

# PRESIDENTS REPORT

This year continued to mark notable achievements for the wonderful S&S 34 yacht, this association, our members and all our friends and supporters. As I reflect on the year I will surely miss listing some of these but here are a few.

## S&S 34 IN 2017/2018

One can only marvel that this wonderful design by Sparkman & Stephens continues to achieve so much.

- Olbia, skippered by owner Christian Chalandre from France won the Jester Class in the Singlehanded Transatlantic OSTAR 2017 in a time of 32 days, 14 hours and 9 minutes. A grueling race where significant weather affected everyone in the fleet.
- Morning Star, skippered by Jo Breen from Tasmania led the fleet in the 2018 Melbourne Osaka double handed race right until the very end. She came 2<sup>nd</sup> on PHS and AMS, 4<sup>th</sup> on IRC and 13<sup>th</sup> on Line Honours adjusted for a weather delay in the race.
- Huckleberry, skippered by Phil Sommerville-Ryan from Perth played a vital part in rescuing crew from the capsized yacht Finistere in the Bunbury and Return race in February this year.
- Komatsu Azzurro, skippered by Shane Kearns from Sydney continues to perform well on the east coast. In the 2018 Noakes Sydney Gold Coast Race she came 1<sup>st</sup> in IRC 4<sup>th</sup> Div, 1<sup>st</sup> in ORCi and 1<sup>st</sup> in ORCi Div 3.

Here in Perth we continue to see S&S 34's actively raced on the river and the ocean at clubs such RPYC, FSC, RFBYC, SoPYC. Many other yachts enjoy cruising around Australia and the world.

There are many more great things to mention, I am sure. Enthusiasm for the design continues around the globe.

## THE ASSOCIATION

Since 1978, the S&S 34 Association has sought to support the sailing, maintaining, owning of these yachts. This year, my first time as an owner of an S&S 34 and involvement with the association, led to the following.

- Incorporating the association as a not for profit organisation. This also had the effect of renewing our constitution to be in accordance with good governance requirements as well as increasing our committee from four to six. My sincere thanks to Vera Waldby for devoting the time and effort to making this important step happen.
- Welcome to Jamie Downs and Andrew Waldby as committee members and Roger Raymond as Vice President.
- Improving the website stability. Our website is a significant part of who we are and why we exist. My thanks to Jamie Downs, our webmaster, who has played a vital role in getting the “back office” of the website in a better place, so we can enjoy better up time.
- The Commodores Perpetual Trophy Race was again held in March, 2018 at Fremantle Sailing Club. We had 10 S&S 34's participate with 12 Commodores from as far away as Busselton in the south and Geraldton in the north. It was a fantastic day with the winner being East Fremantle Sailing Club's Commodore Danny O'Byrne skippering Perie Banou III and owner Colin Sanders and sailing great Jon Sanders crewing. Thanks to FSC once again for their support in making this a great afternoon event.
- We continue to be a part of Australian Sailing's WA Chapter. My thanks to Andrew Waldby for his continued involvement representing the association to them, particularly during the time ASWA has undergone extensive reorganisation.
- Financially we remain in good shape and thanks to Rob Elliott-Lockhart, we have been able to follow up with members who are in arrears.
- Our global footprint continues to surprise. We regularly have contact with S&S 34 owners overseas who want support and want to join.

There are still areas we can continue to develop.

- The website needs a facelift to bring it into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. There is a plan to do this, which also makes it mobile device compatible.
- Our Swan River Racing Series needs re-invigorating. We need to think how we achieve regular racing events for our design. The past year saw limited involvement.
- Our social sailing events such as the twilight sailing also needs consideration. We failed to hold any social events in the past year.

New areas for thought are

- Developing an overall blueprint for the association that maps its future.
- Consolidating and preserving our technical knowledge
- Celebrating our anniversary
- Establishing a more dynamic presence within Australian sailing.

I have enjoyed the past year as President. My thanks to the committee and the officers who have supported me over this time. I could do very little without you.

I wish you all great sailing and a great future.

Ron Kooy

President 2017/2018

S&S 34 Association