



KMYC – *Your Club*

November 2023 ~ Commodore Chris Jensen



It's Friday morning on our way to the club for set-up prior to tomorrow's Opening Day and it's raining! Panic is running through my veins. We arrive and decide the rain will prevent us from setting up the lawn with tables and chairs, but we persist in raising the flags and setting up the bunting. Slowly the rain eases.

Others have moved to the more important task of collecting the alcohol from Garry Sexton's garage. Then more panic as we have no Champagne. A quick call to Jim Lendrum and it seems we should be looking for blue boxes. We find them and now the sun is shining. Opening day is looking better by the minute.

I have covered a few of the events around the club in the last few weeks, so if you missed them read on to find out what your club has been up to.

Our Opening Day

Around 170 members and invited guests were treated to perfect weather, wonderful company, fantastic food and great fun out on the water.



All signs of the rain were gone and the bar was open, once again ably staffed by Bill Carmody and Alan Fraser. They tell me they have been doing it for over 20 years and that I forgot to mention them in my thank you speech at Happy Hour, so hopefully this makes up for it or it may be BYO next year!!

After an excellent lunch we drew the raffle prizes and our thanks go out to all who donated. Rear Commodore Paul Purnell and Donna Paredes did a great job drumming up prizes for both the raffle and auction. Kobi Simat ran the auction and with avid bidding we sold the lot. Well done to all who took part and of course the actual winners.



This year we auctioned a stay at KMYC Coal & Candle Cottage, lunch at Pete's Bite, a week's stay in Queensland donated by Alex Burt, a cruise with Sydney Classic Boat Charters (John Spry's Kalinda) including catering from Cottage Point Kiosk, Dinner for 8 at Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron and a grazing table for 40 from Rukus Catering.

We awarded the membership burgees to those present on the day, of which we had three. Kobi Simat and Bruce Quick both for 10 year's membership and Peter King 30 years. The photo is of Past Commodore Peter receiving his recognition award.

This year we did not have a guest speaker and so it was my privilege to declare the season open. After this we headed out on the boats. My thanks this year go to John Spry and Jenny Redstone for hosting the Commodores on the salute boat Kalinda. We had at least 20 boats in the Sail Past, which compared to other yacht clubs, sets us well ahead, not to mention giving the saluting arm a good workout. Full photos of the day can be found on the KMYC website gallery but here a few of the boats big and small.



Other Opening Days

While we invite Flag Officers from other yacht clubs to our Opening Day, our flag offices are invited to other clubs, so it's a merry circle of visiting in September and October. This year we clashed with St George Motor Boat Club and with only so many weekends we are not able to attend them all.

The events range from very formal, such as at those clubs with 'Royal' in their title, with navy representatives and requisite speeches, to the more informal. I can say that we are the only yacht club to have a full sit-down lunch and then have all members and guests going out on the boats, which is why our Opening Day is so popular.

While other yacht clubs may have many more members, they don't outnumber us in boats in the sail past. Also, our club does not have lavish dining rooms and restaurants open to the public, so our opening day is for all members, whereas other clubs often only get a corner of a clubroom while other members are at the bar or dining, so I consider our event to be very special family fun day.



Of course there are other differences too. **Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron** held their Opening Day in a marquee on their waterfront. The sail past consisted of boats passing in front of the marina accompanied by the firing of a CANNON. As an invited guest I got fire it off once. We gotta get one of those!!!



Post that excitement guests could dine at one of the restaurants. Briar and I joined Squadron/KMYC members Graeme and Sharron Kennedy for lunch and caught up with other joint members Richard and Renee Chapman and Alex and Carolyn Bert.

Bobbin Head Cruising Club is based in Empire Marina but has no clubhouse or office there. They were able to find a marina berth for me as Lionheart is away being refitted in Queensland, so we motored down from Cottage Point.

We were allocated to Bruce and Ngaire's new boat, which hosted the Commodores and headed out to where the sail past near Apple Tree Bay, then a cruise down Smiths Creek before returning to Bobbin Head and drinks aboard.



Once the Café had closed for the day to the public it was set up for a sit-down dinner and formalities.

Guest speaker the Hon Jim Lloyd gave us an overview of his time as First Officer, then Skipper, on the cruise ship Lady Hawkesbury.



With 62 cabins carrying 212 guests it was the only cruise ship to ply the Hawkesbury River and Cowan Creek. He said seeing the 68m vessel up the end of Smiths Creek was quite a sight. He rang the bell as pictured with Commodore Grant Cunningham to open the season. It was their 40th anniversary and such a joy to see so many members having a great night. They have circa (if memory serves) 15 moorings around Refuge and a few other bays, and all get together out on the water.

Two very different but enjoyable days.



Toronto Visit

We were invited to the Toronto Opening day but were unable to attend, so it was great to get an email from them asking if they could visit our club. They proposed the October long weekend and seeing everyone else had decided to go to Berowra Waters (a place off limits to me due to my mast not going under the Hawkesbury rail bridge) I invited them for a BBQ. They moored their fleet in Pittwater and came around in two vessels, which Kieth organised moorings for. We had a tour of the club and they were extremely impressed. It is always great to get positive feedback on our club and grounds.



They presented me with a burgee, hat and bottle of red, which was a pleasant surprise. Then we set to work at the BBQ with the best view in Sydney and enjoyed a few ales. After a very enjoyable lunch we directed them to the Kiosk for coffees, then they departed for cruise on our waterways. They also offered to host any of our club members on visit up their way.



Long Weekend raft up (for those without masts)

From Bruce Quick

10 Vessels (Faithe, Takitimu, Quick Smart, Sanyati, Double Trigger, Bali Hai, Liberty, Jasmin, Anxious, Gypsy Rose) departed Cottage Point for a lazy cruise to Berowra Waters for our Woolwash Raft-up.....calm waters and fair winds made it a very pleasant cruise. Sailing Master Rob HJ excelled in marshalling the troops in getting the raft-up in place.



After a welcoming bevvv or cuppa, and the usual man maintenance of the boats, it was time to man the dinghies for a trip to the Water Vista Café for dinner...fish & chips, beer & wine, and of course great company!

Sunday saw some early morning kayaking followed by a drink & drift that didn't quite go to plan as the tide and winds were not favourable. Still, it was very pleasant to be out on the water exploring the many inlets off the Berowra Creek.

Sunday night was BBQ night on the boats but for some, the NRL Grand Final on Double Trigger was the place to be.....go the Broncos! Great fun and a fantastic game with much merriment. For those not into NRL, plenty of fun was had across multiple boats. We also had a surprise visit from the Blue Wiggle or a very good impersonator!

Monday morning breakfast at the café then back to the boats for anchors away and an easy cruise back to Cottage Point.



Movie Night

Neither rain nor hail can stop projectionist Spry from holding the very popular KMYC Movie Night...typically held on the lawn in front of the Clubhouse, due to rain we were forced indoors. Screen safely secured to the balcony uprights, projector precisely positioned, and we were ready for the screening of the "VERY politically correct" Who's Harry Crumb starring John Candy....ignoring the misogynistic tone and culture misappropriation, it was a very funny film.....but that was the 80's!

Unfortunately the photographer was so involved he forgot to take the lens cover off so no happy snaps! Everyone enjoyed a causal dinner before the movie.....and finally a big thanks to the "ushers" for the popcorn and ice cream. Cheers Bruce.

Messages from Keith

Parking at the waterfront is only for unloading and is subject to a maximum of 5 minutes. Please do not leave cars unattended.

Tinnies are provided but are subject to maximum usage of 20 minutes. If you are going to be longer than that out to your boat please use the white dinghy.

Many of you have now switched from the club 27 Meg radio channel 94 to the VHF channel 73. A reminder that you do need a licence to operate a VHF and Marine Rescue run courses to get you qualified, so if you are using one and are not licenced look out for the next course.

On the waterfront we monitor both bands so that means we have to use 2 radios. So as an aid to waterfront staff when calling up for a pickup can you please identify which radio you are using so they call you back on the right one.

In my case it would be *KMYC Base this is Cocktail III calling on 27 Meg channel 94* or if using VHF it would be *KMYC Base this is Cocktail III calling on VHF channel 73*
By following this the waterfront will get back to you quickly on the right radio.

Driveway & Overflow Carpark

We are done!

The carpark itself was ready so we were able to use it on Opening Day. Since then we have done the line markings and now added bumpers to stop cars driving into the wall. The boom gate has been installed and your club fob will open it. We have turned on the cameras and are ready for action.



Why do we need cameras? Well surely it won't take long for someone to drive through the boom gate and we need the licence plate number in order to pursue the culprit for the repairs.

Trent has moved his container out of the main carpark back down next to the Kiosk and he and Angela can once again park down there, so we have more space back in the main carpark. The Kiosk is able to buzz the boom gate open for their delivery trucks.

Trent has already had compliments from some of his customers about the new carpark prior to us turning on the boom gate and had others buzz for entry for the Kiosk! So next on the list is a "Members Only" sign. (Sorry Trent). Kieth has now erected the safety rail around the carpark and the achievers will finalise the landscaping and painting of the envirocycle tank.

These projects have taken many years longer than we had hoped due to covid delays and changes in priorities. I thank the Board and Kieth for all the support in getting this work done, and members for their patience. Now onto the next projects.

Up coming Projects the Board is looking at

As I have mentioned we always have maintenance, some big, some small. The ever-changing regulations we must comply with require additions and upgrades to protect you and the club. As a Board we must balance these against our income and need to prioritise and budget into the future.

So currently we have a few discussions underway.

We need to stabilise the flooring of the Shipwright Cottage Point Boat Shed. You may remember the photo I included a few newsletters ago of a support beam that had rotted, which of course is not a simple job and we have had engineers and architects look into it. This is linked to the Inundation Report which council sent, suggesting we needed to raise the floor. In doing that we would need to raise the Kiosk (or limit the shipwright workforce to workers under 3 foot tall). Following architect and engineer reports the cost of raising the building, including the Kiosk, is beyond the club's finances, so we are pursuing other ideas.

One idea is to use the space beside the shipwright, on other side of the Kiosk, to build a new raised deck with shipwright workspace there, leaving the current one for storage only. Investigation continues.

Recently we were visited by representatives from our local council, always an exciting moment, who have begun inspections of all slipways. Luckily Garry Sexton had already been looking into ours. When anti fouling is done the waste cannot go into the waterway. We have an outdated treatment area, drains and pump-out that do not meet new EPA regulations. Garry already had a report done by ISCA and as was able to show council this, along with Board meeting minutes, proving we are already aware of issue and are working to address it. We now have a proposal that will bring us back up to date and will discuss this at the next Board meeting, but it has become a priority in order to continue operation of the slipway.

Also needed is more underground distribution for the envirocycle. Older piping currently runs under the main lawn in front of the clubhouse, but we will look to run some down the banks and longer-term level out more of the lawn area, eliminating the need to use the sprinkler system above ground.

While the clubhouse is a wonderful building it is no longer big enough for many of our events and some of you may have seen a marquee on the lawn for weddings. We would like to extend the

clubhouse balcony out over the existing paved seating area between Keith's cottage and the driveway to the waterfront. This would be big enough to take a marquee and also have opening doors into the clubhouse where the current honour boards are. Doing this would give us a spectacular balcony for events and weddings, effectively doubling the clubhouse capacity. It would also provide a panic-free wet weather option for future club opening days.

Members Offer

When we visited Mudgee for our Off The Water Weekend a year ago we of course visited some wineries. Bruce Quick has received this follow up email:

We'd love to extend an offer to your members as they prepare for a Summer of boating. Whether it's celebrating with our 'Twinkle Toes' Bubbles or relaxing with our superb newly released '22 Rose or our 'Little Gem' Pinot Gris. Our Moscato is also extremely popular, particularly as a cocktail with a dash of gin and a splash of sparkling mineral water to make the ultimate Hawkesbury Sundowner Spritzer!!

Members of KMYC have 2 options, they can order online at www.burnbraewines.com.au and use the promo code 'Spring 25' for a 25% discount of the total order (which includes shipping) on any straight or mixed case.

Alternatively they can call me at the cellar door on 0263 733 504 and I can talk through our range and offer 20% of any straight or mixed case + free shipping. Just ask for Oliver and mention they're calling from KMYC.

*Happy Boating. Cheers! Oliver lee Chief Happiness Officer
Burnbrae Wines
548 Hill End Rd
Mudgee NSW 2850
P: 02 6373 3504*



'Ducky' Awards

As many of you know, each year at the End of Season Dinner we award those members who have succeeded in falling into the water over the past year. As it encompasses the whole year it is often hard to remember who fell in.

Feel free to nominate yourself should you fall in, but definitely feel free to nominate anyone else you see go overboard so we can suitably recognise them. To date I am only aware of one member toppling in this year (a flag officer to boot) but I'm sure there will have been others. Drop a note to me or to Georgia at the KMYC office with the details so we don't miss anyone.

I have accrued two ducky awards during my time in the club, which is nothing compared to others (Bill Carmody I'm looking at you).

Save the Dates

Christmas Party	2 nd December
Fishing Day	TBA (Jan/Feb)
Australia Day & Raft up	26 th – 28 th Jan
Pontoon Dinner	17 th Feb