



## Commodore's Report AGM 2020

Peter Bulka

Reflecting on the past 12 months, it is incredible what has been achieved at Safety Beach Sailing Club (SBSC) under very difficult conditions. We thought a season of poor weather for sailing was challenging. Perhaps on reflection we can see just how lucky we are when things are normal, and I hope we truly appreciate what we have.

Although the sailing wasn't great, the club has leapt ahead in many other ways. The committee has been extremely active and productive. The large scale club renovation has been completed, which is a fantastic achievement. Many other things have also been achieved. Some go unnoticed; however each and every bit of progress makes us a stronger club and better prepared for what lies ahead.

I would like to thank our sponsors, Martha Cove Marina, Sport Phillip Marine, Hidden Harbour Marina, Bendigo Bank Dromana, Dromana Lions Club, McLardy McShane, Forklift Clearance Centre, Pest Brigade, Effective Working Image, Boatyard Martha Cove and Snooks Catering. Without their support, much of what we are able to do would not be possible.

A big thank you to our very active executive committee;

**Andrew Martin (Mono)** – Vice Commodore. It's not hard to see why Mono is a life member. His passion and hard work are second to none and we are the club we are, greatly due to his efforts. He will be greatly missed on the executive committee; however his ideas and advice are always present.

**Bill Manning** – Rear Commodore. Bill stepped up when the club needed people to take on the difficult roles. It's a tough job holding all on water areas of a diverse sailing club together and I would like to thank Bill for doing this over the past two years.

**Graeme Ainslie** – Treasurer. Graeme's detail and passion for accuracy have put us back on track from a financial management perspective. He also stepped up when the club most needed him. Graeme has put everything in order. All of this will make it much easier for the next Treasurer. Thank you Graeme for the hard work over the past two years.

**Drew Mattingley** – Secretary. Drew took on one of the most challenging roles in any club. The Secretary has a great deal to do and Drew has done a fantastic job over the past two years. Thanks again Drew.

**Jennifer Thomson** – Membership Secretary. Jenny does an incredible amount of work and is always looking for ways to progress the club. She challenges the norm and her contribution on committee has been incredible.

**Brian Marklew** – Chair Strategic Planning Committee. You don't need to look very far to see just how much of a contribution Brian has made. He also challenges the norm and is constantly coming up with ways to make us a stronger club. Many things have been achieved this past year because of his hard work and passion.

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**Malcolm Winder** – Keelboat Club Captain. Thanks to Mal for doing a great job in this role. It was a particularly challenging year for the keelboats, as many races were cancelled; however Mal's hard work has ensured we will have a very strong fleet once sailing continues.

**Andrew Clark** – Chair Sail Peninsula. Thanks Clarky for the passion you bring to the club and Sail Peninsula. Sail Peninsula 2020 made a modest profit, which is a fantastic achievement. Clarky is a great contributor on committee and brings a positive approach to everything he takes on.

**Tony Christmas** – Coast Guard Liaison. Our relationship with the Coast Guard is stronger than ever. Tony has a foot in both camps, which is a great thing to have for both SBSC and Coast Guard. We share the premises with them and will continue to foster a strong working relationship with them.

**Peter Chipperfield** – Committee Member. Thanks to Peter for his work on committee and particularly on the house committee. Much has been achieved this past year and I thank you for your contribution.

A special mention to Dianne Jackson for attending the executive committee meetings and taking minutes. All the while doing all the other jobs she does for the club.

#### **Clubhouse Renovations**

The number of members who contributed to this major project is incredible. I'm not going to mention many, as I know Mono will cover most of them. However, I would like to thank Mono himself. Without his drive, hard work and tenacity, I don't believe we would have achieved such a fantastic outcome.

Thanks to Lisa Marklew for the design of the interior of the club. We now have a clubhouse that is modern, functional and at a standard I believe most members did not expect could be achieved. It sets us up well for the next 10 years.

Also, thank you to Brian Marklew for the management of the building works and organising all the trades. The experience he brings to the table made this run very smoothly.

This project has been a vision of the club for around 5 years. It was done without the club needing to borrow any money and is a credit to all those involved. Well done.

#### **Club 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. The Marina berth is now fully paid for and producing a supplementary income. The real value of this asset is in excess of \$160,000. We did spend more on the renovation than first budgeted, however we were able to do this, as the club is being managed in such a way where this was possible.

#### **Social Events and Membership**

A big thank you to Lisa Marklew and the social committee. We now have active social functions being well planned and organised. Something we have not been able to achieve for a long time.

Thanks also to Mark McAuliffe for being MC at all our events. He brings a level of professionalism to the task that is great to have.

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The efforts of John and Ann Matheson have been fantastic in growing our social membership and creating the Thursday night dinners at the club. They have done leaflet drops and continue to spread the word, which has contributed greatly to the activity around the club on non-sailing days.

I would also like to specifically thank a few more people;

Sue Turnbull for running the women' sailing. It's great to see this area growing and those women sailing on various boats during the season.

Chris Parks for taking all the photographs and videos. He is always at the club when needed and nothing is ever too hard. First class.

Des Carroll for his work in the tower. He is very well organised and things run so smoothly because of his efforts.

Geoff Eldridge and Deirdre Snooks (Start Boat Team). Amazing amount of effort and enthusiasm for this task.

Rob Campbell for organising the start and rescue boats and all the equipment. I know how much he loves the club and it shows in dedication to this role.

Jonathan Ross for the new website and ongoing administration. Always willing to update information for us and accommodates every request we have.

Thanks to Snooks Catering for another great year with the club. No one was impacted more by the shutdown than Snooks and it is a testament to them for how they found a way to be positive during this time and continue to provide a service to our members. The activity around the kiosk over the past few months is a whole new aspect to the club that no one was expecting.

Our club is in a great position and that is thanks to an endless list of members who all put in a great deal of work as volunteers. I know I've missed listing many people; however I'm sure you don't want my report to go for 6 pages.

The future of our club is strong. The plans we have include a new sponsorship sub-committee and updating our risk management procedures. Sponsorship is not handled well at present and this is a great opportunity for the club to bring on sponsors and provide them with a good return on investment. Risk management is in need of a major upgrade. The challenges of the sailing conditions for keelboats on Fridays made it obvious that we need to have good sound procedures in place.

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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Commodore

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