

# TRANSVAAL YACHT CLUB

HARTBEESPOORT DAM

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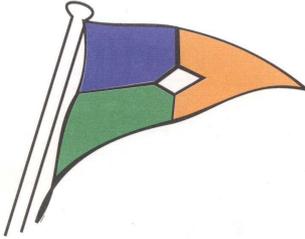
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Dear members

Spring has sprung, the season is open so lets go sailing!!

@#\$\$ there is a problem with that statement – do we have water to sail on?

I was at the club yesterday and until about 13h00, there was a light easterly blowing so lots of water with the weed split between the Magalies river and the Poort but with a north westerly forecast. When the wind died and swung towards the North West, the weed started to move – FAST.

I am appealing to all members who do take to the water: Please watch the forecast, the wind direction and the position of the weed. The weed moves very quickly and if you are caught out on the dam surrounded by weed, there is not much anyone can do to get to you. Rather take the safe route and head towards the club so you can get to your mooring in time.

A few members who were at the club chose to have their own “Barts Bash” in the club optimists behind the boom.

## Hyacinth Problem.

The latest information I have is that there are now 10 teams from DWS removing the weed manually. In addition 3 commercial concerns have been given permits to remove and process the weed. All of these solutions currently have issues with the mobility of the weed. Their operations are static while, as we all know, the floating mass is highly mobile. A new proposal is to put up booms to try and contain the weed at pre-determined locations.



## Opening Cruise

We changed things around a little this year, with the Commodore's dinner being an afternoon affair. 50 people enjoyed a late lunch. It was great to have Stuart (an ex commodore) and Liz Tough join us. Quite a surprise. In total I counted 7 ex-commodore's present. A big thank you to Philip and Alta for the food and to everyone who attended.

We are going to do something similar at the close of the season - Let's try and hit the 100 people mark.

The opening cruise was not quite as well attended and with the forecast NW wind missing we were "weeded in". I took the salute from the newly painted mooring barge with the members present on the balcony and our vice-commodore on his J22. (Ok it was on a trailer but at least on the water). Thank-you one and all who attended and assisted in trying to keep the traditions of the club going.

## Club Championships

The racing fleet is pretty spread out at the moment. Many boats are still at the Vaal Dam for Keel Boat week. I have heard that some will be returning after the event. We are going to try and hold the event over the weekends of 7/8 and 14/15 October. There is already a move to get as many J22's on the water as possible. – What about the other classes?

We are trying to organise an OktoberFest for 14 October. Fred needs an indication of interest so we can decide if it is worthwhile. If we race or not – a big part of TYC has always been the off the water activity so let's make the club rock.

## Other events

Last weekend was the SAS Northern region Dinghy Grand Slam incorporating some class Northern Region Championships. Just like the Keel Boat event, the winds were light to non-existent. It's not just TYC who has this problem!!

This coming weekend is Keel Boat week from DAC and the LASER Nationals at Aeolians. I don't think we have any competitors at the Lasers (I will be doing Jury duty) but should have a sizable fleet at DAC. Good Luck to all the members competing.

For those not traveling – come out to the club on Sunday 24 September and enjoy Alta's renowned breakfast (available until 10) and then stay for a braai. The long range forecast looks pretty good for some sailing (mainly northerly 11 knots)

I hope to see you all soon on the water or if all else fails on the balcony at TYC.

Regards

Rob Wallendorf  
Commodore TYC.