

# Flinders Yacht Club

## WEST HEADINGS



### Editor-

Well, "Temporary Editor", as Mary Iles after many years has laid down her quill and we have not been able to properly fill her shoes, yet. Perhaps you have some skills and energy to help out with this role? PLEASE let me know!

The competent and well mannered Mary let contributors reiterate, prevaricate and hesitate, oh how much patience, effort and grace you gave, thanks from all of us.

In the mean time bask in the crisp minimalist style favoured by lazy hipster editors craving time, fame and fortune. Note the layout is configured for mobile devices with the text filling the left column and images at the right. Hopefully the message can still get through.

And many messages there are as the new season is nearly upon us, read on.

### Tedd Warden Editor

[tedd\\_w@yahoo.com.au](mailto:tedd_w@yahoo.com.au)



Editorial Committee cum Groundsmen, Ken Lacey and Tedd enjoy a cuppa while researching Club History.

### Spring Thanksgiving?

Mrs Helen Kent could see a nice weekend coming a day away and called a couple of friends who called... So quite a gathering ended up at the Club for a Twilight Type Thanksgiving that we had made it through winter and survived our little adventures. We bought our own chops, shared the salads, enjoyed a drop to wash it down to catch up and enjoy the sunny Sunday.

Teddo just made it back from 5,000 miles by motorcycle around West America. Peter and Annie got back from 18,000 km all over Australia and are outback experts, much of the way with Joy and Clay. Rob and Anna did the Whitsundays by cat and inflatable following the trails of Helen and Tedd on a Beneteau 50. Sarah and Andrew road tested the new Jaguar through the Scottish Highlands. Russell and Kate have examined Galway Hookers, and researching Nantucket shallow draught workboats. Hugh went to Harvard to learn Portfolio Structure and Risk Management surviving 'off Wall St'. John and Mary enjoyed Balnarring but like everyone are glad to be back home and looking forward to getting out on our gorgeous water.



Sunday's impromptue gathering is just warming up. The Joels and Austin-Glovers went to Italy for a delightful horse ride. David Wilkins picked up a boat from Hobart but preferred the Whitsunday delivery. Sweeneys are off to the races at Chantilly and a daughter there- all to be back in time for the fun at Flinders.

# Commodore-

Welcome to the 2016/17 sailing season and the 40th anniversary of the Flinders Yacht Club. It's worth reflecting on how far we have come. The first meeting was held at the Flinders Caravan Park in October 1976, when a group of dedicated individuals came together with a vision to foster an interest in boating at Flinders.

Thanks to our founding members and the many committees since in helping create our fantastic club and ever improving facilities we enjoy today.

The June AGM saw the election of the new committee including new member Anne Austin looking after the club hire portfolio and Michael Hollowood formally elected as Treasurer after 3 months in the job. On behalf of all members thanks to our retiring committee members, Sue Slater, Geoff Barnett, Max Findlay and Russell Kenery.

During the winter months your committee has been busy with a number of projects which should all come to fruition by Opening weekend. Much needed repairs and upgrades to our bathrooms are underway. A new Flinders Yacht Club sign adjacent the entry gate will help identify our club. The website is being enhanced to include an interactive events calendar, a link to purchase the fabulous Matthew Flinders open boat voyages book (great Christmas present with all proceeds going back to the club) and a Crew wanted / available bulletin board. We have also created a subcommittee to develop a Strategic Plan. Over the course of the season your committee will be canvassing your views and aspirations to develop a vision for where we would like to be in ten years. This is an exciting opportunity to have your say in the future of our club.

To keep our clubhouse and facilities at their peak, a work party will be held at 10 am on Sunday 23 October. There will be many jobs to get done from weeding to painting. I encourage you to attend and catch up with other members in a fun and friendly atmosphere as we make a difference to our club. Refreshments will be served. For our sailing members it's time to check your standing and running rigging, clean and polish hulls for a safe and fast sailing season ahead. Please remember to complete boat registration and safety certificate.

We have a great club in a perfect location and I would encourage you all to make the most of this great facility. Whether you are sailing, socialising, or simply enjoying the beach, Flinders yacht club is a great place to be.

## Rob Cave Commodore.

[rob@careinvest.com.au](mailto:rob@careinvest.com.au)



During the winter season, I attended the Airlie beach and Hamilton Island race regattas. The events were well attended with over 200 keel boats and multihulls competing. As I walked the marina pontoons, I could not help but notice the amazing cross section of sailors participating. From juniors crewing with their parents, professionals on Wild Oats and septuagenarians having a ball in the cruising division, there was a wonderful atmosphere and camaraderie. It occurred to me that sailing is one of the few sports that three generations of family can actively participate in and enjoy together. It is going to be an exciting season of sailing and socialising and I am looking forward to seeing you all at the Club over the summer months.



# Sailing-

Hi all and welcome to a new sailing season, the programme is nearly ready and will be out soon, look out for duty dates to be emailed this week.

Upcoming dates:

Opening Day Sunday 30 October 2016  
40th Anniversary Lunch 11.30am (see separate flyer)  
1430 SAIL PAST to salute the NEW Commodore  
1445 Spring Series Race 1/ Aggregate Championship Race 1

Sunday 6 November 2016 - Spring Series 2 & 3 1330

Sunday 13 November 2016 – Spring Series 4 & 5 1330

Sunday 20 November 2016 – Spring Series 6 & 7 1330

Saturday & Sunday 3 & 4 December 2016 – I14 & B14 Skiff Weekend

Monday 26 December 2016 Twilight 1 1730 for OTB & Keel Boats

All FYC sailors are welcome to participate in the Spring Series, it is determined on Yardstick but it is a good way to some practice in before the Championship Races and get a club handicap sorted.

See you on the water.

**Rick Barker**  
Sailing Captain.

[richard@millerrhm.com.au](mailto:richard@millerrhm.com.au)

## MATTHEW FLINDER'S OPEN BOAT VOYAGES

The epic circumnavigations by Matthew Flinders tend to be writ large, with little written about his remarkable open boat voyages. All sailors and anyone with a love of history will connect with the stories in this monograph, published by Flinders Yacht Club .

"...a must read for all yachtsmen." Simon McKeon AO

".. as small boat sailors we connect with these remarkable adventures."  
John Bertrand AM

Price: \$15-00. All sales proceeds support Flinders Yacht Club's sail training activities.

All enquiries to: [rkenery@bigpond.com.au](mailto:rkenery@bigpond.com.au)

Leigh and Annie checking out Italian stables "...ok, but doesn't work as well as Kate's in Flinders".



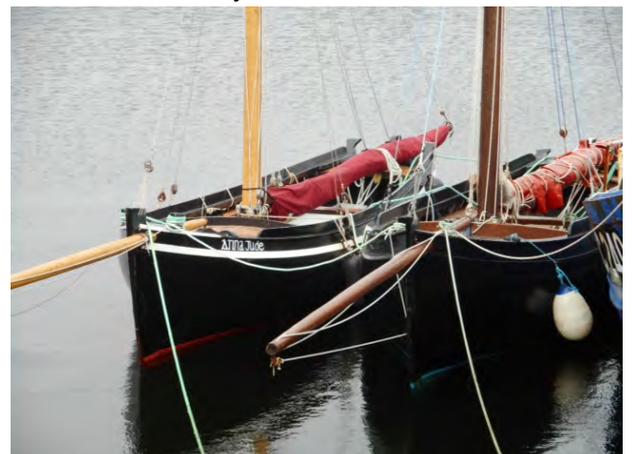
Joels all in one place! Next time in Flinders, yippee!



Ken always on the hunt for a good Flinders boat



Russell's Galway Hookers for Flinders?



# FYC Strategic Plan

Your committee is proposing the drafting of the FYC Strategic Plan 2026. The plan expresses members vision for FYC, key objectives and strategic pillars that define goals and success targets of the club for the longer term. It's the opportunity to chart the future course for FYC, building on the amazing success of the Club now in its 40th year.

Member engagement in building the draft of the strategic plan is at the core of the committee's execution plan. A committee has been formed to drive development of the strategic plan through stages, with the final plan to be tabled to the members at a future AGM. Over the coming December / January summer period we will be talking with as many members as possible across representative interest groups (e.g. sailors, non-sailors, youth, seniors) to survey what it is members want for the club longer term. In particular, what do members want the club to look like say in 10 years? Then what does this mean in terms of activity agendas and plans, membership, facilities, infrastructure, finance and place in our community. Happily we start with several past insights on strategy from members and so we commence well armed with some valuable material.

The committee's aim is to take this as an opportunity to set a clear and concise longer term plan that is closely aligned with FYC members aspirations and from this set in place a number of strategic execution initiatives aimed at delivering to that plan. It's an exciting happening in your club. If you would like to contribute some ideas or have any questions,

## John Sweeney Strategic Committee Chair.

[suibhne@bigpond.com](mailto:suibhne@bigpond.com)

The rope nest near Flinders Pole has landed



The shags can't wait for the Keelboats returning to Flinders as they are bored on the Dolphin piles, but a clever one has learnt how to balance a ball on his beak!



Alan "this Croatia is a paradise, mild, great food, excellent sailing in fair winds and smooth seas".  
Kate "mmmm yes, but soon we are in Flinders!"



Clay and Joy at Cable Beach waiting for the Crabs to boil and the beer to chill, "but can't wait to get back to Flinders" .



## ARE YOU A PAID UP AND PROUD MEMBER OF FYC?

Firstly, thank you to all those 62 (out of 124) who have paid on time and are now in the draw for the 12 bottles of vintage wine, to be drawn at our Open Day Lunch 30/9.

**TO THE OTHER 62 OF YOU, MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE OVERDUE**

Of course there are valid excuses for not paying, as yet:

- *Australia Post doesn't know where I live.*
- *The dog ate my invoice.*
- *I moved to outer Mongolia.*
- *I spent the summer sailing the Mediterranean and have decided a nomadic life on the sea is for me, forever.*
- *I stayed in Flinders for the winter and have severe frost bite on all extremities so am unable to write a cheque or tap out an EFT payment.*

If none of these are applicable to you, then option A is to rush a prompt payment via EFT or pop a cheque in the post. This would be most appreciated.  
Option B is to horrifying to consider. See below:



Thank you,

Your Humble FYC Membership Secretary

[membership@flindersyc.com.au](mailto:membership@flindersyc.com.au)

# Sailing rules

actually these few are the most important-

---

## PART 1 FUNDAMENTAL RULES

---

### 1 SAFETY

#### 1.1 Helping Those in Danger

A boat or competitor shall give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger.

#### 1.2 Life-Saving Equipment and Personal Flotation Devices

A boat shall carry adequate life-saving equipment for all persons on board, including one item ready for immediate use, unless her class rules make some other provision. Each competitor is individually responsible for wearing a personal flotation device adequate for the conditions.

---

## SECTION A RIGHT OF WAY

*A boat has right of way over another boat when the other boat is required to **keep clear** of her. However, some rules in Sections B, C and D limit the actions of a right-of-way boat.*

### 10 ON OPPOSITE TACKS

When boats are on opposite *tacks*, a *port-tack* boat shall *keep clear* of a *starboard-tack* boat.

### 11 ON THE SAME TACK, OVERLAPPED

When boats are on the same *tack* and *overlapped*, a *windward* boat shall *keep clear* of a *leeward* boat.

### 12 ON THE SAME TACK, NOT OVERLAPPED

When boats are on the same *tack* and not *overlapped*, a boat *clear astern* shall *keep clear* of a boat *clear ahead*.

---

### 22 STARTING ERRORS; TAKING PENALTIES; MOVING ASTERN

22.1 A boat sailing towards the pre-start side of the starting line or one of its extensions after her starting signal to *start* or to comply with rule 30.1 shall *keep clear* of a boat not doing so until she is completely on the pre-start side.

22.2 A boat taking a penalty shall *keep clear* of one that is not.

22.3 A boat moving astern through the water by backing a sail shall *keep clear* of one that is not.

### 23 CAPSIZED, ANCHORED OR AGROUND; RESCUING

If possible, a boat shall avoid a boat that is capsized or has not regained control after capsizing, is anchored or aground, or is trying to help a person or vessel in danger. A boat is capsized when her masthead is in the water.

---

## Secrets to Successful Racing

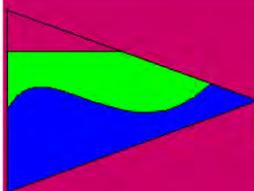
- 1- Start on time
- 2- Sail the shortest course
- 3- Keep clear air
- 4- Stay upright

Geoff- "...that tide goes out a long way here in Dubai, it's a lot easier row back at Flinders".

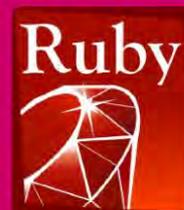


Hugh Kroker glad to be back in Flinders after lots of fun surviving the Big Apple.





# FLINDERS YACHT CLUB



**IS CELEBRATING ITS RUBY  
40th ANNIVERSARY IN 2016**

**We will mark the occasion on  
OPENING DAY  
SUNDAY 30TH OCTOBER 2016**

**START 11:30 with Canapes and a glass of bubbles  
LUNCH 12:00 Sit down catered lunch**

*Welcome from the commodore/ and committee  
Cutting of the  
40th anniversary cake by past commodores*

*Tea/Coffee  
Sail past and salute to the commodore*

*Opening race of the Spring series for Off The Beach boats*

*Watch the race from the deck.  
Post race drinks and nibbles.*



Please BOOK with Try Booking!

NOW!! ;)

Click on the link:

<https://www.trybooking.com/234336>

**By Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October**

**As we are utilizing external caterers, it is most important to book!!**

**All enquiries Grant Matthews 0414 695 597**

# Tackers Sailing School

The spectacular Summer Sailing School will be held at the FYC again this year.

The Sailing School will be run in conjunction with the Mobile Boatshed from 27 to 31 December 2016.

A variety of sailing courses will be offered catering to everyone from the absolute novice to those looking to honing their skills.

The courses on offer are:

**Tackers 1, 2 and 3** - three introductory courses for children ages 7 – 12 years.

**Adult / Teenage Start Sailing** – for newcomers to sailing who are 12 years and older.

**Better Sailing** - for those who have completed Adult/ Teenage Start Sailing or Tackers 2 or 3 and are ready to go fast !

**Start Racing** - for those who have completed Better Sailing.

For further details and enrolment go to the Boatshed Website <https://theboatshed.net.au/find-a-course/school-holiday-courses>

Peter and Ingrid Alexandrovics busy getting their "Ingrida" ready for summer at Flinders to get over the wet winter at Red Hill.



Right bottom 2- Sue Slater ".....after 4 months tacking through outback Queensland I couldn't wait for the season so two weeks ago did a Sea Safety Survival course so I could jump in, Rod even has a new shoulder. Can't wait to get back in the water in Flinders".



## History of the first 25 years.

The existence of Flinders Yacht Club is owed to a small group of people who met during early 1976 to consider forming a sailing club in the Flinders area. One of these was Graham Pittard, now a life member and still a local resident. On 27 October 1976, 37 people interested in forming a club to 'foster interest in boating in Flinders' met in the recreation room of the Flinders Caravan Park and founded the Flinders Yacht Club.



The first committee met fortnightly after that to arrange membership forms, a Constitution and the first race, which took place on Sunday 28 November 1976. It was agreed that an area adjacent to the West Head Gunnery Range, extending for about 600 feet towards the jetty, would offer the best site for the club. Earlier in the century this area had been a fishing 'village'; later it comprised part of the golf course.

By the time of the first AGM, in August 1977, a sailing program for dinghies and trailer-sailers had been devised for season 1977-78. Graham Pittard was elected Commodore, and Tom Delaney Snr, a Port Phillip Sea Pilot, became Vice Commodore.

The following year, 1978, saw the inaugural issue of the Flinders Yacht Club newsletter, originally called 'The Flinders Fair Log'. A few years later the newsletter was renamed 'West Headings', which it remains today.

By the end of 1978 the club was running regular races, membership was increasing, and a rescue boat had been obtained. However, it was not all smooth sailing. For a while, the fledgling club's fate hung in the balance. It was resolved by the Extraordinary General Meeting held in the Flinders Hall at the end of March 1979, which elected John Nilsen firstly to the committee and then to the position of Commodore.



Acquiring and developing the land needed for the club was no simple matter. Representations had to be made to the Bass Park Trust, the Navy, the National Trust, the Department of Administrative Services, the Department of Crown Lands and Survey and many other bodies. Moreover, the club was about to embark on an ambitious building program yet had a bank balance of a mere \$527.11.

The solution found to finance construction of the clubhouse was a co-op -- the West Head Cooperative Society Ltd. It was established in mid-1982 with members subscribing \$6,000 in share capital and committing to a bank loan of \$36,000 at 14% interest. The final cost of the clubhouse building was \$43,848. Opening Day was 20 November 1983.

Not long after its completion the club had the first indications that the foreshore was being eroded. Within a few years the new building was in danger of being washed away at high tide.



Finally a retaining wall was built and a ramp built between the compound and the sea.

Starting and finishing races was a perennial problem. In the early days members sat on the outer arm of the old pier; in 1980 a race box was built there. Crash boat starts were tried but proved difficult to organise. Finally the tower was built in 1993 to alleviate most starting and finishing problems and to greatly improve the quality of supervision and safety.

Another perennial issue was the health of the off-beach and keelboat fleets. The history of FYC seems to have been that the good health of one has been offset by malaise in the other. In 1988 concern about the state of junior sailing led us to invite the VYC Sailing School to Flinders, with outstanding success, and sailing schools became a regular part of the FYC program. In the early 90s, in an effort to reduce costs and increase participation, the club organised its own school, with the result that in 1994 there were 50 kids and 10 adults involved. That year the first junior captains were elected: Kylie Slater, Michael Newton and James Manners.

Meanwhile keelboats boomed to the extent that in 1988 it was seriously suggested that FYC might become a keelboat-only club. To help celebrate Victoria's 150th anniversary in 1985 a keelboat race from Portsea to Flinders was inaugurated on the ANA weekend in January. Until the abolition of the Australia Day long weekend in 1994, this race and the next day's race from Flinders to Cerberus were key events on the Victorian ocean racing calendar. Spit roasts for 200 or more hungry sailors not only put Flinders on the map but also swelled the fundraising coffers. Yet by 1993, the quorum for keelboat races at Flinders had been reduced to two entries.

One aspect of the club that was consistently robust was social events. Whether in Trivial Pursuit quests, World Famous Lasagne Nights or New Year's Eve parties, FYC events throughout the 80s and 90s were musts for members and guests, and a great boon to the fundraising committees responsible for the purchase and development of rescue boats and equipment, the race tower, the 'Great Southern Shed', and so on.

Fundraising events and a solid core of members put the club in a position where by 1996 the co-op loan could be paid out and the co-op wound up.

In this 25th anniversary year the club is planning the next stage of its growth, with an extension to the clubhouse. Its future is assured if present and future members show the kind of enthusiasm and dedication demonstrated by members over the past 25 years. To all of you attending tonight's dinner, thank you for your hard work, your affection for the club, and for your friendship.

Flinders Yacht Club history for 25th anniversary dinner  
27 Oct 2001



**Kathy McLean**  
Past-  
West Headings Editor  
Club Historian and  
Sailor at Flinders

## Flinders Yacht Club - Social Event dates 2016/17

Date	Time	Function
Sun 23 Oct 16	10:00	Work Bee
Sun 30 Oct 16	11:30	OPENING DAY - Lunch
Sun 30 Oct 16	13:00	OPENING DAY - RIB dedication
Sun 30 Oct 16	13:15	OPENING DAY - Blessing of Fleet
Sun 30 Oct 16	14:00	OPENING DAY - SAIL PAST; salute Commodore
Tue 01 Nov 16	09:00-12:00	Marketing Sailing School/Sausage Sizzle @ General Store
Mon 26 Dec 16		Boxing Day
Tue 27 Dec 16	9:00	Sailing School Opening - Welcome
Tue 27 Dec 16	9:00	COFFEE with TACKERS' PARENTS & Committees
Thu 29 Dec 16	18:00	JUNIOR BEACH PARTY
Sat 31 Dec 16	9:00	Sailing School Close
Mon 02 Jan 17	18:00	JUNIOR PROGRESSIVE DINNER TBA
Sat 07 Jan 17	18:00	COMMODORES COCKTAIL PARTY
Sat 14 Jan 17	9:00	ERIC LUCAS FISHING TROPHY
Sat 21 Jan 17	19:00	AUSTRALIA DAY DINNER
Thu 26 Jan 17		AUSTRALIA DAY
Sat 11 Mar 17	19:00	LABOUR DAY DINNER - RMYS Visit
Mon 13 Mar 17		Labour Day
Sat 15 Apr 17	19:00	EASTER DINNER
Sun 16 Apr 17		EASTER
Sat 10 Jun 17	19:00	Presentation Night Dinner
Sun 11 Jun 17		AGM
Mon 12 Jun 17		Queens birthday

Hey, Clay, how good is this Argyle Dam?

Too right, it really sets the whole place up for the season.



Not bad Smokey, but I mustn't forget Flinders Yacht Club's working bee on the 23rd.

Yes, and great to catch up with everyone at the after barby, bring gloves and tools.