
Commodore's Report

Since our last communication we have been blessed with magnificent late summer/autumn weather conditions. Storms from a westerly quarter have been absent. These conditions have been conducive to the frequent use of the wharf since Christmas to the extent there have been well over 200 visitations of vessels to the club. There is no doubt our club is recognized as the cruising hub of Port Phillip Bay.

Applications for membership continue to flow. This does put pressure on our facilities at times, but we are continuing to manage with efficiency the fleet movements.

At several committee meetings ago our loyal Treasurer Rex Prosser indicated he wished to retire from the position at the end of the financial year. Attached in this newsletter is an advertisement seeking expressions of interest from suitably qualified persons to come on board as an assistant treasurer until Rex's retirement.

Our on the water activities have been rejuvenated with our insurance coverage and the annual H.M.A.S. Goorangai Race was conducted under our banner for the first time since 2003. Thank you Royal Brighton Yacht Club for your assistance in the intervening period. The race was sailed in light to moderate head winds, following the storm the previous day that prevented same arriving. The worthy winner by the smallest of margins was Past Commodore Brian Cherry in Lena.

The Easter break provided beautiful stable weather and we had up to thirty eight vessels alongside with a very collegiate atmosphere.

The Peter Timms Memorial Race was conducted on Saturday and a very enthusiastic fleet greeted the starter, but no wind. Eventually the wind kicked into a handsome breeze to allow John Clark in Murphy's Law to win. The wily Scot anchored behind the start line waiting for the wind, whilst the genuine sailors tried to seek the breeze whilst going backwards with the tide to Swan Island. Well done John.

The biggest disappointment in the perfect Easter weather was the cancellation of the Easter Sunday Picnic Cruise to St Leonard's due to an extremely low tide, whereby no vessel could leave the wharf. Nevertheless, the picnic survived with great gusto in the clubhouse.

Easter Monday was indeed a day of great sadness. My early morning arising was greeted with the tragic events of the death of three defence force personal on the road to the Island. Unfortunately many had to wait until early afternoon to leave the club. We extend to their

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immediate family, friends and fellow soldiers our deepest sympathies and condolences on the tragic loss of life of persons who held our country with distinction.

Recently Yachting Victoria gave notice to all clubs they proposed to change Rule 11 of their constitution with respect to membership, which in part proposed to charge a capitation fee on clubs. In our situation it was \$6,000 per annum. Your Committee reviewed all the documents and unanimously agreed not to renew our membership with Yachting Victoria, given some 473 members belong to other clubs where they will be charged accordingly. The club will continue to operate as normal, whilst no reference will be made to Yachting Victoria and we are in the process of establishing our own independent website. Furthermore, we are proposing to adopt the R.P.A.Y.C. “Green Book” of safety regulations for cruising, rather than those contained in the “Blue Book”.

Since Easter we have had two fleet visits from Beaumaris Yacht Squadron, the racing fleet from R.G.Y.C. for the McAllister Trophy and the R.Y.C.V. for the Phoenix Trophy. We thank them for raising a considerable amount from their raffle and donating the proceeds to the Cottage By The Sea.

Since our last newsletter our planning group has met on numerous occasions to establish our priorities for on-going improvements and maintenance. They have also been looking to the issue of raising revenue, including the structure of membership. After the Committee has approved their recommendations it is envisaged a Special General Meeting of Members will be called before the end of the financial year, so they can be implemented from the now financial year.

Finally we must congratulate Jock MacAdie and his son for winning the Melbourne – Osaka Race in Alex-Team Macadie. This was a tremendous victory in what is a long and arduous event. Our other club members David James and Rosie Colahan in Ingenue were placed in second place in the cruisers division with some distance sail. Well done to you both.

Please remember the club is running a Christmas in July on Sunday 22nd at Q.C.Y.C. See details in this newsletter.

Darryl Morrison
Commodore

Vice Commodore's Report

The Planning Sub-Committee has been beavering away behind the scenes with the Club's Management Plan for 2007-2009.

Like Peter Costello, I'm reluctant to leak too much for fear of taking the excitement out of what will be presented shortly, but there are some benefits for Family Members, there is a new prestigious membership category and there is a new category - "Affiliated Club Membership". Affiliated Club Membership formalises what is already in place with our parent clubs and it offers their members our Club for occasional use outside the peak periods, at better than non-member rates. It will better utilise our Club during off-peak periods [most of the year], help reduce the membership waitlist and generate income.

As with all budgets there are always financial imposts, and in this case we need capital to meet spiralling maintenance costs. The piles that support both the south wharf and north wharf need attention, and like everything these days; the work is specialised and hideously expensive. The good news is that once done, it will extend the life of both wharves considerably. Then of course there is the dredging.

The good news is that we have taken preliminary steps to gain the necessary approvals. As far as we can determine so far, there are at least three Government Departments to be satisfied. And then of course there is that horrible rumour that the bottom could be basalt. Anyway, we will have to await the hydrographical survey and start putting money aside in the meantime.

The plan also calls for the western veranda complex [the ladies toilet, handicapped toilet /shower & of course the veranda itself] to be revamped. Plans are to hand and they look great.

The garden lounge has been included in the Management Plan as it will take the heat off the kitchen and dining room during the peak 2007 summer period and provide a great family environment. As for the kitchen itself, it is scheduled for replacement prior to the 2008 summer peak period.

Because some of the proposals within the Management Plan 2007-2009 will require amendments to the Constitution it will be necessary to convene a Special General Meeting of members. This is planned for next month [June] and will be advertised shortly. Be sure to come along, learn of the exciting things happening around our Club and give your support.

Paul Lobston

Rear Commodore's Report

I have just returned from sailing today Saturday the 19th May 2007 and even after a short time on the water it comes back to me the enjoyment and satisfaction that I, and presumably most people who sail experience. It is this shared experience of sailing that is one of the things that make QCYC the unique Club that it is. So as we approach winter, what is going on at our Club?

As has probably been reported elsewhere, RYCV visited the first weekend in May, with some twenty-eight boats alongside overnight. It was good to see such a turnout for this popular weekend, once again. As usual with the Royals visit, a very convivial evening was had by all. *LIVELY LADY* was expected to spend the Saturday night alongside and then sail up the bay to Williamstown accompanied by the Royals fleet. Unfortunately, she was delayed by bad weather and spent the night sheltering around the Prom, entering the Bay around 1030 Sunday and heading straight for Royals.

The committee has been occupied in recent times with developing a Management and Strategic Plan, to define the Club's direction for the future. Much of the workload has been borne by Paul Lobston the Club's Vice Commodore, who has done a more than commendable job. The Management Plan will be presented at a Special General Meeting, to be held in June. At this meeting the Committee will be asking Members to approve a General Levy, for the purpose of dredging the area in front of the Club. I hope that as many Members as possible attend this meeting, as it is significant for the Club's future.

We have had some interest shown in writing the history of the Club, with some preliminary work being carried out. Initially, the early Minutes of Committee Meetings will be used to establish a time-line with the major events being noted. When it is time to expand on this with a bit more detail there may be a call on Members who were around in the early days of the Club to provide more details or anecdotes. This will be some way down the track, but if anyone has anything that they wish to contribute at this stage they should contact me initially, and I will make sure that it is noted.

On a less positive note there have been quite a few instances where both Member and Visitors have left the Club in an unacceptable state. At this stage QCYC is a self help Club, which means that if you use the facilities you ensure that they are left in a state that others coming after you can also use them. It's not acceptable to leave dirty dishes in the sink to 'do them in the morning', or personal items in the Clubhouse to be collected later. So please, just be a little more aware of how your actions affect other Members, and behave appropriately.

Safe sailing over the winter. I hope to see many of you at the Christmas in July, as advertised elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Michael Bowe

Honorary Secretary Report

RE-UNION for The Western Port & Wilson's Prom Cruise 2007 was held on Sunday 20th May, 2007. Watch the website for pic's.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING – VOTING ON THE FUTURE OF YOUR CLUB

Date: Thursday 21 June, 2007

Time: 8.00pm

Venue: Royal Yacht Club of Victoria

Please note **QCYC is no longer affiliated with Yachting Victoria**. As a result of this, members that paid Yachting Victoria fees via QCYC will have to find another method of paying Yachting Victoria fees. The club web site has been moved from the Yachting Victoria to another Web host facility. Note new address

<http://www.qcyc.org.au>

HELP MAKE YOUR NEWSLETTER EVEN MORE RELEVANT

We request that members suggest/supply items for inclusion in future newsletters.

i.e. Boat maintenance tips

Places to cruise

Tips/recipes for cooking aboard

Please forward all articles to secretary@qcyc.org.au

Honorary Secretary

Martin Greasley

TREASURER VACANCY

Expressions of interest are sought from suitably qualified persons (C.P.A., Financier, Bank Manager or Book Keeper) to take over the Treasurers job next financial year, following the imminent retirement of Mr. Rex Prosser.

Initial appointment will be as an assistant treasurer as soon as possible. Please send your expression of interest to Commodore Darryl Morrison at commodore@qcyc.org.au For further details phone 03 5278. 7331

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GATE OPERATING TIMES

Gate Operating times from 13th May, 2007 until further notice for the Swan Island Security Gate are:

Sunday to Friday	0700	-	1800 hours
Saturday & Public Holidays	0700	-	1900 hours

Contact QCYC

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

Postal Address	PO Box 9024 Scoresby Victoria 3179
Telephone (Secretary):	Phone (03) 9763 7784 Fax (03) 9763 7784 Mobile 0417 014 013
QCYC Clubhouse:	Phone(03) 5258 1692
email:	Secretary@qcy.org.au
Web:	http://www.qcy.org.au/

Responsible Serving of Alcohol

Your club needs you!!!!

To obtain a Qualification

(See Download :-RSA form on www.qcy.org.au and follow the link)

If you **already have a RSA Qualification** please contact a Committee member.
