



Commodore's Report AGM 2021

Peter Bulka

Who would have thought we would be in such a similar position to 12 months ago? We remain in uncertain times but are so lucky to be a part of Safety Beach Sailing Club, as it is and will remain constant to many of us and is a major reason why new members have flocked to the club recently. Whether it be for sailing, social or both, the club and our members provide something special and we intend to keep it going just this way for many years to come.

Luckily, we were able to get through our sailing season with minimal interruption. Great participation across all areas of the club was evident, with fleet numbers strong. When you can't travel, why not go sailing? That certainly appears to have been the case.

I'm envious of our cruising keelboats, who got away in time to avoid the lockdowns. There are some fantastic updates and photos of everyone's travels. At least 6 of our boats are in QLD and you can follow them on the "SBSC Cruising" Facebook page.

Sail Peninsula was again a huge success. Only a few days prior to the event, we were in lockdown, so I commend Clarky, Di and Deirdre for pulling off what can only be described as perfection. We were blessed with fantastic weather and combined with great social opportunities, everyone had a great time and are sure to return with more people next year.

A big thank you to our very active executive committee.

Tony Christmas – Vice Commodore. Managing the relationship and works with the Mornington Peninsula Shire has been a big part of Tony's year, as well as maintaining the grounds. Once we can return to the club, the works currently under way will see a major improvement externally and will match our already completed internal works. We are well set up for the next 10 years.

Ross Martin – Rear Commodore. Ross is someone that gives his heart and soul to the club. He is involved in so many areas and is always helping out wherever possible. Without Ross, our club would not be the same.

Graeme Ainslie – Treasurer. After a number of years, Graeme is stepping down as Treasurer and on behalf of committee and club, I would like to thank him for his contribution. Graeme brought things very well into line from a financial perspective. His contribution has been second to none and he hands over the role, with the club being in a very strong position.

Merran Mackie – Secretary. Mem has settled well into this role after only one year. Thank you for keeping us all on track.

Jennifer Thomson – Membership Secretary. Thanks to Jen, our membership system runs very smoothly. Her contribution also to updating our computer platforms and databases goes unnoticed to many but is a vital part of running the club.

Brian Marklew – Chair Strategic Planning Committee. Thank you to Brian and the sub-committee, we have made changes to key aspects of where the club is heading. Our focus on social membership

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was largely due to this and we have a direction that is well founded because of Brian's involvement. Thank you for your contribution over the past few years, you will be missed on committee.

Andrew Clark – Chair Sail Peninsula. Sail Peninsula was a huge success and we are set up well to take advantage of the hard work over the past few years. Clarky's passion for the club and contribution on committee are invaluable.

Peter Chipperfield – OTB Club Captain. Peter's contribution in this role has been no more evident than this past year. He clearly loves writing the e-news updates and brings a great sense of humour to this. Although Peter will step off the Executive Committee, he will continue in this role.

Pauline Cleaver – Chair Risk Management Committee. If there was ever an area of the club in need of an update, it was risk management. Luckily Pauline agreed to taking on this role before she found out just how much work was involved. It's a challenging area to navigate and Pauline's tenacity is bringing our club to where it needs to be. I also thank Pauline for her overall knowledge and input on committee. A great contributor to our club.

Clubhouse & Catering

As mentioned earlier, Shire contractors are currently working on the exterior of the club. It has been needed for many years and we are finally seeing this come to fruition. Our clubhouse will be completely updated following these works.

We are in the process of working through the catering agreement. Our club-committee have been working hard behind the scenes. All of this in preparation for a more normal environment.

Finances

From Graeme's report you will see that our club is in a very healthy position financially. We continue to produce a strong surplus. We have not needed to spend much over the past 12 months, as we save for future plans. The growth in memberships has helped to boost these numbers and our aim as always is to provide our members with good value for money.

Social Events and Membership

A big thank you to the social committee. Some great functions have been hosted during the year and our members are spending more time at the club as a result. Thank you to Lisa Marklew for structuring this group over the past couple of years and setting this area of the club up well for the future.

The efforts of John and Ann Matheson were mentioned last year; however, it cannot go unmentioned this year. We have had a massive growth in membership because of their efforts. Thursday nights are now very busy, and it won't be long before David Snooks will consider opening even more as a result.

Some other people I would like to mention.

Des Carol. Des greatly assisted with introducing Office 365 to the club. We have much work to do here, but the platform is now in place.

Geoff Eldridge and Deirdre Snooks – Start Boat Team. What would we do without you? Rain, hail or shine, they're always out there running our OTB races. Thank you.

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Chris Parks. His ongoing commitment to taking photos has been a great addition to the club. Thank you again for your efforts.

Our club is in a very strong position, with great people in place to take it forward. We have plans in place to make it even stronger and require more people to get involved. Formation of the Junior, She Sails, Sponsorships, Marketing & Promotion and Training sub-committees is critical for taking our club to the next level. We have so many opportunities available to us and with new people getting involved, we can fully realise these.

Thanks again to everyone involved in making this such a great club. It is a great place to be and I look forward to seeing everyone back at the club when it's possible to do so.

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