

## New face at Queenscliff Harbour

- Sharon Henwood

Office Manager, Sharon Henwood is Queenscliff Harbour's newest recruit replacing Anne Omant who is on maternity leave. Sharon is an avid sailor who has competed in three Sydney to Hobart races and still sails whenever the opportunity arises.

Sharon has worked in various sports administration roles with yachting and golfing clubs in Darwin and Tasmania and has also worked in theatre production in Melbourne. She and her husband, Rob returned to Geelong 18 months ago after being away for more than eight years. She was quick to continue her love of yachting by joining the event organising team for the annual Skandia Geelong Week, Australia's largest and oldest yachting event, working with them for three months.

Sharon loves being around boats and when the opportunity to work at Queenscliff Harbour arose she jumped at the chance, seeing it as a way to merge her interests in yachting and administration. She is looking forward to mixing with the boating fraternity and engaging with the local community and is excited about the opportunities ahead to actively promote the Harbour. Sharon believes that as a destination, Queenscliff Harbour has it all.

"There is nothing like Queenscliff Harbour anywhere else in the Bay and I believe it will become a favourite destination for boat lovers and tourists alike", she said.

With her experience in event planning and her strong organisation skills, Sharon will be actively involved in organising events at the Harbour into the future.

When she's not at work, Sharon enjoys renovating, camping and cooking as well as spending time with Rob at their holiday house in the Bay of Fires in Tasmania.

## Boatyard time filling fast

The Boatyard is booked out for the month of October and November is filling fast. If you require pre-Christmas boat maintenance you should make your booking as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.



Queenscliff Harbour Pty Ltd  
Harbour Office  
PO Box 237 Queenscliff  
Victoria 3225

Telephone: 03 5258 5459  
Facsimile: 03 5258 5460  
Email: info@queenscliffharbour.com.au



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# Introducing the new Queenscliff Harbour

# HARBOURSIDE



## Committee for Geelong welcomes Harbour investment



Above: (from left) Tim Price, QHPL Project Director, Frank Costa, Committee For Geelong, Robert Conti, Harbour Architect, Sean Blackwood, QHPL Sales and Marketing Manager.

On a stormy Friday in September, 44 members of the Committee for Geelong, including Chairman, Michael Betts and other Geelong business leaders including Frank Costa, toured the Queenscliff Harbour site to take a firsthand look at the redevelopment as it nears completion. They were joined by QHPL Chairman, Doug Rathbone, Gerard O'Neill, Deputy Chief Executive of Parks Victoria, Mayor of Queenscliff, Cr. Bob Merriman and Council CEO, Lenny Jenner.

The Committee was given a brief presentation about the Harbour redevelopment and what the investment it will bring to both Queenscliff and the wider Bellarine Region in terms of boosting the local economy, creating new jobs and increasing tourism.

The presentation also outlined the environmental features incorporated into the design of the Harbour.

The Committee was shown around the drystack areas before touring the remainder of the site, taking in the Boatyard, where they watched demonstrations of both the straddle carrier and forklift. This was followed by a walk through the retail areas, which will have a strong focus on tourism and food, and which will also house charter operators and marine trades including a chandlery. The last item on the tour was the new harbourside restaurant, tower and viewing

platform, all of which have unparalleled views back over the Harbour and the Heads.

Committee for Geelong Chairman, Michael Betts was enthusiastic about the potential of the Harbour to bring sustainable economic benefit to the wider Region.

"This unique development will bring sustainable economic benefit to the Bellarine Region through jobs creation and increases in tourism and, on behalf of the Committee for Geelong, I congratulate QHPL on its vision and commitment to making this Project a reality," he said.

Doug Rathbone, Chairman of QHPL thanked the Committee for taking the time to tour the Harbour commenting that it was gratifying to see such a high level of interest from leading members of the Region's business community.

Below: The Committee for Geelong tours the site.



# Turning to Tourism



(From left) Greg Hywood, Chief Executive, Tourism Victoria, Dianne Smith, Manager Tourism Partnerships, Parks Victoria, Gerard O'Neil, Deputy Chief Executive, Parks Victoria and Brad Ostermeyer, Regional Development Victoria.

As Queenscliff Harbour moves closer to completion, attention is turning towards tourism and how the newest destination in Port Phillip Bay can add to and complement Victoria's impressive list of attractions. Of particular interest is how the Harbour can enhance the tourism potential of the Bellarine Peninsula.

With this in mind, QHPL Project Director, Tim Price and Gerard O'Neill, Deputy Chief Executive, Parks Victoria hosted a 'tourism focussed' presentation and tour of the Harbour for Greg Hywood, Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Victoria and Brad Ostermeyer, Regional Development Victoria. They were joined by the Mayor of Queenscliff, Cr. Bob Merriman, Queenscliff Chief Executive, Lenny Jenner, Parks Victoria's Manager Strategic Relations, Elaine Carbines, and Dianne Smith, Manager Tourism Partnerships.

A key theme throughout was the potential for the Harbour to become one of Victoria's leading tourist attractions. With dive and charter operators on site, a true 'working' harbour and boatyard, a first class restaurant, a tower offering unparalleled views over the Heads and Harbour, enhanced connections with the main street of Queenscliff and easy accessibility by road and ferry, Queenscliff Harbour has much to offer visitors. Of equal importance is what the investment in the Harbour will bring to both Queenscliff and the wider Bellarine Region both in terms of boosting the local economy and creating new jobs.

The tour was a great success with everyone agreeing that the new Queenscliff Harbour is a significant addition to Victoria's suite of tourist attractions.

# Construction Update

The third and final stage of the Harbour re-development is nearing completion with handover of the retail areas, the community space and the restaurant due on October 30.

This means that the restaurant and retail fit outs, which will take approximately eight weeks to complete, can start in November. External works will not be completed until mid-November and we expect that landscaping around the site will be finalised pre-Christmas.

The local community will be able to take a close look at the whole site at our Community Open Day on December 5th. This will be an opportunity for the local community to see firsthand, some parts of the site that have been behind cyclone fencing during the construction period.

Tours will take in the navigation tower and viewing platform and many of the environmental features that have been incorporated into the design of the buildings and Harbour itself. There will also be demonstrations of the Straddle Carrier and Fork Lift at set times throughout the afternoon. We invite you to join us at the Harbour between 1.00pm and 4.00pm.





## QHPL Website goes live

Queenscliff Harbour's new website is now live. The website is full of useful information and outlines the many benefits of being a berthholder at Queenscliff Harbour.

Various aspects of the Harbour are showcased including the Boatyard, retail areas and tourist attractions such as the many charter operators working from the site and what they each offer visitors.

Helpful information including weather observations, local forecasts, tide predictions and tide times can also be obtained through direct links from the site.

We'll add more useful links as we move forward and we'll share information about other Harbour attractions as they open.

**Visit us now at [www.queenscliffharbour.com.au](http://www.queenscliffharbour.com.au)**

# MOVING IN

**Our next few issues of Harbour News will welcome some of the tenants who are making the new Queenscliff Harbour their home.**

First off the rank is A.D.D. Marine, marine mechanics who specialise in maintenance and repairs to Cummins, Suzuki, Mercruiser and Yanmar engines. A.D.D. Marine will also be a broker for sales of boats and will set up shop in Sheds 1 & 2 which are adjacent to the Boatyard. Fitout of the Sheds will start in early October.

We are also very pleased to welcome Gamerec Charters to one of our prime retail sites. Owners, Andrew & Jan Malouf run a specialist

charter operation, offering fishing charters, sunset cruises, day cruises and special event cruises. Andrew and Jan believe that the new Harbour and its facilities will attract many more tourists and are excited about relocating their premises to the new retail area.

"We will have the best facilities in Port Phillip Bay and the additional tourists will greatly boost our business – in fact I'm so confident of the future I've taken possession of a new, bigger charter boat," Andrew said.

Gamerec will also stock a limited selection of bait, tackle and fishing apparel.

