



PROPELLER

ROYAL VICTORIAN MOTOR YACHT CLUB | ESTABLISHED 1904

INSIDE

RVMYC Chat

Club Life

Commodore's Report

Welcome 2024-2025 Committee



Cameron Simpson
Hon. Treasurer



Peter Skene
Hon. Secretary



James Moreno
Vice Commodore



Marco Sampaio
Committee



Ben Koutoukidis
Commodore



Ken Warren
Rear Commodore



Mark Smundin
Committee



John Burgess
Crewman



Stefan Bonnici
Committee



From the Commodore's Deck

Dear Members,

Firstly I would like to thank the outgoing Commodore Simon Mills and his Committee for bridging the gap and allowing me time to prepare for this important role, all the while steering the ship for the second time around. A monumental task which only shows how much Simon and Susan love the club. We all thank you for your stewardship. I would like to acknowledge Vice Commodore Chris Ackerman and Secretary Mark Rindfleish (who are all each Past Commodores) for all their hard and amazing work which has stretched over many years. A really big thank you to you and your families for your contribution in making this a great club.

I would also like to thank our current members who have supported me and our incoming Committee as well as helped me prepare for what

I believe to be an honour and a privilege to be the Commodore of this very prestigious club, especially on its 120 year anniversary.

I welcome a new and very enthusiastic Committee which I am very excited to be at the helm with, all who have already hit the ground running.

- Vice Commodore James Moreno heading off Communications with the revamp of our Website.

- Rear Commodore Ken Warren who has already set the Club Perpetual Calander for all club events for this year's boating and social boating events. (To be released soon)

- Secretary Peter Skene returns to Committee, working on some constitutional changes to allow our club to thrive.

- Returning Treasurer Cameron Simpson who has done and continues to do a fantastic job at highlighting all of our efficiencies and

wins as well as any inefficiencies at the club with the latest data set in order for the Committee to make informed decisions on forging a pathway forward.

- Marco Sampaio for his second term on Works, looking after the Clubhouse, grounds and marina.

- First time Committee member Mark Smundin will be taking on Membership and is already working on a revamped category of membership, the Corporate Membership. Mark is looking at how the remaining membership categories are governed in our constitution to see if there are any changes that can be made to allow us to grow and thrive. This is a project he will be working on along with Peter Skene, Don Healy and Ken Warren for the betterment of the club and free us up to increase our existing member base.

Continued next page

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A warm welcome to the Club.



Michael Landers



Claire McIntyre



Robyn Dutton

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.

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Business Card Size: \$202.00pa Qtr Page:\$434.00 1/2 Page: \$621.00pa.

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

•First timer Stefan Bonnici will be managing the Marina portfolio. His team has already focused their attention on getting more boats to the club berths and maximising the marina capacity and in turn income generated by our Marina.

•John Burgess returns to chair Hospitality again. What a great job John and his team have done and will continue to do in the coming year. Always looking at bettering every event that they do, giving real value to the membership. Last Saturday, 22nd June, the Gin High Tea was outstanding and the event just keeps getting bigger every year. It was a fantastic day shared by members & their guests - families and friends. So I think next year if you want to come, you'd better book very early so as not to miss out.

•Leanne Koutoukidis as my wife will support me in my role, as well as taking on what used to be known as the Lady Mariners role by managing the Events portfolio with past and new members. The team has already got a full book of events in the calendar for the coming year starting with the AFL 2024 Premiership Cup on August 16th, supporting men's mental health. We will have the opportunity to be photographed with the 2024 AFL Grand Final Cup along with some past champion AFL Players. This event will be hosted by Mike Sheehan.

The Invitation is to be released very soon. This will be an event you won't want to miss.

The Events team has also secured the Champagne Dame for a luncheon on the 13th of September and some other new and exciting events for later in the year.

Opening Day is one of the most important events of the year signifying the opening of our Boating Season, and is always held on the first Saturday of October. This event is a must and a great day in our calendar with lots of fun to be had. This will be on Saturday 5th of

October.

Another one of our Marquee events, the Spring Racing Lunch which has evolved from years gone by from a ladies fashion & lunch day to making it a more inclusive day for all members to enjoy with a Spring Carnival theme. We have been lucky enough to secure the 2024 Lexus Melbourne Cup once again and it is coming back to the club on the Friday 11th of October for another fabulous event, no doubt.

Leanne and I are passionate about bringing new members to the club to help us grow and believe that we can achieve this goal if we all embrace the concept of "Members & Guests Free Events". We will be launching this concept in a big way with the inaugural Free Event – an Open Mic. and Karaoke night, "Music across the Ages". This is an opportunity for our many talented members to perform for us as well as some of our guests that are talented artists that will provide us a little entertainment as well. Then there will be the Karaoke component of the night where all levels of talent will be invited to choose our party dance list so we can all have a big sing along (Something Lee and I love to do on our boat with friends). This will be a "bring a plate to share" event with drinks bought at bar prices. We are making this a FREE event, (other than the purchase of your drinks over the bar) This event will be held one Saturday night in November and will be capped out to our Liquor Licence capacity so you will need to get onto the waitlist which Lee will manage ASAP. Details on how to do that will follow in the coming months, all you have to do now is start thinking about which artist you're going to come as for this dress up party as that will be a pre-requisite to get on the guest list.

Other things we are wanting to fit into 2025 will be events such as:

- 70's and 80's rock night with

a tribute band.

- Casino Royale Night - a James Bond Theme (this is where the RVMYC will turn into a legal Casino for one night if we can get the licence).

I trust all members will start to get excited to participate in as many of these events as possible. Tell your friends and families to come along as they will all be fantastic events and help us to grow a thriving club that not only will we enjoy being a part of, but create the RVMYC of the future with a thriving member base of 800+ members, a floating marina, a waitlist of people wanting to join the fun and a full book of functions for downstairs. From all of the members I have been speaking to, this seems to be something we all want and agree with. I look forward to discussing this concept and any other ideas you may have for the club and how you will support us in achieving them over the coming weeks, months, and year.

As I look forward to my term as Commodore and sharing and creating some wonderful memories, I trust we can elevate a club from what we all currently love to something even better.

Happy Boating RVMYC Community!

Regards,
Ben Koutoukidis
RVMYC Commodore

RVMYCHAT!

With Gerry McHarg

Gerry McHarg has been a member of the club for nearly 10 years together with his wife Geraldine. Gerry has had a long association with boats, starting with a 14ft Caribbean, half cabin fishing boat which he used to launch at the slippery old boat ramp at Gem Pier in 1981.

Ten years later Gerry bought a 20ft Salem ski boat with a 200 Mercury outboard and he still uses it. It's not the kids that ski anymore - it's the grandkids and their friends. He also has a pontoon boat at his house on Lake Mulwala.



What's your connection to the RVMYC and Williamstown?

After I retired, Frank Wilkes, my neighbour convinced me to buy a boat to berth in the marina and join the Club. We went up to Brisbane and Frank taught me about high seas sailing on the way back to Melbourne.



What do you like most about the Club?

The Club is friendly and we have made a lot of new friends and we enjoy the activities as well. Unfortunately we miss out on a few activities as we have a holiday house at Lake Mulwala and we usually travel north in our campervan in Winter.

What's your favourite

restaurant? It would have to be the Italian restaurant in the ski club at Mulwala. Because we have been going there for so many years we know a lot of people and are always running into people there.

Favourite Holiday Destination?

Geraldine and I have travelled to a lot of places overseas, but the best ever was on a river cruise from Amsterdam to Budapest. The best thing about that cruise is you unpack and don't have to catch trains or queue up at airports. You do get a stiff neck looking left to right to see the best bit of scenery along the water. The castles, the vineyards and more so the locks are very interesting.

What's been your most unique/unusual experience?

After finishing my building apprenticeship, at age 19, I

packed up my tools in my old valiant ute with a mate who was also a builder, and we drove across the Nullarbor to Perth. We ended up working for six months at Mt Newman.



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

Well, even though I have been retired for quite a while, I have a factory in North Williamstown where I spend nearly every day. I have restored an old truck which has been in my family since new. I had it at the Club recently for the "Show and Shine". I'm also doing up an old FX Holden. Having been a builder all my life, I enjoy now doing something different and it becomes somewhat of a social network, similar to the RVMYC.



High Seas, Bay or Lake?

Definitely bay. I have no ambition to travel the high seas. Quite happy to take the family up the river or to destinations around Port Phillip Bay.



What motivates you?

Besides my family? Well I have always spent too much time at work, often leaving home in the dark and returning in the dark. Maybe I thought I was chasing the money, but on reflection I worked hard because I wanted to be successful and if so, the financial gains would follow. I've tried some different things such as our vineyard near Heathcote which we had for over ten years and ended up having

73 acres under vines. We had all our own equipment, tractors, harvesters etc. That was our Superannuation plan.



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Pelican's Consolation Cruise - April 2024

Story by John Marks

The original plan was a back-to-back cruise to Port Lincoln, outward bound in February with the return leg in April. Most of our departures are scheduled to suit part owner Blake Jobson who can only cruise during school holidays.

This year there was not enough crew or interest in this epic voyage, so the consolation was a short trip to Flinders Island for a bit of fishing, diving and onshore exploration. Easter plus the tacked-on extra days of the first term holidays and the possibility of nice weather in April set the scene.

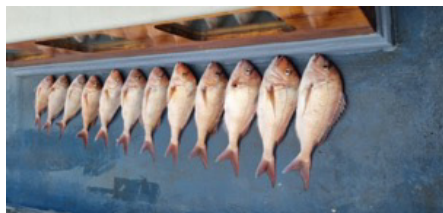
We are always a budget operation, so 900ltrs of diesel came aboard in nine runs of 5 x 20ltr drums syphoned in, a \$400 saving on the nearby fuel wharf. With around 300ltrs already aboard, that would be enough including a decent reserve. Ron Ellis, our navigator, anchor man, provedore and head chef brought the stores aboard on Good Friday and Easter Saturday. Then we disconnected the shore power and cast off around 1pm, which allowed a nice run with the ebb tide down the bay and through

The Three Musketeers- Ron, Blake & John



the Heads. Missing was regular crew Peter Tantau who reluctantly backed out with a minor health scare.

Twenty-four hours later we anchored up in Winter Cove on Deal Island. The main job here was to re-discover a shallow gutter that the pro's must have missed, which was lined with dozens of huge black lip abalone. Not to be, maybe it was just an optical illusion? Previously we landed some nice gummies here, but that also failed to deliver. Next morning it was off to Roydon Island on Flinders' north-western corner. Previous efforts here produced plenty of 60cm flathead, whiting and snapper, plus good shelter from most wind directions. The whiting were absent, but we soon got into schools of mid-sized snapper.



Just a few Snapper at Roydon Island

Our Flinders Island contact Mike Nicholls lives at Emita, with his 34' steel workboat Bass Pyramid moored in the adjacent sheltered bay. We anchored here as Mike had generously agreed to collect Alan Jobson at the Whitemark airport and bring him down to Emita. We won't catch much here, opined John as the lines went out.

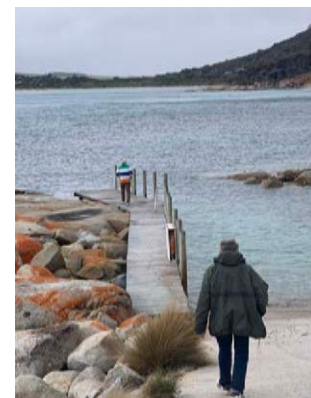
Blake with his catch



Next minute Blake steered a 74cm flathead into the landing net. These big frogs are usually breeding females, so it went back into the briny.

When Mike and Alan arrived at the boat ramp (which is only some improvement on sloping rocks), Ron had a BBQ in progress. Just great, perfect, sunny weather lounging and eating aboard Pelican. This weather just went on and on. Then Mike departed with Blake, who had agreed to fly to attend a family funeral at Mansfield.

Oh, and then just a few more big flatties and snapper. One 60cm+ frog went back unharmed but seemed to die as it lay on the bottom, three metres down next to the boat for another hour.





John & Ron skin a gummy shark

We were having problems setting the anchor, so John kitted up to check this and retrieve the fish. On inspection it was still breathing, then it just turned over and swam off, like it was taking a nap. The 40kg Rocna was not penetrating for the first time ever, maybe we needed to try harder?

In a day or two the weather changed with a strong westerly forecast. We moved to shelter in Peacock Bay behind Prime Seal Island, in company of a couple of yachts. We anchored well offshore to avoid the ribbon weed, but this became uncomfortable, so we took a MAST Tassie Govt. mooring close to shore. Fishing was not as productive as on previous trips, but some nice gummies were landed, plus lots of bicatch: wrasse, Port Jackson sharks, chequer board sharks, toadies, skates, stingrays, spiky

This one's going back in...



gurnard etc., even a couple of big cuttlefish.

Blake flew in and hired a car at Whitemark airport, so back to Emita with a bit of porpoise spotting along the way!. In fact they travelled right next to our boat for short while.

The weather was still not performing, so we took to land-based touring in the hire car. Down to Lady Barron for a hot shower, supplies from the supermarket, then a cruise to Killiecrankie, Palana and Northwest River.



We also stopped off at a sensational men's shed at Whitemark; these guys make lots of interesting stuff on excellent machinery.

Killiecrankie in the Island's north has a sheltered bay, is base for the island's crayfishing fleet and is famous for Killiecrankie Diamonds which are topaz and are found by dredging and scavenging along the foreshore.

Palana is something of a time-warp, with the remains of a WW2 radar installation, plus it has a

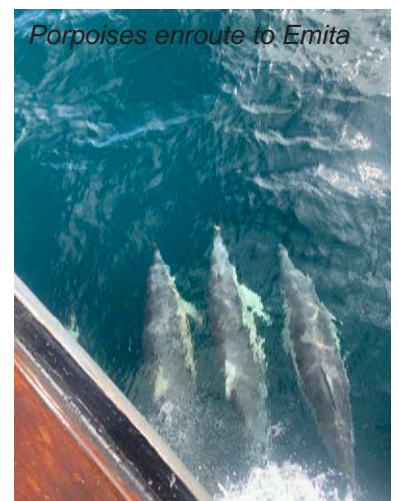


Porpoises at Emita near Flinders Island

semi-sheltered boat ramp behind a rocky outcrop. Northwest River at the island's northern tip has camping facilities adjacent to the huge shallow estuary.

On departure morning with another balmy day, the crew wanted a further shot at the

snapper, so this was grudgingly granted before getting away around 9:30am. Thirty hours later we docked at Wyndham Harbour, happy with the weather, the company, the fishing and the ever-reliable boat.



Porpoises enroute to Emita

Gala Night 2024



The Room.
The Food.
The Band.
Let the
celebration
begin.



Entree:
Master glazed Spatchcock



Entree:
Moreton Bay Bug w Tarragon



And the award goes to.....



Tracey & Darren Keast, Greg & Alison Miles



*Boat Person of the Year
Stefan Bonnici*



Presenters: Chris and Simon



*Club Person of the Year
Dean Robinson*



Ken Warren



Chris & Kylie Ackerman

Linda Duggan & Ken Warren



Presenters: Mark, Ben & Simon







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Gala Night 2024

This is the one night that we eagerly await, and this year did not disappoint. The theme of "Classy with a touch of Silver and Blue" did not disappoint with the

room decor matching the theme perfectly! The members also stepped it up with the majority adding a touch of silver and blue to their chosen outfits. The glamour was certainly all there!

The food was divine and the atmosphere was electric. Well done to all involved. It was one of the greatest Gala Nights in the history of Gala nights!!



Len Randell OAM

Recently Len Randell was recognised for his service to sailing and naval architecture and awarded an OAM. Len was the designer of a few boats that Members would have seen around the club, including Rob Roy (Kathie & Mark Rindfleish) and Casa Verde (Chris and Kylie Ackerman). Len is a member of the South of Perth Yacht Club and has been a devout member since 1951 and was elected Vice Patron of SoPYC in 2019. We congratulate Len on his OAM.



The information following was extracted from the King's Birthday Honours List:

Name: Mr Leonard Arthur Randell
Award: Medal of the Order of Australia

Post-Nominal: OAM

Date: Granted 10th of June, 2024
State: WA Suburb: Bicton

Citation: For service to sailing, and to naval architecture.

Media Note: South of Perth Yacht Club

Vice Patron, current.

Member, current.

Marine Heritage: Friend,
Australian Wooden Boat Festival, current.

Friend and Supporter, Maritime Heritage Association, Western Australia, current.

Yacht and Boat Designer

Designer, Ocean Racing Yachts. Designer, Long-range Coastal Motorsailers.

Designer, Randell Fast Cray-fishing Boats, 1960-1990.

Designer, Sail Training Ship Leeuwin, Leeuwin Ocean Adventure Foundation, 1980s. Designer, Randell 36/40 Power Boat.

Naval Architect, since 1952.


Royal Institution of Naval Architects:

Life Member, current.


Member, current.

Associate, 1952.





THE PROPELLER AWARD



PHOTOGRAPHY Competition

Celebrate & showcase the best photographs taken on a tender or boat with a monthly prize for the best photo taken.

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Open to RVMYC members only.

<p>Submit your photograph to: info@rvmyc.com.au</p>	<p>July 1st - Sept. 30th Final submissions by 15th October</p>	<p>Overall Winner Propeller Trophy, Certificate & a prize</p>
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What's happening @the RVMYC






SAVE THE DATE - FRIDAY AUGUST 16

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Farewell Wilmington

Written by Ken Warren

Richard Edwards stood at the edge of the dock, gazing wistfully at Wilmington, his beloved boat. It had been a dream of his for many years to own a vessel like this, one with a storied past and a spirit as vibrant as the winds of Scotland where it was built. The journey of Wilmington to Melbourne was a testament to Richard's determination and love for the sea. Yet, now, as the golden hues of the early morning sun reflected off the water, Richard knew the time had come to part with his dream.



Health reasons had prompted this difficult decision. The boat, which had been a symbol of adventure and freedom, was now an obligation he could no longer meet. The committee at the RVMYC had been incredibly supportive, understanding the gravity of the situation. They had rallied around Richard and Prue, his steadfast companion, to ensure that Wilmington did not leave without experiencing the Australian waters at least once.

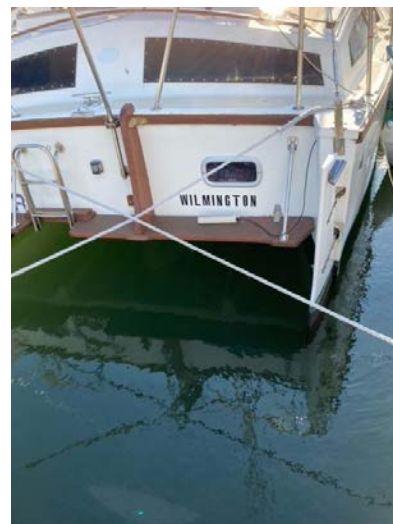


Scott McInerney, a seasoned captain with a love for the open sea, had volunteered to helm the journey. Alongside him was Ken Warren, an adept and enthusiastic crew member. They were both determined to make this voyage memorable, for Richard and Prue. The day was perfect for sailing. The skies were clear, and a gentle breeze whispered promises of a smooth journey. Richard and Prue stepped aboard with a mix of excitement and sorrow. Scott took his place at the helm, his experienced hands ready to guide Wilmington through the waters. Ken busied himself with the sails,



ensuring everything was in order for their departure.

As the boat gently glided away from the dock, Richard felt a mix of emotions. Prue stood beside him, her presence a comforting anchor. Richard's heart swelled with gratitude for the RVMYC that had embraced them so warmly. Out on the open water, Wilmington came to life. The sails caught the wind, and the boat seemed to dance across the waves.



Richard felt a surge of exhilaration as he took in the breathtaking views of Port Philip Bay's coastline. Scott skilfully navigated the boat, his eyes scanning the horizon with a practiced ease. Ken worked tirelessly, his energy and enthusiasm infectious. They sailed past seals sunbathing on the buoy and under the watchful eyes of a pod of dolphins that playfully escorted Wilmington on its journey. The Australian wind finally filled Wilmington's sails.



Richard and Prue relished every moment, soaking in the beauty of the bay and the companionship of their friends. The boat, which had travelled so far to be with them, now had a chance to feel the embrace of the southern hemisphere's waters.

As the morning ended, the group made their way back to the dock. The journey had been everything Richard had hoped for and more. It was a fitting tribute to Wilmington, a boat that had brought so much joy and adventure into his life.



Richard and Prue looked at Wilmington as they stepped off the boat. They knew it was time to let go, but the memories of this day would stay with them forever. The boat had fulfilled its purpose, not just as a vessel of dreams but as a bridge that brought people together.



With a final wave to their friends and the boat that had carried his hopes and dreams, Richard walked away, hand in hand with Prue. Knowing that they had sailed the Bay onboard Wilmington.



Wilmington ready for her journey to Southampton.
Farewell Wilmington.....





Diary update & classifieds

FREE ADVERTISING SPACE



Members Draw!

Wednesdays at 7pm

Fishing Licences

Fishing licences are available from the Club office: 3 year licence \$108.10

1 year licence \$39.90;

28 day licence \$22.70

3 day licence \$10

Members can use their accounts to pay.

NOTE: Seniors cardholders do not require a fishing licence

MEMBERS BAR TRADING HOURS



Wednesday - Bar open 5.00pm
Bistro open 6.00pm
MEMBERS NIGHT

Friday - Bistro open 5.30pm dinner
Jag the Joker/STEAK NIGHT - \$27.50

Saturday - Bar open 12.00pm
Bistro open 12.00pm to 2.30pm
Bistro open 5.30pm dinner

Sunday - Bar open 12.00pm
Bistro open 12.00pm to 2.30pm.
ROAST OF THE DAY - \$30

Calendar of Events

July

Saturday 6th Master Class with Chef Petar
Sunday 28th - Christmas in July

August

Friday 16th - AFL Premiership Cup Lunch
BE SURE TO CHECK THE WEDNESDAY WRAP,

**FACEBOOK & RVMYC WEBSITE
FOR UPDATES**

RVMYC OFFICE HOURS

Mon & Tues 8-3
Wed, Thurs, Frid 9-5

Account Enquiries: admin@rvmyc.com.au

DUTY OFFICER

JULY

6th-7th Sam Cutajar

13th-14th Ken W & Alan Latta

20th-21st Kaylene Evers

18th-19th Danny Brigham

Saturday 25th - Ken Watkin

Sunday 26th - Alan Latta

AUGUST

3rd -4th Dean Robinson

10th - Ron Mullholland

11th - Richard McKay

17th-18th - Sam Cutajar

24th - Ken Warren

25th - Alan Latta

RVMYC

260 Nelson Place,
Williamstown, Victoria 3016
Telephone 03 9393 2888
admin@rvmyc.com.au
www.rvmyc.com.au

2024 JULY						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	Bar & Bistro Open from 5pm	4	Jag the Joker Bingo every 2nd week from 3rd May	Cook w Chef
7	8	9		11		Bar & Bistro Open Lunch & Dinner.
14	15	16		18		
21	22	23		25		
Xmas in July	29	30				

2024 AUGUST						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	Bar & Bistro open for dinner	3
Sunday Roast of the Day	5	6	Bar & Bistro Open from 5pm	8		AFL CUP LUNCH
	12	13		15		17
	19	20		22	23	24
	26	27		29	30	31