

mainsheet

Autumn - 2020



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The Official Publication of the Nedlands Yacht Club (Inc)

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Vision

NYC will be a vibrant, sustainable, responsible and family oriented sailing club encouraging juniors and families into the sport, teaching people to sail or improve sailing skills from juniors to world class sailors.

Aims

To be a sailing club, with a balance of sailing and social members, and a mix of fleets that supports people to progress to stages of development from beginners to world class sports people.

To be recognised as the premier off the beach sailing club in the Perth metropolitan area, who can boast friendly members committed to the NYC environment.

To be a well-managed and financially sound club with a membership base of 600 – 800 people.

To be recognised as a club with a culture of volunteerism and social belonging leading to excellent standards of sailing competitiveness and behaviour.

What we value

A unique culture exhibiting modesty and pride in the club.

A spirited, diverse and actively contributing membership.

Respect for difference of opinion, and willingness to listen.

A competitive and sportsmanlike racing culture.

A club open to all ages, abilities and welcoming to newcomers.

Providing a quality recognised program of sailing development.

Care for our surroundings and environment.

Financial security and sustainability.

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COMMODORE'S REPORT

The 2019/2020 Season

The end of another season is in sight with four more consistency heats before Easter and then our Picnic day / Crews race the week after Easter.

It has been busy on the sailing front. The second short course was regatta was a success with some seriously good racing. This second part of the regatta fortunately wasn't held in survival conditions which was a welcome change and things were a lot smoother for all concerned. Well done to the volunteers and start crew.

HMAS Perth Memorial Regatta – It was our 60th anniversary of holding the event and it's a tribute to the Nedlands Yacht Club members commitment to the survivors that has been held long enough to see the WA survivors out and beyond. I had the sobering experience, whilst I was in the Navy, of being present when we laid a wreath at sea on the site of the HMAS Perth's resting place in the Sunda Strait. It was very calm that night, which was a world away from what the young men on HMAS Perth & USS Houston experienced in that two hours of chaos. It's easy to be detached when we live in such peaceful times in Australia, but it's worth reflecting even if only once a year of what previous generations gave up and how truly lucky we all are to be in Australia.

The use of the club line again gave spectators a great view of the action and showed off our Cat fleets a treat something the other Commodores don't have the pleasure of seeing at their clubs. The VIP's and guests really enjoyed the day and we all did the club proud. Thanks to the people who baked and brought down food, the ladies that volunteered inside and our canteen angels were as usual in excellent form. The functions/office organisation this year was superb, Lucy Bromell our Membership coordinator did a fantastic job with the formal invitations and background work to pull it all together. However, for next year we do need some volunteers to help with the organisation, if you can help let me or the office know. The earlier we start the easier it is.

Membership is the most obvious metric for success and continued survival of the club. The good news is that we are growing again. In the past the total numbers of actual sailors were hard to determine because of the different categories and often the total numbers were flattering but not meaningful. There has been considerable effort put into cleaning up the membership data, helped by a change in our database. This has allowed us to zero on the active sailing club members which now number over 400, which is fantastic considering we started the season aiming to make it to 350!! We hope the trend can continue into next season and we can get to 450 on track to the ultimate target of between 500-600 members. Remember the best recruiting device for the club is YOU !! please bring your colleagues, friends and family down and get them involved.

Enjoy the rest of the season and see you at the presentation's sundowner.



Glenn Fairey
Commodore

REGATTA'S REPORT

Hello to all the Nedlands members. We are now a fair way into the season with less than a handful of races left to sail. We have had a cracking season of sailing so far with no races abandoned (touch wood), although early Feb saw a 20 knot starting breeze increase to 25+ during the day. On these stronger days we really have to sing the praises of all the volunteers both on and off water who generally have as many challenges as the sailors do.

The number of boats racing each week hovers around the mid to high 40 mark, with a good day seeing 51-52 boats on water. This is similar to last year's numbers. It would be great to see an increase in these numbers. Our storage is approaching its capacity, but we are not seeing that reflected in racing numbers.

While talking number, HMAS Perth Memorial regatta saw 62 boats – 13 of whom were visitors to the club. That was an increase on last year of 52 boats – 21 of whom were visitors. It was great to see the increased interest from the Nedlands members. Next year it would be great to see more visitors to show off the best dinghy club on the river.....

This time of year I am already looking forward into organising next season. The Swan River Racing Committee are currently working on the calendar of events for next season and our requests to fit in with the other river users have been submitted. We are working on 3 national / states series for the 20/21 season. This will make next season a busy one for the club.

The training courses this year have been up and down. We have held 4 Start Sailing courses with the 3rd course having a fantastic group of 13 students. There have been a number of the students from these courses catch the sailing bug and have stayed on as crew in the club. If anyone is looking for permanent crew, these courses are a great place to look.

Good luck for the last few weeks of the season and I will hopefully see you on the water.



Graeme Pennifold

Sailing Co-ordinator



THE OFFICE

WOW what an incredible summer we have had. Not only some interesting weather and sailing conditions but a some great achievements for the Club too.

December kicked off with the biggest in NYC events history, even surpassing the year we hosted a 1,000 person Christmas function, with a whopping 29% of the events income budget in just the one month plus an increase in figures by 60% between December 2018 and 2019. The events team hosted some huge Christmas functions and weddings particularly in the days between Christmas and New Years Eve. January and February have continued the flow on with increased revenue in their respective months too. Looking great team, well done!



The hot months of November & December did manage to take its toll on parts of the NYC foreshore grass, and with the number of events and foot traffic it didn't have a chance to grow back. Because of this, part of the foreshore in front of the Clubhouse, has had grass replaced with a sturdy grass which copes with the foot traffic and heat. Once this new grass settles in, and a couple of other patches are replaced, the grass should be far more hardy for the following year.

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 2, 2020

Trying a different tack

Outdoor Explorer! writer **BEN ASHLEY** is learning to sail. Over the next few weeks we'll follow his journey. Will Ben end up aspiring to the next Sydney to Hobart, or prefer to return his feet to terra firma?

Outside Nedlands Yacht Club.

I have to be honest, when my better-half Tina suggested taking part in a sailing course, I was dubious at best. Having a completely healthy, rational fear of the ocean and all its denizens had so far precluded me from wading too deep into the world of water sports. However, my lacklustre swimming ability was matched only by my inability to say no to my ever-enthusiastic girlfriend, and so I found myself donning a lifejacket and learning the difference between a halyard and a jib sheet at 8.30am on a Sunday morning. And I have to say, I've enjoyed it immensely so far. It's a testament to the patient tuition and guidance of Graeme and Maddi at Nedlands Yacht Club that I was not only able to rig up a boat, but sail it in a direction vaguely approximating where I intended, all within a few hours. In the first couple of lessons, you will learn how to tie seaworthy knots such as the bowline and the figure-eight, how to find the direction of the wind and how to channel it to power your sailing dinghy. Head directly upwind and you will stop, an embarrassing display of flappy, ineffectual sails – which means manoeuvring on the water becomes an art of angles. The five-week course is designed to teach complete amateurs like yours truly the fundamentals of sailing and provide all the tools you need to get out on the water and not capsize immediately. That said, learning how to capsize safely and get upright again is one of the many important skills you will be expected to demonstrate, although two lessons in and I've managed to stay more or less vertical. Call it beginner's luck? Stay tuned.

January was a fantastic month for the sail training programs with 24 tackers participants in 3 weeks and 13 participants in the Start Sailing Course run from January – February. We have had some keen interest from these courses since their completion from participants who are now as hooked on sailing as our members are. We even had a write up in the local paper about one participants experience. Well done Graeme and Maddi for the excellent feedback, not only shown in this article, but that we consistently receive from participants.

Joining our course participants in going sailing for the first time, I can now say I have officially been on a sailboat – in a racing capacity. Rear Commodore Pete Twiby & Kayt Davies were kind enough to allow me, the lady with no sea legs, who's only ever been on a yacht to sun and frolic about in the Mediterranean, onto their boat to race a shifty day in January. I had an absolute blast moving about on the foredeck, yelling banter at passing yachts and waving to just about every member I saw out on water. I'll consider myself a lucky charm, because somehow, even with me on board we placed second. Although I am not sure I'll test that theory any time soon, I'd hate to be proven wrong. Thanks to Arthur who was also on board and probably wondered to himself on a number of occasions what I was doing.

As if January wasn't packed full enough, this year's Australia Day Event sure went off with a bang. With 350-400 people enjoying the beautiful views and facilities that our humble Club has to offer, plus the food trucks, waterslides and the bar being open, we can safely say that this year's event was a huge success. We ask you to save the date for our 2021 Australia Day Event. It will be another fantastic day of activities, great food and ice-cold beverages.



The HMAS Perth Memorial Regatta 2020 was a big day for the Club and was hugely successful with excellent feedback coming from Commodores of other Clubs, VIP invitees, guests and members. We welcomed a very large number of visitors here at the Club for the ceremony, lunch and presentations afterwards. We also welcomed several visiting boats out on the water. A huge thank you all our members that helped out with the event, this event cannot be done without you! Thank you to all those that helped set up the Club House and veranda, managed parking, bought food, helped serve our guests, helped pack away, run on-water activities and everyone who volunteered for the day. It takes a massive number of volunteers to run an event such as this and you, the Nedlands Yacht Club Community came up trumps again! The final thank you goes to Lucy Bromell, for orchestrating such a wonderful and successful event. Your hard work greatly appreciated.





To finish off February the Events team hosted a Twilight wedding open night that saw numbers around 300 in attendance taking a look at what NYC offers as a wedding venue, as well as check out option for their wedding here with us. It was a huge success.

Well I think that just about sums up what has been happening around the Club for the Summer months. I will be around on some Sundays or am in the office Tuesdays to Saturdays so make sure you say hi.

I look forward to a strong finish to the financial year and the exciting plans ahead.

Jacinta Wilson

Managing Secretary







Presentation Night

Saturday 2nd May

TROPHY PRESENTATIONS, DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT
5PM ONWARDS

SAVE THE DATE



CLOSING DAY BREAKFAST 2020



SUNDAY
19TH APRIL
2020



SLIPPERY SLIDE, SAILING RACES, AND
CREW/SKIPPERS RACE. BREAKFAST \$10

NATIONAL 125'S

It's been an eventful few months for the 125 class. With the calendar highlight this season being the 43rd National Championships. Two Nedlands teams 'Consuming Passions' and 'Flashin' Ya Nemo' embarked on the long drive across the Nullarbor to Port Lincoln. Here we joined Team WA to represent 12 of the 18 boats.

This trip was eventful to say the least. We experienced no wind, too much wind, wind that spun 360 degrees and good wind. The varying conditions challenged sailors of all levels but made for some great learning.

After six days of sailing our fellow team members Ryan Sherburn and Ella Coxall from SOPYC made WA proud winning the Open Championship.

As soon as the celebrations wrapped up the new challenge began. How to get home? As bushfires closed the road, contingency plans were put in place. Rockstar crews flew back whilst skippers and family had an extended holiday. After some uncertainty they returned safely back a week later.



Nedlands boats have also been part of some other great events. At the start of the year 'Rage' attended EFYC Rumble in the Reach which is always a fantastic day. 'Flashin' Ya Nemo' made 125's first appearance at Shelly Sailing Club for the Convict Bay Regatta. Most recently 'Under Pressure' took the opportunity to head to Walpole's Regatta in the Trees coming 1st in consistency. 125's attend many of these events all whilst still enjoying regular sailing at NYC.

Reminder of important dates for the diary:

11 – 12 March: National 125 WA State Championships 2020 at SOPYC

CRUISER NEWS

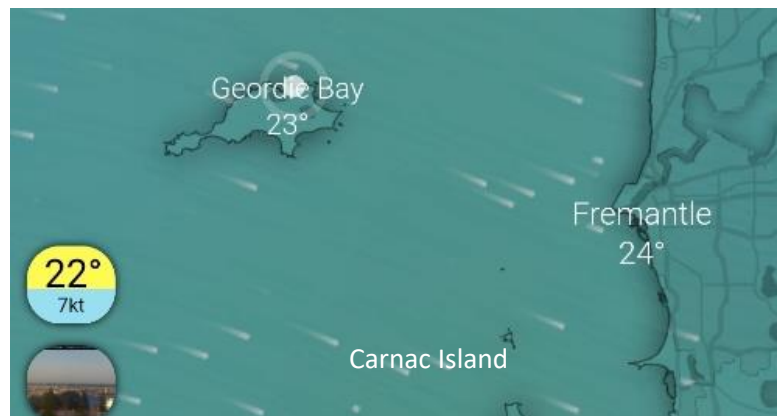
Sailing in Company - Weekend Trip to Rottnest (29 Feb to 2 Mar 2020)

The opportunity to sail with other boats in a flotilla to Rottnest garnered support from several cruiser skippers on the verandah. The wise old hands waxed lyrical about the strategies for mast lowering and raising, while the Red Witch owners (and short-masters) smiled gleefully.

The trip is classified as Offshore and requires much preparation. Please see the note for a summary on the [safety requirements and other details](#).

The weather forecast for a Westerly on the Saturday, a strong Easterly on Monday and other concerns led to a gradual reduction in numbers until only two boats made the trip: Rascal II (Peter Twiby and Kayt Davies) and Witch Addiction (John Collier and Oliver Luddington). Interestingly, these two were craft that did not need to lower their masts...

The sail over to Longreach Bay proved a marathon affair. Windy showed it blowing directly from Rottnest to Fremantle. Peter described the trip jokingly as 'we took a shortcut via Carnac Island,' which actually was the case! Rascal II arrived at 15.30 and Witch Addiction at 17.30.



After dropping sail in Thomson Bay, the party then motored around to the Longreach Bay channel, and using the Lead marks, eventually reached safe haven. Attention then turned to cooling off in the crystal-clear waters.



Though watch out for stingrays when walking from the boat to the beach.



As the cool of the night set in the merry band set off to enjoy the local beverages and cuisine. A most enjoyable meal rounded off the long day at the Geordie Bay Café.

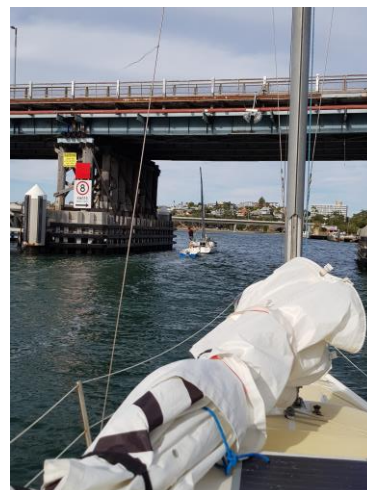
Sunday was spent snorkeling around the Basin and testing the beverage purveyors in the main settlement before settling in for an early night. The idea being to get a good rest before battling the strong Easterly back to Nedlands the next day. The wind however, prevented much rest from happening, with in excess of 30 knots East North East blowing all night. It was a long, noisy, rough, sleepless night, with some crews fending off dragging vessels in the wee hours of the morning.



When the sun rose, the Easterly was still over 30 knots. The crews waited for the wind to abate before heading off; eventually leaving Thompson's Bay at approximately 1:30pm. Once again, the trip was lengthened by the unfavourable wind direction. Eventually, near Stragglers rocks as the vessels were putting in an aversionary tack, the wind gave out and the steel spinnaker was roared into action.

Peter sailed Rascal II singlehanded on the return journey while Witch Addiction had her full complement on board. Freo harbor was made in just over three hours. The return up the river was into the Easterly and so also was longer than normal. The three adventurers returned to Nedlands about 19.00.

Proof that a Redwitch will fit under the Fremantle Traffic Bridges.



Well done to Aquarius (Laurie Dixon and crew Phoebe) and the pirates of Solitaire (Martin and Sharon Eyer) who sailed at different times to the bridges on the Saturday and then overnighted in Matilda Bay.

By Paul Roux and Peter Twiby

John Collier flying the the Welsh Flag on St David's Day



Note: Safety requirements and other details

Since the distance from Fremantle to Rottnest is 12 nm, the vessel's safety-equipment must conform to the WA Department of Transport's "over 5 nm" off-shore category which, in addition to a sea worthy boat, requires the following minimum safety requirements:

RST (if engine over 6hp), bilge pump/bailer, **fire extinguisher** (if vessel has an in-board engine or stove), **Level 100 life-jackets** for each crew member, **anchor and line** (with chain preferably), **in-date off-shore flares** (2 x red and 2 x parachute), **marine radio** and **in-date and registered EPIRB**.

A Rottnest **admission fee** (individual or annual) needs to be paid preferably on-line before departure. A **mooring** can be hired, or else you fend for yourself off the beach or at anchor.

When departing, the marine radio is used to **log on** with Fremantle Sea Rescue and advise trip details. Upon arrival, another call is made to **log-off**. VHF channel 73 (or 16 – emergency) or 27Mhz channel 90 (or 88 – emergency) is used. FSR call sign is VN6DI. A holder of an RST should recall the protocols.

If the marine radio is VHF it is a legal requirement to additionally hold the **Short Range Operator Certificate of Proficiency (SROCP)** in order to operate it. You don't need such a certificate to operate a 27 Mhz. VHF has better quality and range, and is the way to go these days.

If the VHF is equipped with **Digital Selective Calling (DSC)** with GPS, then you can also obtain a **Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI)** for the boat. You enter the MMSI into the radio, and then when making DSC calls (like pager messages) on channel 70, the transmission is automatically tagged with MMSI and lat./long details.

These radios come with a red distress button that can send a Mayday digital message on channel 70 to all ships. All DSC equipped stations in range then automatically receive this call and sound an alarm. Operators then observe the required protocol to listen for further communications on the designated channel. When registering the EPIRB, the MMSI can also be provided to link the EPIRB to the boats ownership and emergency contact details. AMSA have a website <https://www.beacons.amsa.gov.au/> where trip details can be logged as an extra safety feature for those with a registered beacon.

HOBIE REPORT

Windy Nationals – Jervoise Bay WA

Malingerer. Nationals PRO Paul Davis let us down at the last moment - whining about having had a heart attack. - In truth Paul still managed to do quite a lot of work from his sick bed to arrange a smooth transfer of commissions. He even came down on one day. "I've been told I must take it easy," he announced - and was asked, "Did you drive down here Paul?"

In Paul's absence we had to make do with John McKechnie. John, actually one of the best PRO's in WA had to navigate the series around some really strong, determined winds. The wind on the final Friday morning was already 20 knots at 8am. Quite incredible. I have never – and I say this most earnestly – never – heard of a 20 knot sea breeze at 8 am before. Unlucky. We had 11 DNC on Thursday afternoon when it gusted to over 30 and more on the Friday - We need to be careful we don't blow those DNC guys out of our sport; They have any number of other options.

It was great to see international superstars Gael and Luc, Nicklas, and Andy and Lisa Dinsdale in attendance.

Congratulations to winners Cam and Suzzi and to Phil Smyth who was deservedly elevated to Legend status when he was entered into the Hobie Legends Hall of Fame. Results were much as expected except for Matt and Ben who sailed well above their proper station (and anyway, probably should have been drug tested).

Club Racing

A quick look through the club results show Sven continuing to improve and the new teaming up of Trent and Nat starting to reveal some of its awesome potential.



Cam & Suzzi. It's moments like these you need Minties

One problem for our fleet is that in some ways it is too good for its own good. It is one of the BEST FLEETS IN THE WORLD, so even very good sailors find themselves mid-fleet – and may get discouraged. It's a

problem. It's good to see youth sailors – Lachy is hanging in there even in the windiest stuff; and Grace is showing real potential as a crew. I'm always impressed when people new to Hobies master the skills quickly. Natalie Eldridge has only been sailing for one season yet already has all the skills and the mental toughness to match it with the best.

Stu put his boat on the market recently expecting it wouldn't sell till after the end of the season; Unfortunately it sold immediately. That was kind of funny. - Anyhow Stu is keen to crew in the meantime. He has been good value so let's keep him in the fleet.

The club race on February 6 will long be remembered. The wind grew and eventually raged down on the fleet at up to 35 knots; 20 starters, 6 finishers and a litany of horror stories – some tall tales but most stories were good enough to be told without embellishment; Some found attempting to retire and sail back to the club was impossible and several found that even going-about was impossible. Mel and I saw the forecast and sat that one out - but would like to thank everyone else for entertaining us so liberally.

Walpole Regatta



Robin and me at Walpole – Robin in his new shark-proof wetsuit. ... Well ... no sharks attacked him.

Walpole offers one of the most beautiful settings of any regatta in WA. It's a pity it conflicts with our States every year. It might be worth changing our calendar so we can get to it. It really is that good. There's the sailing of course –but then there's the staggeringly beautiful Valley of the Giants; trees to climb and the famous Tree Top Walk to do. The site-seeing is genuinely world-class. Accommodation is metres from the course; very convenient. Crews included Rod and Lucy, Daz and Claire, Andy, Anna and Vicki, Glen and Nat, Phil and Robin and Jason and Colleen. - And Elizabeth came along and stayed with Cailie and the Spencer girls; Great for bonding and reminding ourselves why we love this great sport.

The PRO set the tone for the event from the beginning by telling us to be nice. He suggested that protests would only be heard if payment were made in Australian Pound notes - and he gave the location of the defibrillator for the benefit of older sailors. This is not a regatta for manic, bullet-headed, testosterone

fuelled competitors. It's a big event – over 140 boats – and lots of them are kids with shining eyes and happy grins.

Most stayed at the adjoining Caravan Park but Robin and I stayed at the youth hostel; Very cheap and full of enthusiastic young European tourists. Robin was in his element – speaking alternately in English, German and French. – What a show off!

Day 1 was glorious. Three quick races in a variety of pleasant conditions. Day 2 was blown out. It had been forecast. – An unseasonal 30 knot cyclone-affected Easterly at 9:00 am - so we all retired to “Jason Spencer Manor”; a beautiful chalet near the banks of the Franklin River and overlooking the Southern Ocean. Don't tell your vegetarian friends but we barbequed a lot of meat - the kilogram weight equivalent of a baby or a small child. – Delicious!

I'm ready to do Walpole again next year.

WHAT'S ON?

States Esperance This Easter 11 & 12 April 2020. The Notice of Race is out. Nominate now.

Your trailer is going to let you down. Get the bearings and lights done. It's a 1000 K round trip.

Tanzacat 26 Sept – 4 October 2020. We've now negotiated a 4 day pre-regatta safari. Cool. Join us if you can.

Cheers,

Phil King



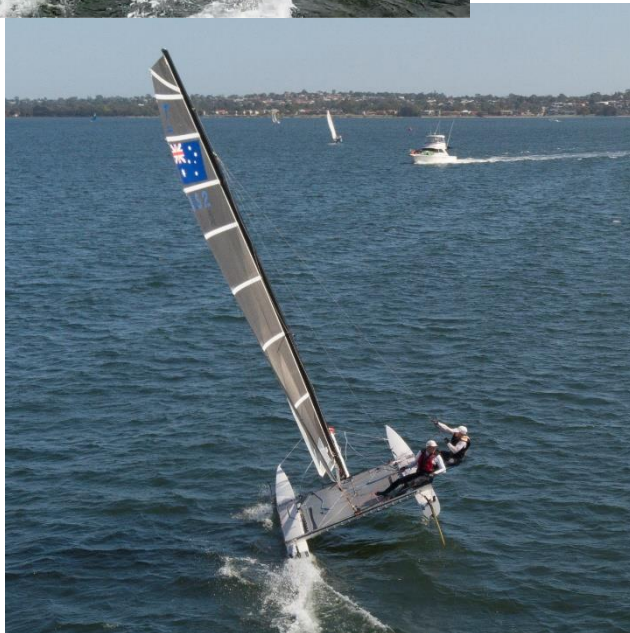
OPEN CATS

Open cats continue to grow with the purchase of two additional A Class Cats by Max Putman and Dan Brown. F18's continue to be a popular choice for fleet racing and our four Tornados make appearances on as many race days as can be accommodated. Brett, Allan and Jared continue to make performance gains in preparation for their Championship campaigns in Europe in the northern hemisphere summer – Coronavirus notwithstanding.



Building the fleet and improving its competitiveness are the prime objectives of this season. The racing over the past few weeks has been very competitive and continues to make NYC Sundays the most enjoyable day of the week. The return of the F18's from championships regattas will increase number as the weeks progress. All good signs for the future.

Allan Gamble



JUNIORS

Since our last mainsheet, the juniors have had very few events other than holidays.

F11s have spent most of their time fixing their boats and chillaxing.

Juniors have been flowing through the recent tackers courses. We are extremely excited for new sailors to come through the junior program as crews to compensate for our abundance of skippers and boats that we have at the moment.

Although many juniors have only been seen around club racing, we have had a lot of junior representation as recent national and state regattas.

Of the 31 boats at Hobie nationals, there were 5 NYC junior sailors, competing against masters and world champions.



In the 125 Nationals, Monika transported her 125 over the Nullarbor to represent Nedlands as a junior sailor.

In the recent Walpole regatta in the trees, Annika represented 125s, and Anna was also seen at the front of her Hobie, for a fun filled regatta. Showing how strong Junior sailors of Nedlands can be.

Juniors are excited to continue training and to learn and improve. We hope to grow our fleet and improve our training. To include everyone that is keen and has an interest in sailing, and to train up to be the best racers possible.

Can't wait to see everyone on the water :D



Annika Pennifold

Junior Captain

EVENTS

Mainsheet article:

Greetings folks! Welcome back to another edition of the events mainsheet article. By this time, I do hope that we have had the pleasure to meet 😊 If we haven't and you happen to be here on a Sunday, or during the week, then please feel free to stop me and say hi. I sure love a chat!

So where do I start... This Summer I mastered the art of the Hobie Cat, our dear Commodore can confirm everything. Like a dolphin, soaring through the waves... Oh wait, back to events...

This Summer season our events team certainly hit the ground running. With a grand total of 35 events we have had our work cut out for us, but we made it through! From gorgeous wedding setups to corporate Christmas parties, a Wedding Expo, conferences and members events, this season has sure been a lot of fun! We have had the pleasure of seeing our beautiful foreshore transformed in many different ways for each outdoor event, something that never gets old to look at 😊

Along with events, I also had the pleasure of working many sailing Sundays with you fine folk. I hope you enjoyed your cheap member specials! We will aim to keep a few more coming your way throughout the rest of the season!

Jumping into the Autumn season it doesn't stop. With Wedding season in full swing, we are gearing up for the next round of Weddings including none other than Miss Jacinta Wilsons'! Something our staff are all very much looking forward to 😊

As always, we are still looking for opportunities to fill our events calendar. If you know someone, or you are looking for the perfect venue to host your next celebration, seminar or corporate event then please feel free to pass on my details or pop down and say hello. I would love to meet you and discuss how we can make your next event spectacular and something your guests certainly won't forget!

Regards,
Rachel Ogilvie





LOOKING FOR A UNIQUE VENUE FOR YOUR NEXT EVENT?

Located on the banks of the Swan River, and only 15 minutes away from the Perth CBD, Nedlands Yacht Club is the perfect choice for any occasion!

Contact us on 9386 5496 or email corporate@nyc.org.au to speak with our friendly events team today



