

Bayside Trailable Yacht Club

NEWSLETTER

July - September 2012

<http://www.baysidetrailableyachtclub.com>



Commodore's Welcome

Hello Baysiders,

As I write this, the first couple of days of warm spring weather have arrived. Sunny, blossom blown from the trees, birds and a fair amount of wind. I have had a few days on the water over winter, mostly on Westernport and now I am really keen to get out there.

So, forget about the grass growing and the jobs you've been putting off. Have a good look at your boat and trailer and start getting it ready for a great season sailing with the Baysiders. Cruise Director Geoff Peplar has put together a great program for this year, starting with the opening sail & salute to the Commodore on the Gippsland Lakes on the November Cup Day long weekend. This weekend is great fun. Dress your boat up for the sailpast and then join in the club barbecue at the Ocean Grange picnic area.

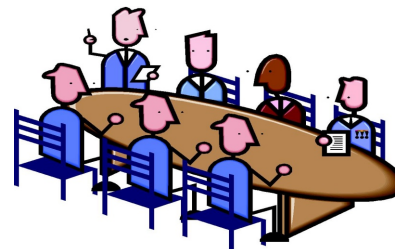
On the social side we will start the season with lunch at the home of Andrew and Amanda Federowicz on Sunday 21 October (more details in the newsletter). This has become a bit of a tradition and Andrew's lamb on a spit is not to be missed. And don't forget our Christmas party at the Hastings Yacht Club in December.

I am really looking forward to this season and hope to catch up with as many of you as possible. As for now, Anne & I leave in a couple of hours for two weeks' sailing around the coast of southern Turkey. So come along to the opening lunch and hear all the details of our Turkish Delights.

Kenton Lillecrapp
Commodore



Your Committee



Commodore	Kenton Lillecrapp	03 9836 6824
Past C' dore	John Prins	03 9755 1666
Secretary	Amanda Federowicz	03 9459 1826
Treasurer	Joan Rockliff	03 5976 4165
Cruise Director	Jeffrey Peplar	03 5976 4165
Other	David Morrissey	
Membership Secretary	Wayne Ross	03 9740 7568
Social Secretary	Clive & Sue Aikman	03 5796 2384
Social Sub Committee	Ann Lillecrapp, Sue Morrissey	
Newsletter & Web Site Editor	Edwin Flynn	03 9744 5593

Public Officer Andrew Federowicz 03 9853 2261

Mailing Address:

The Secretary

PO Box 2254

SUNBURY VIC 3429

Email: btycsecretary@gmail.com

Notice of General Meeting

Saturday 21st October 2012

Prior to Pre Season BBQ Lunch at The Federowicz Residence, Kew.

The Members' List.

You will find a member's list attached to your email. Please check your entry and if it needs to be updated please contact the Membership Secretary, David Morrissey by email or telephone.

The 2012- 2013 Cruise Calendar

A copy of the Cruise Calendar has already been sent to you by the Commodore.

Another copy will be place on the website in a few days.

Thank you for understanding. (Editor)

CRUISE REPORT April 2012

Cruising the Hawkesbury – a waterway of contrasts.
(By Tony and Gaye Pitt) - Sapphire

Our first indication that this boating holiday was going to be a bit different was the conversation that we had with Hawkesbury Tourist Information Centre. We had planned to take two days to travel from Victoria, but were a bit late getting away on the first day and it had become apparent that we would not arrive at Brooklyn until all the marina staff had gone home. So we rang the tourist information to find a nearby caravan park that we could check into for the night. Oh we don't have anything like that, said the lady at the tourist office. Most people just stay at Mooney Mooney near the launching ramp. It's just off the highway.

And it was just off the highway. And it was full of caravans and campervans and mobile homes. And some strange people. But there were toilets and not too much freeway noise. We had a good night there and launched at the jetty next morning.

The Hawkesbury is full of contrasts. It has some magnificent scenic beauty. It boasts the harbour of Pittwater where there must be a couple of thousand masts tied up across all the moorings and pontoon jetties. Or you can also tie up at the Mooney Mooney workers club pontoon which is carved out of the mangroves and cluttered with barges and working boats, and with a fair dose of small black things that want to bite. The Hawkesbury has restaurants that you can only access by boat or seaplane and the single menu option is a degustation at \$180 per head (plus drinks), or you can relax at the mangrove tree at Spencer with the local community where the sign in the tree proclaims the Dunkirk Hotel and the council garbage cans are full of empty cans.

We had a good holiday on the Hawkesbury and in two weeks there were still plenty of areas that we hadn't explored. But it wasn't what we expected. As Australia's oldest inland waterway and with a population of 5 million people just on the southern edge of its catchment, we were surprised that the boating facilities were so underdone and the cruising boat is not considered. Brooklyn is the main centre on the Hawkesbury estuary. It is the natural place to do your shopping, take the clothes to a Laundromat or just take time out from the boat. But the only public jetties near the shops have big signs up saying Maximum 30 minutes stay in any 24 hour period, Fines Apply. Not friendly. Not very practical. How do you do get to the Laundromat, do your washing and get back in the boat and away all within 30 minutes. All the private jetties were in the marinas which were 1.5 to 2 km walk away from the shops. There was one exception – The Hawkesbury River Marina was very close to the shops. They wanted \$80 to tie up even for just a few hours, because their policy was a minimum jetty hire of 2 days.

The problem of finding jetties that we could tie up to was everywhere on the Hawkesbury. Our guide book on Cruising the Hawkesbury was consistently wrong. At Wisemans Ferry it described three jetties as being available for public use. When we got there (after 5 hours motoring away from the locals at the Dunkirk hotel who were settling in for a session at 10.00 am) we found that one of jetties was looking after the spare ferry and was out-of-bounds, another was a concrete structure that would be very effective at wrecking boats and the third had the ubiquitous sign Maximum 30 minutes stay in any 24 hour period, Fines Apply. So we motored around a bit and finally found a nice beach on a bend in the river which we pulled up on and dried out for the night. It turned out to be an excellent spot, but as far as the cruising boat is concerned, the Hawkesbury has very poor facilities. No easy access to top up the water tanks. We never saw any facilities for emptying the PortaLoo. Very few jetties are not privately owned, and those that are available for public use have unrealistic time limits on their use for cruising yachts.

The scenery along the river however is majestic. Caves and massive rock overhangs line the waterway. Cliffs some 500 feet high plunge vertically into the water. There are some massive stands of mangroves that look like they have been planted out by a keen gardener and trimmed with a giant lawnmower. Cowan Creek is one of the larger cul de sac arms of the waterway and an absolute highlight because of its wilderness and stark beauty. We spent several nights exploring different bays and inlets in here. We found that we could go up to the headwaters of some of the creeks in the various arms of Cowan creek and dry out on the sand in a pristine wilderness. Had a few encounters with some big goannas and lots of little stingrays that give off light in the dark – they use electric shocks to catch their prey. Apart from Cowans Creek and Pittwater, we never saw another cruising yacht on the waterway in the whole 2 weeks. The storekeeper at Spencer said that he has had just three yachts visit Spencer in the last 16 months.

Have to say some more about Spencer. This is upstream from Brooklyn and about halfway to Wisemans Ferry. There lots of small settlements along the waterway where the only access is by boat. Some of these houses must be weekenders and holiday houses, but some are for permanent residences. There was a bit of employment in the oyster industry but there have been multiple health scares and the industry seems to be in trouble. So there is a lot of. ...(Cont'd next page)

Photo: Sapphire by Tony & Gay Pitt



Photo: Magnificent Scenery.
Photo Tony & Gay Pitt



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unemployment and a lot of unemployed. Spencer could easily pass for a small town in outback NSW, but here it is only 50 km as the crow flies from Sydney CBD

There is a single general store, the mangrove tree with the Dunkirk Hotel sign, a community hall, a caravan park and a couple of launching ramps. They're the public areas. The houses for Spencer seemed to be tucked away everywhere and there may be quite a substantial population. Conversation at the Dunkirk Hotel seems to be about someone who isn't present, or about fishing, or about getting another slab before the store closes. It seems to belong to another era, as if time just forgot this place altogether.

In two weeks we did more motoring than sailing, but we did have a couple of nice sails in the estuary below Brooklyn and into Broken Bay. We never got as far as Brisbane Water and up into Gosford, and there several other areas that we could have explored further. For a cruising holiday, we both agree that Lake Macquarie is a better option, basically because there are good facilities for the visiting boat. In the Hawkesbury, you are pretty much on your own once you get away from Pittwater and Cowan Creek.

Just a final note. The Brooklyn road bridge has a height clearance of 11.5 m above mean spring high water, and the Brooklyn rail bridge is slightly higher at 11.8 m. Our mast is 10.6 m to the top of the wind vane, so we were OK (but don't look up!). So we were OK and really didn't need to worry, because we had about 90 cm clearance. Or so we thought. Coming into Berowa Waters Marina we never saw the partly obscured sign on the bank that said overhead cable and the marina staff never mentioned it. It was at 11.0 m above mean spring high water and we came in right on a very high autumn tide. Too close for comfort. That's high voltage in that cable. It may well singe a sailor one day!

Gay & Tony Pitt
Saphire (Sonata 26)

**THIS NOTICE APPLIES TO ALL ADVERTISED CRUISES
IMPORTANT PLEASE NOTE
SKIPPER'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL SKIPPERS TO:

ADVISE THE CRUISE COORDINATOR OF THEIR INTENTION TO PARTICIPATE BY PHONE NO LATER THAN THE THURSDAY NIGHT BEFORE THE EVENT.

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND, PLEASE CONTACT THE CRUISE COORDINATOR AGAIN.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL SKIPPER'S TO ENSURE THEIR VESSEL COMPLIES WITH ALL RELEVANT LEGAL AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.

ON THE DAY:

1. **MAKE RADIO/PHONE CONTACT WITH THE CRUISE COORDINATOR AT THE START OF THE CRUISE.**
2. **CARRY ADEQUATE CHARTS/MAPS OF THE PROPOSED CRUISE AREA.**
3. **HAVE THE VHF OR 27 MHZ RADIO TURNED ON WHILST UNDER WAY ON THE WATER.**

Web Site Electronic Application for Membership

You may be aware that we now can receive applications for membership electronically from our web site. The form is much the same as the paper version that you are all familiar with. We can now encourage prospective members to apply on line. The same conditions of application apply, ie. applications are subject to acceptance by the committee as they have always been.

Visit our web site and see what else is new.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CRUISE DIRECTOR- Geoff Peplar

Your committee has constructed a varied & interesting programme for the 2012/2013 cruising season. We have included cruises for vessels on Port Phillip & Western Port, & the Gippsland Lakes. Fun & relaxing Happy Hours are guaranteed!

CRUISE PARTICIPANTS PRIZE

This season will again feature the "Cruise Participants Prize". Every cruise you attend, & provided you have signed on & off with the cruise co-ordinator, your vessel's name will go into a draw to be conducted at the AGM. The more cruises attended, the greater your chances of winning!

SEASON OPENING (MELBOURNE CUP WEEKEND)

The opening weekend & sailpast will take place on the Gippsland Lakes & will feature a club provided sausage sizzle & prize giving. On the Sunday, Duck Arm will be the sailpast location, with the sausage sizzle at Ocean Grange. The commodore will award prizes for:-

Sailpast Salute most respectful
Sailpast Salute most disrespectful
Sailpast best dressed boat & crew

XMAS CRUISE

This cruise will be on the wonderful Gippsland Lakes, with New Years Eve & lunch on New Years Day at Payneville.

THE NEW YEAR

The Australia Day Cruise will be based around Queenscliff, this event was extremely successful last season. Remember to book a berth at Queenscliff marina ASAP (Ph: 5258 5459).

Due to popular demand, a Ladies only training weekend onboard "Take It Easy" & coached by Joan Rockliff, will be held in February at Hastings. A cruise (for all) the following weekend will be based from Martha Cove & should be very interesting.

Don't forget the Labour Day Weekend on Westernport, followed by the "Lakes" Easter cruise (one of the premier events of the season!).

April features the Yarra River & Docklands, & then after several social events, a long distance trip to the Broadwater & Moreton Bay, Queensland, is under consideration. The intention is this adventure would take place in September to align with school holidays.

Your committee is working hard to make this season a great success, enjoy the events & locations, have fun, & may your Happy Hour glass always be full & never spilt!

Safe & Happy cruising,
Geoff-Take It Easy

Notice e-Mail addresses

To enable consistent email addresses to certain club officers the following new email addresses have been created. Please add them to your contact list for future reference:

The Secretary;
btycsecretary@gmail.com

The Membership Secretary:
membership.btyc@gmail.com

The Newsletter Editor
editor.btyc@gmail.com

A Message from your Treasurer

It is my job to remind you that the Subscription for 2012/2013 seasonl became due on the 1st July 2012. Payment can be made by Post, in person (at the AGM) or via Internet banking. It just cannot be any easier. Choose the method that suits you.

Thank you to the members who have already paid.

Option 1 - Direct Bank Deposits:

You can pay the subs. via direct deposit at any Westpac Bank. Use the bank details shown below. Please remember to send me, Joan, an email stating the amount paid, the name of the branch and the date you made the deposit. If you pay at a Westpac Bank there is not fee.

Option 2 - Internet Payment:

You may want to make the payment via your internet banking service. Again use the banking details given below. In the transaction description please write your Surname and the name of the boat. eg. Your surname.boat name. Such as Rockliff.TakeItEasy

If you use the Internet payment option please remember to send me, Joan, an email stating the amount paid, and the date you made the deposit.

BANK DETAILS:

Account Name:	Bay Side Trailable Yacht Club
Bank:	Westpac Banking Corporation
BSB	033-138
Account No.	36 -8458



Option 3 - Postal or Money Order or Personal Cheque

Made payable to Bayside Trailable Yacht Club

Post to :-

The Treasure4

Joan Rockliff

Bayside Trailable Yacht Club

PO BOX 2254 SUNBURY VIC 3429

Don't forget to write your boats name in the reference on your deposit slip, so I know who has paid the subscription. You can also confirm with me that you have paid by sending an email to joan. I will then send you your Receipt Number. Looking forward to seeing you on the water.

Joan - "Take it Easy"

Membership Secretary's Corner

Ahoy, me Hearties! Me name is Wayne Ross. For those that have no knowledge of this me and me crew sail aboard a Haines HunterTramp named Martinique; a finer name for a vessel there never was. Having spied my predecessor's blurbs I decided to continue with the tradition of harking to be mindful of prospective sailers in need of highjacking to our glorious club. Like Davey before me I too still hear me mudder gently crooning to me as she patted me little head, the night after I so innocently venturing into clouds of midgies as I be tying me dinghy to some roots, "I t's Ok luv, don't scratch your pretty little head, the itch will soon be gone Luv."

But alas enough beckoning to me past childhood adventures. You may well be inquiring what's this got to do with me job 'ear. You gotta look after yourselves. Enough of this blabber! Me message here is to beseech ye' to continue the good work ye' be doin' being good Baysiders, welcoming newly highjacked members, sharing your mozzie sprays as youse have been known to do. I knows that you be asking' "How does he come by this hear-say?" Well as me mudder told me since before cockey was an egg, "...them flies are ever present and they can pass the word real quick now. So you behave yourself or I'll know about it.." And then she'd pat me head, real gentle like and sweetley croon, with them lovely green I rish eyes a' fluttering "I knows youse 'll be good now."and so ever since then I have been wondering around the seas seeking out maties who like me had a mudder who had teached them sea manners.

"So maties - I knows that you have been good and I'll hear no arguin' this point of fact. That be final on this matter."

So I say to you, in a most genteel way, as my sweet mudder used on me, (but me eyes are not a' flutterin') if you come across any poor unfortunates who are in need of highjacking to our cause, or have a need for a bit of mozzie repellent, be a good highjacker, give 'im or 'er a spray and put 'im or 'er in touch wiv' me, Wayne Ross, your intrepid membership secretary or.ye' can also send them to our web site to get them details about this here glorious club. Me contact details be found in this here rag. So I'll not bore ya with them details.



Wayne Ross
membership.btyc@gmail.com

