

THE MAIN SHEET

The Hampton Sailing Club Newsletter

www.hsc.yachting.org.au



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DECEMBER 2009

Commodore's Corner

The holiday season seems to be approaching more quickly than usual this year, with only a short time to go until Christmas and the end of 2009. I'm sure many of us are looking forward to a break from work, and to spending a few quiet days out on the water. Let's hope for some warm evenings to enjoy relaxing at the Club – our balcony is a great place to sit and watch the sunset.

We got the festive season off to a fine start on the Saturday, 28 November when about 50 members and friends enjoyed a Christmas feast organised for us by Fiona Stephens and Leeanne Rothacker. The Clubrooms looked superb, the food was exceptional, and a great time was had by all – our Club has seen some memorable Christmas gatherings over recent years, but this one will be hard to beat.

The weekends through spring have not been kind in terms of afternoon sailing conditions, with several races abandoned due to poor weather. On the other hand, our Sunday morning Junior / Novice program has attracted a lot of interest, and it has generally been possible to complete activities before the weather closed in for the afternoon. Many thanks to Kevin, Monica and other members who have helped make that program a success – it gets under way again on 10 January, and continues through until April, so come along and hone up your sailing skills.

Our Club's involvement in 'Go Sailing Day' on Sunday, 8 November was very worthwhile. About 20 individuals and families visited during the day and received a typically friendly Hampton Sailing Club welcome. Most wanted to go for a sail, and we were able to accommodate them well –

those that arrived in the middle of the day had to be paddled round the harbour due to lack of wind, but still seemed to enjoy the experience. The day ran very smoothly, and the outcomes were a credit to the Club – many thanks to everyone who participated.

The next big event on our calendar is the 2009 ISAF Sailing World Cup (Sail Melbourne), hosted at Sandringham Yacht Club in the week beginning 14 December. Members of our Club will again be volunteering to help run this premier sailing regatta, which attracts top Australian and international competitors. As in 2008, our rigging yard will be used as the base for the men's and women's RSX sailboards. Our new HAMPTON SAILING CLUB banner will be on display throughout the week, so that everyone can see where the action is taking place. The banner looks superb (see photo in this newsletter), and will hopefully give us good service for years to come.

Other exciting news for the Club includes the purchase of an additional rescue boat – a 4.7 metre Zodiac. With increasingly large fleets involved in our weekly races, the Committee formed the view that a second inflatable was needed to provide improved safety for competitors, particularly when conditions are challenging. In addition, a second safety boat will enable the Club to offer a more diverse range of sailing activities in future – such as, weekend training or coaching sessions as well as racing.

Best wishes to all Club members for an enjoyable Christmas season, and for good sailing in 2010.

Stewart Simmons
Commodore



Racing Reports

The Spring Aggregate racing is now completed. So far this season we have had several light days and a number of races have been canceled due to strong winds.

The Summer Aggregate series begins on 20 December and runs through to 17 January.

Go Sailing Day Report

Our Club's involvement in "Go Sailing Day 2009" on Sunday, 8 November was a fantastic success, and I'd like to thank all members who participated.

As planned, we set up four dinghies (Laser, Pacer, Sabre and Impulse) in the parking area, to help attract visitors into the Club and provide a focus for discussion about the boats we sail at Hampton. As the day warmed up, the job of standing by these dinghies was probably the least attractive on offer, but Steve Moller and Peter Gray did a sterling job.

During the morning, we had four boats available to take visitors out for short sails around the harbour, ably skippered by Blaise Vinot, Monica Jones, Jorn Rose and Victor Zorin. Conditions during this part of the day were perfect for the job, with 12-15 knot northerlies providing lively but safe sailing conditions - as the accompanying photos show.

Kevin Kay was on hand in the rescue boat if needed, but had little to do but watch our visitors enjoying their sailing experience. Peter Dean deserves a special mention for managing the sailing roster, ensuring that all visitors who wanted to sail filled out their registration / indemnity forms and were well prepared with sunscreen and lifejackets.

Visitors received a warm welcome in the Clubrooms, with tea, coffee and soft drinks on offer along with information about the Club and sailing in Victoria. Most of the twenty or so individuals and families who came through on the day were keen to go out for a sail, and most took membership application forms away with them. All seemed to enjoy their visit to our Club, and it will be interesting to see whether that interest translates into membership applications.

After mid-day the wind fell away substantially, reaching zero for a short time just after 2:00pm before a southerly front arrived to liven up our afternoon Club race and save me from paddling visitors around the harbour in our Club's Pacer *Spindrift*. Visitor numbers were lower in the afternoon, but latecomers were again able to experience some lively sailing in the strengthening southerly.

All-in-all we had a great day (rounded off with an excellent barbecue), and I'm sure that all our visitors left with a very positive impression of Hampton Sailing Club. Many thanks again to all who were involved.

**Stewart Simmons
Commodore**



Monica with a visitor in the Club Pacer *Spindrift*.



Kevin in the Hampton Duck keeping an eye on proceedings.



Visitor with Blaise on board his Tasar.



Victor demonstrating to a visitor that it is possible to sail a 470 standing up.

Social Events

Our holiday feast was a successful night and we hope everyone enjoyed the evening. As you know Leanne & I decided to try our hand at catering for the evening so we could provide a low cost option for everyone. So with much planning and an enormous shop at the Queen Vic market we got underway. Our meats we bought at the King Island butcher in Highett who gave us a great deal for the club. We had a few helpers we would like to thank –Michelle Moller & Clare Adshead for helping to set up the room with tables & xmas decorations. And Sheila for making our beautiful Chocolate mousses for the night. Thank you. Fiona & Leanne

Our next social function will be a family BBQ on Sat Feb 13th 6.00pm. We'll make it an easy one & get everyone to bring meat for the BBQ & a salad or sweets to share. That way you can just turn up on the night if you feel like it!

Fiona & Leanne

Club House Bookings

Please note that the clubhouse has been booked for social events on the following dates:

- Thursday 17 December
- Friday 18 December.

Fiona Stephens

Purchase of a Further Patrol (Rescue) Boat

The Club has located a 470 Zodiac RIB powered by a 50 HP 4 Stroke Mercury outboard. It has been fitted with a new VHF radio and is awaiting the fitting of a new stainless steel propeller guard. Charles Bagossy has offered to clean the boat and fit protection for the radio when the boat becomes available.

The boat will be at the Club shortly. The much larger “rubber duck” will be able to fulfil many roles for the Club. As it is a quiet economical 4-stroke engine it only requires standard 91 octane petrol (not a mix) and engine oil levels will need to be checked (same as a car).

The Club is inviting suggestions for a name for the boat and is considering operational requirements for the boat.

Nominations for the name of the boat can be directed to Neil Watson or Charles Bagossy. Nominations close at the end of December 2009 and the will be announced in the February issue of the Main Sheet. The winner will receive a cheap bottle of wine.

Keith Parker

**Overdue Subscriptions**

In the October *Main Sheet*, I gave a gentle prompt to those members who wished to continue their association with the Club, but had not yet got around to paying their fees for the current year (which were due in May). The members concerned also received a flyer with their newsletter, encouraging them to

renew, or otherwise to advise the Membership Secretary (Richard Skews).

At that stage, and despite the success of the ‘early bird’ payment scheme offered this year, about 30 subscriptions were outstanding (that is, about a quarter of the total primary membership). According to the Club’s incorporation rules, all of these memberships became null and void at the end of August 2009, but the Committee had been willing to provide further time for payment.

Since October, some payments have been received, and some former members have advised that they do not wish to renew for the current year. However, we have yet to hear from others, including some regular users of the Club.

Unfortunately this situation tends to recur each year, representing a considerable nuisance for the Club and its committee members. This is particularly so when unpaid boat storage fees are also involved, and it is unclear whether storage places are going to become available for use by prospective new members.

At previous AGMs, Hampton Sailing Club members have been critical of committees that have failed to act decisively over unpaid fees. Members have made it clear that they do not appreciate the Club’s good will being taken for granted.

On that basis, the present committee has written individually to members whose 2009-10 fees remain unpaid, advising that their membership will cease at 31 December 2009. Un-financial members will not receive a copy of this or future Club newsletters, and will not be eligible to compete in any sailing events organised by the Club (unless visitor fees are paid). Un-financial members will be asked to remove any boat or other personal property that they have stored at the Club, and to return their Club key.

Prompt payment of Club subscriptions and fees is greatly appreciated, and contributes to the effective running of Club activities throughout each year.

Stewart Simmons
Commodore

Pacer and Javelin State Championships
Beaumaris Yacht Club
Labour Day Weekend (March 6-8) 2010

Hampton Sailing Club has offered to assist Beaumaris Yacht Club with the running of these joint State Championships, including on-water race management using *Lady Isa* and at least one of our rescue boats.

Skippers and crew are needed on each day of the event. Crew members should preferably hold a Powerboat Operator's licence – this is a great chance to gain some solid practical experience.

A roster will be worked out once we know how many HSC members want to participate, and which roles we will be asked to perform. Interested? If so, please enter your name on the list provided at the Club by 31 December, indicating the days on which you would be available.

If any further information is required, please contact Stewart Simmons on ph. 9598 6954.

Racing Rules – Rounding Marks

The *Main Sheet* will feature brief articles about rules that apply to situations commonly encountered on the racing course.

The direction to round marks of the course is set before the beginning of the race. The start boat will, prior to the start sequence, display either a red flag or a green flag. The colour of the flag indicates whether marks of the course must be left to port (red flag) or starboard (green flag).

If a mark is rounded in the wrong direction during a race, the offending boat must 'unwind' back around the mark and then round it in the correct direction. This effectively means the boat must make a full 360° turn around the mark.

The racing rules do not permit a boat to touch any part of the mark above water when rounding. This includes the body of the mark, or any flag, pole or mooring rope attached to it.

Touching the mark is defined as contact by any part of the boat or its crew. This includes the boat's hull, rigging, spars or sails.

The penalty for touching a mark is to make a full 360° turn (which includes one tack and one gybe) away from the mark, out of the way of other boats, and as soon as possible.

HSC Policy on Dogs

A bylaw of Hampton Sailing Club requires that any dog brought into the Club grounds is on a leash.

In addition, dogs are not to be tied up and left unattended.

Boat Insurance Firms

The bylaws of the Hampton Sailing Club also require that any person skippering a boat in club races be covered with appropriate third party insurance. Members report that the following companies offer policies for small boat sailors:

- RACV
- Tudor Insurance
- Club Marine (- not interested in insuring old plywood boats)

Protecting our Borders – Hotline

The Australian Customs and Border Protection Service is responsible for protecting the Australian community from illegal cross-border activity. While Customs and Border Protection is actively engaged in this activity, the protection of our borders can be enhanced through the involvement of members of the community who look out for and report suspicious activity along our coastline, in remote areas, and in and around ports and marinas.

Recreational clubs, such as the Hampton Sailing Club, can play an active role in protecting our borders by reporting suspicious activity. So while you are enjoying sailing, camping or other pursuits, if you see something suspicious, report it. Suspicious activity should be reported to the Customs and Border Protection Hotline on **1800 06**

1800. The Hotline has received over 30,000 calls, and has resulted in significant seizures of illicit drugs, illegal firearms, and endangered wildlife.

So, take note of anything unusual or suspicious that you see or hear, and report it. In doing so you too will be assisting in protecting Australia. The Customs and Border Protection Hotline is operational 24 hours seven days a week. To report anything unusual or suspicious, call **Customs and Border Protection Hotline on 1800 06 1800.**

From the HSC webmaster...

I would like to know how you use the website and what you would like to see on it. Comments, ideas, suggestions will help us to make it your preferred point of call for club information. Talk to me at the club or drop me an email: bvinot@bigpond.com.au

Blaise Vinot

Newsletter Items

We are keen to receive future articles for inclusion in the *Main Sheet* newsletter. Of particular interest sailing activities and events attended by Club members. Send contributions/items to my work email address:
russell.brown@dhs.vic.gov.au

Newsletters are published every 2 months and will be distributed about the middle/end of the month.

Russell Brown
Newsletter Editor

Look at this Cool Space

Many thanks are given to the committee's generosity, Fiona Stephens for selecting two new refrigerators, and Frank and Sheila Leipper for installing them in the clubroom.

Monica Jones and Kevin Kay, who work behind the scenes, have done a tremendous job of stocking and providing an economical assortment of drinks for the members' convenience.

An honesty system will continue to operate in the new drinks cabinet and a price list and money box is inside. Having a well functioning honesty system in our small club only adds to the ambience and friendly casual atmosphere so please continue to support our little sailing community by remembering to pay IOUs and supervise children's access to the refrigerator. If you access the drinks fridge, remember to check it is locked before you leave.

You will notice a new large refrigerator, which is available for social functions and general member usage, however, it needs to be kept clean and emptied after each use so please take foodstuffs home at the end of the day.

Some of you may be interested in knowing what happened to the old refrigerators. The old drinks fridge has gone to a recycling centre to meet its maker and the smaller refrigerator was too good to throw away so is available for a **BLIND AUCTION**. There is a limited two week bidding period so put your bids in NOW.

Refrigerator

Fysher and Paykel
Size: - height 810mm
width 525mm
depth 550mm

Condition: - Good
5-6years old
Missing one main shelf and large bottom plastic drawer.



BIDS: Send your bid by email to Keith Parker (keith@parkerkc.com) or leave your bids in a box, on the desk upstairs at the sailing club. *Please include your contact details when you make your bid.*

STARTING DATE:

18 December 2009

FINAL DATE FOR BIDS:

24 December 2009

The highest bidder will be notified of the details of where to collect your prize.

Sheila OShea

Boat for Sail

LASER

- Good condition
- Two rigs – Standard and M Rig
- Great for a family
- Sail Number 14170
- Price: \$1,500 ONO

Contact Keith Parker

Phone: – 9598 5884 or 0427 100 427

Boat for Sail

PACER

- Price: \$1,500

Contact Fiona Stephens

Phone: – 0412 497 703

Note:- There are other boats for sale – check the Club notice board for details.

Hampton Sailing Club 2009-10 Season – Aggregate / Championship Racing Calendar

Briefing: – 1:00pm

Start: – 2:00pm

Date	Race/s	Race Officer (on Lady Isa)	Lady Isa Skipper	Rescue Boat Skipper	Rescue Boat Crew
20-Dec-09	Summer Aggregate 1	Michael Cook	Andrew Cook	Blaise Vinot	Kevin Kay
27-Dec-09	Christmas Break				
03-Jan-10	Christmas Break				
10-Jan-10	Summer Aggregate 2**	Michael Cook	Nial Finigan	Monica Jones	Victor Zorin
17-Jan-10	Summer Aggregate 3**	John Maddick	Nial Finigan	David Thompson	Peter Dean
24-Jan-10	Australia Day Weekend – No Racing				
31-Jan-10	Club Championship followed by Autumn Aggregate	Frank Leipper	Ken Hope	Paul Johnson	Jeff Ward
07-Feb-10	Autumn Aggregate**	Frank Leipper	Ian Taylor	Russell Brown	Chris Dayman
14-Feb-10	Autumn Aggregate followed by Club Championship	Richard Skews	Ian Taylor	Julie Brennan- Smith	Chris Dayman
21-Feb-10	Autumn Aggregate**	Richard Skews	Elise Brennan- Smith	Martin Playne	David Seymour
28-Feb-10	Club Championship followed by Autumn Aggregate	Richard Skews	Elise Brennan- Smith	Neil Watson	David Seymour
07-Mar-10	Labour Day Weekend – No Racing				
14-Mar-10	Autumn Aggregate**	Paul Stephenson	Kevin Kay	Neil Cooke	Chris Jones
21-Mar-10	Autumn Aggregate followed by Club Championship	Paul Stephenson	Nial Finigan	David Jones	Chris Dayman
28-Mar-10	Autumn Aggregate**	Paul Stephenson	Nial Finigan	John Allison	Chris Dayman
04-Apr-10	Easter Sunday - No Racing				

11-Apr-10	Club Championship followed by Autumn Aggregate	Frank Leipper	Paul Stephenson	Fiona Stephens	Ralph Brown
18-Apr-10	Autumn Aggregate**	Frank Leipper	Paul Stephenson	Lex Cusin	Ralph Brown
25-Apr-10	End of Season Sail	Frank Leipper	Elise Brennan-Smith	Lex Cusin	Ralph Brown

** Junior / Novice Race scheduled for morning of same day – refer to separate calendar.

Hampton Sailing Club 2009-10 Season - Junior / Novice Racing Calendar

Briefing – 10:00am

Start - 10:30am

Finish by - 12:00noon

Date	Lady Isa Skipper*	Rescue Boat Skipper*
10-Jan-2010	Michael Cook	Stewart Simmons
17-Jan-2010	John Maddick	Blaise Vinot
07-Feb-2010	Frank Leipper	Fiona Stephens
21-Feb-2010	Richard Skews	Monica Jones
14-Mar-2010	Paul Stephenson	William Brown
28-Mar-2010	Paul Stephenson	Ralph Brown
18-Apr-2010	Stewart Simmons	Blaise Vinot

*Lady Isa and Rescue Boat crews will be arranged in the week prior to each race.

