

# The Muppler

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*Spring 2021*



# EDITORIAL

*Madeline Paul*

I would like to start by thanking all of the many members who have contributed articles, content and images for this edition. Due to the restrictions impacting sailing, this edition focuses on a number of other things going on around the club and elsewhere.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the Mudpuddler and I look forward to when we can all be out on the water again. Stay well and happy reading!

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## 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.

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## 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	Joe Chircop	Finance & club databases
Club Captain	Paul Farrell	Sailing committee
Committee	Don McKenzie	Training principal & club boat maintenance, child safety officer
	Peter Bennell	Grants
	Graeme Blunt	Marketing & membership
	Mike Gratton	Assisting the Rear Commodore
	Greg Ryan	Strategy
	Tony Schalken	Security/Club access, databases

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Frequently asked questions from Current and New Members are provided under the FAQ tab under the top level "The Club" tab on [www.albertsc.org.au](http://www.albertsc.org.au). The FAQ's cover subjects such as: club duty requirements; access to the Lake; car parking; boat racking; key to the club, car parking, bringing visitors to the club; and use of club training boats.

***Is your Albert Park Reserve Parking Permit expired or do you need to apply for a permit?***

Stamped forms for club members available upstairs in clubrooms when we re-open.

# COMMODORE'S REPORT

*Cindy Tilbrook*

This report is being written in beautiful Balnarring Beach (home) during yet another period of lockdown in Victoria. I do hope, however, that by the time you actually receive this edition of the Mudpuddler, we are back in action at Albert Sailing Club and the country is getting closer to those important vaccination numbers that might see us stay open for the longer term.

Whilst the lockdowns have obviously curtailed our face-to-face sailing and social activities, rest assured that ASC remains in a secure financial position for the future and our committee continues to meet and plan so that we can re-commence activities as soon as permitted. My ongoing thanks go to Rod Thomas for monitoring the ever-changing COVID-19 situation and its implications for the club and to all committee members for their perseverance during these difficult times.

## ***Annual Membership Fees***

The August meeting of the committee considered the level of membership fees for the new membership year, which will commence on 1 October. The committee agreed to a minimal increase in both membership and racking fees to cover increases in expenditure and to ensure that our longer-term budget remains solid. For current members renewing for 2021/22, a 15% reduction in fees will then be applied to the membership component of fees (not racking), in recognition of the continuing lack of access for members to the club as a result of the pandemic. An option to 'donate back' the discounted fees will again be made available for those club members who are in a financial position to assist the club in this manner.

In making this decision, the committee was not only cognizant of the impact of the pandemic on club members, but also of the ongoing potential financial impact of repeated closures on our overall financial position. The level of relief offered by external suppliers in 2020 in relation to some areas of our expenditure has not extended to 2021, and hence the committee took a conservative approach to the level of discount it could offer to members.

The committee remains determined and devoted to ensuring that our club comes through these difficult times in a strong and sustainable financial position, and we believe our solid, underpinning financial reserves means that there are many positive and exciting opportunities for ASC in the future.

However, there is no doubt that we will continue to face challenges until the pandemic is under control, and we seek your ongoing support for our club through the prompt payment of your membership dues when they issue late in September.

## ***Activity at the Club***

We saw some good sailing numbers during the period we were open and, whilst COVID-19 has periodically curtailed activities, it appears that it is also leading people to seek more 'local' sporting options, as enquiries to the club from potential new members remain at a good level. The club also saw good participation by juniors in the Sunday training programs during our open period, and it was a real pleasure to see the club buzzing with juniors, their parents and instructors on those Sundays.

## ***Regatta***

Our annual regatta was scheduled for the weekend of June 26 and 27 but was cancelled given that we were all just out of a lockdown period and ongoing restrictions would have made conduct of the regatta difficult. We then rescheduled for July 17 with plans for a one-day 'pop-up' regatta. Again, another COVID-19 lockdown saw the cancellation of that regatta as well. There are no plans to reschedule for another date given the forthcoming opening of the sailing season for bay clubs and consequent difficulty in finding an appropriate date.

From the committee's perspective, the cancellation of the regatta for yet another year was a real heartbreak, as this is the third year in a row that we have been prevented from holding our regatta (last year: COVID-19 Previous year: low water level). And this year we were heading, I believe, for a great regatta. Water levels remained at a high level, we had considerable interest from sailors from other clubs, our club rooms looked terrific (thanks to all who participated in the working bee), and we had a full roster of volunteers (thanks to all who put their hands up to assist on the day). So let's hope the enthusiasm remains and 2022 sees our best-ever regatta.

## ***Women's and Girls in Sailing***

In coming months some Women's and Girls sailing and social activities are to be planned following on from the successful Virgo sail and get together in April. This includes an offer from Faye McKenzie to take some training sessions. Keep an eye on Snippets for details after we reopen.

*Continued on next page*



# COMMODORE'S REPORT

Cindy Tilbrook

## *Looking forward*

### Planning

As we look to the future, Greg Ryan (committee member) is leading a program of planning for the club with a dedicated small group of committee members. This will be done through development of a strategic roadmap for the next few years and will take into consideration the views of all ASC members, Including our youth, female, family and senior sailors. There is further information in this newsletter and I encourage you all to participate in this process and help develop the club for the benefit of all.

### Social Sailing and Social Activities

With ongoing uncertainty surrounding the level of Covid-19 related restrictions at any point of time, the Committee has decided that this year's Discover Sailing Day, traditionally held in October, will not be held this year. Instead, we will be focusing our attention on our regular racing program and additional social and mid-week sailing activities so that our existing members can maximise their activity at the club in the company of like-minded club members. Further information can be found in this newsletter.

Social functions will also commence once Covid-19 restrictions allow, with a resumption of our Friday Evening Social Sails and BBQ on the deck once daylight saving starts. Plans for our annual Trivia Night are also underway, although a date for this popular event has not yet been confirmed at this stage.

### Club Facilities

The committee has approved the replacement of the deck at the club with a view to having this work completed prior to the summer sailing season. We also plan to create a 'café corner' looking toward the decking area with the purchase of some casual lounge seating and coffee tables.

An expenditure of club funds has been approved to have plans for a lift and all-abilities toilets / changerooms further investigated and developed. These works have been 'in the pipeline' for a number of years and with both state and federal elections coming up in 2022, the club wants to be in a good position to apply for any available funding that will assist us in installing these much-needed facilities.

### ***150 Years of Sailing on the Lake***

This year sees 150 years of dinghy sailing on Albert Park Lake and also sees APYC celebrating 150 years as the oldest continually operating inland yacht club in Australia. An invitation (see later in this edition) has been issued to all ASC members to join in the festivities. There will be more details available as the date approaches.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone back at the club as soon as possible. In the meantime, stay safe and well and may you all see blue skies and fair winds.

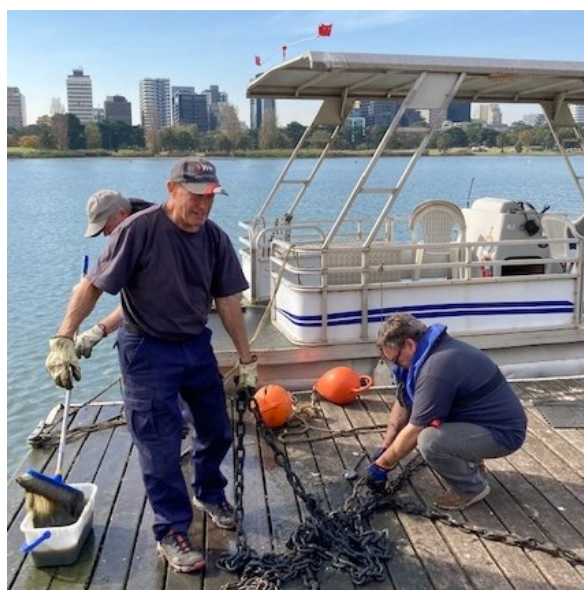
Cindy Tilbrook

Club Commodore

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



Working bee morning tea



# UPCOMING AT ALBERT SAILING CLUB

ASC Committee

Actual program of activities will depend on Victorian Government COVID-19 related regulations and relevant considerations including restrictions for community sport and availability of ASC volunteers or Boatshed Instructors as applicable. Updates will be provided in our weekly Thursday Snippets emails and on our club website [www.albertsc.org.au](http://www.albertsc.org.au).

## Upcoming at ASC in Spring 2021

Event	Date	Details
Social Sailing Day	Sunday 26 September	11am to 3pm. Sail own boat or a club training boat. Crewing on club's RS Quest, or sailing a club RS Zest needs a booking in a specified timeslot. We will need volunteers to assist. Online booking link will be released through Thursday Snippets and club website when regulations permit community sailing
Spring Sailing Season	Commences Saturday 2 October	Club races on Saturday afternoons
Social Sailing	Mid-week	Join our WhatsApp group to find out who is sailing mid-week and come along for a mid-week sail
Friday Evening Sail & Social	Fortnightly from Friday 8 October	Come along and sail in the late afternoon or just join us for a BBQ dinner on the deck around 6.30p.m. See Snippets/Facebook for details
Sunday Social Sailing	Sunday 31 October Sunday 28 November	Further details to come
Term 4 Junior & Youth Development Programs	From Saturday 16 October at 2pm	Further details and online bookings when regulations permit community sailing
Spring Learn to Sail	From Saturday 23 October	Course and/or sessions for recent graduates of a Learn to Sail course. Further details and online bookings when government restrictions permit
Trivia Night	Date to be advised	Trivia fans: Start brushing up your trivia knowledge as Quizmasters Tim and Cindy are already working on a bumper set of questions. We plan to hold this popular event as soon as COVID-19 restrictions permit. Watch Snippets for further details on date, time and format

## ASC MID WEEK SAILING

Tony Schalken

ASC is promoting mid-week sailing by forming a network of members interested in casual sailing during the week, outside the normal Saturday schedule. Generally, midweek sailing on Wednesdays, late morning or afternoon, when the weather is reasonable. Can be another day or time.

The midweek sailing is essentially for club members or visiting sailors with their own boat. It is casual sailing. There will not be any rib powerboats, club BBQ, club official officiating. It is BYO everything.

Short term lease of a club training boat for midweek sailing across the Spring season may be possible for ASC members who have completed a learn to sail type course or six months or more dinghy sailing experience. Use would depend on weather conditions and another member with a boat in boatyard

attending. Any enquiries on possible hire of club boat for mid week sailing can be directed to Rod or Don via [training@albertsc.org.au](mailto:training@albertsc.org.au).

We are looking at moving to a messaging service which would be available as an option to all those who are interested in midweek sailing. The platform we are proposing to use is WhatsApp. Once you have joined the mid-week sailing group you can communicate with each other and be made aware of who and when anyone is going for a mid-week sail. You may wish to sail with a particular buddy or catch up with someone.

Those interested in joining the group please email [ascsocialsail2021@gmail.com](mailto:ascsocialsail2021@gmail.com) with your name and phone number.

# REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

Steve Dunn

## ***New Committee for 2021***

With the AGM behind us I'd like to congratulate all those on the Club Committee for 2021/22. It's great to see Cindy take on another year as Commodore and Rod as Vice Commodore. They tirelessly maintain the impetus of keeping our great club operational, in what is a difficult time with the COVID-19 problem that just won't go away. And my thanks to Paul for nominating for another year as Club Captain. He can often be seen around the club quietly going about the duties of Club Captain, going above and beyond his role, and making the Rear Commodore's task a lot easier. Not forgetting the others who help keep sailing and racing happening each week. The on again off again nature due to lockdown makes the rostering of duty crews more difficult and full credit to Ron Lackington for making it happen. Then there's Steve Lincoln, and the ladies in the tower, Leslie, Sue, and Brenda taking times and assisting with producing results. The members who perform duty, it just can't happen without your efforts, a big thank you to all concerned.

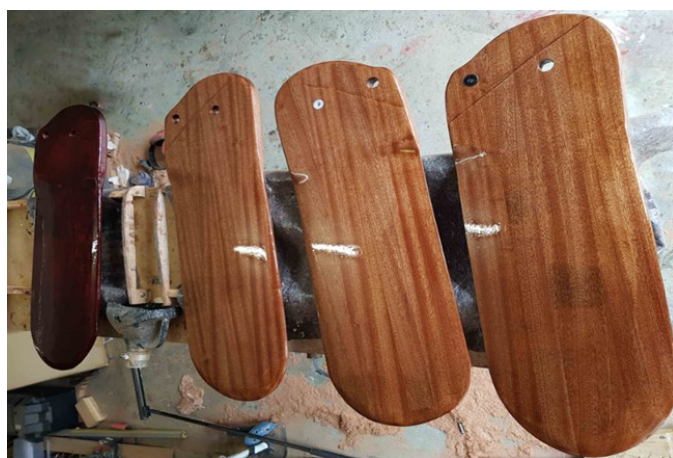
## ***Winter Series progress for 2021***

With the Winter Series now completed, this year like last has seen six cancelled races, with only five Winter Championship Races completed out of a possible eight, and four Winter Handicap races out of a possible seven. Unfortunately, at least the first 2 races of the annual 3 race Bill Hooper series in September has been cancelled, as was our Annual Regatta in June, due to COVID-19 restrictions and uncertainty.

## ***New Zest Rudders***

During lockdown periods I have made up shorter length timber rudder blades for the 4 new RS Zests delivered in January. Obtaining suitable timber is not as straight forward as a trip to Bunnings. Timber

being in short supply at the moment aside, these rudders were built using Sapele timber sourced from Mathews Timber in Knox. Sapele is a beautiful timber similar to Mahogany, and although a bit on the heavier side it's extremely durable and ideal for the rudder blades, and came in 1kg lighter than the standard Zest rudder! Mahogany being no longer readily available, it was an ideal alternative. A friendly family run business, Mathews have an amazing stock of exotic timber and it is a joy to take a look out back at the amazing array of wood species that they have in stock.



Four new Zest rudders ready for action (above). Note, one was stained to hide a "manufacturing defect". The rounded lower edge was purely a weight saving strategy, although I did see an online article describing it as a go fast measure, most likely on our lake the advantage will be that it will slip through the weed better!

Steve Dunn  
ASC Rear Commodore

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Rod Thomas

## **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!**

From December to March Albert Sailing Club had 4 new family memberships, 1 new (returning) Senior memberships, 2 new Junior memberships and a new Social Associate from SEDA group.

A big welcome to them all. We look forward to seeing you at Albert Sailing Club in the Spring months.

## ***New Members***

John Le Marshall	Family, Heron
Rowland Bourke	Family, Mirror
Lisa Michael	Family, club boats
Christian Cantwell	Family, 2 Optimists & Laster 4.7
Pam Webster	Senior, returning with Sabre
Mietta Rael	Junior, club boat
Alexandria Hou	Junior, club boat
Bella Smith	Social Associate (SEDA)



# CLUB CAPTAIN'S UPDATE

*Paul Farrell*

Here we are again moving in and out of lockdown. The lake is full and probably in the best condition we have seen for years. Hopefully when we do get back, we will still be able to enjoy high water levels and weed free sailing, fingers crossed.

## **Lockdown homework**

It's a great opportunity to brush up on the Racing Rules of Sailing available online at <https://www.sailing.org/documents/racingrules/index.php> and the club's Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions available under Sailing - Race Documents tab of [www.albertsc.org.au](http://www.albertsc.org.au).

We are also always seeking additional members with a power boat licence to operate our rescue boats so this is a good time to do the work required to obtain you licence. You study up on the, "Recreational Boating Safety Handbook" available at <https://transportsafety.vic.gov.au/maritime-safety/recreational-boating/licensing/how-to-get-your-marine-licence>, and then book a powerboat licence test as per the instructions on the same website. It's good to brush up on the rules if already a powerboat driver and essential reading if you're planning to get a power boat licence.

## **When we get back to sailing**

Maintenance and operation of our powerboat 'ducks' is important. We currently have three Ducks, (RHIB's). In order oldest to newest, Lake Yellow, Lake Grey, (sometimes called lake White) and Rescue One, (also known as Lake Red.) Some tips on use of the ASC RHIB's

- Check fuel level, attach kill switch and check inflation of RHIB tubes at the start of the day. Each Duck each has their own inflation pumps which are not interchangeable. These can generally be found in the storeroom or on the platform above the Duck storage area.
- Ensure the motor is up and bungs are in prior to launching.
- The two newer Ducks have fuel injection which should make them easy to start with a pull of the starter cord. The older yellow duck needs choke out for first start of day then one or a few pulls of the starter cord.

Any issues with the power boats should be reported to me directly or by email to [Sailing@albertsc.org.au](mailto:Sailing@albertsc.org.au).

Paul Farrell  
ASC Club Captain

# RS QUEST SAILING IN SPRING

*Rod Thomas & Steve Dunn*

Albert Sailing Club took possession of a 4.3 metre RS Quest sailboat in 2018. The RS Quest boat is a roomy boat with mainsail, jib and asymmetric spinnaker which is ideal for sailing by 2 to 4 people, with a reasonably experienced skipper. We are planning to have the club's Quest out sailing fortnightly in the Spring, subject to Government COVID restrictions.

The club will have a list of experienced members accredited to skipper the Quest. The accredited skipper will take responsibility for the use of the boat and for up to 2 crew who can be at any level of sailing experience and of age 5 years to veteran. Contact Steve Dunn if you are a member interested in being on the Quest skipper list.

The first date programmed for RS Quest sailing is the Social Sailing Day Sunday 26 September. The plan is to have one hour slots from 11am to 3pm, for up to 2 crew per timeslot. Four other RS Quest sailing days have been programmed on Saturdays corresponding to a Club Handicap Series sailing days, with a morning casual sail session and an afternoon

session which may include sailing the club race. There will be 8 available sessions on Saturdays 9th and 23rd October, 14th November, and 4th December. The booking would be for one ASC member; two ASC members; an ASC member & partner or family member.

The dates and booking link for Quest crewing will be notified through our weekly Thursday Snippets. Sessions may be cancelled or added to according to weather forecasts and announcements on COVID-19 restrictions.



# WINTER COACHING PROGRAMS AT ASC

*Rod Thomas*

Albert Park Lake was busy with sailing on Sunday afternoons in the mid May to late June period when the Victorian Optimist junior sailors and their families descended on Albert Sailing Club for the Victorian Class Association (VIODA) Term 2 winter coaching program. Thirty five juniors in age range 8 to 13 years of age signed on for the program from a spread of clubs within 80 kilometres or so of Melbourne including: Sorrento, Mornington, Somers, Geelong, Indented Head, Sandringham, Brighton, Black Rock and Mordialloc. From Albert Sailing Club there was Nigel and Tristan in their own boats and James and Max in Optimists leased from ASC, together with the two daughters of the VIODA President Christian Cantwell who belong to multiple clubs, including ASC since May.

The on water coaching for the VIODA program was in three groupings (Open, Intermediate, Green Fleet) based on experience level, with the focus on skill development and having fun. The coaching was provided by a group of ex-Opti sailors, now in their 20's, professionally coordinated by Dave White, the training manager at Sorrento SCBC, who was the 2020 Australian Sailing Victorian Sport Professional Award winner.

A Term 3 VIODA coaching program of 8 Sunday afternoons was also programmed from ASC, with again 35 enrolments. Unfortunately, only week 3 on 1st August was able to be sailed due to the Victorian COVID-19 lockdowns. We trust that the Optimist sailors and their families are able to return to sailing in the Spring months. In the main they will return to their home clubs but will be welcome to sail with us on the Lake as visitors, temporary members or annual members.

Albert Sailing Club also hosted a couple of Victorian Laser Association short coaching programs in the Winter months. There was a four day VLA program in early July for Laser 4.7 and Radial sailors with the Thursday and Friday at Albert Sailing Club and the weekend at Sandringham. On the 1st of August there was the first of 4 scheduled Sunday morning sessions for sailors transitioning into the Laser class, mainly juniors from the Optimist class sailing Lasers with 4.7 rigs hired from the Laser Association. We had three ASC juniors in Any, Nick and Mietta in this program. Again COVID-19 restrictions intervened and as at the end of August two of the 4 sessions had been cancelled with the fourth likely to be cancelled or postponed.



During the winter months Albert Sailing Club and Albert Park Lake has again shown that it is an ideal venue for class association training programs and more generally dinghy sailing. We look forward to class association members sailing in future coaching programs and club sailing races and activities at ASC.





# GOLDEN YEAR FOR LASER CLASS

Rod Thomas

2021 has been a golden year for the Laser class being 50 year since the birth of the world's most popular single-handed dinghy, and Australian Matt Wearn's gold medal in the Men's Laser competition at the Tokyo Olympics.

## ***Laser Beginnings***

The Laser story began in 1970 when Bruce Kirby, employed by a sailing magazine in Canada, was asked whether he could design a cartopper sailboat. He 'doodled' a sketch of a boat while on the phone which he then put into industrial design drawings. Later that year the magazine's advertising manager had the idea for a regatta for new sail boats with monohulls priced below \$1,000 and multihulls under \$1,200. Bruce had a friend produce a prototype of the 'cartopper', while a University student suggested naming it a Laser and using the distinctive red laser symbol. The Laser was launched at the New York Boat Show in January 1971 with 144 boats sold off the stand. Fifty years later there have been around 220,000 Lasers with 3 different sized rigs, and sailed in over 140 countries.

In 2019 the Laser was renamed the ILCA after a copyright dispute with a European based manufacturer of the class. The naming of the boats is in transition with ILCA's, ILCA Lasers being used, but most still referring to them as Lasers. The three rigs are being renamed with Laser standard to ILCA 7, Laser Radial to ILCA 5, and Laser 4.7 to ILCA 4. In July 2021 the designer of the Laser Bruce Kirby died at 92 years of age.

## ***Sydney Celebrations in June***

The Laser ILCA Dinghy 50th Anniversary was celebrated on Sydney Harbour on Sunday 20 June. Over 100 Laser sailors braved the winter morning to sail down the harbour from the Sydney Opera House to Watsons Bay. Brett Beyer, 13-times World Laser Masters Champion, led the fleet sailing a one-off gold-coloured boat. A number of Victorian Laser sailors did the anniversary sail including Frant Bucek from Royal Geelong who sailed the oldest boat in the fleet in his 1973 Canadian-built Laser 9953.

## ***Laser Gold at the Tokyo Olympics***

Matt Wearn who grew up sailing in Perth, won gold in the Men's Laser event at the 2021 Tokyo Olympics at Enoshima Harbour. This was a decisive win, with Matt only needing to finish the final medal race to take out the gold. It was a memorable performance, particularly as he had not sailed a regatta against an international fleet since the World Laser

Championships at Sandringham in February 2020, due to the COVID situation in Europe and America. This was the third successive Australian Olympics gold in the Lasers, with Tom Slingsby in London on 2012, Tom Burton in Rio in 2016, and now Matt Wearn in 2021.

***Lasers 50th Anniversary sail on Sydney Harbour June 2021***



***Matt Wearn, Laser gold medallist, Tokyo 2021***

## ***Women's Laser Radials at the Olympics***

The gold medal for the Women's Laser Radials at Tokyo 2020 was won by Anne-Marie Rindom from Denmark. In February 2020, she sailed with around 30 International female sailors from overseas against Australia's best Laser women in the World Laser Radial World Championships at Melbourne's Sandringham Yacht Club. At the conclusion of the 2020 Worlds Anne-Marie gifted her sailing bib to a young Victorian Optimist sailor Lottie Griffith. Lottie sailed at ASC in the winter season in the VIODA winter coaching program. She closely followed Anne-Marie Rindom's progress at the Olympics and after Lottie posted congratulations on Anne-Marie's Facebook she was excited to receive an email with a personalised video clip from Anne-Marie with the Olympic gold medal around her neck.

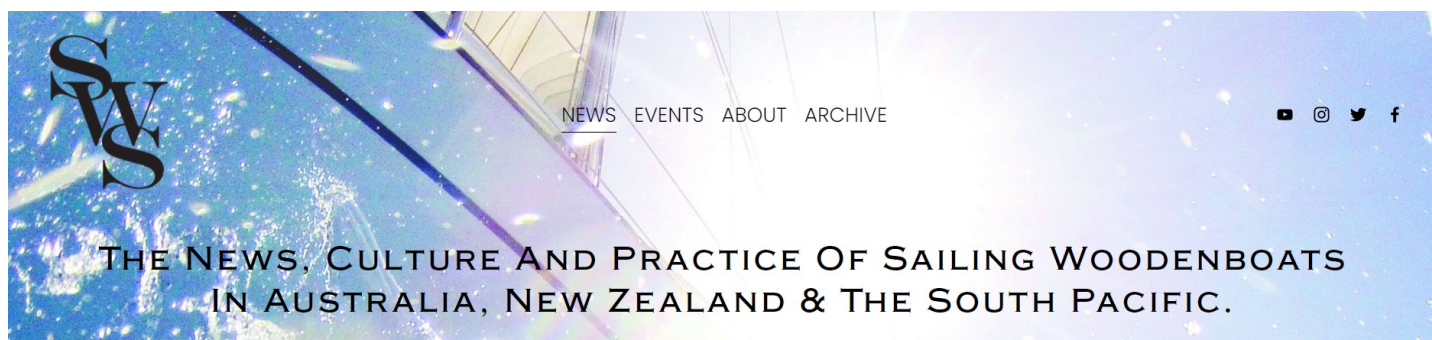


***Lottie with Danish bib and her Opti***



# SOUTHERN WOODENBOAT SAILING

Jaemie Wilson



Southern Woodenboat Sailing is a website that was started in December 2020 by Mark Chew and his wife Sal Balharrie. Mark and Sal have been the custodians of a 1956 Philip Rhodes designed and A&R built sloop, Fair Winds for 20 years. Fair Winds sails with the Classic Yacht Association of Australia (CYAA) when not out cruising. Charlie Salter is also a member of the SWS team and is the custodian of Tumlarén Sirocco which also sails with the CYAA. Charlie is also a former member of Albert Sailing Club having started his sailing journey on the lake in a Mirror in the 1970's, a familiar story for many of our members.

The website is a forum for all things woodenboat related for our part of the world. Content includes video interviews, book reviews and articles on topics such as racing, dinghy sailing, cruising and restoration of woodenboats. Content goes up on a weekly basis and contributions come in from lots of people with an interest in woodenboats. I have contributed 3 articles to SWS, 1 on the restoration of my 1967 Borresen Dragon Siena and 2 co-authored articles on Mirror Dinghies with Charlie. If you have an interest in woodenboat SWS website is well worth a look!

<https://forum.southernwoodenboatsailing.com/>

## Southern Woodenboat Sailing Articles

*Saving a Dragon, 7 Jan*

<https://forum.southernwoodenboatsailing.com/news/saving-a-dragon>

*Reflections and Mirrors, 6 May*

<https://forum.southernwoodenboatsailing.com/news/reflections-mirrors>

*Reflections and Mirrors Part 2, 20 May*

<https://forum.southernwoodenboatsailing.com/news/reflections-and-mirrors-part-ii-red-rash-redux>



# ASC FORWARD PLANNING

*Greg Ryan*

## WHAT SHOULD THE CLUB LOOK LIKE IN THE FUTURE?

As outlined in a recent email to club members from Cindy, the ASC is currently undertaking a review of our long-term direction. We are looking to set the club up for long term success and sustainability as we come out of COVID-19. This longer-term plan will also assist in working with Parks Victoria to transition from a short-term lease arrangement to a long-term lease, and in making major investments in things such as a lift for disabled access.

We were hoping to be able to do a fair amount of the consultation for the longer-term planning through in person meetings. However, COVID-19 has made that unlikely in the next little while. To keep things moving

we are proposing two things – a brief 5-minute survey to gain your initial views on things you love about the club, things that you think could do with a refresh and things we could do that aren't currently being addressed. I will then be working with Rod Thomas to follow up with online meetings (and if possible, in-person meetings) to have some more in-depth discussions about your thoughts, for those who are interested in having a say in the clubs' future.

At the moment we are just pilot testing the question set. Expect to see an email from the club in the next few weeks seeking your views. If you would like further information or to assist this process directly, please contact me via email: [jegl.ryan@gmail.com](mailto:jegl.ryan@gmail.com).

Best regards,  
Greg Ryan

# ALBERT PARK LAKE AQUATIC WEED HARVESTING

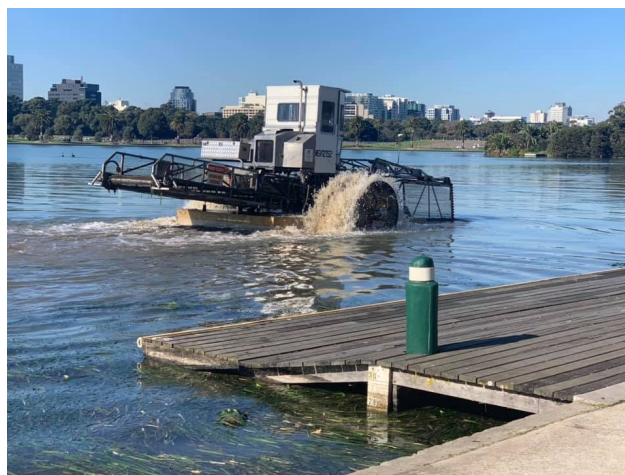
*Rod Thomas*

Parks Victoria currently have a contractor undertake two harvests per year of aquatic weed from Albert Park Lake. This is generally undertaken in February and November, with this year's February cut was moved to June. Prior to each cut the sailing and rowing clubs are asked to provide details of areas for priority cutting which are taken into account in planning which areas are to be cut.

The Parks Victoria report for the June cut showed:  
Harvesting Days : 22 days  
Volume of vegetation removed : 850 cubic metres  
26 hectares covered, with 20% of Lake area harvested

Main areas were: southern Powerhouse basin; Lake "Narrows; middle 2/3rds of the basin west of Gunn Island; strip out 50 metres or so out from sailing clubs promenade and some small areas in northern basin.

The next cut is for November 2021. Albert Sailing Club will seek priority cutting in the whole northern basin from the promenade in front of the sailing clubs across to the eastern Lake wall and the areas around Gunn Island.



# ASC 2021 TRIVIA NIGHT

**Date to be advised**

*ASC Committee*

**Trivia?**  
**NIGHT?**

**Watch Snippets for further details on date, time and format**

Trivia fans: start brushing up your Trivia knowledge as Quizmasters Tim and Cindy are already working on a bumper set of questions. We plan to hold this popular event as soon as COVID-19 restrictions permit.

We look forward to seeing you there!



# ASC COVID-19 SAFE UPDATE

Rod Thomas

Since mid 2020 we have had an Albert Sailing Club COVID-19 Safe Plan, with guidelines which are updated as Government regulations change. The guidelines are based on a combination of the latest Victorian Government COVID-19 Safe restrictions, guidelines provided for community sport provided by Sport and Recreation Victoria, and specific guidance for sailing club activities provided by Australian Sailing.

In May 2021 we were successful in applying for a \$2000 Victorian Government Sporting Clubs COVID-19 Recovery grants for hygiene and cleaning equipment and supplies. The grant monies have been used to install new hand dryers and soap dispensers in our Men's and Women's bathrooms, purchase of two sanitiser stands and cleaning and sanitiser supplies which should last us into 2022.

During Government lockdown periods all Albert Sailing Club activities are suspended with no access to the clubrooms and boatyard permitted.

When lockdown restrictions allow access to the club and its facilities members and visitors need to access and follow the current Albert Sailing Club COVID-19 Safe guidelines on the Home of our club website [www.albertsc.org.au](http://www.albertsc.org.au)

## **Key points include:**

- For each visit to club everyone to be signed in on smart phone using the QR Code on entry doors. Where no smartphone enter details on the form on desk in foyer.
- Observe current inside and outside gathering limits and signs on Maximum numbers per inside area usually based on 1 per 4 square metres.
- Wear face masks in accordance with latest Government regulations, usually except when eating or drinking or physical exertion.
- Clean and disinfect equipment and surfaces used on a shared basis.
- Don't come to the club if feeling unwell with possible COVID-19 symptoms or awaiting COVID-19 test results.
- Inform Club Commodore via [commodore@albertsc.org.au](mailto:commodore@albertsc.org.au) if you return a positive COVID-19 test in days after attending the club or where at a Tier 1 or 2 site in the days immediately before attending the club.

**We look forward to enjoying sailing and use of our club facilities in a safe manner as Government regulations allow. Latest updates will be posted on our Facebook and weekly Thursday Snippets emails.**

# BEHIND THE SCENES - AUGUST 2021

Tony Schalken

## **ESSENTIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL MAINTENANCE**

Though the club is closed for the moment there are many areas that get addressed by a number of our keen volunteers. These included scheduled Essential Service inspection and audits, which cover the regular audit of our safety equipment by qualified inspectors. All fire related equipment - extinguishers, hoses and smoke detectors - get inspected on a six monthly basis and building exits etc get an inspection yearly.

In addition, we have a regular program of maintenance of the building and race related equipment, including areas such as outboard motor maintenance, infrastructure (e.g. toilet leaks), anchor, chains, the boat lifter etc., and ongoing and regular minor repairs and maintenance of our fleet of club boats.

It is important that these inspections continue to be performed but also, it is important that members inform the Committee if they see that anything needs attention. To this end, a clipboard is maintained near the visitor sign-in desk, by the stairs, where items needing attention can be recorded.

Where the items is safety or security related, please inform me immediately by email (preferred) [ascsocialsail2021@gmail.com](mailto:ascsocialsail2021@gmail.com) or phone on 0468428230 with the following information:

- what needs attention (with enough information that the item can be clearly identified)
- where located
- date observed
- by whom

# HOW YOUR SAIL WORKS (PERHAPS)

Don McKenzie

The theory behind how a sail works can be overwhelming for new sailors. I will attempt in this to simplify it and explain what is happening because you can't see air.

Your sail has a variety of parts that affect the performance. The luff or front edge, the leech on the back edge, the foot or bottom edge, the tack (bottom front corner), the head at the top, the clew at the outhaul and an eyelet a little way up the luff (Cunningham eye). Aside from the mainsheet there is the vang to control twist or tighten the leech, the Cunningham to move the draft forward and the outhaul to reduce the fullness in the lower part of the sail.

The sail has a curve from luff to leach this is called the draft. This is necessary because the sail needs the air around it to travel at different speeds.

A sail performs in the same way as an aircraft wing. The air travelling further across the back to cause lower pressure and movement in that direction. The center board interferes with that movement and because of it's position in relationship to the body of the sail moves the boat forward.

You can not sail directly upwind because you need the wind to go around the sail so have to sail at an angle to the wind.

The draft affects the efficiency of a sail, too full and the wind will not follow the curve and cause turbulence that slows you down, to flat and the sail cannot generate enough lift limiting the power.

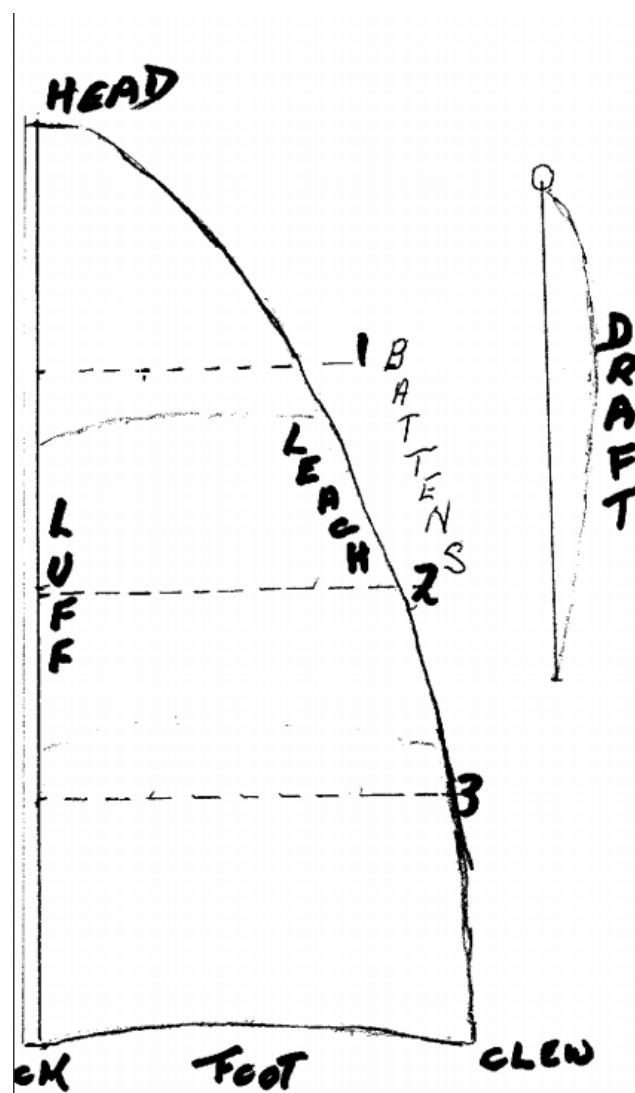
The controls we have allow the adjustment of the draft by use of the outhaul in the lower part of the sail, the Cunningham allows us to shift the draft forward reducing the amount of power in the sail. To maintain most of the sailing working requires the tightening of the vang to keep the sail shape to develop drive.

To monitor what is happening sails usually have tufts made of some light material at the point of maximum draft at  $\frac{3}{4}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  height up the sail also at the leech also at  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$  height. These tufts show how the air is flowing across and off the sail.

The central tufts should be flowing back along the sail and the leech tufts should flow out behind the sail. This is for going to windward and for reaching. Downwind requires only projected sail area. The inbuilt shape of a sail is of no use. The greater area you can present to the wind the more power you have.

One thing to remember is over sheeting or having a sail pulled in too tight is not the best, only sheet the sail sufficient for it to drive you in the direction you want to go. A way of checking if you have sheeted correctly is to ease it slightly, it should start to luff. If your sail twists too far forward sailing downwind the boat will become unstable.

Usually sails have battens either across their full width or at the leach to support the back edge of the sail.



# CLASSES SAILED AT OUR CLUB

Steve Dunn

A variety of mono hull sailing dinghies are sailed at ASC. Multi hulled catamarans and sailboards are not permitted by Park rules.

The classes vary in terms of difficulty, performance and the ideal skipper's weight. Most are made of fiberglass which tend to be lower in maintenance. There are still (mainly older) timber boats for some classes (Sabre, Pacer, Mirror, Heron and Minnow)

The most popular classes sailed at ASC are:

## **Single handed boats**

### RS Aero

Length 4.0 M. The Aero is a modern one design fiberglass boat. Easily rigged and weighing only 30kg it's easily handled on land with high performance on water. With 3 rig sizes it caters for a wide variety of skipper weights of an intermediate skill level.

### Laser (ILCA)

Length 4.2M, Fiberglass boat which is the most popular class worldwide. Weighing 58kg it is a challenging class and with no wire mast stays, it is quickly and easily rigged. Three different sail size options – Full rig, Radial and 4.7. Can be sailed by people with differing levels of skills, particularly on inland waters.

### Impulse

length 4.0M, Single hander in timber or fiberglass with a hull weight of 47kg A popular class for adults and considered a challenging but fun “intermediate” class.

### Sabre

Length 3.76M Single hander in fiberglass and timber with a hull weight of 41kg it is a popular Australian Class of boat. It is ideal for light to medium weight skippers Caters for a wide range of skipper ability levels from novice up to the highly skilled.

## **Double handed boats**

### Mirror

Length 3.3M fiberglass or timber International class, 45kg two person dinghy. Thousands built since inception in 1962. Can be car topped or trailered. Very recognizable by red sails and pram bow. An ideal family boat.

### Heron

Length 3.4M timber or fiberglass similar to the Mirror but with a ‘pointy’ bow and swing centerboard. Weighs in at a heavier 66kgs. Also a good family boat.

## **Junior boats**

### Optimist

Length 2.36M and weight 35kg. Fiberglass class of boat which is the most popular junior class by far in Australia and throughout the world. A great entry level class, with big fleets sailed at levels everywhere.

### Minnow

Length 2.13M timber or fiberglass with distinctive blue coloured sail. At one stage the most popular junior class in Victoria but still sailed regularly, Weighing in at 20 – 25 kg's another good entry level junior class.

### Open Skiff (ex – Open Bic)

A fun and improvement -focused one design junior class, which is also sailed competitively. Shallow self-draining hull. Length 2.75 meters. Weight 45kg. For juniors 8 to 14 years of age who have some sailing experience.

## **ASC RS Zest training boats**

ASC has a fleet of 8 modern design RS Zest which can be sailed 1up or 2up. When not in use in training programs Zests are available for rental or short term lease by members.

**For more information on these classes including boats for sale go to the class website on the internet or speak to an ASC member who sails one of these boats.**



# WHAT I TALK ABOUT WHEN TALKING ABOUT SAILING

Tony Schalken

Open to all ASC member

You are invited to write on any topics around an aspect of sailing-experience (yours or from others), people you may have met, dreams about future sail and recollections, heard or seen or experienced, name of your boat...

This is based on an idea from a Japanese author-Hakuri Murakami, who is a serious marathon runner and he has a book called 'What I talk about when I talk about running'.

Limit of say 200 words with a selection to be published in next Mudpuddler and/or Thursday Snippets. Send to [ascsocialsail2021@gmail.com](mailto:ascsocialsail2021@gmail.com)

Keep it light, fun, witty but relevant to sailing.

To get the ball rolling here is a very short example

## ***What I talk about when I talk about sailing from Tony***

*"Now and then we had a hope that if we lived and were good, God would permit us to be Pirates" — Mark Twain*

My boat, 'The Meaning of Life' is a 3.7m sailing dinghy. I have sailed in her for nearly 30 years. We have an amicable but volatile relationship; she won't tip me out if I don't do something stupid. But sometimes I am stupid. So my boat obeys me to a greater or lesser extent and sometimes, not at all.

## INVITATION



### **All members of Albert Sailing Club**

Re: Albert Park Yacht Club,  
Official opening of the 150th Sailing Season on  
Albert Park Lake.

**Saturday, 9th October 2021 from 11.00am.**

Albert Park Yacht Club is celebrating 150 years as the oldest continually operating inland yacht club in Australia. We want to acknowledge the shared sailing history and joint racing between our two clubs by inviting you to our 150th Opening Day. We hope that Albert Sailing Club members will join us in the sail past and events of the day.

11.15 am	Briefing for Sail Past and Opening Day Bracelet Race
12.00 pm	Lunch
01.00 pm	Opening of the Season by the Governor of Victoria.
02.00 pm	Yachts launch for Sail past
02.30 pm	Sail Past
03.00 pm	Opening Day Bracelet Race
05.00 pm	Presentations

We look forward to welcoming you on the day.

Grant Haggett  
Commodore, Albert Park Yacht Club.

# Spring Duty Roster 2021



**RO & 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

<p><b>Saturday, October 2</b> <b>ASC Start</b> <b>SUMMER CHAMPIONSHIP Race 1</b></p> <p><b>RO</b> Cindy Tillbrook (pbl) 0438 988 772 <b>Crew</b> Ron Lackington (pbl) 0421 788 145 Geoff Saliba (pbl) 9807 8560 Byron Ko 0410 546 088 Helen Jenny 0487 141 153</p>	<p><b>Saturday, November 13</b> <b>APYC Start</b> <b>SUMMER HANDICAP Race 3</b></p> <p><b>RO</b> Ian Skinner (pbl) 0499 605 100 <b>Crew</b> David Scammell (pbl) 0408 003 100 Graeme Blunt (pbl) 0417 311 200 Joe Chircop 0467 468 100 Simon MacDonald 0430 069 700</p>
<p><b>Saturday, October 9</b> <b>APYC Start</b> <b>SUMMER HANDICAP Race 1</b></p> <p><b>RO</b> Charles Bagossy (pbl) 9555 5967 <b>Crew</b> Jim Glover (pbl) 0468 354 997 Damien Blumenkranc 0433 804 775 Ian Coleman 0417 744 456 Ingo Mueller 0475 182 811</p>	<p><b>Saturday, November 20</b></p> <p><b>Cancelled GRAD PRIX Weekend</b></p> <p><b>Either Social Sailing at ASC or Joint Short Course Trophy Racing with APYC</b></p>
<p><b>Saturday, October 16</b> <b>ASC Start</b> <b>SUMMER CHAMPIONSHIP Race 2</b></p> <p><b>RO</b> John Whelan (pbl) 0414 251 669 <b>Crew</b> Ron Lackington (pbl) 0421 788 145 Walter Green (pbl) 0433 082 505 Doug Andrewartha 0411 437 466 Diane Moloney 0458 354 974</p>	<p><b>Saturday, November 27</b> <b>ASC Start</b> <b>SUMMER CHAMPIONSHIP Race 4</b></p> <p><b>RO</b> Steve Dunn (pbl) 0408 594 600 <b>Crew</b> Ron Lackington (pbl) 0421 788 100 Anthony Berger (pbl) 0413 651 300 Chris Bennell 0402 029 600</p>
<p><b>Saturday, October 23</b> <b>APYC Start</b> <b>SUMMER HANDICAP Race 2</b></p> <p><b>RO</b> Tim Falkiner (pbl) 0417 107 440 <b>Crew</b> Richard Rawlins (pbl) 0421 472 684 Steve Milton (pbl) 0425 719 124 Keith Staite (pbl) 354 241 815 Pam Webster (pbl) 0400 241 815</p>	<p><b>Saturday, December 4</b> <b>APYC Start</b> <b>SUMMER HANDICAP Race 4</b></p> <p><b>RO</b> Ron Fergusson (pbl) 0410 492 000 <b>Crew</b> Mark Snell (pbl) 0407 569 000 Chris Shields (pbl) 0411 246 300 Margarete Lee 9877 7970 Max Beaton 9857 7450</p>
<p><b>Saturday, October 30</b> <b>MELBOURNE CUP</b> <b>Long Weekend</b> <b>Afternoon Social Sailing at ASC</b> <b>WORKING BEE (9am to lunch)</b></p> 	<p><b>Saturday, December 11</b> <b>ASC Start</b> <b>LIFE MEMBER'S DAY</b></p> <p><b>RO</b> Cindy Tillbrook (pbl) 0438 988 772 <b>Crew</b> Ron Lackington (pbl) 0421 788 145 Anne Kaczorowski (pbl) 0427 877 900 Greg Ryan 0418 321 600</p>
<p><b>Saturday, November 6</b> <b>ASC Start</b> <b>SUMMER CHAMPIONSHIP Race 3</b></p> <p><b>RO</b> Paul Farrell (pbl) 0419 133 641 <b>Crew</b> Ron Lackington (pbl) 0421 788 145 Jaemie Wilson (pbl) 0420 362 575 Stephen Tillman 0418 556 575</p>	 <p><b>HAPPY CHRISTMAS</b></p> <p><b>GOOD SAILING 2022</b></p>

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