

Queenscliff Harbour your dock on the bay HARBOURSIDE

QUEENSCLIFF HARBOUR

Variety Club Splash 2011



Many are aware of Queenscliff Harbour's relationship with Variety the Children's Charity and more importantly the marine side of Variety, The Splash! Last year Queenscliff Harbour collected around \$15,000 for this great cause. General Manager of the Harbour, Sean Blackwood has personally been involved in four of the five "Splash's" and has loved everyone of them. He explains something about Variety and the Splash.

Each Splash see's a whole new group of "Splasher's" as we're called ,navigate Port Phillip Bay over three days. Activities are scheduled each day along with a daily quiz, you may well find yourself constructing some sort of watercraft out of next to nothing or beautifying a figurehead for the judges to critic at the end of the day. Each night we arrive at a new destination where a party usually unfolds to till the small hours of the morning.

So I encourage you to gather a team, start raising money and join the Splash. Before long you'll be a veteran



who's drunk too much laughed to hard and help hundreds of sick Victorian Kids.

The three-day rally takes participants around Port Phillip and Corio Bay, on a fun filled adventure that is open to power and sail boats of all shapes and sizes.

Now in its fifth year, the Variety Splash is an annual event similar to the infamous Variety Bash, although here the focus is all about having fun whilst on the water. As with all Variety events, the Splash too has a serious

(Continued on page 2)



Tony Sutas Gun Whiting Fisherman

One of the familiar sights at the harbour is Leonardo, a Caribbean 24, heading out to catch the tide. Leonardo has provided Tony Sutas with a very effective fishing platform over the three years that he has owned it. Tony is one of the best whiting fishermen in Queenscliff. If there are whiting to be caught then Tony almost always come home with a bag.

Tony's owned a holiday house in the Fishermans Flats area for many years, so it is an easy 3- 5 minute walk from his front door to Leonardo in its harbour berth.

Tony has been fishing since he was ten. He fondly remembers walking down to the wheat silos wharf on the north shore in Geelong, with his gear in a hessian bag. His catch in those days mainly consisted of bream and small snapper.

Since then he has fished for a large number of different species all over Australia. He's fished for Marlin out of Port Stephens, Cairns and Cooktown. The highlight was

(Continued on page 4)





side, its primary objective is to raise much needed funds to help empower Victorian children who are sick, disadvantaged or have special needs to live, laugh and learn.

In its first four years the Splash has collectively raised over \$400,000. By taking part in the 2012 Variety Splash not only will you have the time of your life but you will be instrumental in helping bring sunshine into the lives of many very special children.

Variety the children's charity in Victoria is dedicated to empowering children who are sick, disadvantaged, or have special needs. This is achieved through the provision of equipment, facilities and life experiences and by operating a straightforward and transparent grants program which draws on the funds raised through events, sponsorships and donations.

All donations raised from the Splash go directly to these very special children. You can read more about Variety by following the link to **How We Help**.

The following day by description will give a taste of what to expect in 2012. Splash

Thursday 23 February Make sure that the galley is stocked, the crew is on board and then head to San-

dringham Yacht Club (SYC), the rallying and registration point for the 2012 Splash.

Thursday 23 February The SYC twilight racing fleet will form the backdrop as we start our welcome function in SYC's magnificent Port Phillip Room. This is the official function to start the event, where we applaud all your fundraising efforts and recognize our highest achievers and supporters. Are you going to be our first ever 'Platinum' level fundraiser?

Friday 24 February After the traditional blessing of the fleet, we set a westerly course across the bay for Corio Bay and Royal Geelong Yacht Club (RGYC).

With your lunch packs and crew on-board, we will be sending you on an on-water excursion with activities to fill the day. Take the opportunity to finalise your wardrobe choices and polish up the dance moves, because tonight we take a step back in maritime history and dress up for the 'Pirates and Wenches' party.

Friday 24 February Tonight you get to release your inner 'Pirate or Wench' at RGYC. Prizes will be on offer for the best dressed crew and individuals, but look out for the 'Admiralty' if your costume isn't up

to scratch.

Saturday 25 February Today we slow it down a notch and take the opportunity to explore the Bellarine Peninsula coastline. We will load you up with a picnic lunch, ready for a fleet raft-up in a sheltered cove. On our way into Queenscliff Harbour we will explore some of the hidden gems of the Southern end of the Bay.

Saturday 25 February After a long day on the water, tonight we will be taking it a bit easier starting with some nibbles on the back of the boats, where you will be challenged to get to know the inner secrets of your fellow Splashers. We will then all head up to the 360Q restaurant for some fine food and great music.

Sunday 26 February An early start sees us heading towards the finishing line, where in Williamstown we will be greeted with a farewell BBQ lunch. There will be no time for teary goodbyes as you will surely be planning your campaign for Splash 2013.

More information and photo's can be found at:

<http://www.variety.org.au/VIC/WHATS-ON/Motoring-Events/Splash/>



Profile - Irena's Enchanted Elegance

Irena's Enchanted Elegance is an independent business committed to providing quality fashion items at affordable prices. It is the ideal place for anyone looking for a little retail therapy.

Irena has a wide range of clothing from beach wear to after five, in styles that appeal to all ages. Enchanted Elegance also stocks shoes and accessories such as bags and jewellery, this allows Irena to ensure that a client has a complete matching ensemble. It's a one stop shop where everyone can find everything they need to feel glamorous.

Irena's Enchanted elegance currently has a sale on all items within the shop. Discounts on shoes and bags are

from 20% to 50% and 10% on clothing and accessories.

Drop in and have talk with Irena and check out the huge range items that she has to offer.



Fishing Report

Fishing has been patchy throughout the June and July. Some days have produced very little for a lot of effort, but there have been some good results to report as well.

Whiting have continued to be caught through June and into July. Although there have not been as many around as earlier in the year, the sizes have tended to be bigger, with 40 cm fish being quite common. The more successful anglers have been prepared to move around to get a result. Fish are continuing to be caught off St Leonards. Some of the bigger fish have been caught in the Bight.

The flats to the north of Swan Island inside the Coles Channel marker are again producing some nice garfish. As noted in the May issue a simple berley of bran and tuna oil can be used to bring them around the boat.

Remember garfish are surface feeders. You will get the best results if you suspend your bait on a 10 or 12 size hook about 30—90 cm below a small pencil float. Place a piece of split shot on the line below the float. A simple two hook rig set up in a similar way is also suitable. The overall trace length should be about 1.5m and the float can be used to adjust the depth of the bait.

Squid and the occasional cuttlefish continue to be caught in the usual areas, although not in bag limit numbers. The north of Swan Island inside of the Coles Channel marker and close in the Bight off Cottage by the Sea and Nun's Beaches are amongst the more productive areas.

Squid are sight feeders and you get the best results when the water is clear. They are ambush hunters and lie in wait in weed beds waiting for prey. The brighter coloured high visibility jigs generally get the best results.

Squid are a schooling species, so it worth noting the location when you catch one and returning to drift over the same location.

Good luck for until next month.

Yard News

A couple of regular visitors to Queenscliff Harbour Yard returned to the water mid July.

The Catamaran Phantastic is possibly the widest vessel that is regularly lifted at the Queenscliff Harbour Boatyard. Queenscliff Harbour is the only location that is prepared to and

able to lift Phantastic this side of Sydney. Manoeuvring her into and out of the travel lift berth is made to look effortless by her master and owner Paddy Handbury. This is remarkable considering the few centimetres clearance that he has on either side of the vessel in the travel lift berth.

(Continued on page 6)



(Continued from page 1)

950 kg marlin landed off Cairns, Bermagui, and the areas around Montague Island, were great spots for Kingfish back in the 1970's. Tony and his friends kept the Bermagui pensioners supplied with fish for weeks at time throughout this period.

Every Easter for 23 years, Tony and a group of other keen fisherman would tow their boats to Borroloola on the McArthur River. They would load them up with camping gear and supplies for a couple of weeks, and head out to Vanderlin Island in the Gulf of Carpentaria. From their base on the island they would fish for all of the Gulf species, including barramundi, giant trevally, spanish mackerel, golden snapper, coral trout and queen fish. This was some of the best fishing he has ever done.

Tony started fishing in Queenscliff waters in a 15 foot (4.6 metre) bond wood boat with a 50 hp Mercury. This was before the Jordan Reserve ramp was opened and he launched at the old ramp, long since closed, near the pilot station. When the new ramp came into service he upgraded to a Caribbean Reef Runner with a stern drive.

During this period he fished alongside the professionals out from Cottage and Nuns Beaches and further along, before the creation of the Marine Park, for a variety of species.

For a number of years he targeted kingfish in and around the Rip particularly in the Corner area. Tony and his mates would catch them in the shipping lane but it was tough to fight them in the rough water. They developed a technique where after hook up, they would lead the fish into calmer water over by Point Lonsdale and fight and land them there. They started doing catch and release for the kingfish to try and conserve them, only one would be retained for each person on the boat. Unfortunately others did not follow suit and the kingfish disappeared from the Rip. It is only in recent years that they have started to reappear.

Tony has fished the area between Indented Head and Point Lonsdale for many years. Over this period he has developed a vast knowledge of the locations within this area, where whiting are likely to found and the tide and general conditions which

will turn them "on the bite". He fishes the flood at the Cottage and ebb at the Pilots.

Fishing etiquette is important to Tony. He believes you should find your own spots, not just pull up close to those catching fish. Crowding someone else is not just bad manners but often counterproductive, marks are sometimes just a few metres square, they will continue to catch fish and you will catch nothing.

Pippies are Tony's bait of choice for whiting, although squid and when available cuttlefish are also used. When using squid and cuttlefish, "fresh is best".

Tony prefers rods in the 3 - 6 kg class about 2.1 metres long, with a flexible tip. His preferred reel is a Shimano 4000. The rig is usually a single hook with a running sinker, braid 10 kg, with 6 kg mono trace which is changed regularly. The sinker is changed to suit the tide, the minimum required to get to where the fish are. He uses circle hooks, they are much easier to remove and there is less chance of gut hooking fish.

Although Tony usually gets his bag when the fish are on, "quality is better than quantity" is his motto, he would rather get a reasonable number of larger fish than a bag of just size fish. Tony doesn't restrict himself to a single species, if the whiting fishing is slow, he turns his hand to other targets including snapper, squid and gars.

Tony estimates he has had around 35 boats over the period that he has been fishing and diving. The old Reef Runner had a stern drive and was stern heavy and hard to trim. The next boat was a 19 foot Haines, then a 23 foot Formula Haines with a hooka. A 35 Bertram came in 1992. It was moored in front of the yacht club. It was no good for whiting

so he changed to a 635 Haines with two 110 hp Johnsons on pods. It was useless for fishing, so he changed over again to a 6.2 Hydrofield with twin 60 Johnsons. It was one of the best boats that he ever had. It could carry 1000 litres of fuel and 1.5 tonnes of gear. Perfect for his long distance his Easter trips to Vanderlin Island.

The first Leonardo was the Reef Runner. Tony had done some painting for Daryl Heath the owner of Woodford Marine. When he picked up his new boat from Daryl, it had "Leonardo" (the painter), on the side. All Tony's subsequent boats have had the same name.

The latest Leonardo came along three years ago. Negotiations with the previous owner of the Caribbean 24, were carried out over three months before a price acceptable to both parties was settled on.

Tony believes it close to perfect for his present needs. It has a good layout and plenty of cockpit space. The hardtop adds comfort. It has 150 litres of fresh water and a shower on board, great for a wash down after a dive or a swim. It is wide and stable at rest. It is heavy enough to give a good ride, but not too heavy to tow. On a trailer it is about three tonnes, easily handled by his Landcruiser when heading down to Portland for the tuna. He loves the twin Yamahas, offshore the extra motor gives that little extra confidence and they are very efficient, using 38 litres/hour at 20 knots.

Although he has considered moving on to a new boat in recent months, the advantages of the Caribbean are making it a very difficult boat to give up. We are likely to see this Leonardo with Tony at the helm, heading out to worry the whiting for a while yet.



Cooking Classes at Q Seafood Provodore

Stephane McGlynn, the head chef at Q Seafood Provodore is running a weekly series cooking classes throughout winter. The classes have been designed to introduce the participants to some of the great cuisines of the world, Spanish, Indian, Italian, Malaysian and of course French. The later classes cover preparation and cooking for some of the more casual situations that suit the harbour side lifestyle.

Steph certainly has the background and credentials to teach a wide variety of cooking styles. He was born in France and lived and trained there. His mother is French and his father Irish. He went on to live and work for ten years in Ireland. He then travelled the world working in a variety of countries including an extended stay in Vietnam where he ran his own restaurant in Hoi An. Prior to joining Q Seafood Provodore, he was head chef at Growlers in Torquay.

The classes are conducted at the harbour store each Thursday throughout winter. They begin at 9.30 am with a coffee and conclude around 12, when all participants sit down to enjoy the food prepared in the class with a matched glass of wine.



Class notes giving the recipes of the day and any special techniques used are provided to all participants. Steph uses a special kitchen stage to assist him in teaching the finer points of each day's menu. He also ensures, that everyone in the class, gets a chance to be involved.



The program began in June, the remaining classes are:

11 August – Picnic Fare.

How to prepare food in advance, suitable for bite size servings, that are perfect to take on a boat or to a park for a day out.

18 August – Sweet Sensation.

Mastering some of the key skills used in desert preparation. These include pastry, chocolate and blowtorch use.

25 August – Spring.

How to use some of great produce, seafood, vegetables and fruits that begin to be available in spring.

1 September.- Master Class.

A recap of the various skills and recipes that have been taught throughout the program.

If you wish to join any of the classes above you can contact Steph at Q Seafood Provodore on 03 5258 1333





Queenscliff Harbour Now An Agent for Nautilus Marine

All wet and drystack berth holders in Queenscliff Harbour Marina are required to hold a certificate of insurance which provides a minimum of \$10,000,000 Legal Liability Cover. The Marina has formed a relationship with Nautilus Marine Insurance to assist our berth holders in obtaining insurance at competitive premiums.

As an accredited distributor for Nautilus Marine Insurance, Queenscliff Harbour can now provide insurance on trailers, PWC, boats, yachts and commercial vessels. All Queenscliff Harbour Marina clients will be eligible for a 10% DISCOUNT OFF THE TOTAL PREMIUM when their insurance is organized through the Marina.

A Nautilus Marine Insurance policy offers as standard the following features and benefits:

- NIL EXCESS for any loss when your boat is moored at its usual berth or pontoon.
- Layup, premium discount for the months that your boat trailer is not used.
- Fishing, Water Ski and Dive Equipment up to the value of \$1,500 per item and \$10,000 in

total.

- Personal effects owned by you or your passengers, clothing shoes and waterproof gear up to a value of \$10,000.
- Pay by the month option.
- Choice of Agreed Value or Market Value.
- \$10,000,000 Legal Liability Cover.
- Lost keys cover up to \$1000 with NIL EXCESS.
- Pollution Coverage up to \$500,000.
- Salvage charges paid over and above the sum insured.
- Automatic cover for 100 nautical mile full yacht racing.
- Cover 250 nautical miles off shore From Australia.

Nautilus Insurance is underwritten by Lloyds of London. For more information on the Nautilus Marine Insurance policy a policy disclosure statement can be obtained from www.nautilusinsurance.com.au

Queenscliff Harbour Marina can be contacted on 03 5258 5459 for an obligation free quote.

(Continued from page 3)

The MV Pearl is one of the largest of the many motor yachts that regularly come to the Queenscliff Harbour Boatyard for maintenance. After the out of water activities were completed, Pearl was returned to water and moored in one of the maintenance berths, for additional work to be carried out prior to its return to Melbourne. The vessel was moved from travel lift berth to its maintenance berth without any need to start a motor. Cool and professional work by both the crew of the Pearl and the

Queenscliff Harbour Boatyard team ensured the transfer took place without any difficulties

If you have not yet started preparing your vessel for the coming summer boating season, now is the time to do it. Queenscliff Harbour Boatyard is offering a fantastic 30% ON ALL BOATYARD SERVICES throughout August and September. Places within the yard are limited, don't miss out, call now on 03 5258 5459 to secure your spot.



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