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Bayside Trailable Yacht Club NEWSLETTER

August 2024

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BTYC Committee

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Cruise Director	Geoff Peplar	0427 275 632
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Committee member	Shane Kenny	0418 553 946
Committee member	Susan Matthews	0415 161 253
Committee member	Jan Kent	0408 396 041
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Membership secretary	Martin Jones	0419 475 962
Social secretary	Anne Lillecrapp	0438 116 665

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COMMODORE'S CORNER

By Joan Rockliff



Hello Baysiders,

In the midst of another slow starting Victorian winter, today I write this from my warm office while the cold wind blow, rain falls, and the birds outside are hungry.

Within this newsletter is the report on the *Autumn in the High Country* land cruise. It was a fabulous trip for all who attended. Due to this success a new trip is planned for November into early December 2024, taking us east along the coast to Tathra, up to Cooma and across the Alpine Way as far as Rutherglen. The trip should take around two weeks. Details will be finalised soon. Come and enjoy good company (the more the merrier) and beautiful country in Spring.

Regarding the upcoming season, Cruise Director Geoffrey and Committee have put together an exciting cruise/social calendar for the 2024/25 season. Cruises planned on Westernport, Port Albert, Lower Murray, and Gippsland Lakes. Something for everyone!

We have combined our Annual General Meeting (AGM) with our 40th Birthday Celebration for BTYC on Sunday, 15th September 2024 at Hastings Yacht Club. We will be using both levels of the clubhouse, which provides wonderful views over the water. BTYC is providing the barbeque lunch followed by dessert. All you need to bring are your own refreshments. Come and catchup with other members and support your club. The AGM

will be brief as the day is for celebrating the 40 years of camaraderie and good sailing in a wonderful club.

While our AGM will be brief, it is important for everyone to try and attend. Convening an AGM is a mandatory requirement of an incorporated body and unless we achieve our quorum of at least 15 members, the meeting will not comply and has to be held again. Please endeavour to be there.

This is my last report as Commodore as I am not standing for this position again. It is time for new energy. Please consider taking on this job for 12 months, I can say it is a very rewarding experience. Most of the committee are prepared to stand again.

I will take this opportunity to thank the whole Committee. There is no better team a Commodore could have wanted as support. If you are thinking of taking on the Commodore or other Committee position, remember this support will be there.

I thank: Secretary Martin Jones who has not only been a most efficient Secretary, but he is also wearing the Web Designer cap as well as Membership Secretary. Additionally, he has expended many extra hours in working with James (Jim) Reynolds bringing the BTYC Web Site back into the hands of the club and in time to come, renovating the whole site.

Kenton Lillecrapp Treasurer extraordinaire! Thank you for always having your finger on the pulse and always being on the job, even when it has not always been your responsibility. Kenton has done many extra hours with the necessary changing of banks and challenges with accessing new Insurance coverage. You have made my job easier, always correct and considerate.

My partner Geoffrey Peplar is standing down as Cruise Director. I wish to thank Geoff for being a wonderful Cruise Director for the many years he has held that position, and for constantly being my sounding block for club issues. Thank you Geoffrey.

Tony Pitt Newsletter Editor has made our exciting newsletters a joy to read. Not a small job and we are fortunate that Tony takes this position on for BTYC's enjoyment. Thank you, Tony.

Anne Lillecrapp as Social Secretary has planned wonderful social events for us. Thank you, Anne.

I also acknowledge and thank Committee members Susan Mathews, Jan Kent, and Shane Kenny, your input and support has been invaluable.

Lastly thank you to Jim Reynolds, not a committee member but the man behind the Web site security and new home with the club.

Hope to see you at Hastings Yacht Club for the BTYC AGM and 40th Birthday Celebration; and on the water and at other season 24/25 fantastic events,

Happy Sailing from Commodore Joan.

THE PAYNESVILLE CLASSIC BOAT RALLY 2024

By Geoff Peplar

The 2024 Classic Boat Rally took place at Paynesville from March 1st to March 3rd. It is a biennial event, but last conducted in 2020, as due to Covid 19 restrictions the rally scheduled for 2022 was cancelled.

The festival is free and took place along the beautiful Paynesville waterfront, a perfect location. It brought over 200 boats together, both ashore and afloat, many coming from interstate including Tasmania. Officially, only vessels over 25 years of age were eligible for entry but younger boats with classic lines were also included.



There were seminars, demonstrations, trade displays, boat building displays, music, and more. Boats ashore included trailerable yachts (this correspondent had his restored Boomerang 20 on display), sailing and rowing dinghies, catamarans, canoes, motorboats, and steam launches, etc. Numerous refreshment stalls were set up in the Gippsland Lakes Yacht Club yard.

Following the entrant's Welcome and Meet and Greet held in the GLYC rooms on the Friday evening, the event swung into full action with the Power Boat Parade along McMillan Straits on Saturday. In cloudy conditions and a cool wind well over a hundred vessels cruised past the spectators crowding the jetties and pontoons of the strait. A public announcer provided brief details of most vessels as they motored along. All the little ships created a great spectacle with each vessel in immaculate condition. Additionally, the onshore displays provided much interest; Paynesville township was "jumping"!



The Parade of Sail through McMillan Straits planned for the Sunday was sadly cancelled due to strong south westerly winds although a few brave souls did venture out, providing much excitement among the rally spectators. This correspondent found relief from the wind in attending a very informative lecture regarding the Gippsland Lakes Burranan Dolphins.

This dolphin species is found only in Gippsland Lakes, Port Phillip and Tasmanian waters. There is some travelling of these dolphins between the Gippsland

Lakes and the Tasmanian group. They came to inhabit the Lakes on a permanent basis following the construction of the lakes entrance. Over the years the population has waxed and waned, extended periods of freshwater inflow from the rivers reduces lake water salinity. This causes severe lesions on the dolphin's skin and leads to mortalities. At this time the depleted population may slowly increase as there is recovery from recent flood events.

An interesting fact gleaned was that hydrophones are used to locate the dolphin's whereabouts and hydrophone recordings were played during the lecture. This correspondent can confirm the crackling sound heard when in the cabins of boats on the lakes are Snapping Shrimp. Their large claw is virtually spring loaded, and the rapid closing of the claw stuns prey! A recording played when lake salinity was low was devoid of this sound.



The event wound up on the Sunday afternoon following presentations for best restored craft, greatest distance travelled to attend, etc. In summary, full descriptions of all to see and do at this wonderful festival would take up pages but the best part of the event is the dedication and craftsmanship on display and the appreciation of the vessels shown by the rally visitors. Interestingly, BTYC Commodore Joan fell in love with an amateur built 22 foot motor launch!

Start polishing your trailable yacht, here's to the next bigger and better rally in February 2026!

CRUISE REPORT AUTUMN in the HIGH COUNTRY 8th to 30th April 2024

By Joan Rockliff

Participating: *Anne and Kenton Lillecrapp, Ron and Ruth Attard, Susan and Grant Mathews, John and Joan Coombs, Ann and Brian Eno, Sue and David Morrissey, Joan Rockliff and Geoff Peplar.*

What can I say. We wanted to see the High Country in autumn colour, and what a show we had. It was magnificent. With great weather and autumn colour out of this world, much fun was had by all. The group enjoyed campfires nightly with dinners cooked together some nights. One night proved a real production, a roast dinner and dessert with different people responsible for different parts of the meal.



Many lunches and dinners out, cafes, bakeries, hotels, breweries, wineries/ tastings, picnics. I think if there was a vote on the best meal experience the one that might win would be at Chrismont Winery near Cheshunt, King Valley. Wonderful views, superb meals, wine and service.

Op Shops were explored and boutique shops enjoyed. Two intrepid couples braved the late-night tour of the

Beechworth Lunatic Asylum. Not a hospitable place to be committed to in its time, but very easy for that to happen (wearing red could put you in there!) and extremely difficult to get out again with 12 signatures from medicos required.

The best scenic drives were to Falls Creek, Craigs Hut, El Dorado Gold Dredge, Wallace's Hut, Lake William Hovel, Bright, Wandiligong, and Powers Lookout. At the ANZAC service in Mt Beauty John Combs marched alongside other Vietnam Vets.

The towns we stayed in for 2 or more nights were Mansfield, Beechworth, Mount Beauty, Harrierville, Whitfield and Jamieson. There were so many highlights. Two that stand out for me are first and foremost the camaraderie from the group and second the kayak trip we took on the Jamieson River and Lake Eildon. We paddled from Jamieson Caravan Park to the Woolshed Brewery for lunch. A pickup service was provided back to the caravan park for the weary kayakers, some being very wet.

All in all a wonderful trip with many attendees asking if it could be done again next year!



VOLUNTEERING TO PROTECT AUSSIE WILDLIFE

By Tony Pitt

While in outback Queensland in 2013, Gaye and I spent a few days at Currawinya National Park. This is home to the Bilby fence and the 25 km² feral free enclosure constructed by the Save the Bilby Fund. The project rose to national prominence in 2002 to protect the last remaining colony of wild Bilbies in this part of Australia, after the Queensland government failed to do so.

The initial success of the project, with up to 300 bilbies detected in annual population survey., had been well documented. You can imagine the disappointment when the Park Ranger at Currawinya told Gaye and me that the recent 2012 survey failed to detect any Bilbies within the enclosure. It seems that the 2011 floods washed out a couple of sections of fence and feral cats got in. They were still in there somewhere.

When we got home I contacted a few of my former work colleagues from the Victorian Department of Agriculture and conveyed this story to them. They were equally disappointed but we resolved to do something about it. What followed was about 12 months of negotiation and a little bit of obfuscation. But in 2014 an intrepid band of 4 volunteers decamped from West Gippsland to Currawinya for about 2 weeks and systematically surveyed and repaired the errant sections of the fence around the Bilby enclosure.

We went again another 2 weeks the following year.

Currawinya doesn't need us anymore. The Queensland government has finally taken a much stronger interest in funding this Project and there is a thriving population of Bilbies at Currawinya. You may have seen media releases about the success. But our group of volunteers continues to operate (it has now expanded to about 12 individuals). In groups of four we currently spend a couple of weeks each year at Scotia Wildlife Sanctuary in outback NSW where we are trying arrest some serious habitat decline due to invasive weeds.

Volunteering to protect Aussie wildlife is almost as satisfying as sailing.

BAYSIDE TRAILABLE YACHT CLUB SAILING/SOCIAL CALENDAR

2024/2025 SEASON

All events and dates are provisional only.

Please give early indication your intention to participate in a scheduled event.

MONTH	DATE	EVENT	VENUE	COMMENTS	CONTACT
SEPTEMBER	SUN 15 TH	BTYC 40 TH ANNIVERSARY LUNCH & AGM. AGM ATTENDANCE IMPORTANT	HASTINGS YACHT CLUB	LUNCH 12.00 NOON ATTEND THE AGM AND INPUT INTO THE AFFAIRS & FUTURE OF YOUR CLUB	ANNE LILLECRAPP TEXT: 0438116665
NOVEMBER	SUN 17 TH	XMAS PARTY	HICKINBOTHAM WINERY, DROMANA	LUNCH 12.00 NOON COME ONE, COME ALL FOR A PLEASANT CLUB GET TOGETHER	ANNE LILLECRAPP TEXT: 0438116665
NOVEMBER/ DECEMBER	SUN 24 TH TO THU 5 TH	SEA TO SNOWY LAND CRUISE	SOUTHEAST COAST NSW, SNOWY MNTS, UPPER MURRAY	CARAVAN, CAMPER, TENT OR CABIN. (LAKES ENTRANCE, MALACOOTA, TATHRA, COOMA, CORRYONG, RUTHERGLEN)	JOAN ROCKLIFF TEXT: 0427275632
JANUARY	SAT 25 TH TO MON 27 TH	AUSTRALIA DAY OPENING WEEKEND & SAILPAST	GIPPSLAND LAKES	SAILPAST NEWLANDS ARM SUN. BBQ DAWSONS COVE. CRUISE EXTENDS TO FRI 31ST FOR THOSE WHO WISH	TBA
FEBRUARY	MON 10 TH TO SUN 16 TH	PORT ALBERT CRUISE	PORT ALBERT	EXPERIENCE A WATERWAY WITH A DIFFERENCE	TONY PITT TEXT: 0408514581
FEBRUARY	SAT 22 ND TO MON 24 TH	WESTERN PORT ADVENTURE CRUISE	WESTERN PORT	LAUNCH HASTINGS, VISIT TOORADIN, SANDY POINT, RHYLL	TBA
MARCH	SAT 8 TH TO MON 10 TH	LABOUR DAY RIVERS & LAKES EXPLORERS CRUISE	GIPPSLAND LAKES	A RIVERS AND LAKES EXTRAVAGANZA. CRUISE EXTENDS TO FRI 14TH FOR THOSE WHO WISH	TONY PITT TEXT: 0408514581
MARCH	MID MARCH DATES TBA	LOWER MURRAY AND LAKES CRUISE	MURRAY BRIDGE TO GOOLWA	EXPLORE THESE WONDERFUL WATERS IN GOOD COMPANY. REGISTRATION DATE OPENING TBA	MARTIN JONES TEXT: 0419475962
APRIL	FRI 18 TH TO TUE 22 ND	EASTER LAKES CRUISE	GIPPSLAND LAKES	RELAXED CRUISING ON OUR FAVOURITE WATERWAY	TBA
MAY	MON 19 TH TO FRI 23 RD	FROST BITE CRUISE	GIPPSLAND LAKES	STAY IN PAYNESVILLE C'VAN PARK, CARAVAN OR CABIN OR STAY ON BOAT. DAY SAILS TO VARIOUS LUNCH DESTINATIONS	GEOFF PEPLAR TEXT: 0436400657

Notice of Cruise

From the Sea to the Snow

Sunday November 24 to Thursday December 5, 2024

The *Sea to the Snow* Land Cruise will see participants meet for the first night at Lakes Entrance. The next day we move on to Mallacoota for two nights where some may choose to hire a vessel and take a trip up to Gipsy Point (highly recommended).

Next stop will be Tathra for three nights stopping at Eden for lunch on route. At Eden we will find out how the Killer Whales helped the Whalers catch the many breeds of whales that migrated along the coast. There is much to fill in the stopover at Tathra. Next stop is Cooma for two nights where attractions include The Snowy Hydro Discover Centre, Mt Gladstone Lookout, a day trip to Jindabyne, Lake Eucumbene, etc.

Following one night in Tumut, we move on to Tallangatta for 2 nights and explore the Hume Weir and surrounds. Our final stop will be Rutherglen for 2 nights where we will enjoy a local winery. We will be staying in dog friendly caravan parks with Cabins.

Please let me know via text message if you are planning on participating in this adventure, more information will follow in due course.

Cruise coordinator: Joan Rockliff 0427 275 632

Notice

Baysiders Christmas Lunch

at Hickinbotham Winery of Dromana

Sunday November 17, 2024

Our Christmas celebration this year will be at the Hickinbotham Winery, 194 Nepean Highway, Dromana. The winery is providing a two course lunch for us at \$55 per head with drinks at bar prices. There will be live music, good company and lots of Christmas cheer.

RSVP by 17th October

To:

Anne Lillecrapp 0438 116 665 (Please leave a message or send text)

Notice

40th Anniversary Lunch

Sunday 15th September 2024

Bayside Trailable Yacht Club 40th Anniversary Barbecue Lunch

To be held at Hastings Yacht Club

1 Marine Parade, Hastings

12.00 midday onwards on Sunday 15th September 2024

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