



PROPELLER

ROYAL VICTORIAN MOTOR YACHT CLUB | ESTABLISHED 1904

INSIDE

- ☐ Hayman Island here we come
- ☐ Eventide on the East coast
- ☐ Opening event

Photos and story: John Zammit

Kids 'n' RIBS - Just add water

Members may be aware that the Royal Victorian Motor Yacht Club (RVMYC) has, for some time, been working on developing an exciting new fun boating program for kids.

The program, based on one being run successfully by the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) in the UK, aims to introduce children to the joys of boating and the boating lifestyle, while at the same time providing children with education and skills in proper and safe powerboat handling. The program is meant to be educational but presented in a practical, fun and interesting way in the form of a skills-based competition where the children spend the maximum time out on the water.

After some basic training, the children, aged 8 – 16, take part in the competition in the form of a series of time trials driving a RIB (Rigid Inflatable Boat) around a set of marks followed by 'rescue' and 'manoeuvring' exercises. The slalom buoys used in the time trials are set 12.5m apart so that skill and control, and not necessarily speed, are the most important factors.



A strict safety protocol is in place and a competent adult instructor is in the boat with the children at all times. It is envisioned that each 'series' would run for around 4 – 6 weeks and we would run a number of series each year culminating in a 'final'.

We have been fortunate enough to secure sponsorship from Australia's largest marine

insurer, Club Marine and Victoria's leading luxury boat retailer R Marine Jacksons. The program will be known as the Club Marine RVMYC Youth RIB Program run by the Royal Victorian Motor Yacht Club. The sponsorship has enabled us to purchase a 4.2m RIB fitted with a 'Jockey Style' centre console and a 40hp Outboard complete with trailer

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Call for Yarra River protection

A report released last month has called on the State Government to introduce a new governance structure to protect the Yarra River.

The Let's Act for the Yarra report released by Yarra Riverkeepers and Environmental Justice Australia last month calls on the State Government to enact the Yarra River Protection Act it promised pre-election.

The report seeks a new governance model for the whole of the Yarra River, differing from the approach of stakeholders in Docklands, who continue to advocate for a single port authority to govern local waterways.

Before last year's election the Labor Party promised to introduce a Yarra River Protection Act to protect the river corridor from inappropriate development. It has also promised to establish a trust that would develop standardised planning controls for the Yarra and work with agencies to promote the river's amenity.

According to the Let's Act for the Yarra report, the biggest challenges currently facing the Yarra River are overdevelopment, environmental stress and poor water quality.

In addition, the report outlines how the number of municipalities and agencies with jurisdiction over parts over the river, alongside a complex mix of laws and regulations, make it harder to address the river's problems.

The report advocates for the introduction of a Yarra River Protection Act and independent trust in order to "cut through the complexity of the current regulatory situation, making it easy to ensure good decisions are made to protect the river".

"We congratulate the Government for committing to enact a Yarra River Protection Act with its own independent

body to better manage the river from source to mouth," Yarra riverkeeper Andrew Kelly said.

"The Government has recognised there are problems with the Yarra, but one plan after another had failed to fix them. The Yarra is facing so many



RVMYC Commodore slicing up the water on the way to the summer feeding grounds.

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Water rats of the human kind

Another frequent sight on the bay and around the coast is the "Policia's Aquanicus" or Water Police. They have long been a great attraction, plying the waters around Melbourne but are known to all around the coast of Victoria.

Charles Joseph La Trobe, Superintendent of the Port Phillip District, established the Water Police in 1840. By 1852, the first overseas steam service was developed and by 1855, the Water Police had grown considerably with a detachment stationed at Geelong.

In 1961, the Motor Boating Act was proclaimed and in 1962, the Motor Boating (General) Regulations came into force. The original policing was carried out by an ex-naval officer and coxswain attached to the Ports and Harbours Authority. In 1963, Victoria Police was given the task of enforcing the law provisions of the Motor Boating Act and Regulations with the start of the Motor Boating Squad in February 1964.

The squad's name was changed to the Water Police Squad in 1980 and in 1985 de-centralisation of the Water Police began. One sergeant and four senior constables are now based at Paynesville on the Gippsland Lakes. In 1992, a senior constable was permanently stationed at Benalla to cover Lakes Eildon, Hume and Dartmouth and all other waterways in north east Victoria.

Today the squad is based at Williamstown in a



multi-million dollar state-of-the-art complex at the rear of the Williamstown police station. They are now co-located with the Search and Rescue Squad and are now known as the Water Police/Search and Rescue Squads. This has streamlined the administration of the squads even though they still function as separate units.

The Water Police coordinates all marine incidents throughout Victoria. They receive over 700 calls a year for assistance to these incidents.

The Marine Coordinator oversees the entire operation and is responsible for the coordination of police resources, including assistance from the Air Wing, Search and Rescue and also volunteer search and rescue agencies.

It provides a 24-hour response service which patrols Port Phillip and Western Port bays and other waterways throughout Victoria including coastal, enclosed and inland waters. The Water Police ensures that all vessels are equipped with appropriate safety equipment, comply with registration requirements and that marine laws and regulations are enforced.

It also maintains a Marine Investigation Unit, which assists with investigations of stolen vessels and other criminal activity on the water.



Policing Victoria's waterways is a year-round task. During the winter months when there is a slight decrease in the number of call-outs, the squad conducts intensive training and maintenance on its vessels to ensure its equipment and members are in peak working condition.

Operational support

The unit can be used to transport other units to locations that are inaccessible by foot, for example if they are looking for a remote drug crop, serving warrants in isolated places or on vessels.

It also investigates boating accidents and fatalities and prepares inquest briefs for the coroner. In incidents involving criminal offences the Water Police will lead the investigation and in all other instances can provide advice regarding prosecution to local police. The Water Police have access to a database of all registered marine vessels for



assisting with investigations and recovery of stolen vessels.

Don't miss...

Miss Australia Cup – RVMYC Navrally Sunday 26 April

Well this is it! Our last RVMYC Navrally for this current boating year. This is your last chance before our season ends.

The Miss Australia Cup Navrally is on Sunday 26 April. Please see details and course attached.

OFFICIAL CLUBHOUSE OPENING Friday 22 May

The opening ceremony of the new clubhouse by His Excellency the Hon Alex Chernov AC QC, Governor of Victoria accompanied by Mrs Elizabeth Chernov on 22 May 2015 at 9.30am for 10.00am to be followed by light refreshments.

RVMYC Awards Night Saturday 16 May

This, the most important night of the boating season with the Presentation of Club awards and Nav Rally trophies, concludes our 111th boating season.

7pm Dress: Black Tie

EDITOR'S NOTE



We welcome contributions from members, Propeller will endeavour to publish articles as soon as possible, space permitting. Please contact the propeller sub committee for more information.

Lorraine McKenzie: ranuinz05@gmail.com
Frank Wilkes: ranuinz05@gmail.com
Brad Teal: brad@bradteal.com.au
Greg Miles: gmiles59@bigpond.net.au
Livio Andolfatto: livio@redmustard.com.au

ADVERTISING RATES

Did you know that you can advertise in this newsletter from as little as \$25 an edition for a business card size ad?

Ten editions are published each year and circulated to our members and friends.
Business Card Size: \$277pa Half Page: \$831pa *Full Page: \$1,386pa

We also offer a bonus *free b/card inclusion for any full page ads, where space available. Contact the Club for further details.



From the Commodore's Deck

Dear Members,

It's been another busy month or so around the club, and I am pleased to report details are now finalised for the official opening of our new Club house. As all members should be aware, this official ceremony is taking place on May 22, with the honorable Alex Chernov AC QC, Governor of Victoria, doing the honors', and Danny Pearson MP in attendance representing the premier and the local member for Williamstown.

We're expecting numerous local and interstate VIP visitors on the day, we hope its a memorable occasion. A dinner is planned for the evening, which I hope will allow any members unable to attend the morning festivities to celebrate the occasion. More information of the day will be published later as we finalise details.

The annual awards night is fast approaching, and it's not too late to book, dress up, turn up and have fun at one of the more formal and fun nights of our annual club events.

Easter was a busy time around the club, with many members taking the opportunity to use their boats.

Several members, Len Dockrill and the Keast's are away on extended voyages, details of their exploits to be found in this issue of *Propeller*. Several members have mentioned to me that this is their favorite time of the year for boating activities, as the weather settles down to cool nights, warm days and no wind. A great time to be spontaneous and come down to the club and use your boat. If you are a non-boat owner but would like a trip out, make yourself known to the duty officer who will be delighted to find you a spot on a boat, hopefully not called the "Minnow" only out for a three hour tour!

If relaxing and eating is your thing, and let's face it, there is no better place to do it than our club, then please enjoy our club facilities, and remember to book for the restaurant as it helps our caterers with staffing etc. The food is great, and the menu ever evolving, so there is something for every members taste. The Artistic crew have worked hard to get a menu working for everyone and are keen to get your feedback, especially in establishing a Thursday and Friday lunch!

Thank you to all the hard working members

around the club, for their ongoing support of the committee, special mention to John Zammit who is working hard on the kids program, set to be launched in the next few months, he has brought together many organisations for the required expertise and sponsorship.

Also a special thanks to the Mariners who have been putting in overtime to organise some major events in May with our Awards night and Official Opening, they are working tirelessly to make sure all goes to plan.

I look forward to seeing you all at the official opening, and around the club.

Happy boating till next month,

Simon Mills
Commodore

Governor of Victoria to open RVMYC Clubhouse

We are delighted to announce the opening of our new clubhouse by his Excellency the Honourable Alex Chernov AC QC, Governor of Victoria.

The Governor was born in Lithuania and immigrated to Australia as a young boy with his Russian parents. He was educated at Melbourne High School, followed by the University of Melbourne where he obtained a Bachelor of Commerce and an LLB with Honours.

After graduating he tutored in law at Ormond and Newman Colleges, as well as Monash University. In 1968 the Governor signed the Roll of Counsel at the Victorian Bar and was appointed Queen's Counsel in Victoria in 1980.

In 1997, he was appointed a Judge of the Trial Division of the Supreme Court of Victoria and, in 1998, was appointed to its Court of Appeal. In 1992, he became a member of the Council of the University of Melbourne and chaired a number of its major committees. In 2004, he was elected a Deputy Chancellor of the University of Melbourne and in 2009, was elected as its Chancellor.

In 2008, he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia. On the 8th of April, 2011 he was sworn in as the 28th Governor of Victoria and sworn-in as a deputy to the Governor-General and as an Administrator of the Commonwealth of Australia, on 23rd September 2014.

Our guest list on the day, will include some 40 dignitaries and VIP's from the community, kindred

clubs across Port Phillip, the Royal Australian Navy, government and business. This will prove to be a benchmark day for the club and its 111 year history. "Having his Excellency the Honourable Alex Chernov AC QC, Governor of Victoria to officially open our facilities is great honour for the club", said Commodore Simon Mills.

The Commodore goes on to say that, "Since the Club's inception - we have had the privilege of being acknowledged by outstanding institutions and individuals, who recognise our endeavours in respect to our community involvement and the advancement of nautical prowess and responsibility. It will be a proud day, we acknowledge the contribution of the many who have worked so hard in the clubs history to realise this moment".

The opening will officially start at 9.30am on Friday 22nd of May, the ceremony will be commencing at 10am precisely. We require members to be seated for the official start. The car park will close promptly at 9.15am, so members are asked to come early.

Following the ceremony downstairs, refreshments will be served in the members area. We will also have a black tie event that evening to commemorate this auspicious time.

Right: His Excellency the Hon Alex Chernov AC QC, Governor of Victoria accompanied by Mrs Elizabeth Chernov



Photos and story: John Zammit

Kids n' RIBs from page 1

and all of the course hardware, (rope, reels, buoys etc.).

We have also had discussions with TS Voyager Naval Cadets who will take part in the program and their officers will participate in the running of the program. It's hopeful that we can complete initial trials in April/May. Once trials are completed we will formalise a start date for the program which will be open to members children (and grandchildren) aged 8 years to 16 years. No previous boat handling experience is necessary and the only prerequisite is that children must be able to swim at least 25 metres.

If you have children or grandchildren aged 8 – 12 years that you think may be interested in participating in this fun program please register as we intend to hold an information evening for interested parents and children at the club.



You can register by emailing admin@rvmyc.com.au or call the RVMYC office on 9393 2888.

We are still looking for additional sponsors for the program and we've put together a number of Sponsorship Packages for varying amounts from \$1k - \$5k. If you, or any organisation you know is interested in more details about the benefits of sponsoring this fabulous and worthwhile program (with excellent advertising opportunities for sponsors), please give Rear Commodore John Zammit a call on 0418 587 799 for more details.

See the RYA program in action in the UK by cutting and pasting this Youtube video link into your browser: <https://youtu.be/upfWw7rC3H4>

200ft wooden boat, set to break record

KOZHIKODE: It was a historic moment for the workers of the boat-building yard at Beypore on Wednesday when they gave the finishing touches to one of the biggest urus (wooden boat) in Asia. The hand-made wooden boat will soon be on a historic voyage.

Ordered by Sheik Mohammed Bin Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, from the royal family of Qatar, it is an engineering marvel, which has shaped into such a large boat.

In this hand-made dhow, the keel is the most important, which decides the construction of the whole boat. In this case, the uru is 140 ft long at

Abdul Gafoor, the proprietor of Binafa Enterprises, who got the orders to make the ship, said that it took them 30 workers and three-and-a-half-years to construct the uru, which weighed about 1,500 tonnes. "It has been made completely of teak wood, which was imported from Burma, and is of high quality," he said and added that the boat cost about 4 crore. (A crore is a unit in the Indian numbering system equal to ten million)

The company has made another along with it, which is 62 ft long at the keel, 82 ft in length, 10 ft high and 25 ft wide. It is again for the royal family, which has demanded it along with the biggest uru.

Gafoor told 'Express' that the business of making uru was growing as orders were coming in from the Gulf countries, where the ship was a luxury and used for other purposes. The industry was at present thriving because of those orders and the great craftsmanship of the workers here, he said.

Even though urus are made in these countries, the boat-making skill, especially the ribs of the boats, are well-appreciated in other parts of the country. The biggest uru has more than 300 ribs, that helps the boat to float and accommodate the engine. While now it has a Chinese engine, the uru will be docked at Dubai for replacing it with a different engine and for interior work.

Gafoor said they were already a month behind the promised delivery period owing to various reasons. But despite that what was more encouraging was that the Qatar government had demanded 10 more urus which would require more space and support.



Wooden boat, claimed to be one of the biggest in Asia, at Beypore in Kozhikode

the keel, 200 ft in length and 14 ft high from the keel, with about an 18 ft high cabin above the deck. The earlier biggest uru which set sail into the sea was 180 ft.



ROYAL VICTORIAN MOTOR YACHT CLUB 2015 ANNUAL DINNER & AWARDS NIGHT

Saturday, 16 May 2015

This, the most important night of the boating season with the Presentation of Club awards and Nav Rally trophies, concludes our 111th boating season. It reflects the long history of the Royal Victorian Motor Yacht Club with boating activities dating back nearly 80 years and is testament to the sporting traditions maintained for the past 100 years at our Club.

Whalley Cup (founded 1927)
Miss Australia Cup (founded 1957)
Club Aggregate for 2014/15 boating season
Boat Person of the Year award
Club Person of the Year for 2014/15

Presentations include:

The Centenary Cup
Marconi Cup
RVMYC Regatta
Oslo Cup
Williamstown Cup

Come and share the experience with members and guests at a very special and traditional night.

Arrival: 7pm

Dress: Black Tie or Lounge suit

DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT WILL BE PROVIDED

Please book with the Club on admin@rvmyc.com.au
Or call Jarmila on 9393 2888

from page 1

Call for Yarra River protection



- A greater ambition for appropriate planning, river health and sympathetic catchment management;
- A coherent regulatory structure for the Yarra as a whole, from source to mouth;
- An independent agency to care for the Yarra; and
- The right for the community to step in to have good environmental rules enforced and pathways to improved environmental outcomes considered.

Director of advocacy and research at Environmental Justice Australia, Nicola Rivers, says

development pressures and its management is so fragmented that efforts to clean it up are at risk. With Melbourne's population set to soar, the river will be squeezed."

"The Yarra is at the crossroads right now and we need to take advantage of the opportunity to enact a Yarra River Protection Act if we're going to ensure a truly world class river for the world's most liveable city," Mr Kelly said.

The report has called for the Yarra River Protection Act to include:

the Government needed to start working on the legislation.

"The Yarra is such an important, iconic river, its deserving of its own legislation and it needs its own independent agency to be a champion for the river," Ms Rivers said.

"Decisions about the river need to consider the whole river, so it can be properly protected and managed from source to mouth. The river really needs the Government to begin working on the legislation as soon as possible."

Club's five star service

After a number of months in the club, Artistic has gained many accolades and have hit their bootstraps, Drew Burnett is at the helm of the club's bistro and function requirements, we've had a lot of positive feedback recently from members.

Rob Barnes says "Drew, Terri, Ben and Paul were excellent - all so very thoughtful and kind - their level of service was much appreciated at the birthday celebration for my niece".

He goes further to say "All the guests commented on the ambience, and the friendly atmosphere in the restaurant."

With our coming cooler weather the boys are set to introduce a new Autumn menu. See the back page for details.



Drew Burnett

Alexander Stewart sails into Docklands

Docklands' tall ships have a new companion after the Alexander Stewart sailed into Victoria Harbour last month.

Moored close to the NAB building on Victoria Harbour Promenade, the wooden tall ship had made a 3500 km, six week journey to Melbourne from Cairns, including stop-overs to avoid cyclones.



company in Docklands with tall ships Enterprize and Alma Doepel nearby.

Owner Ivan Mitchell said his grandfather started building the Alexander Stewart in Sydney in 1969 and was joined by his sons (including Ivan's father) in construction throughout the '70s and into the '80s.

More recently, the boat has spent more than a decade operating as a charter boat in the Whitsundays.

After his family moved to Melbourne a few years ago, Mr Mitchell decided to bring the boat down too and he hopes to eventually run day sails and overnight trips.

According to Mr Mitchell, the boat is modelled after The Spray, which was used in the first solo navigation of the world.

"It's built along the same lines as the ship that Joshua Slocum used as the first person to sail around the world solo," Mr Mitchell said.

The Alexander Stewart is in good



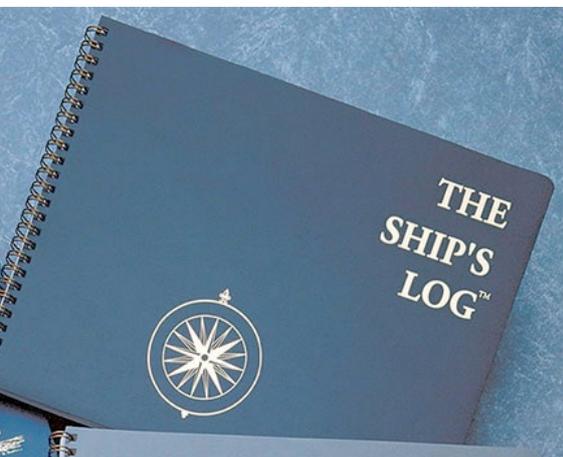
Whalley Cup results

MMYC hosted the annual Whalley Cup on Sunday with 12 competitors running the event. Some familiar faces from clubs around the bay made the trip down for the event and this year it was Chris Ackerman skippering Casa Verde who took out first place. Jack and John aboard Nereid took out second place and third was Bob Battye aboard Eventide.



Log Book for Recreational Navigators

Although there is no legal requirement of the small boat skipper to keep a log, should there ever be a problem, then a written record of your trip will be of invaluable and will simplify the process of providing an account of events to the authorities or your insurance company.



Hopefully that will never be an issue for any of us.

However, where keeping a log book can be rewarding as a valuable record of events;

- It is also critical to safety and navigation as it encourages you to keep track of where you are and where you're going.

- With this record, should your GPS fail, the log books will be invaluable for navigation purposes.
- Content should also include weather conditions, barometric pressure, course, speed, distance traveled and events such as anchoring or docking at a harbor or port.
- A record of previous trips can also work as a cruising guide when re-visiting an area.
- For that reason a record of places visited is almost as good as local knowledge, and could include, as well as navigation information such useful items as names and telephone numbers radio frequencies etc.
- Your own observations on landmarks, shoals, harbor entrances, etc or even such things as that excellent restraint ashore, will be useful on any return trip.
- And just the process of writing down an observation, such as the time it took to return to your home port, will help impress it on your memory for next time.
- On top of this, the log book is just a very enjoyable way to keep track of your journey.
- The log book could also include boat performance and maintenance information.
- It is also an excellent place to keep other boat data such as length, beam, draft, vertical clearance, as well as capacities for all of the onboard tanks, fuel, water etc.
- Not only will it be interesting to look back on previous passages but having that record could improve the resale value of the boat.

You can have a new page to cover the navigation



Extract of Captain James Cooks log book from the 'Endeavour'.

for a days trip on the right hand side and on the left an adjustable amount of space to write notes, some times that might be only a couple of lines, sometimes a couple of pages.

Some people like to add sketches and photographs. On the navigation page I like to have a heading showing the where the trip is from and towards which destination.

Remember this is your personal log book unlike a 'Ships Log' it isn't a legal document, so use it to suit you.

Use your imagination to create something you will enjoy keeping up to date. Someday who knows it could become the latest publishing sensation!

RVMYC members cruising around

We have several crews enjoying long voyages around Australia, Len Docktril and Darren and Tracey Keast are on epic voyages while Mark Folley is 'working' on route to Hayman Island!



Len Docktril doing his version of the scene in Titanic!

Len cruised over Easter with Rear Commodore John Zammit, Fiona Zammit and Past Commodore John Holland - north from Port Stephens to Broome in his 45' Clipper.

From Hervey Bay they spent seven days cruising the spectacular waters around the southern end of the Great Barrier Reef, finishing at Rockhampton but en-route visiting Bundaberg, Seventeen Seventy, Pancake Creek, Lady Musgrave Island, Gladstone, Great Keppel Island and Yepoon.

John says they even caught a couple of nice tuna along the way (released them back of course).

He goes on to say "Whilst the whole seven days was both fascinating and enjoyable, there were a couple of highlights. One was our passage through the 'Narrows', out of Gladstone heading for Great Keppel Island. The 'Narrows' is a 25nm mangrove-lined waterway between Curtis Island and the mainland that completely dries in part to expose the Ramsay Crossing, (a cattle crossing)



JMark Folley's 'job' taking 'Aussie Princess' to Hayman Island

around 15nm out of Gladstone. You need to carefully time your run through here to be at the 'Narrows' just before high tide (tides nearly 4m at times) or you'll easily find yourself

high and dry.

The other highlight was lady Musgrave Island, a 14 hectare coral cay around 32nm off the coast and forming part of the Great Barrier Reef. Lady Musgrave has a surrounding reef with just the narrowest of openings. We spent an afternoon and a night on anchor inside the reef with water as clear as any swimming pool. There is so much marine life here it's a snorkeler's paradise."



John Zammit feeling very chuffed after catching a tuna

Darren and Tracey are currently at the Gold Coast after a leaving RVMYC in March. Tracey says they have had to pick the weather, having to hole up in both refuge cove and



Callisto leaving the RVMYC for the last time!

Ulladula for a number of days.

They have also have done 24 and 18 hour stints at the wheel going across the paddock and up the southern NSW coast with gentle seas at a cruising speed of 8Knts. At the Goldcoast Darren caught up with the original owner and builder Jim Irwin who was overjoyed at the new additions to Callisto and the chance to see her again.



Callisto berthed at Ulladulla

Who will it be this year?

Williamstown will turn into New York on Saturday May 16 because our version of the Academy Awards is on again.

Pull out the penguin suit and shell out the \$1,000 for a new gown, it'll all be worth it - when you spend the evening at the RVMYC Awards.

There will be 'bling' a plenty, come and see who wins the coveted "Club person of the Year" for 2015 - who could beat the favorite choice last year Ronald Clark!. It's been

a year of toil and sweat and quite a few names have been thrown into the ring. Not that that's any clue -mind you - be sure to book early as this year will be well attended.

**Cost: \$85per person, includes a 3 course meal at the clubhouse.
Drinks at Bar prices.**

Plus loads of entertainment...and a band!



RVMYC Awards Night



Enjoy your day on the water

You've packed the esky, got the sunscreen, filled the tanks and finally got that sunny, still day - water shimmering on the hull.

But did you check the oil, transmission or hydraulic fluid...did you book that service? With summer here - don't wreck that perfect day with preventable mechanical problems, call Mariner Engineering to get your boat or yacht into shape.



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Photos and story: Owen Smart

Part 1

Ships log - *Eventide* - Meridian 441

Day 1. Sunday December 28th, 2014

The plan was to purchase all necessary provisions, and be ready to head south at first light in the morning, but as this is Queensland, most shops were closed. Rained for most of the



day with the humidity nearly maximum.

Day 2. Monday December 29th, 2014

The weather was still very humid, but the rain had stopped. Off to the supermarket for food, etc, Whitworths for new fenders, clothes pegs (ask Nola about these), Bunnings for other bits & pieces, and the pub for beverages. Then to the Hope Island Marina for fuel. All set to go by 4:30pm.

Bob's brother & sister in law came to the marina for a BBQ and a few drinks. A nice way to finish a busy day.

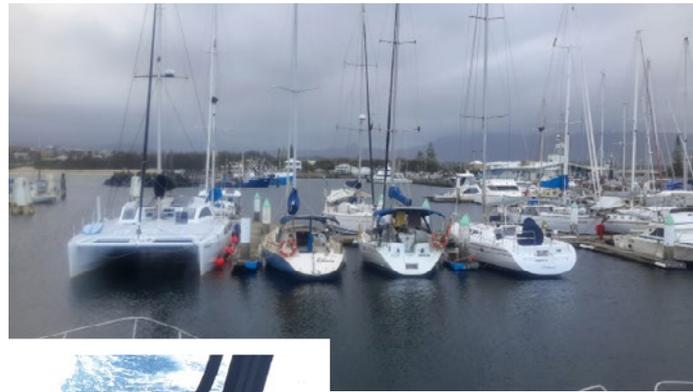
Day 3. Tuesday December 30th, 2014. Hope Island to Yamba

Left Hope Island after a sleepless night. We were all up at 4:30 and ships ahoy at 5:00 am. Up with the birds just before day break. Nobody needed waking as the whole crew had been awake for an hour or more, full of excitement. Very foggy. No wind. Water is very flat. Out into the Coomera River with all of its sandbars which meant we had to be alert.. We were warned that boaters fall into one of two categories in this area: "Those that have run aground, and those that are about to run aground". Fortunately, we did not run aground, so will have to do that next time. The speed limit is 3 knots, so a slow passage from Hope Island.

Heading out of the Gold Coast entrance before 6:00 am on the outgoing tide which produced minor choppy conditions but nothing of concern.

Once outside, the seas were flat and oily looking, slight NE winds gave us perfect conditions on

the run down to Yamba. Boat doing well. No problems so far. We saw numerous small boats out fishing and sighted many pods of dolphins. Making 16-19 knots at 2450 rpm with a fuel burn of about 100 litres/hour. Boat likes a following sea and has a very gentle motion at speed. Arrived at Yamba entrance with the Clarence river running out. Entry was fine but had to be very alert to follow the leads, especially as it was the first time any of the crew had been to Yamba. Fuelled the boat



(\$1.89/litre - the most expensive on the whole trip). And got into our berth at the marina. Weather was fine but very humid so an ale or two to quench the thirst. Then off to the Pacific Hotel for another couple coldies & dinner. Quite a walk from the marina but the view of the entrance was great. Another long walk back to the marina and

Leg	Distance nm	Voyage Time	Fuel Used	Price Per Litre
Port Stephens to Pittwater	74	4:55	506	\$1.80

Day 4. Wednesday December 31st, 2014. Yamba to Coffs Harbour

Checked the weather at 4:30 am. Southerly breeze at the marina but not the humidity we had endured for the past 3 days. Onto BOM and other websites to check the weather out further. After some discussion, we decided to set off. We don't want to stay another day in Yamba.

It is 6:00am and we are underway and navigating our way out of the marina. Spoke to a yachtie on the way out of the channel who was just coming

in. He said the seas were "very calm". Anticipating a day like yesterday we made our way through the "Hole in the wall" and out against the incoming tide.

Made good speed for the first hour or two, but the weather has turned. Seas not as good as yesterday but still able to make 16 knots. - that is, until the southerly got up to 20 knots. The water has become lumpy, a southerly is blowing, and

we can only make 5 to 8 knots. By this time we were nearly half way to Coffs Harbour, so we are pushing on at 6-8 knots. We are heading for Coffs Harbour. Might be too rough to go through to port Macquarie as originally planned. Sky overcast, big rocks (islands) in the water, dodged the rocks. Southerly wind eased as we got closer to Coffs Harbour allowed us to make 13 knots for the last hour into port. Refuelled & into a berth - cleaned up & checked the weather for Thursday - looks like we are going to spend a day or two with the locals. Off to yacht club for dinner. Poor planning! It's New Years Eve, and the place is booked out. So, off to the butcher and BBQ for dinner. There was a party on the boat next to us to celebrate the new Year. The fireworks went off at 10:00pm on the fishing jetty just 100 metres away, and were loud enough to get us out of bed for a quick look. The friendly neighbours were just getting fired up, but we were tired and never heard a thing until we woke next morning.





Leg	Distance nm	Voyage Time	Fuel Used	Price Per Litre
Port Macquarie to Port Stephens	95	6:00	664	\$1.70

Day 5. Thursday January 1st, 2015. Coffs Harbour to Port Macquarie

Awoke at 6:00am and checked the weather. Not a sign of anybody else “alive” in the marina, and not a sound from the neighbors at this hour. Left Coffs Harbour at approx 6:30am and out to sea. The water was a bit rough, with some good “rollers”. Arrived in Port Macquarie at about 11:30. The entrance has a row of trees on the south side with a large white lead just in front of the trees. A small bar across the entrance, but quite safe with care. It may be a different story with big seas! We fuelled up before making our way to our berth. The marina did not charge for the berth as we had purchased a good tank of fuel. The marina has floating jetties which use the sealed up formwork that was used to build the Sydney Opera House. “Recycling at its best”. Staff were very helpful. Nola did 2 loads of washing. It was very hot and humid. Went to supermarket loaded up with supplies. Off to the bowling club for a nice roast with veges. Nola was upset because they cut off all the crusty bits from the roast and threw them out. “All the best bits were being wasted”.

Leg	Distance nm	Voyage Time	Fuel Used	Price Per Litre
Coffs Harbour to Port Macquarie	71	5:30	676	

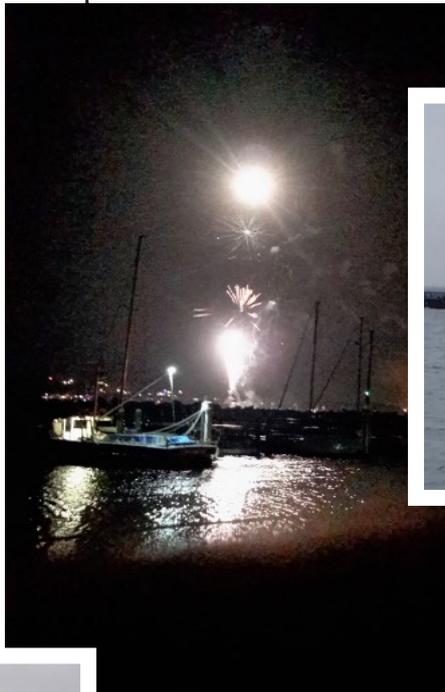


Day 6. Friday January 2nd, 2015. Port Macquarie to Port Stephens

Up at 5:00am and leaving Port Macquarie at 5:30am. Seas not too bad. Slight rollers. If the seas hold, we should be in Port Stephens by lunch time. Running at 15 knots at 9:45am (half way) when we hit fog. The fog was lifting and did not slow us. Port Stephens has big wide and easy entrance, but it is necessary to avoid the shallow bits. We arrived at the marina at 11:30am, and were welcomed by John & Fiona Zammitt. Great to see familiar faces after only meeting strangers for the past six days. Had a couple of drinks, then off to the town for a bit is retail therapy. John & Fiona invited us to their place for dinner. What a view! Had a lovely meal. John drove us home at 9:30 (thank you John & Fiona). In bed at 9:45pm ready for the next leg- to Pittwater.

Leg	Distance nm	Voyage Time Hours	Fuel Used Litres	Price Per Litre
Yamba to Coffs Harbour	57	7:00	??	\$

Day 7. Saturday January 3rd, 2015. Port Stephens to Pittwater.



Rose at 4:30am and checked the weather. Weather maps show good weather and good water. 5 knot north easterly. Looks good so we are off to Pittwater. Underway at 5:45am and out through the entrance at 6:00 am. Seas are slight and following, so we made good speed to the Pittwater (Broken Bay) entrance. The entrance is wide, deep, and easy, but it is important to clear the sandbar just inside the entrance. It was a good passage to

Pittwater although we had to dodge a few lines attached to fishing pots – some a long way offshore. Saw a few yachts and numerous fishing boats along the way. Obviously, we were close to civilisation as this was the most vessels that we have seen along the coast since we left the Gold Coast. Further, there were about 10 large bulk carriers anchored up outside Newcastle harbour.

Arrived at the Royal Motor Yacht Club at 11:30am. We were met by Bob’s friend Ray and had a very nice lunch at RMYC (I am enjoying this boating life!) after which Ray took us to the supermarket to get provisions and then to Whitworths for a new horn. Nola has been to more Whitworth’s stores than dress shops. She got some great pegs at Whitworth’s on the Gold Coast,

Leg	Distance nm	Voyage Time Hours	Fuel Used Litres	Price Per Litre
Hope Island to Yamba	107	7:30	697	\$1.89

Day 8. Sunday January 4th, 2015. Pittwater to Botany Bay.

As this was a relatively short leg, and we had had 5 solid days, we decided to get a little extra sleep, so we rose at 7:am. No wind and the weather forecast was good (even better later in the morning) so there was no hurry. We had time to replace the



non-working horn with the new one purchased at Whitworths yesterday.

Fired the engines up at 8:30am and out through the wide entrance. The Hawkesbury would be a great place to spend a few weeks. Boats everywhere, and many inlets to explore. We are heading to Botany Bay to stay the night at the St George’s Motor Boat Club. Water is pretty good. The Sydney Coast line is interesting. Steep cliffs with homes and buildings all along the coast from Pittwater to Sydney Harbour and on to Botany Bay. We wondered if Frank Wilkes every gets sick of doing these passages. Arrived at St Georges Motor Boat Club Heading to Botany Bay, where we again met Ray, his sister, and two mates. A short boat trip around Botany Bay and then back to SGMBC for a very nice lunch with great company. This place is “BUSY, BUSY”. We estimated about 250 for Sunday lunch. Washed the boat and tidied up after lunch. Owen has been a handy deck hand, cleaning, polishing and tidying up, so the boat is looking “spic & span” at the moment. He is also pretty good at navigating. Watched a DVD in the evening and in bed by about 9:00pm.

Leg	Distance nm	Voyage Time	Fuel Used	Price Per Litre
Pittwater to Botany Bay	41	3:00	271	\$1.61



Club's sign-in system

A new sign in system has been installed in the club, directly outside the members bar.

This system replaces the book and slip system that the club has used for many years and gives us a number of new features from Clubnet.

Produced in stylish, sturdy stainless steel and featuring both pen and touch control, this is the ultimate in kiosk systems. The unit can act as a stand alone kiosk, or undo 5 screws and it instantly becomes a desktop unit capable of performing in the most heavy duty environment.

Clubnet was the first and original company to develop sign-in technology in Australia. They

design and produce all software in-house and programmers have worked extensively in the Club and Hotel industry so they know club needs.

The system comes with software that is compliant with all Club industry legislation including the Registered Clubs Act, Anti-Laundering Act and Privacy Legislation.

Using a Windows 7 Operating System combined with Microsoft SQL Server 2012, and featuring anti-virus and image backups the system is robust and reliable.

These kiosk's can also be used for:

- Football Tipping
- Questionnaires
- Election System
- Members Draw
- Honour Board or a for a Trivia Quiz

Guests simply place their licence or identity card onto the scanner, the member can then swipe their card to complete the process. The club will then have all details in a manageable file to use for future marketing purposes.

The system is so sophisticated, that it can accommodate the club future needs.



image
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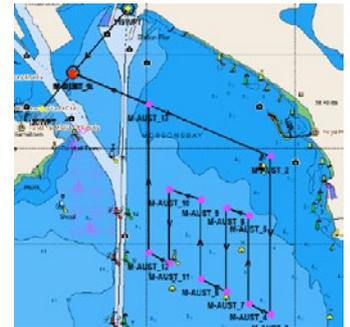
Miss Australia NavRally

Well this is it! Our last RVMYC Navrally for this current boating year.

Now if you're one of those people who has been telling me all year you will get around to doing a Navrally soon. This is your last chance before our season ends.

The Miss Australia Cup Navrally is on Sunday 26 April. Please see details and course on the RVMYC website.

If you need any help with any aspect for Navrallys, please don't hesitate to give me a call on 0418 587 799



John Zammit
RVMYC Rear Commodore

Stuff we might need on board

3DR SOLO DRONE

Sophisticated yet simple. An aerial photography solution that's highly capable yet able to be controlled by novice users right out of the box. Working with GoPro, it's the world's first drone to allow full in-flight control of the action cam, and delivers live-streaming HD video straight to your mobile device via the controller. It's was designed to be easy to use, and houses one of the system's two 1 GHz ARM Cortex-A9-powered computers — the other is in the aircraft itself. A 3-axis gimbal, smart, intuitive software, and advanced GPD-guided flight features, makes it possible to capture steady, professional-looking footage.



MINI AUGMENTED VISION

Speed. Directions. Messages. Keeping our eyes on the water or road is more of a chore than ever in this connected world. Mini Augmented Vision is meant to make it easy. These concept goggles/glasses display information — like the aforementioned speed, navigation info, and messages, as well as rear view camera feeds when docking and a see-through virtual view through bulkheads and doors — in your direct field of vision, letting you keep your eyes fixed on the water ahead.



TREFACTA DRT ELECTRIC DIRT BIKE

This isn't your average Grand Theft noisemaker of a bike. In fact, the Trefecta DRT Electric Dirt Bike doesn't make any noise at all. It's powered by a 4kW engine and a 60-volt battery pack, good for a maximum range of over 60 miles and a top speed of over 40. You can provide some power yourself, thanks to the hybrid system and 14-speed electrically shifting gearbox. Other features include a lightweight, foldable aluminum frame, fly-by-wire controls, an integrated handlebar display, Hop disc brakes, 26" carbon wheels with Schwalbe off-road tires, and iPhone integration.



Club News

A shining example of heroic deeds at the club.

A letter to Jeff Paull, Lieutenant ANC, Commanding Officer, TS Voyager - Australian Navy Cadets

Hi Jeff,

I just thought I would send this quick message to let you know about the exploits and adventures of two of your cadets this past weekend.

Yesterday while we were having lunch after a club navrally I saw Tom Alexiadis' inflatable rib go out with two young girls in control and then a short time later it came back and a smaller inflatable was following slowly. I didn't think much more about it and then a short while later I noticed that there was someone down near the club's seawall on a stretcher and an ambulance was parked near our flagpole.

John Zammit and I went down to see what was going on. As it turns out Eve Alexiadis and her friend Molly, had gone out for a run in the rib and not gotten far when they saw someone waving for help in a small rib nearby. A man and his two sons in the other rib had had a mishap where one of the boys had gotten his leg cut by the propeller, apparently quite badly. Eve and Molly had guided them back to our club, called the ambulance and opened the gates for it while assisting with the injured lad.

I was most impressed with the cool, calm and responsible attitude displayed by both girls firstly in their handling of the rib but specifically when faced with that situation. I take it their training TS Voyager probably came to the fore under the circumstances. Both girls should be extremely proud of themselves and are a real credit to your unit.

Regards

Chris Ackerman

Vice Commodore

Royal Victorian Motor Yacht Club

celebrations

April marked a month of celebrations with Rosemary Geared's 60th and Alf Holmes' 70th birthdays. Rosemary's fleet tied up at Pirates Tavern, while Alf's armada were at Marina YE...I think they may have gotten their venues mixed up!



Above: Club boats Nor'west, Ranui and Balboa Star attending Rosemary Geared's 60th at Pirates Tavern



Above and left: Alf Holmes 'AKA Bozo', holds court on board 'Lady J' at Marina YE at Docklands with club members.

committee

As we approach the end of this Committee's term, you are no doubt aware, the elections for the Club's Officers and General Committee will be held at the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, 3 June 2015. The notice for this meeting should be with you shortly.

The deadline for submission of nominations is 8:00pm, Wednesday 13 May 2015 - so get in quick.

All members are encouraged to participate in the role of committee, new faces and skills give the club greater depth and its important to on-going governance.

Club accounts

As we take another step into the 21st Century, most club accounts will be sent electronically for the first time. Members who are already receiving electronic messages will now receive their accounts via email.

Members will have received this years subs and marina fees (if applicable).

This, we hope, will save the club time and money as postage costs have increased.

Please ensure that accounts are paid promptly before the due date so that our 'cash at bank' reserves remain healthy.




Rigcon Engineering is one of Melbourne's most experienced crane contracting companies. With a family history in craneage dating back over 50 years we have the experience and expertise to provide any of your lifting solutions.

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Contact
Doug Williams
dougwilliams@rigcon.com.au
Jamie Williams 0417 334 271
jwilliams@rigcon.com.au

legal

Royal Victorian Motor Yacht Club Inc. ats Lawler & Bourchier.

The Club provides the following statement concerning the conduct of Michael Bourchier and Peter Lawler: Peter Lawler and Michael Bourchier acted at all times honestly and in good faith, as far as the Club is aware, in relation to transactions arising from the sale and purchase of Joint Venture and Lady Beth.

Don Healy - Hon. Secretary

Diary update & classifieds

Fishing Licences

Fishing licences are available from the Club office or bar; 3 yrs - \$66; 1 yr - \$24.50; 28 days - \$12; 48 hrs - \$6. Please see Terri at the bar. **Members can use their accounts to pay.**

NOTE: Seniors card holders do not require a fishing licence

Members Draw!

Wednesday nights - 7.30pm.

DRAW RESULTS:

Wednesday 25 March \$600

Sue Reynolds 'NIA'

Wednesday 1 April \$650

Andrew Fambiatos 'NIA'

Wednesday 8 April \$700

Tom Krstevski 'NIA'

Wednesday 15 April \$750

Mark Folley 'NIA'

RVMYC Wine Club

Get quality wines at great prices with the RVMYC Wine Club. Every dozen sold - the club receives \$10 towards our social club.

Wines for every occasion, from everyday drinking to something for that special occasion all with FREE delivery. Look out for rare delights, including hard to get vintages and treasures from boutique wineries

www.wineboxwarehouse.com.au/RVMYC



MEMBERS BAR TRADING HOURS

Our normal trading hours are;

Wednesday - Dinner from 6.30 to 9.00 bar snacks also available until closing time (approx 10.00pm)

Friday - Dinner from 6.30 to 9.00 bar snacks also available until closing time (approx 10.00pm)

Saturday - Lunch and dinner 12.00 till 9.00 bar snacks available all day until closing (approx 10.00pm)

Sunday - Breakfast (delivered) and lunch 8.30am to 2.30 pm bar snacks available all day until closing (approx 8.30pm)

RVMYC EVENTS CALENDAR

2015 APRIL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 BAR / BISTRO OPEN - MEMBERS DRAW -	2	3 BAR/BISTRO OPEN	4 BAR / BISTRO OPEN
5 BAR / BISTRO OPEN	REMINDER: Our Members Draw will always pay-out...you just have to be here. 7.30pm every Wednesday. FRIDAY RAFFLE Our Friday raffle gives you the 'best meat tray' in Williamstown, don't miss it!!		8 BAR / BISTRO OPEN - MEMBERS DRAW -	9	10 BAR/BISTRO OPEN	11 BAR / BISTRO OPEN
12 BAR / BISTRO OPEN WHALLEY CUP - MMYC		15 BAR / BISTRO OPEN - MEMBERS DRAW -	16	17 BAR/BISTRO OPEN PETER CUPPLES AND JOHN ENGLISH - UNCORKED	18 BAR / BISTRO OPEN	
19 BAR / BISTRO OPEN		22 BAR / BISTRO OPEN - MEMBERS DRAW -	23	24	25 BAR / BISTRO OPEN ANZAC DAY	
26 BAR / BISTRO OPEN AUSTRALIA CUP RVMYC NAVRALLY		29 BAR / BISTRO OPEN - MEMBERS DRAW -	30			

2015 MAY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 BAR / BISTRO OPEN	2 BAR / BISTRO OPEN
3 BAR / BISTRO OPEN	REMINDER: Uncorked - Peter Cupples and Jon English in concert at RVMYC Friday 17 April 2015 Food, drinks and show included for one low low price \$99 per person. 8pm. Sunday 26 April Australia Cup - RVMYC Navrally Saturday 16 May Annual Dinner and Awards Friday 22 May Official Clubhouse Opening		6 BAR / BISTRO OPEN - MEMBERS DRAW -	7	8 BAR / BISTRO OPEN	9 BAR / BISTRO OPEN
10 BAR / BISTRO OPEN MOTHERS DAY BUFFET \$65		13 BAR / BISTRO OPEN - MEMBERS DRAW -	14	15 BAR / BISTRO OPEN	16 AWARDS DINNER BAR / BISTRO OPEN	
17 BAR / BISTRO OPEN BUNY RICKETTS POINT NAVRALLY		20 BAR / BISTRO OPEN - MEMBERS DRAW -	21	22 OFFICIAL OPENING OF RVMYC CLUBHOUSE	23 BAR / BISTRO OPEN	
24 BAR / BISTRO OPEN		27 BAR / BISTRO OPEN - MEMBERS DRAW -	28	29 BAR/BISTRO OPEN	30 BAR / BISTRO OPEN	
31						

SUNDAY BREAKFASTS DELIVERED TO YOUR BOAT

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast looking over the Bay every Sunday from 8.30am or get it delivered to your boat!

CALL THE BISTRO FOR DETAILS



RVMYC Bistro's Autumn menu

Autumn descends on the marina and our shift is to introduce a few more special items on the menu.

We will have a soup of the day as well as a Thai of the day dish starting from next week. Also, back by popular demand we will have a Wednesday night and Sunday Roast for \$19.50, the Wednesday night roast this will tie in well with the Members Draw.

We also have a Mother's Day special planned. We will produce a \$65 buffet that was so well received on the Opening Day, so do your Mum a favour and liberate her from the kitchen, bring her down and we promise we'll spoil her.

Regards
Drew Burnett

