

MYC SILVER FLEET NEWS

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MYC HAS PLENTY OF SUPPORT BOATS



Welcome to the Silver Fleet News

Maylands Yacht Club has created a new mail-out to keep the 2017/18

Learn To Sail and Bronze Fleet sailors abreast of the latest news as we go into winter and new developments that will give you the opportunity to keep developing your sailing and racing skills.

If you are receiving this it means we would like you to consider re-joining MYC next summer, and continuing to race, either in your own boat, or by still using the club's training fleet boats this winter and in to the next summer season. Now that you have passed the learning requirements and demonstrated competent racing skills this offer is being made to keep you sailing, learning new skills, building up your racing techniques and enjoying the company of your fellow sailors.

We are still planning for the amended shorter club courses to be sailed by our new Silver Fleet next summer. This will give you the opportunity to still come down on Sunday mornings next summer, just at the later time of 11.30 when the club's training boats come back to shore and you can takeover for a 12 noon or 12.30pm short race of around 1 hours duration.

Stay tuned for more information soon - and don't forget to book your tickets for next Friday 4th May Wind Up night at the club when certificates will be presented and some great prizes will be handed out to the winners of the Bronze Fleet Race Series that commenced from the City of Bayswater Regatta until season end recently. Prizes will be for Mirror, Minnow and Laser.

Kids 12 and under are only \$15 Click here to book tickets; <https://www.trybooking.com/376262>

Training Boats

The club will continue to support Mirrors, Minnows and Lasers as our preferred training boats. Each has its advantages when learning to sail. The Mirror is ideal for two sailors with the skipper being more experienced, but equally a new skipper with an experienced adult crew is a great way to develop sailing skills much faster than with two trainees in the boat. Once sailing skills and boat handling skills allow, the Minnow, and then the Laser 4.7 (smaller rig) are the next steps to take

Over Winter, we would like you all to keep sailing - weather permitting of course. We are very keen to see a strong Mirror fleet sailing over winter and you may continue to make use of the best club Mirrors, Minnows and Lasers if you don't have your own boat. The winds are generally lighter, the courses are only short over a shortened windward and return leg, over two laps. Generally, two races are sailed starting at 1pm.

First race is Sunday May 6th at 1pm.

Featured Class - The Mirror

The Mirror was named after the Daily Mirror, a UK newspaper with a largely working class distribution. The Mirror was from the start promoted as an affordable boat, and as a design it has done a great deal to make dinghy sailing accessible to a wide audience. Although most popular in the UK, Mirrors are also sailed in other countries, notably Australia, Ireland, Sweden, Canada, the Netherlands, South Africa, New Zealand, the Philippines and the United States. The Mirror was designed by Jack Holt and TV do-it-yourself expert Barry Bucknell in 1962. It employed a novel construction method where sheets of

marine plywood are held together with copper stitching and fibreglass tape.



This is called tack and tape or stitch and glue construction. It was originally designed to be built with simple tools and little experience, and this meant that the design was quite simple. For example, the characteristic 'pram' front reduces the need for the more complicated curved wooden panels and joinery needed for a pointed bow, and a daggerboard is used instead of a hinged centreboard. The result is a robust, versatile and fairly light boat that can be easily maintained and repaired, and can also be launched into the water very quickly from storage or transport. Fibreglass boats are rare, but are preferred for ease of maintenance.

The original rig was a Gunter Rig, but in 2006 the class rules were changed to allow a single mast and an alloy boom. Although a Bermudan sloop rig has now been introduced for the Mirror, the original Gunter rig(with a gaff that effectively doubles the height of the mast) meant that all the spars could be packed inside the hull for easy storage or transportation. Mirror is popular for one-design racing. The large fleet of similar boats coupled with the Mirror's stability and relative complexity (for a boat of this size) make it the ideal boat to learn racing skills. Many top sailors learned their trade in Mirrors.

Mirrors are raced competitively worldwide.

The next Mirror Worlds are to be held in Sydney at the end of this year.



Buying a Mirror

Should anyone be wanting to purchase their own Mirror, please contact Paul Cornwell, a new MYC member who has raced Mirrors for many years and has a good example up for sale at a great price at present. See his advertisement here:

<https://www.gumtree.com.au/s-ad/aubin-grove/sail-boats/mirror-sailing-dinghy/1182385978>



Bella has been very well built and covered in fibreglass for a tough and durable finish.

Only for MYC members, if anyone is looking for a Mirror, Paul has agreed to sell for only \$750. Paul can be contacted on 0424 295 300 for further details as to what is being included at the special MYC price.

Look forward to seeing you on the water again soon!



