



## Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

### Opening Day 2016-17 season

Sun October 16, 2016

#### The Official Opening of the 2016-2017 season at the Club.

The Sunday dawned overcast and breezy after Saturday's racing was cancelled on the Bureau of Met's forecast combined with high winds.

However at the Club House early the activity had commenced with the re-elected Commodore Jill Golland and committee in full flight preparing for the opening of the season.

Before midday members were arriving and watching excitedly as new member Bill Sawyer prepared to take his newly constructed rowing scull for its initial run. Bill



had been constructing it from last April and was keen to have a go.

By kick off at Noon the gathering was called to order outside at the flag mast by our Commodore to officially open the season ...

Jill addressed the members gathered welcoming everyone including honorary life members, John Barry, Colin Bishop and Brian Golland before reiterating how well the club is looking after extensive renovations and thanking all those involved with the works under the direction of



project coordinator Geoffrey Mathews. Jill thanked previous committee members along with the newly elected committee for their dedication to making this club a feature of the Swan Bay landscape and a picture of a healthy sport in Queenscliff.

Jill also introduced all the new members of the committee following the elections in August including Vice Commodore Jim Barrow, Secretary Jo Ritchie, members in Jock Benfell, Tom Hinton and finally Scott Taylor who was missing today.

Jill went on to thank one of our strong supporters and past members in the Neilson boys, who through their company, Danly Brothers, have donated substantively to our maintenance of the carpark over the years.

After thanking all who support and assist the club it was time to break open the burgee on the mast and Jill invited local member Gary Spry to assist. This did take a little effort before successful given the strength of wind and the tightness of the knot around the burgee at the top of the mast....well done Gary.

A round of applause followed at which Jill invited everyone inside to enjoy a quiet drink and lunch courtesy of the club and committee.



The afternoon was well rounded following the beautiful BBQ again care of our resident chef and Rear Commodore Frank McMahon...well done Frank.

During the afternoon a couple of adventurous

members ventured out on the now turbulent waters of Swan Bay under a cool westerly to dip their toes into the waters and have a little fun poked at them by the shore anchored members....



Commodore Jill in the dinghy was a great sight out there for some fun followed by Jock in the Windrush cat and Ross Nitz in his professional kayak....the photos say it all!

A great day at the club house and an opening of the season with a difference!!

We now look forward to the season with hopefully plenty of worthwhile sailing to come!

**Remember....The first of the Club Racing starts on....  
Saturday Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> with briefing at Noon in the Harbour by  
the Shed.**



**Please join us and have more adventures on and around Port Phillip Bay!**