



# BYRA BULLETIN

The official newsletter of the Bayview Yacht Racing Association

## EARLY 2022 EVENTS

Events for the coming weeks are listed below - pop in your calendar now so you don't get double booked!

### Learn to Sail

Tailored for ages 7 - 18, Learn to Sail is a fantastic intro to the sport, helping kids/teens gain water confidence and safety skills along the way. And all in a COVID-safe environment!

The 2022 Learn to Sail programme kicks off on Sunday 6th February and runs every week until the 3rd April (excluding 27th Feb). Time 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. Please spread the word!

### Youth Sailing

Youth Sailing programs include Skiff Skills and the Harry Morton sailing program.

These are fantastic opportunities for those already with sailing experience to really get to the next level.

For more information please contact Vice Commodore Neil Aitken on the BYRA email. Open to non-members also!!!



## Editor's Welcome

Welcome to the BYRA Bulletin, a definitely *not fake news* source of all things BYRA (and possibly all things sailing!) related info, which will be making its way to your inbox on a (semi) regular basis!

So to kick start this new news deluge, let me take this opportunity, on behalf of the committee, to wish you all a **fantastic Christmas and a very happy new year!**

But wait... who is the committee?!?!?!?!?

## New Year New Committee!

As we head into 2022, here's a run down of who's who in BYRA high command following the 5th December AGM:

### The Executive Officers!

- ★ Commodore: James Roberts
- ★ Vice Commodore: Neil Aitken
- ★ Rear Commodore: George Sadlik

## Centreboard Racing

If you like a bit of healthy jostling on a start line and may or may not have a full grasp of the rules, then combined fleet racing on Pittwater may be the gig for you!

Official racing starts back on Sunday the 30th January when the BYRA beasts will pit themselves against the best that the RPA and ASC have to offer. First gun 1:30 p.m.

If you've never raced before, don't be afraid to give it a go. There is no shame in being last across the finishing line - trust me, your faithful scribe knows this only too well...!

## Adventure Sails

If you're more Bear Grylls than Ben Ainslie, or fancy a picnic on one of Pittwater's many fantastic little beaches inaccessible from land, or simply want to hoon across Pittwater without the need to follow something as restrictive as 'a course' then adventure sailing is most definitely for you!

This is a fantastic way to meet other people, refine your boat handling skills on your own terms, and have an all round fantastic afternoon out.

All skills levels welcomed and supported on the water! Robb Warnes will be leading the expeditions. Dates to follow!

- ★ Club Captain: Mal Keeler
- ★ Vice-Captain: Henry Zylmans
- ★ Treasurer: Maggie Strevens
- ★ Assistant Treasurer: Robb Warnes
- ★ Hon. Secretary: Robb Warnes

### The Committee Members!

- ★ Registrar: Ian Urban
- ★ Race Secretary: Vacant
- ★ Hall Hire: Maggie Strevens
- ★ Publicity Officer: Leah Singer
- ★ Committee Member: Dominic Duschlbauer
- ★ Committee Member: Matt Butterworth,
- ★ Committee Member: Daniel Polin

### The Office Bearers!

- ★ Keelboat Matters: Robb Warnes
- ★ Junior Captain: Orlando Sadlik
- ★ Im. Past Commodore: Robb Warnes
- ★ Club Patron: Robb Warnes

## New Life Members

We were also delighted to see both James Roberts and Alice Lydement be awarded with life membership.

And remember, as Robb made sure to point out, *this is not a statement of expected remaining life span!* Long may both James and Alice continue to remain regular faces at the club!



Finally, a special thank you to Cathy Aitken for the yummy sausage sizzle - was great fuel for the afternoon's sailing!



## EARLY 2022 'INTENTS'

### Ask not what your club can do for you, but...

Like many organisations, the uncertainty and reduced revenue caused by COVID-19 has had a negative impact on club finances.

**As per Rob Warnes email, please put on those thinking caps, add some Christmas cheer fuel if needs be, and get your thoughts through to BYRA ASAP!**

The committee intends to discuss all things future focused early in the new year! Don't miss out on having your say!

Please also spread the word about the Sail Pass scheme. Details on the BYRA website.

### Informal Practice

For those of you spending your Xmas hols in the area, January can be a great time to get in some extra sailing!

The fantastic Alice Lydement has formed a Whatsapp group for any sailors keen for some 'unofficial - if the weather looks mint' sails on Pittwater.

This is a great way to get out on the water for some fun practice and a great way to get to know your fellow sailors - if keen to join the group flick us an email with your Whattapp contact details!

## News from the Crews

### Youth Sailing updates by Junior Captain Orlando Sadlik

I think the youth sailing at BYRA has really taken off recently and it has been nice to get out on the water on a Sunday for racing after a long period of emptiness due to Covid.

### Youth skiff training

The Harry Morton sailing 29er skiff program run on a Saturday afternoon has been lots of fun and very beneficial for the club's 29er sailors. There has also been a skiff skills program run on Saturday morning to teach teens the fundamentals of sailing a skiff and a 29er which will encourage the BYRA 29er fleet to grow, sailors can also progress into the Saturday afternoon training if they wish!



### Learn to sail

Recently I have enjoyed coaching better sailing/start racing in the mornings, I am very proud of their progress and I think there are some future stars in the works. The kids had a ride on the 29er the week before last to give them something to look forward to if they wish to progress their sailing.

If anyone would like to do any holiday sailing I encourage you to become a member and message the club on Facebook to organise some training or supervision.

### Youth Racing on Pittwater

Now has never been a better time to get into youth racing on Pittwater! The combined inter-club racing on a Sunday afternoon has full fleets of junior and youth classes including: optimist, 29er, laser 4.7 and radial.





## *Combined Centreboard Racing*

Racing since the COVID restrictions eased has been a mixed bag weather wise. No wind, too much wind, thunderstorms!

One of the best days out on the water was arguably the 13th December. While the white caps were out at least there was wind! A good dose of BYRA sailors braved the conditions with some fantastic photos to be had courtesy of our multi-talented (and multi-tasking!) Commodore James.

Taster below with the balance on the BYRA facebook page. In clockwise: Martin, Alice, and Gavin; Mal on the Sabre, Leah beating upwind, Martin beating upwind, youth 29ner, Gavin & Alice.





## Meet the Members!



Welcome to our meet the members section!

This is a chance to put names to faces, and an opportunity to identify who to hit up for that extra pearl of sailing wisdom!

This week we feature our previously faithful publicity scribe, all round fabulously helpful and friendly gentleman, and BYRA Club Patron - Robb Warnes!

**Robb, how did you get into sailing?**

Through my family and my father. He was in the Royal Navy reserve and was stationed on a mine sweeper in WW2. We had an Enterprise dinghy in Norfolk. When I was 15, I was sent to the Isle of Wight for sail training. We sailed on an 18' boat with about six people in it. I remember the oil skins!

**What sorts of sailing have you done?**

Lots of keel boat sailing on the west coast of Scotland and racing out of Helensbrough Sailing Club and Largs Sailing Club, both on the Clyde River close to Glasgow. I was Commodore of Largs and Rear Commodore of Helensborough. The Clyde is also where the British Royal Navy's fleet of nuclear submarines is based, and we had to give way to them during racing!

I used to crew on the Scottish series also - the first race was an overnigher that went around the Mull of Kintyre and up to Oban on the east coast. Although it was in May it's still so cold in Scotland so we had to keep ourselves warm with some *Uisge Beath* - this is *Water of Life* in Scottish Gaelic... and you've guessed it, whisky! I think we drank about five bottles across the six crew and because the race started at night we were pretty happy at breakfast!

**What do you enjoy most about the sport?**

I love being on the water and the challenge of the conditions.

**What do you love about BYRA?**

I love that it's a not-for-profit run by volunteers which keeps it so friendly and welcoming in comparison to the commercially run clubs. It's much easier to get to know people in this less formal family setting.

**Can you tell me a vaguely interesting fact about yourself?**

Well, I've lived and sailed in quite a few countries - Spain, Paris France for 16 months, and ten years in Phuket in Thailand. I opened a sailing school with two Americans but six weeks later the Boxing Day Tsunami hit! So that was the end of that!

**Thank you Robb for being a wonderful interviewee, and we look forward to more 'meet the members' in the next edition!**

## NAUTICAL NUGGETS

### Did you know...

The word **commodore** comes from **comendador**, which means "having command over others" and might be of French or Spanish origin.

The Dutch leader William of Orange introduced the rank to the British navy after he became King William III of England in 1689.

Source: <https://www.history.navy.mil/research/library/online-reading-room>

## Salty Tales

We're always interested to hear what boat related exploits our hardy members are getting up to out of sight of the BYRA clubhouse! Don't be afraid to let us know of any magical adventures or successes you have enjoyed - we'd love to feature them here.

## Gear Grab

Looking for some new duds to impress your sailing buddies? Or perhaps the world's best present? Or maybe you just need a sun hat. Well, look no further!

BYRA offers a range of classic apparel that is sure to put those Musto wearing folks to shame! Includes, long sleeved rashies, safety singlets, polo shirts, wide brimmed hats, and caps! And ALL for \$50 or less. Now, you don't see that at the RPA...

All available online at <https://www.byra.com.au/shop/> or email us at [sailing@byra.com.au](mailto:sailing@byra.com.au).

## Weather

If you want to be a weather junkie and have the edge on your fellow sailors, don't forget to check out our sponsors' sites for your forecasts!

<http://www.bom.gov.au/nsw/>

<https://www.seabreeze.com.au/>

## Sponsors Corner

A big thank you to our ongoing sponsors for helping make it all possible. If you would like to add your brand to the illustrious list below please do get in touch!





# Christmans Colouring In

If you email in your completed pictures we'll include them in the next BYRA Bulletin! Address below!  
Submissions from all ages welcome! ;-)

