

MARCH 2018

REGATTA

COORONG QUAYS MILANG-GOOLWA FRESHWATER CLASSIC 2018



Division 3 off the start line in Milang

Champions crowned at Australia's biggest fresh water race

Following what was a challenging Coorong Quays Milang-Goolwa Freshwater Classic in conditions that saw blistering heat and a lack of wind, the champions were crowned at the Goolwa Regatta Yacht Club on Saturday night 27 January 2018.

After a slight delay at the start while the race committee were waiting for the breeze to fill in, racing eventually got underway 30 minutes after the scheduled start time of 9am, with 10-minute intervals between the starts for each division.

The historical boats kicked off the day as Division 1, which was followed by four separate trailable racing divisions. Making up Division 6 was the exciting sports boat division, while Division 7 was made up of a number of trailable multihulls. Division 8 was for the off-the-beach monohull classes, which saw a fleet of five Tasars as the bulk of the sailors, as well as a handful of other dinghies.

The off-the-beach catamarans made up Division 9, which was the largest fleet in the event and provided one of the most exciting starts seen in recent memory. Division 10 was the final division in the regatta and was specifically in place for the single-design fleet of five Restricted 21s. However, rather than starting last they started on the Division 1 start line with the historical fleet.

Although there were some boats that stayed in consistent breeze for most of the race and finished in good time, there were some boats that finished extremely late, while a handful were unable to finish before the cut off time of 6.30pm, which equates to nine hours of racing.

The presentation evening, hosted by the Goolwa Regatta Yacht Club, saw a large turnout and was a chance for sailors to celebrate another successful year with great food and live music.

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**Mike O'Reilly's *Oh Really*
finished well in Division 2**



The Goolwa finish; coming home with a kite flying

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GRYC Club Racing

GRYC Twilight Series 3 -

Sponsored by Goolwa Car and Commercial

Friday 9 February

Generous sponsorship by Ben and Valeria Sanders of Goolwa Car and Commercial facilitated sailing by over 120 yachties in the first Friday 9 February race of Twilight Series 3; 37 yachts started the race in four divisions. There was a false start in the spinnaker division by some six to ten yachts jumping the line so the call back resulted in the non-spinnaker division being the second start. At least this time, most of the non-spinnaker division paid attention to the starting flags.

In the Restricted 21 division it was good to see Lyndon Bartlett helming *Endeavour* competing effectively with the favoured *Nerana*. However, as Lyndon would admit he might be competitive but beating Randall Cooper across the line is a different issue. Hence the result for the Restricted 21 division was: 1st *Nerana* – Randall Cooper. 2nd *Endeavour* – Lyndon Bartlett. 3rd *Altair* – Graham Roberts.

In the Spinnaker Division with 16 yachts competing it was another Cooper victory. These Cooper lads, father and son, are consistent surely due to wife and mother Liz Cooper who crews on *Nerana*. Harry Cooper helming *Seabomb* produced all his skills, and he had to because former club champion Matt Irvine aboard *The Kraken* was always close by, although by the finish Harry had a good minute to spare. Other sailors who were always competitive included Brad Briggs aboard *Flying Squad*, Trevor Baldock helming his Regatta Rigged Noelex 25 *Destiny* and Simon Bath helming his Blazer 23 *Kylie's Carbon Race Bike*. Results in this division were; 1st *Seabomb* – Harry Cooper. 2nd *The Kraken* – Matt Irvine. 3rd *Flying Squad* – Brad Briggs.

The non-spinnaker division produced some interesting racing with handicaps proving once again that so often it's possible to predict victory and places. Nevertheless there was some fine racing. John Brice helming his Farr 6 *Away with the Farries* had an excellent start and was rewarded, at least in part, with fifth place at the finish. Likewise Peter Nielsen with Ben Westmoreland as crew aboard *The Shed* had the second fastest time and also achieved second place in the final result. Brendan Murray aboard *Bacchus* was always in with a chance especially as, given the tactician he is, Brendan finished well, outsmarting close-by rivals. Results for the non-spinnaker division were: 1st *Encore* – Don Richardson. 2nd *The Shed* – Peter Nielsen. 3rd *Carina* – Ben Morris.

Friday 23 February

It was one of those nights. Winds swirled, were unpredictable in direction and before racing started at 6:00pm there were moments, with wind gusts approaching 30 knots that twilight sailors thought the evening's racing could be cancelled. Then wind speeds dropped to below 10 knots and 23 yachts prepared to race. From the first start gun, the wind picked up and even if only slightly, it constantly changed direction. Sailing was a challenge especially as the Principal Race Officer Rick Elyward placed the third marker buoy close to the start so that yachts had to gibe and tack, often three or four times to leave that third mark to starboard and sail up river to the fourth mark, rounding that to port.

In the Restricted 21 Division, even though he was well behind at the start, Randal Cooper helming *Nerana* soon closed the gap on Chris Reiffel's *Dolphin*, closely followed by the in-form Lyndon Bartlett aboard *Endeavour*, hence results of this division were: 1st *Nerana* – Randall Cooper. 2nd *Dolphin* – Chris Reiffel. 3rd *Endeavour* Lyndon Bartlett.



Envy (Andrew Stevens) vs Elanora (Louise Edwards) do battle Saturday

In the Spinnaker Division the Flying Fifteen *Fflying Squad* sailed by former club champion Brad Briggs raced away. Certainly Andrew Stevens helming his Elliot 7 *Envy* was always in with a chance of closing the gap as was Todd Bartlett aboard *Bohica* and Trevor Baldock helming *Destiny*. And, there was always a chance that Ben Sanders, helming his distinctly pink Soling *Gidget* might get a place. However, at the end of some manoeuvring and skippers' commitment to stay upright, results were: 1st *Fflying Squad* – Brad Briggs. 2nd *Envy* – Andrew Stevens. 3rd *Bohica* – Todd Bartlett.

In the Non Spinnaker Division with eight yachts starting, there was every expectation that this might be a night for the Blazer 23 *The Shed* helmed by Peter Nielson or even the Noelex 25 *Wind in the Willows* – the latter always enjoys strong winds. After much competitive racing and many changes of position, with Bacchus helmed by Brendan Murray in an excellent position at the first mark changing wind direction and hefty gusts soon sorted the fleet. Final results were. 1st *Encore* – Don Richardson. 2nd *Wind in the Willows* – Roger Rees. 3rd *Carina* – Ben Morris.

Goolwa to Milang Yacht Club Race - Saturday Feb 10

When crews started on Saturday morning from GRYC there was little expectation of what was to come. Chris Caffin's excellent photos give some indication of what happened some 45 minutes after the start.

Light winds around 5 knots at the start encouraged skippers to put up their largest genoas, give away any thought of reefing the mainsail and make sure that spinnakers were at the ready as soon as a following wind came in. Before the yachts had past Laffins' Point the wind started to build and certainly not what was expected let alone predicted.

Just below Clayton the wind had reached 37 knots with gusts to 45 knots – storm conditions certainly, especially as the strong unpredictable wind swirled, kicked and blasted yachts carrying far too much sail. Soon yachts were on their side, or overturned and sunk in the case of *The Kraken* or with a man overboard in the case of Murray Symonds helming his redoubtable RL 28 *Equinox*. Murray is always keen to have his spinnaker flying – never

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Encore (Don Richardson)

expecting, experienced sailor that Murray is, to have his beloved spinnaker ripped, reefed mainsail torn and a crew man overboard. Rescue boats from Clayton and Meningie as well as Goolwa worked hard to help capsized boats, guide and pick up river-borne sailors. Within the hour the Principal Race Officer Rick Eylward had abandoned the race.

However, seven yachts made it to Milang with wind strength rarely falling below 25 knots. Harry Cooper helming *Seabomb* reached Milang as first across the line without mishap – well done Harry. GRYC Vice Commodore Louise Edwards helming her RL 28 *Elanora* started with as much sail as possible; full main, largest genoa and largest ballooning spinnaker – somehow *Eleanora* survived, well done Louise, and sailed on to the finish at Milang with a storm jib and double reefed main.



Flying Squad
(Brad Briggs)

“Easter Egg” Destinations

Or, in other words, destinations hidden in plain sight

Everybody knows the usual destinations around Goolwa and the Lower Lakes, but there are plenty more. Some are beginning to be lost in the annals of time—people stop boating, land owners change. And new ones pop up for just the same reasons—people take up boating, land owners change.

There are plenty down in the Coorong liked by people just because they are not well known - private, protected, charming. The Clayton Bay Boat Club has one nearby literally a land locked marina big enough for a dozen boats (and charming). And who lives on Lake Albert just near ‘The Narrows’, jetty included?

Well I would like to add another... Private (as there won’t be anyone else there), unexpected and a potential bolt-hole when the going gets tough.

Everyone assumes the north coast of Hindmarsh Island is a straight ribbon of reeds from Boundary Creek to where the coast turns South towards Deep Creek. But if you Google (satellite view) this piece of coastline you will see that is not the case and there are a number of distinct small ‘bays’. About half way between Boundary Creek and the turn South and directly opposite one of the green channel markers is one deep enough for a boat to drive right in (well maybe not my boat, but certainly any trailer-sailer) cosy and protected from anything except a true northerly. When sailing up towards Lake Alexandrina all you can see is a mast until directly opposite, quite unnerving as the mast is obviously not in Deep Creek, so where could the boat be?

Cheers, Simon Barrow

Simon sails *Serenity* a Lexcen 32 shoal draft yacht and would like to finish this piece with a poem by Josh Whedon that relates to the name of his yacht.

Take my love, take my land,
Take me where I cannot stand.
I don’t care, I’m still free,
You can’t take the sky from me.

Take me out to the black,
Tell them I ain’t comin back.
Burn the land and boil the sea,
You can’t take the sky from me.

*There’s no place, I **can’t** be,
Since I’ve found Serenity.*



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There's Plenty of Social Fun at GRYC



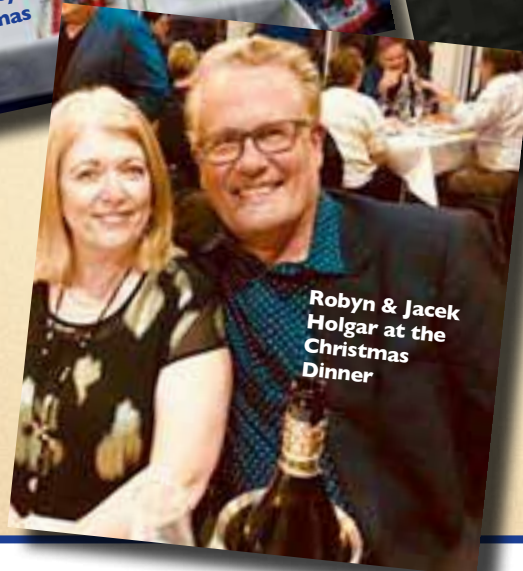
Children's Christmas party



Robin & Paul Harvey at the Christmas Dinner



Sailability Christmas Lunch



Robyn & Jacek Holgar at the Christmas Dinner



Brian, Louise and Brendan at the Christmas Dinner

What's coming up at the GRYC

Fri 23 March

Twilight Series 3 Presentation – Pizza Oven delights, BBQ and Live Music

Sat 24 March

Volunteers Night

Sat 7 April

Destination Race Finniss
(BYO BBQ and drinks and sleepover)

Wed 18 April – Sat 21 April

Team Sailing State Championships at GRYC

Fri 27 April

Informal Twilight and Food by Angie

Sun 29 April

Winter Series Race 1

Sat 19 May

Social Event – BBQ – BYO Meat – Live Music & Dessert Auction

Fri 25 May

Informal Twilight and 'Taverna Elanora' – Food by Louise Edwards and crew

Sun 27 May

Winter Series Race 2

Sat June 9 & Sun 10 June

Frostbite Regatta

Sat 16 June

Annual Dinner

Sun 17 June

AGM and lunch

Fri 22 June

Informal Twilight – Food by Graeme Foristal

Sun 24 June

Winter Series Race 3

Members' Corner

The GRYC General Committee and club members would like to welcome the following new members.

Senior: Simon Bath (*Kylie's Carbon Race Bike* a Blazer 23)
Terrance Quilliam (*Champagne* a Magnum 8.5)

Associate: Kylie Bath, Daniel Curtis, David Martin, Chris Garwood, Mark Gomez, Shane O'Callaghan, Julien Pearce, Cheryl Quilliam, Peter Walker, Marion Weatherburn, Gaenor and John Williams

Student: Cameron Bath

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Sailing is for everyone at GRYC

Our Sailability day conducted on Saturday 13th January was a blow-out for the second time in a row. Attempts were made by three brave souls and crews, but quickly reverted to the conditions inside the marina. Most of our people stayed around and enjoyed the ambience provided by our new curtained area. The usual excellent lunch was provided by our volunteer ladies. As conditions had not moderated, but got worse, the day was then cancelled.

I believe someone upstairs was trying to get back in the good books, with the weather conditions provided on Sunday 21st January for the Sailability Regatta held as part of Goolwa Regatta Week. It is held in honour of Past Commodore, Simon Thiele, with trophies donated by Roger Rees and presented by Robyn Thiele. All GRYC Sailability boats together with the Byrne family's own boat took to the water. Peter Briton-Jones (OOD), which we are grateful for, set a windward/leeward course (4 races, each was of 11-13 minutes duration). A great sail was had by all competitors. Trophies were awarded to:

1st Andrew Short/Leigh Phillips

2nd Ben Hamilton-Groffen/Trevor Kennewell

3rd Laurence Byrne/Tom Byrne

The Interclub Challenge with Port Adelaide took place over two weekends (10th February, at Port Adelaide and 17th February at Goolwa). Our representatives were Jai and Oliver Modra and Laurence and Tom Byrne (1st week), and Andrew Short and Leigh Phillips replaced the Byrne's the (2nd week). Congratulations go to Port Adelaide for winning the challenge this year 37 points to 24. Trevor Baldock is to be thanked for being the OOD and setting an interesting course for the participants at Goolwa.

On the same day as the Interclub Challenge at Goolwa, it was a normal Sailability day for the remainder. Great weather for all and *As Good As It Gets* unfurled her sails taking people out.

We are still gaining new sailors to the program including Brenda Burgess, Jesse Hahn, Andrew Blight, Jeanette Radford and Leah Radford (Jenny).

New volunteers to be welcomed are: Kerry Callaghan and Jan Verwaal.

Ian Barker, Convenor Sailability



Defying the Odds: Interclub State Sailability Championship

SA has a proud tradition of promoting Sailability. Sailability SA provides opportunities for people with a disability to learn to sail deep keel, two-person dinghies and race in club, state, national and international championships. Come and try Sailability at GRYC and at Port Adelaide Sailing Club. It is a safe, often challenging and certainly enjoyable skill-based activity. A network of support and camaraderie from experienced sailors exists at GRYC and Port Adelaide YC.

COME & TRY, ENROL AND ENJOY SAILABILITY: IT'S SAFE AND REWARDING!

2018 SA interclub sailing championship was held over two Saturdays: 10 February at Port Adelaide YC and 17 February at GRYC. Wind conditions varied but experienced sailors such as Wayne Crabb and Ben Walter from Port Adelaide and Laurence Byrne and Andrew Short from GRYC showed their skills whatever the conditions. After six competitive races the winners of this year's Sailability Club Championship was Port Adelaide SC, guided and supported as ever by Johnny Johnson. Johnny has been organising and supporting Sailability for some 30 years. Likewise Brain Southcott, Trevor Kennewell and Ian Barker guide and support Sailability at GRYC. After the final race on 17 February, around a clover leaf course, trophies were presented at the GRYC. Congratulations to the winners and to all who participated.

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**Join us at the GRYC
for... great food, good
value drinks and
friendly camaraderie.**



23 March—Presentation night for Twilight
Series 3 —Angie does wood fired food
27 April—Angie
25 May—Taverna Eleanora, Louise Edwards
22 June—Graeme Foristal
27 July—Randal Cooper
24 August—Jon Gilbert
14 September—TBA

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