

THE FOUNDATION QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER?? **Can you give me a better name??**

Dear RGYC Foundation Member,

30 June 2023

It has been several months now since our Annual Get Together and a lot has been happening with your Foundation. I thought it might be worthwhile setting up a small newsletter to keep you informed.



I was reflecting a few days ago and I wondered if you are being kept informed about developments in the Club and the Foundation. I have been writing articles almost weekly for SEACHEST, the weekly newsletter for RGYC, and many of these have been about the RGYC Foundation. My aim has been to inform RGYC Members better about the RGYC Foundation; its history; its Rules and its Purposes, and also to invite applications for Membership, bequests and donations.

The significant drive by RGYC to push the fund-raising for the Sailing Development Programme and the purchase of the six boat fleet of RS 21s has put our promotions onto the back burner for the time being but they will be re-activated in coming months. It has been pleasing to see donations coming in through the RGYC Foundation /Australian Sports Foundation partnership which provides tax deductibility to the donors and also gives the Foundation a bigger profile (though not at this stage any extra funding) and increased activity around us. Around \$28,000 has been raised through the RGYC Foundation /ASF website for this

project. It was gratifying to hear Brendan Garner (Board Member and leader of the Sailing Development Programme Committee) announce last Friday evening that sufficient funds had been raised that the RGYC Board had agreed to the purchase of the six RS21s. The Foundation Trustees are proud and pleased to have been able to lend support to this venture and we congratulate Brendan and his team on this important step.

We have been catching up on things like Foundation Membership Certificates and have recently produced about twenty of them. **If you have not yet received a Certificate of Membership please drop a line to our Honorary Secretary (Lynne Johnston) at info@rgycfoundation.com.au and one will be organised for you. If you do not receive an email with SEACHEST each week and you would like to, please also just let Lynne or the RGYC Office (52293705) know and you will be added to the mailing list.**

We commenced our Annual Giving Programme just after the Get Together and we have nominated April 14th as our Annual Giving Day. This is the date of the announcement of Rob Miller's bequest to the Foundation. You will perhaps have noticed the photograph of Rob and the commemorative plaque by the heater in the Eastern Lounge in the Clubhouse. This was one of his favourite spots in the club, especially over the last three years. We will run the programme annually in commemoration of his generous gift.

This year we have supported sending some young RGYC members to compete in regattas overseas. The costs are significant for these keen young sailors and their parents and they do appreciate very much that the Foundation has helped with their fund-raising through a project on the website which attracted donations of around \$800. **We have separately also donated \$500 to each of four boats competing overseas;** Evie McDonald (Captain of the Australian YW Cadet team) and her crew Jack Jones and the Reserve boat for the Australian team Zac Sayle (Skipper) and Charlie White (Crew), Georgia Mahoney who is competing in the World Opti championships in Spain and Conall Green who is competing as reigning Australian Waszp Champion in a series of regattas in Italy. The Cadets will be competing in the World Championships in Belgium from mid-July. I was very pleased that my two predecessors as Chairman of the RGYC Foundation, Guyon Wilson and Harry Farnell, were able to be present last Friday evening to present the Foundation cheques at the Cadet send-off.



We are, with RGYC, setting up a Partnership with Bendigo Telco. This company provides telecommunications services but also IT equipment and services to businesses. They will be asked to help us (the RGYC Foundation) when it comes time to equip the classroom in the soon to be built Sailing Academy. The Foundation has committed to funding the purchase of the Audio-visual and IT equipment for the classroom. If you would like to donate to this project it is listed on the Foundation/ASF website so tax deductibility is available. People who purchase equipment from Bendigo Telco, or who pay for their telecommunications service are able to direct perhaps 2.5% of that bill to a foundation or charity of those listed by Bendigo Telco. We are hopeful that this may lead to some funds coming our way in the future

Your Trustees have also been busy ensuring that our Rules and Purposes, as registered with Consumer Affairs Victoria, are up to date. We are proposing a few changes and these will be put to Foundation

Members for consideration prior to, and voting on at, the AGM later this year. In particular one change is to lock into our Rules that which has been “agreed policy” for the Trustees up to now. **That the Trustees may only distribute \$2,000 plus up to 80% of the interest and dividends earned in any financial year.** This is to ensure that our capital or corpus does not decrease over time and indeed continues to grow annually and stay ahead of inflation. This will be formally promulgated with the notice of the AGM and it requires a 75% majority of those present to become incorporated into our Rules. We have usually held the AGM in the evening at RGYC but there has been a suggestion that we might run it mid-afternoon and this might increase attendance. **If you have an opinion on this I would appreciate hearing from you.**

I do hope that this helps to keep you informed as to what your Trustees and the RGYC Foundation are up to and we would love to receive feedback from you. Your suggestions and your involvement are most welcome and you are encouraged to participate in all activities. Note that Harry and your Trustees usually conduct the Friday evening Foundation Meat Tray Raffle which was originally funded and conducted by Ruth Plummer, and we would welcome your assistance.

Wishing you good health and much happiness.

Cheers,

Jonathan Apted

(Chair of Trustees)