

Q.C.Y.C. Newsletter 85

Registration No. A0017353E

July/August 2013

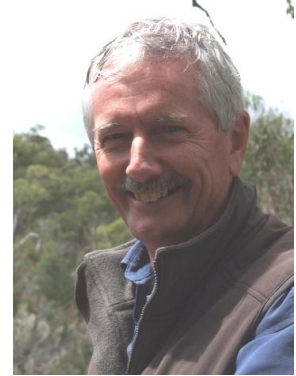
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From the Commodore:

Here we are and continuing our celebration of our 50th anniversary with that special luncheon at Queenscliff's Vue Grand on Sunday 21st July in winter replacing (temporarily) our annual Xmas in July.

To all those who attended we had over 100 members, partners and friends with the venue dressed up and special gifts for everyone on the day.

Additionally we auctioned this valuable signed photograph by a local artist Tim Crawshaw, referred to us by the Seaview Gallery and raffled some nice goodies including some wine and two night's accommodation in Townsville for a lucky couple.



The table decorations were spectacular with Madam Commodore Jill and Pam Bennett refining all that the Grand Hotel has to offer.



The auction was a great success with around \$1800 raised for Cottage by the Sea who also loaned us their bus to transport members between the ferry and hotel.

As MC once again Bill Stubbs took all and sundry back in history with interviews (ala Michael Parkinson) from Darryl Morrison, Graham Bickford and Lindsay Heath who gave some insights into life at QCYC of the past.



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Afterwards a few stalwarts went back to the clubhouse to see the afternoon out from a different perspective.

Since our last newsletter we have been busy around the club with kindred club visits in Royal Yacht Club, Hobsons Bay and Royal Geelong as well as many others.

Once again we must thank the members and friends who have contributed to our special yacht club in Swan Bay, with their talents, labour and endeavors in when they come to visit and enjoy.

The committee is very busy with hosting events plus the extraordinary effort put in by the facilities group who are planning to unveil their ideas later in the year with some surprises for us all.



The evening view from the club house always leaves members and friends with a sense of "Paradise".....

Kindred Clubs Events and Presentation Nights.

Our kindred clubs around the bay have been very active with festivities in the past months and the role of Commodore is to attend as many functions as possible to encourage new members, to join in celebrations, and to promote QCYC as the destination of choice for cruising sailors.

Jill and I have been very welcome and have received excellent commendations on the facilities that we provide for events as well as individual visits by members and friends.

Many memorable events that have been attended are Hobsons Bay Yacht Club 125th Celebrations and their Annual Presentation night plus Royal Geelong's and Royal Brighton's Presentation Nights.

Rabbit and vermin on our lease!

We are continuing with vermin extermination on the property and sometimes there are some surprises in store if the doors are left open for long periods... when opportunity knocks people may see these little fellows dart around the club house. Please keep doors closed as much as possible particularly after hours.

We have the blighters under control but it is a continual problem given some decent breeding on the other side of the island. Our friendly kangaroos have bred some little ones and whilst cute, they are still good grass mowers and we appreciate their contribution, their presents left behind are not so welcome!



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Additionally we have seen evidence of foxes attacking swans on the lease and in the waters beside our property and again Parks Vic have taken action and will be laying baits in autumn around the spots of activity.....we thank Steve McPhee for his assistance and actions.

We also appear to have eradicated all rat activity close to and within the club house but we need to be very careful with food and scraps/ rubbish bins especially around the BBQ areas to ensure rats are not attracted back at busy times. Please assist us in this area as well.

The Van Diemen's Land Bi Annual Cruise and Wooden Boat Show in Hobart – an exciting experience!

Jill and I were able to visit the Wooden Boat Show in Hobart earlier this year and catch up with the many Victorians who visit and celebrate every two years.... and then to join another of our members in Murray Mackay and his wife Julie on their 41ft Hans Christian "Tradition" to sail with the fleet from Hobart to the Mersey river. Unfortunately this trip was curtailed due to Murray's business but we finished with the obligatory sail home to Queenscliff from the Mersey River.



If you don't do any more than have a go at this journey in company following one of Mal Billings' QCYC cruises then you miss some real adventures.

And by the way...please read Mal Billings and Peter Geary's journey from Queenscliff to the Hummocks and down the west coast of Tassie completed just before the VDL circumnavigation. It is a jolly good read!! <http://www.qcyc.org.au/2013/ULUWATU2013.pdf>

Club Visits to QCYC and racing down the Bay



Again this year we have seen increased activity with kindred clubs holding a number of their usual events and races with an overnight stay at the club. Evenings held upstairs are the mainstay of many visits with conversations long into the night!

These have included:

- Royal Yacht Club of Victoria holding their Phoenix Trophy race concluding with a magnificent celebration overnight and raising a substantial amount of money for our friends at "Cottage By The Sea"

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- Royal Geelong Yacht Club with their McAllister Cup race and Sunday cruise back to Geelong,
- Royal Geelong Yacht Club Cruising group making additional visits in the quitter months,
- Hobsons Bay Yacht Club following their race to St. Leonards.

Vale John “Curly” Robinson...July 2013

In the last week of July, we unfortunately, saw the passing of a very dear member and friend in “Curly” Robinson who had been such a stalwart amongst club members and friends over many years.

Curly, alongside Anna, served the club as Commodore as well as being a committee member and a big part of the early establishment of our club.

Curly had been ill for some time and we all are saddened by his departure from our ranks but we thank him and Anna for their contribution to the club and surrounds that he enjoyed so very much naming the place “Paradise” so long ago! We will not forget!

Access and security times

Remember as with current normal times

Gate Operating times for the Swan Island Security Gate:

Sunday-Friday: 0700 - 1800 hours

Saturday and Public Holidays: 0700 - 1900 hours

Dinghies and storage at the Club!

Thank you to everyone again in assisting to sort out a great number of dinghies who had been orphaned.

We reiterate as previously that we have labeled all unknown dinghies with “QCYC” on the stern and other places and will maintain them as available for members to use as an interim.....please put dinghies in their right place and assist us with this management.

Road durability and care

As mentioned before we have been cautious with our road/causeway repairs and it is now over a year since we really needed to undertake any works on this area since regrading and topping with a different material plus creating a slope across the road surface ensuring water drains back to the pondage.



However the recent higher July tides took a toll and some early maintenance was necessary. Further upgrading and topping will be completed for the holiday season in the next few months.

And our plantings along this road are growing well and the result is looking good with more vegetation and securing of the road edges.



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....BUT, again we must emphasize the road is built to only withstand vehicles travelling at limited speeds. We really need people to NOT exceed the speed limit of 10 to 15 km/h set for our benefit.

– remember it is your membership fees that are used unnecessarily on such maintenance.

And on another subject of animals and pets....

It is disappointing that we are still having members and friends bringing pets to our property as passengers on either boat and car...THIS is NOT acceptable and it is a breach of our by-laws and a risk to the island sanctuary if pets are on our property. Please do not embarrass us and yourselves by disobeying our by-law.



Mail or email, change of contact details....to post or not to post?

As mentioned previously we prefer to communicate with members by email.

This all saves considerable time and cost and our thanks to all who have assisted and now almost all our members are electronic.... but would like to increase this percentage.

If you have recently changed your email address or obtained a new email address could you please send a short email to secretary@qcyc.org.au stating your name, current preferred email address and current phone numbers. Of course, the same goes for change of mailing address.

Welcome to new members....

Since our last newsletter the following new members have joined us and we say a big and warm welcome to them and look forward to many great days at the club in the future:

Peter Bland, Joanne Ritchie and family
Keith Kelcey
Jock Benfell
Brian and Barbara Slater
Andrew and Tilly Giles
Richard and Robyn Harris-Hart and family
Giles and Lauren Lesser and family
Alan and Karen Quaife

Gregory and Samantha Bakker and family
Nicholas and Christine Heath and family
Hugo and Désirée Armstrong and family
Brenton and Robina Smith
John Kint
Jack Richardson
William Newman

Our Club Website -

The Club Website is being updated with a lot of work through Past Commodore Ken Gayler and his son. The website is the main notice board for members and includes reminders of coming events. Please check regularly our home page and the notice board regularly on www.qcyc.org.au

Up and Coming Events

Coming Events are listed below. Please check the Coming Events Calendar on our site and make sure that you send in the relevant booking/application details as soon as possible for all events.

Remember the AGM is coming up on October 1st and we look forward to a number of members and friends attending. Then the very important Annual Opening Day, preceded by the sailing of the Goorangai Trophy race from Royal Brighton to Queenscliff on the Saturday. Opening Day will be the last of our 50th Anniversary celebrations and will be very special this year. Please make this a special event and sail down with an overnight stay for opening day!!

- **Tuesday October 1 – AGM**
- **Saturday October 20 – Annual Working Bee**

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- **2nd-5th November – Cup Weekend Cruise to Geelong**
- **Saturday November 16 – HMAS Goorangai Memorial Trophy Race from RBYC to Queenscliff**
- **Sunday November 17 – QCYC's 51st Opening Day**

Wharf works...

Recently we have completed part of the works designed to maintain and strengthen the wharf against wear and tear and to cope with heavier usage and larger, weightier vessels. Rex Prosser, our Honorary Life Member has spent some considerable time and effort in having the plans, permits and works completed to such a high level of integrity that inspection of work was not necessary.

The works involve providing and installing over 20 props with reinforced shore foundations to support each of the piles supporting the wharf. This can be seen in the photo alongside just after their installation. Our thanks to Rex, and Ann of course, who assisted Rex with sustenance during the project.



QCYC at home... enjoy!

This newsletter tries to give an overall perspective around the club

Please enjoy!

Welcome anytime and even if you drive down the atmosphere will do you good!!



Club Address

Please note that the Club's address for general correspondence is:

Postal Address PO Box 77

Queenscliff, Victoria, 3225

Telephone (Secretary): Phone Mobile 0488 700 817

QCYC Clubhouse: Phone (03) 5258 1692

email: secretary@qcy.org.au

Please also make sure that you notify the Hon. Secretary in Jonathan Crockett (he does such a good job!) of any change in email or mailing address. Remember, if we have your email address it makes communication much easier.

Fair winds and smooth seas to you all,

Brian

**Brian Golland
Commodore**