



Bayside Trailable Yacht Club NEWSLETTER

December 2022

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COMMODORE'S CORNER

By Joan Rockliff



Hello everyone,

How are you finding the Spring/Summer weather of 2023? There is one word that comes to my mind and it is volatile. One day we are wet from perspiration, and the next wet from rain. Sadly, our early sailing season has fallen foul of the unpredictable weather.

Two cruise dates passed with two cancellations. One cancellation due to our berths being double booked and one cancellation due to bad weather. Bring on summer stability with sea breezes that die in the evenings and give us wonderful sailing by day. The weather bureau has been indicating that we can expect more of the same for a little while longer.

While the sailing weather has been volatile the land activity has been very pleasant. What a delightful Christmas Celebration we had at Ripplebrook Winery. It was a very happy occasion and we had members come from all over Victoria to attend. Thank you to Anne Lillecrapp, our Social Secretary, for organising a beautiful venue and opportunity for us to be all together and enjoy the camaraderie that our wonderful club produces. It was a fantastic day. Thank you to those who travelled long distances to attend with Joan and John Coombs all the way from Seymour and Ed

Flynn, Rose and Joe Ciantar all the way from Sunbury, great effort.



The difficult decision to cancel the Murray River Adventurers Cruise for next March has been met with excitement and expectation with the replacement being a road trip of the Yorke Peninsular by Caravan, Tent, Camper, Cabin, Motel, or B&B instead of the boats. Mind you if you wish you can happily camp with your boat. Dates are not set in concrete as the trip is in the planning stage but if you can keep free the period Monday 6th March to Monday 27th March that will leave us plenty of time to see all without a huge rush. Stay tuned for further information as the plan develops. It is important to get the planning underway so we can prebook the caravan parks etc.

After our recent AGM our incoming committee met on November 15th and had some quite important discussions about the direction and policies of the club. We need to communicate these to you and have produced this newsletter in response. Some of these discussions will be on-going and our committee will be keen for any feedback from members about the issues of safety on the water, the reinstatement of sailing burgees and requirement for third party boat insurance.

That is all from me. Looking forward to seeing you all on the water at the next cruise with what seems to be now becoming an annual "Beat the Blues"!

THIRD PARTY BOAT INSURANCE

It is BTYC club policy that all members insure their boats for third party insurance as a minimum insurance cover. However while this might seem a simple policy statement, it has a number of complexities.

Some of our members sail custom built vessels and obtaining insurance for them can be very tricky, often requiring a full marine survey. A number of insurance companies will decline to insure boats that have not been built by a registered marine builder. Some insurers also decline to handle the insurance for boats of more than a certain age, regardless of their condition.

New Wave Marine Boat Insurance specialise in marine insurance for older boats. No need for a survey. This may be the answer for our members who have difficulty in obtaining insurance cover. Verbally the quote to insure a recently restored Boomerang 20 was around \$300.

If one of our boats is uninsured and has an accident with another boat that is within our club or a boat outside of the club during a club event, their insurance company will consider our club responsible and may sue our club. Our club only has minimal assets and so there is not likely to be much joy for the litigant, but if legal action was commenced it would probably be the end of the club.

Several of our members have also expressed their desire to know and be confident that all club members carry third party insurance. Collisions are rare, but they do occasionally happen and having insurance negates some of the anxiety that can arise from such an event.

It has been revealing that some of the marinas that we have recently booked into as a club group have not asked for validation of insurance. Upon further inquiry, the marina office has simply told us that because we are a club they assume that all club members' boats are insured and therefore they don't need to see the insurance certificate.

Our treasurer has recently written to all members and asked for details of each vessels marine insurance

policy so that this can be entered into a registry. There is concern from the committee that some members may have trouble complying with this request. The policy is not intended to be difficult for any member, and if you are having trouble complying, please contact any of the committee members and seek some assistance.

FUTURE USE OF CLUB BURGEES TO BE REVIEWED

After a brief discussion at the Annual General Meeting in October 2022 it was resolved the club should only award burgees in the future for sailing participation milestones of up to a maximum of 10 cruises. The more substantial milestones of 15 club sails, 30 club sails, 50 club sails and 100 club sails (at least 3 members have achieved this last milestone) were proposed be disbanded.

This decision has not been fully embraced by the membership. The premise of this decision was that records of club sailing participation during the past 2 to 3 years were not complete and we had lost count of members' sailing participation. There was also a view that the practice was a little antiquated.

Our club does not conduct racing events. The practice of awarding burgees is one way of recognising member's individual achievements and celebrating them.

The organisation and implementation of club cruises during the years of the Covid 19 pandemic has been difficult and somewhat disjointed. Fortunately our club newsletters contain a good record of club cruising history including the names of the participants on such cruises. A more accurate sailing data base has been created by Tony Pitt with David Morrissey's help and this will be adopted as the baseline for tallies of member's sailing achievements. The committee has decided that the compilation of sailing tallies will be continued and that the issue of awarding burgees for milestones in sailing tallies shall be reviewed at the next general meeting.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to two new members.

Shane Kenny lives at Sommerville and sails a Seabita called Seaspray with the sail number 57.

Grant Matthews also lives on the Mornington Peninsula at Red Hill and sails a Savage Dolphin called Calypso.

We look forward to seeing these boats and their crew on the water.

The Phosphorescence Party

From the Voyages of Sprout, 2020

By Tony Pitt

I'm bored, said Nosey, the youngest of the dolphins. Three young dolphins had been sitting around on their tailfins all afternoon. They had followed a turtle for a while this morning and chased a few squid, but they were now at a bit of a loose end.

There's nothing to do around here and it smells, said Fishbreath.

So what's so bad about the swells?, said the dad dolphin. He was only half listening to the chit chat.

Not swells! Smells! Turn your brain on, said Bellyflop, the oldest of the three brothers. They really were very irritable and at that awkward age.

Don't speak to your father like that, said the mother dolphin. *And if you would learn to pick up after yourselves it wouldn't be so fishy around here. All these scattered bones and discarded scales are the problem., and they are mostly still where you last dropped them.*

I cant see any scales and bones said the three young dolphins in unison. And at that their mother started to get cross. *Well just you come with me,* she said. And at that she grabbed her pet numbfish that she kept in her deep sea locker, wacked it on the back so that it lit up, and then proceeded to show the young dolphins all the mess that they had left on the sea floor around their home base. The young dolphins felt quite shamed.

They had noticed that the fish smell had been getting worse over the past few weeks, and they had assumed it was part of the strengthening current past their front door that was bringing the smell down from the Coral Sea. They hadn't realized that the fish smell was their own doing. They were quite shamed.

Gee sorry mum, said Bellyflop. And sorry dad. I was just a bit bored and irritable. I shouldn't have been so rude.

We didn't realize that the smell was coming from this, said Fishbreath.

Rather than being sorry, why don't you do something about it, said the dad. *It shouldn't have to be your mother that always does the cleaning up around here.*

But we can't see down there, and mum has got the only pet numbfish, said Fishbreath. *That numbfish doesn't like us kids and always give me a good jolt. About 5000 volts last time I touched it. It only seems to light up properly for mum.*

That's because you don't hold it carefully and treat it properly she said, while giving it another whack to turn it off before shoving it back into the deep sea locker and locking it in. *You three always have an excuse. Perhaps if you could just be a little bit cleaner it would help me.*

The three young dolphins looked guiltily at each other because they now knew how big a problem they had created and they didn't know how to clean it up without a light. They swam a little bit away.

I've got an idea, said the youngest dolphin. *Why don't we go and collect some of the phosphorescence that we saw yesterday and bring it home. Then we can bring it down here and shine it on the sea floor. If we can see where all the scales and bones are, perhaps we could clean them up.*

But that will take forever moaned Fishbreath.

And it takes so long to collect, groaned Bellyflop in sympathy.

Yes but we could get our cousins to help us, said Nosey. *Perhaps we can hold a phosphorescence party.*

The other two dolphins stopped swimming and stared straight at Nosey. *Now you're really shooting wake!* said Fishbreath. *Why don't we ask the other dolphins down at the rock shelter and the ones who hang around*

the back of the breakers for a really big party tonight in the phosphorescence.

And so it happened that night that a huge pod of 60 young dolphins all arrived at the phosphorescence for a big party. As each dolphin arrived it was given a squid tube sewn at one end which was then attached to their dorsal fin. When they swam through the phosphorescence and broke the surface of the water with their dorsal fin, the water lit up with brilliant white light and they caught in the squid bag.

They swam and they swam, all the time flicking the water surface to create a splash of light. Light flashes went off everywhere. Then they tumbled and rolled and belly flopped through the phosphorescence. They jumped, dived, and torpedoed while the phosphorescence lit up along the wake. All the time they were collecting the phosphorescence in their squid tube bags.

The party went on for hours and hours, and that patch of sea was lit up so brightly you could see it for miles. They tossed and tumbled into the early hours of the morning and then finally, when everyone was starting to get tired, they handed back the squid bags to the three dolphins and everyone went home. Everybody said it was one of the best parties ever, and they wanted to come again to the next one.

In the morning the three dolphins went down to the smelly sea floor and threw down one of the squid bags. It burst and erupted into a sea of light instead of a sea of black. With such brilliant light it actually didn't take long to clean up everything, and with all the old fish bones and scales removed, the fish smell disappeared.

From that day on the three dolphins made a point of throwing down one of their squid bags onto the sea floor each week. They were always surprised at how quickly they were able to clean up the sea floor with such good light. They didn't stop making the mess in the first place, because dropping fish bones and scales wherever you like is what dolphins do. But it no longer smelt of dead fish. It was one of best and happiest dolphin pods around.

Footnote: The truth of this story can be confirmed by two of the four sailors who by chance sailed the schooner *Sprout* past the dolphins phosphorescence party when it was in full swing at 3.00 am December 10, 2020. There were two crew members on watch and they will both verify that the phosphorescence party was in full

swing with about 60 dolphins in attendance. The other 2 crew members were asleep at the time.

SAFETY AT SEA BTYC Policy Discussion

There has been an on-going discussion at the BTYC committee for some time as to whether the club should have a separate safety policy. Mandatory marine safety requirements are always in force whenever a boat is on the water and this includes carrying life jackets, marine flares, emergency baling equipment and a number of other provisions. The discussion has been as to whether we need to add to these requirements.

The club already has a marine radio policy (VHF on each vessel) and encourages all boat skippers to undertake man-overboard drill when the seas are calm. One often discussed issue is at what stage during a cruise should the skipper of the vessel ensure that all crew put on their life jackets? One school of thought is that if the sail is reefed, then life jackets should be worn. But some of our members reef the sails for comfort reasons rather than any concern for safety, so is this then an appropriate policy?

Another issue is whether all boats should have a mandatory printed man-overboard procedure on board. In an emergency, such as a person in the water, panic can set in quickly. Having a printed and accessible procedure may be one way of avoiding mistakes and keeping calm when the unpredictable happens.

The debate is likely to continue. Our commodore and committee would welcome your ideas.

APOLLO BAY GETAWAY DEFERRED

Because of the decision to cancel the 2023 Murray River cruise and use the March window for a road trip to the Yorke Peninsula, it has also been decided not to proceed with the Apollo Bay Getaway this year. The two road trips would have been close together and the decision was made to just proceed with the one event.

The Apollo Bay Getaway will happen at a later date.

UPDATED BTJC 2023 CRUISING AND SOCIAL CALENDAR

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
JANUARY	THUR 12 th JAN TO THUR 19 th JAN	AROUND THE BAY	PORT PHILLIP	VARIOUS ANCHORAGES LAUNCH AND RETRIEVE AT WYNDHAM HARBOUR	TONY PITT 0408514581
JANUARY	SUN 22 ND JAN TO WED 25 TH JAN	LEAD UP TO AUSTRALIA DAY CRUISE	GIPPSLAND LAKES	RELAXED CRUISING BEFORE THE BIG DAY	KENTON LILLECRAPP 0418422099
JANUARY	THUR 26 TH JAN TO SUN 29 TH JAN	AUSTRALIA DAY CRUISE	GIPPSLAND LAKES	VISIT OUR FAVOURITE ANCHORAGES	EDWIN FLYNN 0413454029
FEBRUARY	FRI 17 TH FEB TO FRI 24 TH FEB	February Gippsland Lakes cruise	GIPPSLAND LAKES	LAKES ENTRANCE, BARRIER LANDING, METUNG	JOAN ROCKLIFF 0427275632
MARCH	MON 6 TH Mar TO MON 27 TH Mar	YORKE PENINSULA ADVENTURERS CRUISE	YORKE PENINSULA.	EXPLORE A MORE REMOTE SECTION OF THE RIVER. TRAILER/CAR LOCKUP PARINGA	JOAN ROCKLIFF & GEOFFREY PEPLAR 0427275632
APRIL	FRI 7 TH TO TUES 11 TH	EASTER CRUISE	GIPPSLAND LAKES	RELAXED CRUISING ON THE LAKES	TBA
APRIL	WED 12 th TO FRI 5 TH	CHILDRENS CRUISE	GIPPSLAND LAKES	ROAM THE HIGH SEAS IN SEARCH OF BOOTY & ADVENTURE	TONY PITT 0408514581
MAY	MON 15 TH TO FRI 19 TH	FROST BITE CRUISE	GIPPSLAND LAKES	PAYNESVILLE C'VAN PARK, CARAVAN OR CABIN OR STAY ON BOAT. DAY SAILS TO VARIOUS PICNIC/BBQ DESTINATIONS	JOAN ROCKLIFF 0427275632

Notice of Cruise

Around the Bay 2023

Thursday January 12 to Thursday January 19th, 2023

Around the Bay in 2023 will depart and retrieve from Wyndham Harbour. High tide times in Port Phillip mean a later period in January this year so that we can beach and retrieve our boats at reasonable hours. Prior registrations are mandatory and sailing instructions are now available from the cruise coordinator, Tony Pitt on 0408 514581, tony@ag-challenge.com.au

Please Note: The following are the individual responsibilities of each skipper:

- If you register for the cruise and are unable to attend, advise the cruise coordinator.
- Each skipper should make radio contact with the cruise coordinator at the start of the cruise.
- Carry adequate navigational charts for the area in which the cruise is being conducted.
- Ensure that the vessel is fully compliant with Marine Safety Regulations
- Advise the cruise coordinator when you are leaving the cruise, particularly if leaving early.
- It is always the Master of the Vessel's decision alone as to whether to cruise or to discontinue and retire from a cruise.

Notice of Cruise

Australia Day Cruises

Sunday January 22nd to Sunday January 29th, 2023

This is listed as two separate cruises because there will be two cruise coordinators. You must register prior to the cruise. If staying for the duration, please register with both cruise coordinators.

Kenton Lillecrapp 0418 422099 *The Lead up to Australia Day Cruise. Sunday January 22nd to Wednesday January 25th. Briefing at 9.30 am Sunday on the lawn opposite the pharmacy at Paynesville. Please register prior to January 18th.*

Edwin Flynn 0413 454029 *Australia Day Cruise. Thursday 26th January to Sunday 29th January. Briefing 9.30 am Thursday on the lawn opposite the Paynesville Pharmacy. Please register prior to January 23rd.*

Please Note: The following are the individual responsibilities of each skipper:

- If you register for the cruise and are unable to attend, advise the cruise coordinator.
- Each skipper should make radio contact with the cruise coordinator at the start of the cruise.
- Carry adequate navigational charts for the area in which the cruise is being conducted.
- Ensure that the vessel is fully compliant with Marine Safety Regulations
- Advise the cruise coordinator when you are leaving the cruise, particularly if leaving early.
- It is always the Master of the Vessel's decision alone as to whether to cruise or to discontinue and retire from a cruise.

Notice of Cruise

February at the Lakes

Friday February 17th to Friday February 24th 2023

Register with Joan Rockliff and Geoff Peplar, 0427 275 632 for a leisurely sail in company around the Gippsland lakes in February. The destinations will be determined by the prevailing weather. There will be a formal cruise briefing on Friday February 17th at a time and place to be nominated by Joan and Geoff.

Please Note: The following are the individual responsibilities of each skipper:

- If you register for the cruise and are unable to attend, advise the cruise coordinator.
- Each skipper should make radio contact with the cruise coordinator at the start of the cruise.
- Carry adequate navigational charts for the area in which the cruise is being conducted.
- Ensure that the vessel is fully compliant with Marine Safety Regulations
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