
Mark Tremain
Aaron Hood

RECIPROCAL

Member

Thomas Melsom
Simon Haywood
Stephen Lansell
Brenton Hazell
Matthew Mayne

Proposer

Mark Tremain
Grant Alderson
Will Hammond
Will Hammond
Rory Vinnicombe

Secunder

Tim Gardner
John Hay
Ross Dennis
Grant Alderson
Tim Gardner

JUNIOR MEMBERS

Member

Toby Foreman
Leo Stay
Alex Jordan
Henry Bauer
Elizabeth Perks
Darcy Harrison

Member

Aidan Keenan
William Whitehead
Aman Shetty
Owen Bauer
Bonnie Li
Scott Armstrong

Member

Charles Toyn
Zephan Jones
Maxwell Castalanelli
Hunter Lauder
William Weaver

MEMBERSHIP NEW CLUB MEMBERS



VALE 2022 PAST CLUB MEMBERS

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

Vice Patron Ron Packer 1950 – 2022, joined in 1962
Denis Cullity 1928 – 2022, joined in 1962 • Beverley Cowan 1941 – 2022, joined 2003

MEMBERSHIP

YOUNG ADULT WELCOME



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

04 JANUARY	TWILIGHT SAIL	28 JANUARY	ETCHELLS MICHAEL MANFORD SERIES - AM RACES
05 JANUARY	ROBERT OATLEY WINES MID WEEK SPRING/SUMMER SERIES RACE	28 JANUARY	BW8 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP HEATS - AM RACES
07 JANUARY	KEELBOAT CLUB RACING (REFER SPECIAL COURSES)	28 JANUARY	KEELBOAT CLUB RACING
08 JANUARY	NO RACING FOR OFF THE BEACH FLEETS	29 JANUARY	OFF THE BEACH CLUB RACING
09 JANUARY	CONTENDER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP REGISTRATION DAY	01 FEBRUARY	TWILIGHT SAIL
10 JANUARY	CONTENDER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP REGISTRATION/PRACTICE RACE	02 FEBRUARY	ROBERT OATLEY WINES MID WEEK SPRING/SUMMER SERIES RACE
11 JANUARY	CONTENDER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACING	04 FEBRUARY	KEELBOAT CLUB RACING
11 JANUARY	TWILIGHT SAIL	05 FEBRUARY	OFF THE BEACH CLUB RACING
12 JANUARY	CONTENDER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACING	08 FEBRUARY	TWILIGHT SAIL
12 JANUARY	ROBERT OATLEY WINES MID WEEK SPRING/SUMMER SERIES RACE	09 FEBRUARY	ROBERT OATLEY WINES MID WEEK SPRING/SUMMER SERIES RACE
13 JANUARY	CONTENDER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACING	10 FEBRUARY	75TH BUNBURY AND RETURN OCEAN RACE BRIEFING
14 JANUARY	KEELBOAT CLUB RACING	11 FEBRUARY	75TH BUNBURY AND RETURN OCEAN RACE
15 JANUARY	SWAN RIVER RETRO SERIES RACE	11 FEBRUARY	KEELBOAT CLUB RACING
15 JANUARY	FUN DAY FOR OFF THE BEACH FLEETS	12 FEBRUARY	OFF THE BEACH CLUB RACING
16 JANUARY	CONTENDER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RACING	15 FEBRUARY	TWILIGHT SAIL
17 JANUARY	CONTENDER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RACING	16 FEBRUARY	ROBERT OATLEY WINES MID WEEK SPRING/SUMMER SERIES RACE
18 JANUARY	CONTENDER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RACING	17 FEBRUARY	ETCHELLS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP - PM RACING
18 JANUARY	TWILIGHT SAIL	17 FEBRUARY	POWER YACHT TWILIGHT TIME TRIAL
19 JANUARY	CONTENDER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RACING	18 FEBRUARY	KEELBOAT CLUB RACING
19 JANUARY	ROBERT OATLEY WINES MID WEEK SPRING/SUMMER SERIES RACE	18 FEBRUARY	ETCHELLS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP - PM RACING
20 JANUARY	CONTENDER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RACING	19 FEBRUARY	ETCHELLS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP - AM RACING
21 JANUARY	KEELBOAT CLUB RACING	19 FEBRUARY	NO RACING FOR OFF THE BEACH FLEETS
22 JANUARY	NO RACING FOR OFF THE BEACH FLEETS	22 FEBRUARY	TWILIGHT SAIL
22 JANUARY	JESS MATCH CUP	23 FEBRUARY	ROBERT OATLEY WINES MID WEEK SPRING/SUMMER SERIES RACE
24 JANUARY (IN PLACE OF 26 JAN PUBLIC HOLIDAY)	ROBERT OATLEY WINES MID WEEK SPRING/SUMMER SERIES RACE	24 FEBRUARY	DRAGON STATE CHAMPIONSHIP - PM RACES
25 JANUARY	TWILIGHT SAIL	25 FEBRUARY	DRAGON STATE CHAMPIONSHIP - AM RACES
		25 FEBRUARY	KEELBOAT CLUB RACING
		25 FEBRUARY	DRAGON STATE CHAMPIONSHIP - PM RACES
		26 FEBRUARY	DRAGON STATE CHAMPIONSHIP - AM RACES
		26 FEBRUARY	SWAN RIVER RETRO SERIES RACE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

01 MARCH	TWILIGHT SAIL	23 MARCH	ROBERT OATLEY WINES MID WEEK SPRING/SUMMER SERIES RACE
02 MARCH	ROBERT OATLEY WINES MID WEEK SPRING/SUMMER SERIES RACE	24 MARCH	FLYING 15 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RACING
03 MARCH	KEELBOAT NIGHT RACE	25 MARCH	FLYING 15 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RACING
04 - 06 MARCH	PUBLIC HOLIDAY LONG WEEKEND - NO CLUB RACING	25 MARCH	KEELBOAT CLUB RACING (CLUB LINE ONLY)
08 MARCH	TWILIGHT SAIL	26 MARCH	OFF THE BEACH CLUB RACING
09 MARCH	ROBERT OATLEY WINES MID WEEK SPRING/SUMMER SERIES RACE	29 MARCH	TWILIGHT SAIL
09 - 12 MARCH	FLYING 15 AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP REGISTRATION AND MEASUREMENT	30 MARCH	ROBERT OATLEY WINES MID WEEK SPRING/SUMMER SERIES RACE
11 MARCH	KEELBOAT CLUB RACING (CLUB LINE ONLY)		
12 MARCH	OFF THE BEACH CLUB RACING		
13 MARCH	FLYING 15 AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP RACING		
14 MARCH	FLYING 15 AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP RACING		
15 MARCH	FLYING 15 AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP RACING		
15 MARCH	TWILIGHT SAIL		
16 MARCH	FLYING 15 AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP RACING		
16 MARCH	ROBERT OATLEY WINES MID WEEK SPRING/SUMMER SERIES RACE		
17 MARCH	FLYING 15 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP REGISTRATION AND MEASUREMENT		
18 MARCH	FLYING 15 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RACING		
18 MARCH	KEELBOAT CLUB RACING - VICE PATRONS TROPHY RACE DAY (CLUB LINE ONLY)		
19 MARCH	FLYING 15 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RACING		
19 MARCH	OFF THE BEACH CLUB RACING		
20 MARCH	FLYING 15 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RACING		
21 MARCH	FLYING 15 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RACING		
22 MARCH	FLYING 15 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RACING		
22 MARCH	TWILIGHT SAIL		
23 MARCH	FLYING 15 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RACING		

A peaceful bay

Sheltered from the sea

An inspiring sunset to contemplate and see

A soothing gin and tonic

How lucky are we?

What is that sound?

High pitched

How could that be ?

With a blasting stereo

What a travesty

The devil must have created it

A JetSki.

GFT

VALE

VICE PATRON RON PACKER

1950 – 2022



WITH DEEP SADNESS, the Club informs its members that Ron Packer, a Life Member since 2008, Vice Patron 2008–present, Past Commodore 1994–1996, and member from 1962–present, has passed away after a long illness.

Ron commenced sailing at the Club as a junior in the Pelican Class and later distinguished himself when appointed as navigator to Alan Bond's *Southern Cross* in the 1974 America's Cup.

Ron also had a strong offshore presence including winning the Sydney to Hobart as the navigator in the family-owned yacht *Rampage* in 1975 and the 1979 Admirals Cup aboard *Police Car* with his brother Chris (deceased). In 2001 Ron won

a National championship in the Flying 15 class and until recently sailed in the Dragon Class.

He remained the owner of the beautiful 45-foot launch *Cavalier* and was a regular visitor to Rottnest Island and his beloved Marjorie Bay. Ron was highly respected for his knowledge, sailing ability, good humour and commitment to the Club.

Ron was a tireless volunteer in the yachting community serving on many boards including Yachting

Western Australia, The Western Australian Yachting Foundation, Warren Jones Foundation and the Flying Fifteen Association.

Whilst Commodore 1994–1996 of RFBYC he had a pivotal role in the refurbishment of Cappoquin House and in particular the entrance foyer.

His guidance and commitment will be missed. ■

VALE

BEVERLEY COWAN

1941 – 2022



IT IS MY VERY SAD DUTY to report the passing of Beverley Cowan, a popular and much-loved stalwart of the power yacht division of this Club. Beverley was born on 11 November 1941 and left us on 7 December 2022.

Bev was a member of the Club in her own right for 18 years and was a great support to her husband our well known and respected power yacht Team Captain, John Cowan in various social and competitive roles. Where the pair were, there was always laughter and some memorable parties. However, Bev's support was usually promptly withdrawn as John thought it was time to render

his totally untrained version of 'The Impossible Dream' to encourage or reward the RFBYC team.

It was a great credit to Bev that after John's death in August 2006 she created and her family supported the *John Cowan Memorial Trophy* for time trialling. This is now a significant trophy in the Club calendar and has seen the now-legendary annual gathering of John and

Bev's descendants to renew their relationship to the Club.

Bev acknowledged the supportive role that can accrue to the wife of an office bearer in the Club. With her great 'joie de vivre', her support for the Club was significant, impressive and infectious. She helped to make the Club a fun place to be. We will miss that smile and treasure its significance.

Rodney Greville-Collins

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ON TRAILER



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New Year's Eve

2022

Celebration

From 6:00pm

SATURDAY, 31 DECEMBER

Members: \$65
Non-members: \$80

Bookings: rfbyc@rfbyc.asn.au
or 9286 8200



Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club