



## Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club...

**Now...which horse won?...who cares  
when you cruise beautiful Port Phillip!**

**- Tues Nov 5, 2013**

**A delightful day and an even more delightful cruise to  
Mud Islands – enjoy the day!!**

The weather forecast was looking spectacular for the Melbourne Cup of 2013...so what would our club be doing except the “Annual Cruise To Mud Islands” and this year it was promising to be a great day for cruising Port Phillip.



Our sailors with crew and families gathered on the QCYC island base around 10.30 am and with Sundance’s aid using the new OTB rubber duckie....Jean was keen to transport all participants to the respective yachts....and vessels departing were Tiercel with Colin Gibbs, Sundance with John Barry and Valentine with Steve Lee...



On board were Jill and Brian Golland with Colin on Tiercel, Sandy and Steve Lee and Ian and Bev Lee on Valentine, and John Barry, Frank and Tanya McMahon and family, Jennifer Gilbert and Jean on Sundance towing new inflatable “Cygnet”! At the outset it was John Barry away from the blocks followed by Valentine and lastly Tiercel up a fast flowing creek and into a gentle northerly breeze around eight knots giving the now rigged vessels a good tack directly to the northern aspects of the Mud Island group from where it is better to anchor and come ashore.

It was a good sight to see the vessels making their own way out the cut and up the bay with Sundance towing Cygnet for transport to shore.





On arrival in the vicinity it was Valentine who dug in the pick first and others followed....a luncheon break followed with amiable social chatter amongst the crew and before Jean and John organised the passage ashore...

With Tiercel's crew first followed by Valentine's and finally Sundance's with all wading ashore due to the sand banks and various shoals of sea grass ... but not as many birds around although many were to the astern aspects of the islands.

Odd nestings by plovers are always a sight...of amusement!

Shells abound with various objects like old cans and bottles including a very dilapidated Park Vic sign of warning and info lying on the banks of the primary dune.



Much collection and looking at objects as a source of interest as well as seeking out some bird rookeries by walking along the shoreline to ensure no disturbance of any nesting's by all

although there appeared many rookeries away from where we landed and to the north and east there were signs with hovering and squawking birds flying to protect nests.

Amanda took time out to bask in the sun whilst others took off in different directions...



Commodore Jill took Ian and Bev aside for some thoughtful whispers about the cup horses...!!@!



Taking time to walk to the northern end of the park we saw a number of close nests and the inevitable seagulls hovering

and making us quite unwelcome...although most would consider them unwelcome!!

Steve and Ian took time out to gather some odd looking glass bottles and some defined rubbish although "long necks" always have Ian's interest!



And so ended a great day on the water with a very satisfying return journey in a brisk breeze back to Queenscliff....well done to all who took time out to join us....

Commodore Jill...AND the Grub!

