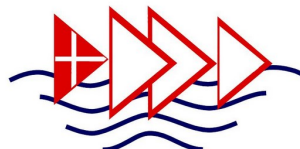


# The Muppler

Winter 2020



*Lake View from the Deck*



Albert Sailing Club Inc.

# EDITORIAL - NEW EDITOR(S) WANTED

Jamie Kew

We have indeed been blessed with wonderful weather and decent water level so far this year, unfortunately, pandemic is now the next challenge. Just when we thought all the stars are aligned and the boat is about to sail, how wrong are we! Freedom, one of the most common thing which we take for granted is now a privilege to many of us. There is no alternative but to adapt and change just as the wind changes.

This reminds me of what Kungfu legend Bruce Lee used to say – be like water. When you are in a glass adopt the shape of a glass. In a jug adopt a shape of

the jug. On a more sombre note, many of us are fortunate to survive this pandemic thus far but there those who did not. Some were scarred because of job or a business lost and worst still those who have lost their loved ones during this time. My thoughts and prayers go to them, may they find strength in times like this. Each time a rainbow appears after a thunderstorm, it reminds me of the promise that any life is to be cherish.

Signing off for the last time as the editor of Mudpuddler. It has been a privilege.

## CLUB COMMUNICATIONS

Albert Sailing Club, Inc

[www.albertsc.org.au](http://www.albertsc.org.au)

(03) 9690 2374

1 Aquatic Drive,

Albert Park Lake,



AlbertSailing



[sailing@albertsc.org.au](mailto:sailing@albertsc.org.au)

For updates from the Club, follow us on Facebook or register on our website for our weekly Snippets e-mail.

**Did you know the Mudpuddler is also available by e-mail? If you'd prefer to receive your copy electronically, send your name and e-mail address to [naomiburmika@gmail.com](mailto:naomiburmika@gmail.com).**

## 2020-2021 ASC COMMITTEE

Office	Name	Portfolio
Commodore	Cindy Tilbrook	Club databases, social, strategy & representation
Vice Commodore	Rod Thomas	Strategy, juniors & IT
Rear Commodore	Steve Dunn	Sailing and racing
Secretary	Tim Falkiner	Members, minutes & records
Treasurer	Hristina Valkanova	Finance & club databases
Club Captain	Paul Farrell	Sailing committee
Committee	Don McKenzie	Training principal & club boat maintenance, child safety officer
	Tony Schalken	Security/Club Access, Databases
	John Whelan	Legal, insurances
	Peter Bennell	Marketing & membership

***At the current time, the Committee is meeting online. Meetings are scheduled for the second Wednesday of each month commencing at 7.30 p.m. Members are welcome to attend on a non-voting basis. For further details, please contact the Commodore***



# COMMODORE'S REPORT

Cindy Tilbrook

I commenced my last Mudpuddler report by saying that 2020 would be a year of great significance for sailing on Albert Park Lake, as we were moving towards the Unification Vote and struggling with low water levels in the lake. Little did I know at that time that COVID-19 was moving towards us at a pace that would take the world by storm and throw challenges at us both personally and as a club such as we have never encountered before.

So I'm writing this report as the re-elected Commodore for the 2020-2021 year of a sailing club that isn't actually sailing due to the temporary closure of the club because of the Corona Virus, having started my first term as Commodore of a club that wasn't actually sailing due to low water levels. As the old saying goes: "May you live in interesting times"!

Fortunately, we have seen great rains over the last few months. The Lake is now full and as we progressively move out of isolation and back into sailing, we will hopefully see our members enjoying the full lake and simply the pleasure of being outside and in such a fabulous location. And remember --- it's easy to 'Social Distance' on the waters of the Lake.

## Annual General Meeting

Thanks to all members who joined us for our first-ever online Annual General Meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup>. The meeting provided the opportunity for me to present a report on activities over the last year, and excerpts from that report are included in this article and elsewhere in the newsletter. The financial accounts were adopted and a new Committee elected (details below). Members took the opportunity following the conclusion of the formal part of the meeting to stay online and enjoy a discussion on club activities and good fellowship with other members.

The election of Committee saw me re-elected as Commodore, Rod Thomas as Vice-Commodore, Steve Dunn as Rear Commodore, Paul Farrell as Club Captain, Tim Falkiner as Secretary, Hristina Burduja as Treasurer, and Peter Bennell, Don McKenzie, Tony Schalken and John Whelan as General Committee members. Thanks to those people for their willingness to take on a committee position during these challenging times, and a big welcome to Tony Schalken who returns to the committee after an absence of some years. You can find a brief bio of our committee members on our website under 'The Club' tab.

Jaemie Wilson decided not to re-stand for a committee position, and I take this opportunity to thank him for his contribution to the committee over the last few years. He has agreed to retain some of his responsibilities so I'm sure he will continue to be an active club member and contributor to our club.

## Mudpuddler Editor Required

This is the last edition of the Mudpuddler to be produced by our current editor, Jamie Kew. Jamie has undertaken this role over the last 12 months or so, even though her family is no longer actively engaged in the club due to other commitments and plans. Thanks so much for your contribution, Jamie – you have maintained the high standard of our newsletter and we hope to see you and your family back at the club in the future.

Which means: **we need a new Mudpuddler editor immediately!** Help and documentation on how to produce the Muddy is available, and there are many rewards in being involved in the club in this way. If you wish to find out more information or believe you can help in this way, please contact me as soon as possible.

## Overview of the 2019-2020 Club year

Reports on Sailing, Racing, Training and Junior activities are provided elsewhere in this Mudpuddler.

In terms of *Strategy and External relations* we've continued our liaison with Parks Victoria and other park users in relation to securing an ongoing, sustainable water supply and the control of the aquatic vegetation. Parks Vic recognises the problems but faces competing interests in relation to lake water and currently has a lack of financial resources to identify and implement a permanent solution.

We are a member of the Albert Park Community Sporting Tenants Association and continue to ensure that the needs of lake users, as well as land-based entities, are taken into account during the discussions at these meetings. We also liaise with a number of other external bodies/people in relation to our activities and to advance the cause of lake sailing and our club.

## Social Activities

September saw a successful Picnic Day for club members and their families and friends. All enjoyed some sailing, a picnic on the lawns in front of the club and some typical Picnic Day games. Our annual Trivia Night was held on October 26<sup>th</sup> and again provide to

be a fun, entertaining night for all. December saw the first combined Christmas event between ASC and APYC, with 70 – 80 members and families from both clubs getting together to celebrate the season and the end of another sailing year. Our after-sailing BBQs continue when weather permits and good fellowship is always enjoyed on a Saturday even in the worst of weathers.

## Unification

I was the facilitator for the hard-working strategy group during the year, with representatives from both ASC and APYC (Rod Thomas, Don McKenzie, John Whelan from ASC, Peter Naismith, Paul Taig and Grant Haggett from APYC). This group has been working on plans for the potential unification of both clubs. With a huge amount of input from the group, and some advice from an external legal firm, the group developed a proposal which they felt was desirable and feasible. Information documents were circulated to all members and plans were made to conduct Special General Meetings of both clubs on May 16<sup>th</sup> 2020 to vote on whether the clubs would unify or not.

Unfortunately, the closure of both clubs due to Corona Virus restrictions has seen a hold on these Special General Meetings. It was felt important that all members be provided with the opportunity to attend information sessions and the meetings in person. The proposal will be re-activated as soon as both clubs are open and operational again, so 'watch this space' for further details

## The Future

The CoVid19 pandemic that has currently closed the club presents potentially one of the biggest challenges the club has ever had to face. At this stage, we have just re-opened for recreational sailing and I hope that by the time you receive this newsletter, members will again be able to use our clubrooms and club racing will have re-commenced.

I thank all of our members who have renewed their membership during this period of uncertainty – your commitment to our club is welcomed and appreciated. If the Corona Virus pandemic is presenting significant financial difficulties for any of our members and you wish to seek some alternate financial arrangements in relation to membership dues, please don't hesitate to contact me, and rest assured your situation will be kept confidential.

The temporary closure of the club will have a financial impact on the club, and it is anticipated that we will incur a deficit over the next financial year, given that

we will most likely not have many winter members, our winter training/junior programs, or our annual regatta. But because our financial accounts include depreciation (which doesn't actually involve an expenditure of cash), the draw-down on our financial reserves will not be significant. We are fortunate to have such reserves, which will enable the club to move through this pandemic and re-commence operations in a financially secure position.

Once operations re-commence, we will be voting on the potential unification with APYC, and the outcome of this vote will have a significant impact on the club and on sailing on the lake, whichever way the decision goes.

A further challenge for the future is to see our members more engaged with the club, either sailing or simply enjoying the other aspects of our club. Let's work to encourage some of our non-active members to come along and sail in all conditions, knowing that we have rescue crafts available, hot water in the changerooms, and good companionship at the end of each Saturday.

I acknowledged the large number of volunteers who contribute to the running of the club at the Annual General Meeting and in the last newsletter, so I don't plan to repeat that acknowledgement here. However, I must close this report by a further acknowledgement to you, our members. Without you, we wouldn't be a club. The next few months and possibly the next year will be particularly challenging for us all. But with the strength of our friendships and our common love of sailing and all it represents to us, I have every confidence that sailing at the lake has a long and enjoyable future.

Cindy Tilbrook  
Commodore

# BIOGRAPHY—ASC COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Name: Cindy Tilbrook

Place of birth: Port Augusta, SA

First sail: As a young teenager staying at Lake Menindee, NSW

First boat: Sabre

Current Boat: Laser, though I don't sail it much. Have done lots of Tall Ship sailing, crewed for a racing keelboat in Western Port, and owned a 29 foot keelboat for a few years. Mainly do Race Management these days.

Joined ASC: March 1998

Work: Now retired. Previously Senior Management in the NFP sector. But still seem to work as hard --- I just don't get paid any longer.



Name: Rod Thomas

Place of birth: Adelaide

First sail: Holdfast Trainer junior class boat as a crew in Adelaide

First boat: Mirror "Bushfire", which I sailed with my wife Mandy

Now sailing: Laser Radial at ASC and in Laser Association events

Joined ASC: late 1978, when Mirrors were the Class on the Lake (and throughout Australia). ASC committee 15 years+, including Commodore 2013 - 2015

Work: Retired, after 30 years in Human Resources



Name: Stephen Dunn (Steve)

Place of birth: Hindmarsh, Adelaide

First sail: Crewing as an eight year old on the Port River Adelaide, SA. In the years since, Hartley TS16, Heron, and Impulse.

First boat: Holdfast Trainer (basically a Sabot with a bowsprit, jib and thwart that could be sailed two up).

Now sailing: Impulse, "Grumpy Boy"

Joined ASC: 2000

Work: Communications Technologist, now retired.



Name: Tim Falkiner

Place of birth: Melbourne

First sail: about 1985

First boat: Mirror

Now sailing: Sabre

Joined ASC: about 1985

Work: Hypnotherapist



Name: Hristina Burduja

Place of birth: Sofia, Bulgaria

First sail: September 2013 on a small catamaran on the French coast of the English Channel (Le Havre). I was just a passenger and my expectation was for smooth sail and cocktails on the deck (no such thing). The weather there in September is quite rough, cold and windy. We broke a spinnaker and there was a lot of shouting in French, but we got back safe and very wet.

My next sailing experience was on Albert Lake in Jan 2018 - Learn to Sail @The Boatshed

First boat that I actually sailed: Pacer

Now sailing: Zest and/or Pacer

Joined ASC: 19 Aug 2018

Work: Solution Architect at Nokia Software (IT systems for telecoms)



## BIOGRAPHY—ASC COMMITTEE MEMBERS (CONT'D)

Name: Paul Farrell

Place of birth: Hospital, (No I'm not an illegal alien.)

First sail: Corsair, 1 time only as a 12yo.

First boat: 125

Now sailing: Impulse. I also have a Formula 15 Skiff but it very rarely gets wet.

Joined ASC: 1988 as a winter member, never left but had a couple of breaks for a few years but maintained associate membership. Haven't had a break from the lake since 2003 when I sailed a Mosquito Cat at Altona after we had to stop sailing at the lake due to low water.

Work: Jack of all trades, Telecommunications Tech. by trade.



Name: Don McKenzie

Born: Bright Victoria

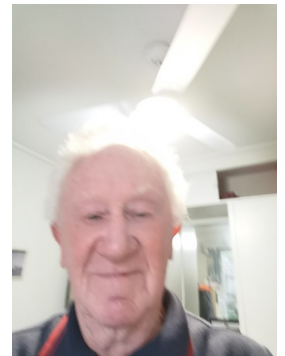
First Sailed: 1975

First Boat: Red Witch

Current Boat: Sabre, Impulse

Joined A S C 1993

Work history: Human Resources, Industrial Relations, director.



Name: Antonius (Tony) J Schalken

Place of birth: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

First sail: at the age of 16 in Guanabara bay in a bermuda rigged sloop on loan from the Brazilian Naval Academy (that is another story)

First boat: Mirror

Now sailing: Sabre 557 (in truth, in my mind only for far too long)

Joined ASC: 24 1982

Work: environmental monitoring of aquatic ecosystems (chemistry)



Name: John Whelan

Place of birth: Born in Melbourne (Surrey Hills) in 1955.

First sail: First sailed in a mirror at Williamstown Sailing Club in 1983 and crewed on an Ultimate 18 trailer sailer and Hartley TS16. Only did this for a year and then did not sail again until I did a Beginning Sailing Course in Mooloolaba, QLD in late 2002.

First boat: Deja Vu, Impulse 131

Now sailing: Astro Boy, Impulse 594, a beautiful Steve Dunn built boat.

Joined ASC: January 2003. Joined the committee in, I think, 2008. Have been vice commodore and commodore.

Work: Solicitor



Name: Peter Bennell

Place of birth: Melbourne Victoria

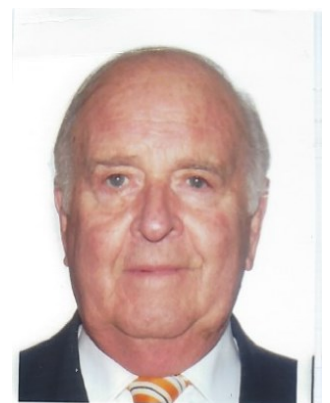
First sail: 1979 Sorrento Sailing Club

First boat: Mirror

Joined ASC: October 2018

Career: Currently business consultant, previously CEO of large retail group: furniture manufacturer and management consultant US, Canada and Australia.

Qualifications: B Civil Eng. Prof Engineer Ohio (US)





# REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

Steve Dunn

With everything in lock down due to COVID19 and no sailing at the lake since the last Muddy there's not a lot to talk about from the on water side of things suffice to say the water level is as high as it can go and the weed is as low as it's been in a long time thanks to the good effort from the last weed cut.

With the AGM successfully run online via Zoom I'd like to thank Cindy for her excellent work as Commodore last year and for nominating again this year. Likewise for Rod stepping in again as vice commodore and a big welcome aboard to all new committee members. With COVID-19 restrictions in place there has been a significant amount of work going on by the committee at the moment, especially the work put in by Rod and Cindy in trying to manage the resumption of sailing as quickly and as safely as possible as restrictions are eased and the thwarting of the progress being made towards the future strategic direction for ASC and APYC.

## Virtual Regatta Series

To try and keep the interest going Australian Sailing invited all clubs to participate in an online virtual regatta. After a series of races a clear champion emerged with Noah Bajayo being selected to represent ASC in the State championships and Nationals, congratulations Noah, I think the other clubs are in trouble.

## End of year Presentation

With the club closed and no gatherings of any size at the moment allowed the usual end of year presentation and perpetual trophy award night has been postponed tentatively for late June/July should restrictions be lifted further. Low water level and inclement weather saw a number of classes not meet the criteria as per our Sailing Instructions for achieving a result however we nevertheless had a successful Commodore's series and sufficient Summer Series races where results were achieved. Further advice will be advertised in Snippets.

## Drama on the High Seas

Not exactly dinghy sailing but with a nautical theme none the less, as Princess cruise ship survivor's Vicki and I are feeling very lucky to be home again in Australia, safe and in good health.

Back in early March before the pandemic was declared and the toilet roll saga hadn't happened, reassured by our Travel Agent all was ok we headed off to

Santiago Chile for the cruise of a lifetime. We were sailing down the West Coast of South America, around Cape Horn and back up the East coast of South America finishing in Ft Lauderdale.

Long story short, we heard the announcement that cruise operations were to shut down when we were somewhere around the Falkland Islands. Not convinced Princess would rebook our flights home we took a huge gamble on our own initiative managing to book the last seats on a plane out of Buenos Aires on the 19<sup>th</sup> March for Australia, when the cruise was to abruptly end. And the airfares were at extremely inflated prices. In Buenos Aires only half the passengers were able to disembark before the port was closed, we were literally the last passengers off the ship before midnight and the lockdown.... escorted to the airport under police guard. No one boarded that ship, the Coral Princess, until it reached Florida where health officials whisked a number of passengers off to hospital with the virus, with two passing away from the disease on board. There was a lot more to this tale but space prevents telling it all. We were extremely lucky, it all happened very quickly and seemed almost surreal at the time, but one thing's for sure, there's no place like home, and sailing on the safe waters of our lake!



*Coral Princess in Ushuaia oblivious to what lay ahead*

# GRAEME BLUNT AND BLUNT FAMILY BOATS

*Graeme Blunt*

Graeme Blunt is my name and I am a relatively new member to Albert Sailing Club ASC. Like many members we all have a story to tell why we ventured into the sport/pleasure of sailing and the challenges we confronted in our search for sailing skills.

Timber boats, sailing and Port Phillip Bay were an integral part of my early growing up years it was like blood running through my veins it has a 150 year family connection.

**Blunt Boats Est 1858.**



*Picture of front inside Blunt Boatshed in Williamstown.*



*Picture of launching in 1956*

The picture shows the launch on 27<sup>th</sup> February 1957 with family members-new owners and shipwrights involved in the construction. Olympia has spent a number of years at the Gippsland Lakes and in 2017 came on the market with an asking price of \$25,000 through Webster Marine but it needed some love and care and in other words a major refit.

May I encourage you do a little pre reading homework and visit [www.bluntboats.com.au](http://www.bluntboats.com.au) and click on our History-Full History. This will provide you with an excellent lead in and summary of events through 5 generations of Boat Builders. Also take a few minutes to explore the photographs as they tell a real story about timber boat building.

I am not involved with the business but it has played an integral part of my younger growing up days spending time at the boat shed with my grand father Clem Blunt 111 and my uncle Robert "Bobby" Blunt. The sequence of events and background is explained in Our History.

The 5<sup>th</sup> generation Boat Builder is my cousin Greg and his wife Joanne Blunt. They have played a pivotal role in steering the business through some rough weather in the early stages of his 5<sup>th</sup> generation and they can be attributed with the saving of the business and still giving us timber boats in this 2020.

There are many examples of timber boats built by Blunts eg{refer photo Majorie built 1899} but the one that stands from my era is Olympia built in 1956 by my grandfather Clem and my uncle Bobby Blunt and launched in February 1957.

I must admit temptation to purchase and refit was high on my thinking list due to family connection.

My wife Lorraine stepped in and said No More Boats.

The boat was purchased by a Paynesville local and has recently completed a major refit and I must admit has come up looking first class looking like day one – Launch Day with varnished top decks.



*Picture of Olympia at sale time*





*Picture of Olympia after refit*

When you look at pictures of the boat shed external/ internal it has basically been the same from my younger days growing up and before.

Yes there has been some upgrades to meet government and safety regulations plus in recent months the pier has been completely replaced which Greg admits was timely and a major co-ordination process finding temporary homes for many boats during works.

In late February our Rod Thomas had an opportunity to meet Greg and inspect the premises and in his own words "The ambience of the work shop and the yard was intoxicating"

When you step through that small front timber door it is like stepping back in time and you get the same impressions when you walk through into the yard and view the slip way and new pier.

Greg and Joanne Blunt have done the generations of Blunt Boat Builders before them very proud and Greg is a Master Ship Wright and focused on timber boat perfection.



*Picture of boats in front entry*

The above commentary sets the scene on how I got involved in sailing. A report on boats I have sailed will be in a future report.

## CLUB KAYAKS

The club now has two adult and two child kayaks that can be hired by members and which may help with your exercising or relaxation while we wait for full club sailing activities to resume. The kayaks are kept on the rack above where the RIBs are stored, and to hire them you will need to complete the hire register book, which will be kept behind the glass where the race results are published and sign on/off forms are kept. There is currently no charge for hiring.

The registration book lists all the conditions which are also listed here:-

- Use only by club members
- Not to be used during club racing times
- Until current COVID19 restrictions are fully lifted, kayaks can only be used on Saturdays when the boatyard is open, to ensure adequate cleaning/disinfecting is undertaken following use. Once restrictions are fully lifted, can be used mid-week if you have a club security key/card and complete the register
- No charge for use
- Time limit on water – One hour
- Members to take full responsibility for use of kayak, and for reporting any damage, to a club committee member.
- Life jackets and footwear must be worn.
- Use the club kayak trolley, and don't drag kayaks over ground.
- Complete registration details for each use including sign off.

Normal club security requirements apply if used on a non-club day - keeping gates closed whilst on water and ensuring club is secure at the end of the day.

Enjoy your paddling.

# MISSION TO SEAFARERS

Jack Woods

A number of our members have visited the heritage listed Mission to Seafarers Building at Docklands. The heritage listed Docklands building dates back to 1917. The *Mission to Seafarers* is an international mission of the Anglican Church, the history of which dates back to the early 1800s. Their purpose is to look after the welfare of seafarers who face the harsh and often dangerous voyages and loneliness of life at sea.

The Victorian **Seamen's Mission**, now known as the Mission to Seafarers, commenced when it held religious services in 1857 on a wooden hulk in Hobson's Bay. The Victorian Mission now provides practical and spiritual welfare for seafarers of all nationalities and faiths, on boats berthing at Victorian ports. They arrange to collect seafarers from their ships and provide a facility for them to relax in a friendly supportive atmosphere with food and bar services, as well as a small library and access to computer facilities for contact with their families. In the early years it also provided shore accommodation and access to social activities.

I first became involved with the Mission some 20 years back when they initiated a maritime art show, which over the years has developed into the leading [ANL national exhibition](https://missiontoseafarers.com.au/art-prize/) of maritime paintings. Images from the 2019 exhibition can be viewed on <https://missiontoseafarers.com.au/art-prize/> and is highly recommended for anyone interested in Maritime art. The painting featured [here](#) is from the 2019 exhibition by the Australian artist Ian Hansen, who is known internationally for his superbly detailed oils of a wide range of maritime subjects. The yacht is *Mistral 11* which competed in the first Sydney Hobart Yacht Race, and has been undergoing restoration in Tasmania.

One of our clubs' earlier members, Impulse sailor and artist, Maxwell Wilks, has won various awards at the ANL exhibition for his oil paintings of early shipping and the working dockyards. A selection of his oil and pastel paintings can be found on <https://maxwellwilks.com/>



Mistral II by Ian Hansen  
Artist Statement "Mistral II competed in the first Sydney Hobart Yacht Race in 1945. Mistral has been restored in Tasmania and is back being sailed."

When we are again allowed to roam free, a visit to this building is well worth while, if only to see the quaint little chapel with its stained glass windows depicting maritime scenes, and poop deck shaped pulpit, or to look at the domed building which was once a gym with ropes from the ceiling. When looking at the outside don't miss the tallship shaped weather vane. If you are interested in marine art entries for the 2020 ANL exhibition opened in early May with this year's theme 'The Relationship of Humanity' The exhibition of winning entries is usually in October in the Docklands building.



Mission Seafbldg



# AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM

**Virtual Ocean Talks'**, The ANMM 2020 Classic and Wooden Boat Festival comes to you with a series of 1 hour webinar discussions from Australian experts in the world of boating and yacht racing! View online at <https://www.sea.museum/whats-on/events/ocean-talks/virtual-ocean-talks>

Seclusion at Sea is Highly Recommended : A discussion with three of Australia's round the world sailing superstars - Kay Cottee, Wendy Tuck & Adrienne Cahalan.



*Kay Cottee sailed around the world unassisted in 1988 in the 37 foot yacht Blackmores First Lady*

Other Talks in the series include :

2. Cook Man or Myth, with Peter Fitzsimmons
3. Rot to Ritz with David Payne
3. Famous Restricted 21-Foot Class Racing Yachts

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## NAUTICAL QUOTES

**From a recent Racing Sailboats Australia Newsletter (aka RS Boats)**

**Sir Francis Chichester:** "Any damn fool can navigate the world sober. It takes a really good sailor to do it drunk."

**William Arthur Ward:** "The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails."

**John Masefield:** "I must go down to the seas again, to the lonely sea and the sky, And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by, And the wheel's kick and the wind's song and the white sail's shaking, And a grey mist on the sea's face, and a grey dawn breaking."

**Robert Henri:** "Why do we love the sea? It is because it has some potent power to make us think things we like to think."

**Nicholas Monsarrat:** "Sailors, with their built-in sense of order, service and discipline, should really be running the world."

**Irv Heller:** "Sailing – The fine art of slowly going nowhere at great expense while being cold, wet and miserable."

**Kenneth Grahame:** "There is nothing – absolutely nothing – half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats."



# TRAINING AND JUNIOR AT ALBERT SAILING CLUB 2019/2020

Rod Thomas and Don Mckenzie

Albert Sailing Club's Discover Sailing Centre was again active in providing training programs and activities across the 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 period

**For juniors** under 18 years of age we had an array of programs.

\* There were **junior school holiday programs** in July and October. Six juniors, at the next level up from the Tackers Learn to Sail level participated in each program. The programs used our club's plastic Ozi Opti boats, and accredited Instructors sourced from the Australian Sailing Albert Park Boatshed.

\* Term 4 and Term 1 **Green Fleet programs** on Saturday afternoons had 4 and 6 participants, respectively. A further 5 juniors participated in the first Term 1 session in February, and will hopefully join for a future program later in the year. The Green Fleet program was again Instructor led and at the next level up from Learn to Sail.

\* A new ASC/APYC/Boatshed **youth development program** commenced in Term 1, sailed in two person Pacers class boats. This program is for juniors aged 13 to 16 years of age. The program participants included Zac and Andy who were two ASC juniors who had sailed club Green Fleet programs, and two juniors who joined ASC on short term temporary memberships for this program.

\* The **three club International Optimist boats** acquired in late 2018 were sailed by six different ASC juniors on Saturdays across the year and Sundays in winter. Three of them (Sebastian, Zac and Reilly) had their first races on the Bay in the Lipton Cup Regatta at Williamstown in November.



\* The **Victorian Optimist Association winter training** program was again hosted by ASC on Sundays from July to September. Thirty juniors in age range 8 to 12

years of age from Albert Sailing Club, Mornington and Bellarine peninsula clubs, participated. There were 3 program streams : Green Fleet, Intermediate and Open, with the latter including Opti sailors in State and National squads. The Laser Association also had a number of Try Out sessions in the single handed Laser 4.7 class boats for teenage sailors on Sundays in July and August.

**For adults** we had two 2 week Better Sailing programs for newer members with six in each program. There was a 5 week Learn to Sail program with 3 adult trainee participants in Spring. The summer course was postponed, with the low Lake water level in January and then Covid-19 restrictions in March effect in the program.

The club held another successful Discover Sailing Public Open Day in October. One hundred people ( families, adults and juniors) were taken out sailing in our club RS Quest, RS Zest and Pacer boats, with a good number staying on for the sausage sizzle BBQ. Just over twenty plus club members provided support for a good day on the water and in and around the club.



*The Zests*



**Albert Sailing Club's more advanced junior sailors** were active with training and sailing in the Spring and Summer months mainly at clubs on Port Philip. The highlight for Hamish, Jack and Noah was sailing in a fleet of over 70 Laser 4.7's in the Australian Laser championships at Sandringham in January. Michael Parks a predominantly Geelong member but also a junior member at Albert sailed in big fleets in the Laser Radial Nationals and Worlds at Sandringham. In the International Optimist class three club juniors were prominent in a fleet over 200 International Optimist in the Optimist class National championships at Williamstown in January. In addition Philip Cripsey, Tana Deyell and Hamish Gilsenan sailed their International Optimists in the 2019 New Zealand championships at Easter and at least one other overseas regatta in 2019. Philip finished 2nd in fleet of over 200 Optimists in the Estonia championships in northern Europe. Tana finished first in the Vanuatu Opti championships, and Hamish placed well in a Optimist regatta in Thailand. All three have now moved on to youth sailing classes. They follow on from the progression of Anna, Finn, and Claudia who have moved into youth classes in the last two years. Special mention to 10 year old Tess who skippered her family's Mirror with Dad as crew to first place in the non-spinnaker Division of the National Mirror championships on the Gippsland Lakes in late December, then sailed the Opti Nationals the following week.



*Jack and Hamish sailing Laser 4.7's late winter 19*

For the 2020/21 club year programs will depend upon what is possible within the Covid-19 situation, and then on demand and available resources.

Rod Thomas, with help from Don McKenzie, has managed the Discover Sailing Centre junior programs and Don has been the Instructor for the adult programs. The Australian Sailing Boatshed Instructors were contacted for the club junior programs, with three of our club junior assistant Instructors involved in a couple of specific programs. The Discover Sailing Centre is an area where more club Instructors and coordination assistance is required.

**SAIL COUNTRY**  
31 Oct - 1 Nov 2020

**BOOKINGS OPEN 12:01 am**  
**on the 1st of SEPTEMBER**  
Pending COVID-19 Restrictions

[www.sailcountry.com](http://www.sailcountry.com)

ALBURY WODONGA

ALBURY WODONGA YACHT CLUB

# ARTICLE SERIES - SILKE SCHWARTZ AND MIRROR DINGHY

*Silke Schwartz*

This edition: Silke Schwartz and the Mirror Dinghy

Can you please tell us:

When did you start sailing and what got you into sailing?

I grew up in Germany and my dad had a trailer sailor on a lake in the Netherlands, just 10 km from our house. When I was about 12 or so I got my first dinghy. This was great, I could spend the whole weekend there, staying on the boat and go for a sail in the dinghy with my friends.

What classes of boats have you sailed and where?

After I finished school, I went to the Mediterranean Sea and to Lake Garda to do some Hobie Cat Sailing, unfortunately I did injure my knee when the cat nose dived on a reach while I was in the trapeze, and for this reason I prefer sailing monohulls now.

In Hamburg, where I moved to for my study, the university offered regatta classes on the Alster (a large lake in the city, a bit larger (wider) than Albert Park). The university had a fleet of 10 Ziegelmayr 470 and a great coach. I really enjoyed the regatta training and the racing; I ended up sailing the 470 for about 10 years on the Alster and occasionally tried other dinghy classes or sailed on the Baltic Sea during the summer months.

When I moved to Melbourne I had no crew and decided to look for a single handed dinghy and ended up in an Impulse at Albert Park thanks to Don MacKenzie. Being new in Australia, I really enjoyed this active class with great numbers of boats at club races at Albert Park and at the traveller series around Victoria and the States and Nationals.

When did you start sailing the Mirror and why did you choose this boat?

In 2014 my sailing came to a sudden stop when our daughter was born and I only managed to sail about once a year. Missing it a lot, I decided to take our daughter sailing on the lake and test if she would like it, but sailing the Impulse would remain a struggle, as I could not take her to races (Dad works on Saturdays), so I needed a boat, which I could sail competitively with a little one on board. Jaemie Wilson kindly offered me his Mirror for a trial and I really enjoyed it. Small enough of a boat to handle it myself even with Spinnaker and lots to play with and to grow into for my 5 year old daughter Amelie. And of course it is an extra bonus to have competition in the same boat



*Mirror 2*

with same crew age to make sure my daughter has some fun as well.

Most memorable moment sailing on Albert Park Lake?

So many great memories in the Impulse but maybe the most memorable one was when my mast snapped in one of the northerly gusty winds and nothing else got damaged, just a tiny chip in the deck of the boat. Or my first day at the lake, where I had so many helping hands to get rigged and get me on the water.

Most memorable moment sailing away from Albert Park?

Winning one heat in the National Titles at Balnarring in 2009 (unfortunately it was only one heat) or sailing at the State Titles in Black Rock in 2011 when a front came through and my boat just started cartwheeling over the water when I let it go after a capsize.

## Questions about the Mirror

Specs – can you please tell us:

The dimensions of boat? Length, Width, minimum weight?

The Mirror is 3.3m long and weighs 61kg fully rigged.

Types of construction?

The mirror is a one design class, designed in 1962 with over 70 000 boats built worldwide. Originally, it



was built in ply and then it was subsequently updated over the years to the point that it is now a thoroughly modern fibreglass sailing dinghy incorporating a full alloy rig.

Sail settings (size(s) how many sails, can it have a spinnaker?)

The mirror has a main (4.6m<sup>2</sup>), jib (1.9m<sup>2</sup>) and a Spinnaker (4.4m<sup>2</sup>)

The type of sailor it is suited to?

It can be sailed by adults or children new to sailing, young sailors transitioning from Optimists or Minnows and by a parent with their child. The Mirror is an ideal boat to learn racing skills and many top sailors learned their skills starting in Mirrors.

Where can you buy one of these boats? (new, secondhand)

Second hand boats can be found on gumtree, either in ply or fibreglass. For new boats, you can get plans for DIY or Vasco boats in WA has a licence to build new fibreglass Mirrors.

Describe the boat in five words or less?

Family friendly entry to learn racing and sail configurations

Are there any associations for this class that are active? Details of recent and Upcoming Events?

The Mirrors is known as 'international class', this means that Mirrors are sailed around the world and there are State and/or National Championships in Australia every year, as well as World Championship every second year around the world. There are also long weekend regatta events where Mirror are sailed.

Amelie's first regatta was at the Cairn Currant Classic Regatta in Nov 2019.



*Schwartz*

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## WINTER SAILING CONDITIONS AT ALBERT PARK LAKE

*Rod Thomas*

The Lake is in the best condition it has been for winter sailing for over 10 years..

The water level has been at its maximum level since late April , with above average rainfall in March and April.



Parks Victoria changed there Aquatic Weed Harvesting contractor in late 2019. The second of two cuts in the 2019/20 financial year has seen a deep cut of the aquatic weed in approximately 80% of the Lake.



Get your winter sailing gear out and come sailing on Melbourne's best venue for Winter Sailing.



# Winter Duty Roster 2020



**OOD & CREW: Please be at club on duty day by 11 a.m.**

**If your date is not convenient please arrange a swap with another member** Albert Sailing Club

**At time of printing we are uncertain when ASC will recommence sailing or when our racing calendar can resume formal activity.**

**These roster listings are to provide an indication only of duty date order, expect change. Racing will possibly re-commence with trophy days.**

*The sailing committee thanks everyone for their patience and understanding*

<b>Approx. first three weeks the club will look to run TROPHY RACING</b> <b>A small crew will be asked to help this restart to club racing possibly a RO and 1 or 2 crew</b>	<b>Start up Period TROPHY RACING</b>	<b>RO</b> Tim Falkiner (pbl) <b>Crew</b> Arthur Misson (pbl) Graeme Blunt (pbl) Lindsay Berge Ian Coleman Philip Gardyne	0417 107 440 9877 4732 0417 311 295 0412 287 333 0417 744 456 0433 672 875
<b>LADIES VERA TEMPLETON (am)</b> <b>RO</b> Steve Dunn (pbl) <b>Crew</b> Ron Lackington (flags) (pbl) Walter Green (pbl) Jack Woods (pbl) Damian Blumenkranc (pbl)	0408 594 636 0421 788 145 0433 082 505 0419 541 802 0433 804 775	<b>SEA SCOUTS REGATTA</b> <b>RO</b> John Whelan (pbl) <b>Crew</b> Colin Wright (Flags) Walter Green (pbl) Anne Kaczorowski (pbl) Michael Black	0414 251 669 0422 001 097 0433 082 505 0427 877 964 0405 794 516
<b>LADIES VERGO (am)</b> <b>RO</b> Cindy Tilbrook (pbl) <b>Crew</b> Ron Lackington (pbl) Anthony Berger (pbl) Paul Galea (pbl) John Frazzetto	0438 988 772 0421 788 145 0413 651 345 0419 378 146 0413 752 708	<b>RO</b> Ron Lackington (pbl) <b>Crew</b> Geoff Saliba (pbl) Jack Woods (pbl) Margaret Lee Max Beaton	0421 788 145 9807 8560 0419 541 802 9877 7973 9857 7454
<b>RO</b> Paul Farrell (pbl) <b>Crew</b> Col Wright (Flags) Jaemie Wilson (pbl) Chris Shields (pbl) Greg Ryan Lucas Wright	0419 133 641 0422 001 097 0420 362 575 0419 378 146 0418 321 632 0437 728 669	<b>QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY LONG WEEKEND</b>  <b>Saturday, June 6</b> <b>No organised sailing at ASC</b>	
<b>RO</b> Ron Fergusson (pbl) <b>Crew</b> Ron Lackington (flags) (pbl) Andrew Gillman (pbl) Richard Rawlins (pbl) David Scammell (pbl) Lindsay Berge	0421 788 145 0408 359 952 0412 472 684 0408 003 166 0412 287 333	<b>CITY SAIL REGATTA WOMEN &amp; GIRLS IN SAILING</b> <b>Saturday, September 14</b>  <b>NO SAILING AT ASC</b>	
<b>RO</b> Don McKenzie (pbl) <b>Crew</b> Max Commeignes (pbl) Bruno Costa (pbl) Mark Snell (pbl) Keith Staite (pbl)	0421 333 745 0402 338 460 0424 535 855 0407 569 083 0354 241 815	<b>APYC WINTER SAIL</b> <b>Saturday, July 13??</b>  <b>NO RACING AT ASC</b>	
<b>RO</b> Rod Thomas (pbl) Hamish Gilson-Rawlins <b>Crew</b> Colin Wright (Flags) Jim Glover (pbl) Jon Rawlings (pbl) Jack Italia	0438 988 772 0408 770 254 0407 799 543 0468 354 997 0437 728 669	<b>GRAND FINAL DAY</b>  <b>WORKING BEE 9am - 2pm</b>  <b>AFTERNOON SOCIAL SAILING</b>	

**If your duty date is not convenient please arrange a swap with another member**