

APRIL 2020

FROM THE **BILGES**

THE OFFICAL NEWSLETTER OF PORTARLINGTON SAILING CLUB

OFF THE WATER

VIRTUAL SAILING AND
BOATBUILDING

**A MESSAGE FROM
OUR SPONSORS**

INSURANCE UPDATE
AND DIY SUPPLIES

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REMINDERS & AGM UPDATE



ON OFF THE WATER

VIRTUAL SAILING

With "real" Sailing still postponed due to the Coronavirus, Jacob and I have been keeping our skills sharp on Virtual Regatta.

We have finally completed our circumnavigation of the globe on replica's of Magellan's *Victoria*, which has been underway for the best part of a year. It has certainly been a learning experience, as you need to look at a passage from a completely new perspective compared to a race on a modern IMOCA or Ultim. With a top speed of around 7 knots, and an average of 3, it is not possible to sail all over the ocean to pick up favourable wind. Instead you need to plan your voyage so that you receive tailwinds as much as possible, with little regard for small wind shifts or localised pressure.



Last Sunday, instead of buying Potato Gems with Gravy at the Drysdale Shop on the way to the club, I spent the morning competing in the Hempel World Cup Series Genoa aboard my virtual 49er. It was a session of very intense racing, with the Ligurian Sea throwing large shifts and big gusts at all competitors, particularly in the corners of the course.

Typically there would be around 16 skippers per race, with each race comprising two laps of a windward-leeward course. Typically the top 3 boats finished within 0.5-2 seconds of each other after 5 minutes of racing, making the final couple of gybes critical.

I was fortunate to finish 54th overall out of around 11,800 skippers. This was a somewhat disappointing result after running 31st for most of the day, but it was one of my first times competing in a World Cup Series event.

Virtual Regatta Inshore and *Virtual Regatta Offshore* are both available in the App Store and I strongly recommend them to anyone looking to improve their skills on the water during these difficult times.

For those not interested in getting out on the virtual seas, I can highly recommend building a boat as an excellent pastime to fill the time between work and sleep. I have included a couple of pictures of my sailing canoe project for those that are interested.

I've noticed that there seems to be a lot of people on Facebook using their time in lockdown to build boats they've always dreamed of.

If you want to waste a couple of hours looking at boats you could potentially build, I have comprised a quick list of fantastic websites that you can really get lost in:

- [John Welsford Yacht Design](#)
- [Dudley Dix Yacht Design](#)
- [Stray Dog Boat Works](#)
- [Duckworks](#)
- [Woods Designs](#)
- [Team Scarab](#)
- [HarryProa](#)
- [Schionning Designs](#)

My other great discovery this past week has been the YouTube Channel [Yachts and Yarns](#). However, be warned, once you start watching you won't be able to stop! Another great one to get into is [Sampson Boat Co](#), following a talented British Shipwright restoring a classic sailing yacht.

If anyone has done anything interesting sailing-related during these difficult times and would like it included in the next edition of the newsletter please send me an email at Thomas.Stuchbery@gmail.com.





A MESSAGE

FROM



**Geelong Insurance
Brokers**

COVID19 is causing rapid changes as we all try to adapt. If you are struggling to pay your insurance bill, whether a Geelong Insurance Broker client or not, please give us a call and we can talk you through options available.

Our advice is free. Whilst our office is closed, and we can't meet face to face, our dedicated staff are all working remotely and would like to help you.

In times of uncertainty, you need to protect what's important to you, and maintaining your insurance is key.

Visit www.geelonginsurancebrokers.com.au for more.



DRYSDALE



Drysedale Timber and Hardware supply premium quality materials including a comprehensive range of timber, building materials and trade hardware. We also have a wide range of plants, garden supplies and paint. Our range also includes tools, plumbing supplies, concreting supplies and general hardware.

We have thousands of products available in store for trade and DIY along with a team who can provide you with sound knowledge and know-how on projects inside and outside your home.

Drysedale Timber and Hardware is an independent family owned business that also has access to our sister company Barwon Timber, which further extends our trade offer.

Barwon Timber accounts can also be used at Drysedale Timber.

Supporting the current restrictions in place, we now offer a FREE delivery service to help our customers shop from home. Limits apply for timber deliveries.

Please call for details.

We also offer a convenient pick up option. Call ahead to place your order, charge to your account or pay over the phone and we can have it ready for you to pick up at your convenience.



If you have any queries about our products and services we are open 6 days a week.


PH: (03) 5251 2852 Email: sales@drysedalehome.com.au

36 Murradoc Rd, Drysedale 3222

Business Hours:

Weekdays 7.30am-5.00pm

Saturday 8.00am-1.00pm



POSTPONED AGM

The AGM is delayed in accordance with legal requirements. More information will be released once available.

Please contact a committee member with any questions



REMINDER: WWCC

All active adult members, (which includes canteen and BBQ volunteers, OOD's etc) over the age of 18 need to have a Working With Children Check.

Below is the internet link to apply for a check:
<https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/individuals/applicants/how-to-apply>

HALYARDS AND DEFIBRILLATOR

Please make sure your halyards are tied securely so they do not disturb our neighbours in the caravan park. Members are encouraged to take note of the position of our defibrillator which is hanging on the wall just inside Club office.

— GET CONNECTED —



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