



OFFICIAL CLUB BROCHURE 2024



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Royal Brighton Yacht Club Commodore's Welcome

As Commodore of Royal Brighton Yacht Club it is my pleasure to welcome members and visitors to our Club on the shores of Port Phillip. RBYC will soon celebrate its 150th anniversary, growing from a small lean-to shed on the beach here in Brighton in 1875 to the large modern facility you see now.

Our passion for the sport of sailing has remained undiminished. The style of yachts may have changed, but the wind in our sails, friendly competition and adventurous cruising further afield, continue to attract countless Melburnians and visitors to our Club on the water.

We have an extensive sailing program, which provides opportunities for young and old, male and female, racer and cruiser to go sailing. For those new to sailing there are children's or adult learn to sail programs, while for the more experienced there is racing, or cruising, or a combination of both. We have active keelboat, one-design and off-the-beach dinghy fleets. Many members find great enjoyment in volunteering in a wide range of roles on and off the water, and we always welcome and mentor new volunteers. Some prefer the Club's active social program with numerous functions and live musical entertainment without venturing out on the water, whilst our Aquatic members have found a home here for their daily swims in the waters of Port Phillip.

I also recommend our catering and hospitality to you. We have a beautiful Members' Lounge and a stylish function room with views over the water upstairs to suit all your wedding, dining, party and conferencing requirements.

The forecourt, deck and bistro have become a wonderful social hub for Club members, their guests and members of the public.

I welcome you all to our wonderful waterfront location, and invite you to take full advantage of everything our friendly and welcoming Club and Marina have to offer.

Yours in Sailing,

Niesje Hees

COMMODORE





A Brief History

It is said to have all begun as a result of a chance race challenge between two sailors cleaning their boats on the beach at Middle Brighton in August 1875.

One month later, the Brighton Sailing Club was established with fifteen members. By April 1876 the Club (now Brighton Yacht Club) had fifty-seven members and thirteen boats on the register. In 1877 the first modest building was erected on the site.

Keenly competitive, those early members enjoyed spirited Club racing. An inter-club regatta was a great success, attracting spectators from all parts of the city. It was to establish the Club's reputation of excellence in race management that continues today.

The Royal Warrant was granted in 1924 by His Majesty King George V, and Brighton Yacht Club became Royal Brighton Yacht Club.

Then, as now, the Club's facilities had constantly to be expanded, upgraded, rebuilt and refurbished to ensure they met members' needs and kept Royal Brighton at the forefront of sailing in Victoria. Our membership has become more diverse and inclusive, welcoming people with varied backgrounds and sailing experience.



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The marina was completed in the late 1960s and was further extended in 1979 and 2004. The addition of the hardstand in 1987 accommodated a large one-design fleet, still flourishing today.

RBYC has produced many fine sailors, some of whom have gained international success. Jock Sturrock twice challenged for the America's Cup in the 1960s, including skippering Australia's first challenge in 1962.

A multiple national champion, he represented Australia in four successive Olympic Games and was elected one of the five inaugural "Legends of Australian Sports" on the establishment of the Sports Australia Hall Of Fame in 1985. Jock died in 1997.

John Bertrand AO, who is still an active sailor at the Club, was skipper of Australia II – the yacht that won the America's Cup in 1983. The Victory broke 132 years of American domination and in the process the longest running record in modern sports history.

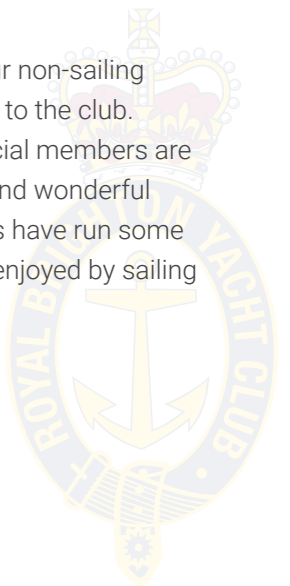


John Bertrand AO represented Australia in five America's Cups and two Olympic Games, winning a bronze medal at the Montreal Olympics of 1976. He was also the 2010 and 2016 Etchells class sailing world champion.

Mark Turnbull OAM is an Olympic champion, winning a gold medal in the 470 Class with Tom King at the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney. He and Tom were inducted into the Australian Sailing Hall of Fame in 2022.

Many other RBYC members have excelled on the world stage, while others enjoy regular club racing closer to home.

At the same time we appreciate our non-sailing members, who bring additional life to the club. Swimmers, gym members and social members are making good use of our facilities and wonderful waterfront location. The Icebergers have run some excellent events which have been enjoyed by sailing members as well.



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Facilities

Royal Brighton Yacht Club boasts one of the best floating marinas on Port Phillip Bay.

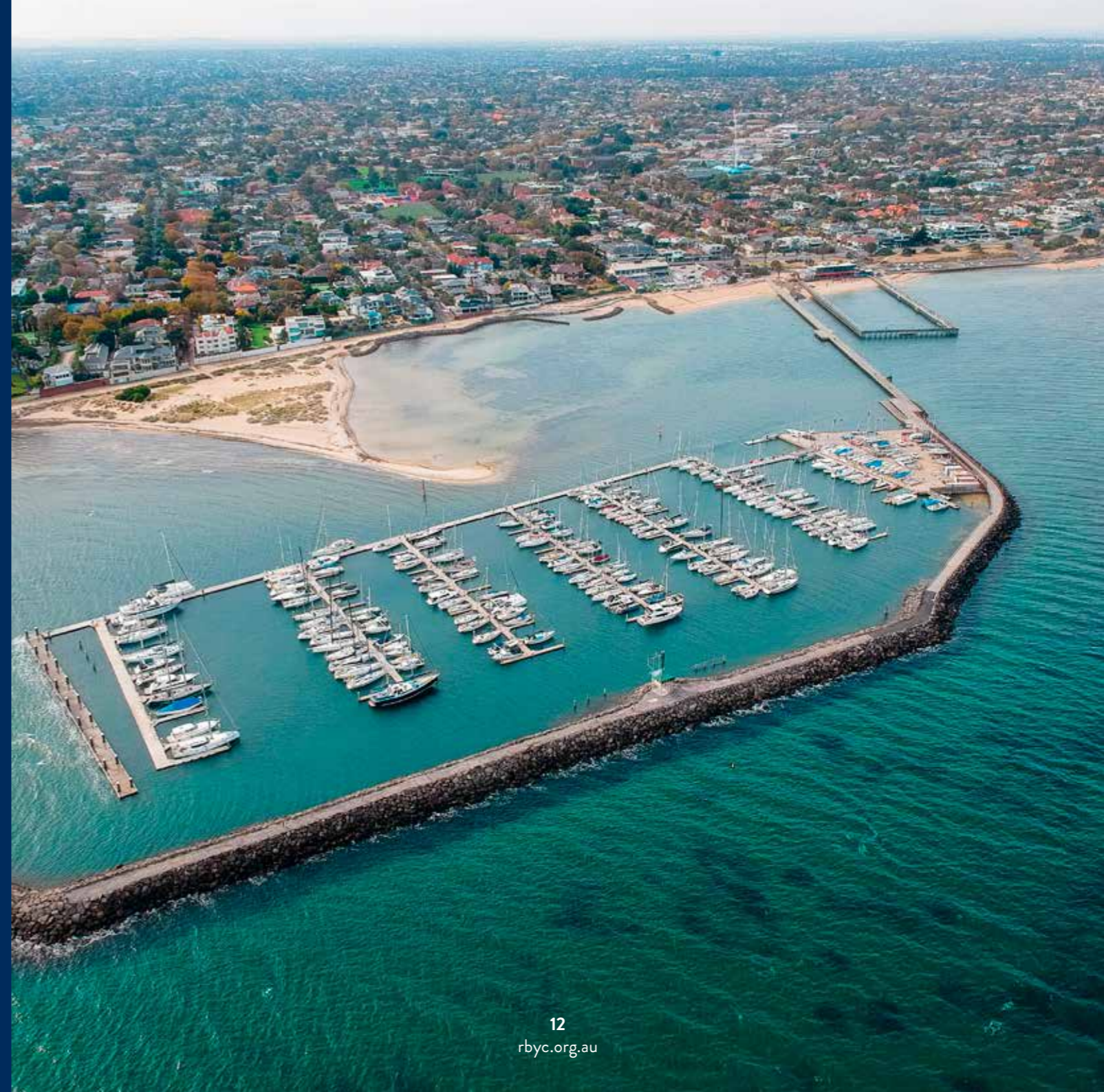
There are 245 wet berths ranging from 8m to 18m as well as hardstand accommodation. This concrete deck has occupancy for 60 boats and has two jib cranes that ensure a very fast and reliable service to members. Our new totally redeveloped forecourt and basement offer off-the-beach storage for sailing dinghies.

After purchasing a boat, choosing where to keep it is the other key consideration. The right choice gives peace of mind with security, superb boat shelter and easy access to services at competitive rates. Berths may be rented on an annual basis by Club members only and by non-members on a casual basis.

The Royal Brighton Yacht Club marina has all the amenities any sailor would need; light, power, water, toilet pumping, fire protection, easy access to the boat yard at Sandringham, sailing school, yacht broker, catering, cleaning services and more.

It is ideally located on the Golden Mile at Middle Brighton, close to Melbourne's CBD and just minutes from Church Street with all its shops in downtown Brighton.

For more information, please call (03) 9592 3092 or email boatingmanager@rbyc.org.au



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Classes Sailed

Royal Brighton Yacht Club caters for numerous classes of boat, enabling sailors of all standards to come and enjoy competitive racing. Here are just some of the classes sailed regularly:

- ▶ RS100
- ▶ VX Ones
- ▶ 49er and 49erFX
- ▶ Lasers
- ▶ 2.4mR
- ▶ Dragon
- ▶ Etchells
- ▶ Keelboats
- ▶ Optimist
- ▶ Waszp
- ▶ 420
- ▶ RS Aero
- ▶ RS Quest
- ▶ Sports Boats
- ▶ Kite and Foiling boards



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Sailing Program

The Club has a highly active all year-round racing calendar engaging in various events across Port Phillip Bay. Bring your yacht or join a crew and enjoy the thrill of sailing and the facilities at RBYC.

Saturdays see a full schedule of racing including inshore and passage races across the keelboat divisions and one-design classes. The keelboat divisions are well catered for with several aggregate and non-aggregate series, a mixture of passage and windward leeward courses and a number of races run in conjunction with neighbouring yacht clubs.

RBYC hosts Melbourne's largest one-design fleet. VX Ones, 2.4mR, Dragons and Etchells can be found racing on the Centre Course every Saturday afternoon throughout the sailing season. RBYC is the home of the Etchells Melbourne Fleet, which has, over the years, included World Champions, Olympic gold medallists and America's Cup legends. The Club will be hosting the 2025 Etchells World Championships.



Join Sam Paynter as he talks to amazing individuals of Bayside who share their stories and experiences of endurance, tenacity, mental toughness, resilience and inner strength to complete what they started.

Sam hopes this podcast motivates and inspires you to GO THE EXTRA MILE and achieve anything you set out to do.

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Wednesdays are also an important day in the Club's sailing calendar with year-round pursuit racing and the twilight series run throughout the daylight-saving period. The Wednesday afternoon race is for those who have flexibility in their day with a 1:30pm start, meet with your crew over lunch and then enjoy a pursuit race on the Bay.

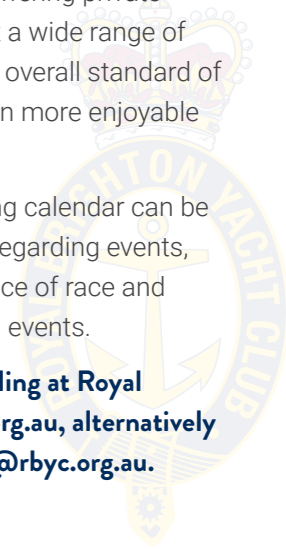
The twilight series is a fantastic weekly event consisting of a short fleet and pursuit race with a sunset finish, followed by a presentation over a few drinks and a meal on the clubhouse deck. New sailors and casual yacht entries are always welcome to join in on the Wednesday festivities.

On Sunday, the junior and youth sailors partake in RBYC instructed training sessions followed by off-the-beach racing where several different classes of dinghies participate in short course racing.

The Club offers members as well as non-members the opportunity to upskill their sailing abilities and improve their overall sailing performance by offering private coaching and tailored courses to suit a wide range of individuals, which in return raises the overall standard of sailing at the Club and makes for even more enjoyable racing.

The Club's website is where the sailing calendar can be found which outlines further details regarding events, along with online entries, results, notice of race and sailing instructions to up and coming events.

For further information regarding sailing at Royal Brighton Yacht Club visit www.rbyc.org.au, alternatively call (03) 9592 3092 or email sailing@rbyc.org.au.





Cruising

With well in excess of 100 members and a comprehensive programme of activities, the Royal Brighton Yacht Club's Cruising Group is the envy of the other yacht clubs on Port Phillip Bay.

Formed in 1991, the group exists for those who enjoy sailing's more relaxing and social aspects, along with the pleasures of exploring our waterways, bays and coastline by boat.

Regular get-togethers are enjoyed once a month. These meetings are well attended with 50 to 60 people sharing a meal and listening to a guest speaker or engaging in many other activities such as the annual Carols at Christmas BBQ, roving dinner parties in the marina, an annual music night, trivia nights, and lunch and dinner cruises away from the Club.

Guest speakers cover a wide range of topics including cruising destinations, voyages undertaken, boat maintenance and safety equipment. Sharing a meal beforehand gives everyone a chance to catch up with friends, meet other "boaties", and to share ideas.

The group endeavours to organise a 'Monthly on Water' activity, usually the last weekend of the month, depending on the weather, and in late February/early March of each year it facilitates an annual two week long "Bass Strait Cruise in Company".

Cruising Group members are able to keep in touch with what is going on through a monthly newsletter and regular emails.

New members are always welcome. For more details, please call RBYC Reception on (03) 9592 3092. Membership is open to anyone who is a member of a Yacht Club.





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Race Management

Royal Brighton is proud of its heritage and has a rich history of offering championship racing to some of the best sailors in the world.

The Club is highly regarded by those seeking a venue for regattas and major sailing events and has had an excellent record for many years of hosting world, national and state championships.

Events hosted include the likes of Sail Melbourne International, the Finn Gold Cup, the Dragon, Etchells and RS 100 World Championships, the 9er Nationals for the 29er, 49er and 49er FX classes, and Optimist class States. The club hosts the very popular George Mac regatta in March.

The Club can count on a dedicated, wide-ranging, hardworking race management team who have considerable experience to draw upon, both on and off the water. This level of expertise is what allows organisers of important events on the national and world stage to feel assured that their event is in good hands.

There are fantastic facilities both in the clubhouse and on the foreshore, the sailing waters of Port Phillip are up there with the very best and there is one of the world's most vibrant cities right on the doorstep.



Junior and Youth Sailing Programs

Royal Brighton Yacht Club has strongly committed to provide pathways for all children to learn how to sail since its inception. The aim is to transmit a lifelong passion for the sport for many in the new generations.

The Club and its members have invested a lot of time, effort and money into Junior and Youth Sailing. Club fleets include 11 RS Quests, 6 International Optimists, and 4 29ers, plus a fleet of 12 coach boats. Most importantly, the Club has a great team of young, very talented coaches, many of whom have come through the ranks in the very same programs they are now teaching.

The Club's facilities and the excellent waterfront allow us to teach sailing to young people in a fun and safe environment, running group courses as well as private coaching sessions all throughout the year and at all levels.

Children from six years old upwards learn to sail and perfect their skills in a variety of different types of boats.

The success of the program speaks for itself, both in the number of young sailors visible at the club every day of the week and the number of RBYC youngsters being selected to represent the State in National championships.

For more details about our Junior Sailing Program, please call (03) 9592 3092 or email otb@rbyc.org.au





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Adult Learn to Sail Programs

Royal Brighton Yacht Club has a strong commitment to providing a pathway for adults to get into sailing and allow them to develop their skills while sailing out of the club.

The Club has invested in a fleet of Quest Dinghies for Adult Learn to Sail and a 28ft Keelboat for keelboat courses. With a pool of very talented instructors and coaches, we can provide training for all levels from complete beginners to those looking to race or cruise offshore.

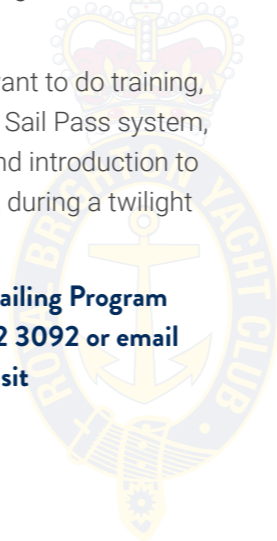
The Club's facilities and the excellent waters of Port Phillip allow us to teach sailing in a fun and safe environment, running group courses as well as private coaching sessions all throughout the year.

Adults from age 18 can get to experience sailing on both small and large boats. Then take their newly learned skills as crew on members boats in the weekly sailing programs.

In-house racing over summer is also an option to help develop racing skills and experience club racing in a controlled environment under the guidance of our coaches.

For those who are unsure if they want to do training, they can experience sailing via our Sail Pass system, which gives a daily membership and introduction to sailing on an RBYC member's boat during a twilight race in summer.

For more details about our Adult Sailing Program and Sail Pass, please call (03) 9592 3092 or email boatingmanager@rbyc.org.au or visit www.rbyc.org.au/training



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Becoming a Member

The Club has a variety of membership categories available to suit all needs.

Current sailing categories are:

- ▶ Senior Member - able to make use of all sailing and non-sailing facilities including gym and carpark
- ▶ Family Membership - (husband and wife/partner, with no additional charge for children under 21 years except for Association fee)
- ▶ Crew Member
- ▶ Crew Plus Member - includes use of gymnasium, sauna and steamroom
- ▶ Country Member (reside more than 100km radius from the Club)
- ▶ Youth Member - under 18
- ▶ Intermediate Member - aged 18-29

Non-sailing categories are:

- ▶ Social Member
- ▶ Gym Member
- ▶ Aquatic Member

Members are welcome to sign in up to eight guests at a time, the same guest up to 12 times in one year.

The Club also offers great flexibility in the payments of Annual Membership fees. You can choose between a single lump sum or monthly instalments.

Should you require information or assistance relating to memberships of the Club, contact the office by calling (03) 9592 3092.





Membership Benefits

Some of the compelling sailing and social reasons to become an RBYC member include:

- ▶ Full sailing program for keelboats, One Design and OTB during the week and weekends
- ▶ 10% discount on food & beverage (excludes functions)
- ▶ Active cruising division
- ▶ Off the Beach, Junior and Youth Programs
- ▶ Outstanding Marina and Hardstand facilities
- ▶ Excellent club catering
- ▶ Friendly membership
- ▶ Ability to sign in guests
- ▶ Private members' area and bar with open fire, lounges and balcony
- ▶ Extensive social calendar
- ▶ Some membership categories allow for access to the recently renovated gym, sauna and steam room
- ▶ Access to wonderful nautical library, as well as use of the billiard table (tournaments are regularly organised)
- ▶ Reciprocal arrangements and accommodation options with many clubs in Australia and overseas
- ▶ Opportunity to vote on important issues and play a key role in the future of the Club
- ▶ Complimentary Wi-Fi in the Clubhouse





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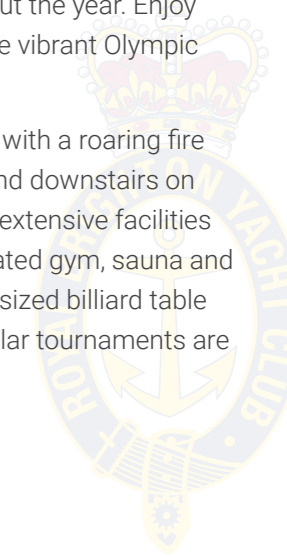
Clubhouse

Royal Brighton's comfortable and well-appointed clubhouse is the perfect place to spend a few enjoyable hours in the company of good friends.

It has everything a sailor could possibly want after a morning or afternoon's racing, with spacious changing rooms and the promise of a hot shower.

Sit out on the ample deck on a warm sunny Melbourne day, enjoying the breath-taking views of Port Phillip. The deck is open to everyone, members and the general public, throughout the year. Enjoy breakfast, lunch and dinner in the vibrant Olympic Restaurant & Bar.

Inside is just as pleasant a spot, with a roaring fire sure to be going both upstairs and downstairs on winter days. The clubhouse has extensive facilities including its own recently renovated gym, sauna and steam room. There is also a full-sized billiard table for use by members, where regular tournaments are organised.



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Functions and Events

RBYC is Brighton's favourite destination for a quintessential beachfront wedding, celebration, conference.

Opened in 1875, the Royal Brighton Yacht Club, has extended and progressed over the years.

The Royal Brighton Yacht Club team has years of experience when it comes to planning and delivering exceptional events.

Our spaces provide the perfect backdrop for a beautiful celebration. With city and ocean views on our private balcony, you can have the best of both worlds.

We pride ourselves on service and would love the opportunity to tailor a package to suit you and reflect your personality.

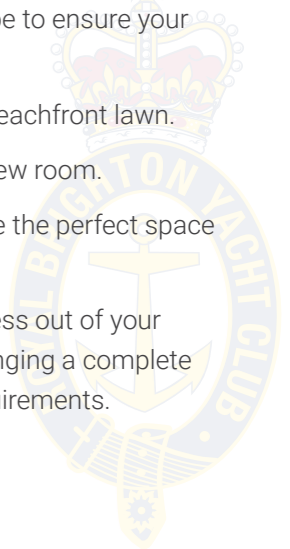
Your wedding day is all about memories, family and most of all, love. We have the recipe to ensure your day is just the way you imagine.

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- ▶ Conferences of all sizes and durations
- ▶ Product and car launches
- ▶ Business Network meetings
- ▶ Movie nights
- ▶ Fundraising gala events
- ▶ Team building events (can be combined with sailing activities)
- ▶ Corporate Christmas functions
- ▶ Charitable and Corporate Sailing Regattas

The Bayview Private Room and Balcony and the Committee Room are available to host special occasions. Each is a different size, ensuring the versatile venue can cater for just about any event from a small board meeting to a large conference, cocktail party or gala.



For more details visit rbyc.org.au/functions-and-events, call (03) 9592 3092 or email eventsmanager@rbyc.org.au



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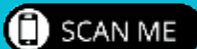


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The spacious and versatile Bayview room has a
terrace area perfect for serving a conference lunch
or pre-dinner drinks. The room accommodates up to
200 delegates theatre-style or a smaller number in
classroom or u-shape. Wireless internet is available
and audio-visual equipment such as microphones,
screens and lecterns are available.

There is also the option of hiring more than one room,
for break-out or so-called green room usage, giving all
the flexibility and convenience required.

Refreshments, mid-session snacks, working lunches,
buffets or sit-down meals can be provided.

**For event, conference or catering enquiries or an
information pack visit rbyc.org.au/functions-and-events
or contact RBYC on (03) 9592 3092 or email
eventsmanager@rbyc.org.au**

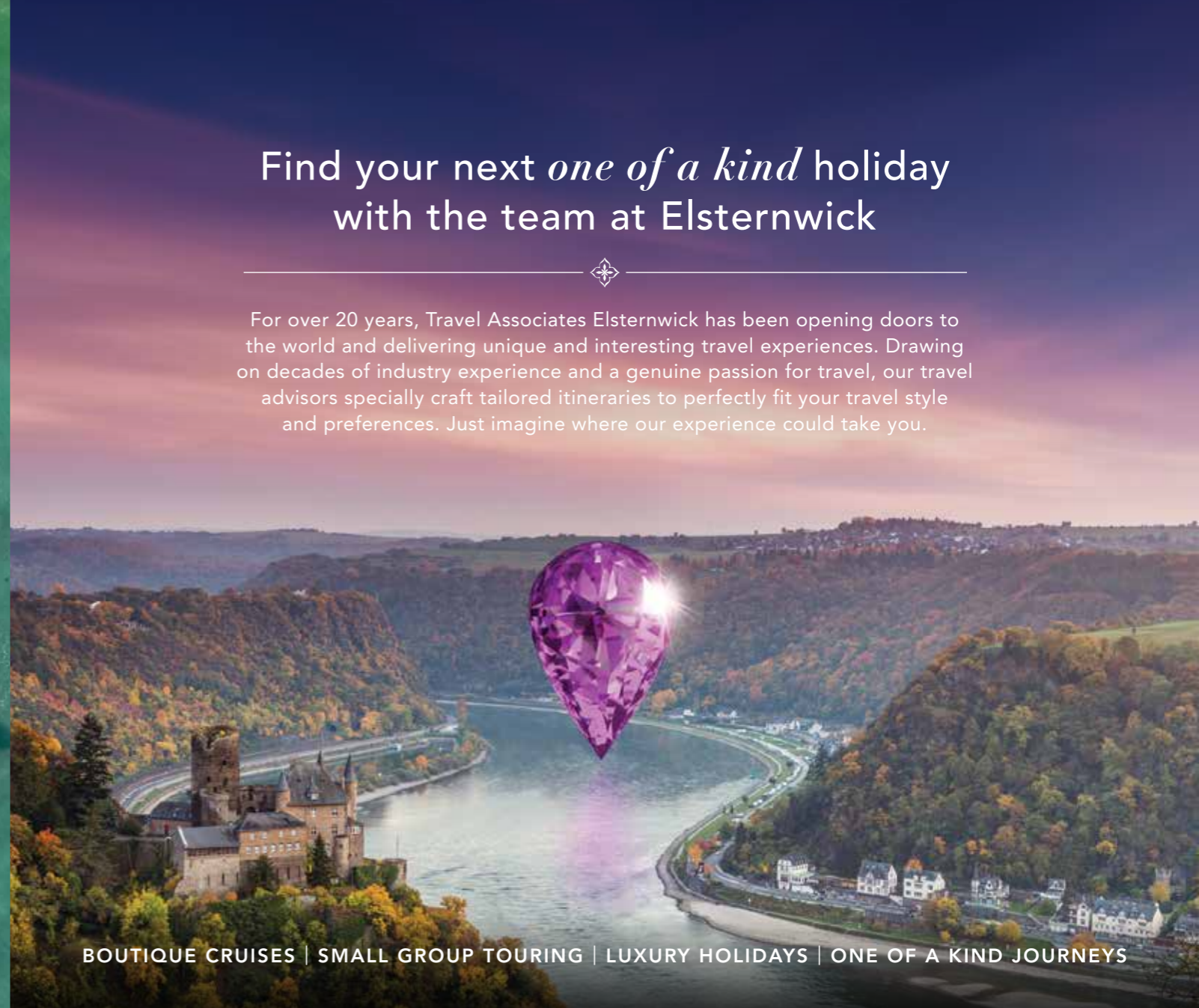




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Aquatic Members

Royal Brighton Yacht Club is proud to have more than 100 Brighton Icebergers call our club home.

We believe our group of hardy Icebergers who swim in the bay year-round without wetsuits is the largest on Port Phillip. These are joined by a growing contingent of wetsuited swimmers. We swim in temperatures ranging from 8°C in winter to 22°C in summer.

The majority of Aquatic Members do their swimming in the morning, and sometimes in the dark before work, such is their dedication/commitment.

The swimmers make regular use of the sauna and steam room and love the Club's Olympic Room. This is proving to be a great venue at which to meet for a post-swim coffee/breakfast and the chance to warm up, have a chat and de-brief on the day's swim.

Icebergers are an adventurous lot and many of them travel far and wide to swim.

Several of our swimmers have been involved in successful relay crossings of the English Channel as well as various swims held around the Mediterranean region.

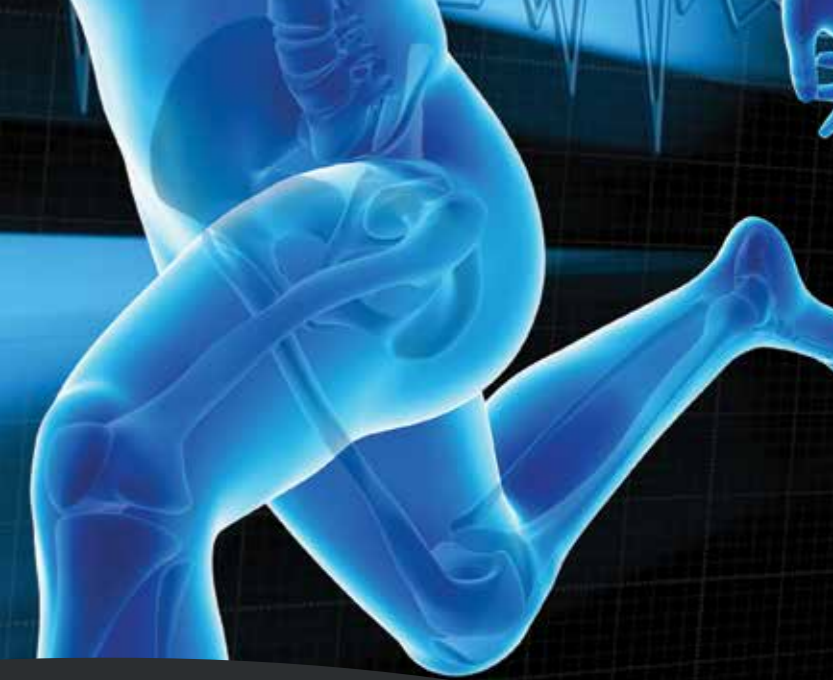
Closer to home, the Icebergers hold two major swims during winter and have an annual summer-handicap race in December, which is followed by our annual Christmas brunch at the club. We work closely with the Club's sailing department who assist us in the running of our major races.





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Social Activities

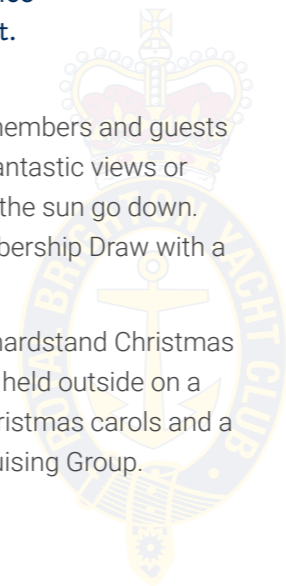
Royal Brighton is known as the Friendly Club and members can experience just as enjoyable and rewarding a time out of the water as they can on it.

The social calendar is packed with events for all the family to enjoy and good food and good company are guaranteed. Among the highlights are the annual presentation night, seafood nights and live acoustic music on the deck during the summer period.

The Social subcommittee has run several popular functions appealing to all members, many of which have become a regular feature of the club's calendar. Leading up to 2025 we look forward to celebrating the club's 150th anniversary.

Friday night is Club night where members and guests can come and enjoy great food, fantastic views or maybe even a cold beer to watch the sun go down. The evening also features a Membership Draw with a cash pool.

Early December sees the annual hardstand Christmas Party, a much-enjoyed Club event held outside on a Saturday night with traditional Christmas carols and a barbecue, as organised by the Cruising Group.



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Location

Royal Brighton Yacht Club is alongside Brighton Pier, around 12km south of Melbourne's CBD.

DIRECTIONS FROM MELBOURNE CBD

Take St Kilda Road beside Flinders Street station south over the Yarra River and out of the city for around 4km. When reaching the intersection with Princes Highway, turn right on to Nepean Highway (state route 29). Turn right at Glen Huntly Road and then take the first left onto St Kilda Street. Follow this road for around 3km and you will come to the Club on your right.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Frequent trains run from Flinders Street Railway Station to Middle Brighton station, which is a short walk from the Club. Journey time is 20 minutes by foot.

COORDINATES AND VHF CHANNEL

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