

# Mainsheet

Autumn 2023





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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



From the Commodore

The second half of the 2022|2023 sailing season is heading to a conclusion with Picnic Day quickly approaching on Sunday 30 April. Unfortunately, following my mishap on the launching ramp in November, I have not been able to join you all to enjoy the great racing and sailing events that have taken place over the back end of the season. All being well though I will be back on the water for the start of the 2023/2024 season... and I cannot wait.

Congratulations go out to all our catamaran sailors who attended National Championships over the Christmas/New Year Club recess. Yachts from our F18, Hobie 16 and Hobie 14 fleets travelled to the eastern states during this period and returned triumphant in all cases. It is excellent that we are now able to plan and go forward with such events without the threat of cancellations or postponements due to COVID. The 63<sup>rd</sup> HMAS Perth Memorial Regatta held at the Club on 19 February was a resounding success yet again through the huge efforts of Lucy Bromell. The HMAS Perth Memorial Regatta has been the Club's premier event over the last six decades so now one of the more sought-after regattas on the annual sailing calendar. This year we saw 70 nominations for the Regatta, resulting in 66 competitors vying for the five perpetual trophies. The day was presided over by Club Patron, Barry Court AM, with Captain Gary Lawton, Commander HMAS Stirling, representing HMAS Perth 1 and Ms Siriana Nair, U.S. Consul General representing USS Houston.

The first half of the season saw some interesting and varied sailing conditions with weekly courses moving through all points of the compass. Several race days were either delayed or ultimately cancelled due to inconsistent wind patterns. The Club Sprint series has not been a huge success over the current season to date and Regatta is looking at what alternative structure could be considered going forward. One of our biggest challenges is in getting volunteers to officiate at these events, as well as the other mini-series in the sailing calendar. There will be another Club Survey issued shortly seeking input and any better ideas from members for how the Club could make these events more inviting and enjoyable. I encourage all members to take the time to respond to the survey as this will give Management a better appreciation of the needs and wants of the members. The membership numbers are steadily growing, with current numbers at 488, of which 354 are fully paid members. The numbers of Complimentary Memberships and Sail Passes have significantly increased, as well, since the Christmas break and currently stand at 129. These memberships have come through the increased sail training courses and the invitational races being offered by the Club. A huge thank you must go out to Graeme Penniford and his coaching team for making all the Tackers and Sail Training Courses open and available.

A significant amount of work has been done around the Club during the sailing season, including a major repair of the launch ramp plus ongoing jetty maintenance and preservation. These items are major considerations for the Club going forward, both being important aspects contributing to the future success and character of our yacht club on the Swan River. Thanks go to John Collier for his huge efforts with the ramp refurbishment and to Rod Hodgkin, Ric Fairey and Peter Snow for their ongoing commitment to the jetty preservation. We have now received approval from DBCA to make the necessary and urgent repairs to three of the jetty piles. Peter Snow's team is currently looking at alternative proposals to upgrade the existing timber jetty and will submit their recommended priced proposal to management by mid-June.

The Club has again been successful in obtaining an endorsement from Community Sports and Recreation Facilities Fund approving its further grant application for the development of the new Sail Training Centre. This grant, on top of the same grant pledged by the City of Nedlands, now brings our funding to \$1.1m towards the \$1.63m estimated budget for the new development. The Club is also in a very strong position from its efforts through the Australian Sports Foundation to meet the additional \$543k required. If any member would like to support this fund (ASF) there are details in the Mainsheet but for your immediate information the link is <https://asf.org.au/projects/nedlands-yacht-club> . Now, before the end of the financial year, is the best time to take advantage of the tax deduction from your donation. Gavin Taylor and Mike Ipkendenz are well advanced on finalising the DBCA Development approval. This is an initial positive step in the work of constructing the new STC but it does require appropriate planning and development, which could affect the waters of the Swan Canning Development Control Area, established under the *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006*. Another Town Hall is planned once the approval has been received from DBCA along with the invitation to then submit our proposed Building Plans.

I wish everyone a great finish to the season's sailing and look forward to rewarding all successful members for their achievements over the season at the Club Presentation night on 6 May 2023.

Cheers and happy sailing!

Phil

# VJ RESTORATION

As the VJ class was the reason this club started 70 years ago the desire to restore the last VJ left at the club has been in motion for a few years now.

Thanks to a number of people in the club we now have the VJ 'Zero' to a sailable condition.

This was a project that was started by Mike Fitzgerald who got the interest happening and started with the restoration project. He worked on the hull and what spars he could find in F shed. The Vj was displayed at previous events but without sails.

The restoration came to a bit of a halt when we realised that we didn't have the correct mast and really no sails to speak of.

Rod Hodgkin started to ask around and a friend in Geraldton, Toggys Marsh put the request onto a facebook page that focused on restoring wooden boats.

From this, the wonderful Peter Calder saw the request and contacted the club to say that he had a mast, boom, spinnaker pole and mainsail we could have, but, they were in Sydney and we would need to work out how to get them back here.

In step the Hobie Team going to the Hobie Nationals in Vincentia. Cam and Suzi managed to organise the collection of the said Items from the Northern Beaches of Sydney by a passing Hobie Sailor going to Vincentia. Cam and Suz then bought them all the way back to Perth.



PHOTO – JOHN CHAPMAN

Peter Calder who now resides in Perth was delighted to see all these things and promptly got to work restoring them and all the fittings on the boat with Rod's help. Peter has also become a Club member which is fabulous.

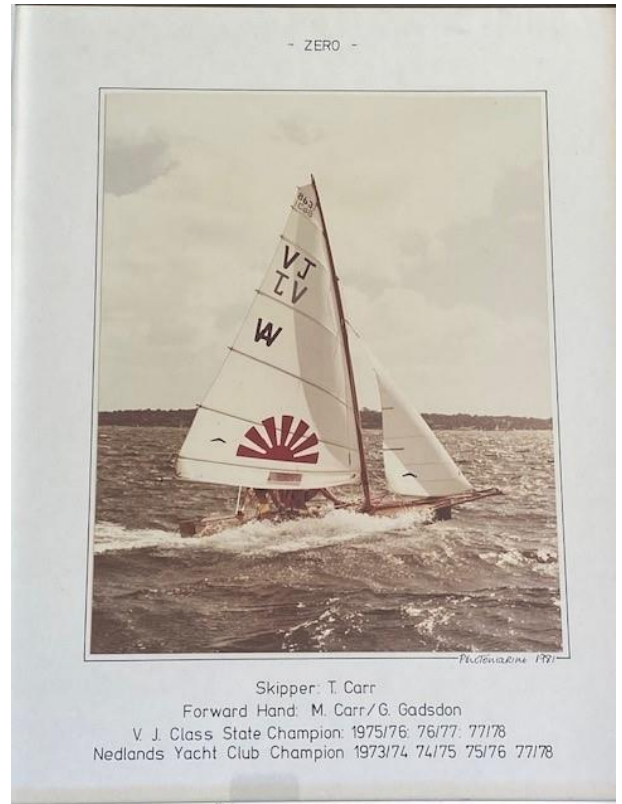
Still minus a jib, centre board and suitable rudder the boat was sailed with the loan of these items from Tony Jones who has an impressive wooden boat collection.

Since her launch onto the waters, her original owner Tony Carr has been discovered and he has kindly offered to put the original motif onto the sail. He was delighted to see Zero back on the water.

Peter Calder has also been working on building her a new rudder.

There are plans afoot to make a new centreboard and jib over the winter if we can't find one elsewhere. Hopefully next season she will be on the water again!

Lucy Bromell



- ZERO -

Skipper: T. Carr  
Forward Hand: M. Carr/G. Gadsdon  
V. J. Class State Champion: 1975/76, 76/77, 77/78  
Nedlands Yacht Club Champion 1973/74, 74/75, 75/76, 77/78





JOIN US FOR

# 2023 AWARDS SUNDOWNER

SATURDAY

6TH MAY  
2023

4pm

FREE DRINK ON ARRIVAL, GAMES, ENTERTAINMENT,  
CANAPES, AWARDS

\$30/head

\$15/ children U12

# THE OFFICE

## 70 Years of Sailing.

We have had a busy summer season to date both on and off the water. There have been plenty of great sailing days with close racing, our junior fleet is growing, and work is continuing on the new sail training centre now our CSRFF grant application has been approved. Sunday 23rd April is our last consistency race and picnic day is the 30<sup>th</sup>. Our last Tackers course for the season from the 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> April was fully



WAIODA WA Optimist State Championships

booked. We have had a 20% increase in the number of tackers registrations this season giving us a total 108 course registrations for the season. WA Schools Teams Regatta is booked for the 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> April

NYC hosted the inaugural RS Aero State Championships, the WAIODA Optimist State Championships this season. Once the new sail training centre is completed, we hope we can host more State, National and World championships.

Well done to all sailors who have competed in State, National and World Championships. Great results. NYC punching above its weight with so many great results in F18's, Hobies, Tornado, Optimist, RS Aero. Sorry if I have missed anyone, there has been a lot to keep track of.

The revamped Nedlands Challenge was a well-attended and it was agreed that the new race format worked well. The RS Aero State Championship was run in conjunction with the Nedlands Challenge. They had a couple of morning races then 3 races in the afternoon.

## Junior Sailing

A big Thank You of all the parents, volunteers, coaches etc who have help it possible to run such a successful and busy season to date. There has been a big



RS Aero WA State Championships



Sunday Morning Junior Sailing

improvement in sailing skills from our junior sailors with seven of them sailing in the WAIODA State Championship at NYC. Alex Eyles came 1<sup>st</sup> in the intermediate fleet. A great result. We also had 4 of our junior sailors competing in the Open Skiff National. It was a great learning experience for theses sailors competing in their first National Championship.



## STC / CSRFF / Donations / Fundraising



After many months of hard work NYC has been awarded a Community Sports and Recreation Facilities Fund Grant of \$543,333 from the Department of Local Government Sports and Cultural Industries in [Grab your reader's attention with a great quote from the document or use this space to emphasize a key point. To place this text box anywhere on the page, just drag it.]

addition to the \$543,333 from the City of Nedlands towards our new world class Sail Training Centre. Currently we have raised over \$180,000 from donations, fund raising activities and from the Container recycling Scheme.

We still need to raise \$370,000. Now is the time to make your tax-free donation through our fundraising page on the Australian Sport Foundation Website <https://asf.org.au/projects/nedlands-yacht-club>

If you don't require a tax deductible invoices donations can be made directly to the club bank account. You can contact the office for details. Don't forget your 10c containers. Either drop the to your local recycling centre and ask for the money to be donated to Nedlands Yacht Club or put them in one of the clubs 10c container bins.

Thank you to all the people who have donated so far and helped with other fund-raising efforts. The new Sail Training Centre will be an asset to the club and benefit all members.

## HMAS Perth Memorial Regatta

We had a great turnout with 70 entries recorded. Fantastic to see the lawn covered in boats. A big thank you to Lucy Bromell for making it happen and all the time and effort that went into making it such a successful day. Thank you to all the visiting boats who competed this year. We hope to see you all again next year. Also thank you to everyone who volunteered on the day. This event relies on your help and support. We can't do it without you.



HMAS Perth Regatta

## Volunteers

Thank you to all the members who have volunteered this year. This club runs on volunteer help from management to sailing and maintenance. With out this volunteer help the club would not be able o operate as it does.

## Winter Series

Put our winter series date in your diary. 18 June, 16 July, 6 August, and 3 September.

## Busy Bees

We will only be doing 4 Busy Bees this year 11<sup>th</sup> June 9<sup>th</sup> July 13<sup>th</sup> August and 10<sup>th</sup> September.

Duncan Ray – Managing Secretary

# JUNIORS

## Junior captain report - Autumn.



It's been a busy time since our update in the summer addition.

The junior fleet has grown, and a number of kids have taken part in training and competition at other events, like South of Perth Skiffs and the NYC Optimist states. We've also had the introduction of our green and intermediate fleets, allowing the tackers to hone their skills with others of a similar level. I'd like to thank all of the coaches for teaching in the mornings and Stephan for all of the hard work he puts in behind the scenes for our upcoming junior sailors.

There was also a good turnout for our Friday twilight sailing series at NYC with several juniors

racing. A big thank you to Andrew for always being involved and spending hours in the junior's safety boat, keeping us all safe.

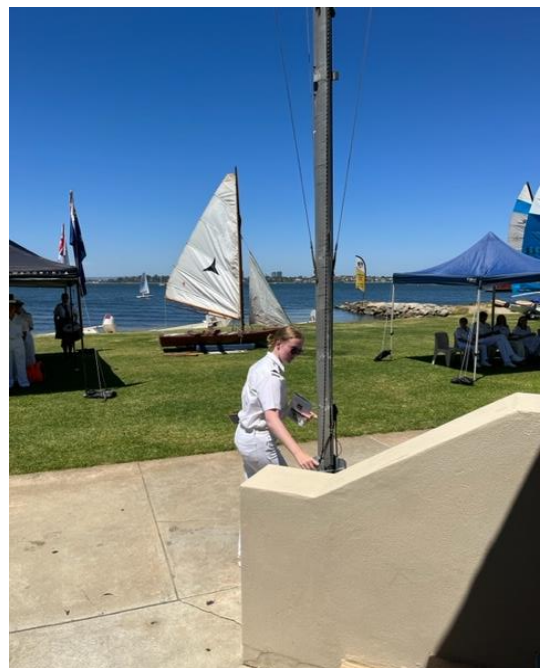
Afternoon races on normal club days have become popular and most Sundays there are a few boats competing and fun to be had at our presentation on the verandah after sailing has finished. Some have ventured onto other boats in the afternoons, trying different classes and learning more about sailing in general, which is great to see. A few have made their way to the Hobies for a two-hull experience!

For me this is my final season as Junior Captain, it is time to hand the baton to our next Junior Captain, and I wish the person who takes up the job all the best. Some of the highlights are the HMAS Memorial event each year (even if the flag doesn't open properly!) attending the Regatta meeting and seeing how these run. Meeting new members and their families.

I will still be seeing the juniors on a Sunday morning as I continue to help with training.

Thank you to everyone for their support and help over the last 2 years.

Anna.





1KG ONLY  
**\$15**

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Support the fundraising effort for the STC.  
Honey produced by the bees on Rod Hodgkin's  
block in Hovea



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FROM THE CANTEN ON SUNDAY

# **PICNIC** 2023 **APRIL 30, 2023 DAY**



**9AM - 10.00AM BREAKFAST**  
**\$10 ADULTS. \$6 CHILD**  
**WATERSLIDE, SAILING RACES, CREW/SKIPPER RACE. FUN**



# HOBIE REPORT

Hobie Season 22/23

Hobies have had a sensational season with more success coming Nedlands way in 1 season than many clubs could only dream of achieving. It all started with a contingent of 5 crews heading off to Costa Brava in Spain to contend the 23rd Hobie 16 Worlds in September. With 225 of the best teams in the world competing Nedlands came back with gold.

Cam Owen and Susan Ghent became World Champions taking out the close fought open division with a super consistent series.

Darren Smith and Claire Bisgood came third and Gavin Colby and Josephine Mark fifth, each scoring multiple first place races. Glen Fairey and Alexandra Young fought hard for a very credible 68<sup>th</sup>, showing just how competitive this fleet was. In the Masters division it was Cam and Susie 1<sup>st</sup>, Darren and Claire 2nd and Glen Fairey teaming up with Natalie Eldridge this time coming 13th. An incredible result all round.



Next it was off to the 50<sup>th</sup> National Championships held with 5 16's making the long trek over to Vincentia Yacht Club in Jervis Bay Queensland. With lots to live up to after worlds success and Eastern states crews chomping at the bit for a win, once again the Nedlands sailors showed all comers just how its done. Again it



was Cam and Susan 1<sup>st</sup> with Darren and Claire second in both the Open and Masters divisions, Phil and Caitlin Epps 11<sup>th</sup> overall and 4th in the masters . Not to let the oldies have all the fun Lachy Owen and Elisabeth Smith have become Youth National Champions! A fantastic effort and showing we can dominate into the future. Another successful series for all who entered, well done. In another development there has been a resurgence in Hobie 14 class. Holding the first nationals for quite some time WA again had a

good representation with Darren 5<sup>TH</sup> Cam 12<sup>th</sup> Brad Quartermaine 15<sup>th</sup> and Jason Spencer 20<sup>th</sup>... that's out of 52 boats so expect to see much more as this revival grows!



Rounding up major regattas this year was the State championships held at The Cruising Yacht Club in Rockingham. Starting off with a Gavin Colby master class in Hobie sailing on the eve of the regatta, sharing his secrets to success and everyone came away with new ideas, things to try and raring to go! thanks to Gavin for his generosity. The next two days saw some fantastic Hobie sailing with just what you want in a state championship; beautiful sailing conditions from light and shifty to champagne Hobie trapezing conditions. Oh, and it wouldn't be a states without the obligatory fanging 25 knots final race! Luckily everyone survived to tell the tale! It was great sailing in a great place. In the end it was

Gavin Colby and Mia Lovelady taking out the title, Cam Owen and Susan Ghent second and Darren Smith and Claire Bisgood third. In the Youth Division Lachy Owen teamed up with Quade for another big win and will be someone to watch out for in the future.

Held separately the First state Hobie 14 Championships were held in WA for over 30 years, continuing the revival seen at the nationals. With 8 boats competing, finally it was Darren Smith's time to shine, with a clean sweep of wins on day two to become the convincing champion with Cam Owen second and Brad Quartermaine 3rd rounding out a 1,2,3 for Nedlands Yacht club. These boats have getting a lot of attention around the club with everyone wanting to have a go. I wouldn't be surprised to see this class go from strength to strength, they just look like fun!

So its been a busy season with lots of great racing in often perfect conditions, with lots of success. We recently sent a team of 3 boats to the Cock of Swan regatta with Lance, Lucinda, Robin ,Toni and Adrian getting a third place. With so many World, National and State champions pushing everyone it's not surprising that local races this year have been hard fought affairs. So many races have seen groups of boats fighting it out right to the very last leg or two. It's been great to watch and see the whole fleet sailing so well and improving..... hopefully we can grow the fleet and continue the successful tradition our world class sailors have set for us; this season certainly will be a very hard act to follow



By Steve Harland.



# OPEN DINGHY



The open dinghy section has seen a drop in numbers competing on a regular basis this year. The main reduction has been in the number of National 125's taking part in club racing, as the 125 fleet was always the mainstay of the section, and it is hoped that these numbers will increase again in the future. In a positive move to reverse this trend, the club has now also adopted the RS Aero as a single-handed option, and we now have two Aeros sailing most weeks, with a third expected to join in the near

future.

Despite these challenges, there have been a number of highlights for NYC sailors at various events around the region, which are as follows: -

## RS Aero State Championship

On the 20<sup>th</sup> November 2022, Nedlands Yacht Club hosted the inaugural RS Aero State Championships.

This was run along-side the first day of the NYC Challenge Series, so a big thankyou to all the volunteers who were involved in the planning of the event and management of the sailing on the day.

A total of seven boats took part, with Dave Quinn from East Freemantle Yacht Club the overall winner, Mike Gaebler of MOFSC second, and Gavin Jones of NYC third.

By Gavin Jones





# CRUISER REPORT

With the traditional break to the NYC sailing calendar over the Christmas / New Year period, several boats from the cruiser section headed down to The Cruising Yacht Club (TCYC) for the annual Cockburn Sound Regatta. With conditions being everything from scorching hot and zero wind to good breeze and champagne racing conditions, the Neddies boats had “serious fun” getting out on the water and flying the flag in the four-day regatta. While not necessarily picking up the silverware, the skippers and crews enjoyed the variety of races and always made the time to catch up with fellow competitors at the end of each day’s racing for a cold drink and a few war stories. A big thank you to TCYC for hosting another great regatta this year.



Greg Hill’s “other boat” looking for a bit more breeze at Cockburn.

Greg Hill followed up on the Cockburn Regatta by doing a terrific job in rattling the tin and secured five NYC boats for Hillary’s annual Dash for Cash in late January. While the division one and two boats were just off the podium, Peter Twiby picked up a credible third place in division three with Meggie 2.

As is the tradition, the members, and staff at HYC put on a great evening with the returning Pot of Gold competitors and plenty of good food and drink was enjoyed by all.



Ray Martin showing us how much he missed the pin end of the finish line by, at least we hope that's what he's doing!



Gavin Taylor getting his money's worth out of Tiger (again!)





Greg and Janet looking cool, calm, and collected on Not Negotiable.



Gavin giving a Viper some spinnaker tips during the Rumble.



Gavin Taylor couldn't resist this year's Rumble in the Reach at EFYC, taking Tiger and the crew down for the fast and furious event which comprises of three seemingly masochistic races back-to-back, with 16 sports boats racing in an area about the size of Optus stadium! While putting in a good showing, Gavin and the crew narrowly missed out on placing in the three races and judging by the discussions which were had afterwards, he took about a week to recover from the gruelling event.



In conclusion, it really is great to see NYC boats making the time and effort to get out on the water at other clubs' events both on the river and ocean. For a relatively small racing contingent Nedlands boats continue to punch outside of their weight division and fly the flag wherever and whenever possible.

A special thank you must also go to John Chapman & Lindsay Pearce for the terrific photos and videos which they produce of almost every yacht race which goes on in WA.

By Ma

# A CLASS and OPEN CATS

Sailing is always synonymous with adventure. This last year has certainly provided plenty of it for the Open Cats F18 contingent. Gavin Parker & Dan Brown, Brett Burvill & Max Putman, Jared and Susie Eyles all travelled to Arco, Lake Garda in Italy, in July 2022 for the F18 European Championships. Garda has been on Dan and Gav's bucket list since Gav started windsurfing at the age of 16 and to quote Gavin, "it is now perhaps my favourite place to sail in the world". The Brett and Jared have sailed many races on Garda in Tornado campaigns beginning in 2012.

Plans of the Aussie contingent of unpacking brand-new boats, training in the pristine waters and relaxing each evening were scuttled by shipping delays. Brett was incredible and sourced alternate boats for all, and the long days of boat work began. Fortunately with the help of Brett's many customers and friends in the UK and Europe and hurried changes of flight and travel plans he was able to pull it all together with boats and sailing gear just in time for the combined German / Italian F18 Championships a warm up event to feel the waters before the F18 European Championships the following week.

Garda is a sailing location like no other. Strictly a one-track course, it was the most intense sailing anywhere in the World. The front end of the fleet either tries a port tack flyer (it never works), or racks up 3 deep at the boat to tack to port as quickly as possible. It's then a sprint to the cliffs within metres of each other, blindly tacking then racing to the top mark to jibe back onto port into the oncoming fleet and run as close to the cliffs as skippers dared. It was "epic" according to the sailors and typical for sensational Lake Garda. Gav and Jared had mixed results with some podiums and blowouts, but the overall experience was a lifelong memory.

Scores were very tight at the top of the leader board at the start of the last day with Brett one of three leading boats to this point in the regatta. Brett had a poor race in the first of the day, and in the end only race of the day. This resulted in Brett and Max placing 2nd overall to Ravi Parent from the USA, a fantastic result and one to be proud of considering all the challenges in the lead-up and borrowed equipment they were using.

Fast forward to January 2023 and the F18 Nationals at Kurnell in Sydney were on. An intimate club environment with the always social F18 community created a great event. Dan and Gavin sailed well over the regatta and were hopeful of a podium. Brett and Max had top spot locked away early however it was very tight for the next 4 positions. Kurnell was a much different track to Garda. Shifty across the course with storms and other features affecting racing daily. Gavin and Dan finished 5th behind 3 World Champion sailors (Brett Burvill, Gavin Colby and Stevie Brewin) and a great new sailor from Qld (Eli Hennerberry). It is said that Australia has one of the highest calibre F18 fleets in the World, enjoying incredible racing against the top guys, and worrying them now and again. anyway.





Next up for Brett was a wonderful trip to Sweden to race in the famous Stockholm Archipelago raid, a 5 day trip through the 40000 islands of the Archipelago. Max was not able to make this trip and unfortunately a week out from leaving for the event Brett's crew bailed which created another set of logistical challenges. Brett secured a European crew and had a great adventure even being in contention for the win for the first 3 days until they had a solid meeting with Sweden causing some serious dagger board damage after hitting some submerged rocks.

Once patched up they kept going to finish 5th overall, winning the final "glamour leg" racing up to the centre of Stockholm where the last leg finished right in the middle of the city next to the Vasa museum. This is where the perfectly preserved 17th century ship is displayed after capsizing and sinking on its maiden voyage in 1628.

Brett then drove to Fussen in Germany and hooked up his big trailer with 3 Tornado's inside and drove down to La Grande Motte in France for the Tornado Worlds. At this event Brett sailed with Kirsikka Raisenan from Finland, a young woman who loves sailing and is keen to be as good as she can be. Maybe the Olympics in the future?

This was the usual friendly Tornado event with good fun had along the way. The final result saw Brett and Kirsikka place 3rd overall and winners of the Mixed World title. Allan and Kim were due to compete, but family issues prevented Kim from attending. Allan "borrowed" and Austrian crew and finished a credible 7th with some



good placings in the latter races once the language and technique differences was largely overcome. A down side to the end of this event was on the last day, when coming ashore Brett stepped off the boat into a hole, snapping his Achilles tendon. After surgery back in Oz, moon boot, crutches, limited mobility, and rehab and still an ongoing for recovery, still managed to have a blinder of a regatta in Kurnell with winds from 5 – 20 kts, with Brett and Max claiming the title with 2 races to spare. Doing a shoey from the

prosthetic on the podium was a notable reward for effort and perseverance.

The 2022-2023 season started off in October for Gav Colby and Josie Mark at the Hobie 16 Worlds in Spain. A solid 5th place was the result showing promising signs for the rest of the season for Gavin's upcoming events. Gav and Josie won a lot of races but unfortunately a bad result and a OCS meant they finished back a little from their aspirations.



Following the Hobie 16 Worlds Gavin and Kai Coleman went on to Tampa Florida for the Formula 18 World Championship. They were extremely happy with their performance with a 2nd place overall. Difficult shifty conditions. On a borrowed boat and sails, thanks to both exploder and 1D for the gear. Next was the Formula 18 Nationals, Sydney in January and another 2nd for the boys which is a great result. Next up Gav was back on the Hobie 16 with Mia Lovelady at the Hobie 16 States at TCYC. A week of solid practice, boat work and a new jib from Darren Smith saw them win this event.



Gavin finished off his season back on the Formula 18 at the TCYC Rockingham sailing this time with Peter Dubbelaar who Gav use to sail with on his Tornado. A very light air event and they are very happy to finish the season off with a Win. Kai is now in Pensacola, Florida with American Magic the Americas Cup Team. Shortly Kai and the Cup team will relocate to Barcelona shortly Kai and Gav will team up again for the Formula 18 Worlds in Travemunde, Northern Germany, late July



James Clarke and Paul Raymond competed in the A Cat National Championships in Paynesville in Victoria in January with James placing well in several races and finishing in the top end of the fleet, again, the leader board looks like the who's who of A Cat sailing with world champions a plenty. Injury and boat damage are prevalent in most high-performance cats and the A Cat is at the high end of that scale. James needs to rest up for the next season as the toll on the body has been pretty high.



As for Allan and Kim, the intention is to sail the Tornado "circuit" in Europe from July to September taking in as many regattas as can be sailed. The German, Swiss, Italian and Czech Nationals, Europeans and World Championships are all on the agenda. They have new sails for this adventure and hopefully the fitness and endurance to compete at a high level. Indications are that the light weather speed and tactical sailing has improved through-out the season which augers well from some good results in the northern hemisphere. Here's hoping anyway.

By Alan Gamble





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