WELCOME

With Christmas almost upon us and the sailing season finalised, it is time to wish all of our members and supporters a merry Christmas and a happy new year. While there is limited on water activity at the moment, there will be some activities over the school break. The weekly twilight races will take a break on Christmas day, but will be business as usual on other weeks. Don’t forget the Airlie Beach Christmas Party on December 22 at the Bali Hut Pavilion.

FROM THE HELM – Leo Rodriguez (President)

Another year has come and gone. For the Whitsunday Sailing Club it has been one of mixed fortunes, with the club being isolated by the fence earlier in the year having a marked affect on our trading figures. We have had a busy time with functions, entertainment and events, the Easter regatta was a great success with the O’pen Skiffs holding their national championship along with our regular regatta, and another fantastic Airlie Beach Race Week. The management committee are working hard to make 2020 even better, and are currently building committees to oversee various parts of the club. If anyone has an interest in assisting on a committee, please contact the club secretary, Leonie Matthews in the first instance, either by phone (07 4946 6138) or email (secretary@whitsundaysailingclub.com.au)

On behalf of the Management and Staff of your club, we wish you all the best for the festive season and we look forward to seeing you at the club.
Presentation Night
The culmination of twelve months of sailing finally came to a head on Saturday night with the annual presentation of trophies at Whitsunday Sailing Club’s annual Presentation night. Over 100 members and guests attended the event in the function centre at the club, with Sailing Manager Ross Chisholm presiding over the program.
With a meal consisting canapés followed by a choice of meals prepared by the galley, it was down to the official business, with the MC introducing official guests before outlining the achievements of local sailors. The highlight was the impressive listing from Hamish Swain, who has, in the past 12 month, achieve a world championship, several Australian Championships, been accepted into the Queensland Institute of Sport, regularly travelled to Brisbane or interstate for training and competition, was Australian Sailing’s male youth sailor of the year, all while completing his final year of schooling at Proserpine High School. Needless to say, Hamish was awarded the club’s Junior Sportsperson of the year and the club’s Yachtsperson of the year awards.
The off beach prizes were shared between the competitors with Joshua King taking the junior club championship while Eden Humphrey too the overall club championship. Jesse Frisch took out the most improved junior, while Damien and Rowena Bannister took the best first season award.
The offshore prizes were similarly spread around, with the club championship prizes going to Rupert King (Overdrive), Rob Davis (Treasure VIII) and Shannan Hart (High Tide) taking the honours in their respective divisions. The Sailor of the year award went to Bob Beale (Kameruka), and was accepted on his behalf by regular crew member Simon Brain.
Once the formalities were completed, it was time to party on into the night.

Little Ripper Clipper Cup – 16 January
Once again the Round the World race is in full swing and the fleet will soon be heading to the Whitsundays. As part of the festivities, Whitsunday Sailing Club will be hosting the Little Ripper Clipper Cup, an opportunity for the round the world sailors to participate and compete in Off the Beach dinghies at the club. In an knockout series, each team will be challenged to racing in Hobie Waves, RS Quests and Stand Up Paddleboards to attempt to take the coveted trophy, last won by Team Unicef in 2018.
As part of the festivities, there will be an Australiana themed long lunch on the balcony, complete with a 5 course meal and matching wines, commencing from 11:30. There will be an expert commentator to explain the progress, the tactics and details of the teams. In addition, there will be opportunities to meet some of the competitors and discuss their experiences.
**Off Beach Sailing**  
**O’pen Skiff Donation**  
Thanks to the generosity of a couple of club member, we are now close to finalising the club’s commitment to purchasing a fleet of five O’pen Skiff dinghies, which are being extensively used for junior off beach sailing. Upon seeing the continued efforts in fund raising by Joshua King, with the aid of Jesse Frisch, two of our members, Anne and John Marley have kindly made a donation to junior sailing to enable the outstanding payments to be completed. Having grown up as junior sailors themselves, the owners of Essex Girl understand the needs of the club, and were in a position to assist. On behalf of all of the club management and members, a big thank you for this kind gesture.

**2032 Olympic Bid**  
As you may have seen, the Queensland Premier and her Cabinet have backed a Queensland bid to host the 2032 Olympic Games. Included in this planning is a proposal that, while the bid will be centred around SE Queensland, but may include events in the Whitsundays, Townsville and Cairns. Of particular interest is that the Whitsundays have been flagged as a potential location for the sailing events. Our club President, Leo Rodriguez, has been in lengthy discussions with Australian Sailing to lobby local, state and federal government to promote this opportunity. Stay tuned for future developments.

**Offshore racing**  
**2020 Program**  
The 2020 program is nearing completion and will be available for comment in the next few days. Please take the time to peruse and contact either Rear Commodore Rupert King or Sailing Manager Ross Chisholm with any comments.

The first events of the year include the Gloucester Passage race and cruise, which is scheduled for 18th January. Also coming up is the Dan Kane memorial race on Australia Day. 2nd of February sees the first offshore race, which will be the first race of the 2020 Club Championship series. Following on from the recent skippers’ meeting, the club championship has been set as 10 races, spread through the year, evenly mixing offshore and bay races.
AROUND THE CLUB
Dinghy Basin Dredging
AS you will have seen, dredging of the dinghy basin has been completed, and we now have a bag of spoil adjacent the dinghy shed. The contents are being dried in the sun over the next months before being removed. The dredging appears to have had an effect, with dinghies now able to access the pontoon in most conditions.

Meet Our New General Manager, Michael Carter
Many of you may have already met Michael at the club.

New Codes for downstairs toilets
Members are advised that the codes for the downstairs shower and toilet facilities will be changed in the new year. It is essential that these codes are NOT shared with non members. Please respect the property of the club by maintaining this security. We as members pay for the privilege of having the club facilities; do not give this privilege away.

RevSport
Along with the club’s new website, coming soon, Australian Sailing’s RevSport program is being introduced to members. This platform will enable members to complete many activities on line, in so doing free up many of the administrative tasks carried out by staff. This includes self checking of personal details in the Australian Sailing database, check validity of your Australian Sailing Sailor Identification Number (previously known as silver card number), pay membership fees, boat storage fees, enrol and pay for courses, enter races and pay race entry fees, and other items to be developed over time.
Check it out at https://www.revolutionise.com.au/whitsundaysc/ to ensure that your details are current.

SheSails
The club’s SheSails ambassadress, Caroline has been hard at work recruiting a number of females who are keen to get into sailing. It is proposed that the first of the SheSails programs will be underway in the new year, with some training on the club’s RS Quests before heading out onto the offshore fleet. Anyone who is interested in joining the program should make contact with the club to register.
We plan to revert to the previous practice of the fifth Wednesday of the month (April, July and September) being lady skippers race. Every effort will be taken to maximise the opportunities for women to participate in these events, including pre-race training.
Sponsors
Sponsorship packages for 2020 are currently being finalised and will be offered to existing and potential sponsors in the near future. Once again the packages focus on assisting with the sailing program, without which the club would not exist. There are also opportunities for sponsorship of other items such as infrastructure, building and grounds improvements or club services.
In return, the club offers a host of benefits to sponsors to ensure a balanced outcome. Anybody interested in discussing sponsorship opportunities should contact the club on 4946 6138.
SOCIAL SCENE

Festive season is upon us and our team at the Sailing Club have put together some cracker events to help visitors and locals celebrate in style. Check out our upcoming events, share with your contacts and join us in doing what we do best in the Airlie Beach & the Whitsundays...

PARTY IN PARADISE!!!
Sunday 22nd of Dec, the Sailing Club is hosting a massive Airlie Beach Xmas Party at the beautiful Bali Hut Pavilion & Lawn overlooking the foreshore and the islands. With an exclusive performance by blues/rock act the Mason Rack Band this one is for all the music lovers out there who want to let their hair down and dance the night away under the stars. Entry is $15 for adults and children are FREE.

Bring in New Years Eve with the biggest party in town...
Head to the Sailing Club as we team up with the Airlie Beach Festival of Music to welcome in 2020 with a Drought Relief Concert raising money for Rotary Bush Fire Relief Appeal and Rural Aid Drought Relief. Enjoy the line up of Live Music and DJ’s starting with family friendly acts from 5pm with Noah Robertson, Will Kelly and DJ Sledge plus Jumping Castle until 8pm followed by Jingo and Moonlighter, The Cadillac’s and DJX to see you through past Midnight. With food stalls, entertainment and bars upstairs and downstairs there will be plenty of room to move as well as loads of seating on a first in basis or feel free to bring your own picnic blanket or camping chairs as you find a waterfront position to enjoy the evening. Entry is $10 for adults and FREE for children with all door profits going to the Rotary and Rural Aid fundraising appeals.
*Get your tickets early direct from the club or online at https://www.whitsundaytickets.com.au/event/new-years-eve-drought-relief-concert-10864

In January, Airlie Beach Plays host to the Round the World Clipper Yacht Race and of course the Sailing Club is excited to be a part of all the action. On January the 16th join us for the Litter Ripper Clipper Cup. The waters in front of the club will be the setting for an action packed yacht race involving our Hobby Quests boats manned by the clipper contestants. The downstairs bar will be open for all and the upstairs balcony will be an exclusive ‘Australiana’ themed long lunch with our host talking guests through all the on water action. Enjoy 5 unique Australian wines expertly paired with 5 delicious courses of food as you relax on the balcony overlooking the bar. Tickets for the long lunch are $95
*Get your tickets early direct from the club or online at https://www.whitsundaytickets.com.au/event/little-ripper-clipper-australiana-long-lunch-10747
COMING EVENTS

Club Event
16 January  Little Ripper Clipper Cup

Offshore
18 January  Gloucester Passage Race
26 January  Dan Kane Memorial
26 January  CYCHI Round Hamilton Island Race
2 February  Offshore Race 1 (Club Championship)
16 February  Lady Skippers Races 1 & 2

Off Beach
1 March  Sprint Series Day 1
8 March  Sprint Series Day 2
14 March  Schools Teams Racing (Townsville Sailing Club)
15 March  Sprint Series Day 3
22 March  Sprint Series Day 4

Maritime Training
14 January  Bareboat Briefing Operations
16 – 17 Jan  Shipboard Safety Skill Set
18 January  Provide First Aid Inc CPR; Provide CPR; Oxygen
19 January  Long Range Radio Operators Cert of Proficiency
21 – 22 Jan  Exemption 38 (Low Complexity Duties)
28 January  Provide First Aid Inc CPR; Provide CPR; Oxygen

Social
22 December  Airlie Beach Christmas Party (Featuring Mason Rack Band)
31 December  NYE party & Fireworks
5 January  Live Music
12 January  Live Music
16 January  Little Ripper Clipper Cup Long Lunch on the Balcony
19 January  Live Music
26 January  Live Music
Regular Events

**Monday Night Trivia**
Enjoy dinner specials and give the brain a work out
FREE TO PLAY AND GREAT PRIZES TO BE WON!
MONDAY NIGHTS 6:30PM!

**Round the World Buffet**
With our chef’s inspired by a different country each week you can enjoy tastes of the world each week.
$20 ADULTS • $14 CHILDREN • $18 MEMBERS
EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT!
BOOKINGS: Phone 07 4946 6138 or email functions@whitsundaysailingclub.com.au

**Smirnoff Saturdays**
Relax and unwind with Premium Vodka served just as you like!
DAILY SPECIALS • AMAZING VIEWS • FRIENDLY SERVICE
ALL DAY EVERY SATURDAY!