

BYS Life Membership proposal – Keith Redman

BYS has honoured many valuable members with Life Membership through the years, but no one has been recognised in this way since 2013, six years ago.

Over the years, life membership has generally been awarded to members who gave their time in fulfilling very specific roles at the club, while others filled many general roles without any fanfare but simply for the overall betterment of the club.

We would like to take the liberty of proposing Keith Redman to the General Committee as a candidate for Life Membership at the 2019 AGM as a way of paying tribute to a club volunteer who has given so much over so many years in so many ways without seeking recognition or reward, but simply as a show of commitment and loyalty to BYS and to enhance the enjoyment of BYS for all members.

There are many others who have also given a lot of their time and expertise for various causes, but Keith is one of a few who have been so readily available whenever help was needed in so many areas and over such an extended period of time.

With the evolution of the General Committee and other committees, much of his involvement over the past 20 years may not be known to the current General Committee. Accordingly, the list below highlights his long history of volunteering. It is by far not a complete list but does give an idea of his tireless help around the club.

- Before the increase of club administration staff, Keith (with Ronél's help) did ALL the member mail-outs for about 4–5 years. Back then this included Southern Sails issued four times a year, four general meetings of members, membership renewals as well as other occasional mail outs. Keith would sit for days (either at the club or at his dining table) surrounded by lists, letters, membership renewal forms, programs, vouchers, carpark stickers, newsletters, flyers etc., name-and-address stickers and envelopes, and manually sorted through all the different categories of membership to determine what mail should go to whom, put these in envelopes and fill boxes in readiness mailing. This involved hours and hours of volunteer work – now long forgotten – at a great saving for the club!
- Keith has been the club's primary Race Officer for the keel boat aggregate for many years, spending untold hours preparing flags, forms, printouts, the start boat, designing and making flag holders and wind measuring instruments in his shed at no cost to the club, etc. in the lead-up to and during the racing season to ensure everything runs smoothly. He has also imparted his race management knowledge and expertise to other sailors rostered for start boat duty.
- Keith has been involved in running many regattas, assisting Pete Southwell, Mischa Leonard, Phil Beattie, etc., and always volunteering whenever another regatta was run. To name a few: IFDS Worlds 2004, Minnow Nationals 2005, Association Cup 2005, Australian Laser Championship 2008, Victorian Dinghy Championship 2012, Adams 10 Vic & NSW Challenge 2012, Musto Skiff Nationals 2012, Petersville Regattas, Minnow states, etc. Over the 2016/17 season he was the only volunteer – other than General Committee members – who assisted in all 3 regattas that season. He is by far the oldest club member still putting up his hand to regularly assist with running regattas.
- He was the club's only sail measurer for AMS requirements for a number of years. Whenever skippers called on him, he would make himself available, whether during the week or on weekends.
- He became the club's boat yardman to pull out and launch boats after Bernie Chandler stepped down from the role and Brian Smith asked Keith at short notice if he would help out.

- He acted as the barman for many years (up until the clubhouse demolition) for all the Red Cross functions held at the club during the week. (And the ladies loved him! He always got a letter of thanks from the Red Cross chair.) He also regularly helped out behind the bar over weekends and at club functions whenever there was a staff shortage.
- He has helped out at every Art Show since its beginning, collecting paintings from Queenscliff and returning the unsold ones, hanging paintings, assisting John Coppock with the lighting, etc.
- When the harbour attenuator broke up, he spent days (with a few others) working in the marina and cleaning up the beach collecting broken polystyrene.
- He regularly assisted with organising Cock of the Bay boats coming in, running rubber ducks to help with rafting up, etc.
- He would drive *Placid* on his own to Martha Cove and back as part of the Spry series.
- He acted as handyman on numerous occasions. For example, on completion of the clubhouse redevelopment, Amanda Jacobs called on him to assemble new tables for the new clubhouse when they arrived in flatpacks! He never ever said no if he was asked to help.
- He assisted at every single working bee for close to 20 years. It is only the last 2 years since he has suffered serious health problems that he has not made an appearance.
- He spent hours doing research for a suitable start boat and assisted with the design of the starting flags frame. He continues to ensure *Bruce* is run properly and efficiently.
- Generally, as many young sailors would attest (just ask Liam Edleston, Mac Hey, Ciarra Leonard), Keith has been an active supporter and provided encouragement to many of the club's young sailors through the years.
- He was recognised as Club Person of the Year 2007/08 and most recently, he was recognised by the Sailing Committee as the inaugural outstanding volunteer at the 2019 Presentation Night.
- Only now as Keith approaches the age of 80 is his voluntary contribution to BYS beginning to slow down!

Although this is not a finite list it demonstrates the range of Keith's contribution and involvement and provides an incredibly strong sense of his commitment to BYS. He is a shining example of loyalty to the BYS community through ongoing volunteerism.

We hope the General Committee recognises the value of Keith's contribution and will favourably accept this proposal and we look forward being able to celebrate Keith's election to Life Membership of BYS at the 2019 Annual General Meeting.

Jenni Maclean

Michael Trumble

Robyn Kamer

Rohan Cashion

John Coppock

Peter Southwell

Trevor Harding

Michelle Cashion

Georgina Plumridge

Lisa Rollinson

Judy Harding

Andrea Hibbins

John Plumridge

Brian Smith

Adrian Macquarie

Ronél Redman

Trevor Casey

Catherine Smith

Joan Macquarie