



## Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

### The Gala Opening Day Celebrations! - At the Club House – Swan Bay. - Sunday October 26, 2014

#### Commodore Jill and Mayoral Representative Susan Salter do their stuff with Jack Golightly unveiling the plaque!!



After a successful winter sailing season and a great number of projects completed around the club house, the Opening Day celebrations got underway with a flourish thanks to the spruced up Clubhouse and surrounds that greeted an influx of members and friends to celebrate a great day.

The day proved a real treat with weather that “only a good committee could pick”, which saw dozens of people attend the club by invitation of the committee, including members, neighbouring kindred clubs, community organisations, locals and the Borough

plus many extras who were all made to feel welcome and enjoyed the hospitality on offer.

At noon whilst the tide was still coming in, the committee welcomed guests with nibbles and drinks, ensuring that the seating and organisation was ideal on the newly upgraded deck.



Shortly thereafter the Commodore opened proceedings with a generous welcome to all which especially mentioned Honorary Life Members present and distinguished guests, including the borough representative Susan Salter.



Commodore Jill expressed sincere gratitude to all who had worked so hard to improve and make the place as spectacular as it is, under Project Manager Geoffrey Mathews supported by the Golightly

brothers (Barry and David), Ross Nitz, Greg Nielsen, Chris Laker and 'Hutch' the concreter, plus Jennifer Gilbert who contributed to inside works.



Jill asked Honorary Life Governor of the club Jack Golightly to come forward and unveil the plaque dedicating the new work and listing the major contributors to the effort.

Lastly, to open the sailing season, Commodore Jill asked Councillor Susan Salter to the microphone. Susan spoke of the heritage of Queenscliff and the yacht club along with the number of co incidental historic events of the past week and then she moved to the newly commissioned flag pole and broke the club burgee to herald the opening of the season's sailing activities. Well done Susan.



After a timely lunch and refreshments for all, it was Commodore Jill who encouraged all the sailors with dinghies, kayaks and canoes to participate in an historic sail past (not conducted for a number of decades at the club house), to salute the Commodore led by the "Off The Beach Captain" Geoffrey Mathews in his Catamaran!



Water bombs promptly followed the traditional 'three cheers' salute as all sailors joined in with the spirit of the event as their vessels passed the Commodore, who was bravely saluting all comers.



Despite nearly coming to grief in the sail past after being 'rammed' by the Club Treasurer, Commodore Jill returned to shore to greet and thank the participants and before joining everyone in a toast to the season with our visitors.

Well done to all at QLYC and especially all those who came along to support their Club and participate in the celebration of a great opening to the season!





**2014 – 2015 - a great sailing season ahead.... Bring it on!!!**