

Treasurer's Report

Lex Marshall

It gives me pleasure to present the Treasurer's Report for the first 3 months of the new financial year. Our activities are operating well within our budget forecasts. All the indications are that we will complete the year with a surplus — which is exactly what we have budgeted for. There are, however, some aspects of our performance which need to be improved.

The first and most important of these is the prompt payment of Members of their Squadron accounts. I am sorry to say that, as at the end of July, some 240 Members had, in total, an amount of \$132,836 owing for 90 days or more. *This is quite unacceptable.* If you receive a communication from the Squadron on RED paper then you should know that you are one of the people whose accounts are outstanding.

The fact that these amounts are outstanding causes both a loss of income and an increase in expenses for the Squadron. Even with today's relatively low interest rates, the Squadron would earn nearly \$7,000 in interest over a period of 12 months if we had that money to invest. We also suffer additional expenses in mail, telephone and wasted time of our staff in chasing these debts. Another effect is that those Members who pay their accounts promptly are effectively subsidising those who do not.

The Office staff have been directed to monitor the access of those Members whose accounts are 90 days in arrears and who have not made acceptable arrangements with the General Manager or the Treasurer. This may mean that, on occasions, defaulting Members will be requested to come to the Office to discuss their affairs and to establish an acceptable program of payments.

The Management Committee has a duty to manage the Squadron's affairs in a prudent and proper manner and it is my intention that we will do precisely that.

We also need to strengthen our membership. Although some Members feel that the Squadron is now 'about the right size', we should recognise that we need to improve our facilities to remain competitive — and the best way of being able to pay for that is to have an increased membership. I have asked the Management Committee to give this matter some consideration but, as always, we would welcome suggestions from Members.

Finally, we need to consider the utilisation of our facilities. Through the comprehensive support and foresight of Squadron Members in earlier years we have available to us a very pleasant environment. By encouraging the presence of non-member guests we derive a very useful source of additional income whilst giving our guests great pleasure. We have been blessed from our earliest days by having Members who have been prepared to work very hard without expecting reward or favours. That situation continues today. However those hard-working Members can become discouraged if their efforts are not well supported. We are exceedingly fortunate in having caterers who have the skills, ability and desire to produce excellent meals.

So, I suggest to you all, that you do a favour to yourselves and your friends by inviting them to attend Squadron functions, or lunch on a Sunday or a quiet dinner on a Saturday evening. There is not a better venue in Adelaide.

I am not suggesting that you should do this as a sense of duty — simply for your own pleasure. **SQ**

House and Social Committee Report

David Rawnsley

What a tremendous bunch of guys and girls we have on our House and Social Committee! Returning and new Committee members are — Ian Neighbour, our ex-acting Chairman/Treasurer and without doubt a most accomplished sailor extraordinaire, was elected Treasurer. Carolyn Hillman, our budding legal academic, was elected Secretary. Carmon Matzat, Helen Forsyth PSM and Adrienne Stafford — all multitalented people in their own right — together with our newly co-opted member, Graham Nelson, have the dubious honour of being part of the team leading RSAYS towards the year 2000.

We have programmed a full and fun-packed calendar of events for this year. Please check your diaries (or engagement books, if you are pedantic. The diary is what you write afterwards. — *Ed.*) Participate, become involved, have fun and be part of your House and Social program.

At the time of going to press, there will have been the Bush Dance, the Commodore's Dinner-Dance and Rob Mundle's sell-out talk on the 1998 Sydney-Hobart Race. Part proceeds of book and ticket sales from this will be donated to the Trust Fund established by the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia. This will support the families of those who lost their lives during the dramatic hours of 27 and 28 December, as well as maritime search and rescue groups. We thank all those who attended and contributed to this worthy cause.

Future Events include the New Members' Reception and dinghy race (12 September); a Jazz Night (9 October); Opening Day (6 November); Christmas and New Year's Eve functions. Then there will be the Port Lincoln

Race; Easter 2000 keelboat regatta (a three-day event); our very own 'mock wedding'; wine tasting; quiz night and lots more.

We encourage your support for the events that are being planned. The quality and affordability of functions, events and restaurant facilities have been and will continue to be monitored throughout the year. We thank and encourage Members for their support, and we will do our utmost to provide Members and their guests with events that are full of fun and good value.

Our multi-purpose function dining room is due to have a new look face lift. This is definitely on the agenda, and work is due to start shortly. We will be looking for active volunteers to undertake certain preliminary work, such as removal of old fixtures and fittings, partial furniture removal and other assistance. Please contact the Office with details of your preferred work and skills.

Tom and Jenny's catering operation has been outstanding. Their understanding of the needs of Members and management is to be applauded, and they can accommodate all types and styles of functions. Be sure to contact them when planning your next function.

It has been suggested that we reintroduce Friday night racing as from Opening Day in November. If this proceeds, we will need a few volunteers and participation by Members on a regular basis to make this a success. If you would like the Squadron and its facilities to be open on Friday evenings, we would like to hear from you.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the committee and non-committee Members in giving their time, energy and enthusiasm at past and future functions. **SQ**

Sailing & Novelty Events, Fine Food, Fun, Friends & Frivolity

EASTER 2000

Start your planning now for an Awesome Easter at **The Squadron**

New Vessels on the Squadron Register

Ariel	Andrew Herringer (new owner)	Osprey II	Joe Walker
Fare Thee Well	Anthony Harland	Pied Piper II	Ian & Di Moncrieff
Legs Eleven	Anthony Gates	Polly	Colin Coulthard
Maatsuka	Michael Birks	Rozinante	Jesper Munch
Mistral	Michael Birks	Simpatico	Simon Thorn
	Ronald Maine (new owner)	Watusi	Colin & Barbara Tunn