

# Bay Spray

NEWSLETTER OF THE SPRING BAY  
BOAT CLUB



MARCH 2020

*Unfortunately, all SBBC activities are currently suspended. Keep your eye on our website and our Facebook page to learn when business as normal has been resumed.*

*SBBC website: [springbayboatclub.com.au](http://springbayboatclub.com.au)*



**Bruce Palmer's Northshore 38, "Moonshine", took out line honours in the 2020 Lachlan Island Race. Here she is getting under way at the start of the race.**



**The SB20 Regatta on Spring Bay over the March Long Weekend—what an event!!**

#### **COMMODORE'S REPORT, SPRING BAY BOAT CLUB, March 2020**

What interesting times we live in. As has been advised, we have cancelled any club activities where we would find it hard to not have close contact.

As some of you may be aware, there has been a Coronavirus case in Spring Bay which involved the Boat Club. This was handled very professionally by the authorities and by the vessel's operator. I am assured there was no risk to the club and/or members. The vessel has been thoroughly cleaned and has shut down operations for the remainder of the tourist season. The tourist was transferred to Hobart.

A highlight for the club was the recent SB20 National Championship Regatta which proved to be a huge success with approximately ninety sailors competing from our venue. The event was professionally conducted by the SB20 Association, Derwent Sailing Squadron and our team of helpers from SBBC. I wish to thank all those who gave up their time over the Long Weekend to help out with this event. We learned so much from the event, from conducting races, catering and even a protest hearing. There were ten races conducted, with a fleet of twenty-eight boats and some very close racing with only three points separating first and second. Congratulations to Will Sargent and crew on Taz Racing Team on a great win. Go to Derwent Sailing Squadron website for all race results.

The regatta prompted a site clean-up; a big thanks to all who helped. The club looks very clean and tidy.

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Ben and his team have also completed concreting near the boat ramp and with a small extension to the landing to be completed we will have a first-class launching facility. Well done to all those involved.

Those who visit the club site will note some pruning has been conducted which was prompted by a call from Tas Networks regarding clearing power lines. We also took the opportunity to prune the Flowering Gum adjacent to the clubhouse. A big thank you must go to John Popowski for his expertise with tree lopping.

Work is still continuing within the clubhouse; the inside painting job looks excellent. A new office area upgrade is underway and, along with various other improvements, we will have a neat, tidy and very functional meeting and social area. From what started out as a basic tin shed which we operated in for a number of years it is very pleasing to see and use the club now.

With cooler and shorter days coming activity around the club will slow down considerably, but you are still welcome to visit SBBC. Please practice safe hygiene and adhere to social distancing recommendations.

**John Hall, Commodore**



**Stunning Schouten Passage. This year's East Coast Classic cruise was a very lonely affair for the crew of "Deseado". However, the sights were as stunning as ever, the sea as blue and Freycinet National Park never disappoints. Nobody was complaining!**

## Vice Commodore's Sailing Report

It has been an eventful year of racing for the SBBC sailors, with trying sailing conditions for much of the 2019/2020 season. The calendar was abruptly terminated, effective 16th of March, as part of the SBBC's prudent reactions to the need for social distancing in response to the escalating Covid 19 pandemic.

Another casualty has been the annual dinner where these results are normally announced. As result I can report on the outcomes of the various racing series here. Notwithstanding the conditions and external threats, we had a season of good close racing. Before we announce the series winners it is timely to remind ourselves that anyone who sails is a winner.

- SBBC conducted a 6 race **Sunday Pennant series** before our Christmas break. This series result was:

**First and second:** Raymond Coope sailing "Baiaame", and Roy Forbes sailing "Spirit". Both scored the same series points, but "Baiaame" had more first placings, which makes Raymond first placing.

**Third:** John Hall sailing "Sagittarius"

- SBBC conducted a 6 race **Tuesday Twilight** before our Christmas break. This series result was;

**First:** Ashley Emmerton sailing "Baiaame"

**Second:** John Hall sailing "Sagittarius"

**Third:** Roy Forbes sailing "Spirit"

- SBBC conducted 4 of 6 planned races **post Christmas Tuesday Twilight**, this series result was;

**First:** Deb West sailing "Kooranya"

**Second:** Ashley Emmerton sailing "Baiaame"

**Third:** John Hall sailing "Sagittarius"

- SBBC conducted 2 of 3 planned long distance races, including the traditional "**Lachlan Island Race**", this series result was;

**First:** Malcolm Fergusson sailing "Deseado"

**Second:** Roy Forbes sailing "Spirit"

**Third tied:** Bruce Palmer sailing "Moonshine" and Deb West sailing "Kooranya". This tie could not be broken as both competitors had identical placings.

- SBBC "**Cock of the Bay**" regatta, this series result was;

**First:** Roy Forbes sailing "Spirit"

## Vice Commodore's Sailing Report cont.

**Second:** John Hall sailing "Sagittarius"

**Third:** Bruce Palmer sailing "Moonshine"

- SBBC "Pacer Challenge" three race regatta sailed in the Triabunna District High "Pacer" dinghies in challenging conditions, a stiff sea breeze and accompanying swell and inshore surf.

**First:** Ashley and Luka Emmerton who had the distinction of staying dry.

**Second:** Malcolm Fergusson and Greg Wing

**Third:** John Hall and Roy Forbes

Congratulations are due to each of the winners, and when times improve we will meet up and celebrate their victories and discuss the past and next SBBC sailing season.

Sadly, the "East Coast Classic" Freycinet cruise was poorly attended. This can be put down to a conjunction of uncertain times, adverse weather conditions, and unavoidable alternative commitments.

A sailing highlight was the SBBC hosting of the SB20 National Championships. Whilst it was the DSS who managed the racing, the way that the diverse SBBC fraternity pulled together to provide the logistic support was fantastic to be part of. More on this event from others.

Safe hibernating!

**Tim Geard**

The racing during the season has been very close, with many placings separated by just a few seconds.

These two photos show the two fleet minnows, "Kooranya" and "Baiaime" fighting out the last seconds of Twilight 2/ race 2. Kooranya having tailed Baiaime up the last leg in fluky conditions scored a couple of decent puffs and closed the gap. But not quite Kooranya's race; momentum wouldn't quite carry her past before the line, and Baiaime crossed ahead by two seconds.



*"There is nothing more enticing, disenchanting and enslaving than life at sea."*

Joseph Conrad



## *From the Rear Commodore*

It's been a busy first quarter of 2020 at the Club. We have seen the completion of the upgraded launching ramp, clubhouse re-painted (inside), further tidying up of the site and a shelter planned for the barbecue area behind the club. Please help to keep our Club clean, neat and tidy, remembering to use the cleaning products provided in the toilets/showers (for example).

Our social calendar has also been running hot. Gatherings and barbecues have been held after all sailing races, Valentine's Day saw an intimate evening get-together and, recently, John Hall gave a talk on his trip to Antarctica to a Friday-night group. Cruising in company has been limited to the annual East Coast Classic which, this year, attracted only a small number of vessels for a very short period in January.

But our biggest efforts so far have gone into the SB20 National Championships which we co-hosted over the March long weekend. This involved a total of 25 SBBC volunteers working tirelessly over four days towing, fixing, cooking, feeding, cleaning, organising, stowing and generally supporting the 28 boats, their crews and the DSS team who descended on the Club. Congratulations and thanks to all those members over decades who have pushed for and worked on improvements to our clubhouse, marina, hard-stand, launching ramp, toilets, showers and fencing. It was really great to be able to host such a significant event and be proud of the facilities we could provide.

The Summer season is an extremely busy time for many of our volunteers. Ben West gets inundated with Marina and Hardstand enquiries. Ray Coope keeps the grounds as pleasant as water restrictions will allow. Peter Smith keeps on top of Club finances. And Leanne O'Brien deals with numerous new members (among other things). Many thanks to *all* volunteers.

As you will be aware, future get-togethers at the Club, including the Annual Dinner, are currently on hold. We are doing our bit to keep the dreaded virus at bay!

A big welcome to the following new members who have joined us so far in 2020: Gillian and Wilton Geale, Jessica and Fred Eggleston, Joel Harris, Louise and Greg Bowers, Helen and Ray Phillips, Ainsley and Campbell Lowe, Sarah Pyke, Brett & Jack Dwyer and Barry Bennett.

**Malcolm Fergusson**



### **Winners are grinners!**

**Taz Racing Team**, the winners of the SB20 Australian Championships. **"Spirit"**, winner of the SBBC Cock of the Bay series. **"Deseado"**, winner on corrected time, Lachlan Island Race

# GALLERY



ABOVE: Catering teams fed hundreds (literally!!) over the March Long Weekend. Providing breakfasts and a barbecue for the SB20s sailors and their support teams was a feat of organisation and endurance — we needed a big rest afterwards (and refreshments!)

BELOW RIGHT: SB20s being towed back to the Club after a day's racing.

BELOW: Cock of the Bay winner for the second year in a row, Roy Forbes, sailing "Spirit", with his crew, Rod Burnell, receiving his trophy from Commodore, John Hall.

