



RGYC FOUNDATION

Assisting Royal Geelong Yacht Club to foster the sport of sailing & give back to our community

SUMMER (TENTH) QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

The RGYC Foundation Trustees continue to be very busy and there is a strong sense of momentum around us.

We were gratified to see the very good numbers in attendance at our Annual General Meeting on 19th September. With no contentious items on the agenda it was a quick meeting with reports from the Chair and Treasurer. Those present heard about our healthy financial position and of some of our plans for the future. The serving Trustees were re-elected and Mark Neilson was elected as a new Trustee.



Mark has been a member of RGYC since May 2022 after moving to Geelong. He was previously a member of RYCV for 12 years. He has been active in keelboats since 2009 including offshore racing and cruising.

Mark worked in the banking and finance industry for 45+ years and is passionate about promoting sailing and the RGYC Foundation.

Honorary Secretary, Lynne Johnston compiled a quick on-line survey and sent it to all Foundation members. We were pleased with the responses and received a good number of suggestions for consideration. Some members sought further information on our financial arrangements so some detail is provided here.

The Foundation has a small (around \$11,000) low interest (around 1%) working account with Westpac which is used to meet our general administrative needs. It also has a Cash Management Account (approx 3% interest) with Macquarie from which our investment advisors can (with our approval) draw funds with which to trade shares. The account balance in this is usually low and we move funds there when it is recommended that a share purchase be made. Most of the cash assets (\$377,000) are held in a high interest (approx 4%) Cash Management Accelerator Account. Our share portfolio is around \$440,000. We are advised by Ord-Minnett and our investment approach is very conservative. The advisors have had the view that it has not been a good time to buy stocks with the current volatility and we will “buy on the dip” when there is a significant correction in the market or when a particularly good stock is cheap.

Lynne’s survey also told us that you would like to have the Get Together as a separate function to the Robbie Miller Dinner but that you did want both functions. Details of the Get Together will come out later but it will be at RGYC and will be on FRIDAY 20th March 2026. One of the original goals of the Get Together was to get Foundation Members to bring along a “potential” or “likely” candidate for membership. It is a good way to share the membership drive and you are encouraged to take this up next year. HELP BUILD THE LEGACY! Speaking of memberships we have had amazing growth over the past year with Suzanne Lanyon, European Affair, Keryn Levick, Stephen Blackburn, Stuart Coffield, Brendon Lee, Barry Walker, Roger McLennan, Len Kint, Jan Neeson-Marshman, Henry Freise, Joan Whistance (in memoriam), David Strauss, Leanne Selvaggi and Joe Selvaggi joining our membership. It is great to have them on board but we do look to all of our Members to help contribute to this growth.

The Robbie Miller dinner will probably be in July but the date is yet to be determined. The speaker is most likely to be Eric Messer, who entertained us so well at the Inverlochy Dinner. I believe that his topic is to be “Forks in the Road” and it should be well worth hearing.

In the 2024 /25 financial year we gave our support to the RS21 fleet through an \$11,000 sponsorship and this year we have set up a Partnership with the RGYC Academy where we are their major partner. For more detail on this please visit the RGYC Foundation website where you can find an article by the RGYC Relationships Manager, Ben Potter.

We have increased the amount we are giving but it will impact more broadly than simply the RS21’s, though it is in support of that programme too. In addition, we have partnered with RGYC in running a raffle which will provide funds directly towards the support of our junior sailors. The main prize is a weekend with a Porsche with accommodation and meals provided. Do get a ticket or two! The QR code is here:



As part of the RS21 sponsorship the Foundation was able to use all six RS21's, plus volunteer skippers and a crash boat, to host OBERON Primary School for a "Day on Corio Bay". It was such a great success that we are offering the same programme to a range of primary schools in Geelong next year. We are seeking donations to help do this and if you wanted to support the programme you should visit our website using the QR code provided later in this newsletter.

We have a number of projects on the go and would appreciate your support with them. Any and all donations are appreciated. The QR codes are provided for your convenience. Donations are tax



Oberon students
enjoying their "Day
on the Bay"

deductible through our partnership with the Australian Sports Foundation.

RGYC Foundation General Purposes



RGYC Cadets to 2026 World Championships on Lake Garda, ITALY

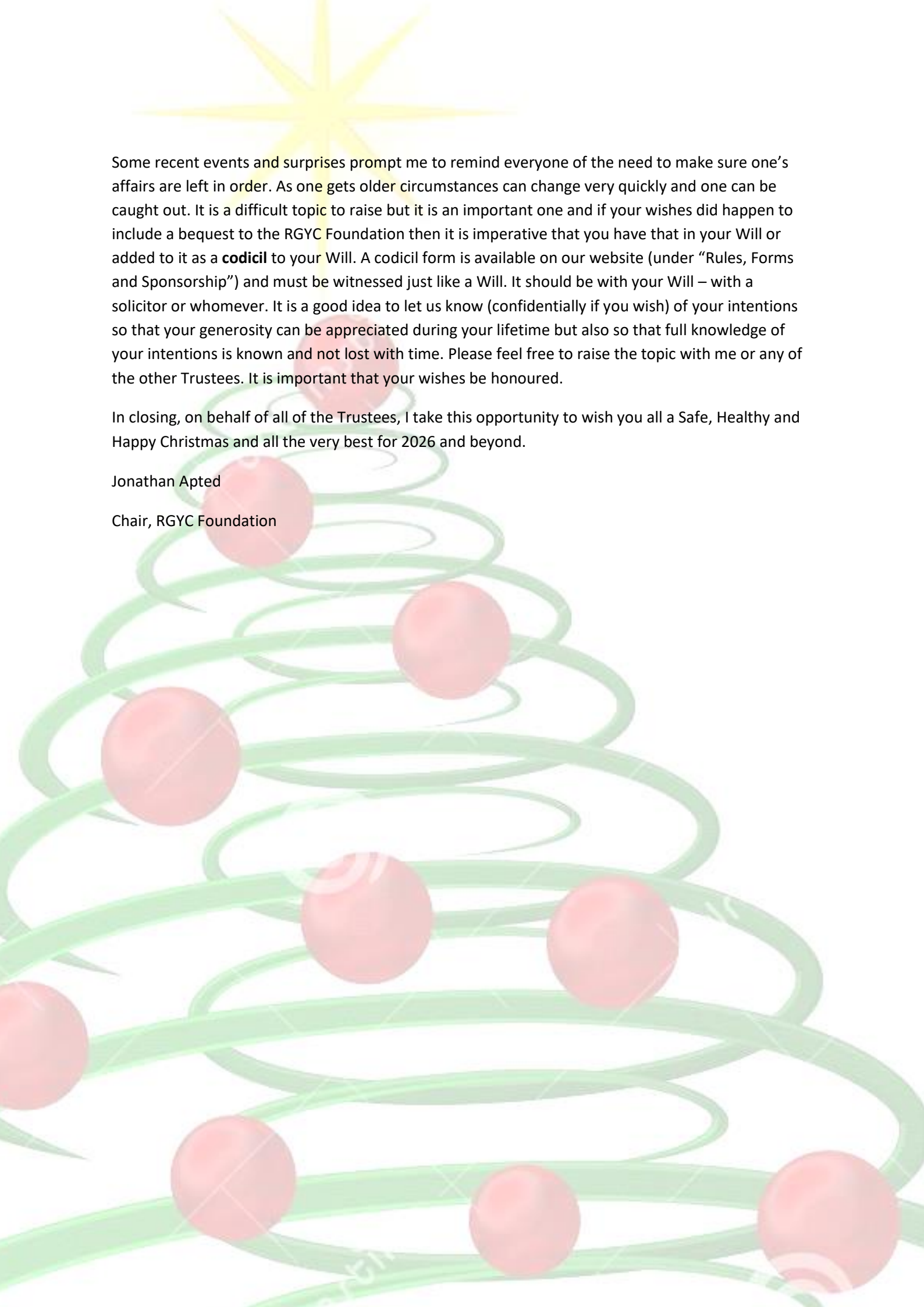


Geelong Primary Schools "Day on the Bay"



Support and Maintenance of the RS21 Fleet





Some recent events and surprises prompt me to remind everyone of the need to make sure one's affairs are left in order. As one gets older circumstances can change very quickly and one can be caught out. It is a difficult topic to raise but it is an important one and if your wishes did happen to include a bequest to the RGYC Foundation then it is imperative that you have that in your Will or added to it as a **codicil** to your Will. A codicil form is available on our website (under "Rules, Forms and Sponsorship") and must be witnessed just like a Will. It should be with your Will – with a solicitor or whomever. It is a good idea to let us know (confidentially if you wish) of your intentions so that your generosity can be appreciated during your lifetime but also so that full knowledge of your intentions is known and not lost with time. Please feel free to raise the topic with me or any of the other Trustees. It is important that your wishes be honoured.

In closing, on behalf of all of the Trustees, I take this opportunity to wish you all a Safe, Healthy and Happy Christmas and all the very best for 2026 and beyond.

Jonathan Apted

Chair, RGYC Foundation