



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

A Discover Sailing Day – Sunday March 8, 2015

A fabulous day at the clubhouse sailing off the beach and enjoying it with our visitors.

The day dawned beautiful and the commodore and committee are ready for our visitors with family to join us at our clubhouse for a big day on the water.

Today is pretty special as it is the long weekend in March termed the Labour Day weekend and there are a few extra families around in Queenscliff and we will be providing everyone with a special day.

Frank ensures the BBQ is ready and the house is in order as we take all the dinghies, kayaks, canoes and sailboards from the boat shed and prepare by rigging each in preparation.

Geoffrey our “Off the Beach” Captain was here much earlier and made sure our burgee and flags are flying appropriately at the masthead.



By 11 am or just after people start arriving and immediately we are in “go mode” and Swan Bay looks so inviting.

With Geoffrey on the water and our Commodore Jill is in control with her welcoming manner looking after the front line as people and families arrive, sorting out the paperwork with registration and ensuring all participants are kitted and wearing appropriate apparel for their adventure.

Again our new Pacer craft hit the water early along with the catamaran that Geoffrey pilots so well



...Colin is out there ensuring his red dinghy and the cat makes their way around the bay and settles each number of young ones on board for their first sail of the day.

And of course we welcomed our neighbour from St Leonards Yacht Club in Vice Commodore Jim Barrow, over to give us a hand with setting up and getting going. Thanks Jim!

The Local Queenscliff Sea Scouts through Ross and Monica Nitz have allowed us use of their canoe/paddle boards and kayaks for the day and they turn into a real hit with many of those attending and especially a number of younger visitors.

Of course can we not forget the work put in by our treasurer in Colin B who did another big day sailing and hosting visitorsas he always does...Thanks CBE!

We had a few local visitors who made it down just to show their weekend guests of the recent maintenance works and fine way we are looking after "their club"a great thing that the local residents are so inclusive in their feeling about being part of our club.

As the sun builds up some heat the 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...with parents and guardians looking on from the advantage of a cool spot.



..wow!....On the day around 20 families have registered with the club and out of those most have a real interest in joining the club and its activities.

We take pride in trying to manage all the youngsters and a number of older visitors with getting out on the water and enjoying a try sailing even though some minor blemishes of skill are soon mastered and the faces as they return show that we have had an impact.



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

BUT of course there was Frank McMahon, our 'master BBQ chef', who took to his role again ensuring everyone was supplied with sausages and that the salads were enjoyed as drinks and food seemed to disappear quickly and sausages eaten later into the afternoon.



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....

What a spot with the back drop in the coastal town of Queenscliff ...magic!!

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

As on previous days it was a great sight to see the dinghies sailing along the shore beside the Queenscliff Golf Club on Swan Island...almost like Albert Park as we have said before!!

Thanks to our committee members who came and assisted us to have a fabulous day with lots of new friends.



Again...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 again cannot wait for our next day which we have scheduled for Sunday April 19....be there!!

Please come and join with us for a great experience and almost no cost!

