

THE SIGNALLER

April 2016

The Official Sun City Yacht Club
Club Newsletter



CLUB CALENDAR

April 24th – Working Bee

Events like this are critical to the club and to our ongoing operation. Come down after 10am to help improve our club facilities a little more, and earn yourself some brownie points.

May 27th - Mama Dana's

This year we're proud to introduce Mama Dana's all-Italian food fest at the clubrooms. Contact Dana on 0414 951 532 or Alex on 0466409060 to register your interest.

More?...

Keep an eye on the Sun City Yacht Club Facebook page for more events and updates, as well as our new webpage; www.suncityyachtclub.com.au. If you are interested in an event, please contact one of the committee as it's very difficult to plan without some indication of support.

DON'T FORGET:

If you're looking for a place to chill and relax after a busy week

**THE BAR is open on
FRIDAY NIGHTS**

5.30pm-late

All members and guests welcome.



Ray Knapp Trophy Race

SATURDAY DINGHY SAILING

The summer dinghy sailing season finished just before Easter and we saw a number of new members develop into competent sailors with many participating in races in the latter part of the season. Saturday afternoons saw regular dinghy racing and some experimentation as our advanced members built on their skills. Racing in the 420's was clearly dominated this year by Scott Blanchard and Tyrell MacDonald who've kept raising the standard for the chasing boats.



Casey and Bella

Dinghy Sailing Wind-up and Awards Presentation

The final dinghy sailing session for the summer season was held on March 19th and bought out the sailor's piratical side which was rewarded with prizes for the best-dressed pirate and pirate ship. We did pretty well for weather this season but that wasn't the case for the wind-up with rain and blustery conditions. However, the pirates quickly adapted and joined in a very wet battle for flags on land.

Award Winners

We held our Award Presentation after the dinghy wind-up with medallions presented to all of the dinghy sailing juniors and trophies for the 2015-16 season to the following:.

The Santry Award for Most Improved Junior Sailor: Adele Fraser

The Donelle Utley Trophy for Club Dinghy Champion: Scott Blanchard

The Ray Knapp Trophy: John Chapman and Saxon



Anne Santry and Adele Fraser

EVENTS

Dive Group

A number of club members have combined to form a dive group – the 1st dive, was planned on the wreck of the Ville De Rouen, in shallow water off Moore River and six divers set off on a sunny Saturday in the 1st week of April. With a fair swell running, we knew we'd be lucky to get a good dive and it turned out that visibility was indeed very poor and the wreck dive didn't eventuate. We did get in the water (to confirm that visibility was even worse at the bottom) but despite the conditions, had a great day and have a template for future dives.....we have contact numbers for the dive group and while we'll plan some dives in advance, will also send out a group message when opportunity presents itself – if you'd like to be part of the club's dive group, please contact John (0409 109 687)



Ray Knapp Trophy Race

The Ray Knapp Trophy Race for keelboats was held in February and run over the same 16.3Nm course as last year, rounding a top mark, 7.6Nm to the northwest of Two Rocks marina. The winning boat was Saxon, skippered by John Chapman, with Roger Wing and Campbell Hartas as crew in a winning time of 6hrs 35min. This was much slower than last year's 3hr 25min winning time due to lighter winds and winds on the nose for the longest leg. Nevertheless, there was a real ding-dong battle between Saxon and John Clarke's Lonely Spirit heading up to the top mark.

Club Fridays

The clubrooms have been open to members, their friends and visiting sailors every Friday from about 5:30pm for all of this season. It's a family-friendly environment, a great place to relax at the end of the working week and to catch up with each other. We've run a theme some months with Decadent December, Japanese January and Wrecked in March – the latter with the tremendous support of club member and local shipwreck historian, John Clarke. John set up displays showing artefacts from some of the ship wrecks that lie off our local coastline as well as some of the geophysical equipment that can be used to find them. John has made numerous dives on many of the wrecks and has inspired a number of members to follow in his flipper-trail

Lobster Dinner

Perhaps not as many members attended the pre-Christmas lobster dinner as we'd hoped for but those that did attend this free event had a wonderful meal that included lobster cocktails, half lobster, coconut-battered lobster and salt and pepper-battered lobster – you'd have to travel a long way in a boat to get a better meal and special thanks go to Dana, Tony and Sue for the huge amount of work they put in.

Working Bee

The club's dinghies are tired – centreboards, rudders and gunwales need varnish, spars need fixings and halyards need replacing. Somewhere out there is someone who'd enjoy making some of the dinghies looking refreshed and new again. The clubrooms, fences, gardens and dinghy shed also need some loving. We're holding a working bee on Sunday 24th April from 10:00am and any help we can get will contribute to substantial improvements – hope to see you there!

Facebook and the new webpage

Both our Facebook page and our new website have attracted a lot of attention and many of you use these sites to keep up with club events. The Facebook page is an ideal place to keep up with upcoming events and for us to get feedback. If you haven't seen our Facebook page, simply Google Sun City Yacht Club and it will be one of your 1st options...and if you have a Facebook account, don't forget to 'Like' the page (not just the articles) if you want our updates to feed into your own Facebook Newsfeed

Our website www.suncityyachtclub.com.au is the place to go for anyone trying to find out about our club, our history, how we're structured and how to get hold of us as well as upcoming events, copies of previous newsletters and a photo diary of different club events.

QUIZ NIGHT

We held a very successful quiz night in mid-March, with Andy Orford controlling the floor and challenging participants with well-balanced sets of questions. The support of local businesses who provided prizes and auction items was a key part in the success of the evening and we are grateful to the following:



jindowie

Thankyou

In the last newsletter, we mentioned that Jindowie Estate were providing \$1000 for the purchase of a new aluminium dinghy trolley – well, at the last moment, we spotted a refurbished 420 sailing dinghy, together with aluminium beach trolley on Gumtree for only slightly more than we had budgeted for the original trolley. Jindowie stated that they would be happy to support the purchase of the dinghy and trolley instead and the club now has another race-ready 420, purchased with Jindowie's very generous support.



Triathlon

The last dinghy sailing session prior to a break over Christmas included a triathlon; swim leg, run leg and then sailing leg. Parents and their offspring combined to form some formidable teams but it seems youth may be a better guide to form with the winning team comprising juniors Bradley White, Floyd Bechnell and Bradley Lewis.