



# PROPELLER

ROYAL VICTORIAN MOTOR YACHT CLUB | ESTABLISHED 1904

## INSIDE

RVMYC Chat

Gala Ball

New Committee



Turn to Page 9 for more photos

**NEW COMMITTEE COMMENCE 2019-2020 TERM**

**Committee Members**



**Boating**

- Simon Mills
- Kylie Ackerman
- Chris Ackerman
- Sam Cutajar
- Jason Patton
- Mark Rindfleish
- Marco Sampaio
- John Savage
- Matt Wynne

**Communications**

- Ann Prysbyz
- John Marks
- Richard McKay
- David Collins

**Finance & Admin**

- Peter Skene

**M'ship Data Systems & Technology**

- Livio Andolfatto

**Sub-Committees**

**Hospitality**

- Paul Doherty
- Steve Warner
- Greg Miles
- Melinda Doherty
- Lynne Skene

**Marina**

- Greg O'Connell
- Joe Borg
- James Moreno
- John Marks
- Mark Folley

**Works:** Joe Borg  
 Graeme & Rhonda Gibson  
 Rod & Brent Whinfield  
 John Marks  
 Harry Varelas

**Mariners**

- Melinda Doherty
- Nola Battye
- Pete Coffey
- Kaylene Evers
- Terry Lawless
- Bella Mijatovic
- Alison Miles
- Susan Mills
- Kathie Rindfleish
- Ana Sampaio
- Fiona Zammit

**Membership**

- Kathie Rindfleish
- Sam Cutajar
- Melinda Doherty
- Richard McKay
- Alison Miles
- Susan Mills
- Matt Wynne

**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.*

Ann Przybysz:shezgame24@gmail.com

**ADVERTISING RATES**

**Did you know that you can advertise in this newsletter from as little as \$30.45 an edition for a business card size ad?**

Ten editions are published each year and circulated to our members and friends.

**Business Card Size: \$180pa Quarter Page: \$387 Half Page: \$554pa.**

*We also offer a bonus free ad placement on our website for advertisers, where space is available. Contact the Club for further details.*



# From the Commodore's Deck

Dear Members,

Whilst it has only been a few weeks since the AGM, much has been happening behind the scenes. The first meeting of the new Committee was held last week and I was happy to welcome back Livio Andolfatto, Steve Warner, Peter Skene, Greg O'Connell, Kathie Rindfleish and Ann Fish from last year's committee as well as our two new members being Simon Mills and Joe Borg.

Ongoing business from the previous committee was addressed and much time also spent on the structure of a very important element of our club being sub-committees. Elsewhere in this issue you will find the list of the

sub-committees and I urge each and every member to consider contributing their skills and expertise on any of those that are of interest. A strong and healthy sub-committee culture can only assist in ensuring our fabulous club continues to build on past great achievements, to forge an exciting and prosperous future.

Areas of particular focus for the new team will be (in no particular order) Finance and Administration, Hospitality, Boating, Membership, Communications and Technology, Mariners, Communications and Works.

So if you have an interest in any of the above, please advise the office and they can direct you to the Chair of the relevant group.

As we are only a few weeks along, this report is brief so I will close by simply saying that I consider it a great honour to be Commodore of our great club and assure all members of this committee's commitment in continuing the RVMYC tradition of being Australia's pre-eminent motor yacht club and making it a great place to be.

Paul F Doherty  
RVMYC Commodore

## Club News

**A warm welcome to our new Club members.**

Kristi Allison



Dino Disint



Michael Neumann



We invite you to a special lunch at the RVMYC to celebrate Bastille Day  
 Sunday 14th July, 12pm

Entree	Main
<b>Pate</b>	<b>Beef</b>
French Onion Soup	Bouguignon
	Coq Au Vin
	<b>Dessert</b>
	Crème Brûlée
<b>Cost:</b>	<b>Tart Tartin</b>
\$55 p/person	

Contact the RVMYC Office via email: [admin@rvmc.com.au](mailto:admin@rvmc.com.au) or Ph. 9393 2888 to book.

### Bar and Bistro

Friday lunch has been replaced with lunch on Saturdays.  
 Happy Hour: Fridays from 5pm - 7pm



### Do your bit and recycle.....

Club Member and maintenance man, John Marks has come up with a great suggestion to help members with recycling on their boats - a stainless-steel compact dual waste bin.

These bins can be found on Ebay, and come in 3 sizes, starting at approx. \$70 plus freight.



Member Gavin Erickson and wife Jenny Erickson (RVMYC office staff member) recently embarked on a cycling trip to Italy... Jenny gives us a recount of their biking adventure.



Gavin and I spent our first five glorious days in Italy riding around the spectacular Lake Como (3rd largest lake in Italy) and over to Lake Lugano which extends into Switzerland. We rode along narrow roads, up hills and through tunnels. Around every bend there was another

breathtaking photo opportunity. We took coffee and lunch breaks in many of the beautiful towns dotted around the perimeter of the lake, but unfortunately no sightings of Clooney, Stallone or Branson.



We then had 3 days off the bike in Milan, where we climbed to the

rooftop of the beautiful Duomo Cathedral and marvelled at the amazing architecture of this beautiful city.



Gavin and I went to our first ever soccer match at San Siro and saw AC Milan defeat Frosinone 2-0. It was amazing to hear the passionate soccer crowd with the occasional flare and rather loud fire crackers – a very different experience to Aussie Rules at the MCG.

# Get your boat fit for 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?

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'Top Gear's' favourite road), and Passo Gavia were closed (a good excuse to go to Italy again). We rode 800kms and climbed 13,500 vertical metres (Mt. Everest is 8,800metres). We burned lots of calories which we replaced with Pasta, Pizza, Pastries and Prosecco.



The next part of our trip was a 12 day Bikestyle tour where we saw eight stages of the Giro d'Italia. Each day we rode part of the Giro's course (and climbed at least one mountain) and then watched the riders pass on a stage start, finish or on a mountain top. We rode many of Italy's famous climbs including Mortirolo, Madonna del Ghisallo and Monte Grappa.

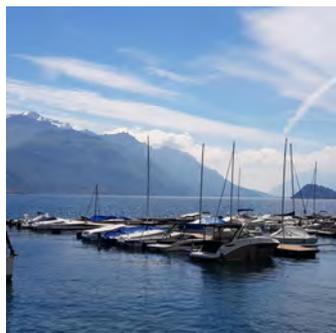


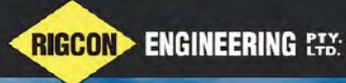
The scenery in Northern Italy is just WOW. We took so many photos of the Alps and the Dolomites with their amazing snow capped mountains, fabulous switchbacks, gorgeous valleys and charming country towns. Tour de France – tick! Tour of California – tick! Giro d'Italia - tick!

Now – where to next year???



Unfortunately, due to unfavourable weather conditions and risk of avalanches, the roads up Passo dello Stelvio (the Eastern Alps highest paved mountain - and







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*Mark Bettiol*  
**Club Person of the Year**  
*Matt Wynne*



*The Chris & Kylie Show*



# Journey to Lord Howe Island in 'Pelican'.

Story by John Marks

## Part 1: Bermagui bound

A book "The Amateurs", which traces the history of the Sydney Amateur Sailing Club, (SASC) has a chapter or two on the "Lucky" Clarks, George and William. In the early 1930's, the brothers left an outback agricultural property, joined the SASC, and learned to sail. The apprenticeship complete, they commissioned a new 28' motor sailor "Maluka", and set out to Cooktown, Queensland. Next on their bucket list was the 360 odd nautical mile trip to Lord Howe Island, a daring exploit in 1935.

Weather forecasting was then in its infancy, and their instrumentation was a barometer, a sextant, and some paper charts.

Springing out from Port Stephens, they made the fabulous dot in the Tasman Sea in four days, a creditable effort considering the vagaries of weather and the East Australian current.

The trawler men had already hung the scalps of Hobart and Kangaroo Island on their collective belt.

The logical next island, Lord Howe, looked daunting but doable.

For the longer voyage, the idea was to stage the boat to a couple of practical locations, with reasonable storage facilities, and an easy trip home between hops. With inspiration from the Clarks firmly in mind, the die was set. If they could do it in a relative cackle shell in 1935, with the weather a virtual Russian roulette, we should manage OK, with our hardy

ship and modern aids. A fair bit of preparation preceded the departure date of mid-day, on Saturday 27th of February, 2016. The last of the good old Gardner mechanics, Jim Ryan, took the cylinder heads home



*Pelican departs Williamstown*

to Bonnie Doon, for a spring clean, solving a lot of oil leaks along the way. Ron's 40ltr Engel found its way into the aft cabin, duly wired to the 12 volt house system, as a second 'fridge'. A touch up for the fresh (cold) water system allowed us to access all 300 ltrs in S/S tanks under the bunks. Two new 100w solar panels on the cab roof would help the 12 volt system to cope, if we were blessed with sunshine. Ron devised a handy storage arrangement for the nine 25 litre drums of spare fuel, behind the starboard main tank. An oil change and filter service for the Twin Disc transmission had the engine room all okay. Everything else could probably last the job.

Crew consisted of skipper John Marks, a grumpy old bugger who prefers Pelican's interior to an old folk's home. Ron Ellis, a seasoned

ocean sailor and board game freak, did the navigating, provisioning, and organized the entertainment. Ron's other hobby is collecting books, but after a couple of run ins with the skipper, the edict was out: no more books on board. Williamstown identity Peter Tantau became official photographer, and cooked wicked scrambled eggs. Blake Jobson, the Young Turk, starred as fishing master.

The first run to Bermagui, NSW was routine, except for some huge swells off Gabo Island. (We thought these to be the aftermath of Fiji's recent cyclone?) Blake had the rods deployed as we passed Tathra, one with a small purple skirt tied straight to the 20lb mono, "just for the stripies".



*John Marks waiting patiently for a Marlin*

A fair sized marlin thought otherwise, but was soon gone, taking the prized little skirt with it. Blake's dad Alan came up from Wyndham Vale in the Rodeo twin cab to try his luck, with mum Lyn shore based. Fishing Co-op manager Rocky organized a space on the main jetty for four days, while we sampled the hectic marlin fishing scene.

The professional crew on “Head Hunter” helped us rookies get started, with some sage advice: just drop a five-hook bait fishing rig in the right spot, and bingo! Five slimy mackerel for the live bait tank at your command! A few more of these, and we were trolling . As the first slimy went back into the briny carrying the obligatory No 10 circle hook, skipper John prophesised: “That’ll go off in five minutes”. Sure enough, a mid-sized Black was soon dancing at the



Beautiful Bermagui

pointy end of Blake’s 15kg outfit. The contest lasted thirty minutes, until the 100lb mono trace chopped through. This set the pattern for four days of action, and luckily the marlin were prolific, as we could not raise a tuna or a bandit (yellow tail kingfish). That done, it was time to leave Pelican, and set off by bus and train, back to Melbourne. Vicrail, although Victorian owned, sponsors a daily bus service which commences in Bateman’s Bay, and terminates at Bairnsdale, just in time to meet the train to Southern Cross. The ticket, which even includes two zones on the metro network, costs the princely sum of \$30, if you happen to carry a senior’s card!



A Tern hitching a ride on the Pelican

Keith from the NSW Lands Department, obligingly found a marina pen for Pelican, and a key to the facilities, as the busy main jetty does not cater for long term storage. And so, Pelican was rested and rejuvenated, and so were we to be.

*Look out for Part 2 of the ‘Journey to Lord Howe Island’ in the August Propeller.*



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# RVMYCHAT!

## With Cameron Simpson What is your connection to RVMYC and Williamstown?

My early recollections of Williamstown occurred when I was a young schoolboy. My grandfather always reserved the very last day of school holidays for a day trip with me. Often the destination was Williamstown – and I still remember the trip on the Williamstown car ferry! My first connection to the Club was in the early 1980's when I was looking to refuel a boat before a passage to Sydney. The Secretary of the day (Ron Elliott) helped us with that and other victuals, leaving me very impressed with the warmth and friendliness of the Club.

In 1987 I had just completed a major rebuild of "Bold Venture" in Mordialloc and her first shakedown was a trip to visit the tall ships and an overnight stay at RVMYC. I remember seeing someone frantically waving to me from "Young Endeavour", so I approached to find my boatbuilder and friend Jack Pompei waving and whistling me to come alongside, as a farmer would his sheep dog. With me dutifully obeying, some sailors began loading one of "Young Endeavour's" forward nameboards (about 16 feet long) that had been damaged in a storm during a passage from Western Australia. Jack had agreed to repair it for the Navy and I was to provide the transport back to his boatbuilding works in Mordialloc.

With the an overnight stop at RVMYC, needless to say the RVMYC crew at the time were delighted by "Bold Venture's" arrival with a real trophy they thought was for their bar! After a few friendly ales and jibes about the size of the name board relative to my boat, I set off again the next day for Mordialloc with "Young Endeavour's" nameboard still onboard.

Having joined the Club in 1990, I relocated "Bold Venture" from Mordialloc, after a close shave with a fire nearby her mooring, to RVMYC permanently while listening to the disastrous Grand Final of that year. The rest is history!

## What do you like most about the club?

I sailed competitively from many clubs for many years and have always found RVMYC to be unique in terms of focus, friendly, small and very social. I have made a great many enduring friendships within the Club.

I am still active on the Nav Rally or log trial scene and try to remain



competitive, try and learn from each race and enjoy the comradery. Over the journey I have finished in every position, first to last, multiple times. The important thing is to have a go and try to keep progressing.



Some of the greatest voyages of discovery are simply rather long log trials conducted by the Admiralty. Arguably the greatest Georgian log trialler, Captain James Cook, wrote "our destiny changed over the next 10 seconds" after colliding with the Great Barrier Reef in 1770. Anyway, it eventually ended well for him and perhaps 10 seconds wasn't such a bad score at the time considering he didn't have a chart or the electronics we take for granted today. Fortunately, the modern log trial is shorter, but still about managing a vessel in elements to time, speed and distance with accuracy, mixed with some logistics and risk management.

It is easy to take the location of the Club for granted. What great forethought by our founding fathers! We have great facilities, a sheltered location with the bay and 2 rivers plus a whole city on our doorstep, along with multiple boat friendly destinations nearby.

I strongly believe the Club's history, traditions and the association with the Navy combined form an extremely important part of the Club's heritage which only adds to the uniqueness of our Club.

### **How and why did you become involved in boating?**

I have always been involved in boating from a very young age, starting in sailing off the beach boats during the summer at Sorrento, going fishing with my father and grandfather.

During the holidays I used to work on the local ferry service, between Sorrento, Portsea and Queenscliff, working my ranks up from general sweeper to deckhand to masters ticket. That was a handy in helping fund my university days. It provided me with first-hand experience in dealing with the general public. Not only that, it gave me an introduction into many yacht and power boat deliveries around the coast, including a gig as relief master on a return cruise from Melbourne to Lizard Island and some charter work in Queensland along the way.



### **What's been your most unusual/unique experience?**

Being intercepted by a Chinese gunboat while cruising a yacht close to the Chinese Hong Kong border, but just on the Hong Kong side would be one of them.

In charter boat days, we had the task of recovering the odd body of deceased divers, which wasn't that much fun.

Travel-wise, I would say the Terracotta Army in Xi'an— so amazingly man made in such forlorn hope.

### **Favourite restaurant?**

We are absolutely blessed for local eateries – foodie's heaven! Favourites would include Hawker Hall, The Oriental Tea House, Café Cucina, The Botanical and of course, France Soir – an iconic Melbourne institution!

### **Tell me something about yourself that people would not be aware of?**

I enjoy snow skiing, travel, reading, photography the occasional game of golf, good food and wine and am also the resident home chef.

Yosemite to Las Vegas over the Rocky Mountains and through Death Valley was an absolute highlight and should be on everyone's bucket list. Still a favourite though is visiting the family farm in Queensland for pure chill time and some serious spoiling!

### **High seas, bay, river or lake?**

It probably doesn't matter, if there's a body of water I like to be on it, rather than in it. I haven't done much boating on a lake recently, maybe Lake Wakatipu in Queenstown a few years ago.

### **What motivates you?**

I'm naturally competitive, inquisitive, and an accountant by profession, but I don't profess to being an accountant, as I like to say. That discipline makes me and focus on how things work and what matters most. In my working career, many say I'm technically minded, but I prefer to be

“Bold Venture” was originally my Grandfather's recreational boat. I researched her history and wrote a book on the story. There is a copy in the Club library.

### **Favourite holiday destination?**

Well, no surprise here, the family has really into cruises over the last few years. We like diversity and have had some wonderful travel experiences throughout Southeast Asia while the family was based in Hong Kong for a few years. Last year we visited the west coast of USA. The drive from

creative in the big picture space and achieve great things through collaboration and teamwork.

I like a good challenge and am adaptive to change and familiar with the uncertainty it often brings. One of my clients refers to me as “the tour guide for the valley of despair” – so maybe I am strange after-all. I am also very passionate about what I do and try to make something better than the way it was.

# Diary update & classifieds



## Buy Swap Sell

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## Members Draw!

- 24/04/19 \$700 Terry Lawless NIA
  - 01/05/19 \$750 Myles Munro NIA
  - 08/05/19 \$800 Jason Turnbull NIA
  - 15/05/19 \$850 David Munro NIA
  - 22/05/19 \$900 Chris Ackerman NIA
  - 29/05/19 \$950 **Lee Joyner WINNER**
  - 05/06/19 \$500 **Richard Edwards WINNER**
  - 12/06/19 \$500 Jillian Disint
  - 19/06/19 \$550 Tom Alexiadis NIA
  - 26/06/19 \$600 Philip Casamento NIA
- Members Draw 7pm Wednesdays.  
Don't miss your chance to win!



## MEMBERS BAR TRADING HOURS

- Wednesday - Bar open 5pm. Bistro open 6.00pm
  - Friday - Bar open 5pm. **Happy Hour 5-7pm**
  - Saturday - Bar open 12pm. Bistro open 12.00pm to 2.30pm
  - Sunday - Bar open 12pm. Bistro open 12.00pm to 2.30pm.
- To view the weekly Bistro menu, visit the RVMYC website

## Fishing Licences

Fishing licences are available from the Club office or bar; 3 year licence \$98.20; 1 year licence \$36.20; 28 day licence \$20.60; 3 day licence \$10 Please see Terri at the bar. Members can use their accounts to pay.

Fees will increase from 1st July, 2019  
**NOTE: Seniors cardholders do not require a fishing licence**

## RVMYC EVENTS CALENDAR

### JULY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 BAR / BISTRO OPEN - MEMBERS DRAW & RAFFLE	4	5 OPEN BAR AND BAR SNACKS	6 BAR / BISTRO OPEN
7 BAR / BISTRO OPEN	8	9	10 BAR / BISTRO OPEN - MEMBERS DRAW & RAFFLE	11	12 OPEN BAR AND BAR SNACKS	13 BAR / BISTRO OPEN
<b>Bastille Day Lunch</b>	15	16	17 BAR / BISTRO OPEN - MEMBERS DRAW & RAFFLE	18	19 OPEN BAR AND BAR SNACKS	20 BAR / BISTRO OPEN
21 BAR / BISTRO OPEN	22	23	24 BAR / BISTRO OPEN - MEMBERS DRAW & RAFFLE	25	26 OPEN BAR AND BAR SNACKS	27 BAR / BISTRO OPEN
28 BAR / BISTRO OPEN	29	30	31 BAR / BISTRO OPEN - MEMBERS DRAW & RAFFLE			

### AUGUST

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 OPEN BAR AND BAR SNACKS	3 BAR / BISTRO OPEN
4 BAR / BISTRO OPEN	5	6	7 BAR / BISTRO OPEN - MEMBERS DRAW & RAFFLE	8	9 OPEN BAR AND BAR SNACKS	10 BAR / BISTRO OPEN
11 BAR / BISTRO OPEN	12	13	14 BAR / BISTRO OPEN - MEMBERS DRAW & RAFFLE	15	16 OPEN BAR AND BAR SNACKS	17 BAR / BISTRO OPEN
18 BAR / BISTRO OPEN	19	20	21 BAR / BISTRO OPEN - MEMBERS DRAW & RAFFLE	22	23 OPEN BAR AND BAR SNACKS	24 BAR / BISTRO OPEN
25 BAR / BISTRO OPEN	26	27	28 BAR / BISTRO OPEN - MEMBERS DRAW & RAFFLE	29	30 OPEN BAR AND BAR SNACKS	31 BAR / BISTRO OPEN

## Calendar of Events

Sunday 14th July  
Bastilly Day Lunch

**BE SURE TO CHECK THE WEDNESDAY WRAP, FACEBOOK AND RVMYC WEBSITE FOR UPDATES**

## Duty Officers

July  
6-7 P SKENE  
13-14 G O'CONNELL  
20-21 K RINDFLEISH  
27-28 J BORG

August  
3-4 A PRZBYSZ  
10-11 P DOHERTY  
17-18 L LANDOLFATTO  
24-25 S MILLS  
31-1 S WARNER