

# SEAHORSE

Elwood Sailing Club Newsletter – April 2006

April, 2006  
Volume 3, Issue 19

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STOP PRESS

Club Working Bee –  
Training boat maintenance  
Saturday 20 May, 10 a.m.

**PRESENTATION NIGHT**  
Saturday 20 May

## Commodore's Report

Another year has almost passed, and looking back my recollection is of big events with lots of races missed, windless and over-blown.

After lots of preparation, we conducted the Formula Windsurfer Invitation and World Championship series with a lot of fun, experience and memories for those involved. Praise goes to the two James' for their efforts in organising the series and to the usual bunch of helpers. After a lot of wheeling and dealing with Yachting Victoria and the Class Association we were well rewarded for our efforts. Bonuses were the acquisition of a sea searching web camera and a Plasma screen TV for the club. Although the TV was procured after the event, the loaned unit was such a success that the committee leaped at the opportunity to provide one for the club, together with the associated computer driver and Digital camera so that members achievements (and otherwise), may be recorded for posterity. Another sort of spin-off is the purchase of a rubber duck. Lots of discussion has occurred, and as I write, the decision is almost made. The anticipated delivery will be for the start of next season, and it is anticipate that this acquisition will facilitate rescue work as well as course patrol and training. Hopefully, a boat for all seasons!

At the time of writing, preparations are well underway for the Paper Tiger inter dominion titles to be held over Easter. (I will leave a little blank here as there will still be time to add a note after Easter and before the deadline for publishing). I will be relying on my correspondents for this info as I will be fulfilling a long-standing engagement at Lake Boga for the Easter Regatta, together with a lot of other Elwood Sailors.

I will leave another blank space here to congratulate the potential winners of the Club Trophies. After Easter, the database will give a more accurate indication.

The Top of the Bay was again held at PMYC. The selection of venues is really most unfair as all voting clubs do not have venues and apparently, 'sweetheart' deals are made. It is obvious that to be fair, the event should be rotated between the clubs that are able to hold the event, and not just vote for favourites. I have expressed this view on deaf ears. Never-the-less, it is Elwood's turn next year, and the results of this years event do not show a home ground advantage!



I believe a great job by Mark Foster as Commander In Chief and was given a high recognition by the convener.

Thanks to Will and Kay for looking after the Bar for me during the Interdominion. A job well done and I had better step up a notch or a takeover might occur. I thank you on behalf of the convener too. I think he had too many to thank on the night.

The Bar Queen.

## 125 News

The season is nearly over, with only 1 club race left to sail when this article is being written. Melbourne's weather has been displaying its various aspects. First fine, warm and little to no wind during the Commonwealth Games, then rain and gales the next weekend followed by arctic temperatures and strong winds for the Bill McNamara race. The 125s were more active at the Sandringham boat show than on the water for that race with many past class sailors coming to have a close look at the latest addition to the fleet. Ross Setfords "Omnivore" 3149 was on display and attracted attention from past and future sailors.

Elwood was well represented at the State Championships. Jim and Bianca Scott in "Carnivore" 3139 took the championship from Chelsea boats James and Caitlin Robinson in "Black Pearl" 3130 and Steve and Andrew Low in "The Punisher" 3133..

Jamie Thompson sailed, and won, the first race in "Slow Boat" 3140 but then sailed his Javelin for the rest of the weekends taking first place in the Javelin state Championships. Other Elwood entrants in the state championships were Ross Setford and Sandra Feeney in Omnivore, Robert McQuade and Alison Penington in Luna-Sea 3126 , Neil and Josh Farmer in

Ingenuity II 543.

There was a close tussle at the front end of the fleet for the top places with 3<sup>rd</sup> place being awarded on count back. At the other end of the scoring we enjoyed our sailing, gained more experience and got confused as to who was leading the fleet as spinnaker colours seemed to have changed from last year.

The Junior championship was won by Nick Frawley-Major and Simon Youl from Williamstown in Allegro. The yellow stripes have been removed but it is still a very distinctively coloured boat.

The first weekend of the championships was sailed at Black Rock YC on 18-19 February. Saturday afternoon started with fairly light airs. Apparently there was some excitement in the tower caused by "Luna-Sea" rounding the Windward and Wing marks in second place just behind "Slow Boat". However a tussle with a Sabre and an increase in the breeze saw her dropping back to a less exulted position by the leeward mark. That evening the sailors were joined by their families and several other past and present 125 sailors for a BBQ held at the club.

Sunday saw a return to the stronger breezes and the fleet had divided by the end of the day into those using their spinnakers in front and the more cautious behind. The photographer was on water and many great shots were taken.

These can be seen via the association web pages ( [http://www.125assoc.com/event\\_s.asp?st=vic](http://www.125assoc.com/event_s.asp?st=vic) has the link to the photographers site where they are displayed to enable orders to be placed) Geoff Craig returned to 125 sailing for the afternoon helming the new Carr boat "Esprit" while the regular crew rested from a combination

of rough seas and the current virus.

For the second weekend, sailing was held at Williamstown SC on 25-26 February. The weather forecast, dark cloud and rain that had passed in the distance did not discourage the sailors as most launched from the pontoon and chased the Williamstown fleet out into the Bay. At about 13:30 the club race was due to start and it was this time that the wind swung and the squall hit. The last 2 boats to launch managed to turn around and land again in the strong winds. The remainder of the fleet disappeared as the rain obscured the bay in a grey wall ripped by lightening. Racing turned to surviving and a couple of sailors felt static from the nearly lightening as they touched the metal shrouds. There was much excited talk afterwards in the clubhouse as hot (and cold) drinks were consumed. The Annual General Meeting was hosted by Jim & Bianca Scott at their home in Williamstown. The Photographs from the previous Sunday were viewed while breads, dips and liquid refreshments were consumed before the meeting commenced. Some lively and useful discussions were held during the meeting. Pizzas were ordered from around the corner and an enjoyable evening was had by all. There were 2 short races held on Sunday morning to complete the championships. Conditions were pleasant , slightly on the cool side . The local boats showed us the tricks of catching the river currents and distinguishing yellow buoys with W from yellow buoys with X – not so easy from a distance.

The presentation of results and prizes was held in the afternoon. Sailing at Elwood has had a mixed bag of weather and with 2 weekends for state championships plus the other events has resulted in only 5 races where a 125 has finished the race. While there has not been as much sailing as we might have wanted there have been some interesting races. In early February the Chelsea fleet joined us for a pre-states warm up. Ross has his new boat on the water and has sailed with different crews. Tom Carlisle has been sailing with Tess in "Heaven can Wait" aka "No Bull Involved" 3077 with a view to sailing in the upcoming Nationals. A broken arm, from a cycling accident, has prevented the Perlows from gaining more experience with the spinnaker but we have seen the Arnolds venturing to put up the big coloured sail. Let us hope for a sunny 15-20kn southerly on 22 April to finish the seasons sailing at Elwood.

Luna-Sea 3126

## SABRE NEWS

Before we knew it, the season has gone! Due to running the Formula Worlds and with Christmas and New Year breaks we missed most sailing in December. Thanks must go to our class sailors who were volunteers for the Worlds - Paul Stamp, Stan Kurth and Brian Adeney - with behind the scenes, Alan Carlisle (who was on the International Jury), Andrew Gruskin, and Brian Proven, and the others who also helped.

It is great to see the newer members of the fleet Jack Ellis (Chocolate Hostage) and Ashley Parkinson (Super Cedar) are now well up in the results, and we welcomed Stephanie Garnham (Orion) to the senior ranks. Stan Kurth (Pig Power) has continued to score well in his chosen weather conditions, and Alex Zattelman (Midnight Rambler) and Chris Sargood (Just in Time) with new sails have moved well up in the results. We also hear that Chris may have a newer and lighter boat for next season.

Unfortunately for a number of other boats, although competitive on the water, they were not able to sail in enough races to be higher in the results scores, but we hope to see them all on the water next season. We believe there are other potential competitors who are looking for Sabres - with the titles over, there may be some boats available now, so we wish them luck.

We congratulate all trophy winners on their performances, and to all our sailors we thank them for their participation in our keenly contested, but friendly, races and look forward to another season with even more boats on the water.

## Fur From The Tiger

The Paper Tiger International Championships were held at Elwood over Easter. This is a team event where the top 10 Australians from the recent Nationals compete against the top 10 New Zealanders from their Nationals. Another 20 invitees from Australia and NZ also participated with a maximum of 40 entrants allowed.

A tremendous job was done by Elwood SC members to run the event. The team was lead by Race Officer Mark Foster who drew on his wealth of experience to make some tough decisions when conditions were not ideal for the majority of race days. Mark's race management team consisted of Ken Robinson, John Pyers, Brian Cole, Jos Ales, Scott Barnett and others who dropped in to help. I received very positive feedback from sailors after the event, particularly with regards to race management so well done to these Elwood members for their professional running of the event. Your time and effort is greatly appreciated.

A big effort was also made by Elwood Paper Tiger skippers Mike Wold and Alan White who spent months organising the event. Mike binged his yacht a few weeks before the event and consequently had to launch a new boat prematurely which meant a lot of extra work. So with that on top all the organising, I am sure Mike is happy to see the back end of the regatta. Other people who also contributed to this success were Rod and Lesley McCubbin who crewed the Beaumaris YC rescue boat, Henry who drove the Port Melbourne YC rescue boat, Bernie Brayshaw and Bob Ramsay who helped out here and there, and Karen Anderson who crewed on 'Julie Waugh'. Beryl, Jenny White and Julianne Wold catered lunch and organized the post race nibbles, and Will and Kaye Jones and the Barnetts shared bar duties. Thank you to all these people for their hard work and their contribution towards a successful regatta.

The event was easily won by the Australian Team. The New Zealanders won it last time so it's nice to see the trophy can be shared between the two countries. The event also recognises individual performances. Mark Wiggins from McCrae YC, who was runner-up at this year's Nationals sailed well in the generally windy conditions to take out the regatta by one point from Tasmanian Bruce Rose.

Undoubtedly the best individual performance was 16 year old Oliver McKeon from McCrae who took out 3<sup>rd</sup> overall, 1<sup>st</sup> junior and 1<sup>st</sup> invitee (non team member). Oliver came 19<sup>th</sup> at the recent Nationals so that's a significant improvement and with that sort of form, is likely to win a major regatta in the near future.

Mike Wold was the only Elwood sailor in the team as I unfortunately had to surrender my spot when I was injured from a trail bike fall (a little too much on the front brakes and landed heavily on a rocky track with my knee taking most of the impact – ooch!). Mike still managed to sail the regatta despite his heavy organising load and finished in a respectable 14<sup>th</sup> place. Elwood members Randal Garham and Alan White who competed as invitees also sailed well in this competitive fleet to place 23<sup>rd</sup> and 32<sup>nd</sup> respectively. From what I hear it was a pretty tough regatta so these guys did well just to get to the end of it.

PT 1437

## Wild Windsurfers

Hold onto your hats and run for your lives....Its been a windy summer! Melbourne has turned it on for the windsurfers of Melbourne which saw the return of the once forgotten sea breezes that has been somewhat unreliable for the last couple of years. In turn, Elwood Sailing Club has been buzzing with windsurfers all summer. There are a few new faces around the club and the windsurfing standard is going through the roof. I have never seen so many people looping and trying new stuff which is great to see.

The big events that hit the shores of Elwood beach this summer was the World Formula Championship which was one by the French "Man Mountain" Antoine Albeau and Elwood's own "Super X" which was hosted by RPS The Board Store. The Super X event was a great success and many more are in the planned for next summer. In conclusion, thank you to all the windsurfing members for getting involved and I hope to see out on the water next summer.

Duncan Banks

## nEws

Another season of great sailing for the National Es where once again we have had consistently good fleets. Even with Rick selling Miss (whatever the latest was – I've forgotten) interstate, we have still managed to get the numbers down to the club. Mark has migrated permanently and with his new sails has been the top performer in the major Championships this year having taken 5<sup>th</sup> at the nationals and 1<sup>s</sup> at the States. Rick jumped on Moo (sort of like Kiwis and sheep?) and got going well, especially in the heavy air. Dale and Marina and Mike and Ashley have both spent some time leading races – they just need to get that last bit right. Joseph has won races – you might have heard about it if you listened carefully. John and Daisy have become heavy-air experts and Brian keeps picking those winning corners. The Bill Mac was taken out by Tim and Joseph – good to have a nice breeze for the event. Unfortunately for Dan and Craig, the Bay was a little empty on the day and was too shallow for an inverted E. Above all the season has been fun and we are looking forward to seeing you all at Presentation night.

## Storage Report

Please note there is now some limited top racking available to Members so if you are interested see Joseph Picone. Anybody with construction experience keen on tendering the rear yard extension should contact Ted Masaur .These works are scheduled over the winter.

### Keep Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May free for Presentation Night

**There will be music, dancing, a guest speaker, a chance to chat to fellow sailors about the season that was, and more.**

Details on how to purchase tickets will follow shortly.

Hope to see you all there.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
The Annual General Meeting of the  
Elwood Sailing Club is to be held at the clubrooms on  
THURSDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2005 AT 7.30PM

**AGENDA:**

**Election of Office Bearers and Committee: Nomination forms**  
should be returned by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2005

Minutes of AGM 20/08/04  
General Business  
**Business arising**

to:

**The Secretary**  
Elwood Sailing Club  
PO Box 14  
Elwood VIC 3184

Reports:  
Commodore  
Financial  
Sailing Committee  
Patrol Boats  
Storage  
Membership  
2005 Formula Windsurfing World Championships

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**Nomination Form**

I.....

being a financial member of the Elwood Sailing Club, hereby

nominate.....

for the position of .....  
for 2005/06.

Signed ..... Date .....

Seconded.....

Signed ..... Date .....

I accept this nomination.

Signature of nominee ..... Date .....