

**Cowes
Yacht Club**
Est 1958

COWES YACHT CLUB

NEWSLETTER

www.cowesyachtclub.com

Winter Edition - June 2011

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BEARERS
2010-2011**

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One needed !!!

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"Bring me four fried chickens and a coke"

to find out more see page 10

Queens Birthday Long Weekend

Saturday Night bring your own dinner, the bar staff WILL be there as usual. The "big screen" will be on and heaters going, so settle in and watch "Serious Ocean" at 7pm and at 7.30 "Monster Moves" transporting Multi Hulls from the Caribbean back to France after a trans Atlantic Race.

COWES YACHT CLUB AGM & Dinner

Saturday 23rd July

Meeting starts at 5.30 sharp

Dinner @ 7pm



Commodores Report

Hope the off season has been kind to you all and that there are no withdrawals being suffered from sailing. I don't think our heartiest sailors would even consider going out in the cold and wet we have been having. At the time of writing this article Winter hasn't even officially started. I think we may be in for a long cold Winter.

By now you would all have received your 2011 – 2012 invoices for club fees. It may have been a surprise for some of you to find this in your letterbox earlier than you have in recent past. Unfortunately the invoicing date had just slipped in recent years. The reason you have received the invoice is due to a number of reasons, they are as follows;

- To bring the invoicing cycle back to plan
- To line up with our financial year (1st May to 31st April).
- To match the voting requirements of our AGM
- Assist the cash flow of the club

We have also ensured we have kept any rise to an absolute minimum. The costs of running our club continues to increase with things like insurance, power & statutory charges all increasing in recent years.

The next official function is the dinner on the Queens Birthday Long weekend followed by the AGM. I will let others give you full details of that event. As for the AGM this is the most important date on our calendar. It is where you get to have your say in the running of your club. I ask all mark this important date into your diary and make every effort to attend. As always we would be happy to hear from anyone who would like to step up onto the CYC 2011 -2012 committee.

That's all for now so rug up and enjoy the Melbourne Winter. I look forward to seeing many of you on the Queens Birthday Long weekend and then at our AGM.

Regards
Glenn Plymin

The Committee will enforce Club Regulation 3.5 which states the following:

"Boats stored in the Yard must have their masts lowered and tied down between 15th June and August 31st each year unless such boat is competing in a Club Winter Racing Series"

Any member not complying will receive a \$50 fine.



Vice Commodores Report

Alas, winter is here, yet again, and wouldn't it be nice if we could all just curl up in our hulls and hibernate away for the months to come until the long warm rays of the sun once again awaken us. Or better still, transport our boats to the Aegean Sea. (Hey, we can all dream, can't we?) But not before one more final social function for the season to celebrate Christmas in July. Whilst still being finalised, this year we have booked different caterers to do a two meat spit roast with all the trimmings, so it promises to be a great night, and at a better price than last year, why wouldn't you want to come along? See details below for more information.

Whilst yours truly was enjoying the serenity at Bonnie Doon, I hear that the social events over Easter were a resounding success (and why wouldn't they be?), with a Blues Brothers themed dinner on Easter Saturday thanks to Vanessa and James, an Easter Egg hunt on Sunday and a great ANZAC social night, there was something for every age to enjoy. More about that elsewhere in this newsletter.

Speaking of successful nights, looking back on the season there have been several stand out nights (though they were all a resounding success and a credit to all the people who worked so hard to organise them). Thank you to everyone who 'volunteered' or were 'nominated' to help out on the social nights. One of the memorable nights lately having been the music night featuring The Acid Test, thanks to Andrew Cameron and his band. I think you guys will have a permanent booking at the yacht club from now on! Again, a great profitable night.

Looking forward to catching up with you in July,
Claire Plymin.

Cowes Yacht Club ~AGM Dinner

Saturday 23rd July commencing at 7pm

**adults ~\$30 per person*

**Child 12 or under ~ \$15 ea*

2 Course "spit roast" dinner

Bookings can be made by emailing

Claire at gplymin@bigpond.net.au (preferably)

or on the list in the noticeboard @ CYC

Bookings Essential

New Cowes Yacht Club Tackers

Sailing Program by *Russell Newman*



The Cowes Yacht Club is introducing the Tackers Sailing Program which will be run by the Boat Shed this year.

The Program will be running over five days from December 27th - 31st. This is an exciting time for the club as the program is designed to attract an increased number of primary school age children to sailing, have them participate in an initial "fun" sailing experience and progress on a pathway, to a full sail training course, non-competitive participation, and long term club membership at Cowes Yacht Club. The Tackers Mission emerged in the response to a desire to increase rates of participation in sailing at the grass roots level within Australia, particularly with regard to the number of children and young people entering the sport. The central theme of the mission is to deliver a more effective and structured approach to the attraction and retention of children within sailing at Yachting Australia affiliated clubs.



Tackers was researched, designed and piloted through investigating international junior sail training programs, entry-level junior programs in other sports, and through recognition of the dominant child health and physical activity messages disseminated through state and national government. The outcome of this process was the establishment of a strong rationale for the creation of a program specifically designed for children that

held appeal to the broader general public and could be delivered to large volumes of participants within Yachting Australia affiliated clubs.

We are at the early stages of the implementation of the Tackers program and we are seeking young enthusiastic people to help introduce the program at the Cowes Yacht Club. The next few years while the program is formalised at Cowes Yacht Club it will be run by the Boat Shed with their qualified Tackers Instructors. There are lots of opportunities for members to be involved and help support this invigorating new sailing program. The new program being implemented is accredited by Yachting Australia and will provide more positions at Cowes Yacht Club for sail training.

Enrolments for the new Cowes Yacht Club Tackers Sailing program can be made from our website www.cowesyachtclub.com

Cowes Yacht Club

Tackers Co-ordinator

Russell Newman

What a small world

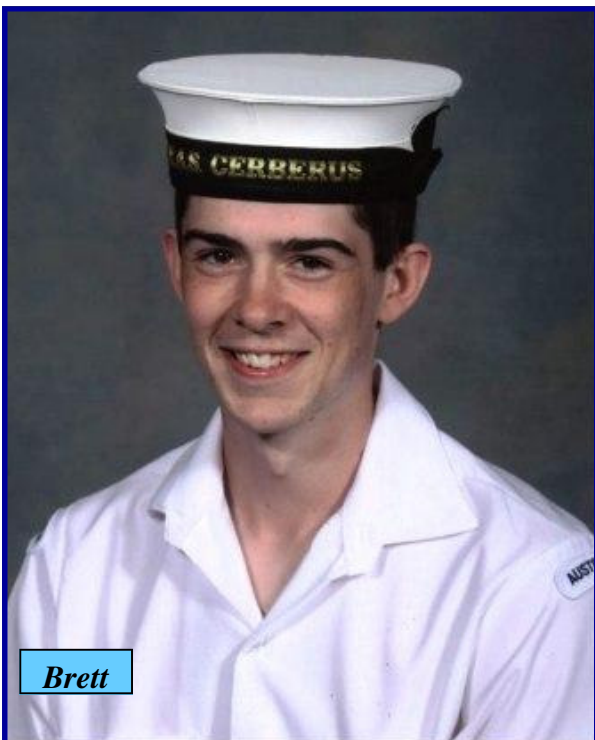
...it is

by Chris Walton

By now most of you know that our daughter Lea has completed her 12 month "Gap Year" stint in the Navy, and is studying Mech. Engineering at RMIT for the next 4 years to hopefully return back to the Navy fulltime.

You can imagine my surprise when one Sunday morning, over coffee at CYC, I was talking to fellow member Leonie Moran (her husband Greg sails a Windrush) to find that both our sons were going to be at HMAS Cerberus at the same time. Brett our son, and Chris, Leonie and Greg's son were in the same intake. Not only were they in the same intake they were undertaking similar roles in the Defence Force. Brett as a Combat Systems Operator and Chris, also a CSO but specialising in mine warfare. Brett searching above the water and Chris below.

Brett started his sailing with CYC when he was 12 completing the sail training course, and although I don't think he was too keen sailing with Brian on the cat !!!! (no surprises there) still held an interest, obviously with bigger boats.



Both Brett and Chris graduated on 22nd April. Chris with a score of 100% received the "Top Shot" award at the Ceremony. Both are now in Sydney studying their field.

I'll try to keep you posted
.....cheers Chris W

..... a Note from The Secretary 6

The past season saw the club reintroduce morning races, this unfortunately combined with less than average weather appeared to split the fleets with the majority of members either attending morning races or afternoon races. Moving forward the committee has decided to scratch the morning races and perhaps trial an earlier afternoon race. I am sure those members that were rostered on for all day duties will appreciate the cancellation.

As previously mentioned, by Russell, sail training in the upcoming season will be coordinated and run as the Tackers Program. The upshot of this also means that instead of volunteering their time, our sailing members will be able to participate in races while "Tackers" are running the sail training.

One of our up and coming youths is Natasha Van Rennes, I recently contacted "Tash" and asked if she could provide our members with an update of the past year and what opportunities lay ahead in the near future.....over to you Tash

This year I have had some fantastic opportunities come my way. I was selected for the Yachting Victoria Development Squad which gave me the opportunity to join the Sandringham Yacht Club High Performance Squad. This is aimed at those who want to attend a Laser Nationals or Worlds in the next two years.

Earlier this year I was sailing the laser 4.7 where I had the following results;

- Laser 4.7 State Titles 3rd Overall & 1st Woman, McCrae
- OAMPS Victorian Youth Championships 3rd Laser 4.7, Sorrento
- Australian Youth Championships 4th Female Laser 4.7, Georges River SC, NSW.
- Laser 4.7 Victorian Sailing Cup 1st (Selected Victorian regattas overall)



Some members may be aware that in February 2011 I applied for a place in the 4.7 Laser Worlds to be held in San Francisco (Late July). I received a place in the second round of allocations as the third ranking Australian girl. However, as I was planning to travel on my own the task at age 16 was quite daunting and we decided to decline the offer. I wish the Australian Laser 4.7 Team the best of luck and will be following their results with keen interest.



A few weeks ago, I changed class to Laser Radial which has a larger sail area. The optimum weight for the radial is 65kg, so at 54kg it is a tough challenge in the stronger winds but I am in the process of gaining some more weight! At this stage, my focus is on the Laser Radial Youth Worlds which will be held at Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron (Manly, Qld) from July 1-7 2012.

Tasmanian Cruise Feb 2011

by Ian Samuel

A once in a lifetime 10 day cruise of the Dentrecastraux Channel between Bruny Island and the South Eastern mainland of Tasmania, organized by the Victorian Trailable Yacht Association, attracted a mixed fleet flotilla of 11 trailer sailers to this magnificent channel with its 80 km stretch of natural beauty and protected anchorages .

Three Timpenny 670's, "Hydroxy" crewed by Ian and Fay Samuel of Phillip Island, "Red Hot Go" crewed by Jim and Lynn Holroyd of Melbourne and "Sedikat" crewed by Ian and Hilary Rice of Brisbane, along with three 8.5 Magnums, a Noelex 25, Ultimate 23, Hartley 18, Castle 650, and a Sunmaid 20 made up the flotilla.

After a smooth crossing on the Spirit of Tasmania and an overnight stay in Devenport caravan Park, the group trailed to The Derwent River Sailing Squadron where we were welcomed to stay overnight and use their facilities including BBQ, Club house amenities, boat ramp and trailer storage.

The bi-annual "Australian Wooden Boat Festival" at Coronation Dock Hobart was in full swing. A fantastic collection of in excess of 500 wooden boats of all descriptions and sizes, beautifully restored and maintained. Yachts, power boats, steam boats, sculls. We could not help but be impressed with the dedication and beauty of these craft and would recommend our readers to go to the next Festival in historic Hobart in 2013.



One of the many wooden boats



5 o'clock drinks at Kettering

Following launching at Hobart we sail / motored down the Derwent to Tinderbox Bay for lunch, then onto the marina at Kettering, a 20 km sail. Kettering is a very well protected harbour full of yachties with a new marina overlooked by the Pub.

After an overnight stay at Kettering with a visit to the local general store. We sailed over to Duckpond in Barnes Bay, North Bruny island. Anchorage was

totally protected with beaches of sand/ mud scattered with delicious rock oysters. Arrangements had been made for a bus trip across the sand isthmus to Discovery Bay on South Bruny Island and a thrilling fast inflatable boat trip with "Tasmanian Island Cruises" to the remote Southern cliffs of Bruny, a world heritage area of soaring dolomite cliffs, caves, seals and dolphins. The following day sailing south along the west coast of Bruny we stopped over at Simpsons point, but as the weather deteriorated continued onto Fancy Bay for overnight protection from the South Easterly.



RIB ride ~ South Bruny Island



Sunset, Tin Pot Bay ~ Bruny Island



Ian and Jims boats



Time to pack up and head for home

A long haul to the south the next day past a number of fish farms we found a great anchorage from the then North Easterly winds. Rubber duck trips to shore for the inevitable BBQ and some more rock oysters coupled with some sizeable flatheads and washed down with some delightful reds made a great evening meal.

The wind prediction building up to gale force and a change in direction to the North West prompted us to set sail the next morning under reefed sails (I had two reefs) to a safe anchorage at Port Cygnet on the Mainland.

The weather during crossing deteriorated and wind increased to 28 – 34 knts (measured) North Easterlies in open water with short breaking seas. Very disturbing, particularly as my jib halyard let go twice then trailed the jib on the leeward side in breaking seas before, with Fay at the helm, I could slither to the foredeck and recover it to the cabin This was combined with heavy rain and lost visibility. Thank goodness I had fitted a GPS prior to the trip as we relied on this for our course through the seas with a two reefed main only. The Timpenny performed remarkably well with only a two reefed main, making headway on a fine reach with no weather helm, and surfing down the waves in Port Cygnet. Both the Holroyd's and the Prices also reported a wild ride in their Timpenny 670'ss with reefed mains and dipping gunnels in the heavy conditions.

A very tired and battered flotilla arrived for the overnight anchorage at the Port Cygnet Sailing Club who also welcomed us to share their modest jetty and their clubs hospitality. The wind continued it's battering having now changed to the predicted South Westerly. A short walk to the local pub lifted our spirits where we enjoyed some great meals over the next two nights. Cygnet market day also held some delightful surprises with an abundance of local produce being offered by the locals.

At this stage the Holroyd's and we decided that we had sailed enough and spent the next two days prior to our return trip on the Tasman ferry visiting the Port Huon Wooden boat building academy, the Tahine Sky walk in the Hartz mountains, and enjoying an overnight cabin in Dover at Port Esperance.

The trip back was uneventful until Jim Holroyd parked his boat and trailer at home when the auto transmission failed entirely. Very lucky, as a breakdown on the Tassie mountains or on the Ferry could have been catastrophic

and very expensive. A very memorable and exciting trip, with incredible anchorages and local hospitality. Would we go again, quite likely, but it is not cheap as the Ferry cost \$1800 return and I would definitely take clothes for all weathers as we had hot spells and cold 6 deg nights.

My Two Bobs worth

..... by Chris Walton

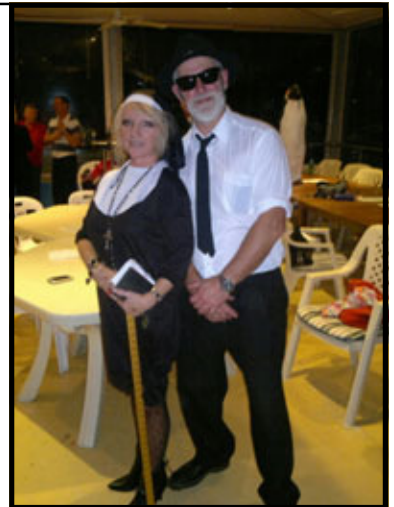
Well, well, well. How good was Acid Test on the Sunday night of the March Labour Day w/end @ CYC. Cammo, you guys rocked! I woke up Monday morning very croaky from singing so much. By all accounts everyone that attended had an absolute blast, even my "ol man" who isn't in to dancing but does appreciate good music, was groovin' near the bar.



With Mark Murphy (past member) on drums, Andrew Cameron on base (current member) and the rest of the band who donated their time to raise money for our club, a huge thankyou. The lead singer, had to rush off and head back to Melbourne after playing, as his wife was expecting twins. Definitely cannot wait til they play here again.



Roll forward to Easter, and a huge thanks to James and Vanessa, Darryl & Anna - (just gorgeous) and Bernd & Marie, for an entertaining "Blues Brothers Night". The movie, dress ups and competitions would have to have been one of the funniest nights I've had at the club in along time. The food was absolutely delicious too.



The whole evening went extremely well, and was worth every cent. There was even some sideline entertainment provided by "Sister Mary Stigmata" and a memorable performance of *Think* by "Mrs. Murphy" co owner of the soul food restaurant, that Aretha Franklin would have been envious of.

So after having a sleep in and a more relaxed Easter Sunday, we now move on to Monday ~ Anzac Day evening, where it was planned that Greg (Irish) Burns and his girls would entertain us. Greg bought along his guitar, mouth organ and keyboard. His daughters Laura and Amy played and sang along with their dad beautifully. Greg had spoken to another of our young members Will Saw, (base guitarist & member of a band that made it into the final of the "Battle of the Bands" comp.) asking him to join in.



Two more of our younger members Nathan and Louis Boudoukos who were in the audience that night, also were musically inclined. After a bit of coaxing from me they agreed to join in. Lewis playing guitar and vocals, and Nathan, guitar keyboard and vocals. (Nathan's band also played and won "Battle of the Bands" comp in a different district). With so many guitar players it was lucky that Tony Kirkhope had bought and donated a guitar to the Club.



Thanks Tony.....as you saw on the night it is being put to good use.

So that brings us up to date. This Saturday night of the Queens Birthday weekend, there isn't a dinner planned but if you would like to bring your own to cook, or even take away I'm hoping that some talented little member may pop up with the goods. Old or young.

We will be turning on the heaters early, so hopefully it will be nice and cosy, and the bar will be open. I will be putting on the "big screen" just before 7pm as there are a couple of shows on that could be rather interesting. Hope to catch some of you over the weekend.

Til then....Hoorooo from me 

CYC Members Travel Update

Jim and Lynn Holroyd, Adrian and Elizabeth Mitchell and Ian and Fay Samuel have headed off to the Mediterranean where they are currently chartering a 46ft Bavaria yacht for a two week bareboat cruise of the Greek Docdecanese Islands off the coast of Turkey.

Starting from the Island of Kos, the cruise will circumnavigate the string of Greek islands calling into the many small fishing villages and secluded anchorages where visitors are welcomed by the local inhabitants as a source of income. Family restaurants and local food abound in this picturesque part of the blue Mediterranean.

The team have completed numbers of charters over the years including, Croatia, Noumea, Corsica, Turkey, Whitsundays where sailing offers the opportunity to experience a wide range of local cultures and cuisine..

Thanks for the update Ian.

We look forward to hearing of your adventures Chris