

# Jib Sheet

An Avalon Sailing Club Publication

June 2010

## COMMODORE'S BALL 2010



### IN THIS ISSUE...

- ◆ Commodore's Ball ◆ Lord Howe Island "Cruise" ◆ Presentation Day
- ◆ Guess Who Don't Sue ◆ Cruise News
- ◆ ASC Royalty Abroad ◆ Coming Events

[www.avalonsailingclub.com.au](http://www.avalonsailingclub.com.au)



# From the Tiller

Dear members,

Welcome to the “mini jibsheet” for winter. While the sailing may have slowed down a little, there is still plenty of activity around your club.

A small but enthusiastic group of yachts have been participating in the winter series on the last Sunday of each month, with the customary BBQ at the end of the day.

Winter centreboard training has been a great success this year with high levels of commitment shown by all involved, demonstrated by everyone being on the water by 8:15 am.

The social event of the year also took place in the form of the Commodore’s Ball on May 22nd. The theme of the night was the 60’s. This proved to be a popular theme for those members who could remember the 60’s, and also for those who proved they were participants in the 60’s by virtue of the fact of not being able to remember any of it.

Even a complete power blackout twenty minutes before everyone was due to arrive was unable to stop this gala event or indeed our caterers, who managed to somehow produce a fantastic meal in the dark.

Prizes were awarded for best dressed couple and also for best dressed male and female with absolutely no correspondence entered into. If you don’t believe me, just check out some of the pictures further on in the jibsheet.

On the cruising front, a wonderful weekend was had by the cruising division at Jerusalem Bay in April, despite the ever present rain. Cruising is a great way of improving your anchoring skills, and if those skills are absent then there’s plenty of free advice!

For the slightly more adventurous, don’t miss the account of Guinevere’s trip to Lord Howe Island. The trip to Lord Howe can be particularly challenging in terms of weather/sea state and Paul Westcott’s account is a fantastic guide to anyone contemplating such a voyage.

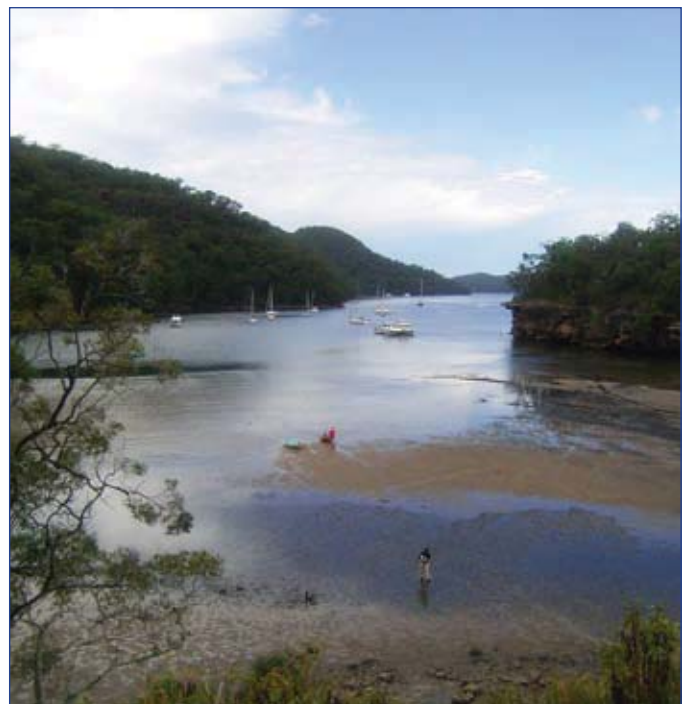
Some important dates:-

1st August. The Annual General Meeting of Avalon Sailing Club. All welcome and please come along for some now famous morning tea scones.

Working Bee July 17th. Please come along, even if it’s only for a couple of hours. Our club doesn’t maintain itself and it’s the strength of our volunteer base that makes us the club we are.

See you at the next winter race on the 27th of June.

Good sailing,  
Brett Stapleton  
[www.avalonsailingclub.com.au/joomla/](http://www.avalonsailingclub.com.au/joomla/)



# PRESENTATION DAY AWARDS

## OVERALL AWARDS

Ryves Shield for Clubmanship	Kingsley Forbes-Smith
The "Club" Trophy	Ralph & Pat Alldritt
Jibsheet Trophy	Sally Mayman

## YACHT DIVISION

Blue Water Shield	Greensleeves	Robert Batchelor
Koolong Trophy	Iluka	Diane Mattes
Quartet Bow	Pirihi	Ritchie Venn
Retriever Trophy	Diablo	Jean Cross
Shaz II Trophy – Overall Scratch	Young Generation	Norm & David Field
Commodore's Trophy – Overall Handicap	Pirihi	Steve Rubie, Doug Snedden, Ritchie Venn
Van Den Bosch Trophy	Say When	Mark Thompson
Opening Day Trophy	Sobraon	Tony Burville
Two Island Trophy	Diablo	Jean Cross
Cruising Trophy	Kate Kelly	Jim Flaye
Shamrock Trophy (Challenger's Head)	Kirin	Roman Zwolenski
Ladies Skipper's Race	Ozad Force 8	Riarne Gale
Force 8 Cup	Diablo	Jean Cross

## CENTREBOARD DIVISIONS

### OVERALL TROPHIES

Bellingham Shield – Outstanding Club Sailor	Tim Forbes-Smith
Crews Trophy	Juliet Costanzo, Amy Smith
Philip Baker trophy – Outstanding Male	Malcolm Parker
Mary Ifould Trophy – Outstanding Female	Monica Hyde
Championship Trophy – Most Success in Interclub Events	Jim Colley
Flying Dutchman Trophy – Outstanding Junior Family	Nick Mason, Karen Taves, Annika & Margot
Archina Cup – Most Improved Sailor	Harry Parker, Dara Slarke-Griffiths
Holiday Trophy - Most Enthusiastic Sailor	Zac Barnabas, Max Oughtred

### MJ NOVICE DIVISION

San Pedrico Shield – Overall Scratch	Harley Walters, Tavish Walters
Warren Payne Trophy – Overall Handicap	Not awarded

### MJ OPEN DIVISION

Guthrey Trophy – MJ Club Championship	Jim Colley, Tom Colley
W N Allen Trophy - MJ Summer Point Score	Jim Colley, Tom Colley
Vulcan Trophy – MJ Overall Handicap	Hannah Lanz, Margot Mason
Head Ake Trophy	Seldon Coventry
Rudder Trophy – Opening Day	Michael Koerner, Josh Ponton

### SPIRAL

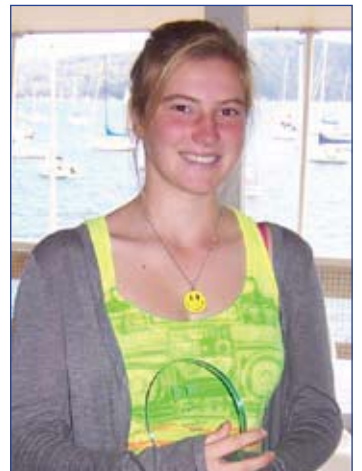
Club Championship Trophy	Shane Conly
Spring Point Score	Jeff Conly
Summer Point Score	Shane Conly

### F11

Club Championship	Tim Forbes-Smith, Jim Colley
Spring Point Score	Michael Koerner, Joshua Ponton
Summer Point Score	Michael Koerner, Joshua Ponton

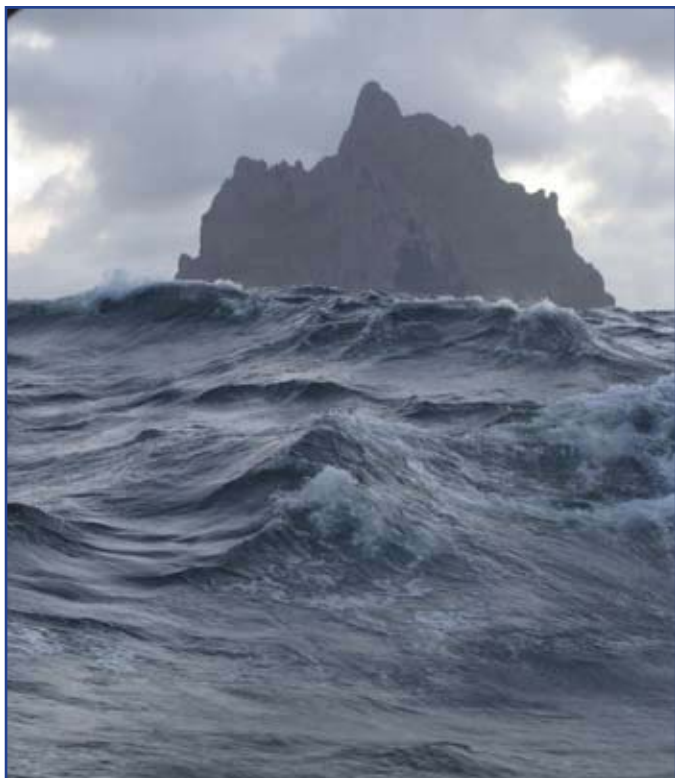
To see the JibSheet in glorious colour go to our website  
[www.avalonsailingclub.com.au](http://www.avalonsailingclub.com.au)

# PRESENTATION DAY *continued*





# LORD HOWE “CRUISE”



I must admit the next three days were a bit wild. The wind did not drop below 20 knots and peaked at 54 knots. The swell was big and it rained off and on for the whole trip. The average was fine but the squalls were when the waves started to foam; the rigging howled and the deck got very wet. Fortunately the squalls did not last long but they sure made an impression. Looking up over ones shoulder to see white water adds a new dimension. Thank goodness we were on a beam reach as I would hate to be bashing to windward with these conditions.

One very large wave knocked myself and fellow crew off our feet and also tore off the Dan Buoy. It was very sobering for us to see the Dan Buoy inflate, the strobe light come on and then drift off into the night. We reckon it was less than 60 seconds before we lost sight of it in the conditions we had. It made us realise the difficulty in recovering a man overboard and the importance of life jackets harnesses and being attached to the yacht.

On the third day we had to slow the yacht down as we would hit Lord Howe at night or else go past. We turned a bit south a came across Balls Pyramid at dawn. A stark rock jutting hundreds of meters from the ocean. Real Lord of the Rings stuff and a memory I won't forget.

The lagoon was breaking when we arrived so we could not enter and we were directed to Middle Beach on the Eastern side where we finally dropped anchor. The next day the wind dropped and we were able to go around to the lagoon.

Lord Howe is a wonderful destination for a holiday. Bird life, majestic views, coral, bike rides, fishing, good food. I could go on and on. Just accept that you must go there – it is a world heritage site and deserves this status. I love it.

The trip home was such a contrast. Basically a big high pressure system – and no significant wind for several days except for rain squalls. These would give us a blast of wind for several hours (all

Why sail to Lord Howe Island? Well I want to join the “Round Australia Rally” starting in April 2011 and whilst I have a yacht (“*Guinevere*”, a 42 foot Jeanneau cruiser), and the dream, I really don't have much offshore experience! Lord Howe being 420 nautical miles from Pittwater (about from here to Brisbane; but out in the ocean) seemed a good opportunity to test me and the yacht. In addition my daughter Mia was doing a two week stay there with the local doctor as part of her medical training at Newcastle Uni. The plan was for a family get together at Lord Howe.

Basic research indicated we needed to take enough provisions for 10 days or so as it is not uncommon for the lagoon to be too rough to enter in a prevailing north west wind (which is common in autumn and winter) meaning you could possibly get here and then have to come home without landing.

I organised a crew of four (three beginners and one very experienced hand as insurance) and spent a lot of time checking the rig and setting up storm sails, sea anchors and all the safety gear for a long off shore trip. I used the category one AYF check list. I added 5 more hand holds and these were invaluable in the big seas we experienced. We took food for two weeks in case we could not land and had to turn home without having the opportunity to stock up.

We were all set to leave on a Monday morning – but pity about the gale force wind warning. This is the same front that Jessica Watson was experiencing – except she was already out there! We delayed three days and then left Barrenjoey with a course of 60 degrees on the basis we would ride the back of the front and sail into a much calmer high pressure system. We found the BOM 7 day forecast wind web site very useful and also Buoy watch (a US based web site) which allows you to get a seven day forecast anywhere in the world.





sails up) and would then die (engine on). Further, we were in an eddy of the eastern current which was three knots in the wrong direction. We were on an important mission to get home (The Commodore's Ball on the Saturday night) so we used the motor otherwise we would be drifting back to Lord Howe and there was a big ugly southerly change due on the weekend. What a

contrast to the trip over! Smooth sea, gentle breeze, no swell, fishing rod out, scones in the oven, music on and very relaxing.

Overall we were away 9 days and averaged 6 knots when under way. Some lessons learnt:

- Gale force winds and big swells are scary.
- Anyone who does not wear a life jacket harness should not be on board – it is not worth the risk.
- We needed simpler food in big seas. Next time we will have more snacks readily available on deck. Cooking under big seas conditions is difficult.
- Good wet weather gear is a godsend.
- If tired enough you can sleep anywhere.
- It is nice when the sun comes out.
- The yacht is probably more capable than the people in it.
- Sea sickness is a big issue. I was quite stressed about this but it turned out ok thank goodness.

I am pleased to say the yacht performed well with no breakages or major issues. The crew are certainly richer from the experience and happy that we managed the issues associated with an ocean voyage and after 9 days away came back feeling healthy and happy if not a bit tired. And just in time for the Commodore's ball!

*Paul Westcott*

---

## **AVALON SAILING CLUB AGM SUNDAY 1ST AUGUST 2010**

We encourage all members to attend the forthcoming AGM. It is important for you to have your say in the future of our Club's progress. Formal notice of the AGM will be sent out shortly outlining some of the issues to be discussed.

Your renewal fee invoice will also be enclosed. It is important that members pay their fees by the AGM to enable the Committee to co-ordinate all levels of the sailing program especially the Duty Roster in time for Opening Day.

The Club can only operate successfully if we have enough volunteers – everyone has a skill whether it be helping in the canteen, assisting with the junior Blue & Red Division sailing early Sunday mornings, assisting on support boats, on the deck, helping lift boats in and out of the water, helping put equipment away at the end of the day – you name it we can find a job that will fit in with your skills and your time.

Your help on Working Bee Days is also essential and due to the lack of volunteers we may have to also start a roster for Working Bee Days to spread the load.

Please feel free to phone or email us at any time to ask any questions relating to the Club or any great offers of help and skills you have.

Yours in sailing - Ian & Celia Craig Home phone/fax: 9488 7416 secretary@avalonsailingclub.com.au

---

## **WANTED - YACHT HANDICAPPER**

Person required to fill the position of yacht handicapper for the coming 2010-2011 season. Some computer experience is required.

On site training will be given by outgoing yacht handicapper.

Enquiries: johnsiladi@bigpond.com OR  
secretary@avalonsailingclub.com.au

# THE COMMODORE'S BALL 2010



Thanks to all photographers who contributed these shots, Bob Batchelor, Celia and Ian Craig, Brett Stapleton, Nicole Koerner



# CRUISE NEWS



Photos Bob Batchelor



The Anzac Day long weekend saw the cruise division head for Jerusalem Bay, with an excellent turnout of 7 yachts, despite a typically “iffy” long weekend weather forecast. The Cronans, Flayes, Sinclairs, Stapletons, Thieles and Zwolenskis all came along, as well as a couple of non-ASC friends from a nearby mooring. We were particularly delighted that Brett and Robyn were able to join us for the first night. Cocktail hour was a logistical challenge with so many boats, none of which could be called an “entertainer”! We tied Hagar and Kirin stern to stern in the calm conditions, but in the end we all crowded aboard Hagar and enjoyed a very snug happy hour, before dashing back to our boats between showers.

It was gently raining the next morning so we had to cram everyone down below on Kate Kelly to partake of morning coffee and Anzac cookies. Later, Jim and I took advantage of the passing prawn and oyster tinnie and had a very indulgent lunch, quite unnecessary, but delicious! Some of us moved our yachts into the lee of the hills to make sure we were secure in the forecast strong southerly. This once again failed to eventuate, with a brief “twitch” of the boats in a southerly direction being the only noticeable effect. We spent the afternoon doing the bushwalk up to Cowan, a good uphill slog through very pretty woodland. On our return Falko had some fun releasing his dinghy from the handy fallen tree he had attached it to at low tide. By the time we got back it was already well underwater and it took the combined efforts of Jim, Paul and eventually Falko, in his underpants, to free it! Nobody had a camera though! That evening we adjourned to Kirin for drinks before dinner, once again dodging the showers and drips from the canopy. The Stapletons had already returned to be back for sailing club/dog-sitting duties. The Cronans had brought their small dog along. As the “kids” get older they become less reliable as pet sitters unfortunately!

Morning coffee on Monday was aboard Charm, with Rob and Karen. We sat in the cockpit in blazing sunshine. Then everyone started setting off for home. We had an interesting “catch” when we raised our anchor, finding a berley pot full of mud and metres of line attached to it. We left just after Charm, intent on racing them back to our adjoining moorings. However there was hardly any wind in Cowan Creek, so we limped along side -by -side, trying to outdo each other. Once we reached West Head

though, the strong southerly kicked in and we were suddenly heeled over and charging along. Kate Kelly carried on out to sea and we had a wonderful sail out and around the huge red ship that was anchored some 5 miles offshore. It is an awesome sight looking straight at the bows of one of these leviathans. The presence of the massive anchor chain makes them only slightly less intimidating!

The Progressive Dinner cruise took place on May 15th at the Basin. Four yachts took part, crewed by John & Jenny Cronan, Richard Houwing, Matt Kirlew & Jo Shaw, and Bob Batchelor and Julia. Matt & Jo provided Jindarra as host boat and a good time was had by all, with great food and lively conversation to set the world to rights over dinner! The next morning Richard walked up the hill to see the Aboriginal carvings and some of the others also went ashore. Off season there are usually plenty of moorings available, so boats can either raft up on the club moorings or do their own thing.

Do join us for the Soup and Fire Night at the Basin in July (see Diary column) and watch out for John Cronan’s new, or should I say, old, beautiful boat, “Morasum”. She is a 40’ classic S & S Finisterre class yawl from the fifties and will keep him very busy I’m sure!

*Sue Flaye*



# Having a Right Royal Good Time...



*Hi All, Just a quick photo to show you our stature has risen a peg or two since we have been in China, so be prepared to treat us in accordance with our new social position on our return.*

*Best wishes, Mike and Robyn*

## Guess Who, Don't Sue!

**W**ho were on the table at the Commodore's Ball that hoped to win a prize for the best dressed table, but unfortunately that well known Avalon artist could not get her painting done in time. That is all O.K. 'cos John, Nicole, Wendy, Norm and Richard had a ball anyway. For all who missed it the Ball was a blast in spite of a last minute local power failure which could have stuffed everything.

**W**ho was that gorgeous replica of Dusty Springfield that picked up the ladies prize... Eat your heart out Richie you have enough prizes of your own.

**F**unny how things roll along in the Club. Have just had a phone call from John Brogan, son of Life Member and architect of the Club construction in the 1950's John Brogan, to help with the history of Avalon District. SO, Celia and Ian have just sold another 6 copies of the A.S.C. history. Beauty!!

## 2010 Entertainment Book now available



*The Entertainment™ Book is a local restaurant and activity guide which provides valuable 25% to 50% off and 2-for-1 offers from the finest restaurants, activities. Also accommodation throughout Australia and New Zealand. Enjoy valuable offers for the things you like to do every day.*

**Only \$65 Contact Celia Craig**



# Notices

## Working Bee Heroes

A big thank you to all those who participated in the working bee on the 13th of February:-



Glenn Sanders, Warwick Barnes, Brett Stapleton, Peter Kidner, Garry Oughtred, Ian Lanz, Jan Scholten, Ian Craig, Ralph Alldritt, Ross Trembath, Bella Glenny, Richard Horton, Jim Flaye

If you'd like to see your name on this list, just come along to the next Working Bee 17th July!!

## For your Diary...

**SUN JUNE 27**

Family Day Race and BBQ

**SAT JULY 17**

Working Bee

**SAT JULY 24**

Soup and Fire Night at the Basin.

BYO everything (plus wellies if you like warm dry feet!)

**SUN JULY 25**

Family Day Race and BBQ

**SUN AUGUST 1**

Annual General Meeting

**SUN AUGUST 29**

Family Day Race and BBQ

 **AVALON SAILING CLUB** 

**Working Bee in July!!**

**WE NEED YOU**



**Please come and help !!**  
– even if just for a few hours ....

**Food and drink supplied**  
**8.30am to 4.30pm**  
**SAT JULY 17**

**Please pencil into your diary NOW! ☺**

## BAYVIEW SLIPWAY

SLIPPING ♦ PAINTING ♦ SHIPWRIGHTS

**Maureen Cuthbert and Mark Barry-Cotter**

12/1714 Pittwater Road, Bayview. 2104 Ph: 9997 8588

Fax: 9979 5696 E: bayviewslipway@bigpond.com

*Experience, Value, Quality, Service  
and proud supporters of ASC*

**A**

[www.avalonsailingclub.com.au](http://www.avalonsailingclub.com.au)

***“For the fostering, encouragement, promotion, teaching and above all enjoyment of sailing on the waters of Pittwater”***

Affiliated with the Yachting Association of NSW. Patron Iain Murray

PO Box 59 Avalon NSW 2107. Clubhouse: Old Wharf Reserve, Hudson Parade. Phone (02) 9918 3637

Editor and Artwork Claudie Moffatt – cmof5582@bigpond.net.au

Webmaster Kingsley Forbes-Smith kingsley@miboat.com

Printed by Pymble Office Supplies phone 9988 3566