# QUEENSCLIFFE CRUISING YACHT CLUB INC. Reg. No A0017353E

# Minutes of the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held at Royal Yacht Club of Victoria on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2011 at 8:00pm

**PRESENT:** Commodore Ken Gayler, Vice Commodore Brian Golland, Rear Commodore Roger Bennett, Hon. Treasurer Peter Geary, Hon. Secretary Naomi Wilbraham, Committee: Mal Billings, Brian Phillips, William (Bill) Stubbs, Jonathan Crockett, Phil Lack, James Ide, Sheryl Gray and 40 members.

The Commodore Ken Gayler, as Chairman declared the meeting open at 8:00pm and welcomed all present.

## 1. Notice Convening the Meeting

Notice convening the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting as circulated on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2011 be confirmed.

Moved: K.Gayler Seconded P.Lack

**2. APOLOGIES:** 22 as per apology sheet.

Moved: P.Lack Seconded: B.Phillips

#### 3. OBITUARIES:

The Commodore reported the deaths of the following members – Mr Howard Kiel, Mr Frank Brockman and Mr Ron Scotland. Members observed a minutes silence as a mark of respect and appreciated their company and service to the Club.

#### 4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Minutes of the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held at the Royal Brighton Yacht Club on the 19th October 2009 as tabled and circulated to Members be accepted and confirmed.

**Moved:** K.Gayler **Seconded:** K.McAllister

**Resolution to confirm previous minutes:** by show of hands

Commodore Ken Gayler asked if there were any comments, discussion or matters arising from the minutes. There were no further matters.

## 5. COMMODORE'S AND SUB-COMMITTEES' REPORT:

It is a pleasure to deliver the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Report to the members. This is my third and final report as Commodore of your club and is delivered on behalf the extraordinary group of individuals who have made up your committee over the last 12 months.

The last two years has seen the completion of many projects aimed at re-invigorating QCYC. Many of these were initiated by previous committees and it is with pride that I now invite you to visit your club to see the fruition of this work.

The program of works completed as part of the coordinated site plan are extensions and renovations to the wharves, new safety lighting, vastly improved road access including strengthening of the cygnet bridge and provision of all weather access at the rear of the club, extensive redevelopment of the native garden areas and establishment of a grassed area from the club verandah all the way to

the sea wall. Hidden but of equal importance are the extensive improvements in our plumbing and waste water management infrastructure carried out concurrently with the relocation and refurbishment of the storage sheds and storage areas to the North of the club. These developments continue our efforts to increase the efficiency and safety of the club's facilities by locating potential hazards separately from the main areas of general activity.

Other vast improvements are those made to the fairway and mooring grounds adjacent to the club. This area has been extensively dredged and redeveloped by Parks Victoria and the club has negotiated a 12 meter wide berthing strip for the club which runs the full length of the 200 meters of club wharf with a minimum depth at low tide of 2.5 meters. With the enhanced navigable water, the extra wharf length and depth and the novel dinghy ramp QCYC now has first class berthing to offer both its members and visitors.

I draw to your attention recent changes in the club By-Laws which clarify the obligations of members and visitors berthing at the club and reinforce a stricter policy on insurance for boats using the wharf.

Within the clubhouse itself, work is in progress to improve the dining and kitchen areas both through the addition of extra kitchen facilities donated during the year and through further renovations planned for the next two years. Priorities for these and other works are outlined in the Strategic, Management and Business Plan 2011-2013 approved by the Committee at its meeting on September 13<sup>th</sup> and published on the club website: <a href="www.qcyc.org.au">www.qcyc.org.au</a>

As the Treasurer will also indicate, the club has continued to rebuild its somewhat diminished cash reserves to a much more healthy position, such that the works proposed for 2011-2013 in the Strategic, Management and Business Plan can be undertaken with confidence.

In order to continue to thrive, it is equally important that the club continues to attract new members. The up and coming 50 Year Anniversary, in 2013, of the establishment of the QCYC provides an opportunity to advertise the extent of the re-invigoration of the QCYC over the last decade so that it is, even after 50 years, still a club to be immensely proud of.

I have been guided throughout the year by the 2009-2011 QCYC Strategic and Management Plans and commend to you the 2011-2013 Strategic, Management and Business Plan completed in September 2011 for the next two years. Also added to the Club's documents is the Wharf Management Plan covering the procedures and protocols expected of members and visitors using our waterways and wharf. Further revisions of the club's By-Laws are an ongoing task for your committee and I recommend that all members take the time to read and understand all three of the above documents. All are regularly updated on the Club's Website.

The Club Website is rapidly becoming the primary vehicle for the delivery of Club Notices and members are reminded to visit it regularly.

Newsletters will still be produced to report on the social and sailing activities of the Club throughout the year. Note however that they are generally retrospective in content.

There will be more than the usual number of changes in the composition of your committee for 2012. It is with regret that I have accepted the resignation from the committee of one of the longest serving members, John Gleeson, whose efforts for the club are almost legendary. In addition, Peter Geary is stepping aside after some five years as Treasurer and Naomi Wilbraham is likewise

moving on from Secretary. I would like on your behalf to formally thank all three for their hard work so generously given to the club over many years. As you will see from the agenda, James Ide has agreed to stand for Treasurer and Jonathan Crockett to take on the job of Secretary. The Club is extremely fortunate have two such well qualified and enthusiastic folk to fill these demanding positions. I am similarly delighted with the caliber of the two new nominees for general committee in Sheryl Gray and Noel Essex. Fortunately the Club will not be losing the services of either Peter Geary, who will continue as an Ordinary member of General Committee in 2012, or of Naomi Wilbraham who is the nominee for Rear-Commodore and is I know raring to go.

Our club was formally opened on November 21<sup>st</sup> 2010 by Captain Mark Hill, Commanding Officer of HMAS Cerberus and the fleet blessed in the traditional manner by the Reverend Peter Martin of Queenscliff. Guests and club members were treated to a sumptuous buffet, an example of the efforts of the many members, mostly but not only ladies, who have assisted in the decoration, set up, catering and cleaning up for the many functions small and large held at the Club throughout the year. Special mention must also be made of the raffle-ticket sellers and prize donors who made it possible for the Club to donate several thousand dollars to Cottage by the Sea.

The Club had another successful Christmas / New Year season. Generally Members and Guests were relaxed and happy keeping the Club and surrounds clean and in good condition. As is normally the case there was the tireless group of Members who worked non-stop to keep the Club functioning – from mooring boats to running the bar, from arranging for supplies to removing the rubbish, and everything else that happens behind the scenes. To all those Members who continue to support the Club in this way, I extend my personal thanks.

The New Year's Eve Spit Roast, was to be replaced in 2010 by a club catered function making use of our new pizza oven. This new idea led to a great deal of extra work for those members who volunteered to prepare the Pizzas and salads.

The best laid plans don't always work. The function was a breath of fresh air as club functions go and those present celebrated New Years Eve in fine style. Surprising really as a Total Fire Ban on December 31<sup>st</sup> outlawed the use of the Pizza oven and pizzas became barbequed sausages. My thanks to all the volunteers whose efforts gave us all a New Years Eve to remember. (We ate the pizzas next day.)

Many of these same volunteers turned out on New Year's Day to prepare and serve Prawns and Oysters to yet another record breaking crowd for the New Year's Day Prawns and Oysters Luncheon. Again this year we needed to increase the total order for seafood in order to cater for this our most successful annual event. More thanks to the volunteers. This one obviously works.

Xmas in July 2011 was similarly attended by a substantially increased crowd up from 50 to 90 members and guests. Those who attended commended the efforts of our new caterer and accordingly dug deep to support donations for Cottage by the Sea. Thank you all for your efforts.

This year we have seen a further invigoration in visits from neighboring boating clubs. Besides reciprocal visits between the Blairgowrie Yacht Squadron and Queenscliff, the club has seen visits from Royal Geelong Yacht Club for The RGYC Murray McAllister Perpetual Trophy, Royal Yacht Club of Victoria for the annual Phoenix Trophy Race, Royal Brighton Yacht Club at the end of the Alan Robinson Race and the Sandringham Yacht Club as part of their Benito's Treasure Race.

These further extend our pursuit of informal alliances with the other yachting and boating clubs as an important way to secure the club for the future.

By scheduling the HMAS Goorangai Memorial Trophy Race to Saturday 20th November to coincide with both our Opening Day and also the Annual HMAS Goorangai commemorations in Queenscliff and by facilitating members and visitors use of the club during the Queenscliff Music Festival Weekend also in November, the Club is gradually re-developing a more widely recognized reputation as a worthwhile sailing destination and as a vigorous participant in the Queenscliff community.

These and the regular and growing Friday Night Sundowner at the Club extend what has been a busy social program in 2010-2011. Please feel free to attend if you are in the district.

QCYC prides itself as a Cruising Yacht Club. I note that nevertheless many members are not taking advantage of the Cruising Program prepared on your behalf by Cruising Director Mal Billings. These cruises require a great deal of careful preparation to provide you all with the opportunity to cruise in the safety that comes from cruising in company. A detailed set of imaginative cruise plans for 2011-2012 have been on the Website for some time now. These cruises can only go ahead if members indicate their intentions to the Cruising Director Mal Billings soon.

Finally, I would like to formally thank the entire Committee of Management who have supported me absolutely and wholeheartedly during my time as Commodore. As a team and as individuals they have without exception given enormously of their time and skills to you as club members and I am extraordinarily proud of their achievements. I have been extremely fortunate to have had excellent Vice and Rear-Commodores respectively in Brian Golland and Roger Bennett. I know they do the club proud as your Commodore and Vice-Commodore and will make a formidable team with Rear-Commodore Naomi Wilbraham.

I have enjoyed immensely the privilege of being Commodore of the Queenscliff Cruising Yacht Club and look forward to seeing you prosper in the future.

Motion to accept report

Moved: B.Stubbs Seconded: J.Ide

**Resolved:** by show of hands

## 6. NOTICES OF MOTION:

#### **Motion 1:**

To permit all voting members of the club access to all elected positions on the Committee as defined in Rule 23 (i) of the Rules of the Queenscliff Cruising Yacht Club Inc.,

Rule 23 (v) which states:

"The Flag Officers of the Club and at least three members of the Committee shall be owners of boats on the Club Boat Register" be altered to read "At the time of their appointment at least 50% of the members of the committee shall be owners of boats on the Club Boat Register".

**Proposed:** K. Gayler **Seconded:** P. Lack

One member queried the need for the change. The Commodore explained non boat owners should be able to contribute as flag officers of the committee.

Member Ron Davies commented that the QCYC constitution was based on RBYC yacht club and it is not unreasonable to accept the change.

**Special Resolution carried**: as printed in Motion 1 by show of hands with one against.

#### **Motion 2:**

That the wording of Rule 5 (ii) e be altered to read:

"Honorary Life Members shall consist of those persons who have rendered valuable service to the Club and have been awarded Honorary Life Membership upon the recommendation of the Committee confirmed by a resolution passed by a two thirds majority of votes at a properly constituted General or Special General Meeting."

**Proposed:** K. Gayler **Seconded:** R. Bennett

Note of explanation: Motion 2 will clarify the rule 5 (ii) e and keep it consistent with the rule 5 (ii) i which deals with the removal of Honorary Life Membership.

**Special Resolution carried:** as printed in Motion 2 unanimously by show of hands

#### **Motion 3:**

The General Committee of the QCYC recommends that the following members be awarded Honorary Life Membership of the Queenscliff Cruising Yacht Club in recognition of their valuable services to the Club: Grahame Chapman (first QCYC Commodore and longest serving member), Rex Prosser (long term past Treasurer and committee member), John Gleeson (legendary works at the club and in and around Queenscliff).

The Commodore highlighted the contributions of each of these Members:

Grahame Chapman: the Club's first Commodore and longest serving Member who has maintained interest for 50 years and is still involved in the club as is his family.

Rex Prosser: long-serving Treasurer and Committee-member who has continued to work with DSE, Parks and others to make sure QCYC interests are protected as well as continuing to guide and work hard on wharf maintenance and enhancement.

John Gleeson: described in a past newsletter as "the human dynamo" who does so much for the Club and is a strong advocate for the Club around Queenscliff, a long standing Member and Committee member, and an accomplished yachtsman.

**Proposed:** K. Gayler **Seconded**: B.Cherry **Resolution carried:** unanimously by a show of hands.

Grahame Chapman thanked the Commodore, Flag Officers and Members. He said it was 49 years since the first meeting of QCYC which was held at RBYC at which the bucket was passed around to form the Club. He received a standing ovation.

Rex Prosser also thanked the Commodore, Committee and Members. He said how much he loves QCYC, how he joined when encouraged by Murray McAllister and was asked to join the Committee by Ken McAllister. He received a standing ovation.

The Commodore regretted that John Gleeson was unable to attend. Nevertheless he received a standing ovation in his absence.

**Motion 4:**That from the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2012 annual Membership and other Fees (including GST) shall be increased

i. Annual Subscription	Current (1 <sup>st</sup> July 11)	Proposed (1 <sup>st</sup> July 12)
Senior Member	\$177.00	\$180.00
Forty Year Member	\$177.00	\$180.00
Disabled Member Concession	\$70.00	\$70.00
Junior / Student Member	N/A	N/A
Honorary Member	Nil	Nil
Honorary Life Member	Nil	Nil
Family Member (per Family)	\$270.00	\$275.00
Absentee Member	\$104.00	\$106.00
Emeritus Senior Member	\$100.00	\$100.00
Causeway User	\$57.00	\$60.00
Gold 10 Year Senior Membership	N/A	N/A
Gold 10 Year Family Membership	N/A	N/A
ii. Joining Fee	Current	Proposed
Junior / Student Member	N/A	N/A
Senior Member	\$208.00	\$212.00
Family Member (per Family)	\$260.00	\$265.00
iii. Boat Register	Current	Proposed
Boat Joining Fee	\$177.00	\$180.00
Annual Boat Registration Fee	\$92.00	\$94.00
(includes dinghy storage)		
Dinghy Registration Fee (Member)	Nil	Nil
Dinghy Registration Fee (Non-Member)	\$63.00	\$65.00
iv. Application Fee	Current	Proposed
Application Fee	\$208.00	Nil

**Proposed:** K.Gayler **Seconded:** J.Golland

Resolution carried: to increase fees as set out in Motion 4 unanimously by show of

hands

## 7. TREASURER'S REPORT:

## Financial Performance Report for 2010-11 by Hon. Treasurer, Peter Geary:

As the Honorary Treasurer, I am pleased to present the annual financial statements of the Club for the year ended 30 June 2011. The accompanying statements were prepared by the Club and were audited by Mr Tony Clarke CPA.

The Club is registered for GST and commentary on various Income and Expenditure items in this report excludes GST.

The Club made a Net Loss for the year of \$19,080 compared with a Net Profit of \$23,195 in the previous year. This turnaround, totalling \$42,275, was due largely to an increase in expenditure of \$36,061 attributable to an increase in repairs and maintenance and \$2,700 Yachting Victoria affiliation fees.

The major work undertaken during 2010-11, related to the repair of the causeway costing \$36,524. It has been decided that, as the Club's lease with DSE expires in April 2016, all repair expenditure of a capital nature will be expensed rather than capitalised and depreciated over the few remaining years. The regular high tides washing material off the causeway at the Club, indicate that major capital works may be required in the future, in order to reduce the necessity of expending significant funds annually on repair of the damaged road.

The Bar continued to make a significant contribution to the Club's financial position, although bar takings were impacted by fewer vessels using the wharf at both Christmas and Easter, as compared with the previous year. Bar takings were \$21,820 (2009-10, \$26,553) with bar supplies costing \$13,883 (2009-10 \$9,190) resulting in a surplus of \$7,936 (\$17,343, 2009-10).

Cash on Hand and on Deposit with the Commonwealth Bank as at 30 June 2011, totalled \$127,240 (\$88,224 in 2009-10).

The total written down value of the Fixed Assets of the Club is now \$358,150 (\$415,307 in 2009-10).

The Club's liability in relation to the remaining six years Gold 10 Year Memberships prepaid is recognised in the accounts, as are Member's donations to Cottage by the Sea, totalling \$2,252 which is yet to be handed over to this Club supported local charity.

Although the Club currently has adequate financial resources, the current Management Plan involves significant capital expenditure of \$50,000 in 2011-12 and \$100,000 in 2012-13. The revenue base of the Club will, therefore, need to be maintained and operational expenditure will need to be contained again next year, to ensure that the Club's financial position is secured.

As this will be my last Financial Report as Treasurer, I would like to acknowledge the considerable assistance and support provided to me, over the past five years, by all members of the Committee.

Peter Geary Honorary Treasurer

Motion to accept the Treasurers Report

Moved: P.Geary Seconded: B.Stubbs

Resoloution carried: by show of hand

#### 8. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE:

As the number of candidates did not exceed to available places on Committee there was no election. The new Committee is:

Brian Golland	Commodore	<b>Boat Owner</b>
Roger Bennett	Vice Commodore	
Naomi Wilbraham	Rear Commodore	<b>Boat Owner</b>
James Ide	Honorary Treasurer	<b>Boat Owner</b>
Jonathan Crocket	Honorary Secretary	<b>Boat Owner</b>
Peter Geary	Committee	<b>Boat Owner</b>
Mal Billings	Committee	<b>Boat Owner</b>
Brian Phillips	Committee	<b>Boat Owner</b>
Bill Stubbs	Committee	<b>Boat Owner</b>
Phil Lack	Committee	<b>Boat Owner</b>
Noel Essex	Committee	<b>Boat Owner</b>
Sheryl Gray	Committee	<b>Boat Owner</b>

Brian Golland took over the chair and declared the new committee elected, congratulated the appointment of the new Flag officers and welcomed James Ide, Noel Essex and Sheryl Gray to the committee. Members indicated their approval by applause.

Brian Golland thanked past Commodore Ken Gayler and his wife Heather and Jill Golland presented flowers to Heather. The meeting's thanks to Ken and Heather was expressed by loud applause.

Commodore Golland presented flags to the new Flag Officers and the Past Commodore.

## 9. APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY AUDITOR:

Mr. Anthony Clarke was thanked for his services over the past year and was renominated for appointment as Honorary Auditor - elected unopposed

Moved: P.Geary Seconded: R.Bennett

**Resolved:** by show of hands

## 10. APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY SOLICITOR:

Mr. Andrew Green was thanked for his services over the past year and was renominated for appointment of Honorary Solicitor – elected unopposed

Moved: B.Golland Seconded: M.Billings

**Resolved:** by show of hands

#### 11. COMMODORE'S COMMENTS ON THE YEAR AHEAD:

Commodore Brian Golland firstly outlined important works ahead including work on the club house and attention to minimise erosion of the causeway by timbering the east side, more stable topping and compaction. He asked Members to look at the Strategic and Management Plan on the website and comment to the Committee on the proposed improvements. He mentioned the potential for grants with an application about to go to QPLCEA for a defibrillator as well as potential through Yachting Victoria and Marine Safety. The possibility of establishing a junior sailing program will be investigated. He thanked the Committee for work during the past year and for their valuable advice. He invited Members to contact Committee Members whose details are on the website and

pointed out that there is still a vacancy on the Committee which will be filled by seconding an appropriate person.

The Commodore acknowledged the work on the Club History by the previous Hon. Club Historian, Ron Davies, and how this work will be continued during the Club's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a view to placing the Club's history on the website. The Committee decided recently that placing historical information on the website is preferable, more practical and less costly than attempting to publish a book. An email address will be added to the website for Members to send in photos and stories of historical interest.

#### 12. NOTICE OF MOTION FOR THE NEXT AGM:

2<sup>nd</sup> October 2012

#### 13. GENERAL BUSINESS:

- 1. Ken McAllister commented that in upgrading causeway the grading of the surface is too flat leading to development of puddles and rapid pothole formation. He suggested a slight camber required or slope one way. Commodore Brian Golland advised this was tried recently but did not seem to make much of difference. The suggestion will be considered together with other options to reduce the frequency and cost of road surface maintenance;
- 2. Naomi Wilbraham advised that Member Sue Drummond had received a QCYC (Queen City Yacht Club, Toronto, Canada) burgee which she has passed on to the Club. A QCYC burgee will be provided to be sent to Queen City;
- 3. Members were invited to join Flag Officers and Committee Members at the bar.

The Commodore closed the meeting and thanked Members for their attendance and support. He particularly thanked a number of Past Commodores present.

Meeting closed at 9:25PM