



HALF YEARLY REPORT TO MEMBERS

MARCH 2024



**ROYAL BRIGHTON YACHT CLUB INCORPORATED A0018674M
253 ESPLANADE, MIDDLE BRIGHTON. VIC. 3186
HALF YEARLY GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS
TUESDAY 26th MARCH 2024 at 7:00PM**

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Rule 32, the Half Yearly General Meeting of Members will be held in the Bayview room at RBYC on Tuesday 26th March 2024 at 7.00 p.m.

A G E N D A

1. NOTICE OF MEETING

2. APOLOGIES

3. OBITUARIES

Andrew Neeson

4. MINUTES

Confirmation of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 19th September 2023 & Special General Meeting held 22nd February 2024.

Business arising from the Annual General Meeting held 19th September 2023, and Special General Meeting held Thursday 22nd February 2024.

5. COMMODORE'S REPORT

6. FINANCE REPORT

7. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1) Sailing
- 2) Membership
- 3) Assets
- 4) Cruising Group
- 5) Aquatic
- 6) Cleaner Sailing
- 7) IDAG
- 8) Social
- 9) 150th Anniversary

8. Recommendation from Committee under Rule 8(3)(a)(i) that Senior Member Kevin Wilson having rendered valuable service to the Club be elected to Honorary Life Membership of the Club.

9. Business on Notice

10. RECEIVE ANY NOTICE OF MOTION

Honorary Treasurer Brett Heath - That the Club appoints Auditors, Ashfords Pty Ltd, for the 2023-24 financial year.

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

By Order of the General Committee
March 2024



ROYAL BRIGHTON YACHT CLUB INCORPORATED
253 ESPLANADE, MIDDLE BRIGHTON 3186
148th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY 19th SEPTEMBER 2023, 7.00PM
ABN 24768210467 INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION A0018674M

Annual General Meeting of Members was held on Tuesday 19th September 2023 at 7.00pm in the Clubhouse, 253 Esplanade, Brighton, 3186

MINUTES

1. Attendees

Commodore Niesje Hees, Vice Commodore Peter Demura, Rear Commodore Peter Gebhardt, Club Captain Marnie Irving, Honorary Treasurer Brett Heath, Peter Coleman, Murray Cowdell, Tony Hennessy, Cath Hurley, Debbie Jonker, Neil Sargeant, Past Commodore Alan Woodward, Past Commodore Wendy Luck, Kim Luck, Past Commodore David Bingham, Past Commodore Peter Strain, Peter Austin, Glenn Ferguson, Lindsay Cormie, Joyce Cosgrave, Kalpana Raghunathan-Merrett, Rod McKenna, Patrick Purcell, Tom Thompson, Sue Leaper, Mary-Alice Tedstone, Leigh Lansdown, Chris Sand, Geoff Adams, Damian Felsbourg, Tony Fenton, Andrew Poulton, Bronwyn McIlveen, Anthony Garvey, Grant Dunoon, Marg Neeson, Andrew Merrett, Anthony Evans, Pam Merritt, Will Merritt, David Hutchings.

A quorum of more than 20 Senior Members was declared.

2. Apologies

Past Commodore Paul Jackson, Past Commodore Paul Pascoe, Mandy Jackson, Jenny Pascoe, Andrew Perkins, Lyn Bingham, Rory McBriar, Deborah Brosnahan, David Meik, Jan Ferguson, Ron Clarke, Glenn Norton, Leigh Weber, Phil Bedlington, Caroline Killick, David Dyring, Lou Irving, Paul Jenkins, Andrew Neeson, James Neeson.

3. Obituaries

Graham Bickford
Jamie Harrison
John Hart
Gary Liddell
Jonathan McCready
Michael Read

5. Minutes

(a) Confirmation of the Minutes of the Half Yearly General Meeting held 21st March 2023.

MOVED: Niesje Hees **SECONDED:** Kim Luck **CARRIED**

(b) Business arising. - Nil

6. Commodore's Report.

Commodore Niesje took her report as read, while highlighting the following points.

- The Sailing Lifts Your Spirits program, which provides a sailing experience to healthcare workers, was very much appreciated by the guests and boat owners alike. This year's Oaks Day Lunch will raise funds to enable the program to expand.
- The regular Commodores meetings coordinated by Australian Sailing assist us all to promote the sport of sailing in an environment of competing activities.
- A high priority is obtaining a dredging permit to enable dredging of the marina next winter.
- We continue to work with Parks Victoria on the extension of our Seabed Lease.
- Strong community links are essential to us. The club restaurant acts as an important link to the community and has attracted several new members to the club.
- We continue to reinforce our principles of mutual respect and have sent our Code of Conduct to all members with their membership renewals.
- There has been membership growth across all categories, with an overall increase in membership of 8.8% compared with 2% last year.

Niesje thanked all those who have assisted her with their knowledge and experience including Past Commodores and Vice Commodores, members and staff, as well as the General Committee and subcommittees.

MOVED: Niesje Hees **SECONDED:** Patrick Purcell **CARRIED**

7. Honorary Treasurers' Report

Receive and Adopt the Accounts, Balance Sheet and Honorary Treasurers' Report for the Year ended 30th June 2023.

MOVED: Murray Cowdell **SECONDED:** Alan Woodward
CARRIED

Honorary Treasurer Murray Cowdell asked that his report be taken as read.

Main Features

- Revenue improved 14.5% on the previous year.
- Record membership, higher marina utilization and a return to pre-COVID levels of catering.
- Inflation and a tight labour market saw expenses increase by 27.3%.
- The Operating Surplus for the year was \$732,287, while the Net Deficit after depreciation, amortisation and net interest paid was \$295,958.
- Cash position up / debt down

Challenges

- Controlling rising costs and wages
- Capital commitments going forward including dredging.
- Managing the seabed lease

Conclusion

- A solid year for the club, growth in all sectors.
- Continued focus on a cash surplus to allow the Club to continually develop services for members and undertake the necessary maintenance and capital expenditure
- There remain significant headwinds including rising costs and wages.
- Thank you to the General Committee, Finance Sub-Committee, our accountants and auditors for their support and guidance.

Murray Cowdell would like to thank members of the Finance Sub-Committee.

Chris Sands asked about the progress of the Catering Labour costs from the ½ yearly report. Brett Heath replied that these were in the table on page 23 of the annual report.

6. Sub-Committee Reports

Receive and Adopt the Sub-Committee Reports for the year ended 30th June 2022

MOVED: Niesje Hees **SECONDED:** Murray Cowdell **CARRIED**

All reports were taken as read.

The presenter of each report presented highlights from the report and invited questions.

- Sailing & Rescue /Support Boat (Brett Heath)
- Assets/ Marina & Attenuator Advisory group (Niesje Hees)
 - Presentation included architectural drawing of proposed forecourt redevelopment
- Cruising Group (Peter Gebhardt)
- Aquatic/Iceberger (Greg Wallace)
- Inclusion & Diversity Advisory Group (Niesje Hees)
- Cleaner Sailing (Andrew Merrett)
 - Presentation included update of clean marina accreditation which is nearing completion
- Social (Joyce Cosgrove)
- Yachting Foundation (Niesje Hees)

7. Presentation of 40, 50, 60,70 Year Membership Medallions

Commodore Niesje Hees presented medallions to those who were in attendance and acknowledged those who were not. Leigh Lansdown and Anthony Evans spoke of their experiences at the RBYC over 60 years.

(Full fee-paying Senior Membership for 40 years or Membership for 50 years)

40 Year

PC Paul Jackson
Andrew Perkins
Tony Fenton

50 Year

Leigh Weber
Christopher Arendsen
Robert Ekins
John Paterson
Huw Provis

60 Year

Rory McBriar
Leigh Lansdown
Garry Linacre
Anthony Evans

70 Year

David Meik

80 Year

Jamie Harrison
Posthumously presented
to family.

Presented at HY -

Mary-Alice Tedstone
PC Wendy Luck
Jan Ferguson

8. Notice of Motion

Commodore Niesje Hees invited members to give any Notice of a Motion. – No notices were received

9. Election of Ex-Officio list

It was proposed that the following members be elected as Ex-Officio members.

MOVED: Kim Luck **SECONDED:** Peter Gebhardt **CARRIED**

Commodore Greg Yorke CSC RAN	Club Patron
Commodore Tim Olding	Royal Yacht Club of Victoria
Commodore Ian Lodewyckx	Royal Melbourne Yacht Squadron
Commodore Roger Bennett	Royal Geelong Yacht Club
Commodore Sue Bowes	Sandringham Yacht Club
Commodore Paul Neilson	Hobsons Bay Yacht Club
Commodore John Sammons	Black Rock Yacht Club
Commodore Martin Kudnig	Blairstown Yacht Squadron
Commodore Andrew Young	Mornington Yacht Club
Commodore Cyrus Allen	Ocean Racing Club of Victoria
Commodore Lee Renfree	Queenscliff Cruising Yacht Club
Commodore Georgie Silverwood	Sorrento Sailing Couta Boat Club
Alistair Murray AM	President Australian Sailing
The Honourable Daniel Andrews MP	Premier
The Honourable Jacinta Allan MP	Deputy Premier
The Honourable Tim Pallas MP	Treasurer
The Honourable Ingrid Stitt MLC	Environment
The Honourable Steve Dimopoulos MP	Sport & Recreation
The Honourable Sonya Kilkenny MP	Fishing & Boating, Ports & Freight
Zoe Daniel MP	Member for Goldstein
James Newbury MP	Member for Brighton
The Mayor – Cr Hanna El Moullem	Bayside City Council
Mick Cummins	CEO Bayside Council
Jo Richards	Parks Vic Regional Director Marine & Maritime
Graeme Davis	Parks Vic District Manager Port Phillip Western Port

9. Declaration of Committee

The meeting received from Past Commodore/Returning Officer Wendy Luck the declaration of the unopposed nominations for Flag Officers and the declaration of the unopposed nominations for General Committee for the 2022/2023 Season. As follows:

FLAG OFFICERS

COMMODORE - Niesje HEES

VICE COMMODORE – Peter DEMURA

REAR COMMODORE – Peter GEBHARDT

CLUB CAPTAIN – Marnie IRVING

HONORARY TREASURER – Brett HEATH

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE

Peter COLEMAN

Murray COWDELL

Tony HENNESSY

Catherine HURLEY

Debbie JONKER

Neil SARGEANT

14 General Business

Chris Sands asked if the proposed (Oct 22) Marketing sub-committee was being formed.

Commodore replied that it had been decided not to proceed with a separate sub committee as marketing was handled by each of the separate departments within the club.

By Order of the General Committee

Meeting Closed 7:58pm



**ROYAL BRIGHTON YACHT CLUB INC.
MINUTES OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS
THURSDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2024 at 7pm**

ATTENDEES

Commodore Niesje Hees, Rear Commodore Peter Gebhardt, Honorary Treasurer Bett Heath, Murray Cowdell, Cath Hurley, Peter Austin, Karen Johns, Past Commodore Peter Johns, Bill Westerbeek, Scott Shelton, David Hutchings, Liz Seaward, Jan Ferguson, Andrew Poulton, Terry Frankham, Chris Sand, John Wertheimer, Susan Leaper, Simon Tedstone, Jim Leckey, Jennifer Pascoe, Rod McKenna, Patrick Purcell, Margaret Findlay, Wayne Seaward, Glenn Ferguson, Sue Cassidy, Julien Reipert, Keith Badger, Campbell Ewart, Matthew Gault, Eliza Newton, Denis McConnell, Chris McConnell, Elizabeth Shen, Sergio Giurina, Past Commodore David Bingham, Margaret Neeson, Past Commodore Paul Pascoe, Past Commodore Wendy Luck, Alexey Rudakov, Andrew Perkins.

A quorum of more than 20 Senior Members was declared.

APOLOGIES

Kim Luck, Past Commodore Paul Woodman, Past Commodore Ron Davies, David Dyring, Peter Coleman.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PROXY VOTES

Commodore Niesje Hees x 17
Murray Cowdell x 20
Past Commodore David Bingham x 1
Karen Johns x 4
Past Commodore Peter Johns x 2
Christopher Sand x 1

Commodore Niesje Hees opened the meeting at 1900 by welcoming all members and acknowledging the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet.

The agenda for the meeting was outlined.

1. Apologies and Proxies
2. Purpose of Meeting
3. Summary of Background Information
4. Questions
5. Member Vote

The purpose of the meeting is:

1. To note the report on the Forecourt Redevelopment, which is Stage 4a of the Club's Master Plan.
2. To consider and, if thought fit, to approve the following resolution:

That in accordance with the requirements of RBYC Club Rules 30 and 42, the Members of the Club resolve to authorise the General Committee to:

- i) Enter into a bank loan of up to \$1,000,000 and
- ii) Give security over any of the Club's property or assets for any such loans for the improvements of the Club premises in accordance with the plans provided to Club Members for the redevelopment of the Forecourt.

The background of the project was discussed as Stage 4a of the RBYC masterplan. This had previously had planning permission which had expired and had been renewed. The governance was then outlined with the members of Forecourt Redevelopment Working Group identified. The plan has been reviewed by the Asset Sub-Committee. The Finance Sub-Committee has reviewed the project and made a recommendation to the General Committee that the club can afford the project and that it should be financed to enable reserve cash to be used for dredging and other smaller capital projects. The current loan will be paid off by October 2024 (\$284k is outstanding of the original \$2M loan).

The project was passed unanimously as a motion by the General Committee.

Questions from the floor.

Q. There were some questions regarding the commercial viability of the project.

A. There is no quantitative business case – this is about accessibility and improving amenities for members. It is true that the potential impact on function revenue has been discussed in the past, but the GC did not think this was certain or quantifiable. There may end up being a side benefit in the club being more attractive for functions, but this is not the main reason for undertaking the project. This project is in accordance with the Club's Master Plan. It has been reinforced to us that the club is not accessible and that this presents a safety risk in terms of ambulances attending the club, as well as an inconvenience for members wanting to be dropped off or picked up.

Q. Would it be better to use a staged approach rather than do the whole project as one?

A. It was thought that the project will not become less expensive in the future and that the project should be complete as one. This is considered the minimum scope for the project without incurring extra costs overall.

Q. Will this project divert funds from Sailing (core business) activity.

A. Sailing projects continue to a high priority and significant funds have been spent, and will continue to be spent, on supporting sailing initiatives. This includes purchasing two new race management boats within the past year, and servicing the race management fleet.

Q. If the proposal does not pass, will the project go ahead.

A. If the funding model is not adopted the Committee will meet to consider next steps.

Jim Leckey commented that the state of repair, cleaning and general presentation of the Club House was poor and said that while the new works would improve one aspect of the club other areas must not be forgotten. This comment received support from some of the members in attendance at the meeting. Jim then asked if the club would commit to improving other areas such as general cleaning, repair and painting to external surfaces and the repair of the surface in front of the gym. The chair of the meeting (Niesje Hees) replied that this was not the purpose of this meeting.

Q. Will assets be subject to a lien?

A. The loan will be negotiated on the outcome of this meeting. It is expected that Club Assets will be used as security for the loan.

Q. Does the plan take into account larger vehicles.

A. There has been an assessment of the driveway by independent traffic group who recommended a 3.8m clearance given the waste removal and delivery trucks coming to the club.

Q. What plans are in place for the flagpole.

A. The flagpole will be replaced with a new pole, with the location still to be determined. It may be placed in the rigging yard on the water side

Resolution: proposed by Niesje Hees, Seconded by Brett Heath

That in accordance with the requirements of RBYC Club Rules 30 and 42, the Members of the Club resolve to authorise the General Committee to:

i) Enter into a bank loan of up to \$1,000,000 and

ii) Give security over any of the Club's property or assets for any such loans for the improvements of the Club premises in accordance with the plans provided to Club Members for the redevelopment of the Forecourt.

It was requested by 4 members that the ballot be conducted as a Secret Ballot. In accordance with the Club Rules this was accommodated by the chair of the meeting and a secret ballot took place.

The results of the secret ballot were announced by Niesje Hees

61 Votes in favour of the motion, 26 Votes against the motion. The motion was Carried.

Commodore Niesje Hees thanked the members for attending and closed the meeting at 19:46HR

Minutes taken by

Phil Hall

Secretary / General Manager

COMMODORE'S REPORT

HALF YEARLY MEETING OF MEMBERS 2024

Over the past six months the club has focused on investing in assets and projects in line with previous plans, in particular refreshing the race management fleet, gaining approval for the forecourt redevelopment and progressing the pre-requisites for dredging of the marina. Rising costs are proving a challenge but the Club remains in a strong financial position, and in a good place to pursue improvement projects which have been in planning for many years. The focus is on membership services, while cognizant of the need to embrace a welcoming culture and links with the community.

Sailing Pathways

There has been a greater focus on promoting the Youth and Junior pathways, with the opportunity to join the racing squads with club membership and use of club boats. Recently sailors from RBYC participated in Optimist and 29er State Championships and we hope the numbers of youth members will grow in time. As highlighted in the Club Captain's report there have been several regattas at the club with benefits for volunteers and sailors in learning new skills and meeting athletes from around Australia. I very much enjoyed being part of the volunteer team for Sail Melbourne as well as the Stonehaven Cup and look forward to the Etchells Worlds coming up in January 2025. Club racing has also been enjoyable, though we do need to find ways to encourage more boats out of the marina and onto the water. We have been blessed with some lovely Wednesday evenings with a nice atmosphere in the club after racing.

Membership

I have met most of the new members and am struck by their enthusiasm and willingness to get involved in the club. Many are aspiring sailors and adult "learn to sail" programs are well subscribed. The challenge now is to get these new members onto boats as regular crew, and to encourage new boat owners to take part in club racing. As our membership becomes more diverse, we look for new ways to engage our membership in club life. The celebrations being planned by the Vice-Commodore and the 150th anniversary committee, as well as other social events planned by the social sub-committee will be a good way to bring members together, whether they be sailors, powerboat owners, aquatic members, gym members or social members.

Marina, Beach and Hardstand

Cameras on the marina and hardstand are now a membership expectation and necessity. These are in the process of being installed.

It is frustrating that the pre-requisites for the dredging of the marina have proven so time-consuming. We have now submitted the application for the dredging permit and will soon issue a tender document to prospective dredging providers. This remains a high priority to complete.

We continue to engage with government and regulatory authorities in an increasingly complex and challenging environment. We understand the need to maintain and build on our relationships and understand community expectations and priorities as well as funding models. Our future investment in infrastructure is dependent on this and will bring benefits to members as well as the broader community.

Clubhouse

I am extremely pleased that the contract for the Forecourt redevelopment has been approved and planning with the builder is underway. We will appreciate the patience of members during the construction phase and look forward to its completion. This will be a big improvement to the appearance and accessibility of the club.

At the same time, we are aware of member concerns with respect to other aspects of building improvement and maintenance, and work will be prioritized accordingly.

Catering and Functions

The Club restaurant remains an invaluable service to members as well as an important link to the community. Rising costs are a concern and a focus to address. It is essential that we retain the friendly culture while improving our offering and finding ways to achieve profitability.

Community

We continue to support community events and recognize that it is important to be inclusive and welcoming. We have attracted a greater number of local residents as members as well as supporting local initiatives, such as the Great Bay Bayside Swim and Rotary Recycle Regatta.

Shared Values

With a large diverse membership of all ages and differing backgrounds and interests, it is essential that we support and continually reinforce the principles of mutual respect in sharing our wonderful waterfront location. Our club depends on the use of shared public spaces, the beach, the public walkway and the pier. As club members we need to demonstrate our values both inside and outside of the club grounds. We all benefit from appreciating the perspective of others.

Niesje Hees – Commodore, March 2024

Honorary Treasurer's Report (for the six months ending 31 December 2023)

Dear Members

I present the financial report to members for the six months ending 31 December 2023.

This financial period shows increased revenue offset by increasing costs. The challenging economic conditions of high inflation have seen increased costs across all operating areas of the club. Last financial year (2022/23) saw expenses increase by 27.3%. This half year has seen an increase of 15.2%. The challenge for the club is to continue to manage these rising costs.

An operating surplus of \$200k is a sound result for the first six months, when faced with the current economic conditions.

The club has continued to invest in equipment for sailing and members. \$528k dollars has been spent to improve our fleet of race management vessels, prepare for dredging, and continue work towards an improved forecourt driveway. The new boats will service our racing fleet for many years to come.

The clubs use of short-term deposits has seen us turn our net interest expense into a \$4k surplus.

Financial Performance

The Club generated a net operating surplus of \$200k and a deficit of \$280k. This compares with last year's net operating surplus of \$279k and a deficit of \$257k.

Gross profit is up 9.6% to \$2,388k. This is driven by the three main revenue streams improving on last year.

- Marina & Hardstand income up 24%
- Member Subscription income up 19.1%
- Bar & Catering income up 5.8%

In the challenging economic conditions of high inflation, we have seen increased costs across all operating areas of the club.

- Employment expenses up 15%
- Other expenses are up 15.6%
- Cost of sales is up 21.2%.

Cost of sales is at 40.8% above our target of 39%.

Employment costs are 47.3% of revenue.

Other costs are 23.9% of revenue.

A summary of the income and expense account for the six months ending 31 December 2023 is set out below:

Income & Expenditure Analysis	HY 2023/24 \$'000	HY 2022/23 \$'000	Variance \$'000	
Income				
Marina & Hardstand Income	707	570	137	24.0%
Member Subscription Income	500	420	80	19.1%
Bar & Catering Income	1,674	1,582	92	5.8%
Sailing & OTB Income	122	104	18	17.1%

Yard & Franchise Income	14	26	(12)	-46.9%
Sponsorship & Donations	0	1	(0)	-60.0%
Other Income	54	39	15	38.4%
Total Income	3,071	2,742	329	12.0%
Cost of Sales	682	563	119	21.2%
Gross Profit	2,388	2,179	210	9.6%
Expenses				
Equipment, Repairs & Maintenance	128	122	6	4.9%
Property, Rent, Rates & Maintenance	206	168	38	22.6%
Sailing Expenses	60	36	24	68.7%
Staff Costs & Contractors	1,453	1,264	189	15.0%
Administration and other expenses	342	311	31	9.9%
Total Expenses	2,189	1,900	289	15.2%
Operating surplus (before int, Dep & Amort)	200	279	(79)	-28.4%
Depreciation & Amortisation	484	506	(22)	-4.4%
Net Interest Expense / (Income)	(4)	30	(34)	-113.4%
Net Surplus / (Deficit)	(280)	(257)	(23)	8.8%

Catering

Again, the challenging economic conditions of high inflation and increased labour costs have seen the catering stream suffer a loss for the first 6 months. Consistent with the message for this financial report, revenue is up, offset by increased expenses in all areas including: food & beverage, labour, superannuation, payroll tax, utilities, and cleaning.

Contract and casual labour in the kitchen have also increased costs. Management is focused on the issues and are working on bringing costs down and returning the restaurant to profitability.

Gross Profit – Bar & Catering	HY24	HY23	Variance
Six months ended 31st December 2023	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Club Bar & Catering Income	1,267	1,185	82
Private function Income	407	397	10
Cost of Goods Sold	679	563	116
Direct Cost Inc. Staff	1,094	1,005	90
Gross Profit	(99)	14	(113)

Please note that this table includes cost of goods and labour costs. A fuller breakdown of the club's operations by department will be presented in the Annual Report

Marina & Hardstand, Membership and Sailing

This area of the club has seen strong growth in revenue.

The marina revenue has improved with all the pens returning to the club. Marina and hardstand occupancy has maintained last year's levels.

Membership is again stronger than the same time a year ago. At the end of December 2023, the Club had 1641 members compared to the previous period in 2022 of 1624. Full details of all the categories can be found in the membership report. The increase in members and the membership rate increase has led to the 19.1% increase in revenue.

Sailing & OTB income has increased by \$18k for the six-month period. Regatta's and sailing training programs have driven this.

Cash Flow

During the six months ended December 2023 the cash balance decreased by \$266k. The capital expenditure below explains this reduction.

Capital Expenditure

Capital expenditure for the six months to December 31st included the following items:

RB2	\$106k
RB3	\$155k
Suzuki outboard engine replacements	\$175k
Marina Gate Replacement	\$37k
2 * Optimists	\$4k
Forecourt works / dredging works	<u>\$51k</u>
	\$528k

Conclusion

The Club's three revenue streams (Membership, Marina & Hardstand, and Catering) are strong with continued growth, which allows the Club to generate a net operating surplus. This surplus allows us to invest in equipment and services for all members. The club is in a great position to keep doing this with the forecourt driveway to begin this year, while progress on the dredging permits for the marina continues. The loan for the previous development of the restaurant and boat park will be paid off by October 2024. The loan to fund the forecourt redevelopment is currently being negotiated.

Costs are being watched closely by the management of the Club. Turning the restaurant's performance back to profit is a clear focal point.

I would also like to thank the clubs Finance Committee consisting of Commodore, Vice Commodore, Murray Cowdell, Keith Badger and Phil Hall

Brett Heath
Honorary Treasurer

Note: All figures presented in this report are based on management accounts and have not been audited.

ROYAL BRIGHTON YACHT CLUB INC.
Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income
Half year ended 31 December 2023



	HY 24	HY 23
	\$	\$
1 Members subscription income	\$ 500,181.83	\$ 419,908.94
2 Marina, hardstand and boat storage income	\$ 706,914.07	\$ 569,999.56
3 Bar and catering sales	\$ 1,673,992.05	\$ 1,582,372.62
4 Franchise income	\$ 13,789.59	\$ 25,979.18
5 Sailing income	\$ 121,542.24	\$ 103,759.31
6 Donations, grants & sponsorship income	\$ 259.72	\$ 650.00
7 Other income	\$ 53,954.97	\$ 38,986.69
Total revenue	\$ 3,070,634.47	\$ 2,741,656.30
8 Bar and catering cost of goods sold	\$ 682,406.21	\$ 562,969.31
9 Employee and contractor expense	\$ 1,453,444.06	\$ 1,263,995.11
10 Property expenses	\$ 205,628.50	\$ 167,691.28
11 Repairs, maintenance and equipment	\$ 127,665.51	\$ 121,721.44
12 Sailing expenses	\$ 59,963.95	\$ 35,545.75
13 Administration and other expenses	\$ 341,884.27	\$ 311,089.87
Total expenses	\$ 2,870,992.50	\$ 2,463,012.76
Operating surplus before interest, depreciation & amortisation	\$ 199,641.97	\$ 278,643.54
14 Depreciation and amortisation	\$ 483,775.13	\$ 506,264.03
Operating deficit before interest	-\$ 284,133.16	-\$ 227,620.49
15 Interest income	\$ 27,881.50	\$ 205.49
16 Interest expense	\$ 23,896.68	\$ 30,034.38
Net finance costs	-\$ 3,984.82	\$ 29,828.89
Net surplus/(deficit) from continuing operations	-\$ 280,148.34	-\$ 257,449.38
17 (Loss) attributable to members of the Association	\$ -	\$ -
18 Other comprehensive income	\$ -	\$ -
Total comprehensive income for the period	-\$ 280,148.34	-\$ 257,449.38

ROYAL BRIGHTON YACHT CLUB INC.
Statement of Financial Position
Half year ended 31 December 2023



ASSETS	Note	HY 24 \$	HY 23 \$
Current Assets			
19 Cash and cash equivalents	1	\$ 1,595,459.01	\$ 1,861,273.49
20 Trade and other receivables	2	\$ 343,103.70	\$ 419,159.20
21 Inventories	3	\$ 115,881.41	\$ 104,495.47
22 Other current assets	4	\$ 101,781.94	\$ 88,655.75
Total current assets		<u>\$ 2,156,226.06</u>	<u>\$ 2,473,583.91</u>
Non-Current Assets			
23 Property, plant and equipment	5	\$ 5,010,179.38	\$ 5,415,392.95
24 Intangibles	6	\$ 54,219.27	\$ 15,322.23
Total non-current assets		<u>\$ 5,064,398.65</u>	<u>\$ 5,430,715.18</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>\$ 7,220,624.71</u>	<u>\$ 7,904,299.09</u>
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
25 Trade and other payables	7	\$ 597,590.42	\$ 602,413.78
26 Provisions		\$ 192,944.04	\$ 148,303.90
27 Borrowings	8	\$ 192,625.96	\$ 208,932.32
28 Other liabilities	9	\$ 1,107,044.55	\$ 1,106,736.59
Total Current Liabilities		<u>\$ 2,090,204.97</u>	<u>\$ 2,066,386.59</u>
Non-Current Liabilities			
36 Provisions		\$ 64,080.00	\$ 50,671.00
38 Borrowings	8	\$ 121,489.29	\$ 476,270.10
37 Other liabilities	9	\$ 535,540.67	\$ 572,183.92
Total Non-Current Liabilities		<u>\$ 721,109.96</u>	<u>\$ 1,099,125.02</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>\$ 2,811,314.93</u>	<u>\$ 3,165,511.61</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>\$ 4,409,309.78</u>	<u>\$ 4,738,787.48</u>
Members' Funds			
31 Accumulated surplus		\$ 4,469,406.89	\$ 4,776,185.63
32 Yachting foundation no.2 reserve		\$ 17,785.74	\$ 17,785.73
33 Members reserve		\$ 202,265.49	\$ 202,265.50
Net surplus/(deficit) for period		-\$ 280,148.34	-\$ 257,449.38
Total Members' Funds		<u>\$ 4,409,309.78</u>	<u>\$ 4,738,787.48</u>

ROYAL BRIGHTON YACHT CLUB INC.
Statement of Cash Flows
Half year ended 31 December 2023



	Note	HY 24 \$	HY 23 \$
Operating Profit		\$ 199,641.97	\$ 278,643.54
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
less: Net Interest Expense		\$ 3,984.82	-\$ 29,828.89
Net Working Capital (Increase)/ Decrease		\$ 465,135.83	\$ 491,947.91
Net cash generated by operating activities		<u>\$ 668,762.62</u>	<u>\$ 740,762.56</u>
CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Payments for Olympic Restaurant Development		\$ -	\$ -
Payments for other Leasehold Improvements Plant & Equipment (net of trade in)		-\$ 327,918.56	-\$ 59,904.41
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>-\$ 327,918.56</u>	<u>-\$ 59,904.41</u>
CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Bank Loan Drawn/ (repaid)- Olympic Restaurant		-\$ 179,895.59	-\$ 176,076.72
Members Loans Net Received / (Repaid)		\$ -	\$ -
Net Equipment Loan Drawn / (Repaid)		-\$ 49,660.72	-\$ 71,204.49
Net cash generated by financing activities		<u>-\$ 229,556.31</u>	<u>-\$ 247,281.21</u>
Opening Balance		\$ 1,484,171.26	\$ 1,427,696.55
Net change in cash flow		<u>\$ 111,287.75</u>	<u>\$ 433,576.94</u>
Closing balance for the period	1	<u><u>\$ 1,595,459.01</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,861,273.49</u></u>

ROYAL BRIGHTON YACHT CLUB INC.
Notes To The Financial Statements
Half year ended 31 December 2023



	HY 24 \$	HY 23 \$
Note 1: Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash on hand	-\$ 12,879.08	\$ 7,711.53
Cash at bank	\$ 1,608,338.09	\$ 1,853,561.96
	<u>\$ 1,595,459.01</u>	<u>\$ 1,861,273.49</u>
Note 2: Trade and Other Receivables		
Trade debtors	\$ 323,866.47	\$ 410,742.42
Allowance for doubtful debts	\$ 19,237.23	\$ 8,416.78
	<u>\$ 343,103.70</u>	<u>\$ 419,159.20</u>
Note 3: Inventories		
Finished goods at cost	\$ 115,881.41	\$ 104,495.47
Note 4: Other Current Assets		
Prepayments	\$ 101,781.94	\$ 88,655.75
Note 5: Property, Plant & Equipment		
<i>Leasehold Improvements</i>		
Clubhouse at cost	\$ 9,249,639.22	\$ 9,215,699.22
Less accumulated amortisation	-\$ 5,644,610.18	-\$ 5,248,550.78
<i>Total Clubhouse Improvements</i>	<u>\$ 3,605,029.04</u>	<u>\$ 3,967,148.44</u>
<i>Marina Improvements</i>		
Marina at Cost	\$ 10,581,249.30	\$ 10,148,276.28
Less accumulated amortisation	-\$ 9,828,648.28	-\$ 9,382,672.33
<i>Total Marina Improvements</i>	<u>\$ 752,601.02</u>	<u>\$ 765,603.95</u>
Total Leasehold Improvements	\$ 4,357,630.06	\$ 4,732,752.39
<i>ROU Assets</i>		
Bayside City Council	\$ 515,376.86	\$ 558,324.86
Parks Victoria	\$ 34,725.51	\$ 18,548.53
Total ROU Assets	<u>\$ 550,102.37</u>	<u>\$ 576,873.39</u>
<i>Furniture, Plant & Equipment</i>		
Furniture, plant & equipment	\$ 1,058,542.81	\$ 1,038,963.25
Less accumulated amortisation	-\$ 956,095.86	-\$ 933,196.08
Total Furniture, Plant & Equipment	<u>\$ 102,446.95</u>	<u>\$ 105,767.17</u>

ROYAL BRIGHTON YACHT CLUB INC.
Notes To The Financial Statements
Half year ended 31 December 2023



	HY 24	HY 23
	\$	\$
Note 6: Intangibles		
<i>Designs</i>		
At cost	\$ 70,942.62	\$ 31,379.46
Less accumulated amortisation	-\$ 16,057.23	-\$ 16,057.23
Total Designs	\$ 54,885.39	\$ 15,322.23
Note 7: Trade and Other Payables		
Trade creditors	\$ 155,572.85	\$ 78,122.67
Sundry creditors	\$ 392,864.74	\$ 379,206.07
Accrued expenses	\$ 71,656.32	\$ 145,085.04
	\$ 620,093.91	\$ 602,413.78
Note 8: Borrowings		
CURRENT		
Equipment loan	\$ -	\$ 15,042.28
Bank borrowings	\$ 192,625.96	\$ 193,890.04
	\$ 192,625.96	\$ 208,932.32
NON-CURRENT		
Bank borrowings	\$ 121,489.29	\$ 476,270.10
	\$ 314,115.25	\$ 685,202.42
Note 9: Other Liabilities		
CURRENT		
Deferred income	\$ 1,107,044.55	\$ 1,106,736.59
	\$ 1,107,044.55	\$ 1,106,736.59
NON-CURRENT		
Deferred income	\$ 535,540.67	\$ 572,183.92
	\$ 535,540.67	\$ 572,183.92

Sailing Report - Half Yearly General Meeting of Members – 2024

I succeeded Brett Heath as Club Captain after the AGM 6 months ago, in September 2023.

Opening Day was held on October 7th. The formal ceremony was introduced by Commodore Niesje Hees. She included a special mention of the 40th anniversary of the America's Cup win by Australia II, skippered by John Bertrand AO.

The 2023/2024 sailing programme began in earnest the following week.

The regular schedule includes racing for keelboats, One Design boats (such as Etchells, Dragons, VX-Ones and 2.4mRs), and OTBs (ILCAs, Optis, Quests etc)

There are also regular training sessions.

In addition, there are coaching sessions for adults and youth, often linked to school holiday programmes or term training.

The regular schedule is as follows:

Wednesday	1330	Keelboat	Hearnes' Heroes
	1805	Keelboat, Etchells, VXOne & Dragon	Spring Twilight Extras Fleet
	1815	Keelboat, Etchells, VXOne & Dragon	Spring Twilight Pursuit - No Extras
Thursday	1800	OTB	OTB - Sprint training
Saturday	1300	Keelboat	Saturday Racing
	1330	One Design	One Design Racing - Etchells, VXOne, 2.4mR & Dragon
Sunday	0900	OTB	Junior & Youth Training
	1400	OTB	OTB - Fleet racing

RBYC members have also participated in racing organised by other clubs.

For example:

- ORCV (Ocean Racing Club of Victoria) Melbourne to Hobart as well as somewhat shorter races such as Melbourne to King Island.
- CYCA Sydney Hobart Race.
- Lincoln Week regatta
- PPWCS (Port Phillip Women's Championship Series). (This will include our signature female skipper regatta BLISS in May.)
- Geelong Festival of Sails.
- Cock of the Bay, and Petersville Regatta at Blairgowrie Yacht Club.

Sailing at RBYC also includes boats that sail without competing in organised racing.

This may be one boat going out for an hour or so, or to farther destinations within The Bay (eg QCYC), or to places much further afield – Wilson's Prom, Lakes Entrance, west to Port Fairy, multiple places in Tasmania, or up the east coast as far as Far North Queensland. This may occur on an individual basis, or in a group such as a 'Cruise in Company'.

'Sailing Lifts Your Spirits' provided an opportunity for health care workers to go out on members' keelboats on a Thursday evening in summer.

24th March is the date for the Juniors Big Boat Day, enabling young dinghy sailors exposure to keelboat sailing.

RBYC also is the Organising Authority for numerous regattas.

2023/24 has seen us host:

- Sail Melbourne
- RS Aero State Championship
- Waszp Victorian State Championship
- VX-ONE National Championship
- 2.4mR National Championship
- Dragons State Championship
- One Design Championship

A particular highlight was the Centenary Championship (yes, the first was held in 1924) of the 12' Cadets. This saw several dozen wooden boats appear from various attics and sheds across the country to compete. It was held in conjunction with the 94th Stonehaven Cup, sailed in Quests by youth, including a team from the Navy Cadets.

Regattas and regular sailing place huge demands on both the Sailing Office and Volunteers. Many members of RBYC contribute their time and their expertise. This may be as a Race Officer, a Rhib driver, a mark layer, a Start Boat personnel, or someone who helps in the Office or carrying boats across the sand to the water. It is most rewarding to be part of such a team, but nevertheless, deserving of our grateful acknowledgement and thanks.

A huge thank you to the dedicated and highly-skilled members who make up the Thursday Working Group. Their contribution to the maintenance and improvement of so many of the Club's facilities is enormous. The regular group of volunteers has grown since the last report. Regular jobs include fuelling the Club's vessels, fitting radios, cleaning the Rhibs as well as the hardstand toilets and keeping the race tower operational. In the last report, it was mentioned that this group spent time fitting out RB2. Since then the working group has spent time fitting out RB3 – Redeemer which will enable it to act as a backup start boat. The volunteers are Glenn Ferguson, Paul Jackson, Peter Coleman, Peter Austin, Chris Sand, Peter Langhorne, Peter Gebhardt, Steve Thistlethwaite, Roger Dickenson and Graham Flinders

My personal thanks to our Boating Manager Colin Burgess, and to the Sailing Committee; Glenn Ferguson, Paul Pascoe, Peter Robson, Rod McKenna, Peter Gebhardt, Phil Bedlington.

March 2024
Marnie Irving, Club Captain

MEMBERSHIP

The General Committee continues to acknowledge membership as a core pillar of our strategy and a key focus of the entire GC. Each new member is welcomed to the club via an interview with a member of GC.

- Total member numbers as of 30 Dec 2023 were 1641 compared with 1625 as of 30 Dec 2022. This is continuing to grow each month after a drop-off in the early parts of the financial year, after annual invoices were issued.
- 73% of current members are Male and 27% Female which is the same as this time last year.
- Approximately 25% of our members are under 45 years, which is the same as last year.

Membership Category	2022	2023
Senior Members	39%	39%
Crew & Crew Plus	9%	9%
Youth / Jnr/	9%	7%
Intermediate	7%	7%
Social	24%	26%
Gym	4%	4%
Aquatic	8%	8%

ASSETS

The past 6 months has seen investment in assets as well as maintenance projects.

Clubhouse

Following a tender process and recommendation by the Forecourt redevelopment working group, approval was granted by General Committee to engage Long Contracting to redevelop the club forecourt at a cost of \$930k. The Finance Committee recommended seeking a loan for the amount, to protect the club's cash reserves and provide sufficient flexibility for future projects. This was approved by a Special General Meeting of Members on 22 February 2024. Builders are expected on site from May 2024 with works completed by September. The club will be fully operational during the works, but the front entrance will be closed for a period.

The flagpole at the front of the club was removed for inspection and because removal was required for the forecourt redevelopment. An assessment was made that a replacement flagpole was required, and a new admiralty flagpole will be sourced. The optimum location is being reviewed as part of this project, either at the front of the club or on the beach side.

Maintenance activities around the club included cleaning of Solar Panels on the roof, spraying of weeds and lighting upgrades (LCD) in the Members Bar & Bayview Rooms. Carpark drainage works were completed.

A quote will be obtained for renewal of the area behind the gym, with a view to undertaking this after the Forecourt development has been completed.

Race Management Boats

A replacement for the course laying boat Redeemer, an 8.3m Cougar Cat, came available in Queensland at the end of October, and GC approved the expenditure based on the previous proposal submitted back in February 2023. \$165 k was approved, which included the cost of the boat, the cost of the survey, transport, and an allowance for required instruments and modifications. The boat has been used in several regattas and is considered to be a valuable addition to the race management fleet.

The outboards for the entire fleet were replaced under an agreement with Leisure Sport Marine, which involved the purchase of 11 new engines with a service contract for three years for \$175k (including trade-in), and a guaranteed buy-back of 12 engines in three years' time for \$81k.

Marina, Hardstand and Yard

A contract has been awarded to instal CCTV cameras on the hardstand and marina, with work currently underway. This is a scalable solution using the same central system as what is installed in the clubhouse.

All fixed marks have been cleaned and had their chain replaced. Material has been purchased to replace the Harry T walkway and 2.4mR walkway in the marina.

A specialist electrician has been engaged to test the Marina for electrolysis activity.

Environmental surveys have been completed as required to obtain the permit for dredging of the marina. The MACA (permit) application has been submitted and we await approval of this. In the meantime, Water Technology is preparing tender documentation to enable selection of a dredging contractor.

Seabed Lease renewal

The process was stalled for several months, as our key contact had left Parks and a new contact was not immediately assigned. We now have a new contact, and the GM, Vice Commodore and I have met with them via Teams. We will be following up on next steps once the new team has become familiar with our history and current situation.

Assets Subcommittee

Niesje Hees, Peter Strain, Kalpana Raghunathan, Murray Cowdell, Andrew Merrett, Malcolm Mitchell, Peter Gebhardt

Marina and Attenuator Advisory Panel

John Mooney, Peter Strain, Bryan Drummond, John Paterson, Geoff Brewster, Andrew McGowan, Peter Demura, Niesje Hees

March 2024

Cruising Group Half Yearly Report (2023 / 2024)

Participation in the Cruising Group's off-water activities has been good in the year's first six months. The Group has seen less interest in frequent on-water activities and decided to scale back the monthly on-water cruises due to this lack of participation.

There have been some changes in the makeup of the Cruising Group committee in the last six months with the resignation of Geoff Brewster as Chairperson. The Group could not find a replacement, and a decision was reached to rotate the Chairperson role among current committee members. Sue Drummond has also tendered her resignation from the Committee.

The Cruising Group Committee currently comprises Secretary Terry Frankham, Rob Hurrell, Peter Strain, Peter Gebhardt, Rod Cuthbert and Barbara Burns.

The Committee continues to meet in person at the club monthly, with phone calls, emails, and, increasingly, the social media platform "WhatsApp" employed to maintain communications between meetings.

Meetings will be scaled back to every two months during the winter months, or 'cruising season'.

Cruising Group Newsletter

Last year, a poll was taken to see if members wanted the cruising group newsletter to continue. While the response was an overwhelming vote to continue the newsletter, the contribution of articles continued to decline, and so the decision was made to incorporate the Cruising News into the weekly RBYC newsletter.

With this change, the Committee decided to cease the Cruising Group annual membership fee, and participation in the Group will be free.

Monthly Forum Dinners

The monthly Guest Speaker dinner is an integral part of the Cruising Group. Unfortunately, a couple of events were cancelled late last year due to a lack of numbers, however the recent uptick in attendees has been encouraging. We thank all speakers for making these monthly events possible and rewarding to all members. The Forum dinners that were held included:

In November, Rod Cuthbert presented an entertaining account of six months cruising southern Tasmania aboard his boat Halcyon. It was well attended, with approx 50 participants.

In May of this year, several of our regular cruisers departed Brighton, setting out on extended cruises of their own. *Aquacadabra* (Rob and Sue Hurrell), *Chakana* (Robina and Brenton Smith) and *Saffron* (Barbara Burns and Geoff Brewster) arrived back from New Caledonia / Vanuatu in September / October. Their presentation in February 2024 was informative and entertaining. Well done to the three boats on completing this great adventure.

In March, Past Commodore Peter Strain Past and his son Richie cruised *It's a Privilege* out to the Great Barrier Reef, visiting 25 reefs and 15 islands, from Lady Elliot Island in the south to just beyond Townsville and Magnetic Island in the north.

Annual Events

The **Annual Christmas Hardstand Party** was held on 9th December. Due to inclement weather, the event was hosted in the Jock Sturrock Centre, with approximately 20 people attending.

The **Annual Cruise of Bass Strait** has just concluded in the last week of February and the first week of March 2024. Three boats headed to King Island, Three Hummock Island and

Stanley. The boats that ventured out were *Kirra Kirra*, *Chakana* and *Aquacadabra*. *Why Knot* headed to Paynesville for the Wooden Boat Festival via Wilsons Prom.

The 31st Annual Birthday Cruise to RYCV was a road trip due to a very high wind warning. One or two boats did venture across. It was a terrific turnout, and all who attended enjoyed the hospitality of the RYCV. Thanks to Jenny Collins for organising the cake.

The Annual Progressive Dinner was conducted in October and was a great success, with approximately 40 attendees and 12 hosting boats turning out to enjoy a great evening in mild weather. Thanks to Pam Merritt for taking the lead in organising.

Peter Gebhardt

RBVC Cruising Group Chair (February / March)

Royal Brighton Yacht Club
Half Yearly General Meeting
Aquatic Report March 2024

On behalf of the aquatic category and Iceberger subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to submit this update for last 12 months.

The subcommittee has currently 6 members

Consisting of: Tony Ryan, Ralph O'Shaughnessy, Andrew Mulholland, Carol Spencer-Gardner, Di Greenwood, Sarah Golding – we had 3 others who had to resign due to time constraints and work commitments.

We would like to acknowledge the work of the previous Chairman Greg Wallace and thank him for his contribution.

The committee meets regularly to discuss and address issues raised by members of the category.

Current topics on the agenda are Changeroom conditions, club maintenance, water safety and swimming protocols, events – e.g. winter pier to pub, apparel – swimming caps, bathers and tops, Social Activities, interaction with RBYC GM. The committee maintains regular contact with the GM and Commodore.

As of 15th March, there are 140 Aquatic members, however there are another 78 other assorted Members who also class themselves as Aquatic members within their other memberships (EG Senior, Gym, Crew Plus) - giving a total of 218 members who belong to the Aquatic group.

The fortnightly Iceberger Newsletter continues to be well-received by the Iceberger community and has quickly established itself as an integral part of the culture of the Brighton Icebergers. Each edition of the Newsletter contains a range of swimming-related articles that are often quirky and unique – characteristics befitting of Icebergers generally!

The 100th edition of the Newsletter was issued on the 23rd of November 2023 having commenced in January 2020. Iceberger Ria Bleathman has been the editor from this time and plans to continue in this role for the foreseeable future. Ria is assisted by fellow Icebergers Keith Badger and Alistair Purvey for their quality assurance and John Scanlon who uploads each edition to the RBYC website. Mandy Reid from the RBYC front desk also places each new edition on the noticeboards at RBYC.

Pleasingly, active daily swimming numbers are growing, and weekends are becoming increasingly popular at all hours of the day.

On opening, the café is abuzz with Icebergs who have finished off their early morning swim and wishing to discuss the issues of the day – it's a great way to keep up with what's happening in the world.

Thankfully - normal activities have returned with the John Locco Winter Classic and the Olsen Hopper Summer Championship being held.

One event growing in status and popularity is the Winter Solstice Swim (shortest day of sunlight) – June 22nd – this has become an iconic event through the tireless work of Sam Paynter – to Sam we say “thanks.”

We held our annual induction and the Inductees were recognised at an official function held at the club on 2nd February.

Whilst Iceberger is not a category within the membership base it is a status achievable by active members of the club recognized with a designated number and honour board inscription.

The 2024 inductees are:

SALLY BERRYMAN, BRIGID COTTRILL CAROL SPENCER-GARDNER DEE
GREENWOOD EMMA GRONOW
PHILIP HARFORD MATTHEW HEALY CLARE JENNINGS BRENDON JUKES TAS
KAKKOS SAM LANE
BILL LINEHAN JOHN MANNING SUE MCCARTHY JULIE MKAY ANDREW MCLAUGHLIN
MARIAN MICHELLI MARSHALL RUSHFORD BETTY RYAN TONY RYAN DOROTA
SOSNOWSKI FIONNA FLINT
JAQUI MCCALL LOUISE SHERBORNE STELLE VOULES

Next major event will be a Health and Safety briefings at start of May around the management of hypothermia and cold climate activities foremost in the sub-committees' activities.

From everyone involved - I want to thank the RBYC and Commodore Niesje for the continued support of the aquatic category and the Brighton Iceberging community.

Ralph O'Shaughnessy

March 21, 2024

**Cleaner Sailing Committee Report
RBYC Half Yearly Meeting of Members
Tuesday March 29th 2024**

The Cleaner Sailing Committee, has not held any meetings in the six months to December. However, this has not precluded the Club continuing the focus on improving environmental management of its facilities and activities. First, in November 2023, the Club was awarded Level 3 accreditation in the Marina Industries Association Cleaner Marinas Program. RBYC is one of ten Victorian Clubs awarded the level 3 accreditation and acknowledges the Club's rigorous environmental management systems. Second, during Sail Melbourne the use of single use plastic bottles was, as is the case across the Club, not allowed, sailing instructions could only be accessed electronically and the daily notices were posted electronically obviating the need for a paper notice board. As in the past, the Club will continue to seek Sailors for the Sea Clean Regattas certification for major events held at the Club. Finally, many of you will have noticed the recycling bin on the hardstand for old batteries. This service for boat owners ensures batteries are properly recycled and don't find their way into landfill.

The Committee is always on the look out for other recycling opportunities including sails and ropes. One area under consideration is how the Club can participate in the Victorian Container Deposit Scheme. A lot of recyclable bottles generated as a result of the Club's operations are ineligible for a refund but there are a significant number of eligible cans and other drink containers thrown into the hardstand bins at the end of each day. The Committee is open to suggestions as to how these recyclables can be best collected, processed at a container refund facility and what to do with the refund. However, for any scheme to work members must be prepared to sort the cans from other rubbish and ensure they remain uncrushed.

In closing my report, I'd like to invite any members of the club, senior or junior, social or sailing, Icebergers or gym, to join Jennifer Pascoe, our newest recruit Jan Talacko, and myself in continually improving the sustainability of sailing and other activities at RBYC.

Peter Demura
Vice Commodore
March 19th 2024

INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY ADVISORY GROUP

In March 2024 it will have been 3 years since a membership survey was conducted. Last year, the General Committee accepted the IDAG's recommendation that a similar survey be conducted to enable comparison with previous data, regarding member profiles, priorities and satisfaction with the club. This will assist in driving recommendations to subcommittees, as well as indicating how members feel about their club. While assessing inclusivity is not the sole purpose of the survey, the responses and written answers do provide valuable information about whether members of all categories feel welcomed and included in club activities.

The survey will be sent to members on 22 March 2024 and be open until 5 April, with an assessment to be completed afterwards. The IDAG will use this to assist in prioritising future focus areas.

Inclusion and Diversity Advisory Group

Niesje Hees, Cassandra Treagus, Lallie Leckey, Josh Stuchbery, Marike Kopponel (external advisor)

March 2024

SOCIAL SUB COMMITTEE REPORT

It has now been 2 years since the Social Committee reformed with the objective of providing greater value and variety to the RBYC members and some of our events have now become part of the regular calendar and repeated over the years.

We kicked off the sailing season with a nod to the 80's, remembering our greatest Australian sailing victory, the winning of the America's Cup by our club member John Bertrand.

A few of our regular events held during the season have been Farewell and Fairwinds, held in December to recognise our sailors who are racing and participating in regattas both inside and outside the heads. Then in January we celebrated this participation in our Winners and Grinners, followed in February by a return to sailing barbecue on the hard stand. Of course, we can't forget our St. Patrick's Day celebration that has built on its success year after year.

Friday recognition nights again have brought more energy into the member's bar. We supported our Olympic hopefuls in a fund-raising event on 1st March and plan to have an event on 12th April to commemorate all those who have participated the Bliss program over the years with a presentation by Rosie Colahan, who was and still is instrumental in women's sailing.

Other initiatives are and will be:

The Glee Club sing along, the next one (Tina Turner) is planned for 7th April.

SMART classes, Sunday morning sail training in the member's bar. Come and learn or cement a sailing skill.

New Member introduction nights. Looking for new crew or a new social contact, come along and meet our new members.

In addition, the Social Committee will be very active over this year and over next year supporting our 150 year anniversary events.

Social Committee Members: Karen Johns (Chair) Margaret Rowe, (Sub Chair), Cath Hurley (General Committee Representative) Tony Henessy (General Committee Representative) Sue Cassidy, Karen McCloskey, Kenn Williamson, Jacqui Provos, Joyce Cosgrove (standing as chairperson while Karen Johns is overseas) Greg Wallace, Liz Seawood, Claire Richmond

Karen Johns

Social Sub Committee Chair

March 2024

150th Celebrations Committee Report
RBYC Half Yearly Meeting of Members
Tuesday March 29th 2024

Next year RBYC will celebrate its 150th Anniversary and a small number of enthusiastic volunteers are developing a series of events befitting this significant milestone. These include a 150th Regatta to be held over the long weekend in March 2025, a gala ball and a number of smaller events throughout the year. The theme of the year will be about celebrating our past while more importantly focussing on the future. However, organising these events takes time and as one of the co-ordinators I would like to invite members to join the organising group in making the celebrations a success. This report is deliberately short because many of the events are still in the conceptual stage but as they are locked in the Club will publish a calendar for 2025.

Peter Demura
Vice Commodore
March 19th 2024

Recommendation from General Committee under Rule 8(3)(a)(i) that Senior Member Kevin Wilson, having rendered valuable service to the Club be elected to Honorary Life Membership of the Club.

Kevin Wilson grew up in Brighton, Victoria, one of two children born Austrian rules footballer Robert Hope Wilson (1898–1986), who played in the Victorian Football League for Carlton from 1923 to 1925. A member of the Royal Brighton Yacht Club, Wilson was selected alongside clubmate Bart Harvey to represent Australia in the Star class at the 1952 Helsinki Olympics, eventually placing 18th. He was an electrical engineer by profession, and was a lifelong resident of Brighton.

- At the end of 2024 Kevin will have been an RBYC Member for 80 years
- Kevin represented Australia in the 1952 Summer Olympics in the Star Class. Jock Sturrock represented Australia in the same Olympics in the Dragon Class
- Kevin is Australia's oldest living Olympian

Feedback from long term members who have known Kevin.

- Simply the most genuine person who would not have an enemy in the world. Loved by all.
- Loved his club. (Gary recalls he was often present at the 40 year plus member lunches pre COVID)
- Supporter of the 12 ft Cadets and Managed the Victorian Stonehaven Cup team on multiple occasions. Gary competed in the Stonehaven when he was the Manager
- Wonderful reputation for fixing things
- Was more a one design sailor than keel boats, but also co-owner of the Motor Cruiser "Windara".
- Kevin's son Michael (stumpy) was also a regular sailor at RBYC
- Kevin was a regular attendee of the "Birthday Boys" events over the years.

A final statement was that it would be remiss of RBYC not to have Kevin on the Life Membership honorary role board. He was the ultimate clubman.