

# HERON

## National Newsletter September 2024

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**SAIL A HERON!**

#### OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

President - Paul Armstrong (LCSC)

Measurement Committee Chair - Paul Armstrong (DAC)

Vice President SA - Ryan Kelly

Vice President NSW - Chris Sacré

Vice President Qld - Nick Billet

Vice President WA - Jeremy Brown

Vice President TAS - Anthony Morgan

Treasurer - Chris Sant

Secretary - Wayne Spencer

[secretary@heronsailing.com.au](mailto:secretary@heronsailing.com.au)

Registrar - Chris Denman

Newsletter Editor - Kate Carey

Immediate past president - John Nobbs



Coffs Harbour Sprint Series Day 2 10288 She Said Yes! and 10194 Nan and 10298 2 Flamingos Dancing

It's that time of year again when Heron sailors turn their minds to the National Championships which this year are being held at St Leonards Yacht Club & Motor Squadron in Victoria on 4-10 January 2025. This will be the 64<sup>th</sup> time the Herons have held this event and the 3<sup>rd</sup> time the titles have been held at St Leonards on the Bellarine Peninsula on the Western side of Port Phillip Bay. The team at St Leonards has always put on a very special show for the Herons and this season will be no different. The waters adjacent to the club offer safe and exciting conditions and the off-water activities that are being planned will be equally exhilarating. There was a fleet of 34 boats the last time we were at St Leonards so let's see if we can beat that number by a substantial margin. Entries can be made at <https://www.revolutionise.com.au/nationalheronsa/events/262757>.

In addition to the Nationals, St Leonards Yacht Club & Motor Squadron will also be hosting the Victorian State Titles over the weekend of 21-22 December 2024. This is an opportunity for visitors to get some practice in before the Nationals and, given the event's proximity to the national titles, you may be able to persuade the locals to store your boat for a couple of weeks so you don't have to tow it all the way home and back again in early January. I encourage as many of you as possible to support the local Heron fleet by entering both events.

Other upcoming regattas include the Heron Interclub challenge at Concord Ryde SC on 26 October, the Bridge to Breakers Regatta at Harwood on 9-10 November, the ACT Dinghy Championships also on 9-10 November and the Battle for Waterloo at Darling Point Sailing Squadron (Brisbane) in early December. On the social front, the South Australian Heron Association is celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a formal dinner on Saturday 2nd November. Contact Ryan Kelly ([tabusorofarming@outlook.com](mailto:tabusorofarming@outlook.com)) for more information about this and the other events planned throughout the rest of the season to celebrate this important milestone. In particular, the 60th SA State Championship is planned for Easter 2025 at Coffin Bay Yacht Club.

In other organisational news there has been a change in leadership of the NSW Heron Association. I'd like to thank Chris Sacre for the enormous contribution he has made to the class in NSW over the past few years and to congratulate Chris Denman who recently took over from Chris as President of the NSW Association. Chris has also played a significant role in helping the Victorians organise this year's nationals and will be at the centre of the action as our minds turn to the 65<sup>th</sup> national titles which will be held at Wangi Sailing Club on Lake Macquarie on 5-11 January 2026 (<https://www.wangisailingclub.yachting.org.au/home/>). Chris is a real glutton for punishment when it come to volunteering for anything Heron related so give him a big pat on the back next time you see him.

Well, that's it for now, I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at St Leonards in late December and/or early January.

Good sailing

*Paul Armstrong*  
*President*

We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the lands on which we walk and waters on which we sail. We recognise their continuing connection to the land, water, culture and community. We pay tribute to all of those who have nurtured the sea, rivers, lakes and streams over many thousand of years. May we sail gently and respectfully upon these waters.



Registration and  
measurement  
Sat 4 - Sun 5 Jan

Opening Ceremony,  
Invitation and Crews  
race  
Sun 5 Jan

Championship  
Racing from  
Mon 6 – Fri 10 Jan

Reserve Day  
Wed 8 Jan

Welcome BBQ  
Sun 5 Jan -

Heron Idol  
Tue 7 Jan

Presentation Dinner  
Fri 10 Jan

# 4 – 10 JAN 2025 64<sup>TH</sup> HERON NATIONALS

## St Leonards Yacht Club & Motor Squadron, Victoria

The St Leonards Yacht Club & Motor Squadron, in conjunction with the National Heron Sailing Association of Australia and the Victorian Heron Sailing Association, is proud to host the 64<sup>th</sup> Heron National Championships, 4 - 10 January 2025.

We have:

- A great rigging area close to water's edge
- Excellent facilities with café and bar open daily for the regatta
- Grassed area with fantastic views of the racecourse and Port Phillip Bay

St Leonards boasts a wide range of accommodation options from camping to short-term rentals all very close by to the club. The best Geelong and the Bellarine Peninsula have to offer...food, wineries, breweries, art galleries, museums, nature reserves, golf courses and world-famous surf beaches...is within a short drive.

*For more information on accommodation options and other details visit [www.stleonardsycms.com.au/slycmsregattas](http://www.stleonardsycms.com.au/slycmsregattas)*

64<sup>th</sup> Heron Nationals 2025





# Hobart Herons to Relocate

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Lindisfarne Sailing Club has been the Tasmanian home of Herons since the 1960's. Unfortunately, LSC has now temporarily relocated to nearby Bellerive Yacht Club.

What this means for Herons remains to be seen, but we are confident of finding a club for the upcoming season.

The repairs to Sarie are complete and she has returned home ready for Sage and Neave to sail next season. We are expecting our trainees to continue and we have one new skipper looking for a good quality boat to purchase.

On a recent trip to Queensland, Anthony availed himself of Paul Armstrong's hospitality to attend the Lake Cootharaba pre-season regatta. The sole Heron was 'Amazing Grace' built by Anthony and sailed by her new owners, Rosie and Peter D'Abbs. Back in Brisbane, there was another reunion with Wiwirri and Holly, Luca and Gene, with a pleasant sail on the bay.

*Anthony Morgan*



Rosie and Peter D'Abbs sailing 'Amazing Grace' at Lake Cootharaba pre-season regatta in August



Dynamite Jack is back in Tassie, originally built in the 80's and meticulously restored by Anthony last year.

# South Australia Super at 60

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The 2024/25 season marks the 60th South Australian State Championships and we have a big year planned.

First up, we're planning a special 60th Anniversary celebration dinner and reunion in Adelaide on 2nd November. We invite all Heron Sailors, past and present to celebrate the success of the class. There'll also be some special guests as we acknowledge the "Heron Legends" of South Australia.

Tickets are on sale now at <https://www.trybooking.com/CSVSV>

The season will conclude with the 60th SA Heron State Championships on 12-13 April 2025 at Coffin Bay Yacht Club. This will be held in conjunction with the Coffin Bay Yacht Club's 50 year celebrations, so is sure to be a very special occasion.

We're expecting the biggest fleet in at least the last 10 years.

Book your accommodation now!





# 2024 Regattas

To keep us all aware of racing opportunities and to assist with planning sailing holidays here is a national calendar of upcoming events. Please send any dates or even tentative dates for regattas in your area and we can let the wider Heron sailing community know. Send dates and regatta details to the newsletter editor [katedcarey@gmail.com](mailto:katedcarey@gmail.com).

## Heron Sailing National Calendar

<b>Oct 26 2024</b>	Interclub challenge	Concord Ryde SC, NSW
<b>Nov 9-10 2024</b>	Bridge to Breakers Regatta	Harwood Sailing Club, NSW
<b>Nov 9-10 2024</b>	ACT Dinghy Championships	YMCA Canberra, ACT
<b>Dec 14-15 2024</b>	Battle for Waterloo	Darling Point Sailing Squadron, Brisbane, Queensland
<b>Dec 21-22 2024</b>	Victorian State Titles	St Leonards Yacht Club and Motor Squadron, Victoria
<b>Jan 4-10 2025</b>	National Championships Victoria	St Leonards Yacht Club and Motor Squadron, Victoria
<b>April 12-13 2025</b>	South Australian State Championship	Coffin Bay Yacht Club, South Australia
<b>May 3-5 2025</b>	Jack Holt Regatta & Qld State Titles	Lake Cootharaba, Queensland



Concord Ryde Sailing Club Glamour Day September 2024