



the MUDLARK

The official newsletter of the Maylands Yacht Club (Inc.) | **Summer 2001**

Commodore's Comments

How quickly has the first half of the season gone! It seems such a short time since we had our Opening Day. The Club has witnessed a very busy start to the 2000-2001 season. Much has been achieved around the Club and your Management Committee has been diligently working to ensure that everything functions efficiently.

Boat Storage Extension

The new boat storage extension is now fully in use with boat racks recently constructed and installed. With the influx of new boats to the club and our growing Mirror fleet, the shed looks full already! The base for the driveway has been laid from the gate to the launching area, hopefully alleviating the bog created in winter. New chairs and tables now grace the upstairs area adding to the ambience of our post race get togethers.

Membership has grown steadily this season. Try Sailing Day was a great

The new boat storage area will accommodate about 15 boats. Much needed for MYC's increased membership



success with many new sailors and families now attending the Club. My thanks again to all those members assisting on the day who so freely gave of their time to give the newcomers a taste of what sailing is all about. Over fifty individuals kept our volunteers busy having rides in club members' boats.

Junior Training

The Junior training programme has grown beyond all expectations. Largely boosted from numbers attending Try Sailing Day, the Sunday morning training sessions now see a multitude of youngsters learning the art of sailing. Noticing how keen the parents of these children were, the Pacer fleet under the guidance of Peter Rignal has instigated sailing instruction for the parents as well, so they do not miss out on all the fun! Our thanks for your initiative, Peter.

Our Rear Commodore Training, Ken Patterson and Ossi Carter are



Two young sailors study the action intently as training progresses in one of the club's new Mirrors.

performing a tremendous service with their instruction of our Juniors. So successful has it been that 6 young sailors have now completed the first part of their training skills and have been presented with certificates and badges to acknowledge this fact.

The numbers in training have become so large, that a number of Club members have assisted Ken and Ossi with the on water activities. Our thanks to all of you.

Junior Sailing Foundation

The MYC Junior Sailing Foundation is still searching for more Mirrors to add to our training fleet that currently numbers three boats. The Chairman of the Foundation, Lloyd Blake, has almost completed the sponsorship proposals we hope to use to elicit funds from various organizations to assist our Juniors. Recently, the Foundation assisted two of our Junior Laser sailors who were nominated by the Club to attend the YAWA Westsail program. The success of the program was clearly demonstrated by the improved performances of these sailors upon returning to racing at the Club.

continued next page

With the onset of Christmas and New Year heralding the usual round of National Sailing Championships, Maylands Yacht Club will be well represented at the Laser Australian Championships to be held in Albany. Those attending include our Vice Commodore Jerome Toonen, Lloyd Blake, Brian Kent, Darryl Bonney, Blake Stephens and Kim Stephens. We wish them a safe trip and an enjoyable series. No doubt, there will be plenty of stories to tell upon their return.

In conclusion, and on behalf of the Management Committee, may I wish every Club member and their families a safe, happy and enjoyable Christmas break. Take care over the New Year period and remember sailing commences Sunday 20th January 2002.

Kim Stephens - Commodore



Peter Rignall guides a happy and confident new helmswoman in the Pacer.

Laser Lark



Once again, the start of the season has seen an increase in fleet numbers. From just half a dozen boats four years ago, we're getting up to twenty Lasers out there on the start line.

Commodore Kim has a new boat and has been training hard for the Nats at Albany. Darryl has been putting in quality time at the gym, and it's paying dividends. These two in particular have shown definite improvements in boat speed and handling. Welcome back to Colin Dauncey who has been competitive both in the fulls and radials. Rosco has shown he's no slouch either, having recorded a fastest time last week. Ken is really getting to grips with his boat and moving up the rankings, while poor Bert, who has frightened more than one hot shot off the line has damaged his chances by taking a dive from his treddy and losing the ensuing argument with the bitumen! Lloyd is making a move and is doing well in consistency. Nice to see Glen's boat back on the water too.

Laser converge on the start line on opening day. The stormy clouds failed to dampen the spirits of another excellent day's racing.



Jerome has migrated to the radials - a sensible move - and is definitely making the early running with blistering downwind speed and light airs prowess. Dark horses are emerging in the form of Brian Kent, who is a demon when the breeze tops 20 knots, and young Blake Stephens who has improved out of sight and is seldom far from the pointy end of the fleet. Catherine has upgraded from the 4.7 and has had some memorable tussles with David and Jeff. Welcome to Pdraig in his new boat and going great guns. John Wood scared the hell out of us by lying second for the bulk of the race a couple of weeks ago. Brian and Ian are rarely more than a couple of boat lengths apart. Chris and Bruce seem to match race most Sundays. Dan shows a great deal of promise when his boat hangs together. Nicole is dominating the 4.7's while Doug and Diane are proving to be confident boat handlers. I'm dobbing Diane in for confessing she has to follow other boats to know which mark to head to! Travis is fast improving his boat handling in the mighty Kia.

A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all Laserites and a special good luck message to all those doing the Nats in Albany. I'm sure you'll all do MYC proud!

Torp

Moth Mutterings



A remarkable scene at the river's edge recently - three Moths lined up, resting on their wings - only thirty more and it

would look like the good old days!

Competition amongst the trio has been keen in some instances, only seconds between the placings. Great fun by all, followed by "How I got the break" conversation around the circular table with high stools in the corner of the upper deck.

Here's wishing everyone at the club,

including the Tupperware boats, a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Let's make our New Year's resolution: More plywood on the water, and remember to be always regular and early as well.

Blue Jacket

Heron Hailings

The latest news from the Herons is that Alan Spurling has discarded his boat at better than reasonable price, and is taking a step back. Rumour has it he may try a Laser. Alan has been a valued member of the Club and the Association for many years. We wish him well and hope to see him back soon.

The class is still holding numbers

generally, but Association events are not well supported possibly because many of the current sailors are newcomers. The Association has made efforts to encourage participation, but it may take time to reap the reward.

Although Heron numbers at MYC are small the racing is quietly improving - Claire and dad have made their fastest time debut, narrowly defeating seasoned campaigners Anne and Terry, and the Jenny/Wayde team are just

looking for that extra notch of consistency to put them up there too.

We have all enjoyed the season's first half in ideal sailing conditions - even the easterlies have been kind.

I would like to wish all club members a happy christmas break and our Laser travellers to the Albany Nationals every success.

10109

Pacer Heartbeats

Well what fantastic racing we have had in the pacers lately. Last week Fish showed us what he could do by leading all the way but behind him Tyson sailed his heart out and even after two cap-sizes and a 360 penalty still held of strong challenges from Lywah and Puffin Liquidators (who don't liquidate anyone and brought up the rear of the fleet even with kite flying). The week before Dan Rignall put in a guest appearance and led for most of the

race before being headed and Fish pulled off a Houdini trick to go from 3rd to first in the last couple of legs. At the finish all four puffins finished within a few minutes of each other.

The racing is getting so close that and intense we are fighting it out right down to the line. Joel and Kirsty Snook are really developing as young sailors. Kirsty is so tiny but I haven't seen so must punch in a tiny body since Nicole started sailing Herons. On the new boats Fish hit the water at last and is flying, Jo and Charlie will be launching

their renovated Puffin next weekend. Also the Rignalls have purchased a new boat, which should be here for the restart of hostilities in January.

Lynn and Andree haven't had much sailing time because of their shore

duties looking after all of us hungry and thirsty sailors but their hearts are out there on the water with us.

Have a Merry Christmas and a happy new year and see you all sailing in 2002.

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Junior Corner

Sail Training

The season began with just six starters in the training group on that very windy day, so windy we could not sail. However, it was a great day to learn the names of the parts of a boat and how to right a capsized boat, skills some of our sailors were to test soon enough.

Within a short time the numbers swelled to 27 and training began in earnest. A second training boat was bought from Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club then Andrew became the first of our group to obtain his own boat. Lucky fellow!! Three boats became four with the arrival of bright yellow 'Axis' and the Try Sailing Day more than doubled our numbers. Ossie took on the new arrivals while Ken continued with the first group. Extra helpers, who have done a wonderful job, were recruited from amongst our younger sailors. Katherine, Daniel and Tyson have given fantastic assistance to the new arrivals and have kept Ossie sane. Stiff easterly winds every Sunday morning



MYC instructors give advice to two keen young Mirror newcomers from the rescue boat

have forced us to play safe and rig just the mainsail on each boat.

However, this has allowed good development of steering, tacking and gybing skills - capsize and rescue for some! A new phase will begin in the New Year with the introduction of the jib sail to the senior group. Hopefully, another boat or two will also be in the fleet so that small races can then become possible. Congratulations to all those sailors in

the senior group who all passed the Sailing Basics I course and received their certificate and Club badge on the Christmas Wind-up day. This is a qualification recognised by the AYF.

Many thanks to the parents for their help and thanks also to Peter Rignall for his 'sailing for parents' activity. And many thanks of course to Santa for finding the time to drop in for the day and help bring on a festive spirit.

With holidays now underway, see how you go on these activities:

Find the names of the parts of a sailing boat in this word sleuth. Use a highlighter to colour a word when you find it.

Score: 10 words: Good try 20 words: Close to expert 27 words: You are a STAR

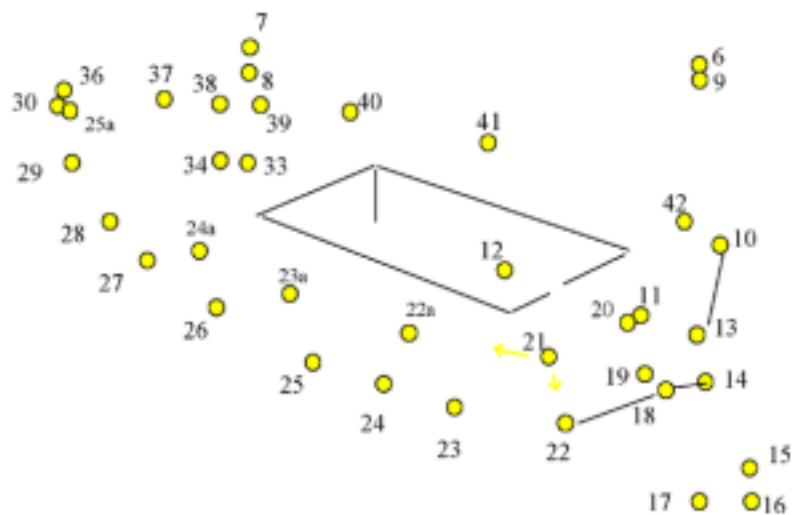
You might also find the names of the 18 new junior members of MYC, as well as a few older ones! Use a different coloured highlighter to show these.



T	R	A	N	S	O	M	E	L	I	S	A	C	L	E	W	Y	L	P	M
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Join the dots on this page to find a boat for Santa to ride in



West Sail 2001

During the October school holidays, Danny Rignall and I attended the YAWA West Sail sailing camp and the State Youth Championships regatta. The training side of the camp was run for four days and over the next two days was the regatta.

When we arrived at The Cruising Yacht Club's Hard Standing Facility in Mangles Bay ready to start our training but were unable to due to the stormy weather and constant rain. (30+ knots from the Southwest!) But on the second day we started our exercises. On the water we concentrated on mark rounding, starting techniques and tacking. We concentrated on these techniques for the next two days and got progressively better. Off the water, back at the compound we discussed the day's events, any problems we had and how to fix them.

There was one WA coach per class and the Lasers had Andrew Sanders. In addition Craig Ferris, AYF and Olympic 49ers coach and Erik Stibbe, the Olympic Laser coach, added valuable tips throughout the camp. Although Erik offered help to all classes he seemed to always be attracted to the Laser fleet for some reason...

We both suffered gear problems during the week with Danny breaking a top section while I broke a tiller extension. Throughout the camp Danny and I learned a lot of valuable tips that will help us in our future sailing.

I would like to thank the MYC Junior Sailing Foundation for their support in assisting us to attend Westsail.

Blake Stephens



Above - Two young sailors jostle for position at a mark during West Sail 2001.

Left - Blake showing excellent boat trim during a light airs beat.

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