



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

Mid-Year Newsletter to members

An extraordinary year of club events – things happening!

The club committee have been very active, as most of you can appreciate, and we wish to update all members on some of the achievements, issues and important items of club business that will hopefully give everyone a big picture in this regard.



The Club House and its usability to members.

Hopefully everyone will appreciate, that over the past few years, we have been heavily investing in our house and its upkeep.... This has resulted in fairly major changes with the replacement deck out the front along with its
Additionally, we have updated the flagpole and this has provided the club with a beautiful standard on which we fly our burgee and other flags as appropriate for sailing days.

More recently, we have been able to provide a substantial change in renovation of our dinghy shed, which now includes upgraded storage on three levels, extensive concrete flooring throughout and a bar and BBQ facility, with a lift up door to allow us easier serving of drinks and food to our members and visitors.

Internally in the house, we are about to work on the floor, windows and lastly the ablution areas which have been sadly lacking in attention due to other works.

All this aside, we also are continually looking to ensure facilities for member's use are the best that we can afford and provide in places like the kitchen, shade and seating etc.

We do ask however, that when you are around and using the club house that ***cleanliness is a priority***, as well as ensuring that everything is put back in its place after you use it.... we do find it a chore to have mini working bees to facilitate a clean before a members event such as a birthday party or even a community event by organisations in the Borough.

Racing and the year as it has been!

This year, from October 2016, has been the worst on record for activities on the water with seven races cancelled due to severe weather conditions on our race days.

Mostly we have cancelled races when the Bureau of Meteorology predicts a "Strong Wind Warning" which translates into wind of 25 to 30 knots, with gusts of an additional 40% or up to 12 knots over that predicted.

For our club, this interprets into very difficult conditions and the likelihood of breakages and possible crew injury.



On the total side, we have completed 10 races but cancelled 6 and abandoned 1 from a total of 17 races. Things have improved as the season has progressed.

After race activities, with a quiet drink at the club house has been a great success, with hot chips served each week and the results announced post-race after some calculations are complete.

The renovated boat shed

Over last winter and pre-summer there has been a substantial investment by our club in renovating the boat shed and we thank our project manager Geoffrey Mathews, a top class

facility that allows us to enjoy and manage or of the beach craft....

- The shed has a complete new cladding with a lock up storage for personal items,
- A bar with fridge facilities and an open up garage door for serving and food
- A concrete floor that is well drained and allows cleanliness and clear lines of openness
- Improved security for all craft stored for members including many club craft for use by members
- Complete electrical fit out with power points and lights for use at night or in winter
- Water hoses at each end of the facility for washing down boats etc
- A complete rack of multiple size life jackets for use by members and friends
- And a upgraded rescue RIB with motor fitted with a propeller guard for safety.



Please come down and visit or more than that come when we have a Discover Sailing Day and enjoy the facility.

Windsurfing around the club.

Windsurfing is becoming very popular and we are regularly seeing a number of Windsurfers using the lawns and areas around the club on the very windy days which brings them the greatest pleasure whilst we yachties cringe at the thought of another windy day!

Additionally, a couple of times a week the Bellarine Secondary College, as members, utilize the club as a training ground for their students in windsurfing with great success.

We are only one of around four clubs around Victoria that have good facilities and areas where windsurfing is as good as it gets.....the others also have good training programs associated with their windsurfing population.



YMCA activities.

The local YMCA are very active corporate members of QLYC and have been using our facilities and our newly acquired paddle boards to good effect with their programs based out of our club.

Their activities are held up to 3 or 4 days a week in the peak season and on average have around 12 to 15 students participating in each session.

If you see them around you will also see our member in Harry Thorman who works with the YMCA supervising and getting the students motivated.

The Borough of Queenscliffe Grant.

Last year we applied and were successful in gaining a grant of \$1800 as a contribution toward a number of water craft to encourage children and adults to go paddling.

We through a generous Anaconda store in Belmont able to purchase eight small paddle boards and three kayaks complete with accessories to add to our fleet of craft alongside our dinghies.



Please talk to Geoffrey Mathews, our Off the Beach Coordinator, about utilizing these craft for your family at any time when we are not using them for our special days.

Rules of Racing – Australian Sailing.

For those amongst us as skippers we need to remind you of some of the basic rules under which we operate and which apply to you and your crew as part of racing with QLYC.

- a. The requirement to advise the club of your insurance coverage with Company, policy number, date of expiry and coverage of minimum \$10M in public liability.
- b. The requirement to wear life jackets in the area of Port Phillip Heads in a line drawn between the Queenscliff Lighthouse and Point Nepean and to 3 nautical miles outside the Heads. This is at all times.

- c. The Sailing Instructions for QLYC for the season are on the website and there are some additional requirements in the current year....please make yourself aware of ALL the items as they have changed.
- d. A current list of all courses used by the club for racing, which now include two for sailing in Shortland's Bluff are listed on the website. Please print and replace all previous paper copies held by you!!
- e. A list of ALL marks utilised by the club for racing, together with their names and GPS coordinates, to assist you in navigating or locating such marks are additionally on the website.
- f. A protest form is provided on the website for your possible use described under the Sailing Instructions Part 14... please print one or two and carry them aboard.
- g. Under the Sailing Instructions you must have all crew registered as members of QLYC, as a standard requirement after three (3) races with the club, in any one season. A DSQ may result if this is not complied with.
- h. The Racing Rules of Sailing are no longer supplied and purchasable as the "Blue Book" but are available for download from the Australian Sailing website...please do so! The following URL will assist you in locating them ... <http://www.sailing.org.au/sport-services/racing-rules/>

Membership of the club and what does it mean for me?

Membership of QLYC provides many opportunities for you in and around the sport of sailing.

As a full sailing member, you can opt for full racing with the club and participate on Saturday afternoon as crew on the larger yachts which generally race for under three hours in and around Port Phillip Bay.

Or you can participate in more localized sailing within Swan Bay using your own or one of the club dinghies either during one of our Off the Beach (OTB) days or whenever you have time or on your own.

Additionally, you can be a family member and bring your family to the club, again using your own craft or one of the clubs. Try out our paddle boards with the juniors and find out about the many natural wonders hiding in the sea grass in Swan Bay.



Enter into the spirit of adventure and social events at the club with scheduled BBQ's, post-race get together on late Saturday afternoon and relax at the club house with experiences gained from other sailors.

Or just come to the club and use the casual and relaxed atmosphere of the serenity of Swan Bay to have a family BBQ or lunch with a few friends.

For all activities please check the website to see if there is anything scheduled or call one of the committee to seek assistance.



Any member can utilize the club and surrounds for an event such as a birthday party but there are some conditions associated with such use particularly with large numbers.

If you are keen to use the club for an event, you can view the website for information but ensure that you book well ahead and liaise with the House Captain in Commodore Jill Golland who manages all bookings. A fee does apply for larger numbers but this is not expensive and the money enables us to reinvest in the facility.

The Club Sailing Program on the website outlines most of our standard events but these can change from time to time.... so please check this on a regular basis as the weather and tide play a big part in what we plan and how we do it!

Events coming up

The annual Maritime Weekend and celebrations are from Fri 24 March thru Sunday 26 March with racing and events around the club....watch out for news....

Additionally, we are holding our Annual Presentation Night at the Club House this year on Saturday night 20th May which will feature some unusual things of interest to all the sailors and families.

Please join us whenever you can and make it a festive time for all of us.

From myself as Commodore and on behalf of the Committee,

