

# PORT DALYRMPLE YACHT CLUB

## Vice Commodores Report to 2023 Annual General Meeting

The 2022-23 season started off a little slower than expected with the shake down abandoned due to the result of bad weather. That was the only club run event to be a miss this season with the opening day being a glorious day with lots of support from volunteers, boats and their crew. The season only got more exciting with the usual start of the Harken pennant races and PME off shore series and trophy races.

A big thank you to Narissa McElwee for her initiative in organising and promoting the Think Big New Sailors Series on Friday nights. and once again thank helmsman and their crew for their support as this has opened the club up to a new dynamic group of people that would have otherwise not been introduced to the club, in turn creating new membership and growth.

The Doyle Inshore Championships is always one of the clubs premiere events with regatta organiser Peter Sluce pulling off a world class event once again.

The Melbourne to Devonport race once again lured Honey Pot and their crew from PD to challenge for the Rudder Cup only to get to Melbourne and have the race called off due to floods in the Mersey and bad weather. We did feel for you.

As Xmas came around, Advantagedge represented the club in the Melbourne to Hobart and proudly finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> overall, on line honours. In the Sydney to Hobart long time now Sydney based Member Calum Cecil, was part of the winning crew on Sam Haynes TP52 Celestial.

As this was going on the Liberty Bell Bay 59<sup>th</sup> Sabot Nationals were busy being organised and run by Peter Sluce and Mick Jones and their dedicated volunteers. Our young Sabot sailors made new friendships, gained valuable experience and achieved great results all-round.

Just as the Sabot Nationals wound up the 53<sup>rd</sup> NS14 Nationals kicked off with close exciting racing and once again a very passionate group of volunteers with our club members coming as far as Geelong to participate and the McIndow family for supplying yachts and opportunities to make this event a success.

The warmer weather in January 2023 saw the CNW midweeks kick off along with a great turn out of the Confab Single Handed and Tamar Marine Two Handed series, as all of this was going on in the background most mornings on a Sunday the lawn of the yacht club was covered in dinghies and young people as Ben Greatbatch and his crew of dedicated trainers were showing the young group of tomorrow's sailors the ropes to boost future fleets. That in my mind is the most valuable job of the club coming from a similar training program back in the early 80s.

Over the course of the season there has been no shortage of race officers thanks to the likes of Leon Williams, David Plumridge, David Hall, David Shepherd, Greg Rowsell and John Scales, Regatta Scribes Christine Shepherd and Leah Blazely. Thanks to them and handicapper Kevin Lloyd for making the organisation of races effortless and fair.

As a Committee we have recognised the need for a stepping stone and support of the Sabre Class into our club and the district dingy program. We make members aware of this new opportunity of a class to sail and boost our club and blockbuster fleet.

For the coming season the program is in its final drafting stage with the opening day planned for 8<sup>th</sup> October and the Shakedown the week after. We plan on having series in 5 to 6 week blocks with the trophy races and new sailor events before Xmas then the single handed pennants, Two Handed winter series after as series in short succession seem to be more popular than long drawn out events.

If I missed naming anyone in this report I do apologise as the efforts of all who have contributed to the events make this club what it is today and how those who attend here remember it therefore on behalf of the Committee we thank you for your time and effort as we all strive to make this club succeed and we look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

Ross Edmunds

Vice Commodore 2022/23