The Anchor

MMYC Newsletter – Issue April 2022

Mordialloc Motor Yacht Club Inc. A0034091Y

WHAT'S NEW?

THE EDITOR.

WHAT'S NOT NEW?

'THE ANCHOR'

IT IS TRUE THAT THE EARLY EDITIONS, WHICH ARE STILL AVAILABLE TO READ,GO BACK TO THE 1930'S.

THE NEW EDITOR DOES NOT GO THAT FAR, BUT DOES GO BACK A FAIR WAY !!

THE NEW ANCHOR WILL BE WILL BE LAUNCHED EVERY FEW MONTHS WITH THE PURPOSE OF KEEPING MEMBERS UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST INTRICIACIES OF RUNNING THIS GREAT CLUB. WE'LL GATHER SOME INFORMATIVE, PROVOCATIVE AND USEFUL INFORMATIONWE HOPE TO . EACH ISSUE WILL CARRY A "BOAT OF NOTE" STORY DEDICATED TO A PARTICULAR MOTOR AND OR SAILING YACHT. DOES YOUR BOAT HAVE AN INTERESTING HISTORY ?

WHAT HAVE YOU ALL BEEN UP TO ? EVERY FEW MONTHS WE WILL ENDEAVOUR TO PAINT A PICTURE OF THE CLUB, THE ISSUES OF THE DAY, THE MEMBER'S AND BOATING ACTIVITIES, INACTIVITIES AND GENERAL ACTION IN AND AROUND THE ENTIRE ISLAND AND SOUTH WALL.

YES THERE IS A SOUTH WALL !! HAVE YOU VISITED THERE LATELY ?

WHAT'S ON?

COMING SOCIAL EVENTS

1 / Trivia Night Saturday June 4. 6.30pm $10.00 entry BYO Dinner / Drinks. Great night this one !!!

2/ Hawaiian Luau Saturday August 13

3/ Open Mic Night. Friday September 30. Not to be missed. Besides we need your talents on the night.

Sailing events

Power Boating events

Fishing Competitions

Navigation Trials

Armchair Sailors

Sutton Lounge- More details inside

Sutton Lounge - Last Friday of every Month.

General Meetings.Tuesday 4th April - Tuesday

Tuesday 3rd May—

Tuesday 7th June

General Meeting—West Offshore—Special Guest Speaker

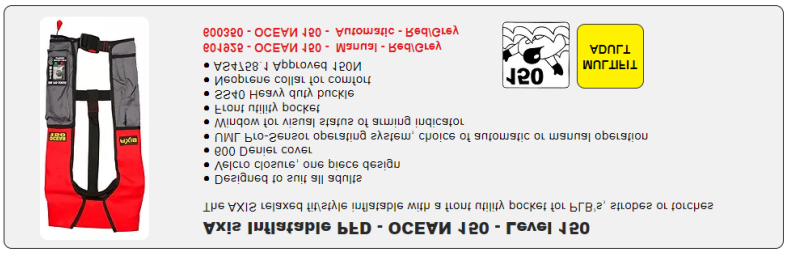
Harry Lewis—TUESDAY—APRIL 5—

We are all aware of responsibilities of compliance to the rules and regulations of safety equipment for sea safety. Every now and then it's good to catch up with the latest trends and sea safety requirements.

Harry Lewis from West Offshore will visit us to discuss and demonstrate safety equipment for those boating in enclosed waters or offshore.

West Offshore is Australia's experts in the provision of marine safety equipment including the sale and servicing of the world's premier brands of life rafts and life jackets. Offering expert advice,

Lifejackets, PLB, EPIRB, flares and life rafts are the most important piece of safety equipment on any recreational vessel.



MORDIALLOC MOTOR YACHT CLUB MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING

First Tuesdays of most months.

The MMYC Monthly Meeting has become something of an institution and we are pleased to continue this monthly habit well into the future. Each month we have an average of 40 members making their way to the clubhouse to learn of club plans, issues, safety concerns and enjoy training and guest speakers that come along from time to time.

This month we have West Offshore coming along to talk on safety and compliance matters regarding safety equipment we have on our vessels. See you there.

From the Editor ...*Peter Banham and helpful others.*

Ahoy there Members,

By way of introduction my name is Peter Banham and I am excited to introduce myself as the current editor of the Anchor Newsletter. I have been a proud member of the MMYC for the last 24 years, have held a number of committee positions over the years and am now proud to be an Honorary Life Member . My wife Gerry and I arrived at the club sailing an Ultimate 18 which we replaced with a Farr 7500 (Moondancer) in 2004. Well here we are with the first edition, of the new edition, of the old concept of the Anchor Magazine. (Now Newsletter). The Anchor started life back in 1930s and has continued to survive in some format or another over all those years. Actually the oldest printed copy still surviving is 1947. W all the modern news and information platforms you might wonder why the Anchor needs reviving at all. Well there's a plan.

We want the news letter to provide "news". News of the day that is not always broadcast around the club. It's not uncommon to hear folks say "I didn't Know that", " which one is the Commodore? ", 'why is this happening, why is that happening ?", where's the dredge ?" etc etc. We intend the newsletter to keep you up to date with the complete club picture.

This issue is our first and we hope you enjoy it. We look forward to bringing you an edition of the Anchor every few months and hope ***your news and photos*** *will be a key part of the next "Anchor" editions.*

At The Sutton lounge.

The Sutton lounge is the small Bar on the ground floor of the clubhouse. It was named in commemoration of past Commodore Peter Sutton (2004—2006) for his Stirling efforts in the reconstruction of the building following near extinction of the club by white ants. It is a great place to visit when it's open as a Bar on the last Friday of each month from 6.30pm. In between those Fridays it's a great place to quietly go about business, have a coffee with friends or just relax and watch the 'goings on' in the slipway.

The Bar has had a number of incarnations over the years and the current Sutton Lounge concept has been by far the most successful. Many people can be thanked for the constant success of this treasured hideaway. In the past the great Greame Kane and Rob Deegan partnered to push the limits and achieve maximum crowd numbers with performances by many in their Open Mic. Nights. The Sutton Lounge is the central hub of our social activities with Christine Ffrench and Stuart McKinnon, among many others, keeping the action happening.

Here's Christine's summary of last weeks Sutton Lounge Night.

Hi All, - The March Sutton Lounge was a musical event with Mark bringing along his guitar and members joining him in singing some old favorite songs. All got involved and it was a lot of fun. With any luck he will do that again. Old friends from the past dropped in, as well as a few new members. Stuart behind the bar as usual looked after us well, ensuring that vocal cords were well lubricated. Unfortunately there were a few well done party pies, but I'm told charcoal is good for the teeth. These evenings are a chance for members to mix socially and always prove to be great success, so come along to the next one, always on the last Friday of the month. It is particularly good to see new members there.

So make sure you mark your calendars. Last Friday of the month. Drinks and nibbles all night. (10pm)

AROUND THE CLUB -

Sailing Yacht News—Changes to the ThursdayRace Format.

Our yacht fleet activities have remained strong during the summer series with an average of 11 boats competing in both the Thursday twilight and Sunday Points races. With only 2 races to go the focus is on the points in what will be some very close results once the handicaps and dropped races are completed. We are also very excited at the potential of another number of yachts entering the fleet once moorings become available.

Thursday Yacht Race Changes.

Come April we'll be starting our Winter Series Sunday races and Thursday mid-afternoon races (Thursday Terrors)

We'll be trying something different for our start/finish and handicaps for the Thursday races ... more like what they do for the Twilights at Sandy

The main features will be:-

Around 2:30 start for the slowest boat.

PBH only. (Personal Basic Handicap)

Try and set a course that will take about 50-60 minutes for the fastest boat and less than 90 min for the slowest.

Every boat gets its own start time. (one minute minimum increments).

Where you finish over the line is your handicap finish.

5 min penalty for 1st place for next race.

3 min for 2nd.

1 min for 3rd. ... these numbers might be adjusted during the season.

As is usual, (and particularly more relevant for these races, as there will be no CBH, Class Basic Handicap) the handicappers reserve the right to adjust any boat's start time/ handicap for reasons such as :--- incorrect initial estimated start time (i.e. PBH), change of crew, performance change to equipment, etc.

Skippers may use spinnakers, but they must decide before their start and then start 2 min later than their gazetted start for boats that are normally Div 2 on Sundays, and 3 min for those that are usually Div 1. We're allowing spinnakers (with penalty) so that people can choose to practice that skill for the main game on the Sunday points races.

These races will be every Thursday (tide and weather permitting), so there will be a greater percentage of "dropped" races allowed. There will be aggregate points, with trophies or medallions at the end of season, depending on fleet numbers.

Dates for Winter Series (Sundays) points races TBA.

Motor Yacht News. (Power Boats) We'll regularly be keeping you up to date on the forthcoming activities. Watch out for coming Navigation training, navigation trials and on water boating and cruising activites

Fishing News and competitions. Fishing has settled with the last of the visiting schools of fish heading back out to the ocean. Time to settle in for the winter and work out where the resident fish are hiding. However when the Ti Tree is white again the frantic early morning activities of the fisherman will again generate the 'tall but true ???' stories of the ones that got away. Can't wait for that !!

Water Sports Centre. (formerly No.2 slipway). Is currently Work in progress and will operational soon. This will add a new dimension to the MMYC. Additional to our normal activities the WSC will open a new world of water sports, Motor Yacht and Sailing Yacht training, Stand Up Paddle Board training, kayaking etc. Our two sail training yachts have now been approved by YA, and are ready to hoist sails.

Car Observational Challenge Saturday April 2 2022

Car Observational Challenge 2 April.

The annual MMYC observational car challenge was held on Saturday 2 April. Although the weather wasn't kind to us (I will never believe the Bureau if Meteorology again!) there was a good turnout of members, family and friends. As Ursula pointed out 'we are sailors' so what is a little inclement weather? Our route took us to Stamford House, Fern Tree Gully quarry, Alfred Nichols gardens, Emerald, Emerald Puffing Billy station and the final destination of Emerald lake where we had a reserved pavilion for lunch.

As it was such a dreary day Helen and I purchased sausages, onions and bread from Emerald supermarket for a barbecue, which was popular, particularly with some aggressive swooping kookaburras who proved to be very proficient, and scary, thieves. The final result came to a tie breaker with the Pinky and the Brain team (Shirley and Patrick) finally winning, followed by The Dynamic Duo team of Alicia and Rhonda. The Wacky Racers(Myles, Kat, Stella and Lilly) were third. Congratulations to all. Many thanks to Helen who, as usual, created a great day.
Christine Ffrench

John was a great cook of the snags. He and Sally also took out the encouragement prize

AUSTRALIAS HIGH COUNTRY 'FIORDS'

Garry Spencer Takes His 22ft Steber half cabin cruiser Sunshine on tour of Lake Eildon.

MMYC member and founder of the Mordialloc Creek Community, Garry Spencer OAM, decided that the temptation to visit a completely full Lake Eildon was too much to bear. This opportunity comes only rarely (last time was 15 years ago) and the opportunity was not to be missed. Garry's organizational skills led him to research the what, when , where, How and Why of the journey just 2 hours from Melbourne .

Garry Prepared his boat, prepared the trailer, introduced himself to various contacts on the Lake as this voyage was one of weeks, not days. The chosen month was March. Garry invited us all to join him but most of us were ' too busy' .Consequently a handful of boats and people arrived to enjoy weeks of perfect weather and a Lake to themselves The editor asked Garry to keep in touch.

The following was the travelogue.

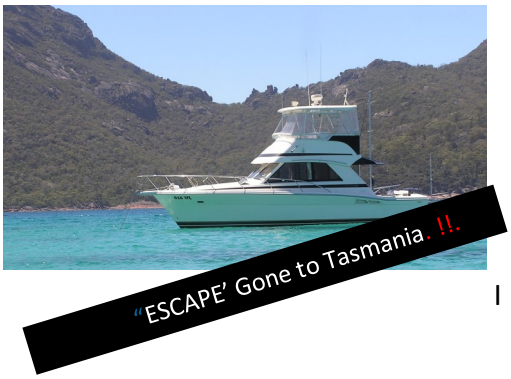
And photos

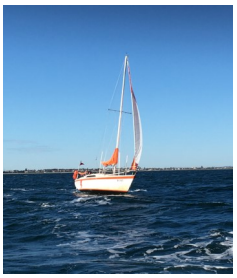
The Lake Eildon, or Eildon Weir, is a largely unheralded and unappreciated wonderful boating facility—with no tide no swell, no urgency many boat ramps and people that are helpful and very welcoming. The scenery is outstanding and a photographers dream. The are could reasonably called Australia's high country bush fiords. We explored many coves and inlets over lots of very deep water. We spent 2 days tied up outside the Jamieson Brewery; great hospitality at the Gough's Bay Boat Club, friendly and helpful staff at the Jerusalem Creek Marina and restaurant. The list of destinations was never ending and the scenery breathtaking. All this with the lake to ourselves and only 2 hours from Melbourne

The photos tell some more of the story. We look forward to Garry's return and will invite him to expand more on this adventure soon.

In the mean time maybe it's time to remember where your trailer last was and get it ready to join Garry; should the chance occur again.

MMYC—Around The Creek





In recent times there has been much activity around the creek. Upstream the launching ramp and jetties have been improved with extra launching and retrieving waiting room and a dredged creek from the ramp to the railway bridge. Dredging of the permanent pens is always a topic simmering in the background. At our recent General Meeting former Commodore (2016 to 2020) Byron Douglas advised that local politicians both state and federal are being lobbied heavily to find the $10M to deepen the creek itself. We remain cautiously optimistic with our hopes resting on the shoulders of the Mordialloc Creek Community. In the mean time Parks Victoria have upheld their declaration to keep the sand bar at the mouth of the creek as clear as possible, with the next dredging due in March. The creek mouth is dangerously shallow at the time of writing. As club mariners it's prudent we be sure of the creek depth and what the tide and wind will do whilst your out and about.

'IT'S A BIT SHALLOW MATE'— Mick Garret from Sarah does his best to prove the creek is shallow. A number of boats have slammed into the Bar. Beware — the dredge is on it's way.

New sheet Pile works—

Members should be aware that New Sheet Pile Works along the mouth of the Mordialloc Creek will commence on Wednesday 16th March 2022 and continue for approximately seven months subject to weather. Sheet piling will be installed inside the existing sheet piling on both the North and and South sides of the creek. The wave baffles will remain untouched and operational. The club has appointed Quartermaster **Wayne Imlach** to be the Communications Link on behalf of the MMYC to assist with the sheet piling works. Wayne will work in consultation with Peter and Marcus Allnutt when required. Please be mindful of construction equipment and truck movements and please observe signage and detours.

MARLAY POINT OVER NIGHT YACHT RACE

The following information was offered by Lyndon David, Debbie Barclay, Mark Barklay and Linda Swanson. Congratulations on representing the MMYC again this year.

The Marlay Point Yacht Race has been sailed every year since 1968. Entries peaked at the 400 mark back in the 1980s coincidentally when the generally light weather offered a couple of years of 50 knot gales.

The race these days is considered the pinnacle of trailable yachting and attracts entries nationwide. It is the "Sydney to Hobart' for trailable yachts.

MPNOR 2022 awesome as usual

NX812 - Noelex 25 Serenity 90 yachts started 70 + finished …..estimated

A synopsis of events - We were the only Yacht from MMYC. Crew Mark and Debbie Barclay and Linda Swanson -THE 4 CRAPTAINS -

Blew out a trailer Tyre towing Serenity to LWYC .. this happened on the barricaded part of the highway - (as the usual route was flooded and road was closed). Bit of an issue, as there is no way to safely stand on the traffic side of the vehicle … narrow single lane – and shoulder.

The 4WD that made a U turn and came to our assistance, just happened to be the race director _ Jackie_ awesome lady. Offered us assistance. We were all good by then and spare in place ready to continue.

During the briefing – Lots of pressure from the Carrum and MMYC sailors' all giving me advice – mostly consistent. ☹ The pressure was on – I had to finish this race.

The winds were predicted to be a drifter. Mostly on the nose. Started pretty much on the Start line but a bit too close to the windward start boat… but then got "barged" and pushed into the start boat … to avoid a collision, dropped back to start behind the field.

Hence our start was 7:50pm … the official start 7:40pm. So, we were the last to cross the start line.

We made it to Plover Point at 12:59am - I promised my crew I will get them before 12 … well there was a 12 in there somewhere We passed about 20 yachts by this time

We drifted thru McLennan Strait and the fog set in around 4am …. We spotted a yacht heading towards us … turned out, is was – ROCKY – in magic bus going the wrong way … !!

We yelled out into the milky cloud to the shadow that was Rocky - to follow us to Paynesville… we passed another 18 yachts. We made it to Hollands landing by 7am … Normally I would get some sleep between the hours 3am-6am … But not this year, I stayed up all night at the helm. Mark took over the helm around 8am and sailed us to Stoney point - and as tradition dictates – skipper finished the race.

We crossed the finish line at 1.05pm.

Please see some pics to go with the narrative.

Boat of Note—Forever Young—Byron and Di

BOAT OF NOTE – "FOREVER YOUNG" –

Forever Young is a wooden boat, a veteran of the sea and as far as gaff rigged boats go she continues the romanticism sometimes connected to these fine vessels. Byron tells us the story of Forever Young below.

COUTA BOAT CIRCA 1946 -This article is concentrating on the Grand Lady of the MMYC. 'Forever Young' – a 21ft Couta Boat, was rescued by our Former Commodore, Byron Douglas and a friend Gavin Sharp from the banks of Mordialloc Creek in a state that real estate agents would describe as a 'renovators delight'!!. Byron put in hundreds of hours over 12 years (packed away for three years while he renovated their house) to slowly but surely restore the old girl back to the Grand Lady she is today.

The history of Forever Young is not entirely known but she is thought to have been built in the 40'/50's by Peter Locke of Queenscliff using a Lacco design. She is a 21ft couta boat and had lifting gear in the stern and in the keel and a stainless steel soleplate around a false keel all giving credibility to the thought that she worked off Lorne Pier. There were a fleet of boats that operated off Lorne Pier and were lifted into the waters of Bass Straight by a crane that was stationed on the pier. The couta boats were the unique fishing fleets of the Victorian coastal waters. They were named after the schools of baracouta they would catch in Bass Straight. The boats were designed for the fishermen to easily fish from (fish were caught on barbless hooks with a lure made from cow hide or tea tree and snagged and pulled into the boat)

The boats were designed to be fast. The first boats in got their catch off to market first, getting the best price! The boats wine glass shaped stern helped give them stability in the harsh waters of Bass Straight. The early boats had no engines and after the second world war most of the boats were fitted with engines. A couta boat was traditionally built in 6 – 8 weeks by two boat builders – without power tools!!! Forever Young took 12 years to restore in Byron's driveway in Aspendale. In traditional terms she is a carvel hull boat with her hull timbers being NZ Kauri. The deck is QLD Beech with the gunwales of recycled Merbau. She is gaff rigged with her spars being recycled Oregon goal posts that a Council was throwing out for firewood! Her deck is new but most of the hull planking is original. She was built as a working vessel and we believe she was operated for many years in the waters of Apollo Bay. She has been fitted with an 8 – 10 hp Simplex petrol engine. They are still built and sold brand new by Hardman and Hall in Sydney but they are very much 50's technology. At least Byron fitted an electronic start to his engine!

When Byron found the boat of his dreams she was not a pretty sight – rumor around the creek was that she had sunk at one stage and the previous owners had stripped here in readiness for a restoration project that never got off the ground. Byron had to learn how to steam timbers, make the tools to rivet the timbers, scrounge suitable timbers, caulk the boat and design the rig according to the strict Couta Association racing rules. The new centerboard case alone took about 100 hours to fit and the timbers weighed 100 kilos and were moved in and out of the boat 6 times to fit! Forever Young's name is a tribute to the many hours of listening to music as she was restored and Bob Dylan was on the playlist quite often and it seemed such a perfect name in the end.

Forever Young now spends much time sailing and racing within the MMYC yacht fleet and is the focus of many cameras as she regally sails past the Mordialloc Pier and along the coast line. No other sailing vessel is quite able to capture the imagination and turn back the time to when fisherman plied their trade using the wind as their sole source of transport. To see a Couta Boat under sail is somehow special and creates an atmosphere of piece and tranquility.

We thank Byron for this story and look forward to next months BOAT OF NOTE—a power boat with a great story.

New Members 2022

MMYC welcomes relative new members, Tim and Belinda Williams and Roy McDougal to the club and thanks them for their offer to take on the caring role of welcoming and supporting new members as they learn to navigate their way around the intricacies of the MMYC.

New Members

MMYC welcomes the following new members

Trent Selwood

David Peirce

Elisabetta Robecchi

Matthew Christopher

Russell Allen

Rodney Miller

Megan Cross

Mike Dunn Welcome all

New Members Day

On Sunday 27th March, we held another '**New Members Day**' on the island and were greeted by some spectacular weather. We were joined by 10-15 recent new members (we had some catching up to do, after COVID!) upstairs where Jamie welcomed them to the club over a drink and some food.

It was great to see so many other members there to welcome them and with the amazing **Longbeach Ukuleles** playing, it was a really nice and relaxing afternoon for all… and great to see kids running around too!

Slipway Management

Thanks to Greg Power who has now relinquished his position assisting the many of us with slipway matters.

Welcome to Murray Parsons (Yacht sailor. RL 24). and John Druitt. Murray and John taking on the big shoes left behind by Greg

Please make your bookings via the Webb site. More slipway news coming soon.

Occupational Health and Safety-

Welcome John McLoughlin

OHS at MMYC

Newish member, John McLoughlin, has taken over the role of OHS Coordinator at MMYC. John follows on from the excellent preparatory work of Steve Beashel (Rear Commodore)

John has been a long time boat owner who gave up the "joys" of the boat ramp and found solace in the wet berth adjacent to the hotel walkway.

His previous vessel was a large tinny with the registration WR34. Very old registration and was always a target of the Police boat for inspection. He assures me it always passed!

John's new boat is an old Whitley Cherokee runabout. It's a six seater powered by a Mercury 175.

With the price of fuel going up he reckons a move to the sailing fleet is not too far away.

John enjoys fishing and dragging the kids around on the bay on a ski tube.

He is also known to go fishing with Peter Riordan and Stephen Brown on the Lucy Alice with occasional success but always with a laugh and a beer.

John is an IT and PE teacher at Patterson River Secondary College and is the elected Health and Safety Representative for the college. He has completed the formal 5 day HSR Course.

His wife is an OHS specialist and runs her own company, OHS and HR Management Services, and John reckons he will be calling on her support at times.

John looks forward to working with the committee, flag bearers, all members, full, crew, social and guests to provide a club with facilities and procedures that meet the standards of health and safety legislation for the enjoyment of all.

He looks forward to meeting members over the next 12 months and beyond.

Please support MMYC's generous sponsors

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Thank you to this issue's contributors

We would love to see pictures of your catch, history of your boat, funny moments in your boat or simply photos of you out and about enjoying our beautiful bay.

IS your BOAT for SALE?

Members can advertise for FREE in the Anchor, please send in details. We are open to new ideas

Thank you, Helen

info@mmyc.com.au

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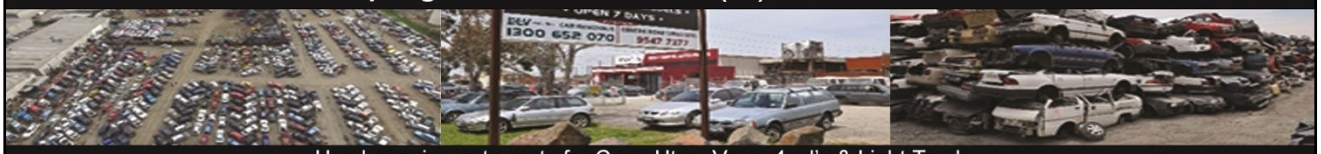

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