



Bayside Trailable Yacht Club NEWSLETTER

April 2023

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COMMODORE'S CORNER

By Joan Rockliff



Hello everyone,

Another great sailing season almost finished. What a mixed bag we have had with both good weather and then weather so unfriendly we had to cancel cruises. But as had been said before, the Baysiders are a hardy group and manage a good time whatever the weather. At the time I write there is the Children's Cruise and the Frostbite Cruise yet to sail, let us hope for nice weather!

I thank our Committee members Edwin Flynn, Kenton and Anne Lillecrapp, Tony Pitt, Martin Jones, David Morrissey and Geoffrey Peplar. They are a diligent and hard working group of people who make our club the success it is. We are so very lucky to have them and have much to thank them for. A special thanks also to Jim Reynolds who has put in hours of work with our I.T. communications system along with Membership Officer Martin Jones, a work still in progress.

We welcomed new members with Shane Kenny, Cary & Pat Pedicini, Peter Tweedley and Lea Nunan joining our

cruises and Grant & Susan Mathews joining the Land Cruise. We also welcomed back Graeme and Jill Bale who rejoined for the Land Cruise, they are no longer sailing Bluebottle. I wish a warm welcome to all.

A wonderful time was had by those on the S. A. Land Cruise. So many highlights it is hard to pick the best. For me the fact that we did it all together, with everybody happy to be in the group and working together to make the trip the delightful experience it was. This is something very special.

On our Land Cruise we explored the Innes National Park where the chalk used by our teachers on all the chalk boards in Australian Schools was made, we learnt the history of the magnificent huge Windjammers that raced around Cape Horne with their cargos from S.A.



We had Wine Tastings, coffees in cafes, lots of them. Went to an iconic Australian Camp Draft and some of us went to a Polo Cross match. So many beautiful beaches seen and walked, with scenery awe inspiring. Many lighthouses were visited including Australia's only inland lighthouse. The 4x4 tracks for those who wanted a thrill were great; the scenery from the Bridle Track near Melrose was unforgettable.

The Land Cruise Crew



We visited the grave of the “Face on the \$50 note” David Unipon, a man ahead of his time. I must also mention the train tour of the Copper Mine history in Moonta, the light show projected onto the silo in Quorn, the acres and acres of golden paddocks of crops under the huge big open blue skies.



The group enjoyed meals out with much celebration, real Cornish Pasties in “Little Cornwall” and Oysters from Stansbury. We saw beautiful salt lakes of all colours, and many of us reverted to our childhood on the Pitchi Ritchi train, hanging out the windows as it rattled its way through the rugged hills of the southern Flinders Ranges. So many experiences, history learnt, and so much fun had.

CRUISE REPORT BEAT THE BLUES GIPPSLAND Lakes December 2022

By Geoff Peplar

Participating Vessels: *Silk Department*, *Buddy*, *Ariel*, *Take It Easy*, *Spiders Web*, *Scallywag*, *Sunshine*.

The cruise ran from the 5th to the 12th of December with all participants looking forward to completing an adventurous itinerary visiting remote lakes and rivers. The volatile weather of 2022 had other plans for the mariners however with some very strong wind days sinking said itinerary. However, the weather gods

should have known that the Baysiders are a flexible and tough lot, and they would still manage a great time.

Ports visited were Paynesville, Ocean Grange, Paynesville, Ocean Grange and Metung. There was some great sailing had with two clockwise semi rounding's of Raymond Island enroute to Ocean Grange in 10-18 knot sea breezes. The crew of *Take It Easy* were impressed by the spectacle and power of *Silk Department* when she roared past as *Take It Easy* was dropping sail to negotiate the Aurora Channel.

Most happy hour locations were aboard Motor Cruiser *Sunshine* (Clipper 34 Charter Boat). A sailor became sad however, as she was unable to attend these happy hours due to a long post Covid recovery. Curses.

One cruise highlight was a morning tea jaunt/skylark aboard *Sunshine*, courtesy of Martin and Denise, to Bunga Arm's First Blowhole from Ocean Grange Jetty. Most civilised and enjoyable with calm waters, sunshine, and a great view from the vessel's flybridge.

All things considered; an enjoyable cruise therefore job done; the Blues were beaten! Bring on the next BTB cruise!



CRUISE REPORT PRE PAYNESVILLE MUSIC FESTIVAL February 2023

By Joan Rockliff

Participating Vessels: *Crème Caramel*, *Sapphire*, *Take It Easy*, *Seaspray*, *Scallywag*, *Tied Up* and *Silver Girl*

February/March seem to be the best months for cruising, with seven BTYC vessels enjoying a wonderful five nights on the Gippsland Lakes waters and great sailing, convivial happy hours, and group dining. Winds were generally east to southeast 10 to 15 knots with only one day having a strong wind warning. It was mostly sunny.

With new boats and crews welcomed, exotic ports visited were Ocean Grange, Metung (lunch stops), Barrier Landing, and Lakes Entrance. Barrier Landing mooring tested the boat's crews as a strong current was running on the ebb tide. *Take it Easy* provided free entertainment to those on the jetty with her several attempts at berthing but at least she did not hit anything, and the only casualty was a badly bruised ego and hoarse throats.

As the group were preparing to depart Barrier Landing on the next morning's flood tide a large, hired motor cruiser asked for assistance letting go her lines. Motoring astern she attempted to turn and go into forward too soon and was swept back on the jetty broadside on, coming to rest against the jetty end and the stern of a moored motor cruiser. Loud cracking sounds emanated from a jetty post and the motor cruiser transom and *Scallywag* making her departure had to take drastic evasive action, managing to just scrape past but licking the mud.

The rest of the BTYC boats managed to leave safely whilst the hire boat, in a precarious position, would've had to wait for the current to reverse for her departure. The skipper's bond money would be in grave danger! It has been decided that future visits to Barrier Landing will come with the warning "WATCH OUT."

The remainder of the cruise was relatively uneventful, and most boats retrieved and left for home on Friday 24th Feb. with appreciation of the fantastic Lakes,

satisfaction for job done and good to meet and greet our new members on *Tied Up*, *Seaspray* and *Silver Girl*!

Special thanks must be given to *Silver Girl* for assistance with a boxed in *Crème Caramel* at Metung Jetty.



CRUISE REPORT CHILDRENS CRUISE April 12 to April 15, 2023

By Tony Pitt

Participating Vessels: *Sapphire*, *Take It Easy*, *Wanton* and *Silk Department*

Quite a crowd this year. Harry, Charlotte, Elise, Isabelle, Myenna Brayden and Amalia have all been regulars on this cruise, and were complimented this year by Milo and Finn (good pirate name). At four years of age, Brayden was the youngest crew member. In support

were Amfy, Gagi, Grandpa, Granddad, Granny Annie, Joan, Geoffery, Mum and Dad.

We sailed the high seas out of Paynesville to Duck Arm on the Banksia Peninsula. There we found pirates, buried treasure, phosphorescence in the water, sugar gliders in the trees, an orb spider easting up its web and numerous kids games on the beach.

Dividing up the treasure proved to be difficult with knives and cutlasses drawn but eventually some sort of agreement was reached and most of the pirates went away with a satisfactory haul of booty. Charlotte got the Tiara and I am not sure that all of the pirates were comfortable with that. She was however instrumental in some of the beach boarding of vessels the previous day and had threatened to cut all the mooring lines on a big cruiser and send it adrift if they didn't come good with some treasure.

We also managed to visit a remote island with an old abandoned homestead. No pirates here but plenty of attack mosquitoes.

In the end all the participants made it back to Paynesville, derigged and went home. The former pirates were returned to their families and the support crews crept into bed for a well earned rest.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to two new members.

Greg and Naomi Reed sail a Magnum 95 called *Crystal Waters*. They live in Frankston and are known to some of our members for their sailing on Westernport out of Yaringa

Julia Caploiu and Manuel Groeschi are also active Westernport sailors on Swarbrick 20 called *Wet Dreams*. They live in Cranbourne.

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

Welcome back to the club are Gary and Pat Pedicini, owners of *Silver Girl* (formerly *Winsome*). Also welcome back to the club are Jill and Graeme Bale who no longer sail but are very interested in future land cruise options.

THE WOODEN BOAT FESTIVAL, HOBART

February 10 to February 13, 2023

By Geoff Peplar

The festival is free and takes place along the beautiful Hobart waterfront, bringing the largest collection of wooden boats together in the southern hemisphere. It began in 1994. BTYC members Joan Rockliff, Geoffrey Peplar, Jim Reynolds and Cathy Reynolds all lucky enough to attend.



With all enveloped in a happy atmosphere, there are boats afloat and ashore, working marine engines, seminars, demonstrations, trade displays, boat building displays, music, brass bands, plays, films and more. Salamanca market added to the fun.

The event opened with the sail past in a light southerly wind of well over a hundred vessels. The tall ships Enterprize, Young Endeavour, Soren Larsen, One and All, James Craig, Duyfken, Lady Nelson, Julie Burgess, Windward Bound and Rhona H made for a wonderful spectacle as they passed the spectators ranged along the shoreline. Duyfken 1660 (replica of the original first recorded European ship to visit Australia) made a loud entrance as she fired off a broadside at the spectators! Of course, all the little ships under sail and motor only added to the spectacle with each vessel in immaculate condition.



Various motor craft were also on display. Especially notable was the 50 years old Denison Star, with her 107 feet long Huon Pine Hull making her very rare. She has seen duty as the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race start boat. Privately owned, she is near completely restored.

Boats ashore included sailing and rowing dinghies, canoes, surfboards, and motorboats, etc. There were only one or two trailer sailers on display, one being a beautiful gaff rigged 22-footer. All the vessels had an elegance and air of history, if they could talk what amazing stories they would tell.

Joan was fortunate to find and go aboard Vittoria, a vessel she had not seen for forty-five years. This yacht with her owner Lou Abrahams had many a race battle against Joan's father Bill Rockliff's yacht Bacardi. Most notably a Sydney to Suva race in 1976, where the two boats went through the start line on opposite tacks. After travelling 2776km's over ten days and never in sight of each other until they entered Kandavu Passage, they raced neck and neck to the finish line with Bacardi 52 seconds ahead of Vittoria!

Full descriptions of all to see at the festival could take up pages but in summary the best part of the event is the dedication and craftsmanship on display and the sense that any ship or little ship does not have an owner but a custodian. Perhaps in February 2025 the club could consider a Baysiders Group to attend. Bring it on!

CRUISE REPORT

AUSTRALIA DAY CRUISE

JANUARY 21 TO JANUARY 26 2023

By Kenton Lillecrapp

Participating Vessels: *Silk Department, Skyhoot, Merlin, Spiders web, Sally Anne, Crème Caramel, Second Wind II, Wanton, Eclipse.*

Mid afternoon on Friday 20th January Silk Department and Skyhoot arrived in the Slip Road car park and proceeded to rig up. The easterly which was light when we arrived gradually strengthened until by 5.00pm it was very strong indeed. Rather than try to launch we enjoyed a lovely dinner and a bottle of wine on the foreshore and then spent a comfortable night on board in the car park.

We launched in the morning in fine and very still conditions but before sailing anywhere I had a very important job to do. I drove the trailer down to Riviera Trailers at Bairnsdale for a complete refurbishment. Despite being only 11 years old the five steel cross members which support the central rollers were completely rusted out and needed to be replaced. A job that they would complete while we cruised.

Sunday morning was chilly with a sea mist and no wind. With Spiders Web we motored to Ocean Grange where we met up with John & Joan Coombes in Merlin and Norman & Annette Munns in Sally Anne.

Despite a forecast of 10-15 knots the following morning was fine but with no wind. We motored over to Duck Arm and backed into the beach with Paul and Debbie Howe in Second Wind II joining us. Unfortunately, the Coombes discovered a serious leak in Merlin and decided to motor straight back to Paynesville and take the boat home. I talked to a Magnum owner on the beach and discovered that the owner was Greg Reed (ex Careel 22 "KittyHawk") who I used to race against at Yaringa 15-20 years ago. He has now joined the Baysiders.

Finally, a lovely sail. A nice easterly of 10-15 knots took us all the way to Nicholson which we had mostly to ourselves and then next morning a fine chilly and windless morning saw us motor all the way to Metung. Anne and I had our traditional January lunch sitting in

the cockpit with a bottle of champagne and oysters and prawns from the "Farmer and Cook". No happy hour today. Too cold and too windy!

Thursday 26th of January. Australia Day. Still tied up at Metung. I flew my big Australian Flag from the masthead.

We sailed back to Ocean Grange in a very light south westerly with Skyhoot and Spiders Web leaving us to go home. Happy hour in the picnic ground was interesting where we were joined by John and Margaret Bennet from Magnum "Top Gun" and Richard and Dorothy Bennet from the French boat.

Friday we returned to a very busy Paynesville and a strong easterly setting in. From the end jetty at the GLYC we watched Joan and Geoffrey in Take it Easy start the club race, looking very smart in all new sails (including a reefed main). A couple of hours later we watched them cross the finish line a creditable second place.

Saturday was fine but cloudy with very little wind and a forecast of 33deg. We set off with Wanton, Eclipse, and Crème Caramel to sail around Raymond Island. They headed to Steamer Landing while we motored to Duck Arm for the afternoon. I counted about a dozen big cruisers and a couple of yachts at anchor in the bay inside Duck Arm. Ideal conditions on this very hot day on the long weekend. Anne had a swim and then we motored back to Paynesville. I picked up my boat trailer from Riviera Trailers (very impressed with the work they did) and at 1700 retrieved the boat and derigged.

COVID POLICY UPDATE

The BTYC Committee has resolved to temporarily suspend the club Covid 19 Policy pending a full review of the policy at the next committee meeting. In the interim, club members are requested to not attend club functions if you are unwell, or if you have recently tested positive to Covid 19 and are likely to be infective.

Baysiders Autumn Lunch *On the Waterfront at Williamstown* *Pelicans Landing, 1 Syme Street Williamstown* *12.00 midday Sunday May 28, 2023*

Come and join our late Autumn get together. Experience the stunning waterline views of Hobsons Bay, Melbourne City and the yachts of Gem Pier.

The restaurant has a focus on fresh local seafood & tantalising meats with delicious desserts to follow.

Contact - Anne LILLECRAPP by SMS message
attend.

by 21st May if you would like to

Notice of Cruise
The Frostbite Cruise
Gippsland Lakes, May 15 to May 19, 2023

Register with Joan Rockliff and Geoff Peplar, (text by preference) for the 2023 Frostbite Cruise. The cruise destinations will be determined daily with boats based in Paynesville. Crews can seek to stay in land based accommodation or on board with suitable clothing. There will be a formal briefing each day at a time and place to be nominated by Joan and Geoff, whereby we will go to picnic lunch destinations or café/hotel destinations where we normally don't go due to sea breezes in the summer.

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.

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