

From the Office

David Harries

The sailing season is now formally under way and I would like to open by recording my thanks to all those Members and the staff who contributed to such a successful Opening Day. Weren't we blessed by the weather! Thank you also to those members who provided official and support vessels for Opening Day: Bill & Margaret Yard, *Margaret Mary*; Dean and Norma Paterson, *Pauline*; Austin and Lynn Gibson, *Zitania*; the Juniors marshalling vessels *Seafire*, (Ian Power) and *Resurrection*, (Darryl Emery) and; and of course the stalwart *Miss Robyn*, David and Dee Henshall and John Ellison's role as OOD.

Special thanks must go to Dee Henshall and her 'Burgee Ladies' who did such a sterling job on the flowers. Jimmy's Bar was awash with enough blooms on the Friday to set up a florist business. And as for creativity... I was

immensely impressed with Robyn Henshall's boat designs, with spinnakers for the tables and the citrus arrangements which adorned the bars and counters. *Seven hours* of dedicated work went into putting the arrangements together for the occasion! Our sincere thanks.

Special thanks must go to Jim, Leica and James Theodore of **Port River Marine Services** for their generosity and support during the day. Once again they sponsored the special prizes for boat handling and ship's mascot, while four year-old James helped present the prizes to the winners.

On behalf of the Flag Officers and Members I would like to thank Lady Neal for her generosity in presenting a special encouragement prize on the day to Glen Emery and his crew who sailed the Juniors Corsair *Big Ted* in the Sail Past. Lady Neal was particularly



Dee Henshall and a flower arrangement, imaginatively including sliced fruit to warn us to prevent the sailor's scourge of scurvy.

impressed with the way they handled the boat and managed the dipping of the ensign as they crossed the stern of the *Yelta*.

The web site, which can be found at: www.adelaide.au/~rsays, is attracting the attention of Members and visitors from around the country and across the globe. Roger Oaten is to be commended for the time and effort he devotes to the site, by providing his expert assistance in administering the site with artistry, creativity, updates and general information flow. There is now a Race Result Archive, so Members can access their past performances. Of course, to keep the site current and have access to interesting links, Roger needs support from committee chairmen for current material and also contributions and images from Members. Please visit it soon and feel free to offer suggestions for improvements. We also encourage Members to use our e-mail facilities.

The Works Committee, along with many volunteers, have continued to transform the entrance, building appearance and gardens. Most lawns are now on **timed watering systems**. Members are asked to be aware of this when parking on the lawned areas, particularly in the area between the crane wharf and Etchells

slip. Signage directs attention to possible damage to the in-ground sprinkler heads, which will be vulnerable when cars drive over them. These improvements are just another part of the on-going landscaping and upgrading of Squadron facilities.

As part of the expanded services to Members and now that summer is upon us, **Jimmy's Bar** will be open on **Friday evenings from 1700 hrs to 1930 hrs**. This is an initiative of the House & Social Committee, who are responding to Members' requests. The House & Social Committee are looking for strong support for their initiative, as they have been advised by the Management Committee that if the opening of Jimmy's Bar is not well supported and operates at a loss, the bar will remain closed except for offshore race starts which coincide with Friday evenings.

The caterers are getting appreciative responses for their efforts. They are keen to encourage function bookings, seminars, conferences and private bookings at the Squadron.

For further information and assistance please contact the Office or Jennifer Kalmus directly on 8322 3145. Jennifer is only too happy to provide information for functions, from an intimate dinner party in the library to a 200-delegate conference.

Twilight Sailing commenced on Wednesday 3 November with a good attendance and a full dining room. Once again, our sponsors are **Vicsail** for weekly prizes, and **Ansett**, who will provide the return airfares for two adults to Sydney for the overall winners, where they will enjoy a weekend charter on Pittwater in a Luxury Catalina Charter Yacht for a weekend or three days mid-week! This prize is courtesy of Richard and Pam Hamilton of **Ausail Pittwater**. **Jamesons Whisky** and **Jacob's Creek** wines are providing the weekly beverage packs for both series of twilight races. Thank you to all these sponsors. We look forward to seeing Members and their guests on the water.

The December Quarterly meeting will be held on **Thursday 16th December**. Please note the change of day. **Father Christmas** will visit us on **Saturday 18 December** at about 1745 hrs, and after his visit there will be a family dinner in the

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