

From the Office

David Harries

This quarter is traditionally one of the busiest in the Squadron's calendar and this year is no exception. The annual GST (Goolwa Sailing Challenge) took place on 3 February at Goolwa. The competition, which is conducted between the CRYC Committee and Squadron Committee Members, took place in Flying Fifteens and Sailability vessels. The results were even until strong winds forced the competitors indoors, where the final challenge was a blind wine tasting. By all accounts Goolwa members were less myopic than the Squadron representatives, so the trophy will reside at Goolwa for a second year. The challenge is hosted at Outer Harbor in 2003, and it is to be hoped that we're more successful then.

24 February saw the sixth Clipsal, Flinders Ports, Rotary Regatta, immediately followed by the Sensational Adelaide Australian Keelboat Championships, four days of inshore racing

which attracted 15 interstate and 37 local boats and required a significant contribution in time from competitors, volunteers and staff. The yearly Quin's Adelaide to Port Lincoln Blue Water Classic capped a frenetic week of sailing and social activities before a well-earned week of relaxed cruising or the competition of Lincoln Week for the hardy amongst us! Going on in the background is the usual point score racing, and popular Twilight Racing Series, which has been enthusiastically supported once again by Members and their guests.

Our next major activity is the **Matthew Flinders Easter Regatta**, which will be conducted from the Squadron with the busy summer sailing season culminating in the **Inkster Memorial Race** on Easter Sunday. Members looking forward to Easter can complete the Easter Program, which is included with this issue. Please send your entry form back to the Office in good time. A small committee has worked hard to bring an innovative programme as well as the

usual favourite events to the weekend. The co-ordinating committee is David Borg, Annette Guilfoyle, Annette Rogers, Anthony Gates Ali Castle, Wayne Knill and Paul Henshall. If you would like to participate in the organisation of the weekend, I'm sure they would appreciate some extra hands.

The biennial **20 Year Members' dinner** is scheduled on **Friday 22 March**. Guest speaker on the evening is Patrick McCarville, sailor, golfer, actor and original story writer of *The Man who sued God*, which recently screened in Australian cinemas and starred Billy Connelly. Patrick, also known as Mr Irish Whiskey, will present a comparison of Scotch and Irish whiskeys followed by a tasting. All in all this will be an evening to be savoured. 20-year members' invitations will be arriving shortly. We expect this to be a popular evening, so book early to avoid the disappointment of missing out. We have scored a double shot at Patrick courtesy of the generosity of Jameson Whiskey and Jeff Hamer, SA Sales Manager for Orlando Wyndham. Patrick has agreed to present prizes at the final Twilight Series prize night and will provide a range of complimentary pre-dinner cocktails to Members and guests.

An ongoing evening, which is gathering momentum and popularity, is the **'Club Night'** get-together on **Fridays from 1700 to 2100**. The Junior Committee provide a BBQ and once a month the group presents an activity. Ted Sanderson and David Rawnsley will happily provide more information about the social activities.

Squadron Members pride themselves in the achievements of a strong volunteer culture and this has been upheld in the finest way during the past year. It is noticeable that volunteers are

getting fewer and fewer, which places a great strain on those with the enthusiasm and willingness to spend countless hours working to benefit the Squadron and its Members. A number of volunteers have expressed their frustration at the level of recognition they receive from their colleagues, which from time to time, borders on criticism of their efforts. Yet without these contributions, the cost of operating the Squadron would increase dramatically. The tens of thousands of dollars received in time and financial contributions from a small band of dedicated Members is one of our most valuable commodities and must be nurtured by the membership at large not just the Management Committee, Standing Committee members and staff. As these contributions dry up, which is happening, the culture of the Squadron will change, as will the cost of being a Member. It may be that busy lifestyles, the demands of family activities and work commitments are imposing these changes on Members and much as they would like to participate more fully in the life of the Club, they are constrained from doing so. However, the fellowship and satisfaction gained from participating in the Squadron's affairs is deeply satisfying and is worth the extra effort that it takes to be involved in your Club: just ask those who are.

Volunteer activities that make the difference in the Squadron are the work of the Historical Task Force, administrative and physical support for events such as Opening Days, the Sensational Adelaide Australian Keelboat Championships, which has been led in no small way by Robyn Henshall and David Borg. The Clipsal, Flinders Ports, Rotary Regatta and the Matthew Flinders Easter Regatta also rely heavily upon the good will and generosity of many members. Around the grounds it is the Scaweed Gardening Group,

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New Vessels on the Squadron Register

Candice Appledoor II

Capricornia

Ninkeah

(Unnamed)

John Perisce

Robert Keith

Colin Scott Bates

Steve and Tania Donovan