

Bayside Trailable Yacht Club

NEWSLETTER

June 2020

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Regular Features

Visit our website at:

<http://www.baysidetrailableyachtclub.com>

BTYC Committee

Commodore	Edwin Flynn
Past Commodore	Kenton Lillecrapp
Cruise Director	Chris Slaney
Treasurer	Tony Pitt
Committee	Gaye Pitt
Committee	Dave Morrissey

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COMMODORE'S CORNER



By Edwin Flynn

Ahoy Baysiders

It has been a long time since we were told to “Stay at Home” due to the Covid-19 pandemic. We had to cancel all the cruises we had planned for February, March and April and May.

Of all these cancellations the Children’s Cruise that was planned for early April just before the Easter Cruise was the hardest one to explain to our children and grandchildren. Children do not really understand Pandemic. Hopefully when we can succeed to substantially reduce the threat from this virus, we will be able to return to some semblance of normality and again begin to enjoy our sailing activities.

We are actively planning for our Murray River Cruise from 14th to the 25th September, 2020 this year. Joan Rockliff and Geoffrey Peplar have been working really hard planning this cruise. At present the SA border is closed and the planned September Murray River Cruise is all within South Australia. There is of course another catch. There has been a lot of rain within the Murray and Darling catchments and a lot of snow is anticipated this year over the mountains. All that water can bring debris, so we will need to also keep an eye for that to ensure that the cruise can in fact take place. These are issues that we are going to consider closer to the date.

We intend to make this cruise within the period advertised on the Cruise Calendar, but will keep our options open for an alternative location just in case we need a Plan B.

As members are aware, we have tried to keep channels of communications open. We have had social meetings on the Zoom internet platform. Those who participated enjoyed seeing and hearing fellow Baysiders during our lockdown. Your committee has been meeting via Zoom and has decided to have a general meeting of the club via Zoom on Sunday June 21st. See the meeting notice in this newsletter for more details. We will need to be well organised to make this work and will have an agenda and reports well prepared. This meeting will allow all members to communicate together and get the latest reports and updates from your committee.

On a personal basis I have also made many social phone calls to members during my daily walks. I have also received phone calls from members just for the sake of saying hello. During this period of social distancing it was good to hear from members.

This year’s cruises until the lock down were very well attended and I look forward to catching up with you all in the not too distant future. It was a very abrupt end to our sailing season but we are now at least allowed to go back out on the water again. The only problem is that we have just entered the winter months. See the article by Tony Pitt in this newsletter on winter sailing in the Gippsland Lakes.

In the meantime keep your boats spick and span and ready for the next sailing season. I know that like me all of you are looking forward to getting back to sailing.

To those of our members who work in the medical sphere, thank you for the work that you do. I look forward to catching up with you on the water soon.

A big thank you to our sponsors and supporters whose contributions help meet the cost of our newsletter. These are the Melbourne City Marina, Peter Green Sails and Yaringa Boat Harbour. These businesses offer great services to the sailing community. Please remember to support these businesses if you require any of the services they provide.

Stay safe everyone.

AUSTRALIA DAY CRUISE GIPPSLAND LAKES January 25 to January 27, 2020

By Edwin Flynn

Participating Vessels:

Crème Caramel, Soul Maid, Second Wind 2, Silk Department, Small Change, Still Kickin', Trilby and Wanton.

Some vessels arrived on the Thursday and Friday and were already at Ocean Grange before the official start of the cruise at 12 noon on Saturday 25th January. I met Second Wind 2 (Paul & Debbie), Soul Maid (Chris & Kaye) and Crème Caramel (Ian & Lesley) in Paynesville. I'd just received a message from a prospective member Still Kickin' (John) who was still at the boat ramp. He was a long way from finishing setting up so we agreed that we would meet him when he sailed across to Ocean Grange.

We set off from Paynesville to Ocean Grange. The wind was all over the place and really mostly on the nose. I decided to motor across, whilst, true to fame, Crème Caramel and Second Wind 2 decided to enjoy a sail and join up with the rest of us a little later.

At Ocean Grange the jetty was pretty full with big motor cruisers. I managed to squeeze in at the end, almost on the beach. It was a snug position. As the afternoon passed the cruisers began to leave and we were soon joined by Soul Maid, Crème Caramel, Second Wind 2 and Still Kickin'. We all found space on the jetty.



Happy hour was insisted upon as usual. We all had a great chin wag about everything from sunsets at the lakes to what was making news on that day, although I cannot remember what that was. So as you can see the colors of the sunset were far more important to me.

The forecast for the next day, Sunday 26th, promised a favorable wind to sail to the Nicholson River. We all agreed and departed Ocean Grange to sail to the jetty at the Nicholson River. But the wind never really arrived and it was rather slow going. Some motor sailed, some just motored whilst others including me sailed. Well we tried. We arrived in midafternoon and we all managed to find a spot on the jetty.



The river was pretty high and brown with sediments due to the recent rains. The wooden jetty at Nicholson has been extended with a new finger on floating pontoons and we had no trouble finding places for all the boats. Still Kickin' was the last in and we found a place for her on the inside of the new extension near the boat ramp.

We were looking for Peter and Jana in Small Change until they made contact with us to tell us they'd missed the entrance to the river due to the smoke or mist and decided to detour to Paynesville

Knowing they were OK we proceeded to happy hour in the pergola. Ian Clapperton got his recorder out and handed out sheets with the words of Advance Australia Fair and led us in singing the national anthem.

After happy hour we enjoyed a nice meal at the Nicholson River Hotel.

The following day saw the fleet departed from the Nicholson River about 10 am with some to return to Paynesville and the others went on to the public wharf at Metung. Space at Metung early in the afternoon was scarce and Wanton and Second Wind 2 went past and

tied up at Chinaman's Creek. These crews then walked back to Metung for a coffee with friends. Later that afternoon Trilby and Crème Caramel left to go back to Ocean Grange. Wanton and Second Wind 2 remained at Metung for the night and sailed to Ocean Grange the following day.

SAILING WITH SNAKES ? Ocean Grange Jetty January 2020

By Joan Rockliffe

It was the last very very hot Friday. We were on the end of the inward North T of the Ocean Grange Jetty chilling, it was so hot. There were around 5 other boats on the jetty and a Parks Barge that came in to do maintenance on the ladders using drills and banging things loudly.

No one had noticed the snake before he appeared alongside our boat. He had come to the end of our T and was moving back when one of the Parks fellows had just seen it and came to warn me. The snake turned to head back after reaching the end of the jetty.



The snake was of course very distressed at this stage and moved to the South end of the T. We used boat hooks to convince the snake to enter the water. Unfortunately one person was very aggressive with his hook and flicked the snake high into the air and over the other side of his huge cruiser. A very dangerous thing to do as he had no control of where the snake

was going to land and we had nowhere to get out of the way of this air born snake. I was concerned that they would end up killing it.

When the snake landed in the water he tried to swim up any orifice on the vessels. He tried to climb up the ladders and I think he would have succeeded if it wasn't for one aggressive boat hook. By this time the snake was frantic, it was as if it didn't like or want to be swimming. The barge had its outboard motor set on a flat platform with controls inside the vessel. The snake managed to come up through motor onto the platform from that position it would have easily got into the barge.

The aggressive boat hook had been changed to a hoe like tool. You will see that clearly in the photograph with the head of the snake coming out of the motor. From there it was difficult but the snake was removed and from there he swam to shore and was seen heading into the bush.



I think the snake was under the jetty but have no idea where. I imagine he was there for the cool or even just getting a drink. Can't imagine it would be a permanent location. The noise and vibration that the Parks fellows created must have disturbed him, he certainly could be living near the jetty. As for a relocation plan there was no discussion. The Parks workers were the most frightened on the jetty and the second the snake was swimming to shore they took off.

I did a bit of googling and comparing with my photos and I think it was an Eastern Brown, not a Tiger. Apparently

the Browns do not like swimming and it is very rare for them to do so and this would explain his reluctance to be in the water and also his panic when he was forced in.

Peter Nyga blocks all orifices on his vessel when in the water at night so that snakes cannot enter. He has encountered snakes on jetty's in the past.

SAILING ON THE GIPPSLAND LAKES IN WINTER

Tony Pitt

Gaye and I have sailed in every month of the calendar at some stage on the Gippsland Lakes. Some of our winter sails have been among the best we have ever had. After the lockdown of the past 8 weeks we will be very tempted to try our luck again,

Weather

Picking the right weather is the key to a successful winter sail, and this means that your plans have to be flexible. Look for a big high pressure system that is tracking slowly across the Bight. If they are further north this will mean a westerly airstream rather than still air, and possibly a bit colder but still OK. Don't go too soon as initially the anticyclone will create a southerly airstream and if it pushes into a low pressure system, the winds can be quite strong. Once the High pressure is overhead, light winds and sunny days should prevail. The winds in winter seem to be more moderate on the lakes. Certainly the winter weather in East Gippsland is quite different from the rest of southern Victoria. Our winter experience has often been mild to warm sunny days after a chilly start and a heavy dew. But it does get cold at night.



Clothing

Thermals are a good idea. You won't need them during the day, but after 5.00 pm it will get quite cold very quickly. A snug fitting wool beanie makes a big difference. Do not try to heat the cabin up with the stove – this is a bad idea. If the airflow to the flame on the stove is restricted (to heat up a flower pot or something else with high latent heat), this can create a dangerously toxic concentration of carbon monoxide. You cannot smell carbon monoxide and it may be the last thing you ever do.

Where to go

The river valleys get a cold air drainage effect at night and the cold air may hang around in a light fog till late morning. Out on the lakes themselves or on one of the jetties near the 90 mile beach is usually warmer by a few degrees. But you also need to consider wind strength and direction. One thing you won't need to worry about is getting a spot on any of the jetties. Gaye will often point out to me that there are **no other boats anywhere to be seen!** and **what do they know that we don't!**

My main impression of sailing the Gippsland Lakes in winter is light winds, glassy water and light wispy fog. We have also had more wildlife experiences in winter. We aim to reach our intended destination each day by

mid afternoon and then get changed into some warmer clothes before 5.00 pm. Early dinner and then into the sleeping bag. Fond memories.

ZOOM How to Download and Operate

Our general meeting scheduled for June 21st will be held using Zoom.

In recent emails and also in this newsletter we mention the internet meeting protocol called Zoom. This virtual meeting platform has now been used twice by our club to hold internet meetings. The app itself is really simple to download. If you want to download to your phone you simply go to your relevant “play store”, search for the Zoom App, download it and open it. The whole process takes two or three minutes at best.

If you don't know how to download the app, that is OK too. When we are holding a meeting I will be sending everyone an email or agenda and on it I will be placing a link to the Zoom meeting. All you need to do is double click or open the link and it will take you to the Zoom web site and automatically offers to download the system and open the meeting room. Allow a few minutes for this to happen, so you may wish to start this process five minutes or so before you want to go on line.

When you arrive at the meeting room, just wait and I will let you join the meeting. You will be able to see everyone at that meeting as well as talk and listen to the discussions/chat in real time. Try it and enjoy the meetings.

WELCOME TO YARINGA BOAT HARBOUR

By Marc Alioti

Yaringa Boat Harbour has been under new management for over 12 months now and its evolution is really starting to show. Not only are there new pontoons, a new walkway, a new management team, excellent storage, launch and retrieval services and a new Harbour identity, there is also a brand-new

waterfront restaurant that sits right on the docks - they call it Cptn Jack's.



A visit by water means you can moor just a few metres from the old restaurant building, now completely reimaged throughout to create a warm, welcoming atmosphere with a good splash of sailor spirit.

The new venue features a central bar where you can sip a cocktail or a nice cold beer. There's plenty of indoor and outdoor seating for breakfast, lunch or dinner and a relaxing deck with views across the working Harbour and out to Westernport Bay.

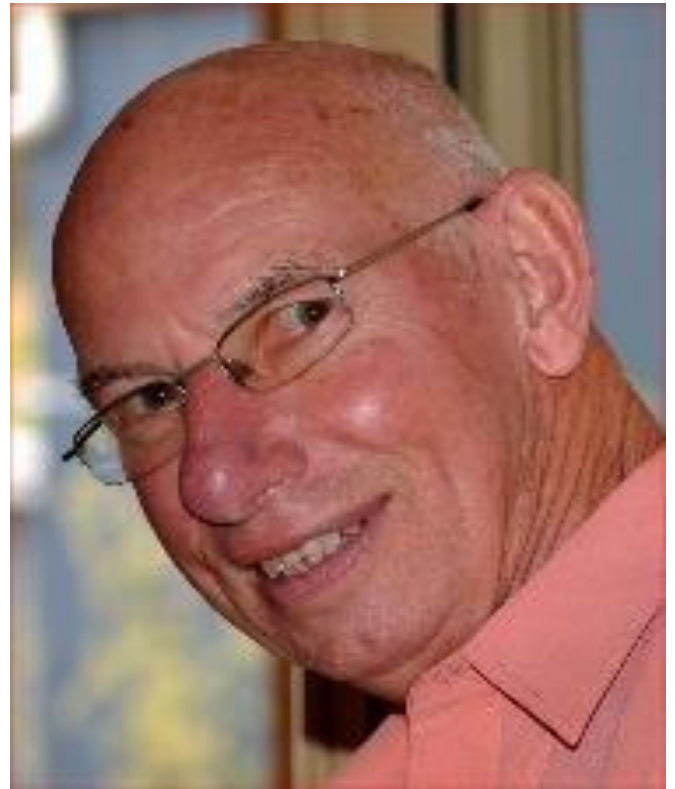
The restaurant has a whole new team of staff, busily developing a tasty menu with a focus on wholesome dishes, locally sourced ingredients and fresh Australian seafood. There is also a new Tuck Shop window open daily for delicious doses of Commonfolk coffee, light snacks, house-made cakes and everyone's new favorite, the all natural 'Pure Pops' ice creams.

With Cptn Jack's waiting to greet your crew, Yaringa makes a great destination for your next day out on the water. To stay in touch, follow Yaringa on Facebook and Instagram. For restaurant / Tuck Shop opening hours and bookings see www.cptnjacks.com.au or call (03) 5977 4939



Yaringa welcomes inquiry for overnight stays. Call our office on 59774154 for further inquiry. With Covid Regulations opening hours can change but currently:

Marina Office: 7 days per week / 8.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.
CPTN Jacks tuck shop: Weekdays 8.30 a.m. – 2.30 p.m.
CPTN Jacks Restaurant: Friday Dinner,
Saturday Lunch & Dinner



VALE John Prinns

It is with much sadness that we acknowledge the passing of John Prinns on Monday 18th May. John was a founding member of the club and was also commodore during the periods 1999-2003 and again from 2009-2011. John was an enthusiastic sailor and a fun person to be with. You always knew when John was in the room. He has battled with complications from leukemia for the past few years and will be missed by all. Our condolences to Ros and their extended family.

Notice of General Meeting

At 1500 hours (or 3.00 pm).

Sunday June 21st, 2020

To Be Held via Zoom. Venue to be your own choice

To be held via Zoom using either a compatible mobile phone or computer.
To verify compatibility, you may wish to download the Zoom app prior to the meeting

Proposed Agenda and Zoom link to follow via email

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