

## The beginning:

On the 5th September, 1973 a public meeting was held in the library of the Bell Park Technical School, Barton St. Twenty-eight people attended.

The purpose of the meeting was 'to sound out the feasibility of forming a group of people interested in sailing trailable yachts in the Geelong area'. The resulting discussion emphasised the formation of a group not linked to an existing club.

A motion was moved by Alan Johnson 'that a trailable yacht association be formed in Geelong', seconded by Les Hayles and passed unanimously after considerable discussion.

A steering committee was formed with Peter Smith elected as the chairman, Dave Forster as secretary and Elton Wescott and Alan Johnson as committee members. Their first task was to set up a sailing program with Sunday being decided as the best day by a show of hands and at fortnightly intervals.

The first activity of the Association was to be an Open Day for as many boats as possible, organised by Ruth Plummer of Power Drive Sails on the 22nd September at the Grammar School pier.

A levy of \$2 per family was levied to cover initial administrative costs.

The meeting closed at 10.30pm with the next meeting scheduled for the 3rd October at the same venue.

## The first constitution:

Name: THE GEELONG TRAILABLE YACHT ASSOCIATION

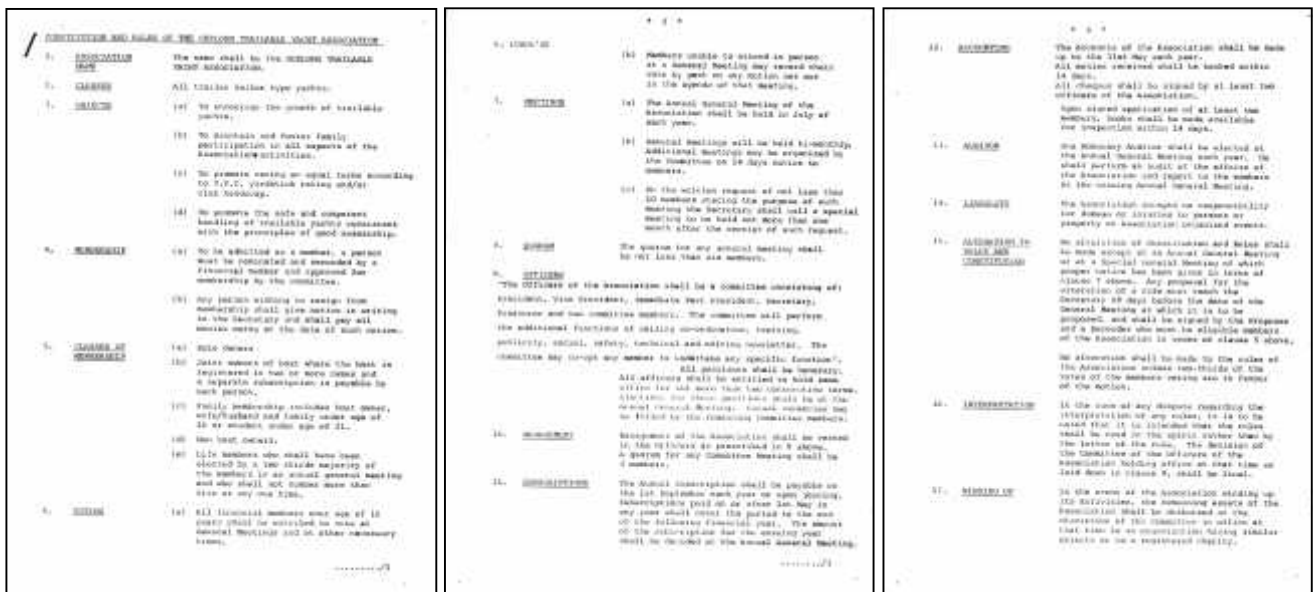
Classes: All trailer sailer type yachts

Membership: Nomination and seconded by a financial member and approved by the committee

Classes of Membership: Sole owners; Joint owners (separate subscriptions); Families (husband /wife and children under 16 or students under 21); Non-boat owners; Life members (elected by 2/3 membership at AGM and no more than 5 at a time).

Officers: President; Vice-President; Immediate Past President; Secretary; Treasurer and two committee members.

Subscriptions: Annual and due on 1st September, amount decided at each AGM.



The three pages of the GTYA constitution from the GTYC archives

## *GSYC History*

---

### **The Milestones:**

Meetings were held at the Sergeant's Mess 10 Med. Regiment Myers St. Geelong

The first insignia was designed in 1974 by Andy Petrisor, a draughtsman at Alcoa who was not even a member.

The first burgee was red lettering on a yellow background was for sale at \$2.50.

On the 31st July 1976 members voted at the Annual General Meeting to change from an Association to a Club.

### **Can You Help?**

We are looking for an actual (or a photo of) the original burgee  
for the archives

# GTYC History

## The Geelong Trailable Yacht Club:

Meeting venues: April, 1978 were changed to the German Shepherd Dog Club, Breakwater Rd, then in November to Sth. Geelong Primary School.

Constitution changes: In April 1979 a proposal was put to update the constitution and In October 1985 the new Constitution was passed.

In September 1983, on the 10th anniversary GTYC it was rated as one of the top trailer sailing clubs in Victoria. In October 2003 the club celebrated its 30th anniversary with a Birthday Bash

The Coastguard had provided a radio base for races but in June 1984 shore based radio back-up was via Bob Eddy.

In September 1984 a committee was set up to investigate incorporation with the advantage of limited liability in the event of litigation after an accident. The only disadvantage of was an initial \$80 expenditure for the first year and \$20 for subsequent years.

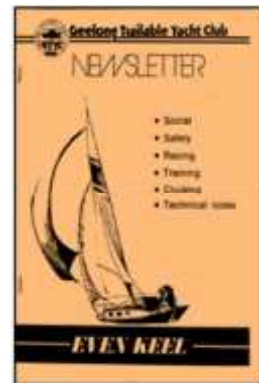
## The Newsletter:

The first edition of the GTYA newsletter was published in October 1973, prepared on a typewriter and printed on a gestetner machine.

The first 'Club' Newsletter was published in August 1976 and in October a design competition was launched for a cover for the newsletter, incorporating a suitable name.

In March 1977, the first edition of the 'Even Keel' newsletter was printed on foolscap paper and the cover design remained the same for several years although the colour of the paper and printing changed from time to time.

The club purchased a copier and typewriter in mid-1979.



In July 1986 the new cover of blue writing on white background, incorporated the slogan 'Sailing into our Second Decade' and in June 1988 the same design cover was red writing on white background.

Under Rob Ballard's editorship the format changed to A4 folded in half to a pamphlet. The cover design changed again to yellow background, red graphics and black writing. The calendar for the upcoming month

In 2004 under the new editorship of Lee Shaddock 'Even Keel' won the media award for the 'Best Club Newsletter' at the Victorian Yachting Awards on 13th



August 2004. The highlight of these editions for many members was the Centre Lift out of the boat of the month 'Miss .....'



# *GTYC History*

---

## Editors

Oct 1973	Dave Forster	Jun 1987	Marion Jones
Aug 1976	Alex Goodwin	Jun 1989	Rob Ballard
Aug 1977	Mike Allden/Ture Hergstom	Jun 1997	Owen Brown
Jun 1978	Ian & Marina Smith	Jun 2002	Lyndon Haskett
June 1980	Lorraine Goodwin	Jun 2003	Lee Shaddock
May 1981	Len & Renata Kint	Jun 2005	Jenny Wright
Nov. 1981	Ian Robottom	Jun 2006	Andrew Cerasuolo
Nov 1983	Bob Jeffs	Oct 2007	Rob Ballard
Jun 1984	Ian Robottom	May 2010	Jenny Wright
Jun 1985	Postuma family		
Sept 1986	Bev Lee		

## A Clubhouse:

In August 1978 the issue of a clubroom was first raised by Don Gladman.

By April 1979 construction began on the breakwater at St. Helens by Corio Shire and land was soon to be offered to GTYC. The club began compiling a statement of objectives.

Through 1981 the issue of a clubhouse was still on the table. Drawings and formal submission took place in late that year.

In March 1982 more discussion was motivated by a 20% drop in members. While it was agreed that it would make the club more attractive, at \$20,000 it was financially unrealistic. GTYC couldn't even meet the interest payments. In April a meeting decided to forgo a clubhouse. For three years there had been discussions with the Shire of Corio who controlled the foreshore. The club had tried unsuccessfully for some land at the old SEC power station and looked at extending existing building at St. Helens. The Shire was sympathetic and looking at a way of assisting.

At the July meeting it was moved that the club approach the Shire with regard to having the jetty beside the ramp at St. Helens extended. The result was that the Shire already had plans to extend the existing concrete jetty by 19' in timber. In September the northern T of the marina was almost completed and Corio Shire was looking at putting jetties there. The club was considering leasing the Rippleside Hall on a pre-booked basis, although there was no suitable ramp. Negotiations with the Geelong West Council were looking promising until the Committee found a section in their constitution that only allowed one booking at a time

In January 1983 the Commodore and Secretary were invited to meet with the Shire Engineer with a view to canvassing the club's attitude to the various boating improvements being made to the St Helens area. The Shire planned to erect 6 jetties, a little longer than the existing ones on the northern groyne area out from the power station. They had been advised by the Port of Geelong Authority not to build marina type pens. The club raised the possibility of constructing a shelter and BBQ area on the area and this was received with enthusiasm. The Shire to draw up plans and cost the project and GTYC would provide the funds. But with no access by road would the investment be worth it?

In March 1984, a letter was written to the council proposing a rotunda type construction with an adjacent lock-up storeroom. At a meeting in April the Shire of Corio were extremely co-operative about a semi-enclosed rotunda. The club then resolved to spend up to \$8000, in conjunction with the Shire of Corio. Under the proposal the area was to be redeveloped with an extension to the arm, more jetties, landscaping, trees and a beach. By September the Shire was drawing up the plans for the rotunda and by early 1985 quotes were being obtained and the bricks ordered. A successful tenderer (unknown) was to start after Easter.

## *GTYC History*

---



**SHIRE OF CORIO  
COMMUNITY PICNIC ROTUNDA  
CONSTRUCTED BY  
MEMBERS OF  
GEE LONG TRAILABLE YACHT CLUB  
AND OFFICIALLY OPENED BY  
CR. R. DRAGHT  
ON 3 NOVEMBER, 1985**

The building was being referred to as the 'Clayton's Clubhouse' but finally opened in October. Improvements followed over the years with a fixed gas-operated BBQ and bench installed in August 1986, a smooth concrete floor in late 1989 and Jack Cross made shutters. In 1991 a strong steel cupboard was purchased for crockery and in 1992 two more shutters were installed to totally enclose the clubhouse – thanks to Jack Cross again. In 1993 toilets were built, power and a sink for washing up were installed. In 1994 the floor was painted and a hot-mix surface laid around the outside of the rotunda.

In July 1996 GTYC took over the minor maintenance while major repairs and exterior environs were the responsibility of the COGG.

In 1997 GTYC met with COGG about future developments at St Helens. Jetties on the south side were to be replaced by floating pontoons

6th Oct 2005 20th Anniversary of the opening of the rotunda