

VICE COMMODORES REPORT

Happy Yew Year everyone. Just a quick note to everyone using the Club facilities out of normal hours - all doors must be locked downstairs.

The RS:X event recently held over the Christmas Holidays was a great spectacle with strong sea breezes and competitors from many countries and plenty of smiles all round.

The club atmosphere was abuzz and special thanks must go out to the following champion volunteers:

Keith Whiteley for correspondence with Yachting Victoria, race results, and his general organisational skills were of the highest calibre;

Kerry Bergman for her public relations and radio skills;

Marcus King photographer and Web Master;

Bill Grimshaw Master Chef;

Collena Grimshaw and Andrea Stevens, Canteen Managers, ably assisted by Dorothy Clayfield;

Paul Grimshaw Race Director;

Tim Forster Expert Weather Consultant and Rescue Boat Crew;

Bob and Tam Ford - Master of Ceremonies;

Bill Joselin Supreme Mentor.

Neville Smythe, Noel McNicol and Graeme Tonkes and Deidre were and are the backbone of the recue team.

It's easy to forget the selfless effort week after week month after month that the above crew put in, (as I often do) until an event comes along and you work alongside them.

On behalf of the club I sincerely thank them.

Sorry if I missed someone out but I will buy you a beer if that's the case.

To all members please consider the committee that sits the first Tuesday every month is always looking for feedback from members to improve our facility.

An expression of interest to join the committee is always welcome and it would be great to see some Females on the committee as soon as possible.

Notice to all Windsurfing Members

SOCIAL NIGHT & GENERAL MEETING When: Thursday 16 February
Where: Parkdale Yacht Club
At: 7pm

Come along to catch up with friends, eat & drink at club prices, watch the latest windsurfing fliks, and brainstorm the future of Windsurfing Victoria.

Good Sailing, John Bolton

Commodores report

February 06

Welcome to the New Year and congratulations to all our members who competed over the Christmas Break, we had some excellent results in regattas some of these include the:

Badrocks 3rd overall and 1st on handicap in the Cobra Nationals at Portarlington, Tess and Jack Lloyd with an 8th and 14th overall placing (respectively) in their nationals in Queensland,

Julie Grimshaw crewed for Nicki Bethwaite and Petronella DeJong in the Yngling class and had 8 wins out of 11 races at sail Melbourne.

We also had several others competing in their National Tiles, well done to all.

Back home at the Club meantime, we've held the Olympic Class RS:X sailboard Warm-up event, where we had 28 competitors from around the world competing, including 6 Australians one of which was our own Anna Davis who scored two 2nd places in the 7 women fleet, to finish 5th woman overall.

As every one knows, a considerable amount of work is required for a series to be held, well done to all that helped make the event a success.

Since Christmas we have started the Juniors and had great interest from new and potential new members, it was great to see Simon Crompton backing one new members car and trailer down the ramp the other day, surely a daunting task first time round for anyone, well done Simon and maybe that sought of spirit will encourage all of us to help the new guys. Speaking of new members welcome to our club, make your selves known to all of us not just the class you are sailing in.

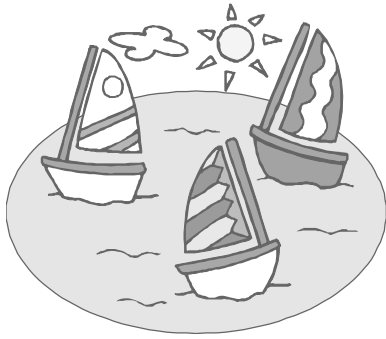
Coming up on the 24th of February we are having a cocktail party at the club to raise money for new blinds across the front windows, an invite to this auspicious occasion will be sent out to all members, remember back to the last Commodores cocktail Party and rush for some tickets.

I know everyone thinks we have plenty of money in the bank and should just spend it on things like blinds etc. and spend we will, but unfortunately the list is long.

On a sadder note our long time Life Member; Frank Harris passed away just before Christmas; our thoughts are with Franks wife and family. Frank had a long association with the club, and will be remembered fondly, I am sure by many. It was Franks wish, that his ashes be scattered over the water in front of the club. This will be happening in February, there are many old members who want to attend and need to be notified, watch the notice board for a date. Frank, has also gifted back, the "Ships Bell" that we awarded him a while ago, this will be used as a perpetual trophy in his memory.

Enough from me this time, and looking forward to seeing you all back on the water for 2006

BOB FORD



JUNIOR SAILING REPORT

Junior Training has started again and Parkdale YC is fortunate to have Dianne Telford as the instructor, replacing Julie Grimshaw who is excited about her involvement with the Olympic Sailing team.

We wish Julie well and appreciate her support in past years.

Dianne is an accredited Trainer and will be following the Yachting Australia course outlines for Basic Skills 1 and Basic Skills 2.

We have a lot of interest with many new members all eager to learn to sail. Multiple sets of twins will ensure maximum confusion and we look forward to all the children enjoying the program and gaining confidence in their abilities as they learn new skills.

Please introduce yourself to the new members and make them welcome to the club.

Many thanks to the support teams of familiar faces and new ones with the Parents actively involved in the program. It is a wonderful opportunity for Parents to participate with their children and encourage a love for sailing whilst seeing them form new friendships in a safe environment.



COBRA REPORT

It's been a frantic time for the Cobras since our Christmas break began, but what better way to spend your holidays than to indulge yourself in your favorite pastime!

To begin with, the Cobra/Stingray Nationals at Portarlington were a great success (maybe not in the results for the Victorians, but that's not what it's all about). Our combined fleet of 20 boats plus the VS Association which shared our venue, provided an impressive spectacle for the thousands of holiday makers camped on the foreshore. The racing, as always, was intense and close with the Queenslanders taking 1st and 2nd places, with David and Lisa 3rd, followed by Mal and Maddy 4th, Colin and Kim/Nick 5th, Wes and Meaghan 6th, Rick and Robby 7th, Pete and Jess 8th, Derek and assorted crews 9th, yours truly and Johnny 10th and our nationals virgin John Ornsby 11th. Derek won the handicap trophy, followed by Mal and Pete. Parkdale won the club trophy for the second year in a row.

Well done everyone!!

To sum up the series - wind, wind, more wind, tropical to arctic weather, breakage, disaster, catastrophes, speed and fun (the usual nationals format!)

Some highlights (and lowlights)

David losing his mast because SOMEONE forgot to tighten the sidestay shackle -prize for massive dummy spit at the wing mark that was witnessed and reported by impeccable sources.

Rick having a chainplate torn out of his hull -prize for sailing the greatest distance without mast support except for a terrified crew hanging on the trap wire.

Derek being IN THE RIGHT when someone T-boned him.

Pete being in the wrong when he T-boned someone.

Prize to both for the quickest rebuild of two seriously damaged boats and a reminder that we pick on Queenslanders, not on each other!

My attempt to sail a kilometer into the wind with a broken dolphin striker that marked the end of my campaign just as it was gathering momentum.

Pete breaking yet another mast (I suspect he has shares in an aluminium company)

Colin's attempt to start every race as late as possible so that he could pass the maximum number of boats - a brave new tactic that no one tried to emulate.

Wes for his "on the edge" sailing that terrifies us oldies and rightfully won him the encouragement award and a shredded sail.

Mal for his "play with dolphins" routine - if they were trees, he would hug them!

In all a great competitive and social week, with my thanks going to all who helped me organize and run the event. Next year it's back to Lake Macquarie and we look forward to getting even with the northerners.

On behalf of the VCCA, I want to welcome some newcomers to our fleet and club. The combination of our lease boat activity and the free membership package is having excellent results.

Jon Ornsby has moved out of the lease boat and purchased his own Cobra, Andrew Dixon has done the same, Adam and Scott Fothergill have bought Undercover (ex lease boat) and I have had to buy a new lease boat to try to keep up with the waiting list. The success of the programme can be seen any Sunday on the beach! A big Parkdale Y C welcome to all the new members.

So now we are in to the business end of the season. The competition for all the trophies on offer is as close as ever with, I suspect, a few surprises to come.

Looks like our Easter State titles will be at Lake Boga again as the alternative venues have dropped out of the regatta format. However, it's always an enjoyable place to be for the Easter break and I strongly recommend ALL club members to come along. The regatta is open to all classes, so all you cat, Minnow, mono, and board sailors check it out, come along and have great time.

Good luck and good sailing to all for the rest of the season.

Laurie Bradford