

## Commodore's Report

This year, as usual, the HMAS Goorangai Memorial Trophy Race was held the Saturday before Easter. Four starters crossed the line, and in a medium breeze on the nose the fleet made their way to QCYC. Some skippers chose the western side of the bay, whilst others kept close in to the east, and this year it was those that chose the eastern route that were rewarded with better progress than those in the middle of the bay. Congratulations to Past Commodore Brian Cherry and First Mate Miriam on *Lena* for taking the prize on corrected time, for the second time.

Easter at the Club was busy as always, but there were slightly fewer boats moored at the wharf. This year we saw more boats coming and going, rather than staying the entire weekend. Members and guests were in high spirits, people got on well and there was brisk trading in the bar each evening.

The annual picnic cruise to Coles Channel was a huge success with more boats attending than ever before. I believe there were eight boats in total, and it was a great sight to see them all anchored off the beach at St Leonards. More members and guests arrived by road, making more than fifty picnickers in attendance. The fine warm weather helped and a good time was had by all. By 1530hrs we were on the way back to QCYC after a very pleasant day.



This time of the year sees the major Yacht Clubs around the bay race to QCYC as the last event on their sailing calendar. The RGYC Murray McAllister Perpetual Trophy was sailed on April 25<sup>th</sup> which was a very wild day. About fourteen yachts started and of those that didn't turn around at the finish line and return to RGYC most competitors came in to see what conditions were like at QCYC before turning about and heading to spend the night elsewhere. It was a

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howling westerly, with a very high tide that caused considerable damage to our roadways. A couple of intrepid souls did choose to spend the night, and hopefully were made feel welcome in true QCYC style.

RYCV were the next club to visit for the annual Phoenix Trophy Race, and again in less than ideal weather about twelve boats rafted up and set about having a good time, as only the folk from Royals can!

Finally RBYC visited at the end of the Alan Robinson Race last weekend. Again about twelve boats started and most ended up at QCYC for the night. At the time of my departure it appeared that our visitors were enjoying themselves. I'd like to extend my thanks to the individual competitors and their Clubs' for organising these events, for they help form the bond between our Clubs.

The Cruising Reunion Luncheon at Royals was held on May 31<sup>st</sup> and was a huge success with many participants in attendance and many a story to tell. Club Member, Roger Bennett, proprietor of Four Winds Marine in Geelong attended and presented prizes for the best cruising accounts from the cruises.

On the social side of the Club one of our members held his seventieth Birthday Party recently at the Club for some forty family and friends. Happy Birthday, Bob! Keep it in mind if any members have reasonable sized functions they wish to hold in a rather unique setting.

The Club received a letter from Department of Sustainability and Environment officially informing us that Queenscliff Harbour Pty Ltd will establish some twenty-eight Pile Moorings in Swan Bay. On further investigation it was established that these are moorings previously discussed with Parks Vic. almost two years ago, and are to be located in the vicinity of the Bridge when funding is available.

The Vice Commodore and I met with Queenscliff Mayor, Cr. Bob Merriman who had previously conducted a public meeting regarding the general operation of Queenscliff Harbour. Several of our Committee attended this meeting. As many of you will know there is a lot of unrest between the local factions (fishermen, recreational boating, yachting, commercial services – diving, fishing etc - marina pen occupiers and mooring holders). Independently, the Club has been lobbying the local community as well. At this stage the dust has settled, and in subsequent talks with DSE it appears that there are no plans regarding continued Harbour development that really affect the Club.

With this in mind the Committee has decided that even though the Club Lease extends through to 2016, it will be advantageous to commence Lease re-negotiations now, rather than wait out the full term. There are a number of pertinent factors that we can use to support our case, and especially if we can secure a sea-bed lease along the length of our wharf, our tenure will be much more secure. This is what we want. Accordingly, we have been promised a meeting with Parks Vic. around the end of this month.

During the recent high tides at Easter and shortly after, the rock wall in the vicinity has suffered substantial damage, and has been subsequently repaired by fishing the old rock out of the sea and adding to it to make it more substantial. Some repairs have also been effected to the surface.

The old timber Dinghy Ramp has now been removed to make way for a new state of the art floating Dinghy Ramp. The concept is that it will float with the deck just above the water level, but with the weight of a person and dinghy it will sink just below the waterline and make for easy launching and retrieval, with no slime.

The grounds continue to be worked on and have suffered some from the contractors who carried out the rockwork and the concreter who poured the slab that anchors the dinghy ramp. But we have used this to

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our advantage in preparation for moving the road from the West of the Clubhouse to the East. Vice Commodore and I have had discussions with DSE, and following the next committee meeting, expect to have finalised our plan regarding the location of the new road and tidying of our site. Once this is finalised we will officially apply to DSE for approval for the works.

I am pleased to report that work on the North wharf will be commencing shortly to wrap the piles, replace the whalers and fender boards, all of which are in very bad repair. The committee is also finalising plans for the short extension at the north end of the north wharf. We need to cost this but it would be nice to have a renovated, extended North Wharf for the next season!

A reminder that Christmas in July this year is scheduled for Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, same format as last year - great raffles, good food, good drink and even better company. There is a booking form enclosed with this Newsletter. Please return it quickly as places are limited and demand normally exceeds supply. I look forward to seeing you there. Wear something Christmassy.

And finally, all the above does not happen without a significant input from the committee and members, so to each of you I offer my thanks and the thanks of the Club generally.

**Michael Bowe**

Commodore

## Vice-Commodore's Report

As indicated in the Commodore's report, the negotiation of a new and longer term lease, post March 2016 is regarded as a key objective for the Club. Key to the success of these negotiations will be the extent to which the Club can demonstrate its ability and willingness to develop the Club as a component of the Queenscliff community whilst maintaining and protecting the environment of Sand Island and Swan Bay.

The substantial achievements of past committees in the development of the club to provide wharfing, road and bridge access, a clubhouse with renovated bathrooms, an enviable disabled facility, newly developed outdoor recreation and cooking facilities, modernized upstairs and downstairs patios is evidence of club members' aspirations for an environmentally compatible location with high standard amenities. It also documents members' willingness to finance development of improved facilities for present and future club members.

With this as a guide, the Committee is assembling plans for future developments of the club to include in the negotiations with the Department of Sustainability and the Environment and with Parks Victoria for a new and extended lease. In the immediate future such developments include extension of the North Wharf, a substantial upgrade in the kitchen facilities and extensive landscaping of the exterior. External changes in the landscape are both to improve safety for children using the club and to expand the use of native flora in and around the club. We are grateful to Grant St Quentin who not only resurveyed the site of the club's lease but has also produced draft plans for this work. We are currently refining these plans and seeking approvals from Council and related bodies for these revised plans.

Copies of the revised plans will be displayed on the Club notice board when they are completed.

One of the changes taking place in the Club which appears to be of great importance for its long term future, is its adoption by increasing numbers of families with young children. In our plans for the longer

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term it is critical that we maintain and further develop activities that encourage these newer members to embrace sailing, cruising and the freedom to enjoy the native flora and fauna that goes with the QCYC experience.

I encourage any who have specific ideas for enhancing the variety of activities on offer at QCYC to write or email your committee.

## Notes on recent Infrastructure Developments:

On your next visit to the Club take note of the following new works recently undertaken by committee members:

**North Wharf Extension:** Piles have been driven and whalers ordered to commence an extension to the North Wharf.

**Wharf Repairs:** Damage to the rock walls along the South and North wharfs from recent storms was repaired as a matter of urgency and extra new rock added to further stabilize the bank. Wrapping of the piles on the North Wharf has also been approved

**Hot Water Service:** A new hot water service and new kitchen taps are now in place

**Washing Machine:** A new washing machine and associated plumbing should reduce the washing queues.

**Refrigerator and Freezer:** Replacement refrigerator and a separate freezer have been installed

**Gas Fittings:** Essential safety work has been carried out on gas lines and fittings.

**Fire Pump:** Training Sessions in the use of our recently acquired fire pump have been instigated with the local CFA as part of our attempts to enhance the safety of our club members.



## Ken Gayler

Vice Commodore

## Rear Commodore's Report

### Our new Dinghy Ramp.

For QCYC visitors and crews the latest and best addition to the club over the past month has been the replacement Dinghy Ramp just to the north of the club and between the south and north wharf.

This ramp has been some months in the planning and construction with the following features:

- a. A construction base frame of galvanised heavy metal
- b. Fitted floats beneath the ramp ensuring it will maintain a level just above the water surface
- c. The ramp is hinged from a concrete pad on the edge of the road

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- d. A strong and robust surface mixed with treated pine and ironbark planking
- e. Safety and simplicity to ensure that the surface does not become slippery and dangerous to users – the surface is above water at all times

We thank our suppliers and constructors all of whom have been coordinated by Chris Lake of Lakers Engineering in Point Lonsdale - Thanks Chris.



Additionally the committee would like to thank John Gleeson and Rex Prosser for their excellent work and effort in supporting the project with minimising costs to QCYC.

## **Our Road to the Club – update**

Our road access to the club continues to provide plenty of activity and concern for the committee. Recent high tides and inclement weather combinations have eroded plenty of the surface and left the edges very dangerous and requiring urgent maintenance. John Gleeson has been an absolute master in taking hold of this task and persevering with managing the combination of retaining rock walls and a beautiful surface to the

entrance to our club. His dedication and work finish has been superb....our thanks to him for a great job.

## **Australian Yachting magazine – May / June 2009**

Members Jill and Brian Golland have been given some publicity in the latest edition of this most popular magazine (page 10) after winning a competition early this year. Featured information gives QCYC and local sailing some recognition in addition to their current adventures in Tasmania.

## **Brian Golland**

Rear Commodore

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## **Coming Events**

Sunday July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**Christmas in July**

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## Members' Corner

This section enables Members to share any information on cruising activities. Email your cruising highlights or tips to [Yewcrag@bigpond.com](mailto:Yewcrag@bigpond.com). This month's tip – Gentlemen don't cruise to windward.

### Dent to Dunk Rally 2009

Several QCYC Committee and general members are participating in the Dent to Dunk Rally this month. The rally left from Airlie Beach and continues up to Dunk Island through wonderful cruising grounds. Excellent social functions are a highlight such as beach BBQs, Hawaiian and Pirate nights. This year there are 45 boats - yachts, catamarans and motor cruisers doing the trip. QCYC people involved include Peter and Jenny Geary, Mal and Jill Billings, Anton and Glenda Lindemann, Tim and Doris Little, John Sloan and Cecilie Murray, Mark Fox and Althea Sharples. Great to see that QCYC members have taken their cruising adventures to warmer climes, having benefited from the QCYC cruising experiences in Bass Strait.

### Cruiser Reunion Dinner 2009

On Sunday 31st May some 30 members and their partners together with crew gathered around the log fire at the Royal Yacht of Victoria for a sumptuous lunch under the auspices of the Director of Cruising Darryl Morrison. Such a gathering sees the participants swapping yarns about adventures, together with a myriad of photographs that bring back vivid memories.

Roger Bennett club member and sponsor of the cruising series from Four Winds Marine presented the awards for the Cruiser of the Year Award. Jonathan Crockett "Ventura" and Mal Billings "Gangajang" shared the award. Congratulations to them. Accounts of their voyages can be found on the web and in this newsletter. Thanks to Roger Bennett for generous sponsorship during the season.

Over the season four cruises were conducted and some 38 individual yachts participated. Clearly QCYC is to the forefront in this area of yachting.

Over dinner the Cruising Director distributed the proposed programme for next season's cruising. Hopefully we will return to Wilson's Promontory and Corner Inlet, which was abandoned this year as a destination due to the bushfires. More exciting is the circumnavigation of Tasmania leaving January 24th. Interested participants should contact Darryl Morrison as soon as possible so early planning can be undertaken. The Cruising Programme is a very important part of the club's activities and has encouraged many participants to join QCYC.

**Darryl Morrison**  
Cruising Director

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## QCYC Cruising Programme 2009/10

12<sup>th</sup> April 2009

### **Easter Sunday**

Coles Channel Picnic Cruise

1<sup>st</sup> November

### **Melbourne Cup Weekend-Port Phillip Bay**

(31<sup>st</sup> Oct)

Saturday- Melbourne to Geelong Geelong Dinner R.G.Y, C.

Sunday - Geelong to QCYC

Monday – Cruise to Sorrento Sailing and Couta Boat Club for Lunch or use ferry. Overnight QCYC.

Tuesday- QCYC to home ports.

9<sup>th</sup> January

### **Ross Farrow Memorial Cruise.**

Fleet cruises to Blairgowrie Yacht Squadron for lunch, stay overnight. Lunch at Sorrento Sailing and Couta Boat Club on Sunday on return.

### **Bass Strait Cruises**

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January

Fleets muster at QCYC for various destinations

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>

All fleets to leave QCYC at 0130 hours DST for Flinders

Luncheon at Flinders Yacht Club from 1130 onwards

Wilson's Prom

Tasmanian Circumnavigation Group

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January

**Wilson Promontory Group.** Sail Refuge /Corner Inlet

**Western Port Group** Cruise to selected anchorages/returning home

### **Tasmanian Circumnavigation**

January 25<sup>th</sup>

Depart Flinders direct to Tamar River > Tamar Yacht Club Beauty Point  
Route 5 to 6 weeks Via Fosters Inlet, Banks Strait, Bicheno, Wine Glass Bay, Schauton Passage, Maria Island, Marion Bay Narrows, Dennison Canal to Hobart.

Hobart via D'Entrecasteaux Channel (selected anchorages) Recherche Bay to Port Davey, Macquarie Harbour, Stanley, Three Hummocks/Hunter Group> Home.

It would be mandatory that all yachts have HF radios if this is to proceed as a QCYC cruise

### **Easter Cruise**

Easter Sunday

Coles Channel Picnic

**Darryl Morrison**  
**Cruising Director**

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## Gate Operating Times

Gate Operating times for the Swan Island Security Gate **from May 3<sup>rd</sup> until some time in October** are:

**Sunday to Friday** 0700 - 1800 hours

**Saturday and Public Holidays** 0700 - 1900 hours

Times will change sometime **in October**, most likely to the following :

**Sunday to Friday** 0700 - 1900 hours

**Saturday and Public Holidays** 0700 - 2000 hours

## Contact QCYC

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

**Postal Address** PO Box 2105  
Spotswood, Victoria, 3015

**Telephone (Secretary):** Phone (03) 9327 2999 (AH)  
Mobile 0412 150 228

**QCYC Clubhouse:** Phone (03) 5258 1692

**Email:** [Secretary@qcyc.org.au](mailto:Secretary@qcyc.org.au)  
**Web:** <http://www.qcyc.org.au/>

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