

# THE MAIN SHEET

The Hampton Sailing Club Newsletter

[www.hsc.yachting.org.au](http://www.hsc.yachting.org.au)



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AUGUST 2011

## **Commodore's Corner**

The days are slowly starting to get longer and this edition of The Mainsheet includes our Spring Sailing Calendar – both are signs that before we know it, the new season will be upon us! Time to get to that winter maintenance, remember how much fun you had last season and work out how to regain your sea legs.

Opportunities to get back on the water still abound in our Winter Series. We managed to run two short races on 31 July, and there are still two more monthly races left.

Yes the winter has been cold and wetter than most can remember but you only have to look at the Hampton Sailing Club Facebook page to see videos of a few (fool?) hardy sailors who have kitted up and been out there for a blast! So you don't need to wait for a formal race.

Not all of us have had to brave the weather and sail from Hampton. It has been great to see that Tash Van Rennes sailed her Laser at Queensland Youth Week and came away with a first female in the Radials – well done Tash! Tash has shared her experience in her article on Youth Week included in this edition of the Main Sheet.

On the home front those who have ventured to the club will have noticed that (thanks to Ron Van Rennes and Neil Cooke) our clubhouse is being painted and looks far too smart for yachties with wet sailing gear!

Next door, our neighbours have completely remodelled their off the beach yard, removing abutting sheds and creating expansive new faux grass rigging areas to the high tide line.

It looks like new storage racks will be established soon too. This has exposed our joint rickety fence which we are looking at replacing before our season starts.

On the committee front, our new committee has established itself and we are rapidly coming to grips with the tasks ahead of us. Memberships are being renewed, rescue boats are being serviced and we are planning for the formal opening (and naming?) of our new extension – probably sometime around the opening of the season, so stay tuned.

On the social front we had the Spanish Night (La Noche) on August 6<sup>th</sup>. What a great fun night it was! Thanks to all those involved in the organisation side of things.

In the last edition of Main Sheet I talked about continuing to build a thriving club and our committee has begun to discuss how this might be done. Early days yet but initial thoughts include growing our membership in areas where we are under represented, particularly encouraging new young sailing families and new intermediate aged members. Not surprisingly this will put pressure on our club sailing boats as well as our storage, so we will need to work through all of the details before moving ahead. We will keep you across any developments and I continue to encourage you to make your ideas, wants and needs known to any member of the committee so we can continue to build a thriving club.

**John Adshead  
Commodore**

**Winter Racing - June to Sept 2011**

As we go to press, we can report that racing took place on Sunday, 31 July. Five hardy members turned up to face a strong northerly wind, but relatively flat seas. Two short races were conducted and the results are posted on the Hampton Sailing Club web site.

There are two more races scheduled for the winter season, including the Winter Warriors held on Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> August. This race is traditionally followed by warm refreshments. BYO pot of soup along if you plan on participating. Check the race schedule and race officials' roster on page 6.

**David Thompson**

**Tash Van Rennes – an “Admirable” sailor**

In 2006 I bought a beautiful plywood Sabot and renamed her Flipper. In 2009 I joined the Sabot association. Sailing with an association was the best fun; you get lots of specific training and make lots of friends along the way. Recently we have all moved on to different boats, some to lasers and others to 29ers. We are often in contact on Facebook and meet up at all the larger regattas such as Sail Sandy and most recently Queensland Youth Week.

In early July this year I drove up to Queensland to compete in Queensland Youth Week. It was a great regatta with over 250 boats, including 23 Laser radials. RQYS is a huge club spread out over about 20 acres, with designated areas for camping during regattas. Each day, there were spectator boats, 40ft and larger, supplied by members

spread over the 3 courses for those parents interested in watching their kids sail.

I was lucky that the majority of the regatta was sailed in light winds, putting me on top of the leader board coming into the final day. On the last day, the breeze was 20-25kts which gave the boys an opportunity to move up in the results. I got two 11th places, and did not finish the last race, showing that I really have some work to do in the stronger winds! My final results were 3rd overall and 1st girl. I am stoked with these results, achieving far better than what my goal was coming into the regatta. For me, this was just a training regatta to see how I match against the other youth around Australia, and what I need to improve before nationals.

The training is hard work, but the hours spent on the water through these cold months are certainly starting to pay off! Most regulars around the club see me rigging and sailing my Laser almost daily. We usually have a chat and everyone is interested - sometimes even amazed at my commitment to sailing. Dad thought I was over doing it, but when my efforts were described as "Admirable" we knew the club is keen to support juniors.

**Tash Van Rennes**

**Social Events**

The next social event is:

- **AUGUST 28<sup>th</sup> – Winter Warriors**  
Racing is followed by hot soup to warm the body! Bring a pot of soup and a bread stick to share with other members after the race. Come and sail or just socialise.

**Fiona & Leanne**

**Working Bee**

The next working bee will be held on **Sunday, 25 September**. This is a week before the 2011/2012 sailing season begins. No major tasks are set for this working bee; just a general tidy up. There is some rust scraping needed and still some painting to be done.

**Frank Leipper**

**'Hampton Red' – Even Better than Before**

Hampton Red assisting at the Pacer and Javelin State Championships at Beaumaris YC in 2010

Winter is the time of year when our Club's race management boats normally receive their annual service and safety check, carried out at a local dealership. As you might expect, this is one of the Club's larger recurrent expenses, but it does help to ensure that the powerboats perform reliably throughout each sailing season, as well as retaining their capital value.

Members may be interested to hear of the work recently carried out on the Zodiac 'Hampton Red', which has become our main safety boat since it was bought by the Club in late 2009.

'Hampton Red' had clearly done a considerable amount of work in the hands of its previous owners, with the most obvious wear-and-tear being abrasion along the keel, apparently caused by the boat being frequently run up on to coarse beach sand. Following purchase, we also discovered that the fuel system was remarkably dirty, with sediment tending to clog the filters when the boat was used in a heavy swell. However, the immediate problems were soon fixed, and the Club has generally had good use out of the boat during the past two sailing seasons.

In mid-June of this year, 'Hampton Red' received its first full service since coming into the ownership of Hampton Sailing Club. The engine was found to be in good condition, and required no major work. Necessary adjustments were made to the gear shift, and the steering system required a thorough

overhaul (which also seems to be a regular requirement on *Lady Isa* and *Hampton Duck*, due to damage caused by salt water corrosion in the steering mechanism).

During this service, we also arranged for the necessary fiberglass repairs along the keel, which has now been considerably strengthened and resurfaced with gelcoat. The boat's road trailer also received a new lease of life, with fitting of replacement of springs and a new winch. The total cost of this work was about \$1800, which I think members will agree is a worthwhile investment in a boat which should now give our Club many years of reliable service.

'Hampton Red' had its first day back on the water in support of the Club's Winter Series race on Sunday, 31 July, and performed faultlessly. The boat also looks as good as new, thanks to the quality of the fibreglass work done along the keel.

**Stewart Simmons**

**ISAF Sailing World Cup – Sail Melbourne 2011**

Preparations are under way again for the annual Sail Melbourne regatta, one of Australia's premier sailing events. The regatta will be held at Sandringham Yacht Club, from **6-12 November 2011** - earlier than usual this year to avoid a clash with the ISAF World Championships in Perth during December.

This year's Sail Melbourne regatta will involve racing on three separate courses, for 10 Olympic classes and a number of invited classes. This requires three full race management teams to be on the water each day throughout the regatta, plus all of the usual support on land.

For those who have not previously helped out with Sail Melbourne, this is a great chance to see world-class sailing right on our doorstep, and to get involved with volunteers from other local clubs in helping to deliver a top level regatta. Several members of Hampton

Sailing Club usually get involved, and our contribution is always appreciated.

If you are interested in finding out more, or wish to discuss volunteering, contact Chris Myers or Monica Tonner in the Sandringham Yacht Club Boating Department, on 9599 0906 (for Chris) or 9599 0922 (for Monica). Alternatively, volunteers can also register online via the Sail Melbourne website at <http://sailmelbourne.com.au/website/volunteer.html>

A briefing for volunteers will be held in the Port Phillip Room at Sandringham Yacht Club on Tuesday, 25 October 25 (starting at 1830hrs). This will involve the allocation of roles, handing out of paperwork and volunteer packs, and a chance to meet the event organizers, race officers and fellow team members.

The success of Sail Melbourne depends very much on the involvement of volunteers. If interested and available, please register as soon as possible. It's great to be part of the action.

**Stewart Simmons**

### **Wanted: Bluestone Pitches**

Would any club member who has or who knows of any bluestone pitches (blocks) that can be donated to the Club, please contact Neil Cooke on (03) 9842 2076 (after hours) or mobile 0425 754 220.

The blocks are for further "landscape" improvements in the Club grounds. A member mentioned at the last working bee in May 2011 that he had some to spare.

**Neil Cooke**

### **Sea Fever – 1978 version**

*In 1902 the author John Masefield published an anthology of poetry called SALT-WATER BALLADS. It contains a poem called 'Sea Fever' which starts with the well known line, 'I must down to the seas again, to the lonely sea and the sky'.*

*The following poem was written (with apologies to John Masefield) by an offshore racing sailor David Hague, winner of the 1977 ISORA(?) Championship and owner of a Sparkman and Stevens sloop called Dai Mouse III. The poem appeared in Yachting World magazine in 1978; this copy is supplied courtesy of John Harvey.*

I will go down to the sea again,  
The crowded sea and sky,  
I will buy me a stripped out race machine  
And a Homer to steer her by.  
I'll have all the electronics  
And the best wind indicator  
And a genius sitting down below  
With a pocket calculator.  
I'll hire a professional crew of Yanks  
When I put the boat to sea,  
And I don't know if they'll frighten you  
But by God they frighten me.  
And when I set out with the fleet  
I'll not be far behind them,  
For I've ten thousand quids worth of winches,  
And two anthropoids to wind them.  
I'll have a reefing genoa  
And six slabs in the main,  
And two more apes to wind them in  
And wind them out again.  
She will lie in a snug marina berth  
So I'll never need a punt,  
And I'll paint a big arrow on the deck  
So the crew know where's the front.  
She'll cost me fifty thousand quid.  
- there's a thousand in the genny –  
And if she doesn't win every race  
She won't be worth a penny.  
And it doesn't sound like half the fun  
We used to have before . . . .  
So I think I'll let them sail the boat  
And I'll stay safe ashore.

### **Newsletter Items**

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

Please note the 2011/2012 sailing schedule appears in this newsletter with Race Control and Rescue Boat crew's names up to the Christmas holidays. The full list of crew's names will be published when it is finalised.

**Russell Brown**  
Newsletter Editor

**Hampton Sailing Club 2011 Winter Season – Racing Calendar****Briefing: – 12:00pm****Start: – 1:00pm**

Date	Race/s	Race Officer (on Lady Isa)	Lady Isa Skipper	Hampton Red Rescue Skipper	Hampton Red Rescue Swimmer
August 28 <sup>th</sup>	Winter Series – Race No. 3 WINTER WARRIORS	Blaise Vinot	Kate Vinot	Peter Gray	Claire Adshead
September 25 <sup>th</sup>	Winter Series – Race No. 4	David Jones	Chris Jones	Peter Gray	Cameron Kent

**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 Stepehson	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

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## August 2011

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				
08-Jan-12	Autumn Aggregate					
15-Jan-12	Club Champ					
22-Jan-12	Autumn Aggregate					
29-Jan-12	Club Champ					
05-Feb-12	Autumn Aggregate					
12-Feb-12	Special Event	1 day series (Short Course)				
19-Feb-12	Autumn Aggregate					
26-Feb-12	Club Champ					
04-Mar-12	Autumn Aggregate					
11-Mar-12	TBA	Labour Day Weekend				
18-Mar-12	Autumn Aggregate					
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				

