

THE SEVEN SEAS CLUB of AUSTRALIA

"TO PROMOTE AND FOSTER THE COMRADESHIP OF THE SEA"

Founded 1968

Incorporated 1996

An elected COM shall run the Club in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation & Standing Orders

NEWSLETTER No. 92 Spring 2022

Greetings Members-

The past week has been a historic and emotional time with the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. Some of you would remember Queen Elizabeth's visit to South Australia in 1986, when she was taken ashore, quite unexpectedly, at the Royal South Australian Yacht Squadron. There is a photo of this historic visit in the foyer of the Squadron, which I have placed in the Archives section.

Captain Coconut-Mark Sinclair- is once again circling the world in the Golden Globe Race 2022 and I have included and update this month.

Thank you to those who have sent in contributions for this edition of the Newsletter-

Ian Small, for the President's Report; Captain Peter Thomas for his monthly historical notes; Trevor Powell, who has sent in some of his sensational random photos of ships taken at Port Adelaide as well as those from the recent meetings.

Thanks to John Ford OAM, for sending me copies of his wonderful watercolour paintings for the newsletter. I was fortunate to have had the opportunity to visit John's SALA exhibition at Genealogy SA last month and found one of the paintings of the Paddle steam Tug Yatala too much to resist!

Welcome to the two new SSC members David Rickard and Grant James, both of whom have extensive Naval experience.

Thanks again for the contributions from our members and please keep the articles flowing in.

Fair Winds,
Terry Beaston



"Leetas May" Watercolour by John Ford OAM

PRESIDENT'S REPORT Ian Small -September 2022

Greetings Members,

Many thanks to our Vice-President, Kel Watson for standing in again for me at the August Dinner Meeting. This allowed me to attend a Presentation in Melbourne from my Engineering Association. I believe it was well attended with 25 Members & Guests and two new Members Inducted. I trust you all enjoyed the night.

The Club has struggled with attendees at Dinner Meetings over the last few months due to our reduced Membership numbers, Covid and other sicknesses, access again to travel, both overseas and in Australia and poor weather. I remind you that we need at least 25 to attend as we are committed to paying the Public

Schools club 25 x \$45 per head minimum, per dinner. It is with that in mind, the COM reluctantly agreed to raise the monthly Dinner Fee to \$50 per head. This will now cover the cost of the speaker and port, without losing money every month. Members should value this not just for a very good three-course meal, but also the opportunity to hear interesting and entertaining speakers with the convivial association of fellow Members. The cost of Ladies Nights will also increase.

The COM are considering not to hold a Dinner Meeting in November, as it would only be about two weeks prior to our December's Ladies Night, also, holding a luncheon on a Friday in late January (subject to Public Schools agreement) instead of our January Banyan Dinner. Maybe, with a Banyan format? We welcome your thoughts on these changes to our traditional program.

As previously advised, The COM have instigated the formation of a Sub-Committee consisting of Keith Bleechmore and Kel. Watson, assisted by Dr. P Allen after his experiences with the Baxter & Grimshaw Foundation, to advise the COM on:

-Criteria for Membership.

-Articles of Agreement and Standing Orders.

-Broaden Club Membership.

To this regard, they have found our 2017 Articles of Agreement to be inadequate and formulated some new club rules (as now titled and required by the SA Consumer & Business Services) which have been issued to all members. There will be an information/briefing session to discuss these new rules, to be held at 18.30 hrs, prior to our dinner meeting on Wednesday 21st September, at the Public Schools Club. If you can't attend, please send questions or comments to our Honorary Secretary, Cpt. Bob Smedley, to be submitted on the night.

Again, I remind you that most new members have come along as guests to dinner meetings prior to joining and I would encourage all members to invite suitable guests to future meetings.

We are also always looking for interesting and entertaining speakers for our dinner meetings, including Ladies Nights, and welcome suggestions to myself or Hon. Sec.

We have been promised a copy of the Seven Seas Club of London's Centenary Publication, which we will add to the Club Library.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our Next Dinner Meeting and Club Rules Information Session.

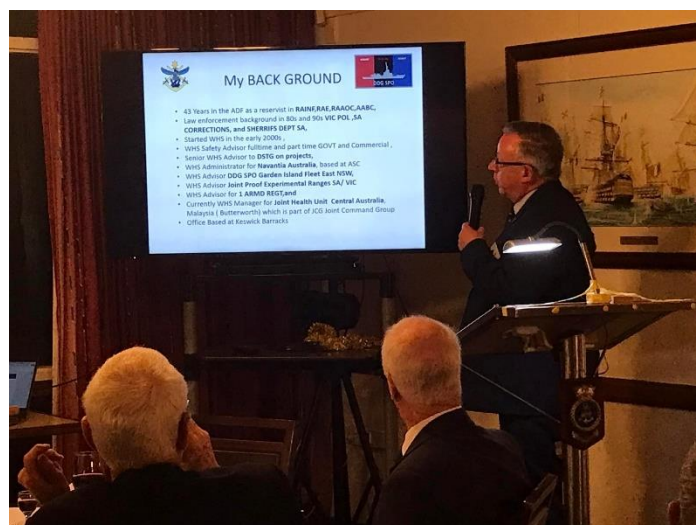
I trust many of you can get out on the water in the next few weeks and enjoy the Spring weather and the various Openings of the Yacht Clubs.

Regards,

Ian Small, President SSC of Aust.

Recent Seven Seas Club Meetings:

It was a pleasant evening at the August meeting of The Seven Seas Club last night. Our speaker was Grant James who spent 43 years in the ADF and is still involved in defence matters as the Work, Health and Safety Manager for the Joint Health Unit based at Keswick Barracks. Grant was also inducted into the Club at the meeting.

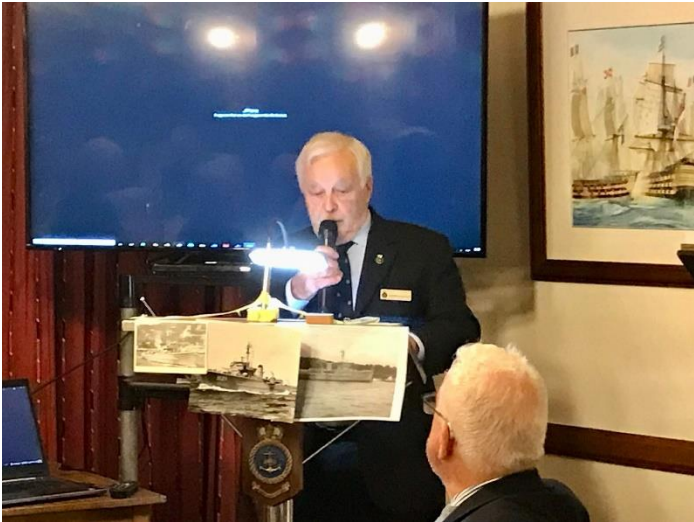




Grant James speaking at the August 2022 SSCA meeting



-July 2022 SSCA Meeting- An excellent presentation by Barry Alison on bringing minesweeper HMAS Teal and her sisters out from the UK in 1961.



Barry Alison Speaking at the July SSCA meeting



-Thanks to Trevor Powell for the photos of recent meetings

On this month

Compiled By Capt. Peter Thomas Historical notes for the month of September 2022

September 1st, 1939

Hitler's armies invade Poland starting World War II in Europe

September 2nd, 31BC

Roman legions under Augustus Caesar defeated Mark Anthony's naval force at Actium, Greece.

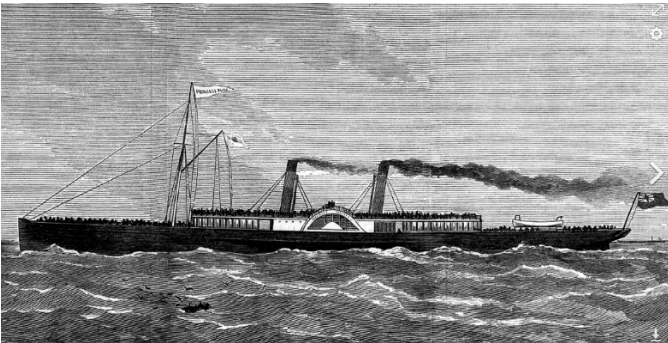


September 2nd, 1666

The Great Fire of London is started and 80% of the city is destroyed.

September 3rd, 1878

British passenger paddle steamer *Princess Alice* sunk in a collision on the River Thames with collier *Bywell Castle*; 645 died.

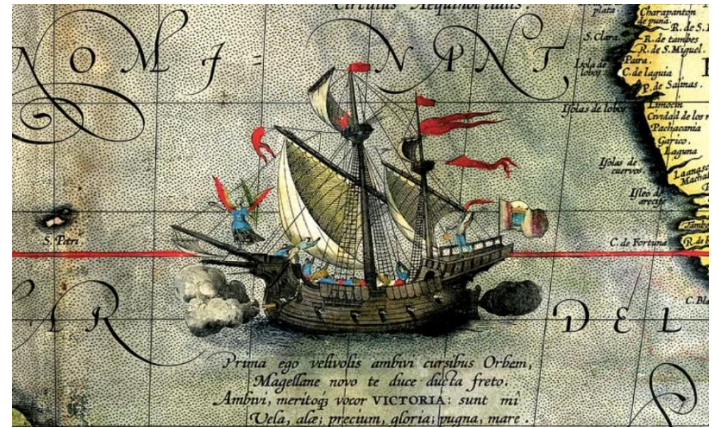


September 4th, 1621

The English ship *Tryal* sailed from Plymouth for Batavia. She was wrecked on a reef off Western Australia and the survivors, under First Mate, Thomas Bright, became the first British to set foot in Australia, on Barrow Island.

September 6th, 1522

Ferdinand Magellan's ship, the *Victoria*, returns to Spain. It is the first ship to circumnavigate the world. The original fleet consisted of about 270 men and five ships. Only 30 men and one ship (*Victoria*) completed the return trip to Spain.



September 11th, 2001

Terrorist attacks using airliners to destroy the World Trade Centre and part of the Pentagon. A total of almost 3000 people are killed.

September 13th, 1759

A joint force commanded by Major-General Wolfe and Vice Admiral Saunders captured Quebec. The attack was launched from the bank of the St Lawrence River and could not have succeeded but for a survey conducted by James Cook, Master of the *HMS Pembroke*, who had spent several nights prior to the attack, taking soundings and charting the river under the walls of the citadel.



September 14th, 1914

Loss of Australian submarine *AE 1*, when on patrol near Rabaul, crew all lost, 3 officers and 32 men.

September 15th, 1940

Battle of Britain day on which a large-scale aerial battle in the Battle of Britain took place.



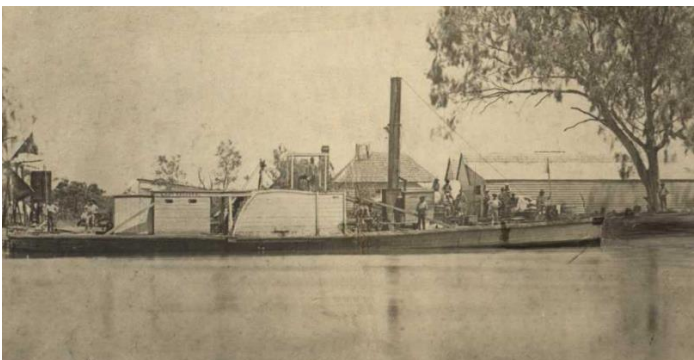
September 16th, 1620

The *Mayflower* departed from England, bound for America with 102 passengers and a small crew. They were escaping religious persecution.



September 17th, 1853

Francis Cadell arrives at Swan Hill in *PS Lady Augusta*, first paddle steamer to traverse the Murray River.



September 20th, 1580

Francis Drake returned to England after circumnavigating the world. The Spaniards wanted him hanged for piracy, but Elizabeth 1 looked at the cargo manifest and knighted him. She was an original investor in the voyage.



September 21st, 1957

The four masted barque *Pamir*, with 30 officers and men and 52 cadets aboard, was overwhelmed by a hurricane in the Atlantic Ocean.

Passat and *Pamir* were the last grain sailing ships to depart Pt Victoria SA in 1949.



September 25th, 1513

Spanish explorer Vasco Nunez de Balboa first sighted the Pacific Ocean after crossing the Isthmus of Panama.

September 27th, 1938

The ship *Queen Elizabeth* was launched.



September 28th, 1066

Normans land in England, second and last time that England is invaded by foreign forces.

Thanks to Trevor Powell for these impressive photographs of ships at Port Adelaide recently:



Two tugs that have been working in Port Kembla are currently in Port Adelaide. Svitzer Ginga and Svitzer Larrakia. They will eventually be going to Port Pirie and will replace the tugs working up there (Walan, Tarpan and Wonga)



A photo of 17 Beacon being replaced at Outer Harbor - 6/09/2022



Departure of SEALION 2000 - 17 August 2022
Sealink's Kangaroo Island Ferry MV Sealion 2000 coming off the ship-lift at Osborne Shipyard, Port

Adelaide, after a refit, and departing for Cape Jervis - 17/08/2022 -PV Tura delivering the pilot before she set off down river.



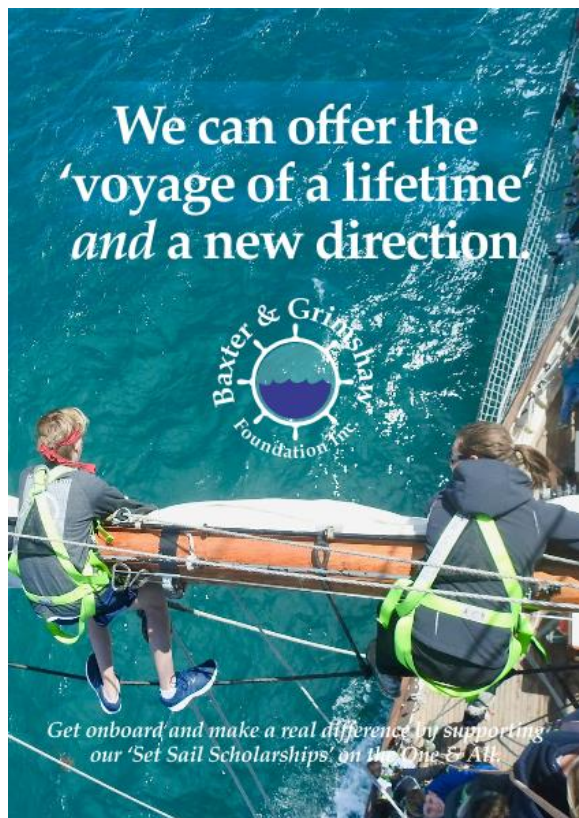
Two ex Wiverwijs tugs that had been laid up in Port Adelaide have recently been sold to a company in Tuvalu. They are apparently going to operate in Guam. They are Riverwijs Grace and Riverwijs Isabelle which have been renamed Magas and Polaris. They left Port Adelaide for Guam on 29 July after running trials on the 26th.



General cargo ship MV AAL Hong Kong departing from the Inner Harbour, Port Adelaide - 27/06/2022.



Vehicle Ro-Ro MV Genius Highway arriving at the Outer Harbor, Port Adelaide - 29/06/2022



The Baxter & Grimshaw Foundation helps young people gain confidence, develop self-reliance and learn important life skills through unique maritime experiences.

We are now launching our most exciting adventure yet – a partnership with the *One & All* to support participation in tailored 10-day voyages aboard this iconic tall ship.

Each trip will bring together coxswain students seeking sea time to complete certificate training with the *Australian Maritime and Fisheries Academy* (AMFA) and disadvantaged young South Australians for whom such an experience would otherwise be out of reach.

Coxswain training is a pathway to numerous maritime careers, and any time spent at sea will help people challenge themselves and see the world differently.

We are now seeking sponsors and donors to make this program a reality in 2022 – and expand it in the following years – by supporting our *Set Sail Scholarships*.

The Foundation has set a fundraising target of \$74,000 to fulfil this exciting initiative, and a range of sponsorship and donation options is available, along with marketing and branding opportunities for you and your organisation. Please get in touch to discuss how you can be a part of this important initiative, supported by *Philanthropy Australia*.

The Foundation is also endorsed as a deductible gift recipient by the Australian Tax Office and is a proud member of Philanthropy Australia.

Email: info@baxtergrimshaw.org.au
Phone: 0409 093 359

Visit our website at baxtergrimshaw.org.au



At sea, the sky's the limit.



Seven Seas Club of Australia Inc.

Correspondence from the Seven Seas Club UK:

Dear Member,

One of our members, Dr David Parry MA PhD, a former submarine commanding officer, has written a thesis and a book, which is currently being published and is due out in mid-September, on the Commanding Officers Qualifying Course (The Perisher). To accompany the publication of this book he has advised me of a series of lectures he will be giving in October and November. Members of the Club would be very welcome to attend any of these presentations and I'm, therefore, very pleased to pass on the following information to you with details, as follows:

Find out more about "The Perisher", the Submarine Command Course and how it prepared our Submarine Commanding Officers for the high-pressure, high-risk situations that they faced in war and peace.

In 1917 the Periscope Course was started to give submarine commanding officers practice in periscope attacking. The course succeeded, and a 'pass' became the ambition of every submarine executive or warfare officer and a requirement for the unique job of commanding a submarine. This caused a name change to the Commanding Officers' Qualifying Course (COQC) and the adoption of the moniker 'PERISHER'.

The Second World War saw Perisher's most intense period as it responded with celerity and agility to the exigencies and imperatives of an expanding submarine fleet, wartime losses and reduced experience. In 1947 and the advent of the Cold War, the battle moved underwater with the inherent complexities, advanced technologies and the introduction of nuclear submarines. In response, the course morphed into the Submarine Command Course (SMCC) and a demanding test of command attributes by putting a student commanding officer under great pressure in decision-rich, risk-ridden scenarios to prove his capability. As a result, Perisher was sometimes feared, often admired and even coveted.

This story of Perisher's evolution will be of interest to submariners of all nations, naval historians as a new dimension to the history of the Royal Navy, those whose interest is in sea-command, pressure management and training and all who have an interest in the world of submarines.

David Watson

Director and Hon. Secretary-The Seven Seas Club (1922) Ltd.-A company limited by guarantee. Company number: 11812371 England and Wales.

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Brindabella Re-Launch at the Royal South Australian Yacht Squadron



The Royal South Australian Yacht Squadron hosted a re-launch party at the Club on Sunday the 11th of September 2022 for the famous yacht Brindabella which is now based at the Club.

Brindabella has been described as "Australia's most famous maxi" and "The people's maxi".



She was designed by **Scott Jutson** in 1993 under the IMS handicap system as a 75-foot maxi and later underwent structural changes including the addition of a bow sprit, and a "scoop" transom.

She has broken many records of races, some of which are the Sydney to Hobart record for a conventionally ballasted yacht (1999), the Sydney to Wollongong race, Bird island, Cabbage Tree Island, Sydney- Noumea, Sydney Mooloolaba and Sydney Gold Coast races.

She has been refitted by her new owners and is undergoing certification for charter in South Australian waters. She will be available for a wide range of sailing packages from individual ticket bookings to private charters.

She will be crewed by six and can take up to around 30 passengers at a time.

For more information check the "Brindabella Sailing" website.



Interior photos of Brindabella



“Coconut” and The Golden Globe Race 2022



Mark Sinclair, SSC of Australia member, spoke to our club prior to embarking on his voyage in December 2021 aboard “Coconut” in his attempt to finish the 2018 Golden Globe Race and prepare for the next GGR 2022.



Mark finished the 2018 race on reaching Les Sables d’Olonne on Friday the 27th of May.

He had some terrible weather, Force 9, just prior to the finish which caused damage to his rigging and sails. He also had damage to his HF aerial, his satellite phone SIM card was rendered unserviceable and some of his charts were water damaged.

While in France, Mark refurbished his boat in preparation for the start of the 2022 race, installing a new engine, re-copper coating his hull and repairs to the sails and rigging.



The 2022 race started in great fanfare from Les Sables on the 4th of September 2022. The start was plagued by difficult conditions with light headwinds alternating to blustery winds.

There was drama early when one boat had to return to port to repair a damaged self-steering gear, he eventually re-joined the fleet, in the time allowed under the race rules. Another boat decided to return to port and not continue but did not give a reason for the decision. Guy DeBoar’s Boat “Spirit” came to grief ending up on the rocks on Los Palmas Island. Guy was uninjured but the boat is in a difficult position and salvage operations are underway at the time of writing.

As of the 20th of September, Mark is in 12th place of the original 16 starters and is making way along the North coast of Africa.

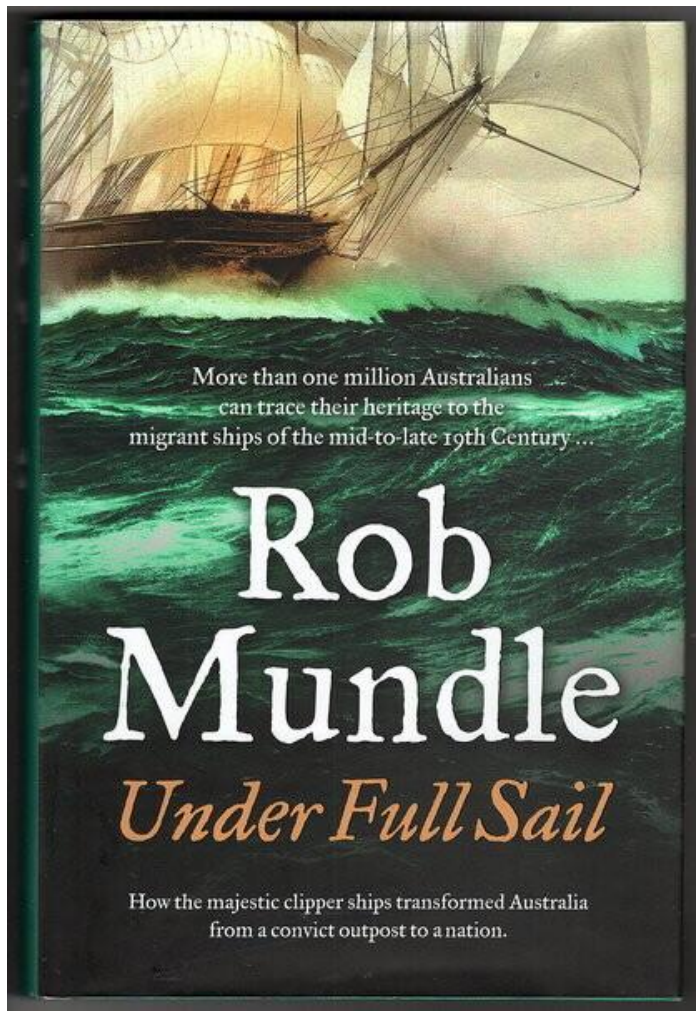
There could be trouble looming as there is a weather prediction for a cyclone to form at the end of this week which is directly in line with the projected course of the participating boats. Let us hope Mark stays safe on his journey.

You can follow the race on the “YB Races” AP or by following the Golden Globe Race 2022 on Facebook. Marks daughter also updates his “Coconut” Facebook page.



Guy DeBoar’s boat “Spirit” aground.

Book of the month



This month, I have included another book by one of my favourite authors, Rob Mundle.

This book is about how the mighty clipper ships transformed Australia from a convict outpost to a nation. More than one million Australians can trace their heritage to the migrant ships of the mid-to-late 19th century... The story of the Clipper ships, and the tens of thousands of migrants they brought to the Australian colony of the nineteenth century, is one of the world's great migration stories. Rob Mundle is back on the water, with a ripping story that starts on the sea, aboard a clipper ship charging across the Southern Ocean, laden with passengers heading for Melbourne in response to the lure of gold.

Brimming with countless stories of the magnificent ships and fearless (and feckless) characters we find on them, like Englishman "Bully" Forbes and American "Bully" Waterman driving their ships to the limit and the tragic legacy of the many shipwrecks that were so much a part of this era.

(From the back cover)

From the Archives

Queen Elizabeth's visit to South Australia 1986



When Queen Elizabeth visited SA in 1986 aboard the Royal Yacht Britannia, she was scheduled to be taken ashore at Glenelg, with the Royal ship anchored in Holdfast Bay. However, due to the inclement weather on the day, it was decided at short notice to have her go ashore at Port Adelaide at the RSAYS instead, taking the club members by (pleasant) surprise. This photo of the occasion is in the foyer of the RSAYS.



Disclaimer: The views expressed in advertisements and articles published in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the SEVEN SEAS CLUB of AUSTRALIA.

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