



the MUDLARK

The official newsletter of the Maylands Yacht Club (Inc.) | **Summer 2002**

Commodore's Comments



*Above and left: Another successful opening day at MYC with large fleets and pleasant breezes.
Photos: Lloyd Blake*

The older I get the quicker time passes!

It seems such a short time since we had our Opening Day and now it is the Christmas break and the season is almost half over. The usual hectic start to the 2002-2003 season has seen an influx of new sailors to the club. We welcome them all and hope that their time at Maylands will be an enjoyable one.

The influx has been balanced by a number of club members leaving for other parts of the world. The Snooks are off

to a new posting for Wendy in Canberra. Roy should be right at home with the tricky, shifty conditions on Lake Burly Griffin. Chris Grande has returned to England and hopes to sail Lasers over there. After he completes his National Laser Championship Campaign, Daryl Bonney is off to Europe for as long as his money holds out. We wish all these Club members well in their new endeavours.

Try Sailing Day was a great success with many newcomers taking advantage of

the opportunity to see if they like sailing. 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 forty individuals kept our volunteers busy having rides in club members' boats.

The Junior training programme has again attracted a core of willing participants. Rear Commodore Training, Ken Patterson is doing a tremendous job instructing the learners, ably assisted by Simon Vito. Sunday morning training sessions now see a multitude of youngsters learning the art of sailing while interested parents assist where they can with boat rigging and boat pack up. New trolleys being purchased for all taining craft should make the task of moving the boats to and from the water a little easier.

Socially, it is great to see the number of sailors staying around for a drink and a chat after racing. Peter O'Donoghue's

Spagetti Night was a huge success. With close on ninety people attending, it was no small feat to feed the hordes. Servings were huge and no-one went hungry. That secret recipe of 12 herbs and spices was applauded by all who attended. Thanks must also go to Joanne Stevens for her efforts with the garlic bread and to all those who helped with the night. There is already talk of making this style of function a regular event at the Club. Anyone with ideas, let your Committee know!

The Wednesday Sailors (Clem, Brian and John) still perform many small tasks unheralded around the Club. Thanks guys. Also a special thanks to Brian "Picasso" Kent for painting the start box. Max, Sandy and Jan still do an amazing job getting us off the start line each week while Mal keeps an eye on us all from the Rescue boat. Without these people performing those jobs the rest of us could not indulge ourselves in the sailing. Many thanks from all Club members.

With the onset of Christmas and New Year heralding the usual round of National Sailing Championships, Maylands Yacht Club will be represented at the Laser Australian Championships to be held in Adelaide. This year only one member is taking the long drive East ably supported by his family as pit crew. We wish Darryl and his family a safe trip and every success at the Championships and hope is hard work

pays off. No doubt, there will be plenty of stories to tell upon their return.

As mentioned at our last pre-race briefing the Club needs to address some points to ensure that the Club environment and our sailing run efficiently. Due to a number of incidents having occurred, it is requested that Club members refrain from bringing their dogs to the Club on sailing days. On the water, sailors need to be conversant with the Rules of Sailing to ensure the smooth operation of our races. Some recent on water incidents have indicated that we need to educate all sailors as to their rights and responsibilities on the water. Mistakes do occur and the Rules give you the opportunity to make amends on the water by performing a penalty of some sort. Even I have been caught out a few times this season including my attempt to wipe out the Laser fleet on the last Club Championship start! I got quite giddy from the penalty turns after that incident!

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 19th January 2003.

Kim Stephens

Laser Lark



An incredible start to the season by the Radial fleet. We're seeing up to 15 boats on the line each week, which means that the Radials are most definitely Mayland's senior fleet. The standard of sailing has also improved, due to the increased numbers and also the arrival of Colin Dauncey and Ray Martin to the fleet. Colin has found the Radial rig very much to his liking and even beats the full rigs in on occasions. Ray is rarely out of the top three and excels in medium range winds.

The "old guard" of Brian Plumb, Ian Pavey, Jerome Toonen and Bruce Lee have been enjoying their usual tussles, while Blake Stephens has joined and in many cases overtaken this bunch. Chris Holyday's new boat is definitely faster than his old one, while Brian Kent is still waiting for the really strong winds which he enjoys most.

In consistency, John Wood, David Puddey, Glen Lee, Jeff Plumb and the up and coming Padraic Dempsey have been prominent.

We're hoping to have something of a presence at this year's States which will be held at Royal Freshwater Bay YC in early March.

Torp

Full and 4.7 Rigs report not available at time of publication. However, the view from the bow (and transom) of Torp seems to indicate that the front runners are Kim and Rosco, with Simon not far behind. Ken has been finding a great deal more boat speed this year.

Our new members Alan Benn, David Ponton, Stephen Fox and Chris Jones have been giving the fleet a shake from time to time and Doug and Lloyd have featured strongly in the handicap results.



Moth Mutterings

A sight to make a Class Captain smile (which has only occurred once this half season) was to have three moths on the starting line.

Lately it has been a singular effort - Blue Jacket has been mixing it with the mixed fleet, and trying to outpace that speedy catamaran. No joy yet.

We may have one taker for our "Join the Club and sail a Moth free for a year". Spread the word, we still have a few hulls left.

Colin and Bruce are still working seven days a week, So "Grub" and "joker" have been rack-bound for some time.

Mothies wish everyone at the club a Merry Christmas, Happy and prosperous New Year with plenty of sailing.

Blue Jacket



Pacer Perceptions

Due to the Lasers setting off first, the Pacers now have a better chance of getting to the start line on time! Another

great start to the season with honours even between the Rignalls, the Kerrigans and the Snooks. The boats seem to be holding together much better this season, with far fewer retirements due to gear or hull failure. We will miss Llywaw and wish the Snook family all the very best for Wendy's new posting in Canberra.

Puffin Liquidator

Heron Hailings

While some of the small Heron fleet have missed races in the first half of the season, it is great to see newcomers Max and Zoe Bennett in Sizzler out on the water in top form - all that talent and speed without enough competition. With TEE's and weekend jobs possibly behind us maybe we can make a better showing after Christmas. Compliments of the season to all club members.

10109

Classifieds

For Sale

Wagyl's Revenge

Sail No 152885 \$2,900 rigged as a radial OR full rig.

Ring Rosco on 9370 1304 or collar him at the club

For Sale

Message received via email:

I have an older model laser I need to sell. It was new in about 1975 (I'll have to look up the sail number) It has wooden centre boards (2) and all other bits it needs. Martin from Claremont came and checked it for me.

Price - approximately \$500 ono

Phone Dorothy on 0411 060 102

For Sale

Wetsuit, girls size 6-8, Minnie mouse design on sleeves, short arms and legs, good cond. \$20 Wetsuit, boys size 14, Westsult brand, short arms and legs, back zip, good cond. \$20. (Both grown out of.)

Get in quick, as they're being posted to Canberra very soon.

Wendy Snook [wsnook@uniting.com.au]



"Mirror Image" - this lovely picture was taken by The Guardian Express and shows one of the MYC Mirrors on a tranquil Sunday morning on the Swan.

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Sail training ..

The Sail Training Program is now well under way. There have been up to 17 beginners on the water on a Sunday mornings, some being quite young at eight years of age and others being very young at heart and prepared to have a go. At the moment the sailors are mastering the art of broad reaching, steering a boat in a straight line, tacking around a mark and some basic rules and knots. Their progress has been fantastic. Some have the makings of future champions if they stick with it.



Photograph courtesy Guardian Express

Some have already experimented with gybes (they were supposed to be tacking!). The training program is directed towards increasing confidence and sequential skill development. I have included below a list of the skills needed for the Basic Skills 1 Certificate:

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERION
Prepares and plans	■ Wears suitable clothing
	■ Demonstrates group and individual safety practices
	■ Warms up using sailing stretches
Rigging	■ Correct positioning of boat into the wind
	■ Correct identification of parts of boat and rigging, including sails & fittings
	■ With assistance can rig a sailing dinghy
Ropework	■ Ties a figure of eight knot
	■ Ties a round turn and two half hitches
Sailing techniques and manoeuvres	■ Steers a boat under paddle or wind power
	■ Demonstrates primary boat controls and heave to
	■ Sails a boat around a reaching course in light conditions
	■ Crewing and helming under sail power demonstrated in controlled conditions under supervision
Rescue procedures and drills	■ Participation in capsized recovery drill
	■ Participation in a single and/or multiple towing drill
Launching & recovery	■ Follows correct procedures for leaving & returning to the beach
	■ Demonstrates the correct procedures for launching & recovery of training boat with appropriate care, under coach guidance
Sailing theory and background	■ Demonstrates knowledge of basic rules (with coach supervision): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To avoid all collisions • A power boat gives way to a sail boat • Exceptions-commercial vessels
Winds, tides and currents	■ Wind direction and relative strength using environmental indicators

Based on 'Get Into Small Boat Sailing' Log Book, Australian Yachting Federation, 1999.
Maylands Yacht Club is registered as a sail-training establishment with the AYF.

Unfortunately we have fewer boats on the water this season, one privately owned and the other four being Club boats. Last season we had three other boats to meet our needs. Good boats are not easy to find – keep your eye on the advertisements in the Readers Mart or Quokka and act quickly Mums and Dads if you are thinking about buying one. They sell like hot cakes! More boats means more time on the water and a faster learning curve. It would be fantastic to see some families making the commitment and buying a boat.

Recently the Junior Foundation funded the upgrade of the sheet ropes on all the training boats. Thanks to Simon Vito for obtaining the ropes and to the effort of our Wednesday morning crew, the mainsheet blocks have now been repositioned to make the sheeting system much easier to operate. The gaff halyards will also be replaced with longer ones so that we can hoist the gaff without tipping the boats on their sides or having to send a light-weight sailor sliding up the mast to grab the flapping end.

Acknowledgement is also due to the many helpers. Simon has been lending a very capable hand in instructing; Tyson Rignall and Travis Muir-McMeeken are very willing and valued helpers. Max Albury has lent a most appreciated hand in supervising rigging; parents have assisted in the rigging, unrigging and putting away of boats, as well as being there to assist the sailors away from and returning to shore. Just being there is appreciated – the kids certainly respect parents for their involvement. And Joanne continues to make a major contribution, both with lovely salad rolls we have enjoyed at lunch time and her preparedness to swim at times to help restore capsized boats to their upright position.

Finally, a get well soon message to Jonathon Muir-McMeeken, who had a nasty fall from a moving vehicle. Hope you're fighting fit in time for Christmas, Jonathon!

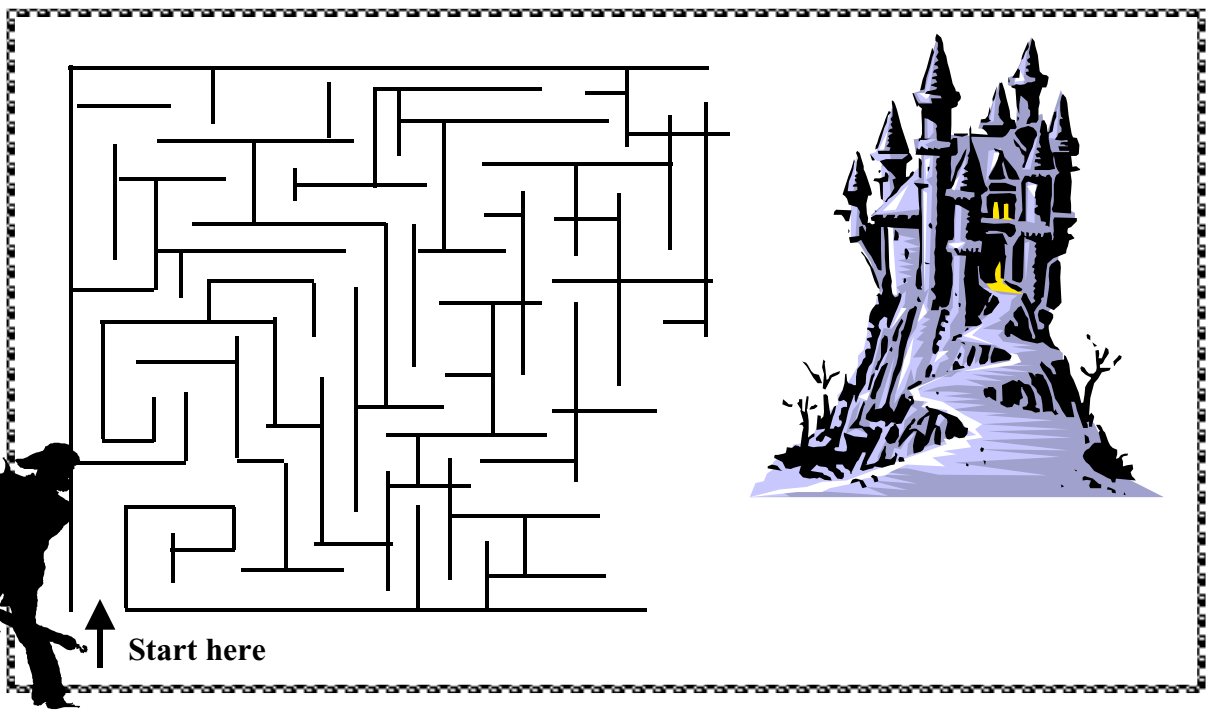
Have a very Happy Christmas, see you in 2003 Ken



Kids Corner

With Christmas and holidays just around the corner and spare moments to fill here are a few activities to keep you amused:

Captain Ty needs to do some tacking and gybing to sail his boat through the moat maze to pick up Santa from his castle. Help him find his way:



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Know your Rules!

The more things change the more they remain the same. Well yes and no, sailing rules change subtly and it seems some changes have crept up on us without perhaps enough fanfare to make themselves noticed.

EVERY sailor should own a copy and read the current "blue" book (2001-2004) and a copy of the CURRENT club sailing instructions, so when challenged on safety items like towing provisions or recall procedure, we know the answer. For instance, did you know that boats starting must now wait for a recalled fleet to restart and the recalled fleet is now subject to the "black flag" rule? I didn't.

Also, it is unnatural that MYC has not had a protest in recent memory (*Not quite - we had one between Kim Stephens and Colin Dauncey two years ago - Ed*) and not likely that we are all so accomplished as to never transgress. Think of a protest as a point against (or for) you in tennis rather than a slur on your personality. The relatively new system of "mediation" answers many objections against the protest system - find out about it and make use of it, otherwise that clown who bumped you last Sunday will be doing it again next week.

Coming up in February - 2 race format!

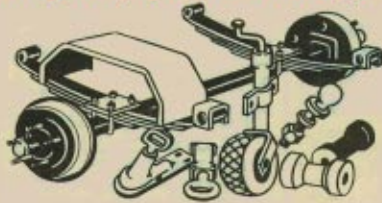
The committee has gone for a 2-race format for a trial on Feb 16. The first race starts at 1100, and will go for up to 1 hour maximum. It will be a no points race, where everyone is encouraged to get out there and put some of their thoughts into practice, who cares if it fails. It may well be that we have an all in start, depending on the numbers - it all depends on the day. We especially want to encourage people out on the water for more than the afternoon race. The second race will be as per the calendar, a handicap start race.

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