

Jib Sheet



An Avalon Sailing Club Publication

Dec 2010/Jan 2011



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www.avalonsailingclub.com.au



From the Tiller

Dear members,

Welcome to the December 2010 edition of the Jibsheet. It's been a busy first half of the season with lots of activity around your club.

The Deck Party held in October was a great success, with members of all ages enjoying the sure-fire formula of live music, good food and good company.

Thanks to Dave and Nicole and all the others that assisted in making this event a great success.

The Sailing Camp was held in November with around 25 eager participants. A huge thank you to all the volunteers who made this major club event happen, our junior coaches headed up by Kingsley, with a special mention to John Nell who manages to make it all run like clockwork.

The sailing camp embodies what Avalon is all about, "for the fostering, encouragement, promotion, teaching and above all, enjoyment of sailing on the waters of Pittwater".

It's fantastic to see all these young sailors out on the water in boats ranging from Nippas to Wild Oats 10.

The MJ's have been busy with two rounds of the MJ States held so far at BYRA and Hawkesbury River. Congratulations to all our young sailors taking part, with a special mention to Jim and Tom Colley, currently leading this event. Check out our website for all of our sailors results

FUND RAISING UPDATE

So far we have raised about \$3,000 towards the pontoon, so there is some way to go yet. We have the "Dollar Thermometer" on the website. Please sell as many of those raffle tickets as you can as we develop other means of fundraising for our much needed pontoon and deck.

Don't forget, you can now buy a real coffee, plus a bacon and egg roll on Sunday mornings, and take in the great view from the club while having breakfast and assisting the fundraising effort at the same time.

Some dates for your diary:-

CHRISTMAS PARTY

5:00 pm 11th December, bring your own Christmas food to BBQ.

This is a combined kids/adults event.

We will also be running our restricted licence, so you'll be able to buy a range of big kid's drinks if required. Please join us; Santa may even make an appearance, although this is yet to be confirmed!

F11'S STATES

Round 2 of the F11 is being hosted by Avalon on 12th/13th February. We are expecting a large number of F11's (possibly 80 to 90 boats) so this is the call for all volunteers in various on water/off water capacities as we need your help.

Please contact Doug Watt.

AUSTRALIA DAY REGATTA

Plus, don't forget the 175th Australia Day Regatta in the New Year either. The Australia Day Regatta is the oldest continuously-held annual sailing regatta in the world, conducted on 26 January each year to commemorate the anniversary of the first European settlement in Australia. Avalon will again be the host club for this event on Pittwater and it's open to keelboats and centreboarders.

WORKING BEE

The next working bee is 5th February, so please mark it in your diaries now and give it some priority. This working

bee will be particularly important to make sure we are in good shape to host the F11's States the following weekend. We don't need you for the whole day and whatever contribution you can make would be much appreciated. You'll even be provided with an (almost) famous Avalon Sailing Club sausage sandwich in the middle of the day.

The volunteer nature of the club is one of its defining features, so please put in, whether it be your rostered duty day or the working bee.

As this is the last Jibsheet for the year, I will take this opportunity to wish you all the very best for the festive season.

Good sailing,
Brett Stapleton

TO MY DEAR AVALON SAILING CLUB FAMILY

WORDS CAN NOT PROPERLY EXPRESS MY THANKS TO YOU ALL FOR THE MAGNIFICENT FLOWERS THAT WERE SENT & THE CARDS, PHONE CALLS AND VISITS TO HELP COMFORT IAN & I DURING OUR RECENT SADNESS.

THROUGH THE SUPPORT OF YOU ALL IT ENABLED US TO GIVE MY DARLING DAD THE PALLIATIVE CARE HE NEEDED FOR THE LAST 7 WEEKS OF HIS LIFE. HE WAS 94 WHEN HE DIED & WAS STILL WORKING AS A SOLICITOR IN THE CITY 3 DAYS A WEEK.

WE WERE ABLE TO BRING DAD HOME TO LIVE WITH US FOR THE FINAL 12 DAYS AND HE DIED VERY PEACEFULLY

*WITH LOVE
CC*

The History of Avalon Sailing Club

by Norm Field

***Available at
the canteen
only \$10.***

***A great read
with wonderful
historical
photographs.***



AUSTRALIA DAY REGATTA 26TH JANUARY 2011

**Yacht start time 1300hrs and centreboats
start time 1330hrs. There will be a
presentation at approx 1600hrs and a
BYO bbq after.**

**To see the JibSheet in glorious colour go to our website
www.avalonsailingclub.com.au**

What *are* those yellow tubes on the tinnies?

Well, they are called Airofloat stabilisers, and they aren't fenders, they are primarily designed to stop the boat capsizing. We tested ours (without a motor on the tinnie) with three big blokes jumping up and down on one gunwale, and we filled the boat with water but couldn't overturn it. To prevent punctures they have a separate bladder inside the yellow tubes, which should never be inflated more than 2 psi / 14 kpa. This low pressure means they are also very good fenders when dealing with Nippers, MJ's and f11's, but that's not their design purpose. Ours have proved very tough, in spite of our local oysters.

A pair cost between \$500 and \$600 for boats between 2.4 and 4.4 metres - just point your browser to www.airofloat.com.au. I reckon they should be a compulsory safety fitting on any small runabout, especially with young drivers or if you venture out to sea. Highly recommended!

Glenn Sanders

Guess Who - Don't Sue!

Norm Field is away so here is a collection of the latest gossip:

Who were the crew in the last Blue Water Shield race heard to be saying:

saying 1: gee, this is a really good shy spinnaker, look, it reaches nearly back to the cockpit!...

saying 2: pull harder back there, you've still got two metres till the spinnaker's all the way up...

saying 3: oh bugger, I think it's sideways!

Our happycapper has recently learnt that hanging onto one's beer while unfurling the jib and simultaneously holding the spinnaker sheet is likely to lead to an undignified swim. That's twice in 2 weeks, John!

Another lesson learnt by another Etchells – check the course, it only takes a moment. This lesson took place when the leading boat, way out in front, chose not to check the course but to rely instead on memory from the last race. It was not a good choice as it turned out, although those clever foxes almost managed to regain the lead and came second by only 39 seconds. “Apallable,” said the happycapper, although he was clearly pleased.

PONTOON PROJECT CHRISTMAS TREASURE TROVE RAFFLE

To open the fund raising account for the Pontoon & Deck Project, ASC is participating in the twice yearly 'Community Raffle' organised by Rotary.

1ST PRIZE - TOYOTA YARIS AUTOMATIC CAR

2ND PRIZE - DELL NOTEBOOK COMPUTER

3RD PRIZE - \$1000 WORTH OF JEWELLERY FROM 'KURT SEIFERT JEWELLERS'

The return to Avalon Sailing Club will be 75% of the ticket sales. Rotary retains 25% to cover costs and community projects.

THANK YOU TO THE 34 FAMILIES IN THE CLUB THAT HAVE SOLD TICKETS. SO FAR WE HAVE ONLY RAISED \$1260.00 HOWEVER WE HAVE THE POTENTIAL OF RAISING \$6000.00 - PLEASE CONSIDER TAKING RAFFLE BOOKS TO WORK, YOUR NEIGHBOURS AND HELP US REACH OUR GOAL

Tickets are \$2 each, in books of 10. We would like to see every member sell two books. .

If you do not wish to sell raffle tickets to raise funds for this essential project please email secretary@avalonsailingclub.com.au

Ian Craig
Hon. Secretary

CRUISE TO MANLY JAZZ FESTIVAL

Well, well, it's October long weekend and it's raining again. What a surprise! We have decided that perhaps we should scrub this event from the cruising calendar or that the organisers should change the date of the unfortunate Jazz Festival. But then we had a most enjoyable weekend despite the best efforts of the weather. Amazingly the wind was favourable for both passages. We zipped down the coast in strong and squally northerlies, with some very heavy rain showers, but we made good speed - 4 hours head to head. There were some lively moments under the squalls but we didn't need to reef.

We had a rather interesting time trying to drop the headsail pole when we were hit by a strong blow just as we came round North Head. On another yacht, one unfortunate female crew member, who shall remain nameless, had a lucky escape from being pulled over the side by a genoa sheet when she went forward to release it from a jam. She is now following our advice to wear a PFD at all times offshore and nursing a very sore arm from where it connected with the guard rail. On the way back we had steady easterly winds and maintained a close haul all the way back to Barrenjoey. And it didn't rain at all on Monday! We had a humpback cross our bows rather too close for comfort, but no problem and we caught a tasty bonito to cook for dinner when we got home. It was an excellent passage home, the best day's sailing for months.

In between, we listened to some jazz, enjoyed a fun evening at the Alhambra Spanish restaurant, with a delicious banquet including tapas and paella, accompanied by Flamenco dancing. If you haven't been there, you really should give it a go. On Sunday we retreated from the rain to sample a few of the 4 Pines' excellent handcrafted ales and their hearty bar meals, including the most yummy bowls of mussels. Several toasts were raised to celebrate Jim's retirement and we finished off the afternoon listening to some great jazz performances, even getting a chance to sing along with the superb geriatric trio on washboards and other bizarre instruments. Unfortunately another female crew member managed to fall into the water off the pontoon as we



were returning to the boats one evening. And she had only had 2 glasses of wine all day! If it had been one of the blokes, we would have roared with laughter, but she was given suitable sympathy! We joined up on Hagar for Sunday evening drinks and nibbles, managing somehow to get on board and back between showers.

We hired moorings again from Treharne's Manly Boatshed at Fairlight. They were very friendly and helpful as usual. We could then relax ashore without worrying about the yachts. All in all it was a very successful and enjoyable weekend, with the occasional alarming moment! As we keep saying, don't let the forecast put you off. Considerable effort goes into organising this cruise, the moorings and the social events, so it is a pity to let a bit of rain put you off. We had 4 boats along this time (half from the club) and would love to see others join us. But then perhaps we won't bother next year and it will be gloriously sunny for the Jazz Festival!

Sue Flaye

DON MCLACHLAN ETCHELLS REGATTA

Scheduled for Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th January, 2011 on Pittwater. The Regatta will consist of six races conducted by the Avalon Sailing Club (ASC). An interim presentation for Races 1, 2 & 3 will be held at a catered dinner on the Saturday evening at ASC. Bookings are essential. The Don McLachlan Scratch and Handicap Perpetual Trophies plus prizes for Races 4, 5 & 6 will be presented prior to a BYO BBQ on the Sunday afternoon at ASC.

Eligible Etechells must be coated with antifouling, provide a current YA Category 7 Safety Certificate, Yacht Racing Insurance Policy and NSW Maritime registration.

Entry forms together with the appropriate fee must be received NO LATER than 1700 on Wednesday 26 January 2011.

Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions can be obtained from the web site or Bruce Dey on 0417 978 535.

A number of experienced sailors in ASC have expressed an interest in skippering or crewing in the Regatta. Please advise Bruce Dey if you have crew requirements or are looking for a position on an Etechell.

Bruce Dey

MANLY JUNIORS

The Manly Juniors have had a busy start to the season with training in Cronulla and Brooklyn and two rounds of states one at Byra & the other at Brooklyn. With Tom Koerner now coaching on Sundays we're beginning to see some real improvements in the fleet.

The first round of states at Byra were a mixture of NE winds, SE winds, potential thunderstorms, rain & Sydney 38's! Saturday, one race was held in a good NE wind while on Sunday the kids raced two shorter races back to back in a steady SE breeze. Avalon had 4 open boats racing:

- “Bad Fish” Harley & Tavish Walters,
- “Rocket Fuel” Fred Horton & Alistair Read,
- “Grumpy Young Men” Jack Cuthbert & Sean Watt,
- “Bullet” Jim & Tom Colley
& 4 novice boats,
- “Trick or Treat” Juliet Constanzo & Margot Mason,
- “Need for Speed” James Fruin & Thomas Wickett,
- “The Good Thing” Annika Mason & Max Oughtred,
- “Akuna Matata” Anneliese Scholten & Evie Dumas

Harley & Tavish had an excellent race 3 coming in 4th & 1st on handicap, Fred & Alistair won the 1st race on handicap Juliet & Margot won heat 1 novice on handicap, James & Thomas won heat 2 novice on handicap, Jim & Tom won heat 1 & 3 with a 3rd in heat 2.

The tide at Brooklyn brought some very different and challenging conditions. Congratulations to all the MJ's for racing on Sunday, some say it was the most difficult MJ course we've had for years. With 4 knots of tide & 16 - 18 knots of wind it was really tricky laying marks & coping with the short chop. The sun was shining though & we all had a great weekend.

Annika & Max were 2nd on handicap novice in heat 4, Juliet & Margot won heat 5 novice handicap & 3rd on scratch, James & Thomas had an excellent 5th in heat 4, Jim & Tom worked really hard to catch up & came out with 3 1sts.

We have the Nationals just after Christmas & then the wonderful Pt Wolly weekend in February. Please talk to Nick asap about booking accommodation .

Sally



Photos Sally Colley and Gary Oughtred



CLUB XMAS BBQ

Sat 11th December - 5pm

BYO everything

for BBQ on the deck

All families welcome - Santa Claus will visit the club with a sack full of goodies for the younger sailors. Make up a table of friends and bring a Christmas plate to share with others to help make this a festive and special event.

BYO everything as family day race.

For your Diary...

Saturday 11th December
Adult & Children's Christmas Party
Check website for full details

Sunday 19th December
Ladies Race Day
No Centreboard Sailing

Sunday 26th December
No Sailing

Note no Centreboard sailing
2nd January 2011
9th January 2011
16th January 2011
23rd January 2011

Wednesday 26th January
Australia Day Regatta & BBQ

Saturday 29th January
Sunday 30th January
Wet Etchells Regatta

30th January
Centreboard sailing begins

Saturday 5th February
WORKING BEE
MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

Saturday 5th March
Challenger Head Race Weekend

Saturday 30th April
Commodore's Party

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enjoyment of sailing on the waters of Pittwater"***

Affiliated with the Yachting Association of NSW. Patron Iain Murray

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