

THE MAIN SHEET

The Hampton Sailing Club Newsletter

www.hsc.yachting.org.au



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JUNE 2012

Commodore's Corner

Congratulations to all who made our end of season Annual General Meeting and Presentation afternoon a success! We tried a different format from previous years and the resultant late afternoon meeting provided a short summary of the season past, an indication of our future direction and something of a celebration of the year's activities.

Thanks to Fiona and Leanne for organising the cocktails and savouries, to Peter for putting together the slide show and David for the trophies! And thanks to everyone who contributed afternoon tea, their photos of the season and for making the afternoon a success.

AGM Summary

Commodore's Report – John Adshead:

- ▶ Sailing:
 - Successful Winter Series
 - Traditional Blessing of the Fleet, Sail Past & Commodore's Cup
 - Significantly shortened Spring series
 - Informal morning training/sailing on every second Sunday
 - Abbreviated Championship series
 - Informal stern chaser to the Cerebus on Labour Day weekend
 - Successful Autumn series
 - Shipwreck classic

- Tash won the Women's Laser Radials at Queensland Youth Week
- Plenty of junior Hampton sailors at the School Match Racing State Titles

- ▶ Change in mix of classes sailed – increase in Finns, decrease in 420s & Pacers
- ▶ Updated our website, promotional material and new signs
- ▶ Opening of the Club Extension
 - Particularly well attended – over 60 people
- ▶ Go Sailing Day – two new members
- ▶ Plethora of Social Functions!
- ▶ Membership changes, decline by about 10%
- ▶ Financials – slightly smaller operating surplus

Treasurer's Report – Blaise Vinot:

- ▶ A slight drop in membership income
- ▶ High maintenance expenses during the year including:
 - New garage doors \$2,000
 - Sanding & polishing of the floors \$1,500
 - Repair of upstairs window & application of protective film \$1,500
 - Outside painting of the club

- ▶ Hold membership fees for the next year

Secretary's Report – Martin Playne:

- ▶ Opening of the Training Room extension
- ▶ Lease discussions continuing with DSE
- ▶ Procedures for acceptance of new members streamlined
- ▶ Business Plan is being developed
- ▶ Persistent late payment of fees causes much extra work for our volunteer committee

Membership Secretary's Report – Michelle Moller:

- ▶ 100 Membership Units comprising:
 - 32 Families
 - 52 Seniors
 - 11 Associates
 - 5 Life
 - Total of 188 members
- ▶ Last Year 112 Membership Units & 230 members
- ▶ Drop attributable to review of membership records & poor start to the sailing season
- ▶ Next Season – Membership Drive!

Sailing Secretary's Report – David Thompson:

- ▶ No reported injuries
- ▶ Training
 - Junior / Family Sailing – Sunday mornings
- ▶ Club Boats
 - Retired 2 training Pacers
 - Replaced Lady Isa's road trailer
- ▶ Racing

- 30 scheduled Sunday race days –
- 11 days abandoned due to weather
- Average fleet was 13 - down on previous years
- Total number of competitors

▶ Next Season

- Replace training boats
- Larger Fleets – encourage more participation in club racing
- Focus on Race Management – continue to improve standards

▶ Change in class mix

- Decrease in double handed classes – 420 & Pacer
- Increase in single handed – Finn & Sabre

House Secretary's Report – Frank Leipper:

▶ In the past year

- Opening of the Club Extension
- Refurbishment of the Clubhouse
 - All repainted
 - New roller doors
 - Resealed floors
 - New signs
 - Shatter proof film on windows
 - The Hampton "bird" on all windows

▶ Held two successful working bees

▶ Going forward

- Boat Storage
- Ongoing Maintenance

Social Secretary's Report – Fiona Stephens:

- ▶ Successful functions - we had...

- Spanish Night in August
- Club Extension Opening in November
- Christmas in December (this time)
- St Patrick's Night in March
- After sailing BBQs
- Several private uses of the clubhouse
- ▶ Going forward
 - More functions!

Boat Storage Report – Neil Watson:

- ▶ Storage in the yard remains tight
 - Previous years we were near full capacity
 - Easing due to resignations, sale of boats away from the Club and the disposal of two Club training dinghies
- ▶ Property such as trailers and equipment left at the Club continues to be a problem
- ▶ Future plans to replace the old boat sheds
 - Our landlord, Parks Victoria, not prepared to give its approval until we have a formal lease – currently negotiating other leases & unclear when they will get to us.
 - We may be eligible for a grant from Bayside Council to dispose of the asbestos.
 - When more formal plans are prepared, discussions will be held with members to obtain their views

Commodore's Closing Remarks – John Adshead:

- ▶ For Next Season.

- Grow membership!
 - Membership drive
 - New training boats
 - Review storage capacity / replacement
 - Training focus
- Lease with Parks Victoria?
 - More members less impact on each member

▶ **Get more people Sailing!**

Committee for 2012/13

At the end of the AGM we elected our committee for the next year. Thanks are due to all members of the outgoing committee who worked on behalf of the members but in particular to those leaving the committee. Martin Playne stood aside as Secretary after a 9 year continuous stint on committee – thank you Martin for your support. Also Stewart Simmons who leaves the committee after a year as Immediate Past Commodore – thank you Stewart for your tireless support. Finally Monica Jones, who has supported the club and committee throughout – thank you Monica.

The incoming committee are:

Commodore	John Adshead
Vice Commodore & Sailing Secretary	David Thompson
Secretary	Neil Watson
Treasurer	Blaise Vinot
Membership Secretary	Michelle Moller
House Secretary	Frank Leipper
Social Secretary	Fiona Stephens
Boat Storage	Allan Lees
Newsletter	Russell Brown
General Committee	Jacek Gibert
General Committee	Peter Gray

In an effort to keep the committee meetings brief we are looking at keeping the committee small, however we will ask for support from members either as a subcommittee or just on a

one off as required – please be prepared to support where you can!

Moving Forward

One of the key things that was of concern over the last year was our reduction in members. A reduction in members increases our reliance on the “same old people” to do things around the club, increases pressure on our finances and reduces our relevance to the community we live in. To that end we are looking at a number of new initiatives this season – but would welcome any ideas at growing our membership and our sailing participation rate.

The first of these is to invite an Olympic sailor to an evening function at the club in late July early August. More on this when we secure the speaker. This promises to be a social function more aligned to the sailors in our club – but of course all are welcome. Another new function more aligned to our sailors is our annual briefing evening. Held close to the start of the season this intends to get everyone together for the one and only briefing of the year! We formally present courses, flags and options for the season – as well as a less formal chat about tactics and what to look out for! More on this later.

One observation several have made is that if we don't get people sailing early in the season they are less likely to start at all and likely to drop out altogether! In order to encourage us all to attend the Opening Regatta / Commodore's Cup we are putting on an Opening Brunch. So make sure you leave your lunch behind and join us after 11 on opening day, leaving plenty of time to rig and get to the start line!

In terms of new members we are looking at running two “Try Sailing at Hampton” days on Sunday mornings during the season – more when we formalise the dates for these.

In Conclusion

It been a much longer Commodore's Corner than normal but despite being off season as you can see above, there's a lot to do to make the next season more successful. Thanks to all for your support last season – and for your ongoing support next season. There's still

some winter sailing for those more (fool?) hardy and always an opportunity to just drop in and enjoy the club!

John Adshead
Commodore

Upcoming Social Events

There will be three social occasions for Hampton Sailing Club before the commencement of the 2012/13 season:

- **OLYMPIC NIGHT – Saturday, 28 July**
This will be chance to get together for some drinks and nibbles and discuss Australia's teams' prospects in London. We will be trying to get a guest speaker/sailor. More information will be provided prior to the event.
- **WINTER WARRIORS – Sunday, 12 August**
This is becoming a HSC tradition – hot soup and rolls after the winter series race in August. You don't have to sail to participate in this social event. Just turn up for a warming meal and pleasant conversation at the club after the race.
- **BRIEFING EVENING– Saturday, 15 September**
The sailing committee will be providing important information about how racing will be conducted for the 2012/13 season. Let's make it a social occasion and bring a casserole and/or dessert to share on the night. More information will be provided closer to the event.

Fiona Stephens
Social Secretary

In Memoriam – Roy Peach

Members will be saddened to hear that one of our Club's honorary members, Mr Roy Peach of Dandenong North, recently passed away.

Roy joined Hampton Sailing Club in August 2000, although increasing age and infirmity later prevented his active involvement.

In 2004, he generously donated his yacht *Resolute* to the Club, helping to introduce several members to the joys and challenges of keelboat sailing. In accordance with Roy's wishes, proceeds from the Club's sale of *Resolute* in 2008 were donated to the youth cancer support foundation, *CanTeen*.

Anchors Away

Following the Club race each week, race control and rescue boat crews are asked to ensure that the powerboats used on the day (*Lady Isa*, *Hampton Red* and / or *Hampton Duck*) are put away in an orderly and safe condition ('ship-shape', in fact).

In addition to flushing the outboards and washing down the boats, this includes: ensuring that radios, lights and other electrical equipment are turned off; removing portable fuel tanks (from *Lady Isa* and *Hampton Duck*) for storage in the shed; removing ignition keys and portable race management gear (e.g. hand-held compass and GPS) and returning these to the Club office. Any personal belongings or rubbish should also be removed from the boats at the end of each day's use.

Equipment which is normally left on the boats must be stowed tidily, with wet items such as flags or lifejackets being spread out to allow them to dry.

Any breakages or losses must be reported to the Sailing Secretary, so that repairs or replacements can be arranged as soon as possible.

During the previous season, there seemed to have been particular confusion about the number of anchors that each race management boat needs to carry (in addition to its own permanent anchor), and how this equipment should be stored following use.

On race days, our Club normally sets triangular courses marked out by three 'Plastimo' brand inflatable yellow buoys. In addition, a single staff with a flag on top is normally used to mark the outer end of the start / finish line.

Each of the inflatable buoys is provided with a set of 'ground tackle' consisting of a 3kg anchor on a light chain, connected to 15 metres of white rope and then to about 3 metres of heavier chain, ending in a snap shackle. When in use, the heavy chain is clipped on to a tether at the base of the buoy, and acts as ballast to keep the buoy upright in the water.

For ease of use, each set of ground tackle for the inflatable buoys should be stored in an individual black plastic crate – ideally with the anchor at the bottom and everything else coiled loosely on top. Storing the tackle in this way allows the chain and line to run freely out of the box when the mark is being laid behind the boat (keeping some tension on the line so that it doesn't drift into the propeller).

The anchor line used for the start / finish mark doesn't require ballast (as the base of the staff itself is weighted), so any of the Club's general-purpose (2kg) anchors can be used to secure this in place. The lines on these anchors are normally wound up loosely after use, and secured with a couple of loops.

At the end of each day's racing, the three black crates containing their individual sets of ground tackle for the inflatable buoys may be left aboard the *Lady Isa* (which is normally used to set the course), or placed in the briefing area under the Clubhouse. The single anchor used to secure the start / finish mark should be left in the yellow plastic crate aboard *Hampton Red*. It is also good practice to keep a spare 2kg anchor and line available in this boat, for emergency use.

The yellow marks should be left partly inflated after use, to avoid being punctured during transport and storage, and to keep their enclosing nets from becoming tangled.

Different race control officers have their own preferences about assigning equipment and course-laying duties to each boat, but it would be appreciated if equipment could be left as outlined above at the close of each day's racing, ready for use the following week.

Stewart Simmons

The Adventures of Tammie Norrie

Many of you will be aware that Tammie Norrie, the former Club Pacer, was purchased by the Enterprize Topsail Schooner, for use by its volunteers to improve their sailing skills and generally to have fun.

The Enterprize has now relocated to Dock Lands and two of its Crew members, Pauline and Eden, thought they would take a break from working on their re-enactment costumes, and take the Pacer for a sail. They soon learned that while they were experienced in sailing a 50 ton 19th Century sailing ship, this did not extend to an unstable Pacer dinghy.

They got away from the dock without much problem but soon found difficulty with balancing the boat while tacking. The inevitable happened, with them overturning into the murky waters of the Yarra River somewhere underneath the Bolte Bridge. Many of us who race in trying conditions can only feel sympathy with Pauline and Eden.

Here things did not improve with them proving unable to right the boat. Their call for assistance was soon answered by the Water Police who proved gallant in their rescue.

Tammie Norrie is now back in its shed waiting for its next adventure on the Yarra and Pauline and Eden have returned to their costume making. I understand that when the weather warms up again they will give it another go.

Neil Watson

Club Race Officer Course – worth considering

My son, William and I attended this course last month in May. It was well worth the time and effort, and I can recommend the course for members wanting to learn about race management or improving their skills.

This used to be a two day course costing \$150, but is now a full-day event for just \$75. Without actually venturing out onto the water on the day, there was so much valuable information to learn, much of it practical.

This course is scheduled again for **14 July** and **6 October** at Albert Park. It is conducted at ‘The Boatshed’, Yachting Victoria’s training centre at the CBD end of Albert Park Lake. ‘The Boatshed’ is easily accessible by public transport, and has ample low-cost car parking nearby.

Yachting Victoria courses on offer include:

- Powerboat Handling
- Safety Boat Instructor
- Assistant Instructor
- Club Coach
- Club Race Officer.

(see the ‘Education and Training’ section of the YV website, at <http://www.yachtingvictoria.com.au>).

Russell Brown

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 distribution timing depends on the month of publication. The current issue for June 2012 has been delayed to include outcomes from the recent Annual General Meeting in May and notification of upcoming social events in the winter months.

Russell Brown
Newsletter Editor

- Almost new South Eastern mainsail
- Hooper jib recut to suit new mainsail
- Hooper spinnaker
- Anodised spars
- Professional foils
- Boat cover
- Beach trolley
- Successful club racing record 2008/09
- Recently restored to full racing trim.

Boat for Sail

Contact: Russell Brown
 Phone:- 9792 9501

PACER – *SEA HAWK*

Note:- Please check the Club notice board for details of other boats for sale.



- Price: \$1,800 ono
- Fibreglass hull –Sail no. 2182

Hampton Sailing Club– Winter Series Racing Calendar - 2012 Season**Briefing: – 12:00pm****Start: – 1:00pm**

Date	Race/s	Race Officer (on Lady Isa)	Lady Isa Skipper	Rescue Boat Skipper	Rescue Boat Crew
08-July-12	2 nd Winter Race	William Brown	Russell Brown	David Thompson	
12-August-12	3 rd Winter Race– Winter Warriors *	Frank Leipper	Paul Johnson	Peter Gray	
09-September-12	4 th Winter Race	Stewart Simmons	Neil Watson	Russell Brown	

* Followed by hot soup and rolls in the Clubhouse after the race.