

2022 CYAA Annual General Meeting – President’s Report

Welcome all,

With the easing of restrictions, it was a great pleasure and relief for the association and its members to be able to return to sailing under conditions approaching that which we enjoyed pre covid-19.

In the last 12 months for Victorian members we were able to complete both summer and winter series and delivered two Cup Regatta’s. The first being the delayed 2021 regatta, in March, and then the actual 2022 Regatta, back in its traditional Melbourne Cup weekend slot. Whilst entrant numbers were down, after two years of lock downs this could be expected. Hopefully numbers will grow again as confidence once again returns to something approaching normality.

Peter Costoloe has detailed in his sailing report the full extent of CYAA events and CYAA member activity for the year. Highlights have included the 2021 Tumblaren State Championships, the 2022 Geelong Wooden Boat Festival, the 2021 Sydney to Hobart Classic yacht Regatta and in Brisbane the Deanbilla Bay Race.

In February our 2022 elected president Martin Ryan stood down from the CYAA committee for personal reasons. The committee and members of the CYAA extend our thanks to Martin for the 10 years he contributed as President of the CYAA, and the initiatives he delivered. We wish him all the best for the future.

We maintained a strong financial position which David Mckenzie will outline in his treasurer’s report. David has announced his decision to stand down from the CYAA committee as of this AGM. On behalf of the CYAA committee and its members I thank David for the outstanding work he has undertaken over the last 10 years that he has occupied the role of treasurer.

The CYAA moved its race entry/management to the TopYacht system and entered into an agreement with the RMYS to be the official organiser of CYAA racing in Melbourne. For Australian Sailing administration this was crucial for both RMYS and RYCV to continue their support of classic yacht racing on Port Philip.

Past President Martin Ryan was a selected finalist for a 2022 Australian Sailing – Lifetime Achievement award. Congratulations Martin, well deserved.

The association awarded life memberships to founding members Col Anderson and Doug Shields as well as 10 year President Martin Ryan. These awards reflect their long term passion and commitment to the development and growth of classic yacht restoration and sailing in Australia. Without these men the association would not be what it is today.

The CYAA commissioned Steve Hollowood to design and develop a new website for the association. This website will help us promote and communicate the association and its activities and will be a major tool in our growth plans in the future. We expect this to be launched in the next few weeks.

We welcomed new members and their yachts, Greville Edgerton; Sirroco, John Ryks; Aunty Jack, Blair Bryant; Stardust, James Waters; Vahine, and Ian Johnson. Growth through membership is

essential to the long term viability of the association. We have seen renewed interest from outside of Melbourne, and potential opportunities for all will stem from this.

A special thank you goes to the members of the committee who have given generously of their time throughout what has been a difficult period. In particular I wish to thank Colin Orchard who has performed admirably in his first year as secretary and has been a great support and confidant to me and to Peter Costolloe who has again worked tirelessly and been the eyes, ears and mouth of the CYAA.

I encourage all members to get involved with the running of the associations activities and the new initiatives we will look to develop. The committee can not deliver all these itself and we are continually looking for volunteers who may wish to assist in project management and on sub committees. To paraphrase John F Kennedy, ask not what your association can do for you – ask what you can do for your association.

Richard Macrae
President
Classic Yacht Association of Australia