



# Houseboat

June 2019 Issue 99



## One Long Hot Summer

A nice cut from Josh! See summer photos pages 12-15



# Houseboat

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282m above sea level.  
South 37° 15.409. East 145° 58.053

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**Cover photo: JOSH JUNOR from Chameleon**



# Houseboat

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## CHAIRMAN AND COMMODORE'S REPORT - JUNE 2019

So, in the "blink of an eye", summer has come and gone. This year's summer was however hotter and less windy than the previous few and lasted right through until Easter where we continued to be treated with warm, sunny days. With such great weather, it was amazing to see so many marina pens empty over long weekends and holiday breaks with the number of members actively using their houseboats on an all-time high. As I write this update however, the Melbourne winter has certainly arrived, its 10 degrees and we have snow falling on Mt Torbreck, so those summer days are now history....

There has been plenty going on around our club and firstly we thank Ric and Steph for their hard work in recent months. Ric has certainly found his feet with the club facilities, grounds and service to members being well maintained. As water levels subsided quickly early this year we are thankful to our amazing membership base who have chipped in to support Ric with marina moves and other maintenance requirements around our grounds. Thank you to Luke Brinksma who has also put in an amazing effort as the club's new Facility Director, working well with Ric and our members to ensure projects and the overall maintenance requirements for club are on track.

Leading up to Christmas we saw the commissioning of our wash barge which has been well used by members. Our storage container was put in place to enhance access to our social club equipment. (Saving time for setup and also ensuring the safety of members at all times with equipment now stored at ground level.) A & B Marinas have now been fully painted and we have a comprehensive maintenance and facility enhancement plan for the coming 12 months including upgrades to all our barges, concreting works and numerous other projects.

Many social activities have been held around the club which were well attended by members including the Eildon Charity Golf Day, Sail Past, Family & Darlingford Day, Alexandra Races and numerous meet-and-greets. Watch for upcoming Activities Committee emails regarding our future events for this year.

For the first time in a very long time (possibly ever) the club reached 100% capacity in March this year with every pen either owned or leased to a member. Whilst there are a few pens not occupied "with a houseboat", every pen is assigned to a member and generating income for our club. An amazing outcome. We have commissioned the building of 4 new pens which will be wider pens to meet demand from new members and the growing interest in Darlingford Waters.

With this we have welcomed many new members to the club, including many new young families. The club have also sold a significant number of our pens to new and existing social members as demand for pens grew over the past 6 months.

The great unknown now for winter is the rain. With the lake currently resting at 36% we can only hope for good rains to ensure water levels for this time next year. There are many predications at play but I guess we wait and see.

The club will be a little quieter over the coming months. A great number of members are travelling over winter throughout Australia and overseas. We look forward to hearing all about those travels. There are also numerous members with houseboats being slipped now and in coming months for service, enhancements and general project work, which will also no doubt be noticed when boats returned to the water approaching summer.

That is all for now, but have a safe winter, keep warm.



**Brett Lewis**  
Chairman  
Darlingford Waters Marina Pty Ltd

**Lake Level at 16/06/2019 37.05%**

### FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Winter is here and it's not my favourite time of year. If you're like me and loved the summer and autumn we just had then you will be dreading the cold months ahead. One good thing about winter is having warm and cosy fires and I'll be hibernating next to ours! Next summer is a long way off...

If you are lucky enough to be escaping the winter by heading north or overseas, have a great time and don't forget to report back for next issue! Our next magazine will be our 100th issue... and that's a bit special. If you would like to contribute, please do so. Would love to hear some tales from old members and new.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this issue especially the Australia Day photos. There was a great response with some fantastic shots. I loved the kids enthusiasm. Even the big kids!

To those who haven't got winter escapes planned.... why not join us on the 3rd of August for our Winter Feast and Card night!



As always, I hope you enjoy the read. If you have news, send it to me!  
Cheers!

**Margie Elliott**  
Editor

**SEND THE EDITOR AN EMAIL**

**magazine@darlingford.com.au**

## FACILITY MANAGER'S REPORT - MAY 2019

Hi to everybody, from your friendly facilities management team!

It's been just over 7 months now since we moved up to Darlingford and we have seen huge changes in the water level and the weather during this time. The lake level in January was 51.62% and after a significantly dry hot summer remained constant at around 35% during May. The summer brought us many hot days over 35° to the point where 40° didn't seem unusual.

There were many marina jumps and push outs over the dry hot spell as at one stage the water was flowing out at 9000mg and only 500mg was flowing in. The marina moves required some help from members and to those who did help, I am extremely thankful. 'A' Marina was also partly relocated firstly onto the end of 'B' marina and on the 14th March, when the lake level was at 43%, we relocated the whole of 'A'

marina to its current position between 'B&C' marinas. On 2nd April when the lake was at 39.18% 'D' marina was jumped and moved across to expose the lower boat ramp. Now we are preparing ourselves for the rain and hopefully a significant rise in water levels once again.

We have had some new members join the club over the past few months. We would like to welcome John and Alexandra on 'D' marina and on 'C' Marina we welcome: Brian (Barney), Chelsea and their daughters Ruby and Taya; Jo and Mary (mad Collingwood supporters); and Tony and Mandy.

In February we had one ski boat sink while still attached to a houseboat but was recovered successfully and without damage. Also in February, Luke organized a safety day where we had the Eildon Fire Brigade and the Water Police which was a very informative display.

Easter was very busy with many boats heading out of the marina to enjoy the fantastic weather and the extended long break. We attended the ANZAC day march and laid a wreath. This was a great turn out from our club, and the RSL hosted refreshments afterwards.

The rain has once again started to fall which has caused the bank to become very slippery, so please take care when walking or driving down the marinas.

That's all for now,  
Cheers everyone!



**Ric Perna**  
Facility Manager

## MEET OUR NEWEST DIRECTOR - GREG WALTER

Hi everyone, my name is Greg Walter.

Most of my childhood summer weekends were spent up at Lake Eildon on my family's houseboats over the years. I always knew I wanted to own a houseboat one day and I'm finally in a position to enjoy the lake life again, this time as a Committee Member at Darlingford Waters.

*After pressure from Margie, here is a bit about me:* Somehow I made my way through school, travelled and worked in London in my early 20's then returned to Australia and started a business called Infinite Engineering alongside my oldest brother Mathew (who is also a new member at Darlingford as of this year). I somehow talked an American girl into moving to Australia and marrying me and we now have two daughters Eve & Skye and we live in Montrose... coincidentally where I grew up.

Because Gina is from the USA we have spent a fair amount of time travelling back to Oregon over the past ten years to visit her family on the farm where she grew up. I recently was granted my Green Card for the US so our options are endless as to where life could lead us one day.

For now I am content with focusing on the growth of our company within the precision manufacturing industry, enjoying the new houseboat with the girls and pretending that I'm not turning 40 in September! HaHa

*(Oh sounds like a party coming up on C marina!)*

I am grateful for the opportunity to become a Director at Darlingford Waters Boat Club and look forward to participating in future projects within the club.

Stop by our boat, Evening Skye, for a cold one anytime!  
#Cmarina

**Cheers**  
**Greg**





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## 2018 DELIA AWARD RECIPIENT - BRAD ROGERS

Belated congratulations to Brad Rogers who was a very worthy recipient of the 2018 Delia Award which was presented to him at our Sail Past function in November. For those new to the Club, the Delia Award is our "best club person" award and is a recognition of service provided to the Club that is above or beyond that of ordinary participation.

*Apologies to Brad for not including this in our December issue.*



**It's the FORD boys.** No, not the young ones - it's Mark and Darren together on the board. Proving that age is really no barrier! We're impressed boys!



Introducing our newest family member.

Congratulations to **Brod and Brooke Helters (Binalong)** on the birth of their first child, Benjamin Beau, on 14th January.



## VALE BOB FISHER

Long-time members of the club, past and present, were very saddened when they learned that Bob Fisher passed away on 12th January 2019. Unfortunately, Bob had suffered massive stroke on his 57th birthday in October 2004 (when his granddaughter Ainsley Steer was just 1 month old) and never fully recovered.

Bob and his wife Helen had owned Kokomo for many years (before Brett & Donna Lewis) and together with their daughters, Kristen Steer (Wizard), Kerryn & Stacey, spent their spare hours at Darlingford enjoying a very social life in the Club and on the water.

Bob was a Director of DWBC from 1995 to 2002 being Vice Chairman in 1999 and Chairman in 2002. He was also Commodore from 1994-96 and was much loved and respected by all members during his time at the club.



**TAKE NOTE:** the ICE FREEZERS have been relocated to the ground floor, under the noticeboard near the roller door.

## ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Hi all

Darlingford Family Day once again turned out to be a great day for the young and old. Brad and Kirsty pulled off another range of fantastic things for the kids to do with water activities, games on the barge and food and drinks for all. This day gets bigger every year!

The evening was a time to bring out the picnic baskets, listen to music and meet and chat to new and old members. It was a beautiful night under the stars for this. Margie provided a slide show of the history of our Club which showed a fascinating timeline from our humble beginnings to our great facility of today.

Thank you to the committee members, and non-members, who prepared food, assisted with setting up the activities, cooked the food and of course, helped with the pack up.

Alexander Cup Race Day was another exciting day with around 30 members attending this year. We had a betting syndicate which ended up winning just over \$200 by the end of the day with the ladies being the only winners! This was reinvested on Tatts tickets with no luck, unfortunately!

Thank you to those who supported and attended the day, we hope we can attract more numbers each year. Thanks also to Anita & Margie for organising the day for everyone to enjoy.

Our next event is the Winter Feast & Card Night on Saturday 3rd August. Join us in the Big Shed for a feast and play some cards, next to the wood heater. Keep an eye out for further information.

We will be having Grand Final Day again with the big screen in the Big Shed.

There is also the Eildon Golf Day in November that DWBC supports. So keep an eye out for more information on this later in the year.

Hope to see many members at our upcoming social events.



Thank you to all on the Activities Committee for your continued help and support.

**Gary Crump**  
Activities Committee

**Margaret Amoore of CAT ATTACK** on C Marina is helping disadvantaged people (homeless, victims of domestic violence, etc.) by making up Hygiene Packs. Items she uses are things like airline travel packs and hotel accessories such as shampoo, body wash, conditioner, body lotion, soap, razors/shaving creme, combs/hair brushes, vanity sets, and face washers. If, in your travels, you collect any of these items Margaret would welcome any donations you can make.



Donna sent this photo in of her S-I-L Thommo and grandchildren Clementine & Jude enjoying their first Darlingford Day weekend on Kokomo.

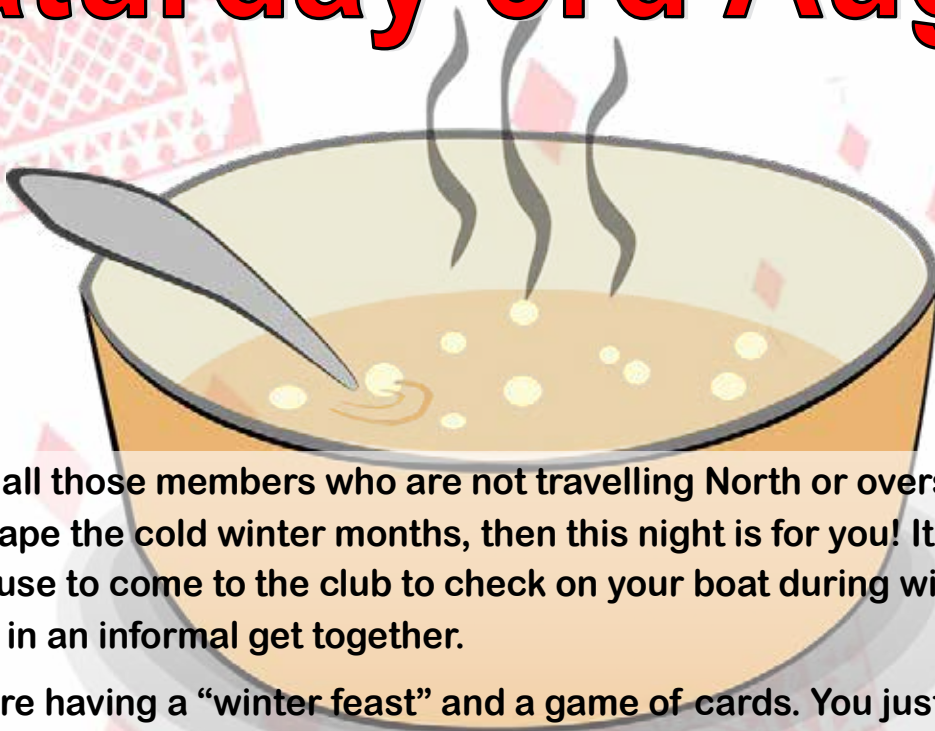


# **Coming Up**

# **Hot Pot**

# **Card Night**

# **Saturday 3rd August**



For all those members who are not travelling North or overseas to escape the cold winter months, then this night is for you! It's a good excuse to come to the club to check on your boat during winter and join in an informal get together.

We're having a "winter feast" and a game of cards. You just have to bring a "hot pot" and your drinks. If you want to play cards then join in with likeminded members. Maybe a game of "500" "Pontoon" or "Canasta" is your thing. If not, just stand around the fire for a yarn.

It's in the Big Shed and open for all the family.

Bring a "hot pot" of your choice for our share table.

# Christmas/New Year

How awesome was the weather over the Christmas and New Year period? Mostly very hot temperatures which meant we all made the most of living on the water. We are very lucky indeed!

The Stephens' family Christmas Day lunch was thrown into turmoil when their booking at Holmesglen restaurant was cancelled unexpectedly. Last minute rearrangement saw the extended family relocate to the top of their houseboat "Flat Out" for a very Aussie Xmas lunch. Given that it was a very hot 40° day they couldn't have been in a better spot!

Meanwhile, down in Bolte Bay there were several more festive lunches happening with enough Darlingford boats there to start a new marina! The water level on Christmas Day was 56.77% and Bolte Bay at this level has a really good bank for everyone to spread out far and wide. There were visitors coming and going all day with Christmas being celebrated with great fervour. By New Year there were at least 15 boats from DWBC so it was a very social and active inlet. The very hot New Year's Eve was celebrated on CHIT CHAT with a silly hat being the ticket to board.

Several 'B' marina boats had moored in Elite Bay which is another great spot when the water level is right. Further along in Kelly Bay Shiralee, Dragon Lady and Shilo were enjoying a more peaceful spot on the lake. Beattie Bay was popular, and Addiction and Chameleon went further afloat up the Gough's Bay arm. Others cruised all the way up Big River to escape the boat traffic on the main arms.

Our crane barge was used in the salvage operation to refloat the houseboat Satisfaction which had partially sunk on the bank in Kelly Bay. Tony Keddell led the successful operation on the 27th December. I'm sure there are lessons to be learned from this exercise but one in particular would be to not leave your boat unattended for too long!

Several of our very young people learnt to kneeboard, wakeboard or ski for the first time while some of our not so young people learnt that maybe they just can't do any of that anymore: Andrew from Pure Bliss tore his bicep off the bone (ouch); Sean from Joyrider II fractured the tibia bone in his foot; and Brett from Kokomo hurt his back and broke his toe.



*Christmas Day on Kiknbak*



*Dave & Rachel Stephens with Rachel's family members celebrate Christmas Day on Flat Out*



*Thomas Shields (Wizard) paddling with Max on Christmas Day*



*The things I do for a photo...*



*Crews from Addiction & Chameleon watch on.*



*SATISFACTION on a bit of a lean...*



*Birds eye view ... thanks Simon Cox*



*And successfully refloated*

# New Years Eve



*Hats & Happiness on Chit Chat*



*Denise & Judy*



*Brad & Dave chit chatting*



*Nice collection of hats Lewis'*



*Christmas Halo on Janine?*



*Dave & Rachel and friends*



*Ronnie & Glenn in the corner*



*Ronnie & Peter*



*Of course Kirsty's hat wins...*



*That hat has been around for years Stu!*



*Hey Jude...nice glasses*



*Midnight toast for Macca & Terry*



*Early morning dancing by Chloe & Terry*



*Visitors joining right in*



*Di & Donna find a cool spot*

# January - a Month of Action

January was a perfect month to be on the water especially for all our families with school aged kids who were able to take advantage of school holidays, hot temperatures and long summer days. Marli Rowe celebrated her 8th birthday with a great cake; Olivia from Barely-a-Wake learned how to kneeboard; Jorja Czompo honed her wakeboarding skills; Cooper Rowe managed his first slalom ski; the Junor kids, Brad, Josh & Ayla skilfully cut up the water just like their dad Craig; the beautiful fur baby Chloe found a new bed; and Glenn found himself a white swan that he had great difficulty

getting on! Inflatable toys were definitely the go this summer!

Apparently Thommo from Vindicator had to be rescued by a Rowey, for a change...

Simon & Joanne may have still been very busy with renos on Dragon Lady II – building the top storey, fibre glassing, painting – but Simon did find time eventually to have a slalom ski again and even managed a barefoot. Woohoo Simon! Joanne was just happy that her fur baby has finally discovered (after 4 years) that the water is indeed wonderful for a pooch!



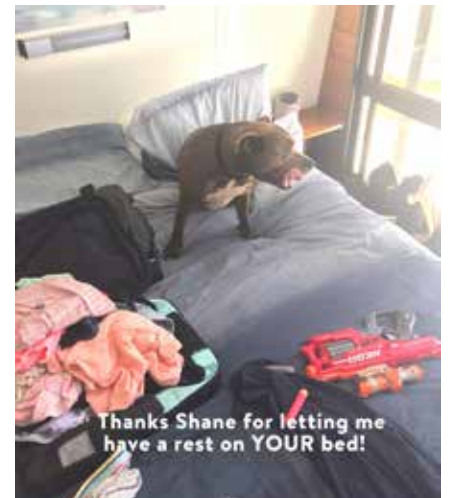
Joanne looking very relaxed in Kelly Bay



Happy 8th birthday Marli



"Come on Thommo, you know it needs fuel!"



Thanks Shane for letting me have a rest on YOUR bed!

Chloe from Eagles Nest enjoying a rest on SCORPION!



Well done Olivia!



Jorja Czompo



We lost count of how many attempts it took Glen to get on without falling in the water...



Cooper Rowe's 1st Slalom. That's awesome!



It's all the girls...Rowes & Glassborows



Brad, Khloe & Brianna on Aust Day.



Brad



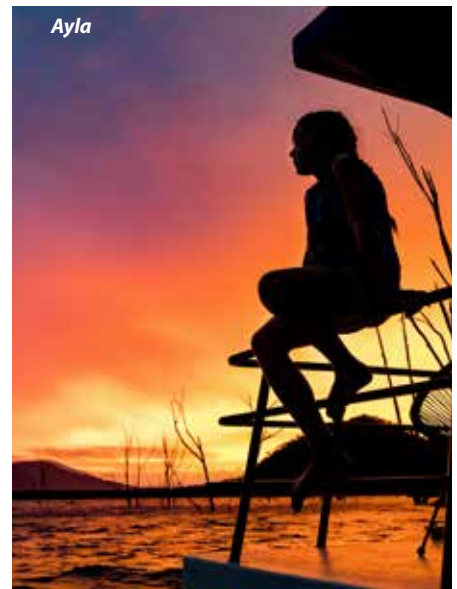
Craig



Josh



Ayla



Ayla

Jo Junor took these fabulous photos above of her family enjoying their summer holiday. She also took the photo on the front cover which is Josh cutting the water in great style.

During January Ric experienced moving marinas and jumping cables for the first time. The first big jump was 'D' and 'C' on the 19th and it was another 40° day. Some would say a baptism of fire! But the boys soldiered on and were kept well-watered by Ethel & Marco on 'D' and Shelle Belle who followed them up and down 'C' with icy cold water. The second big move was on the 27th with another band of happy helpers pitching in to get the job done. A big thanks to everyone who helped including the ladies who supplied refreshments. This no doubt was a valuable learning exercise for Ric being so new to the job and experiencing what happens when the lake is draining over summer.



Spotted on A.Day weekend.  
TOP GUN needing a push!!!



# Australia Day

My call out for Australia Day photos got a terrific result. As these photos show we are very proud and patriotic! The weekend was sensational, all the more reason to celebrate our National Day. Well done everyone and thank you for these great pics.



*Guess Who?*



*And this is Sean...*



*Javi Miljkovic celebrating his first Australia Day on the lake*



*Lachlan & Jorja*



*Brodie, Mia, Marli, Cooper & Blake*



*Eve showing her Aussie allegiance!*



*Marli and Mia*



*Gracie and Lara*



*Ayla and Josh from Chameleon*



*Jasmine & friends from Chit Chat*



*Brodie, Cooper & Blake*



*The Czompo family from Liquid Asset*



*This is Terry's effort!*



*Green & Gold and the flag!*



*Mandy & Megan with the Victorian flag*



*My flag proudly on display in Big River*



*Colin & Joey*



*Margaret & Graeme*



*Can you spot Shona on Big W.  
"when your flag is bigger than your houseboat!!!"*



*Stuart & Denise*

# February

The great weather continued into February and so our Darlingford Family Day was held in perfect conditions. The Friday night before on 'B' marina rivalled Saturday night in the shed. Some went way too hard way too early! With the low water level the boys have probably been able to locate that new chair that 'fell' overboard too.

**The chair wasn't the only thing to sink in Feb. Caroline Schmidt's grandson got a shock when he turned up to the houseboat to find that their runabout had disappeared. On closer inspection it was discovered still attached to the houseboat but totally submerged.**

Luke Johnson (Cool Breeze) competed in the Southern 80, Disabled Class, again this year and managed to make a new speed record. Congratulations to Luke and the Floor-It Team.



*On a cool day you all jump in the boat and head to the Bonnie Doon Pub. Just like the Browns & the Glassborows.*

With the water level so low exposing lots of bank..... You can now park your cars with trailers anywhere.

### JUST DON'T BLOCK ANYONE IN!

It's not that hard to work out but yes, it did happen, more than once over summer.

So please, think before you park to ensure that you do not block any other vehicle and that you do not block access to each marina.




*Luke and the Floor-It Team at the Southern 80. Photo courtesy of Southern 80 FB page.*

**Still with Cool Breeze, Barry turned 79 in Feb and he is still bare-footing. That's just amazing Barry!**

Sean & Megan (Joy Rider II) and Rodney & Mandy (Working Class) missed the family day by escaping to Bali *again*. This was the trip Rodney missed out on last year due to his transplant but his is now recovering super well, back at work and enjoying life, especially on the water with his girls and grandsons.

**The Family day/night was a huge success again and it was great to see so many people wearing masks in the evening. So many so, that if I have missed your name or got it wrong in**

## WINNER



The lucky winner of the Griffith & Goodall \$5000 Boat Insurance was won by **ROSEMARY BAXTER** from **Summertime Blues** on C Marina. Congratulations Rosemary!

The winning ticket was drawn at the night function on Darlingford Day.

Thank you to everyone who supported this raffle.




*Megan says "not everyone can look this good after walking from Legian to Kuta and back. Just a nice 10km stroll." Well done girls!*


**the photos, it's because I can't tell who every one is! You can see all those photos on pages 18-21.**

Our Site Director, Luke Brinksma, organised a Safety Awareness Day on 23rd Feb. See his summary and photos on page 23.


**IT JUST WENT  
"BLUB BLUB BLUB"  
IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT**



*Have you hooked it Ric?*



*Yep, here it comes....*



*The Schmidt runabout being salvaged.*



# The Night Before



*Lisa, Paige, Neisha, Damien, Kirsty, Rachel*



*Janette, Peter, Craig & Jo*



*Lisa & Terry*



*Welcome to Jenny & Geoff...big initiation!*



*Brownny & Onesie*



*Luke & Alison*



*Margie & Shane photo bombed!*



*Ash & Jas are not quite sure what's going on!*



*Do not give these cocktails to Brad again...*



*Dianne, Goody & somebody new!*



*Janette & Jo*



*The royal wave from Shane*



*Luke & Glen*



*Cooper & Dave were just passing by!*



*Selena & Daniel*

# February

As you can see by these photos it was a hot and sunny day on the 16th February. The lake was sitting at about 46.6% so still plenty of water in the Creek. The kids were kept occupied by lots of activities on the barge and in the water and the barbie barge was kept busy churning out lots of food. A great time was had by young, old and older. A big thanks to the Activities Committee for another great day. *Photos from the day/night on pages 18-21 and 30. Pick your own face because I don't know everyone!*



# Darlingford Day



*Karen Brown and granddaughter Aurora*



*Graham Arnol and granddaughter Matisse*



*Brownny and his boys*



*BBQ duty*



*Karen & her D-I-L to be Meg*



*Eve Walter loved the games*



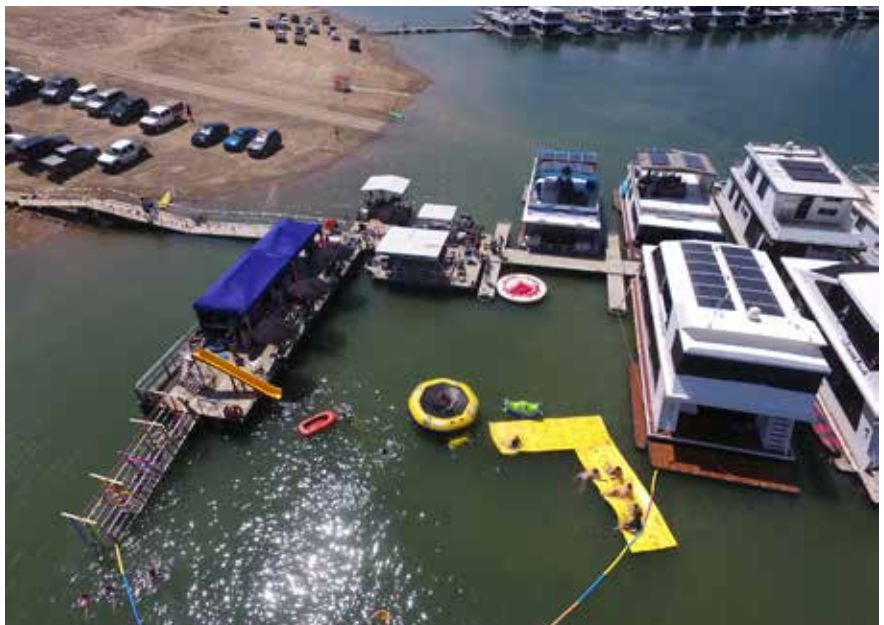
*The slide was very popular again*



*Jorja and a friend*



*The two Terrys*



*The kids playground on a perfect summer day.  
Thanks Simon Cox for the drone photos.*

# February



*Huddo, Glenda & Mike*



*So there's Shona & Brad and I don't know who else!!!*



*The Junor kids and others...*



*Judy, Ronnie, Glenda, Ian, a visitor, Di and Terry.*



*Shona, Brad & Javi*



*Jo, Kevin & Suzanne*



*The Walters family and me (Margie)*



*One is Trinity from Pure Bliss.....*

# A MASKerade Picnic



Ash, Jas & Olivia



Director Don



Marney & Suzanne



Marney & Mike



Shona



Have no idea!



Josh & Teagan



Gary & Neisha



Lisa & Gracie



Nice masks ladies



Clementine & Chelsea



Trinity & Melanie



Damien & Glen



Rachel & Dave

# Safety Awareness Day

On Saturday 23rd February we held our safety awareness program. Nikki Lund, Eildon CFA Captain, brought with her the fire barge as well as the main fire truck. Niki had also organised for some members from HQ to attend with a cooker fire presentation, fire blanket and dry powder demonstration. The group moved to water side where we discussed fire onboard the houseboat and detailed action plans in order to minimise danger and further damage. During our discussions we sought advice regarding our barges and fit for purpose equipment which will be addressed in the coming months. Back up the hill the VIC Water Police arrived and an informal Q&A session enlightened us to some rules and situations that we were not aware of.

## Some key learnings of interest from the day are:

1. it is illegal to have any fires below the high-water mark on GMW land
2. sleeping people have no sense of smell. Working smoke alarms should be fitted in all bedrooms - particularly if you sleep with the door

shut - charging smart phones and iPads present particular risks with overheating battery packs.

3. self-inflating life jackets are required to be inspected and certified annually.
4. 3 skiers behind your Boat is the limit. Unlike on your boat under 12's are still represented as 1 person each when skiing - not 1/2 point as when on board.
5. Water Police target safety equipment and attitude. If you argue, they will "adjust" your attitude financially, be honest and reasonable and so will they be.
6. children must be compliant in regards to PFD's - noncompliance regarding children is a particular bug bear for the water police.

The morning was very informative and my thanks to those who attended, Ric and Steph for your help and a particular thankyou to the Williamstown Water Police and Eildon CFA.

Frees smoke detectors are still available from Ric.



## Attention all GOLFERS

Here's a date for you to put in your diary.

## Eildon Charity Golf Day

Friday 15th November 2019

DWBC has supported this event for a number of years now with a small but enthusiastic group of golfers from our Club participating.

If you like to play golf then consider joining them and supporting this very worthy fundraiser for the local Eildon community.

Further details will be advised once known.



## FISHING LICENCE

### Who needs a licence?

A Recreational Fishing Licence (RFL) covers all forms of recreational fishing in all of Victoria's marine, estuarine and inland waters.

#### Unless you are exempt, an RFL is required when;

- Taking, or attempting to take from public waters, any species of fish by any method, including line fishing, bait or shellfish collection, yabby fishing, prawning and spearfishing and/or
- Using or possessing recreational fishing equipment in, on or next to Victorian waters.

Unless you are exempt, it is your responsibility to hold a current RFL when fishing in Victoria - penalties apply for fishing without a licence. Your RFL may not be loaned or transferred to another person.

### Who is exempt?

#### You will not need a licence to fish if you are:

- under 18 years of age;
- 70 years of age or over;

#### or a holder of a:

- Victorian Seniors Card or interstate equivalent; Veterans'

Affairs Pensioner Card; Veterans' Affairs Repatriation Health Card coded; Commonwealth Pensioner Concession Card coded either (DSP), (DSP Blind), (AGE), (AGE Blind) or (CAR); Or a member of a traditional owner group fishing within an area subject to a natural resource agreement relevant to that traditional owner group.

Ordinary HealthCare Card, PPS (Parenting Payment Single) and Newstart benefit cards, as well as Seniors Business Discount Cards issued by the Victorian government are not exempt from purchasing a Fishing Licence.

### How do I obtain a licence?

You can purchase an RFL for the following periods;

- 3-day licence for \$10;
- 28-day licence for \$20.60;
- 1-year licence for \$36.20 (\$34.10 if purchased online);
- 3-year licence for \$98.20 (\$93.00 if purchased online).

The RFL is GST exempt. **New fees come into effect from 1 July every year.**

*This information taken directly from the Victorian Fisheries Authority website. May 2019.*



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Come and see me at Marina B on 'Bazinga'

# March

Summer may have been rolling on and on but by Labour Day long weekend the lake was shrouded in smoke from controlled burns. Visibility at times was extremely poor but that didn't stop the boating activity. It did, however, cause quite a concern for the asthma sufferers.

A bus load of members attended the Alexandra Cup Race Day on 23rd March. Unlike last year's wash out this year was a beautiful warm day. The ladies were definitely the winners on the day with Denise contributing the most to the punting pot. Nothing from the boys!

## *A few little tidbits for this month:*

The excitement of launching their brand-new Mastercraft over at Jews Creek ramp quickly turned to panic for one young member when he realised dad (we'll blame him) FORGOT THE BUNGS. Hardly a rookie mistake..... I think it runs in the family!

## **Congratulations to Jasmine Rogers who was named Captain of her Grade 6 T-Ball team this year.**

One of our newest boats SANITY arrived on 'C' marina on the Labour Day Weekend. We welcome Chelsea and Barney Badrock and their daughters Taya aged 9 and Ruby aged 8.

## **We also welcome Joe & Mary Falzon to 'C' marina who have arrived with their boat Weirwolf.**

Bob and Jennie had another big trip away this time to Sri Lanka and Singapore.

## **Margie & Graeme headed to Japan. First time for Margie... umpteenth time for Graeme.**

Congratulations to Glen Brown (Rest Ashore) and his partner Meg who got engaged on 22nd March.

## **Ric learned all about moving 'A' marina out due to low water!**



*Ah the smokenity – doing wonders for the Asthma sufferers. Photo: Di Callinan*



*Long weekend smoke haze. Photos: Steph Perna*



*Looks like fog...but it's smoke. And this is Bingo!*



*SANITY on the day she arrived.*



*M&G with black eggs that are unique to Hakone*



*Happy 11th birthday Jas Rogers*



*Chelsea, Barney, Taya & Ruby Badrock. Welcome!*



*This is Weirwolf, belonging to new members, Joe & Mary Falzon. She's about to get some TLC and renovations! Read their story opposite on page 25.*



# Alexandra Cup



The Winners: Anita, Olivia, Margie, Steph, Denise, Terry, Neisha, Donna, Patricia, Suzy, Dianne & Meg. Inset is Jas and her cousin.



## MEET THE FALZONS

Welcome to 'C' marina Joe & Mary Falzon. To introduce them to you all, Joe answered some very in depth questions for me. Thanks Joe!

**Family:** We have 2 beautiful children Melissa & Jamie who are both married, and 6 gorgeous granddaughters aged 18-14-13-7-5-3. We hope you will get to meet them one day!

**What do you do for a job?** I am semi-retired and work 2 days a week for an auto auction group. Mary is a housewife.

**Do you have pets?** No, we had to put down our last dog Simba, a Maltese Shiatsu, and decided not to have any more.

**What's your boating history?** We owned two previous house boats at Jerusalem Creek. The first one 'Popeye' for approx. 3 years and the second one 'Unwind' which I build completely on my own over a 12-month period and launched in 1996 when Lake Eildon was at its full capacity. We had 'Unwind' for 10 years.

**Why Darlingford?** Our new houseboat is called 'Weirwolf' and we came to Darlingford because we were told it was family orientated and the people very friendly, which we have found to be true.

**We love Eildon because?** of its beauty, it's large water ways and houseboats.

**What are your hobbies?** Fishing, caravanning, gardening and cars.

**Tell us something about yourself:** I'm 68 years old and my main occupation was boilermaker/structural engineer. I served in the Australian Army back in the 70s. I had a management position for many years and then owned my own business. Now I enjoy getting away with our caravan and spending time on our houseboat and going on holidays.

**Favourite sporting team:** Go Pies (yay another kindred soul!!)

**Favourite music:** Old time music (you will fit in just fine!)

**The best movie you ever watched:** Titanic and Gladiator.

**What do you do when you're not working?** Gardening and visit the family.

**Name three things you can't live without:** Family, our caravan and out houseboat.

**Do you have any unique and interesting talents?** Well, I like making and building things. (That could be very handy around here Joe!)

**Greatest sporting achievement:** I was pretty good at Cross Country back in my youth!

# April

On the 15th April the lake level was 37.38%. The receding lake waters are a blessing for all those who have lost items overboard... or crashed drones into the lake. After losing his drone in Elite Bay over the Labour Day long weekend (when the level was just over 42%) Brad was lucky enough to find it again at Easter when the water was down down down (like his drone). For all those that have lost sunglasses overboard over the years, go see Steph – she seems to be finding a few! She might just hold a “not quite perfect” sale!

**Another loss into the lake - Brad Steer's brand-new fishing rod went swimming at Easter. Not sure how?**

Judy Gill claims she caught a 45cm Murray Cod and vows she kissed and released it. Good girl Judy! No photo evidence but we do believe you Jude, hey!

**In early April Brett was again racing his AMS #60 at the BFGoodrich CAMS Australian Off Road Championship held in St. George, QLD. Unfortunately, Brett and Brad (his new ace Navman) failed to finish after a turbo failure during round 1. Despite this, a fantastic time was had by all, particularly the support crew!**



*Brett & Brad at St. George*

Good Friday wasn't exactly warm, but you may have witnessed one of our Directors swimming for his jet ski at 7:30pm. He assures me he didn't fall off – it just got away from him at the boat ramp!



*I know who it is...*

**There's excitement in the Nagy household as Joe & Shelle eagerly await the arrival of their first grandchild.**

Heard that Scorpion did a gearbox. AGAIN. Is it the pilot?

**Just wondering who goes bushwalking in thongs? A young girl from B marina!**

I hear that Hotel Shiraz could be permanently closed after recent guests arrived for a 3-day weekend with just ONE bottle of red wine. One guest was heard to ask – where are the restaurants? Guess they don't understand houseboating hey Jude!

**One of our newest members, 9 year old Taya Badrock, has trumped all the fishermen in the club already by landing a 60cm Murray Cod off the back of the houseboat in the marina over Easter. On a brand new \$24 rod!**



*Congratulations Taya. What a catch!*

So, Goody lost a very valuable piece of jewellery and had no idea where. Luckily for him it was found, on the work barge. What are the chances! Neisha is still waiting for her reward Goody!

**Speaking of Goody, if you want to know how to park your boat at the pooh barge – just ask him. He does it very well!**

Luke's idea of a King River escape. "Leave it to me Alison, I'll find us somewhere really nice!"



*5 Star glamping...NOT!*

**And I just have to share this photo – Luke has seen the light. Swany!!!**



*Not a tiger in sight!*

Spotted doing some marina maintenance was Huddo... loves painting apparently!



*Great work Huddo*

**The golfers were out practising one warm weekend. Great to see Maurie was one of them...he hasn't played in 5 years and played really well by all reports. Good on you Maurie! Ronnie for some reason played without a shirt and as for Stuie apparently he got a turdie instead of a birdie... Thanks for the photos Joe Nagy.**



*Maurie back on the green again while Ronny ignores any dress code!*

Sending our best wishes to David Brown (Rest Ashore) who had a stroke on 26th April. Karen says he is doing ok now but their plans for the next 6 months have been put on hold. They should have been riding their bikes from Townsville to Darwin in May/June. Instead they get to spend this winter at home in Healesville as David can't fly at the moment. They have bought 3m of wood to keep them warm! Will that be enough??

## ANZAC DAY

DWBC was represented at the Eildon ANZAC Day service again this year. Attending from our club were: Ric, Steph, Stuart, Denise, Ron, Judy, Margie, Graeme, Terry, Donny, Barney, Chelsea, Taya, Ruby, Joey, Shelle, Marcia and Colin.

Ric laid a wreath on behalf of the club. Following the service the group attended the Eildon RSL for light refreshments *with heavy beer!* The CFA lead the march with their Captain Nicki Lund on her Friesian Stallion, Agamemnon.



Photos: Shelle Nagy & Terry Stewart.



CFA Captain Nicki Lund on Agamemnon



Members participating in the March

*Watch this Space*

**Lake Eildon  
Boating & Fishing Show**

**11, 12 & 13 October 2019**

This is a new and exciting event being promoted by local Eildon Groups and Businesses and is proudly supported by Darlingford Waters Boat Club.

More details will be available soon.

## EASTER SNAPS



Kristen Steer's photo of DWBC boats claiming Nichols Inlet as their own at Easter. Great spot!



Easter Doggie BINGO



Nichols Inlet at 35.81%



A real boatie - 9 month old Cooper Penjin

# May

## MAY MURMURINGS

There were some BIG birthdays celebrated in May. Firstly, Rosemary Baxter (Summertime Blues) turned 70 on the 3rd, followed by Ethel Ford (Taurus II) who turned 70 on the 12th and then Peter Farley (Destiny) turned 60 later in the month. HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU ALL.

**We welcomed Tony & Mandy who bought their boat Iconic onto 'C' marina. Hopefully there will be a profile on them next issue.**

Also joining us is Matt Walter, brother of Greg. He's bought Kapalua and a pen on A marina.

**Welcome back to Renee who has finally got Happy Hour back on the water but I think it has a new name.**

### Happy 60th Gramps!

A surprise 60th birthday party was held for Peter Farley (Destiny) at The Coach in Ringwood. Pete was working in Canberra at the time and to get him home the family pretended it was Bri's engagement party!



*Peter, then and now!*



*Ethel celebrating at home with family and long time friends.*

Watch out for our Steph as you go boating in Jews Creek. She's bought herself a kayak and has been spotted regularly paddling out to the pooh barge and back even in this really bleak weather. She tells me the thermals work well!

**Maintenance work has begun on the barges with the small barge now off the water getting a facelift as well as running repairs. Look out for the new livery when it hits the water again!**

While the lake is running low in the mid 30% the Directors are taking the opportunity to do concreting works around the facility – filling in the gaps between the paths on C & D marinas; repairing the main boat ramp; and extending the boat ramp at D marina by 6m.

**It's probably also an opportune time to remind everyone about being careful parking on the bank when its wet. Yes, you can get bogged. If you do, feel free to call Ric who will help you out otherwise you could call Ray from Houseboat Sales as I hear he will come to your assistance!!**



*Pat, Gracie & Mia from Riviera on holidays in Bali. Lisa was there too but she's taking this photo!*

Mike and Marney left on their annual 'escape the winter' trip just after Mother's Day but this time they have left the tinnie back in Melbourne and are having a travelling holiday to Western Australia. See you after winter!

### This is Jimmy!

Welcome to Jimmy Birch who started work at the club at the end of May. Jimmy will be assisting Ric on a part-time basis. Jimmy lives in Molesworth where his parents run the general store. If you see him around the club, be sure to say G'day!



*Happy birthday Nicole Johnson (Cool Breeze). Nicole turned 12 on 31st May. What a cake!*

## JOHNSTON GEODETIC STATION

Stu & Denise have finally made the pilgrimage to Johnston Geodetic Station, near Mt Cavanagh in the N.T. The JGS is a trigonometric survey cairn which sits on a lonely granite outcrop near where the road from Alice Springs to Port Augusta crosses the South Australian border. It was once the central survey marker for Australia (one of five possible "centre" points) and was a place they had planned to visit on a W.A. trip with Colin & Rosemary Baxter (Summertime Blues) but sadly Colin passed away in 2011 before that trip occurred. Colin was fascinated by the significance of this site and Stu has since been waiting for someone else to be able to complete this journey with them. Brett and Donna (Kokomo) were heading for 6 weeks in the Kimberley so joined with Stu & Denise and made this detour with them first. Despite heavy rains which prevented them from accessing some planned destinations en route the four made it to the JGS cairn and had a beer in honour and memory of Colin. Then they got breathalysed when they got back on the highway!



Stuart, Denise, Donna & Brett at Johnston Geodetic Station.  
Cheers to Col!

## A FEW WORDS FROM THE 'LADY OF THE MANOR'

Hello all,

Well after 7 months of living here in the bush at Darlingford Waters Marina, I must say that I don't miss Melbourne! It's been an interesting experience. I've learned a lot about marinas, the lake, some of the people and how to keep toilets looking and smelling absolutely fabulous and arachnid free!

We had a very different Christmas day from normal with thanks to Pete and Margie Elliott for having us on their boat for the day. We were going to take our tinny but Luke suggested his speed boat would probably be more comfortable so off we went. We had laid Ric's new shirt on the back seat because it was a very hot day and he wanted to look fresh as a daisy on arrival, but he forgot it was there when we took off. Luckily, I remembered it and turned around only to see it was gone! So around we turned fortunately to find it floating about 500 metres back. Of course, it was soaked so I held it up in the breeze all the way there and it was dry when we arrived. We had a wonderful day, and Margie took me out on the back of her jet ski..... after doing quite a few donuts to start with and scaring the hell out of me it was a fun ride!

I find it interesting that it's hotter in summer up here, but a whole lot colder in winter than Melbourne, and the mountains around us make for great

acoustics in a thunderstorm. My dogs don't appear to appreciate the beauty of the lightning and thunder, to the point where Scruffy was prescribed Valium tablets to calm her down. Fortunately, I've found some "natural" tablets to calm her, not quite sure what's in them but she loves listening to Bob Dylan and Willie Nelson after having them! The dogs are thoroughly enjoying their new back yard. The fence has been a fantastic addition that now allows us to leave them over night if we need to. We are extremely grateful for it.

Ric's enjoying the cooler conditions and as the nights have become longer, I was finally able to get him to watch Game of Thrones first season, and now he's hooked.

As some of you know when I first moved up here I had a job at the local fish and chip shop but after Christmas things went quiet and the scales were increasing every time I hopped on! I now work at the Darlingford Nursing Home and really enjoy working with the people there and the residents have been very welcoming.

I am slowly getting to know all of you and the names of your boats and have been made to feel very welcome at your club, so thank you. More bottles of Sauvignon Blanc and red wine have been consumed over the last 7 months than have in the past 2 years, but I'm

not complaining!

I've been out on the mountain bike a few times and in April I bought a kayak which I am really enjoying paddling.

After many clean ups along the shoreline I am ready to open my own sunglass hut. Ray Bans are a very popular brand around here, and they clean up a treat!

So overall I can say that country life has always suited me, and I am very happy in our new home, so I'll keep supporting Ric where I can, helping out when I'm needed, drinking and socializing with you lot, and chasing spiders out of the toilets!

That's about all from me!

**Cheers, Steph**



Ric & Steph Xmas Day on Kiknbak

# June

## IT'S NOW WINTER TIME!

Director Don has headed north with a diversion via Gundagai and Canberra. He was there for 2 weeks to conduct the '31st National Tenpin Bowling Championships for Persons with a Disability' at Tuggeranong. They had a 24 Lane Bowling Centre which was fully booked (3,000 entries) from 8am-10pm daily, from 5th to 14th June, then Saturday morning 15th June for Presentation of 183 Medals to the winners (1st, 2nd & 3rd) for the Championships. Don had been processing entries since last December!

Don said "I'm not looking forward to 2 weeks in Canberra, with the weather forecast, but as soon as the Tournament is over, I shall be heading North in search of sunshine". So now he is on his way to the WARM weather and won't be back 'til the end of September. Donny himself is still bowling competitively, 57 years straight. Just for the record, his highest score is 297 which is just 3 off a perfect score. Incredible!

**Another runabout sunk off the back of a houseboat. This time Bad Habits' tender ended up submerged over the QB weekend. Maybe it's time all boat**

**owners checked their boats to ensure they are not going to sink or take them off the water if you're not using them or can't check on them for a period of time!**

Escaping for a bit of well-earned R&R following his baptism of fire over the long hot summer, Ric has just had a successful fishing trip to New Zealand. He landed this 8.15lb Rainbow Trout at a place called Lake Rotoma in the Rotorua Lakes District on the North Island. Now he's settling back in on the hill and enjoying the colder temperatures waiting for the water to rise so he can move all the marinas back up the bank!



*Now that's a nice catch....if you like fishing!*

Janette from 'The Craic' is spending June overseas, firstly in Canada visiting her daughter Kelly and then she'll reunite with family in Ireland.



*Janette at Lake Louise*

Send your news to  
[magazine@darlingford.com.au](mailto:magazine@darlingford.com.au)

## MORE PHOTOS FROM OUR DARLINGFORD FAMILY DAY/NIGHT



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