



## Profile - William Graeme (Bill) Cosford.

### Honorary Life Member

An outgoing and self-confident individual, our Bill is one person that one will not easily forget over the history of QLYC.



In earlier life, Bill and his wife Betty lived their life at the family home in Montmorency, north of Melbourne.

Bill started as an employee of the Herald and Weekly Times working long hours in pursuit of publishing our daily papers and supporting an active family unit for 24 years, leaving in 1972.

He then moved to taxi driving in a role that had Bill amongst the most well known of drivers in and around the northern suburbs of Melbourne.

As for the family holidays, Bill and Betty put the caravan onsite at Victoria Park in Queenscliff, and this holiday focus allowed Bill the outlet

for his families sailing adventures. On retirement Bill and Betty built their current home in Queenscliff.

The sailing adventures of Bill Cosford commenced many years ago with his purchase of a Hobie 14 (1980) winning a division in the Bellarine Regatta in approx 1980.

Bill joined QLYC in 1982 and was co-opted onto the committee in the 1986-7 season and remained on the committee in various positions until the end of the 2004 season.

Gaining experience Bill purchased a Maricat 4.3 (1988), a single man crew with trapeze, with many wins including one in the Around Mud

Islands in 1988, a real test to any person's skill in attempting such a race in a cat.



In 1991 Bill and Betty purchased Trekka, a Southern Cross 23, with which many successes were had, with series races and nearly every trophy race at least once, including a divisional and outright performance handicap winner in the 1998 Around Mud Islands race.

In 2001 Betty and Bill sold their beloved Trekka and purchased Golden Lady, a B63 (modified Boomerang) with which further successful contests and enjoyable success was achieved.

Bill and Betty's biggest thrill of their career in yachting was to win the 2002/3 season – Performance HCP & C.B.H. in Golden Lady, a result which showed their adaptability in consistent and competitive sailing.



Bill and Betty won many QLYC Club trophy races...including:

- Irwin Trophy in 1992, 1998 and 1999
- The Club Championship CBH Performance in 2002/3 in Golden Lady
- The Club Perpetual Trophy in 2002/3 in Golden Lady
- The Champagne Stern Chaser in 1998/9 in Trekka and in 2001/2 and 2003/4 in Golden Lady
- The Lady Nelson Trophy in its inaugural year of 2003/4,
- The Swan Island Picnic Trophy in 1998 in Trekka and 2004 in Golden Lady
- The Mishap Award inaugural in 1992/3 in Trekka and in 2001/2 and 2004/5 in Golden Lady

For this skipper to have won three Mishap Awards including the inaugural award in addition to the current 2005 Award is to identify

Bill amongst the consistent and solid performers amongst our sailing ranks.

Bill was elected Treasurer of our club in 1992, a position that he held for eight years until 2000 and in 1997 he briefly held the dual position of Secretary/ Treasurer before resigning in 2000 from the position of Treasurer. Finally as Secretary, Bill saw through until resigning in 2003 but remaining with the committee at the Commodore's request.

Additionally Bill held the position of Public Officer for the Club from 1992 for nine years and was instrumental in the revision of the Statement of Rules and Purposes with Peter Norman in 1996 under the new legislation.

Bill as Secretary submitted two additional revisions which were published in 1998 & 2002.

Bill took on the responsibility of and was appointed in 1992 as Licensee of the club for some ten years.

As Treasurer, Bill played a pivotal role in the committee decision, based on durability and economics, of selling of the original Swan Rescue and the purchase of the current boat, and indeed played a big part in the maintenance of the craft.



As a committed club member Bill always initiated and volunteered to assist the management of the club in whatever capacity as is required. This has included being Treasurer, Secretary, Public Officer, Licensee, committee member and generally involved in working

bees and maintenance around the club.

Of course Bill is remembered by all members (past and present) as the Treasurer who hassled and goaded for fees, sponsorship, BBQ monies and every last cent that could be accumulated in the coffers

of QLYC. In fact, it was Bill, as Treasurer, who assisted in bringing profitability to the club.

Bill, together with wife Betty, diligently worked across so many official and social areas of QLYC, for over 25 years, to provide that special pride of place in sailing, that the club owes a special debt to this well known club personality of Bill Cosford.

Having regard to all that Bill contributed to our club, QLYC rewarded Bill Cosford with honorary life membership in 2005 for his support in so many ways for Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club in both active sports and administration through committee, treasury and personal performance.

And finally it was with much sorrow and sadness that the club mourned Bill's passing in July 2013, with the sunset on a life well lived, enjoyed and served amongst his many friends and family.