



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

The First Discover Sailing Day for 2015

Sunday January 4, 2015

We did advertise in the Queenscliffe Herald and families came to enjoy the club atmosphere!



The day before our family event, on Saturday, sailing was cancelled with an extreme day of winds and extremely hot temperatures....no one wanted to venture out!!



But thankfully, after an expected and welcome cool change, it was a beautiful temperate and summer day that greeted the committee as they turned up to setup and welcome visitors to our lovely little club house on Swan Bay.

High tide was expected midday and early afternoon with light winds from the south which suited our sailing adventures with lots of visitors wanting to take it all in

and get out on the water in any form of craft.

Our "Off the Beach" Captain in Geoffrey Mathews organised the day, Commodore Jill welcomed all and Secretary Catherine Eagleson registered everybody as they arrived before lunch.

Our new Pacer craft hit the water early with Ross taking it for a spin and Colin Gibbs made sure his mast stayed upright after running repairs from last time...The Sea Scouts through Ross Nitz again came to the fore and provided kayaks and canoe/paddle boards for all to use.

Additionally, we had the usual club boats, Dave Golightly's catamaran plus various other miscellaneous craft for all to experience the taste of sailing on Swan Bay.



The recently renovated front deck at high tide looked a treat and with the umbrellas and tent it was the spot to escape the sun for most of the day...

Catherine Eagleson our dutiful secretary spent lots of time managing registrations and paperwork for the purposes of organisation.....wow!....On the day almost 30 families registered with the club and out of those we have 4 new members looking to go before the committee at the end of the week and a couple more with interest in membership.

Jill and Ross kept the queues in order with life jackets for all participants and ensuring that there was some adequate time on the water by everyone wanting a go!!



The inflatable rescue boat "Cygnet", skippered by John Barry was busy assisting some wayward sailors and a couple of groundings on the sand banks further out in Swan Bay.

AND of course there was Frank McMahon, our 'master BBQ chef', who took to his role with gusto ...making sure that everyone was supplied with sausages as the salads were presented inside along with a cool drink to wash it down! From memory the BBQ was fired up at least three times in



the course of three hours . . . even after being cleaned in the last instance !!



We had a number of people come down who were member's years ago, including one older fellow "Jim" who

was almost one of the original sailors in the club, as a student of the local high school, under the watchful eye of Colin Bishop's father at the Queenscliff High School ... ultimately finishing sailing around early 1970's!!

Just because you can...a couple of our visitors took to the kayak with gusto and thought they had it pretty good until it came time to exit in front of the club house....oops...a capsize!! Well done.... Caught on camera unfortunately!!



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....



Our man Geoffrey was pretty pleased with the outcome of the day and had a BIG smile on his face toward the end as we began the task of packing up...well done Geoffrey!

There were some rowers that got their hand in as well and took to a little bit of people power and not sail power!!



And the rescue inflatable did a great job in the hands of John Barry throughout the day ... mainly sightseeing with lots of young visitors enjoying a ride....

Looking out from the club house deck it was a great sight to see the older and new dinghies sailing along the shore beside the Queenscliff Golf Club on Swan Island...almost like Albert Park ..I reckon!!



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

***We cannot wait for our next day which we have scheduled for
Sunday February 1st.....be there!!***

