



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

Discover Sailing again in 2016

– Sunday January 10, 2016

A fabulous day enjoyed by many with sailing and water activities on Swan Bay by the club house with our friends and visitors.

Another great day started with light winds and the sparkling seas of Swan Bay which lived up to expectations.

Early morning saw many committee members and friends getting things ship shape for a big day on the water, umbrellas, shade, canoes and kayaks, club dinghies and all that goes with sailing and water sports were being assembled, checked and sorted out before the first visitors and sailors arrived at 11 am.

Advertising in the local papers boosted our attendance and enquiries had been coming in for weeks with calls and emails to the club.

Additionally the club purchased three new Sparrow Dinghies from Flinders Yacht Club in December and our small team of committee under Geoffrey Mathews had them

kitted ready for launch sitting on the lawn. Our thanks to Tedd and Flinders for the offer and assistance.



boat is placed ready for use.

This early preparation was important and rigging, setting up canoes and kayaks as well as ensuring the rescue

An early visitor was Gavin Wall from Yachting Victoria who dropped by with his wife, and was very impressed with our facilities, varied activities and enthusiasm for this special area of Swan Bay.

Again Frank made sure the BBQ was ready and Commodore Jill had the house in order as the club members sorted out the boat shed and prepped the dinghies for the water.



Advertising with our burgee and flags flying appropriately at the masthead.
(Signs were not out on the roadside as the local Borough Council prohibits advertising of our events on the roads leading to the club.)

By 11 am as people start arriving we immediately jumped into “good to go mode” with the tide rising and Swan Bay looking its part with an invitation.

With skippers of dinghies assigned to Steve Lee, Colin Bishop, John Barry, Dave Golightly, Dave Hatton and Peter Crofts, our beach co-ordinator for the day Alex Eagleson took on the arrivals to ensure they were kitted in life jackets and ready to go.

Commodore Jill was in control with her welcoming manner looking after the front line as people and families arrive. Catherine assisted by Alison sorted out the paperwork and registrations, ensuring all participants wore appropriate apparel for their adventure.

Our craft slipped into the water with the three Sparrows and Dave’s catamaran but the Spider and Mirror did not make the grade with minimum numbers of skippers available....

The Local YMCA through Harry Thorman had organised a loan of their canoes for the day and they turn into a real backup and off shoot to the sailing ... especially with the number of younger visitors.



The work put in by our skippers was enormous as they continued well past lunch time before breaking for the traditional sausage, salad and drink.

The front deck of the club was crowded with visitors and friends under our shade and umbrellas and making the place inviting as lunch was taken.

Attendances for the day were over 120 with all registering and quite a number indicating their preference to return and become members of eth club.

Many visitors were impressed with the facilities of the club and grounds and a number of local residents arrived surprised that they had not realised of the activities that QLYC have available for members and the community.



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 discover 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, Frank and Luke looked after some wayward sailors and a couple of groundings on the sand banks further out in Swan Bay.

AND 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 gentle 10 to 12 knot breeze was perfect for those trying out canoes whilst the more adventurous take a ride on one of our dinghies and the catamaran on offer 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 returned later in the afternoon and was pleased with the outcome of the day and had his laid back style toward the end as we began the task of packing up...well done to all!

Early in the afternoon Tony and Sandra again visited the club but did not bring their beautiful wooden dinghy down to the club, instead taking pics of our Sparrows in action given their friend Tedd at Flinders had sought QLYC out for their next adventure.

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

***We cannot wait for our next day which we have scheduled for
Sunday January 24 ... be there!!***



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

Special thanks to:

Skippers – John Barry, Steve Lee, Peter Crofts, Colin Bishop, Dave Hatton, Dave Golightly
Ground Crew – John Barry, Alex Eagleson, Brian Golland, Jenny Gore and Harry Thorman
Rescue Crew – Frank McMahon (+BBQ), Luke Golland
Registrations – Alison Roberts-Wray, Catherine Eagleson
Kitchen, meals and refreshments - Alison Roberts-Wray, Jenny Gore and Commodore Jill
Pack & Cleanup – Geoffrey Mathews, Colin Gibbs, Wendy Duncan



