

# THE MAIN SHEET

The Hampton Sailing Club Newsletter

website: [hamptonsailingclub.org.au](http://hamptonsailingclub.org.au)



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FEBRUARY 2020

## Newsletter Editor's Note

Welcome to a new decade and the second half of our sailing season. Surely we will get some decent racing weather on Sundays for the rest of the racing calendar. Members report some great days for sailing over the holiday period. But my goodness, what horrendous weather extremes (and catastrophic consequences) many Australians have suffered over the last few months.

A major interruption to the racing calendar at HSC has been the number of regattas conducted at neighbouring clubs, in particular the World Laser championships next door at Sandringham Yacht Club. These come to a conclusion at the end of this month and racing, hopefully, will resume as per normal at HSC.

Despite the lack of racing at HSC, some members have been working to keep things ticking over at the Club. There is a small group of members who do a lot of work around the place that most members are unaware of. As we approach the end of the financial year it is time some of our 'ordinary' members think about taking on a role to help keep the Club running. All members are urged to read the article in this issue on We Need You!

**Russell Brown**  
Newsletter Editor



## HSC Social Calendar 2020



Social events at HSC over the past few months have been a bit of a mixed bag. The Christmas Party in December was, as usual, a great success. Thanks to everyone who helped out; those attending had a very enjoyable evening.

The men's tennis final was watched by several members and guests in the cosy environment of our Training Room. The movie night on Valentine's Day was attended by three people.

Games nights will continue for the next few months. There is a wide range of games options on offer - some of them have titles I have never heard of.

Last call for those people interested in the **Wine Tasting** event which will be held on **Saturday 14 March**. Check the email I sent for details. Ring or email me next week with numbers if you are attending. And you will need to pay in advance to cover purchases. There is quite a bit of organising to do.

The next post-race barbeque will be on Sunday 29 March.

**Oliver Latter**  
Social Secretary

[Olatter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Olatter@yahoo.co.uk)  
0434 270 782

**Sailing / Racing Report**

Virtually nothing has happened on the racing scene since December. As reported last time, some classes have only had 4 races so far this season. The good news is that results for all races conducted are now on the HSC website.

HSC sailors have been well represented at major regattas around the state. Several boats were at the Cairn Curran regatta held at the end of January. Two of our members participated in Sail Melbourne, 3 at the World RS Aero championships and 5 at the Finn Gold Cup series.

Long term member Ian Taylor competed in the National 505 Championships held at Royal Brighton Yacht Club during January. Ian and crew Tom Stuchbery finished a creditable 12<sup>th</sup> in what appears (judging by the sail number) to be the oldest boat in the fleet of 33 competitors.

HSC member Steve Gunther entered the World Laser Championships next door this month. With the top competitors from around the world participating it is understandable the fleet racing was close and intense. In each race that he entered, Steve was observed to be snapping at the heels of the pack. Well done Steve.

(P.S. Steve is currently doing quite well in the World Radial Laser series).

A replacement anchor has been purchased and installed in Eastern Light. By all accounts it appears to work satisfactorily in high winds and strong sea conditions.

Next scheduled racing is on Sunday, 1 March.

**Blaise Vinot**  
Sailing Secretary



Newsletter Editor says: This photo was taken at the pin end of the start of the 4<sup>th</sup> race of the World Laser Championships. I happened to be driving the official regatta photographer Jon West who was always wanting to get up close to the competitors. Despite hundreds of shots being taken on this day, I could not find one showing Steve Gunther.

**New Members**

With the black sludge (and bad smell) gone, plenty of people are coming down and enjoying Hampton beach again.

HSC has experienced plenty of interest over the last couple of months from sailors and paddlers wanting to join our club.

New members recently admitted to Hampton Sailing Club are:

- Chris de Vercelli – Senior member – owns a Mirror dinghy.
- Michael Campbell and Louise Paech and family – Family members – have bought the Taser ‘PENINSULA’ currently stored at the Club.
- John Dixon and Holly Brown – Family members – own a Mirror dinghy and two kayaks.
- Jack Wilson – Intermediate member –

The Club welcomes these members. Please say hello to them when you see them down at the clubhouse.

**We Need You!**

As from the 1st May 2020, highly motivated and enthusiastic members, or on a more realistic level, members who are prepared to contribute some time and energy into running the Club are needed.

A new HSC committee is elected at the Annual General Meeting at the end of May. Towards the close of each financial year we ask members to assist by volunteering to nominate to positions on the committee.

This year we are wanting members to put their hands up early so we can 'show you the ropes' – that is, give you an idea what is required for each job.

Getting one person for each job means they only have to spend a bit of time and energy to get the task(s) done.

Even if you have never done any voluntary work before, we are asking members to help out for 2020/21. It does not matter if you have been in the Club for years or you are a recent new member. Just give it go!

The follow will give you an idea what is involved in three of the jobs.

**Treasurer**

At the moment we use the Cashflow Manager, which is straight forward and easy to use. You don't need to be an expert book keeper or accountant to use it. If you are interested please contact Sheila, the current treasurer, who will show you how to use it over the next few months if needed.

Otherwise you are welcome to organise another recording system. If interested, please don't leave this until the last minute so the new financial year will run smoothly.

Sheila O'Shea M: 0439 762 214

**Club Bookings person**

This job involves being available to liaise with both members and non- members interested in club venue hire and provide costs and club rules and requirements, do invoicing and attend private non-member functions or arrange a substitute member to attend. Liaise with the treasurer regarding venue hire payments and with the Club Supplies person in regard to lost or broken catering equipment.

**Club Supplies person (or persons)**

Keep tabs on general club supplies and purchase on-going tea, coffee, milk and other kitchen supplies as needed, as well as monitor stocks, other bulk cleaning and toiletries required by the club and replace small kitchen tools, equipment, cutlery and crockery as needed.

Liaise with the House Secretary to ensure a stock take is done and replenish broken or lost catering equipment. Keep records of items purchased and provide the information to the Treasurer.

Other positions to which members can nominate are:

- Commodore
- Vice-Commodore
- Secretary
- Sailing Secretary
- Social Secretary
- House Secretary
- Membership Secretary.
- Newsletter Editor
- Boat Storage Officer

Information on these jobs will be given in the April newsletter.

**Boat Storage**

Members visiting the Club lately will have noticed that the yard and racks are very untidy at the moment. Some interstate and overseas sailors participating in various regattas and championships have asked to store their boats at HSC while these regattas are in progress.

In some cases the committee has agreed to allow temporary storage of boats on HSC premises. With the Laser championship

series coming to a close at the end of February we will get back some more space in the yard and the racks.

**Russell Brown**  
Boat Storage Officer

### Syringe found in the Club

It has been reported that part of syringe was found inside the north gates of our Club. Medical waste of this nature is rare along Hampton beach and we can only speculate how it got here.

Members are reminded it is good idea to wear sensible footwear when launching watercraft from the yard down to the basin for a sail or paddle.

### Sabre Shark – The Square-Top Sail Debate



The December issue of *The Main Sheet* included a photo of the new phenomenon that is the square-top sail for the Sabre dinghy. Known as the Shark sail, it is a made of Mylar, has full-length battens and is cut with the head square to the mast.

The sail originates in Western Australia and there are reports that some clubs in that state now race with only the Shark sail on Sabre dinghies.

A test report on Facebook indicates that boats sail 'better' with the new sail in most conditions (particularly heavy breezes) and for skippers of small and large builds.

Following the trend of modern dinghy designs, it is claimed the Shark sail will keep the Sabre relevant as it heads towards its 50<sup>th</sup> year of existence as a single-handed racing boat.

There is an argument that most modern racing dinghy designs these days have various sail options (e.g. the RS Aero has 3 sail sizes). It is suggested that offering the Shark sail option to the owners/builders of a Sabre will encourage more people to sail, and continue to sail the boat.

The Sabre Sailing Association of Australia (SSAA) has conducted its own trials with the new sail. The Association has some criticisms and suggestions as to how the sail could be improved.

The SSAA will continue to trial the Shark sail and is planning to get two new sails developed in Dacron. It also plans to implement a communication strategy and encourage a 'question and answer' discourse on the project.

**Russell Brown**  
Former Sabre Sailor

### Boats for Sale

A number of boats are advertised for sail at the Club. Check the notice board for details.

### Newsletter Items

Items for inclusion in the *Main Sheet* newsletter can be sent to the Club's email address:

<hampton.sailing.club@gmail.com>

Newsletters are usually published every 2 months and distribution timing will depend on the month of publication.

**Russell Brown**  
Newsletter Editor





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**Hampton Sailing Club Sailing Calendar – 2019/2020 Summer Series****RACE MANAGEMENT DUTY ROSTER****Briefing: 12:45 pm – Race starts: 2:00 pm**

Date	Event	Handicap	Comments	Race Controller	Eastern Light Crew1	Eastern Light Crew 2	Hampton Red Driver	Hampton Red Swimmer
16-Feb-20	Laser Champs at SYC		No racing					
23-Feb-20	Laser Champs at SYC		No racing					
1-Mar-20	Club Champ	YV		William Brown	Paul Kalitsis	Jim Shaw	Charles Bagossy	Andreas Loos
8-Mar-20	Labour Day weekend - No racing		Informal social sailing					
15-Mar-20	Aggregate	PH		Stuart Skeggs	Greg Clark	Robert Lichter	Jake Gunther	Millie Gunther
22-Mar-20	Club Champ	YV		Blaise Vinot	Kate Vinot	Siobhan Tierney	William Brown	Angus Richardson
29-Mar-20	Aggregate	PH		Neil Watson	Alan Lees	John Maddick	Steve Moller	Miloslav Shulev
5-Apr-20	Club Champ	YV		Stewart Simmons	Ajay Rau	Michael Moloney	Jim Roberts	Oliver Latter
12-Apr-20	Easter – No racing		Informal social sailing					
19-Apr-20	Shipwreck Classic	PH		Russell Brown	Sheila O'Shea		Frank Leipper	Ingrid Vinot
26-Apr-20	Anzac Day weekend		No racing					