



# THE BEACON

*McCrae Yacht Club: OFF-THE-BEACH SAILING AT ITS BEST*



### COMMODORE'S REPORT

The season of 2020/21 was anything but normal. With COVID effecting the end of the 2019/20 season, the start of this season was looking very shaky. In October, we were not even sure if the club would open for sailing, let alone be able to run any

regattas. We eventually got the sailing season going after a delayed start and were able to run several successful regattas. Unfortunately, the weather gods were not as kind to us for the club sailing season.

Over the winter, the renovation of the female change room and the addition of the disabled bathroom, lift and new stairs were completed. These features have enabled our club to be more inclusive for all members. The future of the on-water rescue/race management fleet has also been improved by the purchase of a new Bar Crusher, thanks to a generous donation. The club also secured a new tractor at the start of the season. The club is now in fantastic shape financially with money in the bank due to several government grants.

Now, onto a few thank yous...

Firstly, a huge thanks to the General Committee members who have stepped up in this very difficult-to-run season. I would especially like to mention Scott Watson, for his enthusiasm and 'never give up' attitude, he is a fantastic asset to the club and we are lucky to have him. Also, thanks to Ian Cunningham for returning to the GC as treasurer. He has put in many hours to help our club. Akemi's tireless work in the canteen and organisation has enabled us to hold this year's few social events. Thanks to Priscilla Kopp for all her help in the background over the years – she never wants recognition and I am only writing this to embarrass her. Greg Newman stepped up to the role of Yard Master at short notice. He has done an excellent job and it looks like he has more plans for the future. Thanks to Michael Paynter who helped us obtain many grants and sponsorship over the years. And lastly, thanks to Steve Brayshaw for stocking the bar and for his work with the Ronstan Regatta. >>>>

>>>> Mark O'Brien is stepping down from the role of Club Secretary this year. He has done a fabulous job on the General Committee and has fulfilled many roles over the years including Commodore, Treasurer and regatta manager. Thanks for all of your hard work, Mark. Also thanks to Paul Jenkins who came back onto the GC to help mentor others. He will be resigning from this committee but will take up the role of House Manager next season.

I will not be continuing on as Commodore next season. I have been on club committees for eleven of the past twelve years and have enjoyed most of it. I've got a new boat, so bring on the next season.

I'd like to extend my best wishes to the incoming committee. The support and respect of all club members to these volunteers is very important.

Club expenditure for the next season can be found in the AGM documents on the website. Thanks to our major sponsors Hockingstuart/Belle property and Bendigo bank for their ongoing support over the years.

The club is going great. Keep sailing. Keep calmer.

Cheers

*Jon Knorr, Commodore*



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Some of our Young Stars of the future from the Saturday morning sailing school



Alistair Watson, Club Captain presented the LW Rowland trophy to Murray O'Brien



Division 1 winners : Simon KcKeon, Jon Knorr and Wesley and Olivia Miles



Graham Mason presented the Rosemary Mason Memorial Award to Finn Loader



Division 4 winners: Steven, Kristian and Edward Johannessen



Jenny Merritt accepting an award in Division 5 on behalf of Simon

More recipients on the next page ->



Steven Floyd received the Big Splash award in time-honored tradition



The three amigos from Division 6: Murray O'Brien, Alan Riley and Graham Mason



Edward Johannessen took home the trophy with the longest name: 'McCrae Crews Recognition and Equalization Trophy'



Liam O'Brien received the Nigel Huggett trophy



#### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We wish to welcome the following new members who joined in the latter part of the season.

Judy Gifford (Senior) sailing a Mirror dinghy

Hugh Rutledge and Belinda Parslow with daughter Anna (Family)

Patricia Herr (L/House) from our windsurfing course

Gordon and Marina Visal with Marcus, Lydia and

Gabriella (Family) from our Try Sailing course

Simon and Boronia Lyddieth with Finn (Family) sailing a Taipan 4.9

Wendy Steele and Russel Blamey with son Jesse (Family) - windsurfing

Peter Lambden and Jo Mortimore (L/house couple) with 2 kayaks

Please make them welcome and we hope to see you all around the Club next season.

**Lyn Johannessen, Membership Manager**



#### TRAINING COMMITTEE REPORT 2020/21



Given the situation our state was in when we were planning the 2020/21 season, we are very pleased with what we were able to achieve, ending up with 32 junior and youth entered into our Saturday morning and coaching programs by the end of the season.

The most heartening thing for me personally is the growth in the Minnow fleet. There are now 12 kids in Minnows of their own which is something that we

have not seen for many years. In fact it could be twenty years since we have seen such numbers! These kids are just getting to the level where they can race and it is the Training Committee's greatest hope that somewhere around the middle of next season we will once again have an active and large junior racing fleet.

#### Strategic Learning Methodology

We introduced this program in the 2019/20 season which was cut short at an extremely critical juncture. We had just nurtured a good number of children to the point where the next step was the purchase of a Minnow. I believe that had the coronavirus issue not come along then we would have been able to capture a good number of new kids but our momentum was lost.

We began from scratch again this season with the 'Try Sailing' four week free trial being offered to local Primary school children between the ages 7 and 10 years. The best source of participants seems to be Red Hill Consolidated School and Dromana Primary School.

Our advertising for the Try Sailing started late due to the uncertainty around opening up with COVID 19 restrictions still in place which may have affected us from a retention perspective.

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## THE ROWLANDS AND SUTER TROPHIES

The Club has a wide range of Perpetual and Memorial Trophies which are presented at the end of each sailing season. Some continue and some have now ceased.

The Rowlands and the Suter Trophies are the two most prestigious trophies awarded at the Club annually. The selection criteria are the same for both.

The Trophies are awarded to skippers based on a combination of the following:

Outstanding:

- 1 - Club Sailing Performance
- 2 - Club involvement
- 3 - State or National Title performance
- 4 - Not necessarily winning but to include great improvement or consistency.

Rowlands Trophy is for Monohulls and was donated to the Club by past Commodore Laurie Rowlands.

**Suter Trophy** is for Catamarans and was donated to the Club by the father of the first Club Captain, Ross Suter.

Who were Laurie Rowlands and Ross Suter?

When the McCrae Boat Club was first started the new committee decided to have "events" for the members in both power and sail. Ross Suter said the Club should run sailing races and, as he was the only one who knew how a race should be run or handicapped, he got the job. All races were run and scored on individual handicaps for a season point-score trophy. Thus, a culture was established that has remained ever since, of the Club being open to all comers.

The first race was held a few days after that first general meeting, with everyone starting at once, to help Ross Suter set handicaps.

At the end of the first season, on the season's handicap point score results, Doug Lee was our first "A Class" Club Champion and Ross Suter was our first "B Class" Club Champion.

Doug sailed a 16 foot (5 metre) fibreglass catamaran called an XY 16, riding on a hiking plank. Planks were a common sight in those days, on both monohulls and catamarans. Ross sailed a Gwen 12, which did not have a hiking plank but had something very new called a "trapeze" – the only one in the Club.

The second AGM was held on 6th January 1963 in the 'boat- yard' and was attended by 45 members. By this time, a few of the members and office bearers who were motorboat men had lost interest, as the Club was showing a strong sailing bias. This direction was affirmed when the members approved a name change, to "McCrae Yacht Club". Laurie Rowlands was elected as Commodore.

In 1962/63, the Sailing Committee was formed with Ross Suter accepting appointment as the first Club Captain. The committee set about deciding what form racing would take in future and what equipment was required to run regular races at McCrae.

*(Continued on page 7)*



## LASER LATEST

Laser sailing dinghy turns 50!

The world's largest one-design racing class turns 50 this year, with over 218,000 boats built and raced by passionate devotees in over 140

countries. In 2021, ILCA will celebrate the many achievements of this remarkable five-decade run. Want to learn more? Go to <http://www.ilca50.com>

In Australia, several events are planned to mark this occasion. PSA have built a one-off golden Laser which will be eligible to be won by a lottery from entrants in the Double Bay Sailing Club sail past. On 20 June the plan is to have at least 200 Lasers sailing as a single fleet on Sydney Harbour. Should be spectacular. For more details go to [Double Bay Sailing Club \(dbsc.com.au\)](http://Double Bay Sailing Club (dbsc.com.au))

Why has Laser changed its name to ILCA dinghy?

Lasers are a true one-design boat. To build them, you need to be licensed. The largest builder, Laser Performance (LP) changed ownership and stopped paying the royalty to the boat designer Bruce Kirby as well as committing other infringements of the builders' agreement. LP lost the court case and now must pay the royalties plus costs.

World Sailing decided that prior to the 2024 Olympics (Paris), all equipment must be FRAND compliant to meet EU trade rules. The agreements ILCA (International Laser Class Association) had with the builders did not comply with these trade rules. ILCA had a big decision to make- was it going to hand control of the class to the builders and lose its Olympic status or was it going to stay in charge?

Unfortunately, LP owns the Laser trademark (worldwide except Australia & NZ). Rather than waste money on further court cases ILCA decided to register a new name 'ILCA Dinghy' & trademark 'ILCA'. To overcome the FRAND problem they appointed seven new builders, sacked LP and removed exclusive territorial sales rights. Laser sales are now booming worldwide and the price of boats is coming down. It is great the class association is back in control of its own destiny. Go ILCA!

**John d'Helin, Laser Class Representative**

<p>113 BRADLEY'S LANE WARRANDYTE 3113 T 9844 1281 F 9844 1281 M 0418 387 119 jdh@truewood.com.au www.truewood.com.au ABN 25 206 119 777</p>	<p><b>TRUEWOOD</b>   Design <b>CONSTRUCTIONS</b>   Construction Sustainable</p> 
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	<p><b>goodSPORTS</b>   Healthy clubs. Strong communities.</p>
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*(Continued from page 3)* **Training Committee Report**

As a sport we are competing for attention against the likes of basketball, netball, soccer, and a myriad of other activities. We found that a number of families had signed up for other sports, and although really enjoyed their sailing experience were already committed to some other activity.

Our aim is to retain five out of every ten kids who join our Try Sailing. We are only retaining two from ten, so we will have to make some changes to our marketing and communication strategy in order to get the retention that has been proven achieved in other states.

**New Ozi Optis on the way**

The Training Committee took a decision to increase the club owned OziOpti fleet from the current fourteen by another six to take the total to twenty boats at our meeting in April.

With the current program fourteen boats is not enough to cover numbers for both the Try Sailing group and the learn-to-sail groups. We found ourselves having to improvise on a number of occasions which was not ideal when trying to offer a high quality program.

The General Committee agreed to the purchase of six extra Ozi Optis at the full price, however we applied for and were fortunate to receive a special offer made via Australian Sailing from Whitworths Marine and Ozi Opti. This means we will be able to purchase our Ozi Optis at half the normal price!!! The deposit has been paid and we are awaiting delivery sometime in July.

**Sailboarding**

We have a renewed interest in sailboarding at our club thanks to the efforts of Jeff Owen, Scott Watson and Shane Baker. We have committed to purchasing two new, wider, more-stable boards which are easier for beginners. The current, very old, second-hand club-owned boards are original Windsurfer brand boards which are just too narrow.

We will run more windsurfing courses next season, so please watch the website for details if you are interested.

**Sunday Morning Laser 4.7 Group**

We have a nice group of six youth sailors in the Laser 4.7 class at the moment. Ollie Zielezna is the most experienced, showing some great results at the Victorian Championship but breaking his ankle at football soon after brought his sailing season to an abrupt halt!

Tess and Tom Kohne have been doing winter training with former Olympian Krystal Weir, so we look forward to seeing how much they've improved when we start again in October.

**First Aid and Powerboat Instruction**

Let's hope that the coming season allows us to put on a full suite of courses which includes the usual First Aid and Powerboat Handling Certificates and Responsible Service of Alcohol which are usually held before the season gets underway. Once dates are set please watch for notification of and entry to these courses.

Thank you to all our dedicated team!

The Training Centre runs something nearly every week during the sailing season. >>>

>>>It is a busy program which requires a very dedi-

cated band of volunteers and parents.

I will try to name everybody here but please forgive me if I miss out on anybody! It's a big team:

Administrator: Margaret Crossland

Host and beach support: Jenny Mairs

Instructors: Scott Watson, Evelyn Floyd, Donovan Bailey, Liam O'Brien, Jeff Owen, Shane Baker, Kate Dunwoody and Anna O'Brien

Assistant Instructors: Ollie Zielezna, Ollie Bulka, Josh Baker, Finn Loader, Hugo Watson, Ky Woodbridge and Wes Miles

Bosun: Glen Koffyberg and Bill Mairs

Rescue Boat Set up and launch: Michael Johannessen and Jamie Caithness

Adult Sail Training: Alan Riley, Graham Riley and Geoff Walker

Committee and moral support: John d'Helin

Canteen: Akemi O'Brien

**Murray O'Brien, Training Centre Principal**



The Commodore hosted a morning tea on the 15 May to recognise our volunteers. Appropriately, Akemi and Priscilla received special recognition.



## VALE

Ann Lorimer

27 February 1937 - 19 April 2021

It is with much sadness that we acknowledge the passing of Ann Lorimer, a much-loved and valued Club member.



Ann joined McCrae Yacht Club in 1977 with husband Bob and children Jenny (Merritt), Jane, David and Megan. While not a sailor herself Ann supported the rest of the family in their sailing endeavors.

From 1981 to 1996 Ann was on the following committees.

- 6 years on Social Committee
- 6 years as Canteen Manager and Social Committee
- 4 years on General Committee

After retiring from these roles Ann joined the team in the tower and was seen most Saturdays and regattas helping out with the radio or results.

When we were compiling the Club history book Ann recalled the following stories about her time as Canteen Manager:

Initially tea, coffee and biscuits were all that was allowed to be sold but over time this expanded to include Mars Bars, Wagon Wheels and soft drinks and later provision of a limited range of lunches to members.

It became obvious that the Canteen, with an expanded range on sale, needed someone manage it, do the buying and make up the roster. I approached Cedric Candy and offered to take on this role in 1990, with the agreement that they would "see how it went". I was not allowed to have a key to the canteen, so when leaving at night I had to roll the door down but leave it up a bit so that the person on "house duty" could lock it. The inevitable happened when the person on duty did not know this rule and reported that the canteen had been left open! The next sailing day, I was called up to the tower and confronted by three "gentlemen", one of course being Cedric. After they finished their "discussion" about the importance of Club security, I reminded Cedric that I was not allowed a key. He then took me off to his brown leather case and gave me one!

I introduced the Australia Day lunch of pies and lamingtons which has now become a tradition. The Social Committee started making salad rolls in their homes during major championships and this proved so popular that the service was continued on a smaller scale on Saturdays for members. This was complimented with hot pies and sausage rolls all sold strictly in accordance with the health regulations of the day.

When her grandsons Simon and Tim Merritt were small, Ann could be seen each Saturday either on the beach or under the big banksia tree feeding and minding the boys.

Ann had many interests outside the choir including music and her beloved "Scotties" Choir.

Thanks Ann, you will be greatly missed.

**Lyn Johannessen**



## CRAFT FOR SAIL

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Radial & full rig sails & spars, turbo racing set-up, foil bag, sail roller, boat cover, additional sails & spares; sound beach dolly. Stored in shed, well-cared for and in very good condition

**Priced reduced** \$3350

Geoff Kohlman 0408516451



*(Continued from page 4)*

### ROWLANDS AND SUTER TROPHIES

The Club's sailing course was to be three miles (4.8 km) in length, consisting of three, one mile (1.6 km) legs, with the start and finish at the Club and the seaward buoy 3/4 of a mile (1.2 km) off shore. The 1963 AGM gave the Commodore the authority to purchase a chronometer and timer for timing races.

Laurie Rowlands was a Founding member and Commodore for 6 years (1963-1968). He was the second to hold the rank but was most significant in the Club's early years. While not a sailor himself, his sons Greg and Mike sailed a C-Cat at the Club. He brought a calm and steady influence to Club administration in the early years. Laurie was also the official club starter and made the race box microphone his own. In April 1968 Laurie was awarded our first Life membership.

Winners of these trophies for the 2019/20 and 2020/21 seasons are:

Suter trophy: Luke Stout

Rowlands trophy: Murray O'Brien

**Lyn Johannessen, Club Archives**



## BELLE REAL ESTATE PROPERTY REPORT

The real estate market has been extremely strong in recent months, especially in McCrae. Recent data showed McCrae was the number 1 performed suburb over the past 12 months increasing an astonishing 25%

This isn't surprising and is expected to grow even further in the second half of

2021. Upwards of 85% of buyers are from Melbourne electing to call the Peninsula home to escape the busy city life for a seachange pushing prices well in excess of vendors expectations. There have been some amazing auction sales recently, in particular

10 Danina Crt Rosebud which sold under the hammer for a staggering \$3,492,000 against the vendors reserve of \$2,100,000.

Other notable sales were -

34 Coburn Ave McCrae - \$1,860,000

3 Somers Close McCrae - \$1,530,000

651 Pt Nepean Rd McCrae - \$2,300,000

10 Arthurs Ave McCrae - \$1,340,000

2/45 The Avenue McCrae - \$1,005,000

78 Flinders St McCrae - \$1,660,000

110 Cinerama Cres McCrae - \$1,238,000

9 Talbot Grv McCrae - \$1,690,000

51A Armstrong Rd McCrae - \$780,000

7 Henry Crt McCrae - \$1,610,000

If you are considering selling, please remember that for ALL MEMBERS who list and sell their homes with Grant McConnell at Belle Property, I will donate \$500 back to the club.

Stay safe and I look forward to seeing you all at the club later in the year.

**Grant McConnell, Principal Director / Auctioneer**

