



the MUDLARK

The official newsletter of the Maylands Yacht Club (Inc.) | Autumn 2003

Commodore's Comments

BUMPER END OF SEASON ISSUE!



Closely packed, a fleet of Herons engages in close combat at the start. Another perfect Sunday afternoon at Maylands Yacht Club. (This one's for you Alan).

Another summer sailing season has drawn to an end but this does not mean the end to sailing for the year. A structured winter sailing program has been instigated by your Race Committee to keep the withdrawal symptoms at bay (Bardon Bay ??).

Racing is to be conducted on the first Sunday of the month. Each day, we will be holding two short course races with a boat start and finish. That should give us a ten-race Winter Championship with the ability to drop three races from your score should we be able to race on each day. Entry fee will only be \$10 for the series or \$5 per race day. End of Series trophies will be awarded. Visitors most welcome! Winter generally produces quite mild sailing conditions so give it a go.

Food and drink are available after the races. I would encourage members to endeavour to support the Club sailing this winter.

Your Management Committee has again

effectively controlled the finances of the Club throughout the sailing season. Spending this season has involved consolidating the hard work and infrastructure established last season. Plans for the winter include a dedicated effort to improve the existing storage facility for boats under the main clubrooms. Our increasing, active membership, means we have to try and accommodate more craft that are raced on a regular basis. A small Committee has been established to follow this matter through. A program to re-rack the area and clean out those boats no longer used is in hand.

A revamp of the kitchen area is also under review with replacement ovens, fridges and benches being considered. This is largely attainable through the extra income generated by hall hire and increased membership numbers.

An ongoing dilemma for the sailors has been the lack of water pressure at the wash down hose nearest the Clubhouse. This problem should be

addressed in the short term with a plumber about to solve this and a few other minor plumbing problems the Club has encountered.

Our Learn to Sail training program has been extremely successful, thanks to the efforts of Rear Commodore Training, Ken Patterson. Ken was ably assisted this season by Simon Vito whose rescue boat driving and words of encouragement to the youngsters was

In Memoriam Alan Spurling

Flag Officers and Members of the MYC extend their condolences to the family of Alan Spurling. Alan started sailing at the Club in Mudlarks as a Junior many years ago and in more recent times competed in his beloved Heron. Alan passed away on 24th April 2003.

much appreciated. Again, this season many youngsters achieved either their first and in some cases their second tier certificates in the AYF program. Let's hope that they return with their parents next season to extend their skills in what we all know is a fantastic sport and pastime.

The City of Bayswater is to be congratulated on their continued support for our Club. This has been evident in several ways this season. Firstly in their support of Club activities when the issue of the extension of the ski area into our sailing waters was raised. Secondly in the final signing of our lease agreement with the City for a further 21 years. And finally for their ongoing sponsorship of the City of Bayswater Regatta, our premier invitational regatta for the year.

The Regatta, linked in with the River Festival and our Club commitment to the Breakfast by the River proved a success once again. This was due in no small way to the fantastic effort of all our Club volunteers assisting on the day and providing food for our guests. Although the weather could only be described as lousy, we were fortunate enough to conduct all our events on the day without a hitch. Our Club would have been one of the only venues not affected by the atrocious weather conditions experienced on the day.

To conclude the Summer Season, the Picnic Day Sail was well attended by sailors and friends alike. Although the breeze did its usual disappearing act on the way to Herrison Island the entertainment provide in Claisebrook by our sailors was a sight to see. Some capsizes and many dubious means of propulsion were observed, much to the delight of the spectators surrounding Claisebrook Inlet.

A large part of the success of our Club again year is due to the manner in which race day activities are conducted. In a most efficient manner, the start box crew, rescue boat drivers, canteen staff and bar staff have provided exemplary service. Without these volunteers providing their time and expertise the Club would not function. On behalf of all Club members please accept our thanks.

Prize Night is almost upon us and I hope to see as many members and their families as possible at this function. It is to held on May 24th at the Club and is to commence at 7.00 PM sharp as there are a lot of prizes to be awarded. Final num-

bers for catering must be know by May 15th, so please don't delay with your bookings. Again, this is an ideal opportunity to come together and celebrate a most successful season. See more details displayed further in this edition.

Once more, a special thanks to all those who have donated funds for trophies to the Club this year. Without your support, it would be difficult to give recognition to our successful sailors each season.

A final thank you to all my fellow Flag Officers for the tasks they have undertaken without hesitation this season.

Kim Stephens

Commodore MYC



Picnic Day Pics

Top: 'Osprey' slips into the inlet under the watchful gaze of Max and Brian.
Above: Where do I park? Melanie's Mirror joins a line of Lasers on the shore.
Below: Homeward bound - Late afternoon and the fleet departs for home.



Maylands Yacht Club Presentation Night 2003



Saturday 24th May

Doors open 6.15pm for a 7.00pm start

Adults: \$15.00, children 5-12: \$7.50, under 5: free

***Our usual delicious range of hot food, sumptuous salads
and tempting desserts will be available***

*This year, the committee aims to shorten down the actual presentation and speeches time a little
to leave members and their guests more time for socialising.*

The club needs to know who is coming, and hopefully have the funds paid by MAY 15.

We need to advise the caterers of final numbers by MAY 16.

*If you are coming, please let the Treasurer, Lisa Kerrigan know by email phone or letter by that
date. She can be contacted on -*

E-mail Address: pjljkerr@iprimus.com.au

Telephone: 9453 6421

Post: 54 Gavour Rd Wattle Grove, WA, 6107

alternatively, I will forward on any emails sent to the club address, myc@inet.net.au

As per usual, there will be no door sales.



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Colin Spann takes a quick peek under the boom on the windward leg to Bunbury Bridge.



Moth Mutterings

A scene that has not greeted sailors at the MYC for many a long year - four Moths being rigged on the beach and actually racing!

Keep up the good work and remember the motto for next year - "MORE THAN FOUR IN 2004"

A big welcome to our newest mothy, Ben Carter, and ex-Javelin sailor from Victoria. He finds the Moth a responsive boat to sail, after showing Joker and Blue Jacket which way to the next mark on the last sailing day. I think he could be a worry.

Ben finds our hot summers hard to handle after the Victoria Bitter temperatures. We will make a Sandgroper out of him yet.

Girls can sail Moths too - see me if interested.

Meet you all at Prize Night.

PS Winter Series 1st Sunday each month

Blue Jacket

STOP PRESS

Congratulations to our Patron and Life Member Terry Gaunt on his re-election to the City of Bayswater Council.

Your dedication and service to the area has again been recognised.

Well done, on behalf of the members of MYC!

Jane's Marine Service

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Sail training

with Ken Patterson

Commodore Kim Stephens presented certificates for completion of the Basics 1 and 2 courses to the trainees prior to the start of sailing on Picnic Day. His words of congratulations were well chosen and well earned by the worthy recipients.

The sail to Heirisson Island on Picnic Day was a clear demonstration of the progress made. In very light and unpredictable winds that tested the skills of our more experienced sailors, all Mirrors eventually made it to the picnic site. After a relaxed lunch, out came the water bombs from Sarah's cache and a fierce but brief battle raged. Out of ammunition, Melanie retreated to the inlet to wallow in the mud while sending a deluge of scooped up river water over her attackers. They were clearly outmatched. Experience triumphed over youth!

The return journey was much easier pushed by a stronger following wind. Results were as follows: 1. Evan Benn and James Bahemia; 2. Liz, Chris and Richard Grant; 3. Melanie Boardman and Sarah; 4. Matt Clark-Massera and Jack Robertson. Well done to all you guys for a great race!

The Club now has the nucleus of a Mirror fleet. We have sailors who are very keen and whose skills are developing extremely well. What the Club would dearly like to see next season is a fleet of Mirror dinghies racing each Sunday afternoon. To help parents in this regard, the Committee has accepted in principle, a proposal that members could use the club training boats for this purpose on a day hire or season lease arrangement. The boats would need to be available for

morning training and then be available in the afternoon for racing. The details of how this would operate have yet to be fleshed out. Parents who are interested in this concept are invited to contribute their ideas as to how it might work. Clearly, issues such as cost and responsibility for damage need to be addressed. If parents are interested could they register this interest to me via the Club email address.

The off-season is a good time to be looking for a boat if you are interested in purchasing one. Keep an eye out for boats for sale in the Saturday morning 'West Australian' or in the 'Sunday Times'. An alternative class to the Mirror is the Heron.

This class used to be quite strong at this Club and the Committee is keen to rebuild numbers. It is an ideal boat to consider if you want involvement as a parent/child combination.

The season has been a very satisfying one from the coach's point of view. The support from the parent team in rigging, assisting boats away from and back to the shore and in unrigging has been very much appreciated, as has the help from our Starter, Max Albury. Simon Vito's capable assistance has been a major asset to the smooth running of the training program.

Until next time ...

Ken

Photo courtesy Guardian Express



Laser Lark



LASER FULL RIGS

This past season has been fantastic for the big guys, the racing has been close and the ranks of full rig sailors have swelled further. I'm sure I speak for everyone when I welcome Steve and David to the fleet although I'd be happier if they would slow down a bit, come on guys your making me look bad. We also welcomed Burt back to the fleet this season after a long absence, it is great to see him back on the water.

It has been a season of change for some of us, most notably Rosco who seems to be having trouble deciding which boat he wants to sail and what it will be called. He has been banding around a number of thin excuses for wanting to sell his new ride so soon, I'm not convinced by any of them, I think

he just got sick of that funny blue colour. Everyone knows Lasers are supposed to be a nice yellow brown. - what was he thinking!

For all or success there have be low spots some full riggers have been trying to prove that wet sails are faster that dry ones. Whilst results have so far been inconclusive we have established beyond doubt that you don't need to dip a sail in the river more than once to get it wet. It might not be much but at least it is progress.

Sadly another season is at an end but fortunately the winter series will be starting soon. Thanks must go to Lloyd for organising a more formal series this year.

I for one can't wait.

See you on the water,

Print Name Here



Top: A full rig's worst nightmare – Colin Dauncey (radial) will complete his tack and call starboard on Rosco – oh the shame!

Bottom: In control and in front - a familiar view in the full rig fleet as Commodore Kim powers upwind in a perfectly-trimmed "Fast Forward".



LASER RADIAL RIGS

Once again, the Radial rigs have been growing and the competition hotter than ever. We welcomed Colin dauncey back into the club, and he obliged by joining the Radial fleet and promptly blitzed the lot of us! Colin was unlucky not to finish better in the States – a couple of unfortunate results and gear failure certainly cost him a top three finish.

Welcome too to Ray Martin who finished second in the championship and was very fast, particularly in the lighter stuff. Blake Stephens had a stellar season, consolidating his performance from last year. Third in the championship and second in the consistency told a story of dedication and highly intelligent course management.

A huge 'well done' must go to Bruce Lee. Up until now the perennial bridesmaid, Bruce put in the hard yards to grab the radial consistency with his best season's performance so far.

It was up to the rest of us to fight it out for the crumbs. A nagging injury kept Brian Plumb off the water for a big chunk of the season, while myself, Jerome, Brian Kent and the others

couldn't seem to string enough good ones together, although we all had our moments.

Big improver would have to be Padraic who, every week, gets it going more solidly, while Jeff Plumb has shown flashes of boat speed we hope will extend into next season.

David Puddey and John Wood featured in the consistency regularly and Alan Benn, using an ex-Torp sail is due for some good results next year.

Maylands also has a small but regular fleet of 4.7s with Doug and Di sharing the honours. We were joined, in a WALA heat, by the gorgeous Pippa Brown who really knows how to sail these small rigs with demon-like speed.

Best of all though is the great spirit amongst the whole of the radial fleet and the friendly rivalry with the full rigs. It's always a source of great pleasure when we show the 'big guys' the way home!

See you during the winter and next season!

Torp

Heron Hailings

The seasons seem to keep getting shorter, especially for those of us who of necessity cannot always get there. It has been very encouraging to have Max and Zoe in the fleet and we hope their enthusiasm will be rewarded by more additions to the ranks, and they have proved to be winners right from their first race. It has taken the rest of us years to be as fast (or slow) as we are - maybe we should start again.

The Heron Association has seen a resurgence of interest, especially at the Perth Dinghy Club and Herons at state level have enjoyed their most successful season in a while. There is

even some talk of MYC boats sailing in the next Nationals in South Australia, our participation in events outside the club indirectly helps the club in many ways.

With much sadness we recently saw the untimely passing of Alan Spurling, a very strong supporter of the club and Herons for many years who introduced many to the sport and always had a cheerful word or smile. More a "people" person than a technician, Alan always brought with him an entourage, his participation had a multiplying effect few could match. The diverse range of people to farewell Alan was testimony to a special person and life.

10109

Pacer, RT and Windrush – all having a great time on the water. Whether you're eight or eighty, it's still the best way to spend a sunny Sunday arvo!

