



# THE MUDPUDDLER

The Magazine of The Albert Sailing Club  
Autumn 2017 Edition

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## ALBERT SAILING CLUB WINTER SEASON 2017

May to September : Saturdays @ 2pm



**COME AND JOIN THE ALBERT SAILING CLUB FLEET FOR  
OUR 2017 WINTER SEASON ON ALBERT PARK LAKE  
SENIOR, YOUTH & JUNIOR MONOHULL CLASSES**

- \* **AUTUMN SERIES EACH SATURDAY IN MAY**
- \* **7 RACE WINTER SERIES 3 JUNE TO 19 AUGUST**
- \* **ANNUAL REGATTA ON SATURDAY 24 JUNE (PM) AND SUNDAY 25 JUNE (AM, PM) TOTAL PRIZE POOL OF \$300 FOR 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2<sup>ND</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup> OVERALL, WITH GREAT PRIZES FOR CLASS AND JUNIOR DIVISIONS.**

## FROM THE EDITOR

The Muddpuddler regular contributors have provided excellent articles. Rob Thomas has provided some of the junior sailing report and information on training programs. Steve Dunn has updated us on the happenings at the sailing committee, particularly the Annual Regatta and the Champion of the Lake series. The regatta will have prize money and the Champion of the Lake will have vouchers, as well as considerable bragging rights. He has also prepared the upcoming events and a description of building his new Impulse 686. I think Steve has said this is the 12th boat he has built. Jaemie Lewis has provided us with information concerning the new Child Safe Standards that the club is obliged to meet.

But as well as our regulars, we have articles from Jon Rawlings, his son Hamish Gilsenan and from Paul Galea. Jack Woods has also contributed a couple of articles. Ron Lackington, as well as preparing the roster (as always a great job), has prepared some advice for us when using the RIBs and Ariel II.

Jon's article was edited for space purposes. The full article can be read on the club web-site. If we ask nicely, maybe Jon and Belinda might lend us the boat so we can also sail Europe.

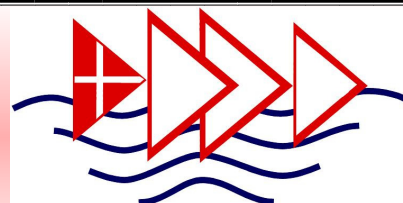
And don't forget to email Naomi to enter the club's footy tipping competition. It is sure to be a talking point!

Enjoy,

John Whelan

### The Albert Sailing Club Inc.

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Albert Park Lake,  
South Melbourne, 3205  
(03) 9690-2374  
[www.albertsc.org.au](http://www.albertsc.org.au)



Albert Sailing Club Inc.

### FLAG OFFICERS & COMMITTEE 2016/17

OFFICE	NAME	PHONE	MOBILE	PORTFOLIO
<b>Flag officers</b>				
Commodore:	Vacant			Governance
Vice Commodore:	John Whelan	9347 4464	0414 251 669	Contracts & insurance
Rear Commodore	Steve Dunn			Sailing program
<b>Officers</b>				
Secretary :	Jack Woods	9885-9111		Members & records
Assistant Secretary:	Bill Avallone		0404 818 048	Minutes
Acting Treasurer:	Brian Finlayson			Finances
Club Captain:	Ron Fergusson			Sailing committee
Immediate Past Commodore	Don McKenzie	9583-9878	0412 333 743	Training principal and wisdom
<b>Committee:</b>				
	Rod Thomas	9459 5327		Process improvement
	Geoff Saliba			Chief Instructor
	Jaemie Wilson			Emergency services
	Arthur Misson			Property maintenance
	Naomi Burchett			Social events
	Edwige Kozinski			IT Support

**Club Committee meets at 7.30 pm on the second Tuesday of each month (none in January).  
Club members are welcome to attend and participate on a non-voting basis.**

## VICE- COMMODORE'S REPORT

John Whelan

### Mudpuddler

The committee has been considering whether the Muddpuddler should be produced as an on-line only publication or continue in printed form, either quarterly or twice each year. The Muddpuddler costs the club approximately \$2,000 each year to produce and post. However, and changes will have an effect on how we get rostering information to you.

I asked Ron Lackington to consider this and below is an edited version of his response:

*I'm not a committee decision maker but offer a couple of points. Two editions of Mudpuddler doesn't allow for two of the quarterly duty rosters to be circulated via this medium. New publication dates would also need to be in sync with current quarterly practice. I believe the November issue is important as it summarises the year, contains the year book and the first 16-week duty roster for following year. This would probably mean the June edition would be the obvious next issue.*

*It's desirable that the duty roster be worked quarterly as twice annually is unwieldy. The two quarterly non-Mudpuddler rosters can be emailed to members considered active and a more forward reminder date used. This would mean non-active members would not receive an email but copies would be posted at the club. I'd also like to see the roster tagged to Snippets.*

*I've identified 68 members as active (including winter and some we rarely see). A more realistic number is 54 of which 44 hold power licenses of varying degrees of competence. These 'actives' would be the email list.*

Cheers, Ron

*PS: My personal view is the club needs to publicise and communicate. When an organisation communicates regularly it's keeping members in the loop and interested, a reason major business spends millions advertising. Snippets is an excellent start.*

So now it is over to you:

- Should the Muddy be on-line only?
- If it remains in print, do we reduce it to twice per annum?
- Should we go online with a limited print distribution?
- Do you read the Muddy?
- Are you aware it has been available as a pdf on the club's website for 3 years and if so, have you read it on-line?

### Marketing

Rob Caulfield has prepared a draft marketing plan for discussion purposes. At present, the committee

has not considered the draft plan as Rob wanted to further develop some of his ideas. He has prepared quite an extensive first draft and addressed some costing and resourcing issues.

Some of the ideas included are:

1. Refreshing the training boat fleet with boats that junior and intermediate aged sailors find attractive;
2. Refresh the club rooms and include a "kids" area;
3. Prepare brochures to be distributed to the local area;
4. Develop 4 themed events and attract sponsorship and media interest; and
5. Offer sailing scholarships at local schools.

Rob proposes that a person be appointed to manage this process. It will not take place all at once. The emphasis will be on continuing progress, getting each element in place before moving to the next so as not to overwhelm.

Hopefully by the next edition of the Mudpuddler, an action plan will have been agreed upon.

### AGM

The annual general meeting of the club will be held in the clubrooms on 13 May 2017 at 6.00pm. The notice of meeting is enclosed with this newsletter. Also enclosed is a nomination form to stand for election to the committee.

I ask that you consider standing for election as a flag officer or as committee member. There will be vacancies in some roles as some members are unable to continue. Each committee member has responsibility to report back to the committee on a portfolio. Some roles that will need to be filled include treasurer, building security, sponsorship and marketing.□

## PUBLICATIONS

**THURSDAY SNIPPETS** Our weekly email update is released each Thursday. It covers current and future club activities and is the best way to keep up to date. To receive it you need to subscribe through [www.albertsc.org.au](http://www.albertsc.org.au) (Select The Club - Weekly Snippets Email, then provide your email details).

**2017 MEMBER'S HANDBOOK** contains the sailing instructions, notice of race, sailing calendar as well as helpful information. Extra copies are available from the Club Tower.

**ASC WEBSITE** is [www.albertsc.org.au](http://www.albertsc.org.au), and we have a **FACEBOOK** page. Contribute your photos and comments and don't forget to "like" us.



Welcome to 2017 with a somewhat belated Happy New Year to all. With the Summer Series now in full swing it's great to see some reasonably manageable breezes for Saturdays' sailing. There was barely a Saturday towards the end of last year where the average breeze was below 20 knots seeing only the hardy sailing and making the lake a no go zone for the majority of sailors. That's sailing as they say.

Your Sailing Committee has been busy with early planning for the Annual regatta in June. With participant numbers down a bit last year, this year there will be significant prizes up for grabs in an attempt to boost numbers. Prizes of significant monetary value will be awarded for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> overall senior but with the proviso that it is necessary to sail both the Saturday and the Sunday for eligibility. Of course there will still be prizes awarded for placings within each Class along with great trophies for junior divisions as has always been the case in previous years.



The other item that's been on the Sailing Committee's agenda is the upcoming "Champion of the lake challenge" series to be held over the two Saturdays either side of Easter. This is a joint series for sailors from both our club and APYC, with an overall 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place getter to be determined. In addition there will be prizes awarded for individual class place getters and of course great trophies for juniors. If numbers are sufficient, handicap placings, most improved and so on will be awarded. So hopefully no one will miss out! To finish off each day's sailing of the event, everyone is encouraged to enjoy a sausage sizzle and a drink on the deck of the day's starting club. A perfect opportunity to meet and socialise with sailors and members from APYC.

The club always needs a large team of volunteers to make the Annual regatta a success. So if you're not considering sailing in the event your assistance in running the event is always welcomed and appreciated so please speak to a flag officer if interested.□

### Member Alerts

#### Membership Dues

Invoices for membership dues and boat racking are currently issued for each member on their joining anniversary date. There is a strong preference for members to pay their dues online through the secure Wild Apricot PayPal link to ASC which is provided with your invoice. A direct bank transfer to the ASC account using details provided with the invoice is an alternative, but this creates a little more work for the club treasurer and membership secretary.

#### Power Boat Licences

If you have a current powerboat licence make sure that it is current and details are up to date. The club will reimburse the cost of powerboat licence and the cost of licence test for those who make themselves available to operate an ASC powerboats through our duty roster. The more members with licences will ease rostering difficulties for our long serving roster coordinator Ron Lackington.

#### Working With Children Check

We need members who volunteer to help out at the club with activities that involve juniors, to have a Department of Justice Working With children Check. The Check involves completing an online application on <http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/utility/home/> and completing the process at an Australia Post retail outlet. The Check is free for volunteers. If you are applying for a new Check or updating please ensure that you specify that you are a volunteer at Albert Sailing Club, so that we are notified of your Check.

#### First Aid and Responsible Serving of Alcohol

People with First Aid and Responsible Serving of Alcohol accreditations are also required. Speak to the club Secretary or a Flag Officer if you have such an accreditation or are interested in obtaining such. A reminder that RSA certificates need to be updated every 3 years. Courses are occasionally provided by the City of Port Phillip. Details will be provided in Thursday Snippets and the web-site when available.□

Thanks too to those who had kind words for Hamish about his win at the Lidgett's Cup. He was very pleased to win the intermediate division. All the ASC kids did well with the plucky little Nigel Leishman winning the green fleet, and he could not get the grin off his face! (or Grandads!)

Last weekend Nigel, Emerson and Hamish sailed in the Open Bic State Championships. Unfortunately Emerson in Gold fleet could only complete few races due to other sporting commitments but Hamish and Nigel both raced in the Silver fleet with Hamish taking out second overall by the end of the regatta. Hamish was sailing a very knocked around charter boat and while leading in heavy conditions on Saturday capsized on the gybe mark, snapping open a worn out mainsheet shackle and losing the rudder due to an inadequate and worn plastic retaining clip. There was poor rescue support of one teenage coach in a RIB and it took a while for Hamish to sort a tow line and get it to her from the water, capsizing a number more times in the process. To his credit he elected to make repairs while on the water in increasingly heavy conditions and was towed to the start of the next race. He managed to jury rig the mainsheet back on the boom and recovered the rudder which had been dangling from a safety line under the boat. Although cold and exhausted he came 2nd in the next race. We were happy he came 2nd overall but we could not be prouder watching him lose his winning position and fight back, fix his boat at sea and not give up.

### **Optimist class Nationals in Adelaide**

Phillip Cripsey was the overall winner in the Open level silver fleet, and national champion for the 10 year and under age group. After the national championships, the Australian squads to sail in overseas Optimist events were announced. Finn McMahon is in the squad travelling to Canada, Phillip Cripsey to New Zealand, and Anna Cripsey to NZ with a girls team for their NZ Opti winter regatta. All are ASC members who have progressed through ASC junior training programs. They have spent Spring and Summer sailing in Regattas and training programs on Port Phillip and interstate. We wish them all good sailing in their overseas adventures and look forward to seeing them sailing at ASC with other Optimist sailors from Port Phillip clubs in the late autumn and winter months. □

**ASC juniors Hamish, Jack and Philip at the junior Optimist class Nationals in Adelaide in January.**



### **Footy Tipping Comp at ASC**

*Naomi Burchett*

I am proposing that the club run an AFL footy tipping competition runs as follows:

- We would leverage the AFL's tipping site as an interface (it's free) and create a 'private' competition so that we would have our own ASC competition.
- We would open this to family and friends of ASC and would charge \$20 entry (less than a dollar per game). Even if we only had 10 entrants - this would still create a decent competition and prize for first.
- We could use wild apricot to invite people to participate and manage the payments (as well as make announcements through our other channels).
- As the competition progresses, we could have a section in the snippets as to who is winning and potentially even have a leader board stuck up in the club somewhere - hopefully it would become a bit of a talking point!
- The prize could be 1st = 50% entry pool, second = 20% of the pool, last = 10% of the pool and 20% of the pool could go to the club. We can present these awards after racing one Saturday, and encourage people to stick around afterwards.

I will manage the advertising and weekly updates on leader (plus awards at end) - but would be looking for help on accessing and using wild apricot. It should be a fairly low maintenance task - although Cindy has also volunteered to make a physical leader board that we could update weekly, if we have 20 - 30 entrants.. To sign up, simply email Naomi on [naomiburmika@gmail.com](mailto:naomiburmika@gmail.com) by Friday 17 March and we will get the ball rolling for the first round which starts on Thursday 23rd.

Have you got "the power to win"? □



## A Simple Way to Get Your Boat Licence

Paul Galea

I have been a member at ASC for a long time and obtaining my boat licence has been something I have always wanted to do. However I never felt that I could see the process through to the end but as I always seemed to fall asleep around the same chapters in the Victorian Recreational Boating Safety Handbook.

I was at Queenscliff recently and came across a Coast Guard stand at a small boat show. I remembered a club member had mentioned the availability of boating licence courses conducted by various providers so I asked if they ran them: they did! Everything suddenly lined up: next course was that week at Queenscliff where I was going to be - too easy!

The course ran for 3 hours at a fairly rapid pace, my confidence suffered and I wondered just how much I could recall. But I took the test and with a 28/30 result obtained the certificate that I needed to provide to VicRoads. The biggest hassle was attending VicRoads to pay for the licence.

The following week I was on duty at the club and after some instruction from Jon Rawlings, an experienced operator, I spent the afternoon operating the White Duck during the race. It was good to put my licence to work so soon.

I now look forward to doing the further comprehensive training ASC is contemplating for new licence holders.□



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## Boat Handling Tips

Ron Lackington

**RIBs:** Before taking a RIB out, check motor's oil level, fuel level in tank, bungs in place, and that the RIB correctly inflated. It is easier to do these things off the water. But if the RIB has been on water before racing, perform the same checks.

At day end, check the lower sealed tank for any water and re-seal, BUT don't remove the upper floor bung. Especially with the bath-plug type of seal, each re-seal loses sealing capability. So instead, sponge out any water from the RIBs floor.

If RIB enters water with an unsealed lower tank and is not immediately returned to shore, retrieval becomes difficult. Please see the attachment re RIBs and Start Boat as some information about the start boat may be helpful.

**The START BOAT:** When berthing please use the port side of pier facing club house and approach using low revs. Attach the head line first to the middle horn-cleat, and inform the skipper that the headline is secure. If the boat is not in line with the pier, the skipper can gently reverse left hand down on wheel, and when the boat rounds on the headline, the stern line may be secured.□

## Upcoming ASC Training Programs

*Rod Thomas*

### **ASC April School Holiday program**

3 day program, Monday 3 to 5 April, in the first week of school holidays. Details have been forwarded to parents of ASC juniors. This is a program for juniors who have completed at least one sail training course. Instructors will be from the Albert Park Boatshed. Information and registration can be found under Upcoming Events section of <https://albertsailingclub.wildapricot.org/>



**Junior sailors at the January School Holiday program**

**Autumn Learn to Sail program** on weekends across May, commencing 6 May. Details and Registration details on Training tab under [www.albertsc.org.au](http://www.albertsc.org.au).

**Term 2 junior Green Fleet program** of 5 weeks for ASC juniors, is being planned for 5 weeks from 6 May. Saturday afternoons 1 - 4pm. Juniors under the direction of Boatshed Instructors. Details to be released on the club Wild Apricot site by end March.

**Class Association training** programs for junior Optimist class and possibly some other classes are likely over the late Autumn and Winter months.

**Full details of programs will be provided as details are finalised on [www.albertsc.org.au](http://www.albertsc.org.au) and in our weekly Thursday Snippets emails.**

If you can assist or help out with one of these programs send an email to [training@albertsc.org.au](mailto:training@albertsc.org.au) or speak to Don McKenzie or Rod Thomas.

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### **Saturday 18 April Annual Verna Templeton Junior trophy event.**

Sign on at 9.30am. for 10.00 am. Briefing. Details out in early April.□



**Participants in the Better Sailing program across March and early April**



# Child Safe Standards

Jaemie Wilson

## What do they mean?

From 1 January 2017, the Child Safe Standards (the Standards) are compulsory minimum standards that apply to all sporting organisations that operate and provide sporting services to children within Victoria to help protect children from abuse.

The Child Safe Standards form part of the Victorian Government's response to the Betrayal of Trust Inquiry (the 2013 Parliamentary Inquiry into the Handling of Child Abuse by Religious and Other Non-Government Organisations).

Education, awareness raising and helping organisations to create and maintain child safe environments are the initial focus of the Child Safe Standards.

The Child Safe Standards do not alter any existing requirements to hold a Working with Children Check. The Commission for Children and Young People will be the oversight body for the Child Safe Standards from 1 January 2017. Albert Sailing Club Committee is working to implement these new Child Safe Standards.

## So What Are The Standards?

1. Strategies to embed an organisational culture of child safety, including through effective leadership arrangements.
2. A child safe policy or statement of commitment to child safety.
3. A code of conduct that establishes clear expectations for appropriate behaviour with children.
4. Screening, supervision, training and other human resources practices that reduce the risk of child abuse by new and existing personnel.
5. Processes for responding to and reporting suspected child abuse.
6. Strategies to identify and reduce or remove risks of child abuse.
7. Strategies to promote the participation and empowerment of children.

Each of the Standards must be understood and applied in the context of:

- The cultural safety of Aboriginal children
- The cultural safety of children from a culturally and/or linguistically diverse background
- The safety of children with a disability.

As required by the Standards, a Child Safe Standards Statement has been prepared and this statement is shown in full below.

## ALBERT SAILING CLUB CHILD SAFE STANDARDS STATEMENT

Victoria has introduced new compulsory *Child Safe Standards* to be implemented by all clubs and organisations which deal with children from 1 January 2017. Albert Sailing Club will be introducing new policies and procedures to comply with these new standards. Our committee is working hard to ensure compliance with these new standards and will be communicating any required changes to our procedures and our culture in the coming months.

### Statement of Commitment to Child Safety

Albert Sailing Club firmly believes that all children at the Club have a right to feel and be safe and this is our first priority. We want children to have fun and feel safe in a child-friendly environment. ASC is a Child Safe Organisation and this statement is one of the ways we will demonstrate our commitment to child safety. All of our sailing instructors and committee members hold current Working with Children checks. Further training and information sessions on these new Child Safety Standards will be attended by our sailing instructors and committee members.

We have a zero tolerance to child abuse or discrimination. We will have processes in place to ensure our commitment is strengthened and to ensure the safety of children.

We value diversity and promote the safety of all children; Aboriginal children, children from cultural and linguistically diverse backgrounds and those with a disability.

We have a duty of care to all children and we encourage all members to inform themselves of the new standards and new policies and procedures to be introduced at the Club.

We encourage all members including children to speak up and report anything that they feel is in breach of



our standards. All reports will be treated with respect and with full confidentiality.

The Club has appointed Mr Jaemie Wilson and Ms Edwige Kozinski as Child Safety Contact Persons and members can contact them through the Club to discuss any matters regarding the Child Safety Standards and the procedures of the Club. □

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## **Weedcutting**

Over the past few weeks, Parks Victoria has arranged for its contractor to cut the weed in the lake. The club was asked to advise of the priority areas for cutting. Given that weed is now so widespread, it is difficult to limit the areas that need attention.

The club has been active in pursuing Parks Victoria to reduce the weed in the lake. It is clear that it will be impossible, and even undesirable, to eradicate the weed.

We have written to Parks Victoria about our concerns, and PV has responded. Whilst the response was somewhat generic, at least it has opened communications on the issue.

Margarete Lee has arranged for an expert, Dr Peter Breen from Monash University, to speak with us and other interested lake users concerning practical methods to reduce weed. We will let members know in Thursday Snippets when this will occur.

Craig Albiston, acting head ranger at Albert Park reserve, is willing to meet with us to hear of the proposals that we suggest.

The club is fortunate that it is also able to call upon Tony Schalken and Brian Finlayson, members who also have expertise in this area.

Hopefully we will have more to report on this matter in the near future.□

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## **Boatshed is looking for Volunteers to help with Sailability**

*Jack Woods*

The Boatshed runs a sailability program for sailors with disabilities. This is basically a not-for-profit arrangement, with volunteers needed to keep costs down.

The Albert Park Boatshed is in need of additional volunteers to help with its Sailability (Sailing for Disabled) program, particularly on weekdays & Saturday mornings. If any members are interested, they can find more information on the Boatshed web site at <https://theboatshed.net.au/sailability/volunteer-information/> or contact Adam Gristwood at 96862571 or [info@theboatshed.net.au](mailto:info@theboatshed.net.au). The duties include assisting with setting up of boats, as well as helping with sailing activities. Volunteers only need a current Working With Children Check in the near future.□



### In April

#### **Saturday 8th April**

**Champion of the lake challenge 1.** Race day one of a two day combined event with APYC to determine an overall 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> overall champion of the lake, with prizes for class/division and junior place getters. Social drink and BBQ afterwards at ASC with APYC members invited.

#### **Saturday 22nd April**

**AM Annual Verna Templeton Junior trophy event.** Junior members, at all levels of experience from Learn to Sail to club and class association level are invited to sail. Sign on at 9.30am. Briefing session at 10.00 am. Format is short races of 15 to 20 minutes in the northern half of the Lake. Juniors will be allocated to skipper or crew in ASC Pacer class boats.

**2PM Champion of the lake challenge 2** Final race day of a two day combined event with APYC to determine an overall 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> overall champion of the lake, with prizes for class/division and junior place getters. Social drinks/nibbles and presentation to be held at APYC.

#### **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April - Working bee 9:30AM start**

Rowing regatta in afternoon with no organised racing scheduled. Social sailing in northern basin opposite ASC club rooms.

### In May

#### **Saturday 6th May**

Winter Sailing season commences with Autumn Series 1 at 2pm.

#### **Saturday 13th May**

**AM Virgo Ladies annual trophy event.**

#### **PM Autumn Series 2**

Following club racing - Annual Trophy Presentation for 2016/17 at 5.30pm

AGM at 6pm, followed by meal at a local restaurant. Everyone invited and encouraged to come and participate and enjoy.

### In June

**Saturday 24th and 25th June - Annual ASC Regatta on Albert Park Lake for ASC members and visitors.**

**Full details of events will be provided on [www.albertsc.org.au](http://www.albertsc.org.au) and in our weekly Thursday Snippets emails.**

#### **Sailing on Albert Park Lake Midweek**

You can sail on the Lake any midweek day, but will only have access to the clubrooms and boatyard if you have a boat in the yard, then applied for and been issued with a club key. When coming down to ASC midweek, the SEDA educational group make use of our clubrooms on some days each week during term. When they are using our clubrooms we can use the galley, the upstairs decking, changerooms, and boatyard. Also observe parking restrictions and requirements. If you have an Albert Park Sports Club annual parking permit, then you can park in Aquatic Drive behind the club midweek without additional fee when engaged in club activities. If you don't have an annual pass, you need to buy the more expensive midweek daily parking tickets and observe the 3 hour limit restrictions.□



# 10 THINGS TO LOVE ABOUT MELBOURNE IN SUMMER

It's hot in the city. Hit the beach, river, lake – or unearth a secret watering hole.  
Photos Anne Morley

## 6. ALBERT PARK LAKE

Not far from the CBD, Albert Park Lake is a really pretty spot. It's a man-made lake surrounded by parklands and sporting facilities, and is popular with dog owners, walkers and runners. I live up the road and I like going for a run or a walk around the lake – the track is about 5km. It's great for a picnic or barbecue and the trees have lovely shade. You can learn to sail at the Albert Sailing Club, swim at Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre or play golf at Albert Park Golf Course – that's a lot of options in a small area.



Albert Park Lake

Spotted this article in the  
RACV Royal Auto. ☐

## My Summer of Racing

*Hamish Gilsenan*

Since late last year I have definitely improved my sailing a lot. In December, I competed in the 2016 World Cup at St. Kilda in Optimist class intermediate and I came third. The main reason I competed in this event was to prepare myself for the Optimist Nationals in January 2017 which was at Largs Bay Sailing Club, South Australia. I decided to go in intermediate and competition was really tough. There were a lot of really good sailors but I still managed to come 12<sup>th</sup> overall and highest ranked Victorian in intermediate.

Subsequently I did the school holiday training program at Albert Sailing Club in late January, which I found really useful. I think I improved a lot of important skills. I thought the event was a great success and it seemed to help a lot of others including my sister Tess Rawlings.

Then I did the last Lidgett Trophy at Davey's Bay Yacht Club in Optimist intermediate in February and won first place!





# The Voyages of Baldr

*Jon Rawlings, Belinda Gilsenan and their family*

In 2003 Belinda and I spent 5 months sailing from London to Regensburg in Bavaria via the English Channel, French canals, Paris, more French canals, the Rhine and Frankfurt, 500 locks and on to the Danube in a 19-foot trailer sailor called Bilbo.

Skip forward to 2011 and the idea of another European boating adventure re-emerged, this time though we had 4-year old Hamish and Tess was one, could we do such a journey again? The boat would have to be a bit bigger and perhaps buying one in Europe rather than England would speed the process up. From scanning the internet for boats, it became clear that the Netherlands had more boats in a smaller area than any other country in Europe, perhaps the world. We were in for a surprise, as it turns out the reason there are so many boats in the Netherlands is because it is a fantastic place to have a boat. Within 10 days of arriving in the northern province of Friesland and having looked over 18 possibilities, we knew the moment we saw Baldr this was the boat for us. She is a lovely 1981 Friendship 28, and like all Dutch yacht designs is extremely well thought out below and on deck. As we pulled away from their jetty the previous owners asked us where we were headed, we said we were not sure. Flippantly I said maybe the Med, which we ultimately reached but it took five years to get there!



**Baldr on the Med**

Once underway back in 2011 and with 8 weeks left of long service leave we headed to Sneekameer and then on through the Friesian canals, past windmills and the multitude of lifting bridges complete with operators lowering clogs for the toll. We sailed across the lovely inland seas along the coast of north Holland and entered the canal system again just east of Amsterdam. We lowered the mast and continued south travelling through the beautiful cities of Utrecht and Maastricht crossing the lower ends of the Rhine just above Rotterdam. Once on the Maas River we climbed up and crossed the Belgian border, heading south.

A vague plan was emerging. We would continue on and find somewhere to store the boat, somewhere in northern France; then return in a years' time and continue the journey, generally south but not rushing past side trips of interest. After checking canal guides, and more importantly discussions with yachties coming in the opposite direction, a suitable place was found and we ended that first voyage at Port Sur Saone, in central eastern France. Baldr was lifted out and tucked up for a winter in a small yard beside the river.

Between 2011 and 2015 we had two voyages in Baldr through rivers and canals of Europe with many memorable moments (as per full article on ASC website).

We now jump forward to 2016 and the fourth voyage of the good ship Baldr. By now the children were older, Hamish could sail and Tess had spent every holiday since she was one on a boat of some description. So last September (2016) Baldr emerged again from under her cover and after a few little jobs the mast was raised for the first time since sailing across Islemeer 5 years ago. We sailed in the waters of southern France from Port

Saint Louie in the Golf de Foss, via Port Buoc and Saucett le Pins to the breathtaking Isle de Friole, a moon-scape of limestone crags and deep azure inlets off the coast of Marseilles.



### **Carrying two bikes on a small yacht. Waiting out a mistral at Saucett le Pins**

Although late in the season the weather held and only one Mistral pinned us down for a few days. (a Mistral is a strong, cold, northwesterly wind up to 180 km/hr experienced in the Mediterranean.) Otherwise force 3-5 and warm weather made the sailing that 'pinch me I am dreaming' sort of experience. Baldr sailed as well as we remembered and looked after us very well as we glided over water so blue it looked as if it had been photoshopped. High cliffs, deep sea and stunningly beautiful harbours makes this the most popular sailing destination along the French Mediterranean coast.

One French yachting described to us that it is all French sailors dream to spend September in the Porquerolle, we had spent a fair chunk of September and had stolen a bit of October. For the next storage place for Baldr we needed to double back to Toulon and the magnificent yard at Port Pin Rolland.

Sleep tight Baldr, we will be back soon for another adventure – but where to next time?□

**The Norse God Baldr, son of Odin, all round good guy and the name of our Friendship 28.**



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## **Discussions with APYC**

At the information session for members on 3 December 2016, the mood of the members present was that ASC discuss closer on water co-operation and social activities with Albert Park Yacht Club. As you will have read in the Rear Commodore's Ramblings (page 4), this has resulted in the two race champion of the lake series and the after race drinks.

No motions were put for voting as this was not a special meeting of members.

APYC has recently held a special meeting of members and wishes to discuss closer co-operation with ASC. Thus it is likely that there will be a need for a special meeting of members where motions can be put to a vote. It is expected that notices will be sent by email, with some hard copy notices distributed at the club□.

## New Impulse 686 gets First Taste of Water

*Steve Dunn*

Having built a few timber Impulses over the years thought I'd never build another but alas have been proven wrong again!

During most of 2016 some time was spent on and off working on a new Impulse. This time the objective was not a boat of minimum weight but rather the aim was for a strong stiff hull. This was achieved by using end grain balsa to stiffen up the floor, and 5mm ply sides instead of 4mm as called for in the plans. Previous Impulses I've built have used closed cell foam on the floor which according to the Wooden Boat Association makes it no longer a timber boat but rather what they call a composite. So this time she's the real McCoy!

Photos below show the fitting of end grain balsa sheets.



**End grain balsa cut to size**



**Balsa on floor while glue sets**



**Both sheets in and fibreglassed**

The Impulse is not that hard to build and can be done by any home handy person using basic tools. However power sanders, drills, saws, and planes make it that much easier again. Nowadays epoxy glue is used throughout and with the use of powder additives, also has the benefit of being able to be mixed really thick which is great for filling gaps negating the need for perfect joints. In fact the bigger the gap, the better the glue joint has been my experience!

### Launch day photos





# Autumn Duty Roster 2017



**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**

<b>GRAND PRIX WEEKEND</b>  <b>Sat/Sun., March 25/26</b>  <b>Club closed during Grand Prix event</b>		<b>AUTUMN SERIES 3 - May 20</b> <b>OOD</b> Gary Todd (pbl) <b>Crew</b> James Catton (pbl) John Smith (pbl) Michael Black Edwige Kozinski	<b>ASC Start</b> 9726 9783 0435 494 893 9876 3603 0405 794 516 0434 271 865
<b>SUMMER SERIES 6 - April 1</b> <b>OOD</b> Tim Falkiner (pbl) <b>Crew</b> Jack Woods (pbl) Naomi Burchett	<b>APYC Start</b> 9888 6214 0419 541 802 0458 940 019	<b>AUTUMN SERIES 4 - May 27</b> <b>OOD</b> Rob Clark (pbl) <b>Crew</b> Jim Glover (pbl) Phillip Iacano	<b>APYC Start</b> 9337 9637 5244 4230 9557 8493
<b>SHORT COURSE LAKE CHALLENGE Apr. 8 - ASC</b> <b>OOD</b> Steve Dunn (pbl) <b>Crew</b> Steve Lincoln (pbl) Top Yacht Colin Wright (Start Boat/Flags) Andrew Gillman (pbl) Paul Leitinger (pbl) Ian Coleman	9800 5650 9305 2162 9898 5056 0408 359 952 0401 992 000 0417 744 456	<b>WINTER SERIES 1 - June 3</b> <b>OOD</b> Ron Fergusson (pbl) <b>Crew</b> Colin Wright (Start Boat/Flags) David Bock (pbl) Ken Brain (pbl) Roger Flynn Cameron Simpson	<b>ASC Start</b> 0410 492 091 9898 5056 0414 372 175 9592 6140 9431 5431 0421 077 393
<b>EASTER SATURDAY</b>  <b>Saturday, April 15</b>  <b>NO ORGANISED RACING AT ASC</b>		<b>QUEEN'S B'DAY LONG WEEKEND</b>  <b>Saturday, June 10</b>  <b>NO ORGANISED RACING AT ASC</b>	
<b>SHORT COURSE LAKE CHALLENGE Apr. 22-APYC</b> <b>OOD</b> Steve Dunn (pbl) <b>Crew</b> Steve Lincoln (pbl) Top Yacht Ron Lackington (pbl) Jaemie Wilson	9800 5650 9305 2162 9338 4819 0420 362 573	<b>WINTER SERIES 2 - June 17</b> <b>OOD</b> Charles Bagossy (pbl) <b>Crew</b> Chris Shields (pbl) Bill Rehill	<b>APYC Start</b> 9555-5967 9354 1193 9443 0089
<b>ROWING REGATTA</b> <b>Saturday, April 29</b>  <b>WORKING BEE</b> <b>No Sailing at ASC</b>		<b>ASC ANNUAL REGATTA</b>  <b>Saturday/Sunday June 24, 25</b>  <b>OOD and Crews to be announced</b>	<b>Volunteers Welcome</b>  <b>Enquiries to any Flag Officer</b>
<b>AUTUMN SERIES 1 - May 6</b> <b>OOD</b> Don McKenzie (pbl) <b>Crew</b> Richard Rawlins (pbl) Gary Craig (pbl) Phillip Coombe (pbl) Stephen Tilman Ingo Mueller	<b>ASC Start</b> 9583 9878 0421 472 684 9886 1075 0468 460 837 0418 536 575 0403 220 128	<b>WINTER SERIES 3 - July 1</b> <b>OOD</b> Ian Skinner (pbl) <b>Crew</b> Arthur Misson (pbl) Paul Galea (pbl)	<b>APYC Start</b> 9337 7007 9877 4732 0419 378 146
<b>AUTUMN SERIES 2 - May 13</b> <b>OOD</b> Ron Lackington (pbl) <b>Crew</b> Mark Snell (pbl) Lyn Staunton	<b>APYC Start</b> 9338 4819 0407 569 083 0439 012 488	<b>WINTER TROPHY RACE - July 8</b> <b>OOD</b> Tony Schalken (pbl) <b>Crew</b> Jon Rawlings (pbl) David Schrapel (pbl) Pam Webster (pbl) Margarete Lee Max Beaton	<b>ASC Start</b> 9570 2867 0408 770 625 9530 6241 9336 9637 9877 7973 9857 7454

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

*Our Motto: "The Truth Is Not Always Paramount!"*

THE MUDPUDDLER is the magazine of the Albert Sailing Club Inc. (A00-262-84R). Issues come out in **June, September, November, and March**. Article deadlines are approximately the second Saturday of those months. If you wish to submit an article, please email the article in "TEXT" or "WORD" format, to: [mudpuddler@albertsc.org.au](mailto:mudpuddler@albertsc.org.au)  
High resolution photos are preferred, as they give editor more flexibility. Articles may be edited, and will only be printed at the discretion of the editor.

John Whelan 0414 251 669 (Editor)

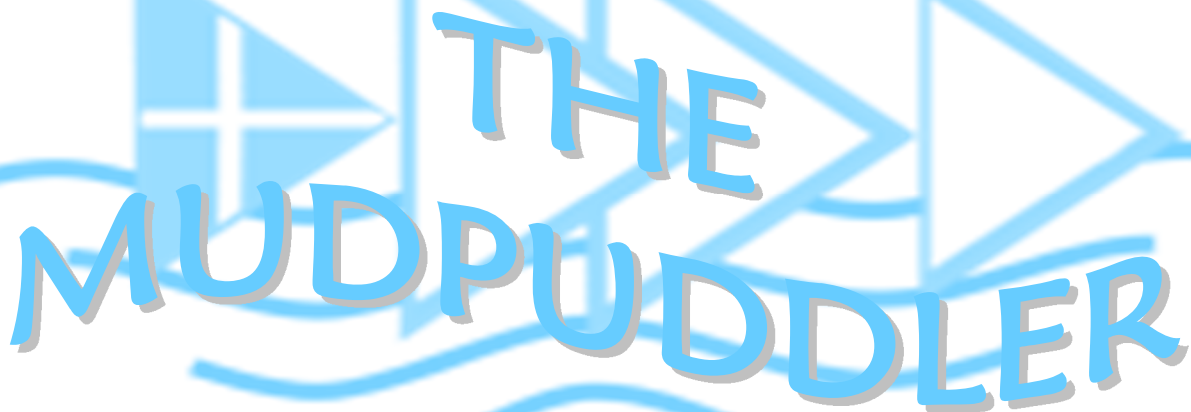
## The Muddler

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