



ON THE LAKE

06/23





Newsletter for the Albert Park Yacht Club

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Registered by Australia Post
Publication No PP325075-00006

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Articles and photos are welcome to be submitted for publication in **On The Lake**, please email to the above address. Some editing may be needed for length and accuracy reasons.

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-Paul Taig

Solo Class Captain
-Ray Wines

Sabre Class Captain
-David Emery

Impulse Class Captain
-Danny Marrinon

Moth Class Captain
-Jonathan Pulham

Treasurer
-Tony Roberts

Learn to sail/Training
-Daryl Larcombe

Club Secretary
-Susie Faulk



Editor's view

The last OTL book for our 150th year took some work to capture the current history so we haven't had our usual newsletter for a while, but we're back with fresh news of happenings around the club and member activities.

We're always looking for fresh input, so have a chat to us about an article you'd like to contribute.

Enjoy your reading

Chris and Darryl

Albert Park Yacht Club



*Australian Sailing Victorian Club of the Year 2022
Finalist of Australian Club of the year*



► Our cover shows
Rob Hart having way
to much fun in his RS Zest



APYC Committee



Commodore
Glen Currie



Vice Commodore
Jill Stow



Rear Commodore
Peter Naismith



Committee
Paul Taig

*Social Sailing & Discover
Sailing coordinator*



Committee
Norma Watt

*Functions coordinator
Women's Sailing
Development*



Secretary
Susie Faulk

*Womens Development
coordinator*



Club Captain
Graeme Cox

*Club boat hire
coordinator
Club maintenance
team leader*



Membership
Rob Allen

*Membership fees, Club
keys, lockers*



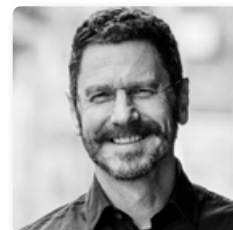
Committee
Dave Weston

*Sailing results
coordinator
New member Buddy
team*



Committee
Ray Wines

*Wintersail coordinator
Childsafe officer*



Learn to sail coordinator
Darryl Larcombe

*New member Buddy
team
OTL newsletter*



Treasurer
Tony Roberts

Start boat coordinator

Get involved.

There is always so much to do to keep our incredible club moving and evolving so we are looking for more people to be involved.

We are planning a training course to prepare new people to help out on rescue and start boats. As well as other areas like women's sailing development, social events and others. Please speak to any committee member to let them know if you're interested in helping out in any way and we will find an opportunity that suits you.

The APYC committee meets on the second Tuesday of every month.

The committee works tirelessly to maintain and improve the club but is always happy to hear ideas or projects you would like to run. If you have any questions, or issues you would like raised at the next meeting, find one of the members around the club on a Saturday or email: secretary@apyc.org.au

A word from the Commodore

We are a volunteer club with great energy among our members.

We are a place for people to gather and a place for people to sail.

It's no surprise then, to see the club is so busy in these post pandemic times where the value of our pastimes and connection to community has been highlighted.



Glen Currie.
Commodore APYC



Glen Currie in his Impulse soaking up some sunshine in the late summer warmth.

Our club captain, Graeme Cox, recently coordinated resurfacing the floors in the Norm Hammon lounge and in front of the Galley, and we have a new shade awning that has improved the outdoor deck. All this work has elevated the look of the club even further. We should all be very proud of this club we call our own.

.....
We recently bought a new RHIB and four new training Zooms with a grant we received. The Tuesday maintenance team have continued to do important work around the club to repair and improve our club's amenity. Including the refurbishment of some club Pacers which has almost doubled our training fleet.

Training is a great way to attract new members to the club, so it's fantastic that training has been so busy in recent times. Thanks to our strong training team, the number of boats on the water on Saturday mornings has been record breaking.

Pleasingly, women are making a larger percentage of our membership. Last month over 30 women attended our successful International Women's Day lunch, which is the largest group gathering we have had in the club.

To further support this growth and in working toward the Australian Sailing goal of having gender equity by 2032, we are developing a specific mother and daughter course. We are hoping this will be a success and the first of many.



Our guest speaker for the International Womens Day lunch, Jaka Kluth.

The club is also active with Parks Victoria and Melbourne Water to address the lack of water in the lake.

This persistent challenge we have will only be solved by bringing all the parties together. Notably, our club is guiding the government this way, and our role in society should not be underestimated.

Alexis de Tocqueville visited the United States in 1831-2, and noted that Americans sought peers instead of patrons. American associations acted instead of government and private industry; they provided a place to exercise freedom, secure against external intrusion and individuals' atomizing tendencies and dedicated to the proposition that a whole could be greater than the sum of its parts. Above all, they instructed citizens in the art of self-government, instilling the democratic habits necessary to maintain the American republic.⁶ In sum, associations provided the space between government and markets in which Americans, and the communities they formed, could flourish.¹

So we, as a club, offer important experiences for our members, but we also play an important role in our society. Well done, all.



Glen Currie.
Commodore APYC

1. www.jec.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/republicans/analysis?ID=78A35E07-4C86-44A2-8480-BE0DB8CB104E



Our new RHIB after it's inaugural outing on the lake



The new flooring in the Norm Hammon lounge and outside the galley looks amazing.



The weed harvester is back and working



More womens development with the Sabre training days

Nautical newbies.

Class of 2023.

In this article we probe into the new Club Members who've banded together under the name Nautical Newbies. They have become one of the most successful groups to go through – not necessarily in sailing ability, yet in their approach to the sport and one another. They have even formed an online chatroom under the same name.



Warwick Lloyd investigates.

FEARLESS JACK // THE INTREPID TRAVELLER IS ALWAYS BACK TO SAIL ON THE WEEKEND

Jack Shi (or sometimes fearless Jack) how did you hear about APYC's adult training program? Purposefully left in Jack's words.

One weekend I took my family on a walk around Albert Park Lake. I saw some boats out and it looked fun. I am from the mountains of North China and did not get much chance to even touch water when I was young. I was 17 years old the first time I saw a big river, near where I went to university. But I had been dreaming for water sports that I'd seen on TV. So, when I saw the boats on Albert Park Lake, I was thinking to I could join them. It was a social sailing day. I met Paul (Taig), Jill and Susie. They were very nice to us. Paul and Peter (Whitaker) took us out on the water and we loved it! I asked Paul about how I can learn. He told me that there was a training program shortly. I was very excited and quickly registered!

Had you sailed previously at all?

Not really. Only watched on TV and read from books.

What was the most difficult part of sailing to understand?

Wind physics about sailing. How to judge the wind directions and adjust to get boats moving faster. It would take years to learn, but it gives me joy when I am making progress.

You have bought a Sabre since joining the Club, what's her name and were there any other class of dinghy you considered?

Her name is Sabre Dance. She is a beautiful boat. My thought was that if I don't buy a boat, I would most likely drop sailing soon. So buying a boat is a commitment to myself to insist on sailing.

I did not know much about dinghy classes. Sabre seems to be a popular class in our club. Most importantly, it was the only class that I could buy quickly at that time as Steve was selling.

Why is it that the NN's have galvanised as a group?

We built up strong bonds when we learned to sail together. One day when we were having lunch when it was close to the end of the program, Duane or Eric (or someone else I can't remember) raised an idea. As we have similar skill levels and requirements, why don't we create a social media group to keep each other in touch. We could share sailing experiences, update each other whether you would come to sail in the weekend, share information about boat sales as many were considering buying a boat etc. Everyone liked the idea. The messenger group was quickly created. It went quite well thanks to participations of the newbies. Rob is great contributor. He wrote a lot of good stuff about his sailing experiences which is very insightful. Many others participated quite actively to keep the interactions going. I just checked that we already have 23 members!





KIWI ROB // OUR COVER MODEL IS A PASSIONATE ZEST MAN

Rob Hart (Kiwi Rob) you appear to have taken to sailing like a duck to water as you're now assisting the trainers? What's your sailing history?

Growing up in Christchurch, New Zealand, I had a somewhat romantic idea of sailing, more than once having read the late Sir Alec Rose's memoirs of adventures in his ketch Lively Lady. Consequently, the notion of joining a club to sail or race never occurred to me. Whilst not being from a 'sailing family', by the age of 10 or 11, my parents had indulged me with a small fibreglass dinghy, whose class I cannot recall. My late father pushed off my little dinghy from a slipway into the working Port of Lyttleton, where alone I taught myself to sail - gaining numerous bad habits along the way.

Over the summers of '86, '87, I had a couple of week-long ISCF sailing experiences at Pidgeon Bay in Banks Peninsula, where we camped in tents in a field, sailed various dinghies - from P-Class, to Opti's & Sunbursts, misbehaving and

getting sunburned. Once again, no instruction was had, however it was nice to sail with others, and gave me the misplaced confidence to take the Opti's out in decent swells.

Subsequently, sailing took a back seat to study, motorsport, mountain biking and marriage; however, with my stoic new wife Melanie, I did manage to occasionally sail our 125. Melanie's introduction to the romantic world of sailing was to set out with me into the middle of Lyttleton Harbour, of recent SailGP fame, where I thought it best to undertake several capsize drills to inspire her confidence. I'm not sure Melanie was entirely in agreement.

In time the 125 was sold, and again travel and work commitments put paid to sailing until the early 2000's. Over the period up to 2009, Melanie and I took numerous bareboat charters in the top end of the South Island of New Zealand, particularly around the beautiful Abel Tasman or Marlborough Sounds areas. Chartering various sloops from 21' - 35' over long weekends, and occasionally up to a week in the 'shoulder' seasons; we had our own mini adventures including gear breakages and storms. 2007 saw us leave

behind NZ and our families for work in Melbourne. Our son Liam arrived in 2013, and it wasn't long before the challenge of finding a family friendly, affordable, and sustainable activity in which we could all participate became pressing. The obvious choice was sailing.

Our RS Zest, Beyond the Sunset, was purchased from Tom Pearce at RS just prior to joining the APYC, with the notion of going it alone. However, a fortuitous meeting with Peter Naismith and Paul Taig outside the club, on a weekday evening just prior to Christmas 2021, changed my thinking. Even though they'd locked up for the night, Peter and Paul opened again, affording me the privilege of a personal tour. We received our family membership pack from Rob Allen on New Year's Eve, and soon after Graeme Cox very graciously made available his ground level boat storage on the understanding I would be sailing weekly.

In joining the APYC, Melanie and I found a welcoming, intelligent and capable group of members, happy



to share their time, experience, and stories with us.

We are very thankful to be associated with a great group of people, who have accepted our family, and become surrogate 'elders' to Liam.

Realising my dinghy sailing was very rusty, my confidence and fitness at a low, and my 'sailing techniques' - such as sheeting with my teeth, dodgy at best; Liam and I decided to join the APYC Learn to Sail course, under Jon Pulham's capable oversight. In doing so, we were introduced to a diverse and friendly group of people, with a shared interest in encouraging one-another to gain the skills and sometimes esoteric knowledge necessary to sail with confidence, while having fun.

This original group of neophyte sailors became the 'Nautical Newbies' for which the eponymous FaceBook messenger group, thoughtfully set-up by Duane, is named.

Over time more wonderful people, with the same mind to encourage and support one-another's sailing have come through the Learn to Sail &

Race courses, many joining the Newbies messenger group along the way.

Personally, I derive a sense of satisfaction in helping others, where possible, in their sailing journey, rather than having them go it alone and learn bad habits, as I did many years ago. In doing so it gives me a chance to learn and to improve my own sailing knowledge and decision making skills.

QUIET KERRIE // LOVES THE SHARED EXPERIENCE

Kerrie (or Kezza) you appear to enjoy the crewing side of sailing, would that be the case?

Yes with crewing I can listen and learn, but, more importantly I feel I'm building connections with my fellow sailors. It becomes not just about the sport but the shared experience, working as a team with the boat and nature. It's the stories we tell, and these shared moments on and sometimes in the water followed by cries of laughter that made it so much fun.

Crewing provides the opportunity to build my confidence. It gives me a chance to observe and put into practice,

even if it's just in my head, my layers of knowledge. Having said that I do love the thrill you get being at the helm, working with nature, pulling in that main sail at the right moment and feeling the boat pick up speed, it's exhilarating!! I will conquer the Sabre one day soon.

Having a group of like-minded people to share these experiences with is simply wonderful. For me, joining APYC and the encouragement and support of the nautical newbies has been a game changer as to why I keep coming back. It's a community.

What was the attraction to the sport and is it what you expected?

My mate Steve Magner was already a member, he showed me some videos of himself out on the water and my first thought was 'amazing I want to do that'. So why not and here I am.



**GET IT DONE
DARRYL //
IT'S ALL ABOUT
THE JOY**

Darryl Larcombe recognised for his get things done approach to matters around the Club, what's been the glue that's kept this group together? What are the highlights for you? Have any from this pool of talent surprised you?

From the very beginning, this larger than usual group banded together with a wonderful lighthearted attitude toward learning to sail, joking as well as supporting each other through the course. It was great to see the group find their common activity as an opportunity to connect with each other.

I'm relatively new to instructing but the thing that resonated most with me from the course was to 'be fun and have fun'. I can't imagine anyone coming to the club to learn to sail whose first priority isn't to have fun. So it's paramount to ensure that's the experience that people have. If they learn to sail but don't have fun, they won't stay. If they enjoy the experience, they will stay with sailing as well as with the club and, they will bring their friends to the sport as well.

The highlight for me is always after those first few lessons, there's a point where participants all of a sudden just click with sailing and off they go. The elation sailing brings and the smiles on faces when they return to shore is a joy to see.

Yourself and your training colleagues have done an amazing job, how do you back it up each week?

The whole training team understand that the learn to sail course is the main conduit for

new club membership and while we have seen good growth in recent times, it's imperative to maintain the growth.

If we can sustain this momentum, I believe we will reach a tipping point of greater growth. Around the whole club, there are too few of us doing too much, but soon, with more member involvement we will tip the scale and be able to share the load more.

Wouldn't it be amazing to build the membership to what it was in the club's heyday when the lake was covered in yachts. It's our ability to reach this point that will be our legacy for the club and the sport.

Below: A few of the latest 'Nautical newbies'.



Around the Club

The club has been busy, to say the very least. There's so much work going on and all the effort is showing results.



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1. Ross Mulcahy and Warwick Lloyd brace against the cool wind on rescue boat. 2 & 3. A very wet Saturday so the training had to go into the boat shed and have a valuable whiteboard session. 4. OODs, Peter Whitaker and Cindy Tilbrook head out with Tony Roberts to lay the course. 5. A lesson to never leave your phone laying around or you might find unexpected pics on it later! Pranksters Paul Taig, Graeme Cox, Susie Faulk, Ray Wines and Grant Haggett.



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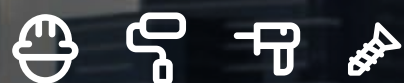


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6. Paul Taig is loving the new RHIB, so comfy with the elevated driving position. 7. The club just before a Port Lounge gig. You must come down and enjoy the music and the night views. 8. The Norm Hammon lounge new floor looks amazing. 9. The new club wear cabinet it a great upgrade from the old one. 10. The new deck awning is working really well. 11. One of the many amazing autumn/winter skies over the lake. 12. Mark Bradbeer and Viviane Harangozo, just before they headed off on their bike trek around the Northern Territory.

Tuesday Tool Time.

The dedicated team who meet every Tuesday to move all the maintenance and repair projects around the club forward are looking for more recruits.



Olavi Rantalla.

GOING ELECTRIC // RESEARCH FOR THE RHIB

The Club looked into having an electric outboard motor on the latest rescue boat. Electric motors are getting more common, now used in small fishing boats and Yarra river hire boats. We decided not to go ahead yet as electric motor with the required

batteries are still an expensive option compared to current petrol motors.

One option to use electric motor could be on Club's Pilot boat as it doesn't need output for long periods and it can carry the needed batteries without compromising lake worthiness. Pilot could have solar units to charge the batteries too. So, we would have grid free solution.



PACER CITY // THE REFURB OF SOME CLUB PACERS HAS ALMOST DOUBLED OUR TRAINING FLEET

There were a team of people who pulled out some unused club Pacers, washed them off, found all the rigging and they are now part of the training fleet. It's great to see these boats on the water again and being used by the large group of our current trainees.



Looking for Picasso.

Now the floor in the Norm Hammon lounge is looking so good it has highlighted that the walls need a new coat of paint. So we will be looking for people to swing a brush and rollers. It's a big room and many hands make light work.



COME IN PILOT

Our start boat Pilot will need to come out of the water over winter for a good scrub, some re-varnishing of the woodwork and some maintenance. Let us know if you would like to help out with that.



Office makeover // APC bench becomes admin heaven

Albert Park College has donated us a new benchtop which will be installed into the club office, replacing the old desk. This will create more workstations and help with keeping things organised and usable in this little high traffic space. Grant will be helping with customising the benches to fit the space and then Graeme and helpers will put it all together.



TROLLEY DOLLY // WOULD YOU LIKE TO ORDER ONE?

We are currently sourcing a fabrication company to make us some standard trolleys for club boats. So there's an opportunity for members to add to this order to get themselves a new trolley as well. More info to come but let Graeme or Ollie know if you're interested in one for your boat.



Show some love.

The club brings us so much joy and is our home so we must all contribute and help keep it in good order if we can. Working Bees will be coming up so join in on those. Dates to come.

Speak to Graeme or Ollie if you would like to get involved in the Tuesday group or a particular project.

Graeme Cox & Ollie Rantalla
Club Maintenance Leaders

Three generations of champion sailors had to start with someone,
a person who has the ability to teach, mentor and inspire.

MORE THAN ONE LIFETIME OF SAILING EXPERIENCE

*Member profile on Les Wood
by Warwick Lloyd*

The purpose of this profile piece is to learn a little more about individuals in our Club who have either made their mark in yachting or contributed to the Club in significant other ways. This issue of OTL is about Les Wood.

So Les, how long have you been a member of the Club?

I have been a member since the early 1980s. I chose Albert Park Yacht Club because my son Geoff wanted to learn to sail and I thought Albert Park Yacht Club would offer him a safe place to learn. It was on a trip to the Melbourne dockyards to see the cruise liner, Queen Mary 2 and on the way home we stopped at Albert Park yacht club.

What has been your involvement in the club?

I started sailing in a Sabre and after a couple of years of that, I moved to a solo which I found more enjoyable. Since then I stopped sailing and now help out in the race box every fortnight.



What are your achievements during your time at Albert Park?

I won a couple of handicaps and races. One year I did the Top of the Bay regatta and the conditions were very windy, so much so that I capsized and the mast became stuck in the muddy bay floor and broke.

What was your most challenging race?

One race day the weather was particularly unsettled and a huge front was coming in. Many boats capsized. Unfortunately, I also fell foul of the front and capsized. This time my boom broke off and to this day it remains on the bottom of the lake.

What is current involvement with the club?

Currently my involvement with the club includes helping out in the race box. I assist with the running of the races every second Saturday. I help take down the race participants as well as controlling the finishing gun.

When did you stop sailing?

I stopped sailing in 2008 and from then on I assisted with the race box.

What was the name of your boats

The solo was called Black Magic and I don't remember the name of the Sabre but the sail number was 49.

What is your sailing history and that of family members?

My family joined Albert Park Yacht Club in 1980 at which time my son Geoff and daughter Julie started sailing in a sabot and I started in a Sabre.

As a result of his involvement with the club Geoff became very passionate about sailing and Geoff's mum Jill, would bring him to the club to race every Saturday. Geoff competed in a Sabot, then a Sabre and a Laser at the club until his passion for sailing lead him to compete on the world circuit in the Laser division, rising to a ranking of 11th in the world in 1991.

Julie, my daughter also sailed when she was younger. My late wife, Jill, also got involved supporting the club and volunteered in the canteen on race days.

My two granddaughters (Isabella and Skye) also sail and learnt at Albert Park Yacht Club through the Learn to Sail program, taught by Jonathan Pulham at the time when they were only 10 years old. In particular, I remember a day in Spring when it was calm and they were each sailing an Optimist down the lake chatting across the water to each other and to Luca who also learnt with them at the time. The perfect way for a child to learn to sail. Isabella and Skye now sail in the state and national Pacer championships representing Albert Park Yacht Club. They compete against other keen Pacer sailors but love the competition and are always keen to win.

On the 14th of October 2017, Les was made a Life Member of the Albert Park Yacht Club in recognition of his service to and involvement within the club. He continues to enjoy being at the club to this day and even though his sailing days are over, he is still making an important contribution to our success and is highly valued.



Les now has three generations of champion sailors in the club. From left: Isabella, Les, Skye and Geoff Wood. Below: A few years ago now, (L-R), Les Wood, Geoff Kirkham and Norm Hammon await a pickup from the rescue boat after the cover had been put back onto Acrospire.

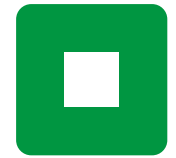




GREEN FLEET

Class Report

Well, it has been quite a start to the year.



The Green fleet has grown considerably this year, with a large group coming out of the Learn to Sail course and pushing their skills and interest as far as possible.

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The success of the group and the experience they have gained is largely due to their own efforts in finding either opportunities to crew for others or find experienced people to crew for them so they can coach as they go. There is no substitute for experience and that quite simply means time on the water and learning from all the different conditions we have on the lake, as well as on the water in different places as Julia Du has done by crewing for Paul Taig and Graeme Cox in other

regattas, but there's more info about that in the Pacer article.

We don't currently have a Green Fleet class captain so if you would like to raise your hand to help coordinate the group and write an article for OTL, please let us know.

See you on the lake.

Darryl Larcombe

Above: Chris Pulham takes Olga Carlton out as crew in his Pacer Pursuit. Top right: Julia Du skippers in a race with Darryl Larcombe as crew. Bottom Right: Carolyn Morris heads out with Marriion Green as skipper.

SABRE



Class Captains Report

The last race of the Summer Championship.



It was a beautiful day at the lake. True, the breeze is a bit light and there were fears that the race may need to be shortened, but the lake was close to full after rain, the sun was shining, and the weed was barely a problem. In the event, the breeze held and all boats finished.

.....
A combined club fleet of eleven Sabres were there for the start, and they crossed the line in a tight group. It was great to be among them, especially as there with us were two racing solo for the first time – Viviane Harangozo and Julia Du.

Viviane was sailing “Popsie”, formerly belonging to the esteemed editor of OTL Chris Markiewicz, while Julia was in “BeatriceToo”, sailed on the lake for many years by Gerd Beier. Both Julia

and Viviane put in very creditable performances. Popsie is currently shared by Viviane and partner Mark Bradbeer, but they are looking for another boat, and we look forward to seeing them racing against each other.

Much of the credit for this must go to our training crew for helping transition new graduates of the Learn to Sail program into racing and to the range of club activities. Also organised was a specific Sabre Day to give these new sailors an opportunity to familiarise themselves with the class, and to try a boat on their own. They have shown themselves to be a great group of people, enthusiastic members of the club and hugely supportive of each other.

*Above: Mark Bradbeer in ‘Popsie’, looking like he is off to play some mini-golf.
Below right: Viviane Harangozo takes ‘BeatriceToo’ out to race Mark around the island on a Social Sailing Sunday.*

Duane Miller and Eric McCann have also recently purchased themselves a Sabre each so we’re looking forward to seeing the competition between those two, as well as having more Sabres in our fleet.

Hopefully many more will join the fleet for the winter series. It may seem daunting at first but be assured you will be encouraged and supported.

Importantly, it is both challenging and fun.



David Emery
Black Heart – 2083



PACER

Class Captain Report

It's wonderful to see a good group of new Pacer sailors in the Saturday races.



Hi fellow Pacer sailors, in recent months the weather has cooled, and the occasional down pour has kept the lake full much to our delight, after a worrying period of warm and dry weather, that saw the lake get close to unsailable with low water depth and the weed growing fast in the warm conditions.

.....
It's great news to hear that Susie is back sailing a Pacer again, with Jill as her trusted forward hand and I think there would have been a few catch up conversations during the race.

There are some new regular Pacer sailors on the lake, Viviane, Mark, Nerida, Julia, Kerrie and anyone else I may have missed, taking up the opportunity to team up with fellow members of similar race experience or seek someone

with more experience, to race with on Saturday afternoon and Social Sailing Sundays. It's the only way to improve your sailing skills.

National Titles for 2022/3 were held at Altona Yacht Club

The first day was registration till 12pm with two invitation races in the afternoon. At registration we had 14 Pacers sign up for the series. APYC was represented by 'Good Pace', sailed by Paul Taig, Emma Taig and Steve Cui. Also representing APYC was training boat APYC-6 sailed by Graeme Cox and Julia Du.

The invitation races saw the wind up around 18 Knots and increasing, causing hesitation by some crews to venture out. Those who did were



sent back with races postponed for later in the afternoon. Everyone packed their boats up and called it a day saving their energy for the first two races tomorrow.

Steve and I settled in well for the four races recording a 1st and 3rd on the first day and two 2nd places for day two putting us in 1st place overall, while Graeme and Julia recorded a 6th and (DNS) on the first day, a 7th and equal 4th on the second day. They had a capsize before the start of the second race. With Julia being separated from the boat that was a worrying time for both. The crew were reunited and with the boat righted they then headed back to shore. This was a good learning day for Julia's first experience of bay sailing, strong wind, choppy sea and a capsize where you can't stand up like Albert Park Lake.

The third day conditions were identical to previous and it was Emma's turn to crew. This was her first race in over a year and she performed extremely well. We ended up with a 6th and 1st placing, keeping us in 1st place overall. Graeme and Julia had another good day recording a 7th and 5th placing.

The next day was New Year's Day and a lay day (no racing) giving crew time to get over New Year's celebrations and any previous racing soreness (definitely lots of soreness).

Day four of racing and conditions haven't changed except race 8 where the conditions exceeded the Pacer Class limits of 22 Knots. In this race the course was shortened due to 25 plus Knots and it gave us an exhilarating ride back to shore after finishing the race.

Good Pace ended the day with two 2nd placings and still 1st overall, while on APYC -6 the conditions were a bit too much, recording a (RET) and (DNF) for the day.

The last day the wind moderated slightly, 14 to 18 Knots and with Steve back as crew we recorded a 4th and 1st placing, with two worst place drops of 6th and 4th placings. This saw us take 1st place overall and the National Championship and the Masters Trophy (over 55yrs).



Paul and Emma return to shore with big smiles, they must have done well.

Thanks to my excellent crew, Steve and Emma for an outstanding effort. APYC-6 had another great day with a 5th and their best for the series a 3rd placing. With their two worst placings dropped, they finished 8th overall. Congratulations Julia, a great effort to go straight from finishing the Learn to Sail course on the lake to Championship racing on the bay with high winds and choppy seas.

State Titles for 2023 were held at Mordialloc Sailing Club

Day one: 18 Pacers and 2 Pacer Pursuits registering with 2 races scheduled for the day. Representing APYC were *Good Pace* sailed by Paul and Emma Taig, Pacer Pursuit *Spray* sailed by Jonathan Pulham and Steve Magner, and Pacer Pursuit *Sea Rider* sailed by Graeme Cox and Julia Du.

With a steady 12 Knot wind, my goal was to win two races on day one, then at least win one race on day two which would give Emma and I a great chance to take out the championship.



Emma and Paul Taig holding the State title trophies



Steve Cui, Paul and Emma Taig after the Nationals presentation

In the first two races we did exactly that, a win, with our close rival Mathew Otto and son Freddie in *Patience Is Overrated* with two 2nd placings. In the Pacer Pursuits, *Spray*, Jonathan and Steve came in with two 1st placings while *Sea Rider* Graeme and Julia were runner up.

The second day presented 12 to 15 Knots with three races scheduled. The first two races we were locked in a battle with *Patience Is Overrated* who got a 1st and 2nd placing while Emma and I ended up with a 2nd and 3rd placing. This put us in equal first place and you can't get any closer than that. The pressure was on for us to win the final race for the day. Emma and I were in fourth place on the run to the bottom mark and with the

breeze up slightly, we were hit by a gust and over we went tired and cold we couldn't get the boat back up. We were taken in by rescue boat while the boat was taken in by the rescue crew. The result for us was a (DNF) and maximum points a disastrous outcome for the day. Our rivals won the race and now lead the series while we now are in second place with this race as our drop for the series. In Pacer Pursuits Jonathan and Steve won all three races with Graeme and Julia runner up.

Day three and the last race of the series there's never been so much pressure. Jonathan asked me have you done the maths (meaning working out what you need to do to win the championship) and I told Jonathan no, but I need to win. The

wind was a shifty Easterly from 0 to 5 Knots during the race. The action for the day is to get a good start and clear air and keep an eye on our rival and wind shifts. Unfortunately, we were just behind our rival, but the race is not over yet.

We dropped our spinnaker at the bottom mark and on the beat passed our rival as they were having trouble with their spinnaker sheets that have gone under the hull (been there done that, but not this series). Now the challenge is on having three more Pacers to beat to lead the race. Getting close to the top mark we were able to pass one and tack on to Port and follow the leading boat to the mark with the other Pacer coming in on a Starboard tack. Emma and I were able tack round the top mark close to the Starboard rounding Pacers. With spinnaker up and extremely light winds it took us the next leg and a half to pass these two Pacers with the wind shifting constantly we were going from reaching

to running all the way to the finish. My only wish when we got in front was for the wind to remain light, so no one runs over us with a 10 Knot following breeze. On reaching the finish line it was an almighty relief to hear the hooter and thank you Pacer Pursuits for waiting at the finish to give us a winning cheer.

For our rival they were unable to fix their problem and had a (DNF) for the last race.

With both boats equal on 8 points and with a (DNF) race drop for both boats, Emma and I won on a count back with *Good Pace* having 3 first placings to *Patience Is Overrated* 2 first placings. Again, thank you Emma for your excellent crew work.

With the Pacer Pursuit Class *Spray* sailed by Jonathan and Steve won the Victorian Pacer Pursuit Trophy with 6 wins. Congratulations to Jonathan and Steve with *Sea Rider* Graeme and Julia runner up. In the Pursuit Julia was able to use the trapeze and asymmetric spinnaker. Congratulations Julia you have just about done the lot in Pacer and Pacer Pursuit sailing.

Enjoy Your Sailing



Paul Taig
'Good Pace' 2847

Above: Emma introducing Ezra to sail, could he be yet another Taig champion.

Below: We can see Graeme and Paul holding the boats but where are the crew??



Graeme Cox, Paul Taig, Julia Du with Judy and Paul Hardie from Beaumaris Yacht Club, relaxing after the days racing.



The sun was out, the breeze was up, what could possibly be better. Dennis Hammon (L) and Warwick Lloyd team up in a pacer for a Saturday race.



WINTERSAIL



The plan for this year's regatta

The countdown has started.



Well only a few more weeks and we again will be running the **Junior /Youth WinterSail 2023 Regatta at Albert Park Yacht club**. There are plenty of posters around the club and other clubs around the coast promoting the event. Possibly because Covid looks to be mostly past us early interest has been great.

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This year the event will be managed jointly by Rob Hart and Jill Stow (Vice Commodore) with myself assisting. They will again be asking members for assistance volunteering in various roles (Safety checks, unloading boats, shore patrol, galley, race coordination etc) over the three day event (July 7-9th.). We have been lucky in appointing principal coach Susannah Gillam and the same support coaches as last year who were greatly appreciated by sailors and parents alike.

Photos of Wintersails past on our website show a lot of happy faces of junior sailors who took part. As they would now be approaching adulthood, we hope they have continued and progressed their sailing at clubs around the country and fondly remember their times with us.

The WinterSail Regatta held on the last three days of the school holidays provides a great opportunity to learn new skills, hone existing ones and improve sailing confidence, at the same time, meet new friends and have plenty of fun.

I believe that this great club of ours with its 150 plus year history was partly recognised as Victorian club of the Year and a finalist of National club of the year because of its strong volunteer group and promotion of events for the general sailing community such as WinterSail and Citysail. Look forward to another successful WinterSail.



Ray Wines
Past Commodore
Solo 2678



WOMEN'S WORLD

In March we held an informal women's lunch with the purpose of getting to know one another better and fostering friendships. It was great to see the hall full of 30 happy, chatty women. We certainly achieved our aim.

Our lunch coincided with the week of International Women's Day and the theme this year was 'Embrace Equity'. Darryl Larcombe opened with a presentation on increasing female participation. "Sailing currently has 30% female participants and in line with Australian Sailing goals we want to achieve a 50% female participation rate by 2032".

Within a few days of our fantastic CitySail Regatta last September, Darryl produced a magazine and the above quote is copied from the first article. He could not possibly have known then that the IWD theme would be "Embrace Equity". Many of you may not have seen this magazine, it's fantastic, and I encourage you to take the time to check it out [here](#).

Jarka Kluth, our amazing Head Coach for CitySail gave us an inspirational talk.

Some of her words of wisdom are - 'Learn something new, have fun and make new friends. Wherever sailing takes you - this goes on forever!'

We are fortunate our club has an inclusive culture and women are encouraged and welcomed into the sailing fraternity of Albert Park Yacht Club. We all work together.

It's pleasing to see so many women sailing at the Club and becoming involved in Club activities. Over the last 18 months or so, we have been joined by the Korovian girls and also two new enthusiastic Learn To Sail groups. With help from volunteers, it's fantastic to have more women participating in racing Pacers with a few moving to Sabres.

The growth and future of women's sailing at the Club now appears to be in safe hands - you are our future.

Norma Watt
Women's Sailing Development

*Left: Louise Ferguson takes her new Sabre out in her first solo Saturday race.
1: Mark Bradbeer and Kerrie Miller team up for an afternoon race.
2: Nerida Mason crews for Graeme Cox enjoying a splash of sunshine.
3: Susie Faulk and Jill Stow have made a formidable team in the afternoon races.
4: Julia Du went out with Peter Naismith and Grant Haggett in a Jubilee for the afternoon.
5: The Sabre training went inside for theory session and to warm up
6 & 7: Then back out into the wild wind to hear Clare Olding share her experience and speak about mastering the Sabre
8: Nerida and Susie illustrate how windy it was while they practiced rigging.*



SOLO

Class Report

Somers Yacht Club turned on the hospitality and lake breezes.

We have come to the end of the Summer series for 2022/23 and as usual we have had a great time from week to week sometimes under challenging conditions, strong winds and shrinking water levels combined with weed.

Being a Solo however, we can adjust centre boards and rudders to continue to compete. Our two major sailing stalwarts Ian Kirkham and Brian Jones have had a great battle all season. Wait for the results to be announced

As mentioned previously we do have a couple of Solos available for sale, which would suit a sailor 80kg+. The design benefits from a wide gunnel, so comfortable sailing with a 8.4m² sail area giving plenty of power against other classes.

I always enjoy getting on to the National Solo website which makes for a great read, plenty of action photos and sailing hints. Interesting to

read that they get around 60-80 entrants to each Super series event conducted around the country (UK). Plus additional 1,000 boats sailing at regional level around the country.

I noticed the photos on the website of the RYA Dinghy show UK (check it out); what a great exhibition and range of Solos and other classes. Interesting to note new Solo registration numbers in the 7000 series where ours are the 2000 series; many sold since ours. It's mentioned that growing interest is being shown in Ireland and France along with the main stays of UK, Portugal and Holland. A true international class.

Shame we have no major local manufacturer to promote Solos. Already looking forward to a great and exciting Winter series, see you on the water.



Ray Wines
Solo 2678



*Top left: Brian Jones out in front.
This page: Ian Kirkham on the run and focussed.*



Update

In recent times, there has been a huge amount of activity around the club on Saturdays.

The sailing training has turned the club into a very busy place to be on Saturday mornings.

As the previous Learn to sail group moved into the Learn to race course and with another Learn to sail course running as well, we were running out of club boats to allow everyone to get out onto the water. A Hail Mary conversation with the Tuesday maintenance team started a load of activity. While we had several club Pacers sitting in the racks, they needed a lot of TLC to get them seaworthy again. Peter N, Ray, Paul T, Ollie and Graeme dug them out from under a think layer of dust, did repairs, fixed rigging and polished them up like new. Although the trolleys weren't perfect, it increased our training capacity in Pacers which is quite important for the club. Well done gentlemen.

The next part of the challenge was over to the trainees and as is normal, Mother Nature can dish out some difficult days. A couple of mornings with very light winds and then the other end of the scale, a few with quite strong winds, both ends of the still provide great experience. It was almost at the limit of when we would go out so all credit to the learn to sail group who still went out. They say pressure makes diamonds, well maybe they're right as everyone did really well handling the conditions. A few crews did have an accidental swim, caused by some quite strong gusts.

In particular, Li Mei Brusey, Thao Phan and Anne Halbert, who went out together in a Pacer, got caught by a gust and ended up practicing their capsize technique! They still came back laughing and elated, even if they were in need of a hot shower to warm up.

Above left: John Pulham works through some advanced skills with the Learn to re group

Above: Shaun Bailey and Katrina Hammer sailing well around the course.

1: Trainer Tom and Kat Moran honing her skills on the tiller

2: Oscar and Stephen Corry make a formidable family team

3. Adam Loiacono and Nerida Mason head toward the start line with Chris Davey working the flags on the start boat





Above: David Larsen takes his new Sabre out for the training session.
 1: Peter Whitaker and Steve Cui follow the Learn to race fleet and coach as they go
 2: Carolyn Morris and Rhett Haris have become quite a skilled team in the Pacer
 3. Julia Du refines her skills in the club Sabre
 4: The fleet work on getting to the start line at the perfect time



As you can see from the pictures though, other days were picture perfect, warm sunshine, good constant breezes.

The learn to race group have made some great progress in their sailing journey. The opportunity to practice race starts in a small fleet has made racing in the afternoon much more approachable. The flag sequences, hoots and a busy start line

can appear daunting but with a little practice it is absolutely achievable. The success is highlighted by the number of those who now own their own boats and they are joining in the afternoon races in increasing numbers.

Darryl Larcombe
 Learn to sail coordinator



5: Chris Davey working the flags and on the start boat
 6: Greg Pearce trying another RS boat on the lake
 Below: Dat Le and Mikaela Wong team up for the morning race training.





GP Open Skiff regatta

Melbourne turned on a picture perfect Sunday for the race.

Once again this year, we hosted the Open Skiff Association for the GP Regatta on the Saturday and Sunday of the Grand Prix and were very pleased to have 29 entries. The eight club Skiffs were hired out and it was good to see them in use.

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If you were watching the GP on TV you might have seen the skiffs, perhaps a Sabre or a Pacer and a Jubilee out on the lake creating a serene backdrop to the F1's while they were zooming around the track.

Many thanks to the APYC members who volunteered to assist with special thanks to the galley for a mighty effort in feeding around 70 people on both days.

The regatta's main objective was to have a good time and it was amazing to see so many new sailors take the opportunity to enjoy sailing in the safety of Albert Park Lake while the eyes of the world watched on.

The GP Corporation supported the event, the Open Skiff Assoc did a great job in attracting the numbers and together with APYC a great time was had by all. We are hoping this will become a regular and growing event on our calendar to keep our club active during this weekend that attracts global attention.



Peter Naismith
Commodore APYC



Left-clockwise: Peter Naismith, Susie Falk, Ollie Rantala and Carol Milligan cruise in the sunshine with the best seats on the course.

Above: The Open Skiff fleet during the Grand Prix regatta.

Below: Sailors, parents and organisers made for quite a busy time at the club.





Club wear and merchandise

Rug up for winter with our warm club wear.

Our club wear is a great way to show your love for the club.

It shows the pride and connection to our club and to passers by as well as visitors. It really looks quite impressive.

With the cooler months coming, don't get caught without one of our softshell jackets. Let us know if you would like one for yourself and we will size you up to get the right fit and we will place an order. We don't keep a large stock as it's too costly for the club. So get your order in and don't miss out.

There have been several requests for a womens fit polo shirt. The challenge we face is finding one that fits everyone as most of these sorts of tops are a unisex style. We are more than happy for women to find their own navy blue polo that fits them perfectly and we will have it embroidered for you.



Baseball cap bump inserts are being trialled. Let us know if you're interested in getting one.

We still have a small stock of the older style club wear. See Kerrie or Darryl to have a look and snap them up. The new softshell jackets have been an invaluable asset this windy autumn/winter period. They have been very popular so let us know if you would like us to order you one of those.



T-shirt \$35

Club cap \$20



Polarfleece vest \$45



Polarfleece beanie \$15



T-shirts \$30



Club cap \$20



Club sun hat \$20



Polos \$45



Softshell jacket \$120



ALBERT PARK PORT LOUNGE

Live acoustic music on a Friday night

Our Port Lounge is one of Melbourne's best kept secrets. Amazing talent performs in this intimate setting with stunning view across the water and city skyline. What's not to love, so make the most of these gigs at your own club. See you there.

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*Put these dates in your diary
and book early.*

14th July

Emma Luker & Pete Titchener

For the past decade, Emma and Pete have been accompanying a well known Scotsman (Eric Bogle) on stage at festivals and concert venues around Australia and New Zealand.

This amazing duo with such an iconic background should not be missed.

15th September

The Stiletto Sisters

Always a joy to have these wonderful performers join us. The Stiletto Sisters have been wooing audiences in Melbourne with their seductive blend of Hungarian gypsy, tango and love songs from around the world.

Led by violinist Hope Csutoros, the trio features the dynamic piano accordion playing of Judy Gunson and the wonderful talents of Jo To on double bass. Always a sensational night.



This humorous portrait of the Emma Luker and Pete Titchener duo with Eric crossed out.



The Stiletto Sisters

\$35/\$30 (concession) Cash at the door.
Doors open 7:30pm

albertparkportlounge.com