

LBYC Commodore's Report 2022/23

The Club remains sustainable, although the structure of our income and expenses has changed (as noted in the Treasurer's report). The sailing programme has been successful, Club boats and members have participated in offshore cruises and races, and we have held several cruising events including some well attended technical evenings.

The Executive has continued to implement the Strategic Plan that was approved by members at the 2021/22 AGM. Some of the achievements over the last year include:

- Ongoing development of a club manual to record operational decisions and policies to provide guidance to the executive and to avoid repeating previous decisions.
- The IT system and Club documents have been moved into the cloud, the Club has been connected to fibre to improve internet access, and a project is underway to refresh the Club website.
- A Finance and Risk Committee has provided effective oversight of Club policies and the risk register which includes establishing a Privacy Officer, and regular safety/hazard checking and reporting.
- Applications for grant funding have been successful and have allowed the Club to purchase a defibrillator, carpet, heating, dishwasher, and new chairs are on order. Samples are in the club for your information.

We have a good relationship with the Seaview Marina management (SML). Our discussion with the Marina indicates that a move of the building (or a move to another building) is not likely in the short term. The Marina has indicated that it is focussing on rationalising its facilities, services, and processes. The location of the Clubrooms is not a priority for SML. Our lease with SML expires in 2024 and we are proposing to indicate that we wish to commence negotiations to continue the lease.

Discussion with Hutt City Council about the relocation of the start box is continuing. The latest proposal is that it will be moved to the Club's original location at Lowry Bay. In the meantime, the Sailing Committee has done a fantastic job of arranging on-water starts. The Club agreed that it was appropriate to compensate the owners of the committee boats to cover their costs of assisting the Club, and this process has worked smoothly.

There is no doubt that participation in social activities in the Club is declining. This decline has been reflected in the cancellation of previously popular events such as the Commodore's dinner. It is not clear whether the decline in social engagement is a reflection of general social trends, or whether it is something which could be reversed with different ideas and activities.

Our membership appears to be constant, around 220 members, and it has been nice to see a constant flow of new member applications coming through. In some cases, the new members have added new boats to the register.

On the other side of the membership is the sad passing of Debbie Snelson. Debbie was a long term and active member of the Club and will be sadly missed.

Volunteers have continued to provide huge support to the Club. The Club simply would not function without all of you who have contributed your time tirelessly and willingly to ensure that club events

and activities can happen. Thank you to everyone who has helped in a myriad of ways from taking a role on a committee, to acting as a race official, managing our communications, organising an event, or helping behind the bar and in the kitchen. I particularly wish to thank the Executive team who have driven a lot of the work which has kept the Club moving forward. Some of Executive are standing down this year after having made significant contributions; Jamie Ried, Gunter Wabnitz, Lynn Porter and Philip Orchard. It is pleasing to see that we have some nominations from those willing to take on some of their roles, but we have space for more people to get involved.

The Club has been successful over the last year. We have provided an active programme of events and activities, the membership appears to be stable, and the Club is sustainable. All of this has been achieved through the work of volunteers of your behalf.