

SBBC website: springbayboatclub.com.au

April, 2024

Bay Spray

NEWSLETTER OF
THE SPRING BAY BOAT CLUB



Easing into position for the start of the 2024 Lachlan Island Race.

Every season, our keelboats take part in a three-race long distance series conducted over three Sundays in February/March. The first of the three sees the fleet round Lachlan Island and return to the Bay via the Eastern marks of the Mercury Passage lease area along the Maria shore. The photo above was taken at the very beginning of this first race, prior to the official start. For more photos go to the last few pages of this issue of Bay Spray. And for more race reports and details go to pages 6, 7 & 8 to read the Sailing Reports.

Thanks to Mary Riley for photography.

Committee Notes

The Main Gate:

Have you been perplexed by the irregularity of gate openings and closings?

Have you been frustratingly trying to use your swipe card only to have nothing happen?

Have you found your phone app only works sometimes? Or never?

Let me give you the lowdown on coming and going through the main gate.....

- Only members (and their registered spouses/children) have gate access.
- The PalGate App is available to all members; your original mobile phone number is already in the system. Problems have occurred when members have given us an incorrect number on their original application form, have changed their number without informing us or have failed to ever give us a mobile number at all. It is YOUR responsibility to download the PalGate App from your App store and follow the prompts to register (say YES to everything!) If you need a second phone to be connected to the gate, you must give us the phone number of your second family member.
- Your Bluetooth MUST be turned on when you use the App at the gate.
- App failure? Give it a couple more chances! It needs to go green to show you it's ready. Still no luck after multiple attempts? Try deleting the App entirely and start again from scratch.
- Your old swipe card has been DE-REGISTERED because the gate system had a software failure which has been very hard to resolve. Trying to re-register all the old cards has been a bit of a nightmare but volunteers (mostly Ben) have diligently beavered away to find a way to do it. If you really MUST have a swipe card as back-up, we need to know the original code on the card. Either email it through or drop the card off into the bucket in the West Wing. Above all, PLEASE tell us who you are! All names have been wiped from the old gate card system.

Notices

- ♦ **Upcoming events** include:
- ♦ Magical Mystery Tour — Sunday, May 5th; register with Vonda and John Hall
- ♦ May Social Evening — Friday, May 10th, 6:00 pm at the Club; BYO barbecue
- ♦ Winter Warmth— 2nd Tuesday of the month, 5:00 pm — June, July & August.
- ♦ Invitations to major Club social functions are always emailed to members individually.
- ♦ Don't forget to check out the Bosun's Locker section of the SBBC Website from time to time. It's where members (and other Community groups/individuals) list goods and services of interest and relevance to the boating community.
- ♦ **Please ensure your contact details are up to date on our Club data-base. If you have had any recent changes (address, phone number, preferred email etc), please inform us via sbbcontact@gmail.com**

SBBC Annual Dinner and Trophy Night.



The venue looked wonderful
(thank you **Wattlebanks**)!

The trophies added a touch
of bling!

Above (left): **Kooranya's**
crew.

Above (right): **Vite's** crew.

Right: **Baiame's** crew (and a
few other important guests).

**For trophy winners, read
our Vice Commodore's re-
port (page 6).**



SBBC Annual Dinner and Trophy Night.



Above (left): *Sagittarius*' and *Thomas A*'s crews.

Left: *Madiba*'s and *Deseado*'s crews.

Above: Commodore, Malcolm Fergusson, gave his "take" on the importance of Clubs in communities like ours.

Below: SBBC Club Person of the Year, Ben West.



Left: Ray Coope (*Baiaime*) winner of the Cock of the Bay, thanks to Ashley Emmerton, seen here with his family, Jess, Riley and Isla.



Thank you to Pam Keygan for photography.



From your Commodore:

Since taking on the role of Commodore, I have been more aware of clubs in general and their role in the fabric of society.

I counted at least 18 clubs and similar organisations in our community. Most form from humble beginnings, usually a few people getting together to do the things they love. Some fall by the wayside but most develop a life of their own and are handed on through the generations.

Some, especially yacht clubs, golf clubs, tennis and the like end up occupying highly desirable real estate but it doesn't mean they are exclusive as very rarely do community clubs close their membership. They and all they offer are available to anyone who is interested.

Club politics are particularly interesting to me. It's generally a weird mix of Democracy, Socialism, Capitalism and Communism:

Communism because all assets are owned collectively and equally by the membership.

Capitalism because capital is raised, invested in infrastructure and a return is expected.

Socialism because profit is re-invested in benefits for the membership.

Democracy because all decisions are made by a majority of an elected committee.

A perfect social Utopia in a club! What could go wrong?!

The main problem our club, and most clubs are facing is aging demographics.

Our association with the school sailing program is particularly important and it's very rewarding to be involved in and to watch the kids learn to handle the Puffin Pacers which our club and the Triabunna School own in a partnership. We also share a rescue boat and, thanks to Glamorgan Spring Bay Council, a great boat shed on Raspins Beach. A wonderful facility which makes it so easy to run an outdoor program. Although very rewarding for those who get involved, it hasn't actually netted our club any young members to date. However I'm sure it helps to keep our club relevant to our community.

If anybody has any good ideas that might help involve young families, please be in touch with your committee members.

In all, we have had another successful sailing and social season. The fishers amongst us have had mixed successes during the summer from what I hear but are making up for any lost ground by catching plenty of wild scallops since the season opened at Easter.

Malcolm Fergusson.

From your Vice Commodore (sail):

And the winners are....

Club Person of the Year Ben West

First Twilight Series: *Vite* (Owner/skipper - Bob Wilson)

Sunday Pennant Series: *Kooranya* (Owner/skipper - Deb West)

Pacer Challenge: Bruce and Fran Palmer

Second Twilight Series: *Thomas A* (Owner - Graeme Elphinstone; Skipper - Phil Emmerton)

Long Distance Series:

1) Lachlan Island Race: *Kooranya* (Owner/skipper — Deb West)

2) South Maria Race: *Deseado* (Owner/skipper - Malcolm Fergusson)

3) Darlington Race: *Madiba* (Owner/skipper - Roy Forbes)

Overall winner on points: *Deseado* (Owner/skipper - Malcolm Fergusson)

Cock of the Bay Series: *Baiame* (Owner - Ray Coope; Skipper - Ashley Emmerton)

Congratulations to all the owners, skippers, crew and officials for a very successful sailing season. A particular thank you goes to Peter Smith for running the handicapping and being our “race official”.

Please remember that sailing doesn't begin and end with the races alone. Someone has to do the servicing and deployment of marks, clean up/wash down of rescue boat, scheduling of races, collating and publishing of results, issuing of race instructions and decision-making about events, courses etc. Volunteers are always needed and warmly welcomed. Maybe, next year, this could be YOU!

There will be a meeting of skippers/owners and other interested parties on May 7th at 6:00 pm at the Club to map out the next sailing season, for a preliminary briefing on how Level 5 Australian Sailing compliances relate to us and to talk about updated race procedures. There will be a barbecue afterwards. If you are interested but cannot make it to the meeting, please contact Tim Geard or Bob Wilson.



Races could not happen without race officials, support boats and those who service the buoys etc. Thank you, Don and Deb di Giovanni, Peter Smith, Jack Lockley, Roger Grey, Ben West. Also those who race and help out in support roles as well: Deb West, Tim Geard, John Hall, Bob Wilson, Malcolm Fergusson. Apologies if I've forgotten anyone!



Tim Geard

Sailing Report:

Long Distance Series

Lachlan Island Race

Another close start with sudden tacks. Starting with a light Northeasterly gradually approaching Lachlan Island and *Sagittarius*. Several competitors to the East were becalmed also! It was luck of the draw to round Lachlan! *Sagittarius*, *Zebedee*, *Vite* and *Madiba* crossed from the Darlington mark together to finish within five minutes of each other. *Kooranya* finished twenty minutes later with *Deseado* another twenty minutes behind. We all felt a bit “tumbled” between the Darlington mark and the finish before the Southerly arrived

South Maria Race

A light West South-westerly wind for the start and stayed in from a southerly direction in spite of being a bit lacking around Lachlan Island.

Due to lack of wind near the southern virtual buoy, a shortened course was declared. All to *Vite*'s advantage as the leading boat *Sagittarius* had “over sailed” the new mark.

The many attempts to carry spinnakers over the course of the race were in vain.

Vite had the pleasure of line honours and all six boats were home within thirty minutes.

Darlington Race

Five boats were off into the Westerly to the Raspins buoy. The fleet spread out with the wind behind, *Vite* flying her kite. The breeze increased as we passed the southern edge of the kelp lease. The wind turned to the North at twenty knots as we travelled up the coast of Maria to the marker and a broad reach home.

The Long Distance Series had some very close racing with first and second boats being one point apart

Twilight Races

Series 2 Race 1

Another close start with a light north easterly. Six boats racing and five grouped together until the Eastcoaster mark. By then *Sagittarius* had made their lead.

Back through the gate and up to One Tree Point. *Sagittarius* having line honours ahead of *Thomas A* and *Madiba*. *Madiba* being the handicap winner.

Series 2 Race 2

Seven boats were off to a good start in the north easterly wind. *Madiba* again cruised along the shoreline to the Eastcoaster mark. Touch and go how far past the mark before aiming for the Horseshoe turn with a few “lifts and knocks” on the way. A run to the Eastcoaster before the tack to finish line. *Thomas A* showed us all how to sail and gained handicap honours.

Series 2 Race 3

Six boats started with an outside course chosen. Eastcoaster, Paddies, Eastcoaster and Windlass looked gusty from the North East. The bigger boats having the advantage. *Madiba* once again with handicap honours.

Sailing Report (cont):

Series 2 Race 4

A good start for *Kooranya* did not prevail in the North Easterly winds. All boats had a slow start to the Eastcoaster mark. *Madiba* again favouring the Western shore. A good tack to the Horseshoe mark ready for a run back to the Eastcoaster and again.

Baiame showed us her true colours to be second across the finish line. The wind died and *Kooranya* was left behind going .09 knots. We were graced by a magnificent sunset.

Series 2 Race 5

Tough conditions of twenty five knot gusts from the South ensured all boats downsized their canvas. *Vite* called the course using the inner marks of One Tree Point and Horseshoe. The Race quietened a little and only took an hour to complete.

Series 2 Race 6

The same course was set for the last twilight race due to the bad forecast. Strong Northerly winds made interesting times for the six competitors. The race was shortened at the gate and only took the boats about thirty minutes to finish. Darkness was on its way.

COCK of the BAY

Finally the Cock of the Bay was happening. *Sagittarius*, *Zebedee*, *Baiame* and *Kooranya* braved the very strong and fluky Westerly. Peter Smith conducted three shortened courses. Lots of hairy moments for the contenders. Important headsail changes and reefs filled the short time between races. We finished just in time for the rain. Tired and wet!

A big thank you to Peter Smith (race co-ordinator), Debbie and Don di Giovanni (start boat), Jack Lockley, Malcolm Fergusson, Roger Grey in the buoy boat. All did an excellent job.



Report by Deb West.



Cock of the Bay excitement.



From your Rear Commodore

I'm writing this the day after our annual Dinner and Trophy Night. That's really the highlight of the year for the person doing the Rear Commodore's job. It's when the notion of socialising as a group of like-minded folk reaches its peak of perfection. And it was as perfect as a night could be. **Wattlebanks**, in Orford, did an outstanding job of catering for us, right down to the cute little boat-shaped napkins! And the food was superb.

As we know, nothing simply happens by itself. A successful event takes a lot of preparation and organisation by many people. With that in mind, I wish to thank the other members of the SBBC Social Committee (Jane, Pam, Heather and Vonda) for their work over the past year. While all of them can be relied upon to help out whenever and wherever required, each of them needs a mention for something specific where they shine: Jane Forbes has been a mainstay of the Trivia Night for several years now; Pam Keygan is our photographer par excellence and, as Treasurer, a key member of the team; Heather Wilson was responsible for the Raspins Beach barbecue on Pacer Challenge day; and Vonda Hall (along with John) has been organising the annual Magical Mystery Tour for the past several years. You see, truly a team effort!

When we have our AGM in September, I will be stepping down as Rear Commodore.

Please, go to the SBBC website and look at the **Roles and Responsibilities** document to find out what being the Rear Commodore entails. **It's the fun job!!** And then let David Catt (our Secretary and Returning Officer, sbbcontact@gmail.com) know that you are interested in taking over in September.

To recap on the social events since the last **Bay Spray** (December 2023), we have enjoyed the following:

- Christmas Party;
- Sausage sizzle at the Pacer Challenge;
- February monthly gathering (free barbecue);
- Post race barbecues following the Long Distance Races;
- Pizza Night;
- And (of course) the Annual Dinner and Trophy Night.

Still to come: magical **Mystery Tour** (May 5th), a **Friday night gathering** at the Club (May 10th), three **"Winter Warmth"** evenings with local book club members (June 11th, July 9th, August 13th). And then a **barbecue after the AGM** on September 14th.

Here's to ongoing conviviality and social harmony at a great little local club!

Leanne O'Brien

Photo Gallery

The 2024 Lachlan Island Race:



Deseado



Vite



Madiba

THE CONTESTANTS



Zebedee



Sagittarius



Kooranya

Photo Gallery

LACHLAN IS. RACE — THE START

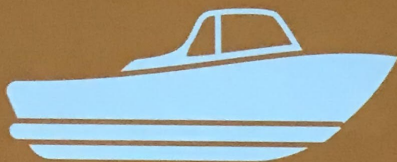


...and AROUND THE ISLAND.

Do you remember when Port Esperance Sailing Club burnt down a few years ago and we at SBBC supported their efforts to get back on their feet? The photos below represent how far they have come and show your Commodore and Rear Commodore with the Optimist dinghy we donated to them. They invited us to their Grand Opening in March.



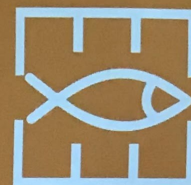
FUN FACTS



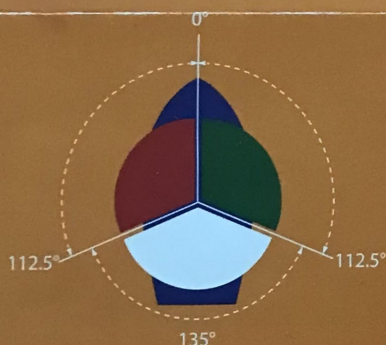
If buying or selling a boat, the owner and purchaser **MUST** declare the boat is not unsafe.



An EVDS will last for 6 hours; a pyrotechnic flare will last 60 seconds, and you hope it has been seen!



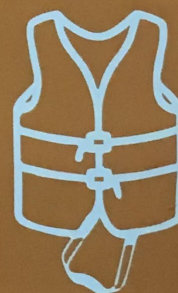
On a nautical chart this means a Marine Farm Zone.



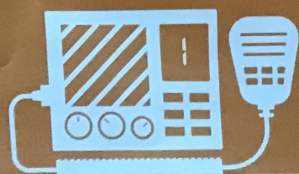
Did you know that these are the arcs of a navigation light? Do yours conform?



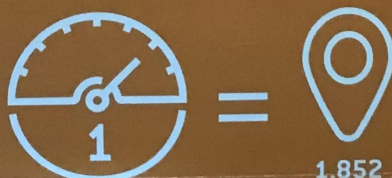
It's a great idea to have a thermos with hot water on board when fishing to use for stings from fish.



Using a crotch strap greatly improves the efficiency of a life jacket



Tas Maritime Sched times are VHF 16 at 0745, 1345 and 1733 for weather. Log On and Off with Tas Maritime Radio.



nautical mile

kilometre

Remember,
one nautical mile = 1.852 km.



Electronic Visual Distress Signals use SOS lighting sequence – 3 short, 3 long and 3 short flashes of light.

Courtesy of MAST.