

From the Commodore:

What a year this has been and if you are anything but amazed that 2013 is with us....think again!

We have been through many tasks, meetings, orientation and Opening Days as we head toward Labour Day and Easter.

Thanks to the many people that contribute to our special yacht club in Swan Bay, with their talents, labour and even visitation, our rewards for all our endeavors is a great place to come visit and enjoy.

The club was fairly quiet until the weather improved and some holiday breaks allowed more amiable conditions and visitation possibilities!

Again, the committee has been very busy with hosting events and planning all the 50 year celebrations with the initial celebration on Friday 18th January.



Opening Day – Sunday, November 18

Opening Day 2012 looked gloomy with a huge storm and dark skies early as the committee and assistants prepared the day! But it was just a quick freshener across the gardens!

And at the appointed hour the sun proved that “it isn’t over until it’s over!” and the day turned to beautiful with a gentle breeze.



A guest list of over 70 and a throng of members and partners arrived around noon delighting the committee and particularly the ladies who had prepared a very decent and sumptuous spread with drinks and starters in the bar and out on the balconies ... the place was buzzing.

Just after 1pm Jonathan Crockett as honorary secretary opened proceedings then passing to the Commodore to welcome all the invited guests and friends and members. A quick review of

the past year and expected highlights for the coming year were presented along with thanks to those gathered for our celebration.



Amongst the guests were Cmdr. Michael Oborn of HMAS Cerberus representing our Patron Capt. Kath Richards, David Koche MLA, Borough Councilors, Parks Officers, Past Commodores, Kindred Clubs Commodores and representatives, Dept of Defence personnel, local media etc. and lastly our Honorary Life members present.



Cmdr.Oborn in addressing our Opening took time to remind guests of responsibilities with rank, and leading by example, as primary aspects of roles at sea and in command of those whom we are responsible for, whilst maintaining a clear focus on the future of those in our keeping.

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And again, as in the past, Cottage by the Sea accepted a cheque for \$6000 through one of our members in Dennis Smart, who is a Director of CBTS, from Vice Commodore Roger Bennett ending another brilliant year of donations by all our members who contributed to the effort.

Reverend Peter Martin took us with him in Blessing of the Fleet again this year and involved one of our longer term members John McIntosh and Rev Barry Porter of HMAS Cerberus to add flavor to the ceremony.



As previously, Rev Peter made us a larger wooden cross which was dispensed to the waters of Swan Bay, be it a possible hazard to vessels during its transit along the wharf!

The sumptuous banquet following, provided courtesy of the ladies of the club, with members own contributions, was exceptional and an estimated

150 odd guests took time to enjoy the casual and relaxed atmosphere for a few hours as the weather was kind to us.



Port of Melbourne Study

Further Risk Management Workshops have been held which I have attended and the end results of these were substantial charts of work, behavior and events covering many scenarios around shipping in the bays. This work was done by a number of people in teams under the leadership of Gary Wilson as head of the Port Of Melbourne Corp.

The undertaking has ramifications for Marine Safety Victoria which was part of this process and no doubt there will be issues in navigation aids etc. resulting from this outcome.

Working Bee – October

Our annual working bee was well advertised and well attended again this year. It provided much needed updating to painting around the clubhouse and wharf as well as the “Cygnet” bridge. Electrical work, gardening, dinghy racking, lawns, signs, internal cleaning, Do not feel disappointed or upset that there was not a general invitation for volunteers to a small working bee in July organized through Vice Commodore Roger Bennett and Honorary Life Member Rex Prosser with around 15 people taking to the south wharf. Over 3 hours with intermittent rain we were able to fit toe rails to all the edges of this wharf. This provides a visual and physical barrier for safer use of this wharf.

Many thanks to all who gave some time to this all this effort which we all enjoy as we come and visit or stay.

Kindred Clubs’ Opening Days.

As happens annually, our kindred clubs have been very active and part of the role of Commodore is to visit as many clubs as possible, and to join in celebrations, whilst holding up the flag for QCYC as their destination of choice for cruising sailors.

This year both Jill and I have been welcomed and have received fabulous feedback on our club through all these visits. Amongst the most memorable have been Royal Geelong YC, Beaumaris MYS, Mornington YC and Blairgowrie YS.

Additionally we were enthralled with a visit to HMAS Cerberus in November for their Ceremonial Sunset celebration and march-past!

This was truly a memorable presentation by our up and coming naval cadets and staff, hosted by our Patron Capt Kath Richards RAN.

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Honorary Life Membership.

In November I was most privileged to receive, together with one of our members in John Barry, Honorary Life Membership to our local kindred club in Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club for our previous and continued work and support of their organisation whom many of our local members race with each Saturday all year long.

Thank you to QLYC for this honor on behalf of John and myself.

Rabbit and vermin on our lease!

Starting in Spring we had noticed a number of rabbits around our property and these gradually increased but with the assistance of Parks Victoria we installed a couple of wire entrapment cages at each end of the property and we were able to locate poison within them and now enjoy a rabbit free environment for the present. We will leave these traps in place for the autumn when there may be another influx of these furry things!

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 they are not attracted back at busy times. Please assist us in this area as well.

Cup Weekend Cruise – excellent!

Our Cup Weekend cruise under the directorship of Mal Billings was an excellent example of all things going well and with great organisation.



Arrival from ports to Royal Geelong on Saturday in good conditions set the scene and this continued with a fully catered for BBQ dinner outside the clubhouse and under the verandah with David of Brioche Catering looking after us. The clubhouse itself was unavailable due to a wedding.



Well done to all, including the frivolities associated with the quiz and menu competitions of the day and night.

The cruise continued on to our club at Queenscliff on Sunday with arrivals throughout the day and a fine relaxed dinner to finish proceedings. Monday saw most just relaxing and using the time positively including a very sumptuous lunch of seafood etc. to tide people over to Tuesday when the back markers took off late in the day.

A great weekend thanks to Mal and all who took the journey and involvement!



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Blairgowrie YS and the Sorrento Tennis Club

The Blairgowrie YS cruising captain in Tom O'Donohue took time in late Nov to visit the club with four vessels in tow and around 20 Sorrento Tennis Club members....they picked a gorgeous day mid-week and took to the bar and BBQ's with gusto....the photo here tells a million stories...many thanks Tom and especially to members who donated very generously to Cottage by the Sea on the day!



50th year celebrations – January 18, 2013



Just for the record, here are the assembled that celebrated the start of our 50th anniversary with a great get together at the club house on Friday evening with over 110 members and friends.

The scene has been set for a year of drawing on stories and photos from the dim past when QCYC origins were



set on a sand island beside the cut and QCYC rose to be what it is today.

During the evening a slide show brought us from those early days and

before through until the current time, and whilst we did have a small number of words of welcome and the appreciation of the efforts of past committees and



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members it was the past Commodores present (including our first Commodore, Grahame Chapman (centre of the last picture on page 4) that held our focus.

Grahame Chapman (pictured in the centre of the last picture on page 4), our first Commodore and Honorary Life Member, with his son Nick, held court amongst many friends to enjoy the night with a quiet glass and genial atmosphere.

The club released its new range of wines on the night with a great selection and very special labels that highlight features of our club and its environment.

Look out for them – only available at the Club's bar.

The Annual Brighton to Queenscliff – Goorangai Trophy

This race now signifies the beginning of our sailing season as being held on the Saturday immediately prior to our Opening Day celebrations.

And this year we had good conditions with a number of local yachts sailing up to Brighton and Sandringham on the Friday to overnight before the race. Race contenders this year were eleven yachts including: Ulawatu, Sundance, Ventura and Happy Hour.

Whilst the race finished at the West Channel Pile, at the bar following the race the Cruise Director, organiser and handicapper of the event in Mal Billings with "Ulawatu" won on handicap.

Well done Mal and Peter Geary for a great day racing!

CSIRO and QCYC join forces.

QCYC has been fortunate to be able to have CSIRO's Dr Andrew Poole who is a local to the area, bring a very important project to us for research over the next year or two on our favourite topic of "antifouling". This is called "Cold Spray Antifouling as a new antifouling technique designed for polymers"

This project was first trialed in Townsville with the yacht club and we as a cold water harbor have been selected to do likewise with a sample board in a PVC frame covering many different technologies,



Just now you will see this frame hanging off our wharf toward the southern end and Andrew will visit quite regularly to measure and take samples (salinity, pH and temperature) surrounding this activity. We have already mounted in the recreational room a board with details and photos of this project and how it will hopefully work whilst in the waters of Queenscliff.

We thank CSIRO and Andrew for his interest and wish him every success which will hopefully bring all of us closer to being able to manage our own antifouling in a more environment friendly manner in the future! Good luck Andrew.

Our Club Cupboards

Many thanks to all members who have been diligent in clearing out cupboards. These cupboards are now in better shape for others to use them over the holidays.

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Access and security times

Remember as with current normal times

Gate Operating times for the Swan Island Security Gate:

Sunday-Friday: 0700 - 2000 hours

Saturday and Public Holidays: 0700 - 2100 hours

Dinghies and storage at the Club!

Thank you to everyone for their help since our last newsletter of sorting out a great number of dinghies and additionally to our working bee that provided more standup racks for members.

We now have the ability to maintain all dinghies in a tidy state around the club in both the northerly and southerly areas making a much improved vista for all.

As previously indicated, 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.

Let's know if we can assist!! Please!!

Road durability and care

As mentioned previously we have been cautious with our road/causeway repairs and since July have not really needed to undertake any works on this area since regrading and topping with a different material plus a slope across the road surface ensuring water drains slowly back to the pondage.



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

...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 or in car...THIS is NOT acceptable and we are in breach of our lease if pets are on our property. Please do not embarrass us and yourselves by disobeying this rule.

Royal Yacht Club of Victoria offer:

RYCV has received approval to construct a platform lift to replace the old slipway which has been closed.

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The business case for this facility included the attraction of additional Kindred Club boats to use their facilities. As part of this they have formed a Kindred Club Boat register that will enable boats on the register to gain access to their lifting and railed yard facilities at the same costs offered to members. The Platform lift will be completed mid-2013 and have RYCV have decided to extend this offer now for their existing facilities to generate interest in the Platform Lift once completed. The lift will have a 40 tonne capacity and be capable of lifting boats of 3 metre draft, 6.5 metre beam and 14 metre plus in length. Initial allocations to the Register will be made on Friday 15th February 2013, with subsequent acceptance later in the month until the 80 positions are filled.

If you are interested in placing your boat on RYCV's Kindred Club Register, get the form and email to them: see the "Facilities Tab" on RYCV website (<http://www.rycv.yachting.org.au/>).

Mail or email....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:

Andrew Purcell, Wes and Sally Oswin, Jack and Susan Finlay, Lutz Becker, John Taylor, Jack and Lisa Hennessy, Richard Naudi, Ashley Stevens, Ian Howarth and Lynette White, Michael Dundon and Katrina Byers, Alexandra Heath, Georgina Heath and Richard Heath.

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

Club Rules and By-Laws

Changes to the Club's Rules were passed at our last AGM and have now been approved by Consumer Affairs Victoria. However, new Model Rules were introduced under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act in November 2012 and these Model Rules take precedence over our rules where there are inconsistencies. We will be updating the Club Rules again to bring them into line with the current Model Rules in due course. The By-Laws were also updated in October 2012. Copies of the Rules and By-Laws are on the notice board in the clubhouse and on the website.

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.

- **Sunday March 3 – Clean up Australia Day working bee**

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- **March 9-17 – Cruise of Bass Strait, Wilsons Prom and Deal Island – not too late to register but be quick!**
 - **Sunday April 7 – Orientation Day for new members**
 - **Sunday July 21 – for the 50th Celebration at the Club House – we need an indication now on who will attend, as this event will be specially catered – cost will be \$50 per and we may have to turn down late bookings – booking via the website please!**
 - **Tuesday October 1 – AGM**
 - **Saturday October 20 – Annual Working Bee**
 - **Saturday November 16 – HMAS Goorangai Memorial Trophy Race from RBYC to Queenscliff**
 - **Sunday November 17 – QCYC's 51st Opening Day**

QCYC at home... enjoy!

This newsletter tries to give an overall perspective around the club

As we take in 2013 and a special year for the club, let's enjoy some of what we love and draw graciously on the peace that visitors see and feel at our second home!!...
...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 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**