



Sorry.

To be a bit tardy with the "From the Bridge" publications this month but Jenny and I took ourselves on a driving holiday to Melbourne, Philip Island and the Great Ocean Road. Was quite enjoyable despite having rain on 18 of the 20 days that we were away plus gales and freezing temperatures.

We arrived at Port Fairy on the day that they received a record 78mm of rain. Fortunately we had a window of sunshine the next morning and were able to have a look at the harbour. A really beautiful place with quite a few tough looking yachts which included two Clansman class vessels moored there.

We have had a soft spot for these yachts since we owned one in the 70's and vividly remember hitting 14 knots under spinnaker in a black north easter on the run

from Wedding Cake to Middle Island one Saturday. They are a great sea boat and very easy to sail single handed. I had a memorable solo trip from the Lake to here one day, left at 8 am and battled a strong north easter all day to arrive here at about midnight. No lights other than Fingal in those days either!



Skippers Meeting,

So Jim and the Sailing Committee can get organised for the Summer Series we will have a meeting of all interested Skippers (and crew if they want to come) at the Clubhouse on Friday the 10th of July, commencing at 6.00 pm. The bar will be open and delicious sausages will be available at a heavily discounted rate. At the conclusion of the meeting. This meeting will be followed by a meeting of the Sailing Committee.

It would be most helpful if any of you have matters that you would like raised that you give us a bit of notice by either e-mailing or letting Jim Quinn, Peter Collins or myself know beforehand. That way we can set an agenda and prepare for anything that needs preparation.

From the Board Meeting

Had one last night! The usual lively discussions were held and some welcome news came out of them. One matter, and probably one of the most important, is that we are not increasing our subs this coming year. As you may remember, we actually reduced them last year and due to the efforts of our Secretary, and our very valuable band of volunteers, they can stay the same.

Other matters discussed included the possible installation of sound deadening material in the ceiling of the upper story of the Clubhouse. As you all probably agree, it is hard to hear yourself think up there at times, let alone carry on a cross table conversation so, if it is viable financially, we will do something about it. Peter Ballard is considering various alternatives and if any of you have any experience in this field, please don't hesitate to contact him.

The Social Mooring

For the information of new members, the social mooring near the boat ramp is for the use of all boat owning members and those occupying it are required to allow and other yachts to raft up to those already there. The full treatise on our mooring policy will be available on our website as soon as I get around to sending a copy to Stuart.

Weather Workshop

This was held a couple of weeks ago and hosted by the Bureau of Meteorology. I believe it was most interesting and may lead to quite a few improvements to the present system of radar images and weather reports and forecasts to our region. Stuart knows all about it and will discuss with anyone interested!

Recent Races

From all accounts, not too many were held in our absence! Heard about several yachts having a sailing backwards contest one day and another having his wind vane removed by a larger yacht. (Sorry I missed that one!) Bar takings took a bit of a beating with gale warnings abounding and tomorrow's twilight looks a bit suss by the look of the horizontal rain moving past our windows at the moment. However, as someone once said, life was not meant to be easy!

Try an Etchells this winter!

As most of my crew have abandoned yachting for caravanning for the next couple of months I am looking for company on Wednesdays and possibly Saturdays. If you would like to come out on a nice day (only!) give me a ring. Might cost you a rum and coke but you can even take the helm on occasions!

And so to bed!!

They say one of the symptoms of swine flu is breaking out in rashes!

See you at the Bar! *John Way* 0412493586