

THE MAIN SHEET

The Hampton Sailing Club Newsletter

www.hsc.yachting.org.au



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DECEMBER 2011

Commodore's Corner

While the weather gods have not been on our side this year, the sailing season has started in anger! We have had more than our fair share of race cancellations due to strong winds and those races we have sailed were either seriously lacking any consistent wind, or more than some of us could reasonably handle. With the spring series winding up before Christmas we might have to double up and sail two short races each afternoon to get a series in, so stay tuned!

After Christmas we are looking at running morning sailing on an informal basis every fortnight. So those who want to have an informal sail, either to get more practice, do some novice training or try something different in what are (usually) lighter conditions see David Thompson's article in this edition of the *Main Sheet*.

On a more serious note some of us will be aware that two kayakers set out from Sandringham harbour, the weather turned and they did not return. A sobering reminder that we all need to be aware of our own abilities and limitations and always have a weather eye on the conditions as they can change quickly. While the club may (or may not) run a formal race or have rescue boats on the water it is still your responsibility to maintain a seaworthy craft, sign on or sign the day book, wear appropriate lifejackets and decide if the conditions are suitable for you – when to come in or whether to go sailing at all.

Off the water we have had a busy two months. We held a successful Go Sailing day with a number of families, couples, and parent and child combinations all trying sailing – we even have a number of new

members resulting which is great. So if you see a new face please make them feel welcome. Thanks particularly to Michelle Moller and all the volunteers on the day.

The official opening of the clubhouse extension went particularly well with over 60 people in attendance to witness the cutting of the ribbon by Murray Thompson, the local member. In addition, the glimpse into the club's former life from the ladies of the VLYC was truly eye opening – what a remarkable spirit they all have. Thanks to all involved especially Stewart, Fiona and Leanne.

Speaking of Fiona and Leanne, our club Christmas celebration was another night to remember with spectacular food, strange coloured drinks and great company. Thank you to all who helped make this a successful evening.

In closing, I would like to wish all a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year and hope to see you on the water soon!

John Adshead
Commodore

Racing Reports

Strong winds continue to plague our racing season this year. We have managed to get in two races over the last fortnight. Fleets were not large, but you can check the results on the HSC web site. Hopefully we will get some better sailing weather in the lead up to Christmas.

David Thompson
Sailing Secretary

Sunday Mornings – Junior / Family Sailing



Now that the water’s finally warm, we will be running Sunday morning sailing for families and juniors. Depending on the experience of the participants, the mornings will include general sailing, drills, games & activities, coaching and green fleet racing. Dates are given in the table below.

Sundays 9:30am – 11:30am

David Thompson

| Dates for Junior/Family Sailing/Coaching |
|--|
| 8 January 2012 |
| 22 January 2012 |
| 5 February 2012 |
| 19 February 2012 |
| 4 March 2012 |
| 18 March 2012 |
| 1 April 2012 |
| 15-Apr-12 |

Go Sailing Day – Sunday, 6 November

Typically variable weather occurred on the day, from strong winds to no wind at all. However, our keen volunteers were happy to take visitors onto the water to give them some sailing experience.

HSC had a total of 16 participants (5 families and 3 individuals) throughout the day and a couple of "drop-ins" wanting pamphlets only. I believe we received at least one new membership from the day and a boat sale, so that makes it worthwhile.

A suggestion was made that HSC may choose to do its own "Go Sailing" day targeting local primary schools early in the new year.

Thanks are extended to John and Clare Adshead, Stewart Simmons, Frank Leipper and Sheila, Neil Watson, Blaise Vinot, Russell and William Brown, Steve Moller, David Thompson, Jane McGann, Robyn McKeown, Charles Bagossy, Hugh Anderson and Yachting Victoria for assisting with ideas and promotion.

**Michelle Moller
Co-ordinator**

Social Events

The HSC annual Christmas Party was held on Saturday, 3 December. The members and guests who attended all had a great night in a wonderful atmosphere and relaxed surroundings. This event is truly one of the highlights of the HSC social calendar.

Congratulations again to Fiona, Leanne and the helpers who did such a great job with the lavish decorations and table settings, and with the food/drink on the night.

Some HSC members celebrate New Year’s Eve on the balcony of the club house. It’s BYO everything, but come and join us.

Official Opening of Club House Extension – Saturday, 19 November



The new Club facility

Proceedings were commenced by the Immediate Past Commodore, Stewart Simmons. The Commodore, John Adshead told the gathering of some 70 members, past members, past Commodores, yachting officials, historians and other invited guests, of the long history of the Club.

The original club was the Victorian Ladies Yacht Club which started in 1945. In 1982 it opened its doors to males and females and was renamed the Hampton Sailing Club.

Mr Murray Thompson, Member for Sandringham, unveiled a plaque to commemorate the completion of the Club's new extension. In his speech to open the facility, Mr Thompson said that while Victoria attracted many grand prix and international events, it was important that clubs like this one existed to provide the community with the opportunity for active participation in sailing, as this was all part of a way of keeping the community fit and healthy.



Murray Thompson, with Commodore John Adshead and Immediate Past Commodore Stewart Simmons

The extension was built largely by volunteer labour by the members. Leadership was provided for the project by Frank Leipper, who devoted a huge amount of time in getting the project completed.



Frank Leipper, project leader; and the cutting of the ribbon by Murray Thompson, MP.

Happily a large number of former VLYC members were able to attend. Former VLYC member, Marion French from that time spoke of the many happy memories so many women had had in sailing on Port Phillip Bay in those early days 50 or more years ago. She noted how good the Club was looking these days.



Former VLYC members celebrating

A Voyage aboard the Young Endeavour



A few months ago I participated in a voyage on the STS Young Endeavour. The tall ship is operated and maintained by the Royal Australian Navy and is used to provide sail training to Australian Youth.

We left the berth in Woolloomooloo, Sydney, on the afternoon of the 18th of July. The Youth Crew of 24 were separated into 3 watches, and by the end of the night, anchored in Elizabeth Bay, the whole youth crew had completed their first climb to the topgallant yard on the foremast, 33 m up in the air, aided by an amazing team of staff members who were contagiously cheerful and enthusiastic, and always there to help us achieve the impossible with a smile on their faces.

We left Sydney Harbour on the evening of the 19th, having completed our first sets of tacks at our assigned tacking stations to the satisfaction of our Captain. We learnt that effort and teamwork are indispensable in sailing a tall ship, and with that we headed off into the open sea, with 20 knots of wind expecting to rise.

Things were going smoothly until the wind picked up around 1800. My watch for the night was the 'guts' watch from midnight to 0400. The wind had picked up to about 40 knots, and most people were feeling at least a bit queasy. During our watch most of us were sick and the wind rose to gusts of 50k knots. Yet we had to keep going, and despite the ugly feeling of seasickness we had an amazing time. During breaks in the rain, the clouds parted and it was a magical feeling to sit among the waves, see the stars and feel like the only people in the world. At the end of the watch, unable to face the thought of the manky smell of seasickness below I ended up spending another 4 hours on deck!

We spent most of the rest of the voyage sailing in and out of Broken Bay, learning the ropes, looking after the ship, getting to know each other, sitting anchor watches at night and braving the never-ending rain. Sydney and surrounding areas experienced the most rain to have fallen in 45 years. After dinner we spent time playing games, doing teambuilding

and communication exercises and even karaoke and mini Olympics competitions in midships.

On one of our last days aboard, we Youth Crew were given the chance to put our newfound knowledge to the test, and were given 24 hours in control of the ship: in this time we had to sail back to Sydney via some waypoints, and complete a set of 22 tasks detailed by the 'staffies', which we completed with full marks.

My voyage upon the Young Endeavour has been an unforgettable experience. The friendships and things I learnt aboard will be with me for life. I strongly encourage any person interested between the ages of 16 and 23 to apply via the Youth Scheme's website: <http://www.youngendeavour.gov.au/site/>

Myriam Vinot

Flying 11s



The two Flying 11s we have on loan from the Flying 11 Association of Australia will soon be returning to NSW for the F11 Nationals, before being allocated to another Victorian club for next season.

The objective of the association is to let as many Victorian juniors experience these great little boats as possible and to build local interest in the class.

The feedback from my kids has been very positive – they're great fun and very responsive.

If you'd like to try one of these great little boats, talk to David Thompson.

Maintenance of Private Trolleys

Members with boats at the Club often have them stored on trolleys. Due to conditions and how they are used, trolleys tend to deteriorate quickly and unfortunately, maintenance is not always what it should be.

Flat tyres and broken rusted struts are a frequent problem. Over the New Year period, the Committee will be conducting a review of the condition of trolleys and some members may be requested to repair or remove them from the Club.

Members are also reminded of the need to label their property stored at the Club. In the New Year the Committee will be looking at what property has been abandoned and can be disposed off.

Neil Watson
Boat Storage Officer

Boat Storage Sheds at HSC

The two main Boat Storage Sheds at HSC (apart from the one along the Southern fence) were built around forty years ago and no longer meet the needs of a modern sailing club. To be frank they are dilapidated, look shabby and were built of asbestos sheets.

The Committee has had the asbestos examined by appropriate experts and they see no danger in its current use and condition. The Committee has agreed however, that over the next five years the sheds should be removed and new ones built. To do this we will need to engage experts in removing asbestos and volunteers will be able to do much of the construction.

It is important that the new sheds meet our future needs, are well designed and enhance the appearance of the Club. A Sub committee

has been appointed to gather information and come up with a draft design.

Over the Christmas, New Year period members will be out and about the beach and I would invite members to look at boat storage facilities at other clubs and send me any comments or advice. In this way, we will be able to gather more information and ideas.

I will keep members informed as this matter develops.

Neil Watson
Boat Storage Officer

ISAF Sailing World Cup – Sail Melbourne 2011

Sail Melbourne, the opening round of the 2011-12 Sailing World Cup, attracted top Australian and international competitors for an excellent week of racing in early November. Once again, the quality of event organization and race management was outstanding, and the facilities at Sandringham Yacht Club (particularly the newly upgraded off-the-beach area) were appreciated by everyone involved.

Weather conditions throughout the week varied considerably, but racing only had to be abandoned on day three (Wednesday 9th) due to heavy winds and storm warnings. Fortunately, a return to more manageable conditions on day four and for the remainder of the week enabled all classes to complete a full program of racing, with excitement building up in preparation for medal races on the final day.

As in previous years, Hampton Sailing Club was well-represented in the running of the event, with Club members helping out as volunteers on land and on the water, and our rigging yard being used as the base for the RS:X sailboards. Thankfully, there was little work for safety boat crews to do for most of the time this year, so those patrolling the three race courses had plenty of time to watch the action. Volunteers involved in mark-laying and start / finish line duties were kept much busier on some days, with frequent course

changes required to keep up with shifts in wind direction.

By the end of the week, everyone seemed to agree this was one of the most successful and enjoyable Sail Melbourne events so far. The annual regatta really is a great opportunity for local volunteers to get involved in running a top-quality sailing event, so let's hope that it continues for many years to come.

Summaries of each day's competition are available on the Sail Melbourne website (<http://sailmelbourne.com.au/>), along with excellent videos of action throughout the week.

Stewart Simmons

Sabre State Titles – 11 & 12 February 2012



The folks at the Victorian Sabre Association will be holding their 2012 State Titles at Sandringham Yacht Club on the weekend of 11-12 February (with the following weekend as a contingency in case of bad weather).

This is a great opportunity for Hampton Sabre sailors to get involved in all the excitement of a class regatta right on our doorstep, and meet up with other Sabre enthusiasts.

Information about the event is sketchy at the moment, but keep an eye on the Sabre Association website

(<http://www.sabre.org.au/victoria>) for more details.

Newsletter Items

Contributions to the *Main Sheet* newsletter can be sent to my work email address: russell.brown@dhs.vic.gov.au

Russell Brown
Newsletter Editor

Boats for Sale

Pacer – “Spindrift” Sail No 2480

- Fibreglass Pacer
- New mast in 2009
- Includes jib and main sail - currently not rigged for a spinnaker.
- Does not come with a trolley or trailer.
- Fair condition: \$600
- Contact David Thompson for details

Pacer Pursuit – “Tammie Norrie” Sail No 009



- Mk 1 Pacer Pursuit – Fibreglass hull, ply foredeck.
- The original Pursuit is a standard Pacer hull with a larger sail plan and single trapeze. Includes jib and mainsail. It's rigged for spinnaker, with a spin chute built into the foredeck. The spinnaker is damaged, but could be repaired or used as a template for a new kite (quoted A\$300 for replacement kite)
- Does not come with a trolley or trailer
- Fair condition: \$600
- Contact David Thompson for details

Tasar – “Peninsular” Sail No 1953

- Orange hull /cream deck.
- Raced regularly and well maintained.
- New North mylar sails in 2009/10
- Price: \$4,000

Contact Blaise Vinot for details

Sabot – “Red Rocket” Sail No V185

- Fibreglass foam sandwich hull with ply deck
- Alloy mast & boom / dacron sail
- Recently painted topsides
- Sadly the family has outgrown Red Rocket.

Contact David Thompson for details

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Hampton Sailing Club Racing Calendar – 2011/2012 Season

Briefing: – 1:00pm

Start: – 2:00pm

| Date | Event | Comments | Race Officer Duty | | Race Officer Duty | |
|-----------|---------------------|--|-------------------|----------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| | | | Lady Isa Skipper | Assistant | Red Skipper | Red Swimmer |
| 02-Oct-11 | Commodore's Cup | Event format to be determined by Commodore ! | Frank Leipper | Michael Dwyer | David Seymour | Alan Bolger |
| 09-Oct-11 | Club Champ | | Paul Stephenson | Ralph Brown | Jorn Rose | Allan Lees |
| 16-Oct-11 | Spring Aggregate | | Ian Taylor | Russell Baker | Peter Gray | Ron Van Rennes |
| 23-Oct-11 | Club Champ | | Stewart Simmons | Fiona Stephens | Julie Brennan-Smith | Cameron Kent |
| 30-Oct-11 | Spring Aggregate | Melbourne Cup Weekend | Blaise Vinot | Kate Vinot | Neil Watson | Victor Zorin |
| 06-Nov-11 | TBA | Go Sailing / Sail Melbourne Weekend | Steve Moller | Neil Cooke | Robin McKeown | David van der Straaten |
| 13-Nov-11 | Spring Aggregate | | Charles Bagossy | John Allison | Paul Johnson | Hugh Anderson |
| 20-Nov-11 | Club Champ | | Michael Cooke | Clare Adshead | Martin Playne | Jean Pierre Cabrol |
| 27-Nov-11 | Spring Aggregate | | David Jones | Chris Jones | William Brown | Jeff Ward |
| 04-Dec-11 | Club Champ | | Monica Jones | Cody Field | Peter Gray | Irina Angelova |
| 11-Dec-11 | Spring Aggregate | | John Maddick | Claude Vergez | Lex Cousin | Susan Hatton |
| 18-Dec-11 | Spring Aggregate | | John Adshead | Russell Brown | Bruce Haddock | Fiona Bennett |
| 25-Dec-11 | No Racing Scheduled | Christmas Holidays | | | | |
| 01-Jan-12 | No Racing Scheduled | Christmas Holidays | | | | |

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|-----------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 08-Jan-12 | Autumn Aggregate | | Frank Leipper | John Allison | David Seymour | Allan Lees |
| 15-Jan-12 | Club Champ | | Paul Stephenson | Russell Baker | Jorn Rose | Alan Bolger |
| 22-Jan-12 | Autumn Aggregate | | John Maddick | Ralph Brown | Peter Gray | Fiona Bennett |
| 29-Jan-12 | Club Champ | | Stewart Simmons | Michael Dwyer | Julie Brennan-Smith | Ron Van Rennes |
| 05-Feb-12 | Autumn Aggregate | | Blaise Vinot | Kate Vinot | Neil Watson | Cameron Kent |
| 12-Feb-12 | Special Event | 1 day series (Short Course) | Russell Brown | Fiona Stephens | Robin McKeown | Victor Zorin |
| 19-Feb-12 | Autumn Aggregate | | Steve Moller | Neil Cooke | Paul Johnson | David van der Straaten |
| 26-Feb-12 | Club Champ | | Charles Bagossy | John Adshead | Martin Playne | Hugh Anderson |
| 04-Mar-12 | Autumn Aggregate | | Michael Cooke | Clare Adshead | William Brown | Jean Pierre Cabrol |
| 11-Mar-12 | TBA | Labour Day Weekend | David Jones | Chris Jones | Peter Gray | Jeff Ward |
| 18-Mar-12 | Autumn Aggregate | | Monica Jones | Cody Field | Lex Cousin | Irina Angelova |
| 25-Mar-12 | Club Champ | | | | | |
| 01-Apr-12 | Autumn Aggregate | | | | | |
| 08-Apr-12 | No Racing Scheduled | Easter Weekend Holiday | | | | |
| 15-Apr-12 | Autumn Aggregate | | | | | |
| 22-Apr-12 | Club Champ | | | | | |
| 29-Apr-12 | Shipwreck Classic | End of Season Sail | | | | |

