



Sue Buckley

AFTER a tumultuous start to the year, the Committee has settled in and organised a few well-attended events. We thank Don Will for his efforts as Acting General Manager, and welcome our new General Manager, Robbie Standaloft. Robbie has not only got his feet under the desk, but has also been to our most recent meeting. The Committee is looking forward to working with Robbie to ensure our upcoming events run smoothly and profitably.

Since my last report we have run two Groove on the Deck events. The one held in February was on a lovely warm afternoon perfect for the Quarterdeck, and was well attended. As usual Groove Brothers and Soul Sister had the crowd bopping and

singing along all afternoon. Unfortunately the April event was on one of the few weekends of bad weather, with scudding rain showers and a cold southerly, so we had to move into the Dinghy Shed. The less than optimum weather outside didn't dampen the enthusiasm of either the band or the crowd. With lots of positive feedback from attendees, we plan to run a few more of these events in the Dinghy Shed during the winter months, so keep your eye on the e-bulletins for information.

Easter was a cracker again this year. With perfect weather for both socialising and racing, the weekend just flew by. The marina was full with some of the larger boats on E row, and the racing trophies hotly contested. Again there was much rivalry among the 47.7s which raced against each other for their Rock trophy. Much fun was had by all who attended. This year we missed Roger Oaten's involvement in the racing but thank Nives Vincent who stepped in at the last minute when Roger was ill and unable to attend. It is important to remind members that, while the House & Social Committee takes a lead role in the Easter Regatta, this is actually a combined event with involvement by the Racing and Cruising Committees as well. Since WWII the event has had its history firmly in racing for beautiful trophies donated to the Squadron by local Peninsula families. Each year Colin Germein goes out on *Miss Robyn* to watch the racing and present the prize for the Germein Trophy race. Maggie

Stockman, representing the Correll family, also comes to present the prize for the Correll Trophy race.

This year's 20 Year Members' Dinner was held on 26 May. Every two years we hold this formal dinner to recognise those members who have achieved 20 years or more of continuous membership. Badges were presented to those members who qualified, and also to those who had reached another decade. This year 25 members reached 20 years, 11 reached 30 years, 15 made it to 40 years, 12 made 50 years and 6 achieved an amazing 60 years. Peter McBride has been a member for almost 75 years, while Robert Stevens and Peter Dermott have both been members for over 70 years. John Powell, Richard Gower, Bruce Dinham, Peter Last, Jimmy Howell and Chook Wall-Smith have all served for over 60 years.

This is an amazing achievement that speaks of the passion we all share for our wonderful Club and the sport of sailing.

When you read this magazine Kingsley and I will be in the UK to farewell another intrepid Club member on his epic solo non-stop circumnavigation. We are looking forward to ensuring Mark Sinclair gets away safely and has a small dedicated Squadron contingent there to wave him off!

See you at a Club event soon!



Our 4th Biggest Morning Tea bigger than ever!

By Sally Metzger, Cancer Council Ambassador



THE Cancer Council's 25th Biggest Morning Tea was celebrated Australia-wide on Thursday 24 May. About 120 people, some in 'happy hats', gathered at the Squadron on the day to assist this charity, which is one of two that the Club has chosen to support.

Thanks to Anne, Carol, Dinah, Helen, Jill, Peta, and Shelley for working hard to make it a success. Channel 9 came and filmed us the night before preparing during four 'weather crossovers' giving the Squadron statewide publicity. Thanks to those 'extras' who came and played their part.

Guests made a donation on arrival and received a Cancer Council mug in which to have their 'cuppa for a cause'. A long table was decked with their home-made cakes, pastries and savoury treats. There were raffles, a silent auction, Cancer Council and RSAYS clothing and Glam Gallery fashions for sale. The Cake Decorating Competition attracted edible entries, with baker Phil Donnelly of Mayfair Bakery and Patisserie, judging the winner. The 'Happy Hat' fashion parade was hilarious, and the photo booth was fun.

Cancer patient Julia Nicholls spoke of her cancer issues, while singer Rachael Leahcar sang *Little Lady*, a song she composed for her cousin Suzanna just before she died of brain cancer at 19 years of age. Rachael and her guide dog Ella appeared on the cover on the Portside Messenger that week, adding to the Squadron's exposure. Will Metzger of Jazz It Up played us music, and from the feedback, everyone had a great time. Around \$3,594.65 was made on the day.



Coconut's final preparations

By Mark Sinclair

Intrepid Golden Globe Race Competitor and RSAYS Member

ON 8 March she arrived in London after a journey by sea on MSC Luisa from Adelaide via Perth, Singapore, Colombo, Saudi Arabia and Valencia. Coconut then travelled by road and arrived without a scratch at Plymouth Yacht Haven in Turnchapel, Devon on 14 March.

I continued working at Fugro in Adelaide and send-offs included a fantastic luncheon with the Commodore and members at RSAYS on Anzac Day. I then flew over to the UK and arrived in Devon by train on Monday 30 April, two months before the start of the race in Les Sables d'Olonne. As I write this at the end of May, four weeks have gone by, and in two weeks *Coconut* will sail to Falmouth for the 50th Anniversary celebrations of Sir Robin Knox Johnstone's departure in *Suhaili* on 14 June 1968.

How the time has flown by. I was kindly lent a car by a work colleague which has been essential to get around Plymouth between the chandlery, supermarket and cash and carry. The first week on site was preparing *Coconut* for launching. The Aries vane gear was refurbished in the factory in The Netherlands and reinstalled on the transom. The life raft was sent in for servicing and bilge pumps were securely mounted in the forepeak and main saloon. The forepeak arrangements were tested with a controlled flood of the compartment and it all worked as planned. Signage previously prepared by Kevin at Viking Yacht Charters was carefully applied to the hull and transom. *Coconut* was launched on Friday 5 May. *Coconut's* mast had been previously rebuilt by Ken Banwell in his driveway in Modbury, and Ken was now holidaying in the UK; he kindly travelled down to Devon and we reassembled the headsail and staysail foils. The mast was stepped on 9 May by Hemisphere Rigging Services.



Stepping the mast



Coconut arriving at Plymouth Yacht Haven

I have been extremely well looked after in Plymouth. Plymouth Yacht Haven has supported me with hard standing, launching and a berth in the marina in Turnchapel. I initially stayed in the Boringdon Arms hotel but then moved aboard *Coconut* after she was launched. I have had great help from Rob Dixon, a fellow sailor and work colleague at Fugro Academy in Turnchapel. I have also been helped by other sailors who have just turned up offering support, and then later arrived with arms full of such things as extra warps, netting for guardrails and rolls of reflective tape.

I have received my hardcopy charts from Sea Chest in Plymouth; I am carrying a total of about 35 charts including larger scale charts of: Plymouth, Falmouth and Les Sables d'Olonne; Canary Islands; Capetown and Port Elizabeth; Storm Bay; Foveaux Strait and the approaches to Port Stanley. There are mandatory race gates at Canaries and Hobart where 35mm and Super8 film can be dropped off, and I have also arranged additional rendezvous off South Africa, New Zealand and the Falkland Islands.



Sea Trials - rounding Eddystone Light

The safety equipment requirements for the Golden Globe Race are rigorous and can be found in the Notice of Race on the Golden Globe Race website. I have had to purchase and install numerous items. Satellite tracking using the Iridium network has also been enabled and *Coconut's* position is visible at <http://goldenglobelace.com/livetracker/>

Numerous trips have been made to purchase provisions including but not limited to 300 tins of fish, 300 boxes of juice, 150 tins of baked beans, 1200 tea bags, 120 sachets of muesli and 6 kg of oats. Treats include pickled eggs, gherkins, pickled onion and baby beetroot. I have been unable to find canned cheese but I figure parmesan should keep well without refrigeration. The list goes on.

I have also fitted in some test sails out to the Eddystone Light which is just over 10nm offshore. However, these have not been as frequent as I would like due to the sheer volume of jobs that still need to be done in the time remaining. Interestingly, poor visibility is something we do not experience as frequently in Australia. On Sunday 20 June I sailed out to the Eddystone which was not visible until it emerged from the haze at a distance of one nautical mile. This was quite challenging, also given the strong tidal streams in the vicinity and sailing without modern technology.

Well, time is ticking and I must get back to my endless list of jobs. I remain very grateful for the support and interest from the members of RSAYS. I understand some members have travelled to the UK and I look forward to meeting up with them in Falmouth and Les Sables d'Olonne.

