



PREMIER BOAT NEWS – SEPTEMBER 2021

COMMODORES REPORT SEPTEMBER 2021



Robert Psaila - Commodore 2021-2022

CORONAVIRUS/COVID 19 RULES ARE IN PLACE

Our Club is operational; subject to the 5 reasons via Victorian Government & DHHS Regulations, there are only 5 reasons to leave home;

1. Shopping 2. Care/caregiving 3. Exercise once daily, <5k of home, 2 hrs +1 person 4. Authorised work/study. 5. To get vaccinated

QR CODE SIGNS ARE ON SITE & MUST BE USED FOR ALL PERSONS WHO ATTEND THE PROPERTY

QR SCAN IN – Its law! – **ALL PERSONS** must be scanned in via the QR Code – You **MUST** do the QR code as your entry to the site for DHHS contact tracing should it be necessary. The “Gate Key Fob” will record your entry to the Club grounds only, we would have to make this information available if requested by DHHS, Victoria Police or other legally empowered authorities.

BOATING & FISHING

Permitted for up to 2 hours daily, within 5 kms of your home, only with one (1) other person plus dependents (if they cannot be left unattended) face masks must be worn at all times (unless a lawful exemption applies)

Face Masks must be worn at all times – how you do this when water ski-ing etc is not clear – but, that’s the rule

This means only persons from the same household which is located within 5kms of the club could use their boat for towing a skier/wakeboarder/inflatable or other device. Only 2 persons can exercise together & the law requires the presence of a legal age observer for towing a person. The 3rd person in the boat could be a Dependent of legal observer age. Members are reminded that we must comply with all Covid 19 regulations. **FISHING:** 2 persons from the same household may go fishing (subject to the covid 19 rules – no fish kissing)

THE FRONT GATE

The electronic sliding gate is now touch on controlled. Keep your key for now – it works the ramps

Your Key Fob will be posted to you with your membership card & instructions upon renewal of your membership.

Security Camera System: this is now fully operational at locations around the Club, including the front entrance, clubhouse & boat ramps. Instructions re Gate Entry & Departure are included with your Key Fob & Card.

1. Tap on the Fob Reader – It will BEEP – Gate opens & closes then 45 seconds later
2. Do not Tailgate, Do not follow another vehicle through, TAP on the Fob Reader
3. 45 Seconds Starts from the Fob Tap & Beep
4. EXIT: Tap & Beep then 45 seconds to exit
5. DO NOT QUEUE THROUGH THE GATEWAY
6. WAIT: If a vehicle/trailer is in front of you & waiting for traffic on Exford Rd
7. ONLY Tap Beep & Open Gate when it is clear for you to move out to Exford Rd

MRSBC Caretakers position: retiring Caretaker – Ted Wills

Ted Wills has stepped down after 10 years of looking after the Club property and members. On behalf of the Committee and Members I sincerely thank Ted for his service and dedication to the Club. Together with his son Robert they have lived on the Club grounds and taken care of the facilities and people since Robert was in early primary school.

We are grateful to both Ted & Robert. Every best wish is extended to them for the future. Robert is doing his VCE in what has become a difficult time for school students, particularly those in their final years during 2020-2021. We have every hope & wish that all goes well for Robert, he has called the Club home for a long time & is a valued person at MRSBC, we will miss him practising basketball with his mates & his happy greetings to all coming & going.

Ted has joined the MRSBC Committee as Club Registrar. He and Robert will be living locally in Melton and we are very pleased to have his ongoing participation in the Club administration and operations. As Registrar Ted will be responsible for induction/admitting new members to the Club & liaising with members re administration of boat registrations etc



VALE MRS CAROLE HARRISON

It was with great sadness we learned of the recent passing of our great friend Carole. Wife of Geoff, Life Member & long time Commodore mother of Susan, Judy & Glenn and their families.

Carole was a fantastic worker for the club and always great fun. We shared many years of race days, ski days, events and functions. We will all miss Carole. Our sympathies and best wishes go to Geoff and the family at this sad time

PRESENTATION TO THE OUTGOING CARETAKER(S)
TED & ROBERT WILLS BY ROB PSAILA COMMODORE
AT THE AGM JULY 30TH 2021

MRSBC Caretaker appointment

John Bond 0408 003 970

Email: bondy69@gmail.com

I am pleased to inform members that the Club has appointed John Bond as the new MRSBC Caretaker. John has moved into the caretaker's residence which we have recently renovated and updated thanks to the volunteer work efforts of Committee persons and General Members.

Our past Club Caretakers have been long appointments and we look forward to John having an extended and happy time of involvement at the Club. Please introduce yourself to John, just remember he is not there to take you boating, mind your children and cook your BBQ but he will assist you where it is appropriate to do so.

MRSBC NEW COMMITTEE for 2021-2022

I thank all members of the previous years Committee for their work and dedication to the Club. Organisations which depend on Volunteers to function are finding it increasingly difficult to get people to help. School parents groups, football/netball clubs, various charity groups can all confirm how tough it is to fill positions of responsibility and get work tasks done.

Our Committee for 2021-2022 has every position filled. I am pleased to see there are five important roles and appointments being undertaken by women members who contribute to the administration, direction and operation of the club.

Marie Ryan General Secretary/Treasurer & APBA Co-Delegate

Marie continues at MRSBC to bring her extensive experience in administration and management at Clubs including the Western Bulldogs, Hoppers Crossing Club and her long association as a member of the Victorian & Australian National Councils of the Australian Powerboat Association (APBA).

We owe Marie an ongoing debt of gratitude for continuing to help steer the Club through the past 15 years of change, growth and development. Marie has worked to ensure the Club is a financially stable and viable organisation which can serve its membership well.

Karen Shackleton Race Secretary & APBA Co-Delegate

has continued to capably fill the important role of Race Secretary. This job has become more vital than ever to the Club as successful racing has come to underpin the financial viability of the MRSBC.

The Melton Gold Cup was able to be held in February 2020 just before the Covid 19 pandemic shutdowns and we were lucky to run the event again in March 2021. These events were vital to the standing of our Club in the community generally and nationally.

Karen and a large team of Race Committee members and Volunteers managed to organise and run the 2021 Gold Cup very successfully in racing and financial terms even though Australia is severely restricted by the pandemic.

Jo Readings Social Secretary & Functions Co-ordinator

Jo is MRSBC Social Secretary & has taken to this role enthusiastically. Jo has some exciting plans and ideas for social get togethers when Covid allows.

Clare Shepherdley Trophy Master

Clare is an experienced race driver starting off in 25hp class racing and now moving to 6 litre class in her family MV race boat "Transonic". Clare is a qualified Accountant and administers the Club Trophy portfolio as well as working in the main control tower on race days. Clare has grown up around circuit boat racing all over Australia and has a depth of experience in the conduct and administration of club events.

Judy Mitchell Catering Co-ordinator

Judy has worked in event management and function catering for many years. She has successfully organised many previous functions at the Club. These include Presentation Nights, Social Dinner Dance events (Elvis was spectacular), and Comedy night also catering for Sponsors and Guests at Melton Gold Cup racing for many years. Judy has a loyal and expert team of catering and bar workers who have made many Club events a great success.

General Welcome to the 2021-2022 Committee

Thank you to all the above office holders and appointees, in addition I would like to especially thank the following Committee persons old & new for accepting the position they hold and working towards the ongoing success of the MRSBC.

Mark Shepherdley, Vice Commodore & APBA Delegate;

Richard Mills, Rear Commodore;

Ted Wills, Registrar;

Mick Garvey, Editor Dolittle;

Nick Werner, Ski-Secretary;

Aaron Fardell, Fishing Secretary;

David King, Compliance Officer;

Gary Shackleton, Charity Liaison Officer & Ski Jump Crash Tester

Dennis Psaila, APBA Co-Delegate

General Committee Members Mark Williams, Phil Kelly, Henry Asciak, Chris Dynon

As stated above, Ted has previously been on the Committee as Caretaker, Chris Dynon & Mark Williams have also served previously but Phil Kelly and Henry Asciak are both coming on for the first time. Considering Phil is a Life Member who has devoted hours of work, trucks and machines over 25 years and Henry has been a MRSBC Member for over 40 years or so these are great people to step up and help out even more.

Editors Note: Phillip Kelly has also been our Official Race Starter for the past 20 years – he is gradually getting the hang of it & Henry Asciak is Captain of the MRSBC “Rescue 1” Ambulance boat – we like to keep Henry happy as he controls the Defibrillator.

These “new” committee members can work really closely at times and then enjoy a decaf.



Key Dates re Coming Events – Calendar Sept-Oct 2021

Sunday Sept 12th 2021 -_subject to **COVID-19 Restrictions**– stand by for email

9.00 am -1.00 pm Working Bee – Contact Richard Mills

12 Noon-3.00 pm Scrutineering (NB Fobs mailed out)

POSTPONED DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS

Tuesday Sept 14th 2021 subject to **COVID-19 Restrictions**

7.30 pm Committee, General & Sub Clubs Meetings

POSTPONED DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS

Wednesday 29th Sept 2021 subject to **COVID-19 Restrictions**

7.00 pm Race Committee: Plan for Race Meeting on 13-14 November

Race Committee will meet at 7.00 pm on 12 Oct & 27 Oct & 10 Nov re above Race Meeting

Tuesday 12th October 2021

7.45 pm Executive & Committee Meeting

Tuesday 9th November 2021

7.45 pm Committee, General & Sub Clubs Meetings

Wednesday 10th November 2021

5.00 PM – 9.00 PM WORKING BEE – RACE DAY SET UP - Contact Richard Mills

Saturday 13th November 2021 & Sunday 14th November 2021

7.00 AM – 7.00 PM MRSBC CLUB RACING DAYS - **WATER CLOSED**

Wednesday 17th November 2021

5.00 pm – 9.00 pm WORKING BEE RE RACE DAY PACK UP – Contact Richard Mills

MRSBC Boat For Sale – “TAURUS”



“Taurus” 5.3m Gilflite Javelin MKII Centre mount Inboard \$25,000

Perfect timing to secure a classic Australian Ski Boat built by David Gill with loads of features, Holden 308 V8 just reco & run in with dog clutch, Holley 4 barrel carb, brand new custom built tupac painted disc brake trailer with adjustable rollers, winch & guide poles, Hull inc new bearers & flooring installed by a Shipwright with air venting, 6 seat registration, s/s fuel tank, aluminium adjustable cav plate, s/s exhaust, carpets & upholstery replaced, full boat cover, 12 months registration to Sept 2022, fresh water use only, always garaged & maintained. A nice handling reliable family ski boat. Email: pamtee58@gmail.com for more information.

2021 E C Griffiths Cup – Yarrawonga on Lake Mulwala 18-19 April
GP1 Melton Toyota & the Harrison Family win it again!



The Melton Toyota race team GP1 was successful again. Led by Keith Harrison (MRSBC Life Member) with Grant Harrison driving and Crew Chief Glenn Harrison the big hydroplane swept all before it in another spectacular win.

The annual E C Griffiths Cup dates back to 1910 on Sydney Harbour is the Australasian Unlimited Power Boat Championship. It open to all comers from Australia and New Zealand. It is usually a Hydroplane race. Sometimes a Circuit Displacement boat breaks this sequence. In 1997 The late & great Brian McCosker from Tamworth won the final in his 18' Childsplay "Liberty" at Yarrawonga. Brian was a big fan favourite at many Melton Gold Cups.

Keith Harrison first won The Griffiths Cup in 1986 driving "The Rat" a 427 engined KT style tunnel hull. The MRSBC, organised and hosted Keith's Griffiths Cup title defence at Lake Learmonth near Ballarat in 1987. Our Keith found the ejector button on Turn 1and flew from the cockpit in his Heat. Undeterred, Keith and Co were back bigger and better with Hydroplanes including the superb "Spellbound" then "GP101" which Grant modified at Taree practising at 170 mph.

GRANT HARRISON'S MRSBC GRIFFITHS CUP CHEER SQUAD ON LAKE MULWALA

The Melton Start Boat MV529 "Dunracin" driven by Phil Kelly worked tirelessly all day at 80 mph as official race starter in the flies & dust to start all the heats & final of the EC Griffith Cup MRSBC members watched the event, interacted nicely with the NSW Water Police/Maritime & cheered wildly when Harrison won the cup! **But!** a red flag caused a re-run next day so MV529 fronted the track again on Sunday morning while the Mob in the party boat recovered with smashed avocado etc Luckily Grant Harrison sprinted to the lead from the start flag and won convincingly – Congratulations again!



General Items to make one more full page – It's a long time between Newsletters!

Editors Corner: The Commodore is out of production – except for one model!

After the elections were finalised at the 2021 AGM one of the members pointed out to me that Robert Psaila has now been Commodore of the MRSBC for 10 years. During the 15 or so years before that, Rob was on the Committee and was for a long time President of the Victorian Council of the Australian Powerboat Association (APBA) & Vice President of the National Council of the Australian Powerboat Association,

Rob usually proof reads the Newsletter before we send it out. He has read this edition but after he approved it I have included this section as he would have made me leave it out. As a Racer, Race Secretary, Committee Member, Club Registrar & then as Commodore his influence and leadership of the Club cannot be overestimated.

Psaila Racing !!

Look up YouTube **Melton Gold Cup Final 1997** and you get some idea of how to chase down the race leader, power around the final corner into the lead and blaze down the straight to win. Check out the Riverside Trophy Final at Mildura at 145 mph against Craig Bailey's unlimited outboard tunnel Rob's twin turbo 427 wild rocket went gunnel to gunnel for 3 laps in what many observers consider to be the most exciting circuit boat race ever seen.

Psaila Building Stuff!!

Rob has pushed the Club through 25 years of continuous improvement. A bit like his racing it can be exciting at times but the results are evident all around the MRSBC. Consider the entrance gateway, the roadway, the Vodaphone pole, the boat sheds, the tower, the ramps, the clubhouse, the renovated cottage, the marquee, the pontoons, the bus park, the function room, the pending café, the list could go on.

Psaila the Members Friend!

In my opinion Rob's most important achievement has been the membership. The Club is fortunate to have a significant number of general members who will answer the call to complete projects, help out with functions and assist other members. In 2021 we have many more women general and racing members, a strong Committee, a sound financial base and many members who will sponsor race meetings. Our race days require over 100 people to stage & are probably the best run event on the calendar. I believe this is due in no small part to Robs' leadership.

September 6th 2021 - Mick Garvey MV3 (MRSBC Editor)

Racing Notes:

MRSBC has a strong contingent of racing members over all classes of circuit boat racing. Keith & Grant Harrison's GP1 team run unlimited Hydroplane & 1.6 Hydroplane. Natasha Heffernan MV16 has "Dragula" plus her 1.6 hydro. Paul Cunningham drives in GP Hydro and 1.6 litre. Brett Niddrie MV021 is GP plus 95 & 105 mph classes, Kane Ross MV666 is 1.6 hydro then there is the Norrish Clan! MV1 "Times r Tuff" led by Phillip Norrish with Paul Norrish, Jetta Norrish & Sykla Norrish

Mark, Clare & Alex Shepherdley MV072 "Transonic" run in 6 litre 95 mph & 25hp, racers include Rob Psaila MV90 "Duggan Balancing" Dennis Psaila MV55 "Always Pumping" Brett Sheppard MV540 "Unleashed" Mark Gauci MV090 "Immortal" The Ramsey Clan inc Blake Ramsey MV51 Tate Ramsey MV067 John Ramsey MV391 & Baxter Ramsey MV016, then from the Riverland SA come The Borg! Dean Borg MV016 "Performance" plus Vincent Borg, Christie Borg, Elise Borg & Nicholas Borg (Maltese families are usually bigger)

Hudson Ellis and Lucas Ellis are MV034, Johnny Galea is MV007, Chris Williams is MV65

There is a strong family based theme through boat racing, the Formula Future class is strong and growing and MRSBC will support our junior racers!!

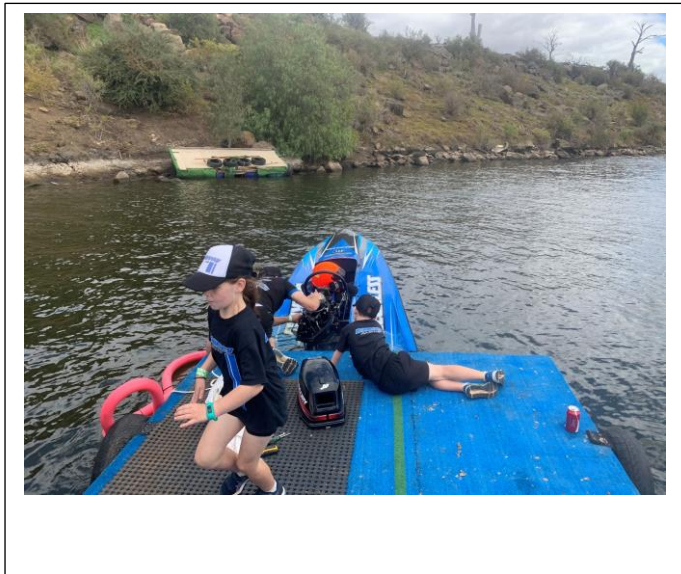
Formula Future 2021 – Juniors Racing at the 2021 Melton Gold Cup & 2021 E C Griffiths Cup Lake Mulwala



Tate Ramsey MV067 & His Crew Chief



MV 016 Last Minute tune up Baxter Ramsey is racing!



Oops! Crew Chief races off to get some spanners!



Formula Future Lineup – Yarrawonga April 2021



These 2 junior drivers were looking for answers?



Some Junior Boats have very BIG Transporters!



5 New Sheds The above concrete slab is now 5 new sheds. The reason you can only see the slab here is because I don't have any pictures of the new sheds. You have to admit as far as water views go, these sheds are on par with those wooden beach bathing box things!

WATER LEVEL NEWS - At 7th Sept 2021

Melton: 100.6% - Pykes Creek: 100.1%

MRSBC SKI REPORT – Nick Werner

As the weather gets better we can start to get excited about the ski season ahead. Covid restrictions have meant that we have been unable to continue with the repair of jump ramp although planning is underway to get it back into the water this season.

Local member Aaron Kamastie has been doing regular maintenance to the slalom course over winter including tree removal due to recent heavy rainfall and repairs to the turn bouys.

The club will look to conduct **“come try days”** during the summer for any members who would like to learn the course, with more details to follow.

Editors Note: As soon as the new Ski Jump is complete; MRSBC Charity & Function Co-ordinator

FISHING NEWS:

An 8 metre salt water crocodile was basking on the new boat ramp Unbelievable given Lockdown etc Call **Fishing Secretary: Aaron Fardell 0406 538 442**

MRSBC RACING NEWS

The 2021 Melton Gold Cup

Our marquee event was held on the weekend of March 12-13-14 and was highly successful. The final was run and won by Connor Patterson in “Turn It Up” a 6 Litre boat. It was a credit to all of the organisers and volunteers who came together to hold what has come to be regarded one of the best circuit boat racing events in Australia. The Coronavirus pandemic did limit the ability of some interstate teams to travel this year. But we still had a very large & significant attendance of Victorian & NSW Unlimited & 6 Litre race boats.

The event was run strictly in accordance with the applicable Covid 19 regulations and Permits/Consents for the event had to be secured from DHHS, Transport Safety Victoria, Southern Rural Water and the Shire of Melton. Congratulations and thanks to Mark Shepherdley for the unlimited hours chasing, changing permit applications & finally obtaining the permit.

Vale Michael Andrejszyn MV188.

We lost our great friend and Crash Boat driver Mick Andrejszyn in July 2020. Michael was a long standing MRSBC member. He always contributed tirelessly to the Club. Replacing all the locks with Joe Sicura or in his gunmetal grey Skicraft “Grey Ghost” on Turn 2 at the race meetings. We always marvelled at Micks ability to hook the tow rope to the nose of a crashed race boat right before it sunk. I apologise for omitting this notice in the March newsletter.

Commodore, Committee & Membership MRSBC

Brett Sheppard MV540 Unleashed

