

THE MAIN SHEET

The Hampton Sailing Club Newsletter

www.hsc.yachting.org.au



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APRIL 2011

Commodore's Corner

Regrettably, I have to begin this Commodore's Corner with an apology to those who have been looking forward to the official opening our Club's new extension (combined with showing of a couple of short films about the Club and its surroundings), which had tentatively been planned for Saturday, 21 May. This proposed date has turned out to be unsuitable for a number of reasons, so it will be necessary to postpone the event until later in the year. I'll make sure that plenty of notice is provided when a new date has been set.

In the meantime, members who have visited the Club in recent weeks will have noticed that work is continuing on the various small jobs required to complete the extension. Frank Leipper and Neil Cooke have been fitting door and window trims inside, and it is no longer necessary to jump a gap in the floor when entering the new room. Exterior flashing has been completed around the base of the upper storey walls, and preparations are being made for finishing off the roof trim and replacing the storm water system. This is a great outcome for the Club, and thanks are due to all members who have participated.

Our fickle climate seems to have decided not to bother with autumn this year, and move straight towards the chilly days of winter. Temperatures have dropped noticeably over the past few weeks, and our racing fleet has had to contend with some changeable and difficult conditions, including a 'southerly buster' and an afternoon of fairly aimless drifting. Despite this, we've managed to notch up a good tally of races during the season, and it will be interesting to see how the final results work out. Our last official

race in the current program is a Club Championship event on Sunday, 17 April – if the conditions are good, I encourage everyone to get involved, and let's see a record fleet on the water to finish the series.

Following Easter weekend, we have our informal End of Season race scheduled for Sunday, 1 May. Again, it would be good to see a large turn-out of boats, and I'll try to arrange something slightly out of the ordinary for our race on that day. Most importantly, we also need to see the season out in good style, with a family get-together and barbecue to round off the afternoon.

This issue of the *Main Sheet* includes information on our Club's Annual General Meeting (AGM), which will be held on the afternoon of Sunday, 29 May (followed by presentation of prizes for the current sailing season). This meeting provides an opportunity for members to hear how the Club is faring, and raise any comments, questions or suggestions about the Club's future.

Importantly, the AGM is also the time when a new Committee is appointed to steer the Club through the year ahead. All senior and honorary members are eligible for appointment to the Committee for 2011-12. There's plenty of scope for fresh energy and ideas, and no shortage of opportunities for undertaking worthwhile projects. Anyone interested in finding out more about the Committee and the roles available is most welcome to contact me.

In closing, I'd like to acknowledge members' involvement in two quite different recent events that illustrate the range of activities happening at our Club these days:

Finally, I want to acknowledge all of those Club members who attended the recent Marine VHF Radio Operator's Certificate course. The presenter (Ross McAllan) tells me that he very much enjoyed running the course, and we'll hopefully be welcoming him back to deliver other courses in future. A total of 15 participants sat the final exam on the evening of Monday, 28 March and the papers have been sent off to Tasmania for marking – best wishes to all for a successful outcome.

I'd also like to thank Fiona Stephens and Leanne Rothacker for organising their most recent success in the Club's social program. The 'Mexican Night' on Friday, 1 April was lots of fun, with about 25 members enjoying excellent food and expertly presented drinks, in an ambience helped along by decorative cacti and Mexican hats. No-one can say that our Clubrooms aren't put to good use!

See you at the Club and on the water.

Stewart Simmons
Commodore

2010/2011 Sailing Season



Hampton Sailing Club hosted a heat of the Javelin Victorian Championships on Sunday, 27 February. The half dozen or so visiting Javelins had a separate course and started before our Hampton boats. Gentle conditions prevailed for the whole afternoon and we were all treated to a great barbeque after the race. Good feedback was received from the Javelin sailors about the race organisation, and the food.

What are those two little skiffs?



There have been a number of questions about the two Flying 11's sitting in our yard. The two boats are on loan from the Flying 11 Association, with the aim of promoting the Flying 11 class to Victorian juniors.

A number of our junior sailors (and at least one senior) have been enjoying these nimble boats while they've been at the club. They're exhilarating in 15-20 knots, and are a great

intermediate class for those juniors stepping out of Minnows, Sabots or Optimists.

Any HSC junior is welcome to take the F11's for a spin.

We're also looking for Skipper/Crew for who'd like to compete in a Flying 11 at the OAMPS Victorian Youth regatta at Sorrento (24th & 25th April).

Contact David Thompson for further information.

HSC at the Victorian Schools Team Racing Championships



The Victorian Schools Teams Racing Championships were held at Albert Park Lake over the 31st March and 1st April.

This is a huge two day event, with 24 school teams, somewhere in the vicinity of 200 competitors and 200 races over the two days.

I was lucky enough to observe the first days sailing and was amazed by the high standard of competition. The level of boat handling, rules knowledge and race tactics demonstrated by these junior and youth sailors was outstanding – as was the obvious passion they have for the sport.

Four members of Hampton Sailing Club competed in the event, representing their schools against some of the best junior and youth sailors in the State.

- Alex Thompson
- Angus Moller
- Ben Ahead
- Tash Van Rennes

Hobart Wooden Boat Festival



The biannual Hobart Festival has become an exciting event for traditional boat lovers from all over the world. I can recommend it to members who are thinking of holidaying in Tasmania.

In February I had the privilege of crewing on the Top Sail Schooner *Enterprize* while it was in Hobart. The *Enterprize* is a regular participant in the Festival, taking nine crew and eight passengers to Hobart, taking part in the event and then returning to Melbourne with another crew and consignment of passengers.

Whilst based at the Elizabeth Street Dock I was pleased to meet member Ralph Brown and ex-member Rod Crisp who were taking in the sights. Later I learned that John and Bev Harvey were also in town to see the Festival.

In the world of square-sail ships there were some big ones at the Festival, they included the *New Endeavour*, *James Craig*, *Before the Wind*, *Enterprize* and *Lady Nelson* as well as several hundred smaller craft and steam boats. There was even a traditional Japanese wooden vessel. The Sail Past was very impressive with billowing sails and flags just as it must

have been in the 19th Century. John Harvey tells me that he witnessed a major collision between two of the participants where a mast was brought down.

The *Enterprize* was at the Festival to show the flag and to do business. We were doing four 2 hour cruises per day taking paying passengers on a sailing experience on the Derwent, as well as corporate functions. As part of our marketing strategy we periodically fired the ship's gun to gain the attention of the crowds on shore.

I was lucky to get a bunk in the saloon with six others rather than the cramped and wet focsle.

I understand that the sail down to Hobart experienced 60 Kt winds at 3am in the morning when all hands were called on deck to urgently douse the sails. The return journey was uneventful by comparison.

Neil Watson

Social Activities - End of Season Barbeque

An invitation is extended to all Hampton Sailing Club members and their families to attend a barbeque after the End of Season race on **Sunday, 1 May**.

The Club will supply barbeque meat and salads for all who would like to come along. BYO drinks (or buy from the Club fridge).

For catering purposes, please RSVP to Fiona Stephens 0412497703 or email on fionastephens@optusnet.com.au

Fiona and Leanne

Working Bee – Sunday, 15 May

The first working bee for 2011 will take place on Sunday, 15 May. There are a couple of major tasks to complete on the day as well as the usual general maintenance and tidy up jobs.

Frank Leipper
House Secretary

Attendance for Club Duty

Performance of Club duty on one or two occasions each year is an important responsibility of all Club members (except those who are specifically exempt, such as Junior Members).

Duty Officers are rostered to attend on Saturday and Sunday afternoons throughout the year. The roster is published on the back page of each Club newsletter, covering dates for several months ahead, and information about the tasks involved is clearly set out on the Club notice board.

Effective performance of Club duty is important for several reasons. For example:

- It sends out a message that our Club is 'open for business' by ensuring that the gates are open, the flags are flying, and a member is available to welcome visitors or answer enquiries.
- It enables routine maintenance such as rubbish removal, window washing and grass mowing to be carried out regularly and at minimal cost to the Club.
- It provides opportunities for members who feel so inclined to plan and carry out larger tasks (such as painting, or maintenance work on Club boats).
- Critically, it ensures that a responsible person is on hand to monitor activities around the Club, respond to any incident that may occur on the local shoreline or on the water, and check that all boats operating from the Club have returned safely by the end of the day.

Unfortunately, attendance by members rostered for Club duty has been less than satisfactory during recent months. Between the start of January and the end of March, no Duty Officer was in attendance on 11 occasions. This has been a particular problem on Sundays, when the absence of a Duty Officer can mean that the Club and members' belongings are left unsupervised while the afternoon race is in progress, and there may

be no responsible person available to monitor the VHF radio. These are risks which the Club Committee will need to find ways to address.

In the meantime, I would like to thank those members who did attend for Club duty during the first three months of this year, or took the trouble to arrange a substitute for their rostered day.

Please check the duty roster at the back of this newsletter, and take note of any date for which your name is listed. If the date doesn't suit, arrange to swap with another rostered member or (as a last resort) contact me or another Committee member.

Stewart Simmons
Commodore

Storage of little used boats at HSC

Over the past few years the Club has been successful in attracting a significant number of new members. The result is that we currently have very healthy membership numbers and an excellent racing fleet.

A number of these new members are active sailors and have sought storage for their boats; with the result that storage space in the yard, lower racks and middle racks is almost full. Unless more space can be found, our ability to attract new members next season will be limited.

Some of the dinghies presently stored at the Club have not been sailed for at least twelve months. In a couple of cases this has been due to illness of members, and there are understandable work and family commitments for others.

Storage at the Club is a privilege not a right, and our policy is that the most accessible spaces in the yard and lower racks should be reserved for boats that are regularly sailed. Unfortunately, we are now running out of spaces to which we can move unused boats,

and the remainder of the yard is required for rigging.

The 1 May will see the beginning of the Club's 2011/2012 financial year, when membership and boat storage fees again become payable. Members who have access to a road trailer and are not intending to sail regularly in the future are asked to consider storing their boats home. They can of course still bring their boats down to the Club for a sail, but without the cost of having to pay storage fees.

It is important that the Club remain active and have the ability to attract new members.

Members who would like to discuss boat storage can contact me on 95895812

Neil Watson
Boat Storage Officer

For Sale – Framed Painting of Sandringham Harbour

Measuring about 120cm x 60cm, this fine oil painting on plywood is a reminder of the panoramic view enjoyed from Hampton Sailing Club's balcony in the mid-1970's, now partly obscured by later developments.



The painting is signed 'R.Coppa 1976'. It was formerly displayed in the clubrooms, but has been in storage for the past couple years due to lack of adequate hanging space. Its strong colours deserve to be enjoyed by someone who has a connection with the Club and its maritime surroundings.

The Committee has decided that the fairest way to offer this painting for sale is initially by 'silent auction'. Interested members are invited to advise our Club's resident artist, Neil Watson, of their bids (by phone on 9589 5812 or by email to: <nwatson.pstokes@bigpond.com>) by **30 April 2011**.

Depending on the bids received, the Committee will then decide whether to accept the highest offer outright, or proceed to a second round of bidding. Any Committee member who is interested in buying the painting will, of course, be expected to stand aside from any decisions about the sale.

The painting will be on display at the Club during April, if anyone wants to take a closer look.

In Memoriam – Lorna Jones

Club members were saddened to hear that Lorna Jones, wife of our former Commodore Peter Jones, had passed away on 12 February 2011, aged 85 years.

Those who knew Lorna when she used to visit the Club regularly will always recall her cheery smile and interest in the Club's activities.

With sincere condolences to Peter and family.

Stewart Simmons
Commodore

Safety Boat Handling Course

HSC is running a Safety Boat Handling course during April as follows.

Course Dates:

- Friday 15th April, 18:30 – 22:30
- Saturday 16th April, 08:30 – 21:30
- Saturday 30th April, 08:30 – 16:00

Details:

The course will be facilitated by Doug King. It will run over one evening and two full days. The course covers everything required to safely and competently manage a safety boat. The curriculum includes a significant number

of 'on water' hours and practical exercises, as well as some classroom work.

A Motor Boat Licence/Powerboat Handling Certificate is a prerequisite, and students must be 16 years or older.

There are still places available for this course. Put your name down on the "Safety Boat Course Enrolment" form on the Club noticeboard, or contact David Thompson.

Safety Boat Handling Certificate – Typical Course Curriculum

- Introduction
- Coxswain Responsibility
- Risk Management
- Preparation of Boat
- Navigation Exercise Preparation
- Tactics and Towing Theory
- Night Navigation Exercise
- Righting of Overturned Vessels
- Towing
- Close Quarters Handling
- Coming Alongside Underway
- Recovery of persons from Water
- Towing / Close Quarters Handling
- Beaching
- Search and Rescue

David Thompson
Sailing Secretary

Delayed Issue of YA Silver Cards

HSC would like to apologise to members for the delay in the issue of the YA Silver Card. The change in Membership Secretary combined with a change in the method that registers members led to this delay.

Despite the delay in receiving our cards, HSC paid-up members are registered with YA. Last year all HSC members who paid their fees prior to Christmas were registered with YA and we waited for the Silver Cards to be delivered in late January 2011. When the Silver Cards failed to arrive we sought answers from YA.

YA advise that a change in the registration process meant that a default of "no card" applied to HSC registered members. All paid-up HSC members have recently had their registrations "reset" and re-loaded into the YA database. Some other sailing clubs were also affected by the change of registration method.

YA processes new registrations at the start of the month and Silver Cards are sent out about the second or third week of the month. We missed the end of March cut off. We can now expect YA Silver Cards to be delivered to appropriate members by the third week of May 2011.

Richard Skews

Insurance – Attempted Break In

At the beginning of March there was evidence of an attempted break in to the club house. The burglary was unsuccessful, but this is a salutary reminder not to leave valuables in the club house. Personal items are not covered by the Club's contents insurance.

Newsletter Items

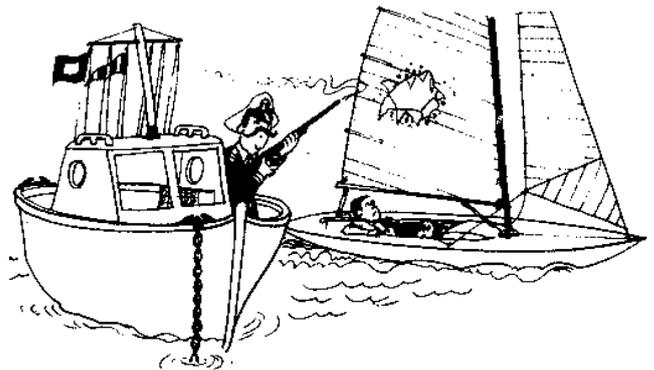
We are keen to receive future articles for inclusion in the *Main Sheet* newsletter. Of particular interest are sailing activities and events attended by Club members. Send contributions/items to my work email address:
russell.brown@dhs.vic.gov.au

Newsletters are published every 2 months and we are trying to get the *Main Sheet* distributed at the beginning of the month.

Russell Brown
Newsletter Editor

Boats for Sale

Check the Club notice board for details of boats for sale. Please note that boats advertised might not be housed at the club or may not belong to club members.



Annual General Meeting – Sunday, 29 May

Hampton Sailing Club's Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held at the Clubrooms on Sunday, 29 May (starting at 2:00pm). Please mark this date in your diary.

All members are encouraged to attend the AGM to hear how the Club is progressing, and to raise any questions or suggestions about the Club's activities.

Notice of the AGM, along with an agenda and nomination forms, will be sent to all Club members in early May. The formal business of the meeting will be followed by presentation of prizes for the 2010-11 sailing season, rounded off with afternoon tea.

Members who feel inclined to offer their time and skills to help manage the business of the Club are encouraged to nominate for positions on the Committee. Meetings are normally held on one evening per month throughout the year, and provide a great way for members to get involved in steering the on-going development of the Club.

This newsletter gives a brief outline of the duties and attributes relevant to specific positions on the Committee. In addition, a number of positions are available for members who may wish to take a more general role, assisting with tasks that arise during the year.

If you are interested in any of the positions described below, or in joining the Committee in a more general capacity, please feel welcome to discuss your interest with the Commodore or any current Committee member.

COMMODORE

Duties and Responsibilities

- ❖ Conduct monthly committee meetings.
- ❖ Manage the Club executive.
- ❖ Represent the Club in the local community.
- ❖ Represent the Club at external functions.

Desired Skills

- ❖ Good organisational skills.
- ❖ Good interpersonal skills.

Required Resources

- ❖ Plenty of time to attend to Club matters.
- ❖ Access to computer, internet and email.
- ❖ Enthusiasm for the Club and its on-going development.

VICE-COMMODORE

Duties and Responsibilities

- ❖ Assist the Commodore and represent the Club where necessary.
- ❖ Chair meetings of the committee in the Commodore's absence.
- ❖ Lead or undertake key Club projects.

Desired Skills

- ❖ Good organisational skills.
- ❖ Good interpersonal skills.

Required Resources

- ❖ Time to attend to Club matters.
- ❖ Access to computer, internet and email.

SECRETARY

Duties and Responsibilities

- ❖ Keep minutes of committee meetings.
- ❖ Receive and respond to correspondence.
- ❖ Manage the Club's administrative affairs.
- ❖ Act generally on behalf of the Club.

Desired Skills

- ❖ Good knowledge of business processes.

Required Resources

- ❖ Access to computer, internet and email.

TREASURER

Duties and Responsibilities

- ❖ Manage the Club's finances.
- ❖ Collect and receive monies due to the Club and make payments authorised by the Club.

- ❖ Keep accurate accounts and books showing the financial affairs of the Club.
- ❖ Provide an annual budget.
- ❖ Arrange for audit of Club financial affairs.

Desired Skills

- ❖ Good knowledge of business and accounting practices.

Required Resources

- ❖ Access to computer with commonly used accounting software.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR**Duties and Responsibilities**

- ❖ Produce the Club newsletter up to 6 times per year.

Desired Skills

- ❖ Ability to compile information from members into a coherent form.
- ❖ Ability to produce print-ready newsletter in PDF format.

Required Resources

- ❖ Access to computer, internet and email.

SAILING SECRETARY**Duties and Responsibilities**

- ❖ Organise the Club's annual program of sailing activities (races, social sails, etc).
- ❖ Manage the roster of race control and rescue boat crews.
- ❖ Promote and co-ordinate training relevant to the Club's sailing program.
- ❖ Manage maintenance of the Club's race control and rescue boats, and of equipment necessary for conducting the sailing program.
- ❖ Promote awareness of relevant safety requirements and standards, and monitor compliance with these during Club events.

Desired Skills

- ❖ Good sailing knowledge.
- ❖ Good organisational skills.

Required Resources

- ❖ Plenty of time to attend to sailing matters.

SOCIAL SECRETARY**Duties and Responsibilities**

- ❖ Organise the Club's social functions.

Desired Skills

- ❖ Good organisational skills.
- ❖ Good interpersonal skills.
- ❖ A sense of fun.

Required Resources

- ❖ Access to computer, internet and email.

HOUSE SECRETARY**Duties and Responsibilities**

- ❖ Plan and manage the maintenance of Club facilities.
- ❖ Organise working bees.
- ❖ Develop and maintain plans for future development of Club facilities.

Desired Skills

- ❖ Good knowledge of building and maintenance practices.
- ❖ Good organisational skills.

Required Resources

- ❖ Access to tools and equipment.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**Duties and Responsibilities**

- ❖ Process membership applications and manage the induction of new members.
- ❖ Maintain the membership database, including a register of Club keys issued to members.
- ❖ Produce the Duty Officer roster for inclusion in each Club newsletter.
- ❖ Maintain register of current members on the Yachting Australia/Victoria database.
- ❖ Manage annual subscription notices.

Desired Skills

- ❖ Good organisational skills.
- ❖ Ability to use, maintain and develop the membership database.
- ❖ Awareness of privacy requirements relating to use of membership data.

Required Resources

- ❖ Access to computer (with good quality printer), internet and email.

- ❖ Time and commitment (this is a relatively complex role, for which candidates should be prepared to commit for at least 2-3 years).

BOAT STORAGE OFFICER

Duties and Responsibilities

- ❖ Maintain an accurate register of members' boats stored at the Club.
- ❖ Manage allocation of boat storage space.
- ❖ Monitor compliance with the Club's by-laws relating to storage of boats and equipment.
- ❖ Act as point of contact for enquiries about boat storage matters.

Desired Skills

- ❖ Good organisational and record-keeping skills.
- ❖ Good interpersonal skills.
- ❖ Reasonable knowledge of off-the-beach boats and their equipment.

Required Resources

- ❖ Access to computer and email.
- ❖ Time and commitment.

Hampton Sailing Club 2010/11 Season - Junior & Family Sailing Calendar

On the water: – 10:00 am

Date	Race
10-Apr-2011	Junior / Family
01-May-2011	Junior / Family

Hampton Sailing Club 2010-2011 Season – Racing Calendar

Briefing: – 1:00pm

Start: – 2:00pm

Date	Event		Notes / Other Events	Lady Isa		Hampton Red	
				Race Officer	Assistant	Skipper	Swimmer
10-Apr-11	Autumn Series	6		Frank Leipper	Sheila O'Shea	Monica Jones	Ralph Brown
17-Apr-11	Club Championship	11		Frank Leipper	Jeff Ward	Monica Jones	Ralph Brown
24-Apr-11	Easter Holiday	no race					
01-May-11	End of Season race			Frank Leipper	Stewart Simmons	Fiona Stephens	Julie Brennan-Smith

