



SEAHORSE elwood sailing club newsletter



March, 2008

Volume 3, Issue 24

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PRESENTATION NIGHT Saturday 17th May \$20 per head

The format has been changed from previous years to keep costs down. This year finger food will be served with drinks at bar prices. Tickets are available NOW.

Harassment free sport

ALL members should be aware that such an official policy exists and can be viewed on the Yachting Victoria website.

If any members wish to report a breach of this policy can they do so via a General Committee member or via a normal protest lodgement. The policy is valid for both on water and off water behaviour.

Commodore's Report

Dear Members, the 2008 Summer season is all but over. I trust that you have enjoyed the racing and social events. Please note that we have a few more to Go!

The construction of the rear shed has commenced and hopefully will be completed relatively quickly. During the construction phase our storage capability is being disrupted. Kindly work with the club and fellow members through this difficulty, and take care of boats and equipment belonging to others. Please note that the Angling Club have been absolutely fantastic by allowing us to store some of the training fleet in the Angling Club, and reduce the congestion in our own club.

When the construction is complete, this will allow us to consider redevelopment of the general boat storage areas with a view to better utilise the space. The board sailing storage, will also be increased via better space utilisation.

Unfortunately we have been broken into yet again this year. This has led to an upgrade of locks and the installation of video surveillance 24/7 (in glorious colour!) The cameras also operate in the dark. Unfortunately we believe that at least one of the perpetrators is in fact a club member, well we will soon see! If this theory is proven correct, the

club will very quickly have an "Ex-Member".

The new electronic key system has not proved as successful as we had hoped as there are still faults in the system that need to be corrected. Some members have been without keys, but at least we have managed to rectify this problem, albeit far too slowly. If you have paid for a key and as yet not received one, please contact Ted Masur.

The bike path? As far as we know the status is unchanged other than there have been changes of personal at the Council and we are awaiting contact from the new council contact. No doubt this situation will clarify in due course.

As most of you would know, Beryl resigned earlier this year from her canteen duties. Beryl had worked in the canteen for 13 years and we are grateful for her service to the club. In the interim Yolanda Cole & Fay Foster have stepped in to fill the breach in the canteen. Thanks ladies. Part of their brief was to experiment with canteen menu, and I think that most canteen customers have been pleased with the new menu items.

Effective from the end of the summer sailing season, General Committee has decided to make all positions vacant. This includes Bar, Canteen, Patrol Boat Drivers, Tower, & Training. This is not a slight on current Staff or Volunteers, but is an opportunity for ALL members or associates to



participate in any of these programs next season.

With respect to the bar, the person in charge of the bar's operation is Rob Anderson. Rob, with general committee, is reviewing the opening hours and license, and rewriting the job description to suit the new requirements. Once these have been finalised we will then ask for volunteers/staff.

The canteen has for the last 13 years been a staff position. At this stage we would prefer if the canteen could run on a roster of volunteers. If this is possible, it will make the canteen not only a profit centre but also a social and information centre. The concept would be to have Canteen Leaders and rostered helpers. If you are interested in working in the canteen, say, 1 day per month on a roster basis, please contact me. Failing this we will have to reconsider the staff option.

Patrol Boats, Tower Staff & Training, current volunteers and anyone interested in assisting on a regular basis (regular is defined as "at least once per month") please contact me and express your interest and level of commitment for next season.

I will also call a meeting of sailors and race management volunteers in the next month or so to discuss next seasons racing program and invite comments, suggestions & criticism of this season, with the view to make improvements for 2008 - 2009 season.

Regards

Mark Foster
Commodore

Editorial

Thanks to the contributors for this edition – I would still encourage other classes to nominate someone who will write a regular piece for the newsletter. The next edition will contain the season's results and will be a perfect time for contributions!!

For this edition I would like to concentrate on the thriving social scene developing at the club. Having been in attendance at a couple of events and having heard of many more, I would like to congratulate everyone involved in the organising of the social calendar. The enjoyment and good will generated by these events must be a positive for the club and the community! Well done to all!

On the sailing side another positive is the improvement of many of the sailing squad, both juniors and seniors. Conditions which would have been prohibitive last year are now enjoyed by many of the younger members. Some of the juniors are ready to move into more serious racing – here is a chance to train up an excellent crew (or skipper)!!

This success does create some problems however and over the winter we will need to carry out maintenance on all the club boats. Volunteers for this will be absolutely essential and information about working bees will appear in the next edition (see you there)!!

Sailboard news

Since the December issue we've continued to have amazing seabreezes perfect for sailboarding action.

The ESC club along with RPS held another successful 1hr race with many ESC sailboarding

members joining the event. With 20-25kt breezes there was exciting racing followed by an Expression Session. All the action was viewed from the club with all competitors enjoying a beer and sausage sizzler afterwards. Many thanks to Tom Carlisle who manned the rescue boat and set the course.

The twilight series has been well supported with ESC sailboarders enjoying a beer and BBQ after a session on the water. We will run a few more before day light savings finishes – stay tuned to email updates from Paul Curtis.

Finally don't forget if you are keen for surf there is a group of us who head to the west coast most Saturdays/Sundays for a wave. Send me an email or text (0438 047784) on Friday nights and I will let you know if we are heading down.

See you on the water
Ben & Paul

RPS 1 Hr Race – the audience and the action





Sabre news

Sabres are having another good season with the usual close competition in every race, although we are missing those who have not been seen on the water as often as in the past. It has been great this season to see some changes in the names on the leader board, with the previous top-runners Ripple, Sea Soar and Touche now having to fight even harder for placings. This has come about with the addition to the fleet of Randal Garnham (who made the transition to proper boat sailing very quickly), a great improvement in performances from Paul Stamp, and the welcome return to sailing of Jack Ellis. David Wilkinson has been very fast but has unfortunately had to count some DNF scores (equipment failure, not signing off and sailing the wrong course). So far Ripple has continued to lead the scores, but is having to fight for it in every race.

Jack took part in the Sabre Nationals in Adelaide over Christmas and together with Randal, Paul and David also sailed in the recent Sabre States titles held at Elwood. No doubt their participation in these events will help and encourage them to even better performances in the future, and we wish all Sabre sailors good sailing for the rest of the season.

Patrol Boat Roster

I'm very disappointed with the people who were on the roster and didn't turn up without any reason or make any arrangement for a swap. I personally find it a bit hypocritical of these people (you're only on the roster once in the season, but it seems too much for some). They think, "Who cares? Somebody will take it on!" And yes, some club members

have been asked to do some duty on the Patrol Boats because of that.

Next time, I am not prepared to ask other club members to do a replacement duty because some haven't got the decency to make other arrangements. This means there may be NO PATROL BOAT going out because we have not enough people to crew them. On the other hand, if there are enough crew for the Patrol Boats then those on the list can go sailing.

The number needed varies from week to week and we have to be able to rely on them members rostered on. If in the future there are not enough crew then the Patrol Boats stay off the water and sailors can go home. If I am to do the roster next year (and I am not so sure about that), then I propose to the Committee that there is a points penalty applied to those who stay away with no attempt to find a replacement. I know I may not make any friends with this but who cares? Some members certainly do not appear to care.

I would like to give a sincere thanks to those who have turned up and to those who have filled in at late notice.

Roster Coordinator

Schools' Regatta

Another day where ESC members promoted the club with distinction. Unfortunately though, the numbers are still far lower than we would like. Several members are trying to re-energise this event and we are always wanting to hear from others with good ideas. If you can think of ways to promote or improve this regatta, please contact

Will Jones, Andrew Barnett or Tim Dorning



WINTER SERIES - Warning Signal at 1100 Hrs

| | | | |
|-------------|------------------------|------------------|------|
| Sun 1 June | Winter Series 1 | Visitors Welcome | 1100 |
| Sun 15 June | Winter Series 2 | Visitors Welcome | 1100 |
| Sun 29 June | Winter Series 3 | Visitors Welcome | 1100 |
| Sun 13 July | Winter Series 4 | Visitors Welcome | 1100 |
| Sun 27 July | Winter Series 5 | Visitors Welcome | 1100 |



**'Lazy E' For Sale
Elusive – Sail #315**

Excellent condition, recent ground up restoration & modernisation including:

- Hull re-sprayed in 2 pack paint
- Decks and interior re-varnished
- All new Ronstan & Harken fittings
- New Sheets
- Upgraded boom & Goldspar lightweight tapered spinnaker pole
- New buoyancy bags
- Sails in good condition with spares
- Stainless steel trolley

New boat forces sale.



**Contact Alistair on
0400 571548**

**For Free!
Sabot needing a good home.**

Dear Sir

I have an old Sabot that I wish to go to a good home. The mast and boom and sail are in good condition but the ply hull has been stored in a shed for about 10 Yrs and needs paint and repairs.

You have Sabots at your club and I am sure that the sail, mast and boom would be of use to some needy person at your club even if the hull is old tech and out of date and not worth the cost of repair. Could you supply me with the name of someone at your club who might know some one who would like a free sabot. I am not just trying to get rid of my old junk and would like to see it be of use to someone.

Yours sincerely

"John Comeadow"
<jclights@optusnet.com>