



Coves yacht club



Member Newsletter – March 2016

From the Commodore's Chart Table



Thank you to all members throughout this busy summer for your continuing support running sailing and social events at the Club. It is your extraordinary efforts that keep the Club alive and running so smoothly. Having said the above please let the rostered OOD or Social Skipper know if you cannot do your rostered duty (please read the notes from the recent Committee meeting below). But hold on a moment the season is not over just yet! On the Sailing front we have now commenced the Autumn series, we have 6 races scheduled this Labour Day long weekend. Easter is always fun plus we have a new series called the Anzac series to follow after Easter which culminates on ANZAC day. The TY/Keel Triangular Series between Cowes, Rhyll and Newhaven has been highly competitive and after two races Cowes is just one point in the lead on the club team score. The Tri final race is on the 19th March and we need to put in a good result to take out the Don Manning trophy. On the 20th March we have the Southern Westernport Challenge being held at Newhaven. It is planned we will take all our Club Pacers to that event, so we need sailors! Please contact myself or Michael Hart or John Adams if you are keen to sail in the event.

Sailing Report



The two major Summer series run by the club being the Cowes Yacht Club Cup and the Division Aggregate have now concluded. We have withheld the final results from the website, these will be announced and presented at the AGM in June. These two concurrent series were really well attended this year with only three race cancellations out of 21 races. 48 different skippers and crews competed over the summer in these two series, a new record being nearly double the number from previous years! While the favourable weather helped, by far the biggest difference was the number of different members sailing our Club Pacers. The Pacers have added to our fleet numbers quite dramatically. We need to think about how we can buy more Pacers. The benefit to our sailing programme is obvious to both seasoned and new sailors to the sport. If we had two more Pacers we could run teams racing and more match race events too.



Coves yacht club



Social.

A reminder that our next social function is at 7pm on the 12th March 2016, Labour Day weekend. 2 courses \$15 full \$8 half with a yummy curry is promised. Hopefully you have received the SMS from Kasey. Remember to book early!

A further reminder: The next function to follow is 7pm Easter Saturday 26th March, which will include an Easter egg hunt for the kids. Again watch for SMS updates from Kasey.

Ramp Repairs

As we all know the launching ramp requires constant maintenance to keep it operating and safe. A working bee organised by Ian Samuel with technical expertise provided by Peter Selby-Smith raced against the incoming tide to repair the broken ramp pier and reset the retaining bolt. We wish to thank those members (pictured below) on the 13th February that worked hard on the repair. As a heads up this will be one of many that will need repair in the coming months/year, so stay tuned for more work parties.





Coves yacht club



Notes from recent General Committee meetings for your information.

- A reminder to all voting members that a Special General Meeting at 6:30pm on the 12th March 2016 has been called. The subject is the ageing tractor. Corrosion of the tractor is accelerated in a salty environment despite treatments. This corrosion is now causing serious problems and as a result maintenance costs are escalating. The meeting is required to approve funds for a replacement before the tractor becomes a cost sink hole and eventually unusable.
- Social functions have been well attended with a dramatic increase in the amount of children at the dinners. The casual meals on Friday nights have turned out to be very popular without affecting the numbers attending the following Saturday night functions.
- Bob Bakewell was approved for Honorary Membership for twelve months. Bob a local journalist and photographer was successful in getting articles into the Advertiser about activities at Cowes Yacht Club six weeks in a row. This was just a small measure of what he has done for us over many years. He continues to be a great supporter through publicity of all our community activities. Please make him most welcome when you next see his lens pointing your way at the club.
- Some members have again asked how to find a replacement for duties if unavailable and requested copies of our member contact list. The Officer of the Day or Social Skipper should be approached in the first instance as the contact list is only sent out to them, to help maintain members' privacy. The OOD or Social Skipper contact details can be obtained from any of the Flag Officers and Sailing Captain. Also, a reminder, for emergencies member contact details are available in the Red Emergency procedures folder in the lower race control room.
- The Committee has noted the wonderful increase in children participating at the Club this season. The Committee is seeking ideas from parents and any interested member on how to better involve, improve and maintain young member participation. Please come forward with your ideas to our Immediate Past Commodore Adrian Mitchell or Zoe Austin-Crowe.

Ongoing Reminder - Club Clothing

A reminder that Jen Modra has kindly offered to continue to co-ordinate the purchase of Club Clothing. Samples are available to view at the Club. Please contact Jen for your Club branded clothing via admin@cowesyachtclub.com.

Ongoing Reminder - Casual Boating Sign in/Sign Out book.

An ongoing reminder that we now have a Casual boating sign in and out book. Every member on any day that takes any boat out, not involved in a club event, must sign out and say where they are going and most importantly when you are expected back and whom to contact. We all need to do this in response to tragic events in and around Western Port that have occurred.

New Members.

Please make most welcome the following new members:

- Patricia and John Cerini
- Bob Bakewell



Cowes yacht club



Photo Corner

Our Royal Australian Navy Flagship the Landing Helicopter Deck HMAS Canberra anchored off the Club. (280 metres long, displacing 27,100 tones, 20+ knots, unofficially 27 knots!)



A visit from the Young Endeavour, incidentally they all cheered as our fleet turned at the gybe mark (spot our Pacer!), they passed quite close as you can see. Not sure what their race yardstick is though?

