



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

A Discover Sailing Day

– Sunday December 13, 2015

Another great day at the clubhouse sailing off the beach and enjoying it with our friends and visitors.

The day turned out spectacularly for our first day of Discover Sailing at QLYC this season.

Early preparation is important and the committee were there rigging, setting up canoes and kayaks as well as ensuring the rescue boat is placed ready for use.

Frank ensured the BBQ is ready and Commodore Jill had the house in order as we sort out the boat shed and prepare by placing dinghies in the water.

Geoffrey our “Off the Beach” Captain was here and we made sure advertising with our burgee and flags flying appropriately at the masthead. Signs are out on the roads leading to the club.

By 11 am or just after people start arriving and immediately we are in “good to go mode” and Swan Bay looks so inviting.



With Geoffrey on the water and our Commodore Jill in control with her welcoming manner looking after the front line as people and families arrive, sorting out the paperwork with registration and ensuring all participants are kitted and wearing appropriate apparel for their adventure.



Again our craft hit the water along with the Mirror and Spider with Geoffrey's catamaran that he pilots so well ...Barry Golightly gets in early and goes for a spin...



The Local Queenscliff Sea Scouts through Ross and Monica Nitz have again allowed us use of their canoe/paddle boards and kayaks for the day along with the YMCA canoes and they turn into a real hit with many of those attending and especially a number of younger visitors.

Of course can we not forget the work put in by our treasurer in Colin B who did another big day sailing and hosting visitorsthanks CBE!

The front deck at high tide is prepped with our shade and umbrellas and making the place inviting whilst Catherine and Alex complete registrations as people arrive.



We have around ten registrations for the day but this does not dampen our enthusiasm for getting out there and showing off the club facilities.



We take pride in trying to manage all the youngsters and a number of older visitors with getting out on the water and enjoying a try sailing even though some minor blemishes of skill are soon mastered and the faces as they return show that we have had an impact.

The inflatable rescue boat "Cygnet", skippered by Brian and Frank looks after some wayward sailors and a couple of groundings on the sand banks further out in Swan Bay.

The inflatable rescue

BUT as is usual Frank McMahon, our 'master BBQ chef', again took to his role ensuring everyone was supplied with sausages and that the salads were enjoyed as drinks and food seemed to disappear quickly and sausages eaten later into the afternoon.



The breeze is perfect for those trying out canoes or kayaks whilst the more adventurous take a ride on one of our Hobie catamarans along with our skippers.

The afternoon is spent trying out or just lazing about with friends, family and members of the club.

A lovely mix of a number of generations of people stayed well into the afternoon, and many assisted by helping clean and pack upExcellent community stuff!

Many thanks to all who organised, helped and made the day a real success....

What a spot with the back drop in the coastal town of Queenscliff ...magic!!

Our man Geoffrey was pretty pleased with the outcome of the day and again had that typical smile on his face toward the end as we began the task of packing up...well done Geoffrey!

Early in the afternoon Tony and Sandra bring their well-appointed and ready to go, beautiful wooden dinghy down to the club for its first sail....a lovely and carefully prepared vessel that was 15 years in the making....club members John Barry and Alex Eagleson assist with setting her up and looking after Tony's toy.



She finally gets a wetting of champagne before being dipped in the salty of Swan Bay and goes for a great first sail with John. Tony comes back from the sail and insists in a row with his lovely donated oars from a friend in Flinders.



Whilst all that is happening a family from Bendigo arrive and immediately set up a special kayak for their disabled son complete with electric outboard and outriggers to assist support of craft.



Their son's adventure is complete with a great sail/motor tour around Swan Bay Best ever according to both him and his family.

Returning soon for more adventures.

Again...also to the Queenscliff Herald and our friends Carmel and Alan who do a lot of publicity for our clubthe advert worked a treat thanks...

We again cannot wait for our next day which we have scheduled for Sunday January 10 ... be there!!



Please come and join with us for a great experience and almost no cost!

