

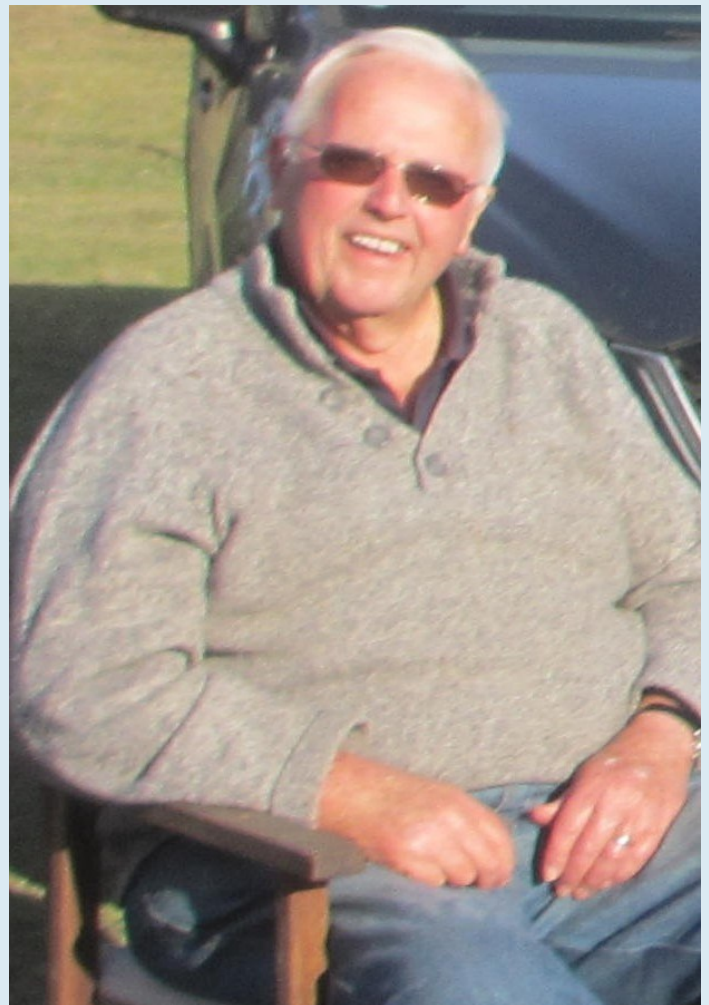
SBBC website: springbayboatclub.com.au

October, 2023

Bay Spray



NEWSLETTER OF THE
SPRING BAY BOAT CLUB



OPENING DAY 2023.

Our struggle with raising the club flags on Sunday was enough to tell us we had made a prudent decision about our lack of festivities on the water. Instead we had a casual and convivial get together at the club house.

We saluted Peter Smith and Penny Hey (while acknowledging Tom) for the combination of their long and tireless work for our club. Peter said a few words in reply.

Our new Commodore, Malcolm Fergusson, introduced our recently appointed office bearers Pam Keygan (Treasurer) and David Catt, our Secretary.

All a good start to our new boating season!

Deb West

(We were hoping for a lovely Opening Day photo of a boat with flags flying for our front cover. But I think these two delightful smiling faces are even better! Ed.)

Committee Notes

Your new Executive Committee:

The following positions were filled at the AGM on September 15th...

Commodore	Malcolm Fergusson
Vice Commodore (Sail)	Deb West
Rear Commodore	Leanne O'Brien
Secretary	David Catt
Treasurer	Pam Keygan
Communications Officer (Website)	Greg Maddox
Public Officer	Ben West
Committee Members	Tim Geard, Ray Coope, Carl Bresnehan, John Hall, Graeme Elphinstone.

Thank you very much to our previous Committee for your year of hard work and commitment to the Club. An especially heartfelt vote of thanks goes to Peter Smith who has steered our Club through its financial successes of the past decade. Happily, Peter will still be available to us as an honorary financial consultant if needed.

Notices

- ♦ **Upcoming events** include:
 - * Seafarers' Memorial Lunch — October 15th (please advise sbbc.social@gmail.com if attending)
 - * October and November Social Nights - second Friday of the month
 - * Christmas Party - December 15th
 - * Pacer Sailing/Discover Sailing - Notices to come
 - * Cruise in Company—Commencing January 21st
- ♦ Go to the SBBC Website and download our annual Calendar of Events in order to keep up with everything we have planned for the coming year. It's a handy thing to have on the fridge.
- ♦ Don't forget.... if you want to know what's going on at the Club, the **Minutes of Committee Meetings** are always available on request and are also displayed on the notice-board in the West Wing. You are also welcome to talk to any one of your Committee Members (above).
- ♦ Our **Facebook** page welcomes new supporters and "likers". Feel free to post your own stories there as well. It's called (unsurprisingly) [@springbayboatclub](https://www.facebook.com/springbayboatclub) — [@springbayboatclub](https://www.facebook.com/springbayboatclub)
- ♦ Please ensure your contact details are up to date on our Club data-base. If you have had any recent changes (address, phone number, email etc), please inform us via sbbccontact@gmail.com
- ♦ **"Older" members still using swipe cards** — Please let us know if you wish to switch to using a Bluetooth-enabled App on your phone for Club gate access. Cards will be phased out eventually!

Vale Tom Hey

It is with sadness, our club noted the recent passing of member, Tom Hey.

Tom had been a member of SBBC for twenty years and in that time had been very active within the club. Toms' roles included secretary and marina manager. He was heavily involved with the construction of our floating marina.

Toms' early career began with the old PMG, later rebranded as Telstra as we all know today. After many years serving with that company, Tom and wife, Penny, moved to the N W Coast region of Yolla to begin a farming enterprise, where they grew beef and produce. Swedes were the mainstay crop. Tom was very proud of his Angus cattle.

For many, many years Jaguar cars held a special place in Tom's heart. At one time he operated a small business maintaining the marque for various clients. His pride and joy was a beautifully maintained X300 Sport, which he owned until recently. Over the years Tom had also owned a number of MGs.

On becoming very involved with SBBC Tom couldn't help himself, purchasing the beautiful ketch, *Big Chief*. Penny and Tom cruised the Freycinet Peninsula and many local areas. One memorable trip was to Port Davey, taking in the amazing scenery of the wild west coast, transiting Melaleuca inlet, Davey River etc., also making a number of new friends. *Big Chief* raced in a number of club distance races. Tom was an integral part of the *Sagittarius* racing crew for many years, always on hand to help out whenever there was maintenance or repairs to be done.

The club continues to benefit from the legacy provided by Tom. During the club's expansion in the past two decades, in his role of Secretary, he provided the administrative framework to ensure there were no hurdles in the development and he established the systems and procedures to ensure members gained maximum benefits and then spent many hours on a daily basis physically managing our club's assets. The club's current strength and strong financial position is a direct result of the selfless contribution provided by Tom.

Our deepest sympathies go to Penny, Ben, Eliza and families. Rest in Peace, Tom. May your sails be filled by a following breeze while enjoying a treasured malt whisky. You will be long remembered by your friends at Spring Bay Boat Club.



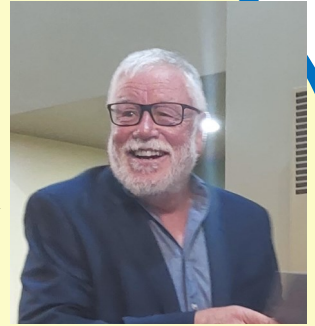
John Hall
Past Commodore



From your (outgoing) Commodore:

(as published in the 2023 Annual Report)

From all reports, SBBC members had a variable season of recreational fishing. Notwithstanding, many in our power boat fleet were active at every opportunity. We certainly had an eventful year of sailing. We had many varied and successful social activities, both organised and impromptu, at and around the club. We continue to see members, both new to the club and longstanding, becoming visibly more active in the club and bringing new boats to the SBBC fleet



Infrastructure maintenance and management remains a constant preoccupation at the club, with diverse tasks this season such as:

- replaced the sewage pump
- re-organised, numbered and mapped the hardstand
- moved and facilitated the removal of redundant boats, trailers and other junk
- extended some fixed marina fingers to better accommodate larger vessels
- completed the commissioning of the new gate access and video surveillance system

and planning and negotiation to take advantage of the ongoing harbour dredging to:

- improve access to current marina berths
- install an extra pile for improved mooring at the end of the fixed marina
- install end piles for a boarding pontoon on the north side of the boat ramp.

None of this happens without the ongoing efforts of the few club members who almost endlessly volunteer their time. A specific thank you to Ben West and Malcolm Fergusson who lead most of these works.

We welcomed Pam Keygan to our committee as treasurer, who fills the role with ease, and this allowed Peter Smith and Ben West to put more time into tidying up marina and hardstand issues.

Thanks also to Leanne O'Brien who, in addition to her elected role as Rear Commodore, filled in as Secretary when the need arose, performing both roles with her characteristic aplomb.

I want to pay tribute to the whole Committee who worked together harmoniously even when faced with divisive issues where committee members personal views strongly differed.

It has been a privilege to serve as your Commodore, but after two years, it is time for change. I ask that all members support their next Commodore, the wider committee and the club. To borrow from the late President Kennedy, "Ask not what your SBBC can do for you, ask what can you do for the SBBC!"

This year has been good, may next year be even better!

Tim



... and your (incoming) Commodore:

It is a very great privilege to be elected Commodore of Spring Bay Boat Club. I have been involved with the Club for some time now (about 30 years) and, although not extremely active in the early days, I have watched the Club develop from humble beginnings and am very aware of the hard work done almost entirely by volunteer labour, skill and ingenuity.

We now have a facility which benefits members immensely and can generate an income so as to be sustainable financially but we do still rely on the voluntary work of many. The Club as a whole is extremely grateful to all those who have helped in so many ways. I wish to specifically thank Tim Geard for his two years as Commodore and for very successfully navigating the difficult Covid 19 period; also for his dedication (along with Deb) to the effective and efficient running of the Club.

I look forward to working with the current enthusiastic membership during my tenure.

Malcom Fergusson.



From your Vice-Commodore (Sail):

In spite of our 2022 - 2023 sailing season having more than its fair share of wet blustery weather, our sailors were keen to get out on the water. All races had a get together/debrief afterwards.

Our twilight series being the most attended with seven or eight yachts competing.

The Long Distance Races are popular also. They are the Lachlan Island Race, South Maria Race and the Darlington Race. We are so lucky to have such spectacular waters to sail.

We have twenty two Twilight, Pennant and Long Distance races on our calendar plus our annual Cock of the Bay and the Pacer Challenge.

It was wonderful seeing all the crews celebrating their successes and tribulations at our end of season Annual Dinner.

Looking forward to an even better 2023-2024 season and welcome any yachts/sailors wishing to race.

Deb West



...and your Rear Commodore

(as published in the 2023 Annual Report)

Once again, over the past year, Club members have enjoyed a full and friendly round of social events and taken part in the Club's regular annual racing and cruising activities. Since the last AGM, we have also processed an additional 18 new memberships (welcoming a total of well over 24 new members) to supplement our ever-expanding Club.

Sadly, we had to say farewell to one of our stalwarts, this year. Tom Hey was a former Secretary and Marina /Hardstand Manager of the Club who was a staunch supporter of all Club initiatives and events and who, with wife, Penny, played a big role in some of our most valued projects (upgraded toilets/showers, new kitchen, fencing/electronic access system, floating Marina etc.). He continued to sail regularly right up until last season. Tom will be greatly missed.

During the spring and summer racing seasons, regular Club gatherings were held, often on both Sunday and Tuesday, after sailing races. In addition to these, monthly social gatherings took place. The monthly social events this year comprised:

- A Safety Information Evening conducted by MAST and the local Tas Fire Service volunteers, followed by a barbecue
- A luncheon to support attendees at the Seafarers' Memorial service; A very well-received Quiz Night; A jolly Christmas Party; A Pizza Night; Several Winter gatherings; Our annual Pacer Challenge Sunday in January which was enhanced by a beach barbecue for all comers; The East Coast Classic (when a small fleet of boats sailed to Freycinet, enjoying some leisurely cockpit and beach-based socialising); and John and Vonda Hall once again conducted a Mystery Road Trip. This year the destination was the Coal Mines on the Tasman Peninsula after a Dunalley start.
- MAST also conducted a Motor Boat Licencing Course in our Clubrooms in July.

We organised our Annual Dinner and Trophy Night at the Blue Waters, Orford, in mid-April this year. This was a highly successful evening with the staff of the venue providing a reasonably-priced but delicious meal in a warm and friendly atmosphere. This meant there was minimal work for our Club volunteers so we could all enjoy ourselves on the night. It was great to see all the Life Members of our Club (Nick Mason, Dennis Bennett, John Hall, Ray Coope) in attendance. Congratulations to all those who received trophies on the night.

During the winter, when events are usually minimized and many members escape to warmer latitudes, the stayers continued to meet monthly in conjunction with the local Book-club who use our rooms for their meetings on Tuesdays. This was the third year of co-hosting with Happy Hour Book Club. Socialising took the form of two friendly fireside chats while enjoying fish and chips from the van. The third evening saw the inaugural deployment of our brand new pizza oven – a huge success.

Thank you to the members of the Social sub-committee who are responsible for the success of many of our social events: Jane Forbes, Vonda Hall, Heather Wilson.

I also wish to thank Ray Coope for the work he does on a day-to-day basis to support the maintenance of our Boat Club facilities, Ben West for overseeing the Marina and Hardstand areas and Malcolm Fergusson for attending to all the tricky, and sometimes irksome jobs around the Club.

If you ever need to know what's going on at your Club, just get in touch with one of the committee members or log on to our Website: www.springbayboatclub.com.au where you will find our annual Activity Program. Social event notices are also sent to all members by email.

Here's looking forward to another year of sea and land-based conviviality and friendly socialising, both at the club and further afield! This has already been kicked off with our Opening Day barbecue (no "sailpast" due to unco-operative weather).

Leanne O'Brien

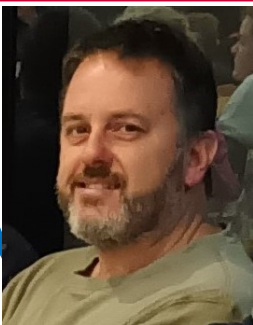
Photo Gallery



Left and Above: Our new **Pizza Oven** had its inaugural outing over Winter. Andrew cooked the very first pizza of all, with Roy as his supervisor. Leanne and Malcolm were pretty pleased with their efforts. A big success all round with more Pizza Nights to come!



Right: at the end of every racing season, **some-one** has to be responsible for bringing in, cleaning, repairing and re-deploying the sailing marks. It's a heavy, messy and time-consuming job. A big THANK YOU to Ben West for getting his boat all dirty and covered in mussels, mud, slime and creatures. And to Deb West and Tim Geard for the manual labour, heavy lifting and time spent to get it done. What a team!!



Meet David Catt, our new Club Secretary. Thank you, David, for putting your hand up and for taking your Club membership further by volunteering for this time-consuming but essential role.



Photo Gallery



Above and Below: Bob Wilson and Ben West working on the sailing marks.

Right: exciting goings-on as we took advantage of the MAST machinery to dredge and improve parts of our Marina. Thanks to Ben for co-ordinating this.

