

# PRESIDENTS REPORT

S&S 34 yacht still attract news and attention the world over. Our association, with its members, friends and supporters continues to survive. There have been a number of challenges and achievements this past year.

## S&S 34 IN 2018/2019

Key events and happenings through the year for the S&S 34 were,

- Komatsu Azzurro, skippered by Shane Kearns from Sydney was named the S&S Association Global Regatta winner.
- Huckleberry, skippered by Phil Sommerville-Ryan from Perth won the 71<sup>st</sup> Bunbury and Return Race.
- With great sadness we noted the passing of Jim Putt, our former Treasurer and keen S&S 34 skipper of Morning Tide. His son Ian carries on with the yacht sailing at Fremantle Sailing Club.
- Soon, skippered by committee member Michael Thorpe took out the Captain Stirling Cup Div2 and took second in the Success Cup on YAH handicap at Fremantle Sailing Club. These races are part of the Western Australia Offshore Racing series.
- Many S&S 34's changed hands over the year with Blondie and Morning Star being notable racing yachts to find new owners in the eastern states of Australia.

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 was a relatively quiet year for the association with some disappointments.

- Our first year as a not for profit corporation was completed with regulatory administration completed.
- Our committee meetings were a little irregular during the year due to absences and other issues.
- The website continued to post new articles and news as it became available, however there was a marked decrease in the amount of discussion on the Discussion Forum. A high amount of spam messages was received. The website continues to require revision and renewal.
- The Commodores Perpetual Trophy Race not held this year at Fremantle Sailing Club. Whilst we had 10-12 S&S 34's ready to participate, Fremantle Sailing Club had scheduled the race to be held on its club open day and was not able to secure sufficient Commodore's from other clubs to attend the event. This was a very disappointing result and a number of association members expressed their disappointment. Fremantle Sailing Club was apologetic. We should review again how we conduct this 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.
- 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. It has yet to be commenced.
- 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 again.
- The Commodore's Perpetual Trophy needs attention and re-invigorating.
- 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.

It is with regret that I am unable to offer myself for re-election. I have enjoyed the past year as President. My thanks to the committee and the officers who have supported me over this time.

I wish you all great sailing and a great future.

Ron Kooy

President 2018/2019

S&S 34 Association