



20 November 2020

IN THIS EDITION

• WELCOME	1
• FROM THE HELM	1
• VALE - RON GARDNER	2
• FROM THE SAILING DESK	2
• AROUND THE CLUB	4
• SPONSORS	5
• AROUND THE CLUB	6
• COMING EVENTS	7
• SOCIAL ACTIVITIES	8

WELCOME

Welcome to the latest edition of the Whitsunday Sailing Club Newsletter. Our aim is to keep members and guests abreast of happenings at the club and further abroad together with achievements of some of our members, particularly with respect to sailing related feats. Like all newsletters we welcome articles and feedback from our readers.

FROM THE HELM – Leo Rodriguez (President)

That time of the year has come around again, with the Annual General Meeting scheduled for Sunday 29th November. This is an opportunity for members to come and hear about the achievements of the past year and the plans for 2021. Even though the club has been through a hard time with Covid-19 restrictions having substantial affect both on the water and on shore, the financial results for the year are extremely pleasing.

Once again, if you look around the club you will see the ongoing progress being made with improvements to the buildings and grounds. The new concrete apron adjacent the rock wall will assist in minimising damage caused by future cyclones and storms, while the footings for the new security gate will be poured later this week.

New security lighting and closed circuit video monitoring equipment will also be installed in the near future, providing a major improvement to security around the club.

Once again it has been a pleasure serving as your club president over the past 12 months, and I am looking forward to 2021.

Trophy Presentation Function

The presentation of the club's major sailing trophies will this year be held at the club on Saturday 19 December. Note that this is a change of date from that originally published. The club apologises to any member who is disadvantaged by this change.



VALE - RON GARDNER

It is with great sadness that we have heard from Ron's wife Annie Gardner today that our highly esteemed instructor Captain Ron Gardiner has passed away surrounded by his family. Ron was a legend to us at the Sailing Club and Whitsunday Maritime Training Centre where he was a Head Instructor for our commercial maritime qualifications from 2013 until last year.

Ron as head instructor was fulfilling his passion for passing on his nautical knowledge, ability, experience and of course sailing adventures to the many students that he taught.

It was a standing joke in the training office when telephone enquiries or enrolments were received especially from the sailing and boating fraternity here and all along the coast that "we know Ron Gardner" he was our Captain on Solway Lass or Camira or yes, he taught us or we have known Ron for years or they had met Ron at a party.

We know firsthand that Ron was rather partial to parties and gatherings with his wife and many friends where they enjoyed playing musical instruments and having a great time.

These times were recalled when Ron came in to the club rather quietly on a Monday morning.

Ron's passion for maritime commenced in 1979 where he owned and operated Rucuda Luxury Sailing Cruises at Fraser Island and Tin Can Bay. He graduated to the Whitsundays in 1988 where he owned and operated charter boats and water sports operations in Airlie and the Islands.

Ron was also known to get quite excited when he was about to slip away be the Master out of Cairns on MV Phoenix supply vessel to Willis Island for Australian Weather Services with several return trips per year.

To Ron's family from the Committee, staff and members it was a pleasure and privilege to know Ron as a member and friend. Our training team, Kaye, Leonie, Graham, Lydia and Instructors, Andrew Carr, Cal Callaghan, John Lathan, Adrian Bram, Doug Cross, Chris Green will look forward to hearing some more stories of Ron and telling a few.

Ron's celebration of his life has been arranged at Whitsunday Sailing Club on Thursday 26th November at 3pm, all invited, come in your Jimmy Buffet tropical apparel and become a Parrot head for the afternoon.

FROM THE SAILING DESK - Ross Chisholm - Sailing Officer

Twilight Crewing

A big thank you to the boat owners / skippers who have assisted by taking some inexperience crew for a sail in the twilight races. Loraine Ireland is our point of contact at the club, volunteering her time to assist with allocation of boats to crew and crew to boats. Loraine is at the club on Wednesday afternoons from around 2:00pm. If you have space available, please contact Ross at the club (0429 584 787) so he can pass details on to Loraine. Loraine will also arrange for any casual crew who registered at the club to be entered onto the SailSys crew register.

2021 Twilight Season

The 2020 Twilight Race season finishes on 25 November, with the first race of the 2021 twilight season on 2 December. The program runs through December to November, with no racing on 30 December and 18 August.



The final twilight race on 25th November will be sponsored by **ABC Distillery**, the makers of Monsoon spirits here in Jubilee Pocket. They are a new distillery in Jubilee Pocket started in 2018 and produce Gin, Rum and Vodka from copper Portuguese stills. They make everything from scratch, using as many local products as possible.

They will be at the presentation after racing, providing prizes and an opportunity to sample their products. Please make them feel welcome.

As of the start of the 2021 season, there will be several changes to race entry processes and requirements, including compliance with Australian Sailing and WSC requirements.

Race Entry fee will be handled directly on line, as part of your race entry process. This will be handled through e-commerce gateway "Stripe" in conjunction with SailSys, our race management software supplier. Details of race entry process will be

on the club website shortly (www.whitsundaysailingclub.com.au). This process will alleviate the manual processing of race fees which is currently in place. Skippers will be responsible for managing their own entries.

The new season will also introduce the ability for the club to capture, and enforce, compliance requirements, including insurance details and equipment audit records. Skippers will be required to provide copies of boat insurance, completed equipment audit form, crew list and any first aid qualifications. Certificates and documents can be uploaded for cloud-based storage.

Yachtie's Networking Nights

The next Yachtie's night will be on 10 December, where we will have a guest speaker providing an update on the role of Sailability Whitsunday within the club. Many members are unaware of the role of Sailability, and how members of WSC can assist as volunteers or in other ways. This is a two way street, with Sailability able to assist WSC with the use of their resources and volunteer base. The Yachtie's night will be an opportunity for the sailors of the club to get together to discuss sailing matters of interest and to hear from other guest

speakers on a range of subjects.

Dinner will be available for participants after the presentation, with a special function menu. Bookings for dinner essential.

Off Beach News

Once again our off beach program is coming to an end, with the last race schedule for 29 November. In addition to our regular sailors in lasers, tasars, O'pen Skiffs, quests and sailboards, we have a number of Off the Beach catamarans

who are getting involved. Hopefully this is an opportunity to expand our program next year. Our regular program has been low key over the past few weeks, as our sailors have been competing in events in Yeppoon, Townsville, Mackay, Bowen, Mission Beach and Tinaroo. This has meant a lot of travelling for parents and sailors, but shows the commitment to sailing that is being developed within the club.



Next year's Sail Airlie Easter regatta will be bigger than ever, with the potential for a strong contingent of lasers from all over the state for the North Queensland Laser Championship and the Queensland Arrow Catamaran championship. Good Friday coincides with the 50th anniversary of the formation of Whitsunday Sailing Club, so there will be extra reason for celebration during the Sail Airlie Regatta.

Learn to Sail Program



Our Adult learn to sail program has been at full capacity, with all sailors having a great time learning about the sport. Although there has been lots of capsizes, there has also been plenty of good sailing, with many participants now able to fly the spinnaker in the club's Quest dinghies. We are planning several programs over the upcoming holiday period, with Dylan Smith here as an additional instructor during this period. As well as learn to sail programs for juniors, there will also be another Adult learn to sail course,

Out there sailing program for 13 – 17 year olds and potentially a yachting course.

Around the Club

Members and guests are reminded that COVID-19 rules are still in place. This means that members and guests are required to sign in at reception upon arriving at the club, and to follow all COVID-19 rules and guidelines. For those competing in club sailing events, we are still working under the Queensland Aquatic Sports Industry COVID Safe Plan, which requires the skipper to provide contact details of all crew on board during any club organised event.

Congratulations to Max Steel!

Max recently completed his Certificate II in Maritime Operations, Coxswain Grade 1 Near Coastal, under the School Based Trainee Program.

Max is a school student at Proserpine State High School, and entered into his traineeship to develop a career in the maritime industry on 28 December 2018. With the support of his parents and various stakeholders Max achieved his goal. Max was presented with his Coxswain Grade 1 Certificate by Captain/Instructor John Latham on the 31st August 2020.

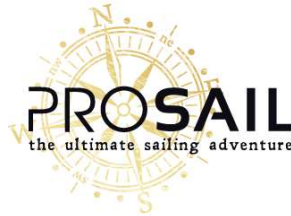


To continue with his career in the maritime industry, Max is currently working towards his Certificate III in Maritime Operations (Master up to 24 metres Near Coastal).

In discussing career options with Max, he hopes to have an active hands-on maritime career. In the early years of his career to hopefully secure some work on super yachts. Max's long term plan is to be employed on workboats.

The WMTC team would like to thank Max's family and the following stakeholders for working with us to assist Max in achieving his goal. Proserpine State High School, Cruise Whitsunday, MRAEL and the Department of Employment, Small Business & Training.

CLUB SPONSORS
PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS:-



20 degrees SOUTH
BAR & RESTAURANT



REPLACEMENT OF GATE - From Monday 23rd of November the work will start on our NEW gate. Cement footings will be laid for the instillation. Access to the boat yard will not be available from Monday 23rd November to Friday 27th November. For Wednesday night twilight sailing boats will be launched with the tractor. Sorry for the inconvenience. Please contact Club Secretary for further information.

SMOKING- When the upstairs area was refreshed and rebranded, we faced a massive push from members to remove smoking from the balcony area. We chose to relocate the area downstairs so that we could still look after our smoking members and patrons. As a result of this relocation usage of the balcony has increased markedly and we have seen a huge increase of new locals taking up full membership from this, over 100 and counting to add to our existing 400 members. None of these decisions are taken lightly or without consultation and certainly nothing is directed personally at any member but simply a utilitarian approach to the issue.

Since the relocation of the smoking area there has been a huge push from members to get rid of the smoking area in its entirety and with several letters (as it happens section 15 of the Clubs Bylaws also forbids smoking within 50 metres of Training, Juniors, School based activities and Sailability downstairs) and demands to the board, from members, students, junior sailing, Sailability and others the board were forced to make a decision to remove the designated smoking area for the time being. I say time being, as we have an application in to extend our license into the old Rotary area which will give us an open area that may be used for smoking and to finally establish our proposed View Bar. We may also be able as part of the Marine Training development to include a proper vented DOSA for our members. In the meantime, there are places that members can smoke however they will not be able to drink. This was not done to upset anyone but out of necessity for the continuance of our business which in the end is to raise money for our members to continue the upgrades to the club and better everyone's sailing experience.

MEMBERS BAR - We also are currently looking at the costs of rebuilding/renovating Frogs Bar as a proper member's barefoot bar with display areas for our trophy's and hanging space for burgees. We have spoken with CUB with regards having them help us with a proper tap system for beers, waste trap for water, power and new benching as soon as we have a budget and plan we will be presenting that you all for your feedback. There is also the chance that we may build an entirely new barefoot bar as part of the redevelopment of the Maritime training centre... In the meantime, it will go back to being used as an event and functions bar.

EVENTS – Welcome to our new Event Manager, Caitlin McLuskey. With her expertise on board, we are now able to create a bigger and exciting calendar of events. After discussion with her it was decided that early announcement of these events could be added to the member benefits to allow for early bird and pre-sale tickets to be made to all our members. These announcements will be made via email and e-newsletters so keep your eye on your inboxes for these. While regulations associated with COVID are gradually being relaxed, the opportunity to be the first to get tickets to these events will be an asset! The first will be for our New Year Eve celebrations which are tipped to be the event of the year so stayed tuned for that. We also have already announcement events that are regularly updated on our Facebook page and Newsletters.

MEMBERS CARDS - We do apologise, this has been quite an issue for us our card machine has been sent off to be repaired several times. You will be pleased to know that FINALLY we are able to produce our membership cards so please see Leonie or Sharna to get your new card or to replace an old one, and make sure you get your COVID existing members credit. In the future these cards will link with gaming and security among other things to allow much greater usage of your card across the club

Coming Events

29 November	08:30	Annual General Meeting
10 December	18:00	Yachty's Night
19 December	18:00	Annual Presentation Function
Off Shore		
22 November	1100 Hrs	Offshore Race – Club Championship
26 January		Season Opening Day (Australia Day)
31 January	1100 Hrs	Offshore Race – Club Championship
Off Beach		
15th Nov	08:30	Adult Learn to Sail
15th Nov	13:00	Summer Series 1 - 3
22nd Nov	08:30	Adult Learn to Sail
22nd Nov	13:00	Summer Series 4 - 6
29th Nov	08:30	Adult Learn to Sail
29th Nov	13:00	Summer Series 7 - 9
Training		
19 & 20 Nov	MARSS00008	Shipboard Safety Skill Set
23 Nov	MAR10418	Coxwsain Grade 2
23 Nov	MAR20318	Coxswain Grade 1
29 Nov	MARC020	Long Range Radio Operators
Social		
Friday 20th Nov	6-9pm	Matt Angel
Saturday 21st Nov	6-9pm	Will Heta
Sunday 22nd Nov	2-5pm	Dylan Hammond
Friday 27th Nov	6-9pm	Josiah Samuels
Saturday 28th Nov	6-9pm	Mike Duff
Sunday 29th Nov	2-5pm	Dylan Hammond



Social Activities

The Melbourne Cup lunch at the club was a huge success with the restaurant fully booked for the afternoon. We also hosted a fundraiser for the Whitsunday Suicide Prevention Network in conjunction with the mental health and awareness charity Kick-On with a live music event on the Bali Hut Lawn raising \$2,923.00 which was a wonderful outcome. Thanks to some more restrictions being lifted we were also able to host a down scaled version of the Airlie Beach Festival of Music! The club welcome 700 attendees to the Live and Local event and enjoyed an afternoon of entertainment from some of our best local musos.



2021 - We are now looking to the 2021 calendar of events including Australia Day which will see the official launch of the sailing calendar, the Annual Easter Regatta and of course Airlie Beach Race Week. The Easter Regatta this year will be particularly exciting as it coincides with our 50th Birthday! This will be a huge weekend of entertainment and celebrations so be sure to put those dates in your diary.

Christmas Lunch

Date- Friday December 25th 12-4pm

Tickets- \$189 for adults includes a seafood buffet and all house beer, wine, sparkling and soft drink \$79 children including a gift from Santa

Description- Join us for a spectacular Christmas Day lunch on Friday December 25th! Adult tickets include a delicious Chef served buffet complete with fresh Seafood, cold meats, salads and sides and inclusive of beer, wine and sparkling. Children's tickets include a personalised gift from the Jolly man in red, their own delicious chef served buffet and soft drink or juice. Adults \$189 Children \$79 Children under 5 free.

Boxing Day

Date- Saturday December 26th – All Day

Come down and watch the start of the Sydney – Hobart yacht race over a cool refreshment and a tasty lunch, together with the first day of the Boxing day cricket test. Both of these are major events on the nation's sporting calendar. What better way to overcome the indulgence of Christmas day!

Event- New Year's Eve

Date- Thursday December 31st

Tickets- \$99 VIP \$49 adult general admission \$25 child general admission under 5's free
Description- 20degrees SOUTH and the Whitsunday Sailing Club proudly presents Busby Marou for this New Years Eve celebrations supported by Brooke Schubert. We'll have food trucks, family fireworks, midnight fireworks, multiple bars and the best view in Airlie Beach. Tickets available via Whitsunday Tickets. This is a covid safe event.

WSC Season Opening Day

Date- Tuesday 26th January 2021 (Australia Day)

Come and celebrate the start of the 2021 sailing season. There will be a sailpast by the club fleet of offshore and off beach boats, prizes for the best dressed boat (theme to be announced), an opportunity to sail on one of the club's quest dinghies or Hobie Waves, as well as activities for the family on shore. Of course, Australia Day would not be the same without a beach cricket game and a thong throwing competition!