



## Vice Commodore's Annual Report 2021

The 2021 Financial Year has seen significant change for the Safety Beach Sailing Club. In many ways we have both benefitted and have been impacted by the pandemic. Looking on the positive side, last year we were able to use the time to finish the interior renovations to the club with less inconvenience to members.

After the renovations were finished the House Committee worked on finishing those small jobs that were still needed to be done and that fell outside the scope of works. Thank you to the members of the House Committee and all members that participated in the working bees to make the Club even more special.

It was always intended that the exterior works would be provided by the Club and that Mornington Peninsula Shire Council (MPSC) would complete the much needed exterior work. This year, the works to the exterior of the building were recommended for the main part of the sailing season, December and January. The Club sort and received the cooperation of MPSC to delay the start of the works until the winter, both to preserve the Club for the members and allow David and the catering team to use the finished internal renovations to attract room bookings and functions. After a tough 2020, 2021 was looking good.

The works started on the 1<sup>st</sup> June with an optimistic timeline of 1 month for completion. It was looking as if the pandemic was playing its part as a lockdown was issued for the 1<sup>st</sup> week of exterior renovations which still went ahead as planned. Meetings were held between the Club, MPSC and the Contractors to ensure a minimum of disruption with all appreciating that scaffolding and fenced off areas were inevitable. The Club was still able to offer services, with slightly reduced view but fully with the expectation that we would be able to show off the works at the AGM and Presentation of Trophies.

As the building work commenced and cladding was revived, several defects were discovered that needed immediate remediation. Once again, the MPSC and the Club got together and at the time of writing, while another lockdown is underway, the works are in progress.

The end result of this will be a Club that all members and guests can be proud of. Where visitors will want to join as members and where we as sailors can look upon the aquamarine waters of our race course while enjoying the first class facilities of our Club.

From July 2021 onwards, the focus will be on making sure the grounds are reflective of the other improvements, especially leading into Spring and Summer. As well as the grounds, cooperative work is being done with Coast Guard to improve the internet connectivity in the building and surrounds and continuing work will be completed in developing a catering strategic plan for the next 5 years so we can ensure the ongoing quality of service to members, visitors and those people and organisations that use the Club for their events and functions.

Tony Christmas

Vice Commodore Safety Beach Sailing Club.