



# House boat

May 2024, Issue 107



## Pretty in Pink and a Winning Horse!

Alexandra Cup Race Day - a big hit once again...see pages 12-13



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**Volunteers required!**

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### Vice Chairman

Simon Cox (Dragon Lady II) 0417 123 065

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### General Member Directors

Don Atkinson (PAD) 0418 530 111

Nick Bodi (Diesel) 0417 519 236

Lisa Glassborow 0402 302 477

Brod Helmers (Binalong) 0418 537 808

Brett Lewis (Kokomo) 0419 103 394

Tony Rodis (Argo) 0418 912 630

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*Cover photo: Members at the Alexandra Cup Race Day.  
Photo supplied by Alexandra Race Club.*

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## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - April 2024

This being my first Magazine as chairman, I really want to communicate clearly whilst keeping the content as light as possible.

We are all very aware of the changes at Board level and the resignation of the Social Committee, all of which has made my start as Chairman very onerous. I do however have a wonderful support crew on the Board and we are diligently working to keep the business of DWM P/L moving forward and allowing the Members freedom to pack down for the on-coming winter months.

With change comes opportunity. The social committee is a cyclic gathering of like-minded people, and there now exists a void that can be filled by new ideas and strategies, with new enthusiasm from Members willing to roll up their sleeves and give it a go.

We thank Brad who has served us extremely well for 9 years, doubling down as Chairman and Treasurer due to no-one else coming forward to fill that role. We (the Board) had a succession plan in place, however circumstances changed and bought forward my appointment. Megan's appointment has come about by Lisa's personal situation changing, that being building a new home. Matt's appointment to Site Director came via me stepping up to Chairman.

"My call to Service" open letter has had a great response with two members putting forward nominations and joining the board, Nick Bodi from Diesel (C Marina), and Tony Rodis from Argo (B Marina) who will replace Brad Rogers as a Director. Thank you guys, we welcome you onto the Board and appreciate your support. We also had interest from a couple of other members, and we will definitely keep you in mind if things change within the Board structure and really appreciate your support. The Directors also wish to thank Simon Gishus, who has resigned from the Board. We wish he and his family safe & happy houseboating.

Our club, however needs a Social Committee, this I leave to you the

members. For the club to continue to serve the members, it wholly and solely relies on the members involvement, so please just reach out to have a chat about what volunteering looks like, we won't strap you down and force you into anything, many hands make light work and the more interest we have the better the experience will be for all volunteers.

In February we saw two awards given. The Chairman's Award was rightfully gifted to Steph Perna for all her support and work helping Ric and around our club. Lisa Glassborow was deservedly awarded the Delia Award.

The Delia Award is our highest recognition to an individual who has given to the club over and above of their time and effort. Lisa has done a fabulous job of creating our cultural identity, a document that outlines how we wish to progress our club. This "code of conduct" includes: Our Place – physical works to maintain and improve our physical footprint, structures and infrastructure. Our Community – local integration, membership fulfilment, how we fit into the Eildon and greater area communities. Our Base – The business of running, maintaining and improving systems and operations of Darlingford Waters Marina Pty Ltd. Lisa has also been pivotal in organising local governments to address the road that services DWBC, and with Ric's support, has got some foothold in this ongoing initiative. Lisa's caring nature and professional approach has been of great support to Brett (Past Commodore), Brad (Previous Commodore) and myself during COVID, tirelessly chasing government directives and lending a calming influence when hard choices needed to be made. Congratulations Lisa.

We have seen a number of new members join the club, some favoured members leave/sell and the usual amount of



*Congratulations Lisa & Steph on your awards.*

shenanigans in and around the lake. Christmas saw Santa bring joy to all the children, the water provided sporting activities for all, food and beverages were plentiful.

It is particularly pleasing to report that DWBC incurred no "serious injuries" during the summer, something we should all be very proud of.

I hope those that joined us for ANZAC Day enjoyed the Dawn Service, Gunfire breakfast, Two Up and of course the traditional Collingwood V Essendon match. I would love to grow this special occasion into an annual event if the members see fit to join in.

May I wish all our staff & members happiness and safety over the winter months, and I look forward to seeing everyone "up the hill" very soon.



**Luke Brinksma**  
Chairman/Commodore

## SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - April 2024

Hello DWBC members,

Since the last DWBC magazine summer has come and gone, the cooler weather has started to set in, we have seen a slight drop to the Lake water levels and there has been a fair bit of change across the board. Not the least of which is a transition of the Site Director role. So, in my first report as the new DWBC Site Director, let me start by acknowledging and thanking the outgoing Site Director, Luke Brinksmma.

Luke has spent the last 5 years working hard to re-establish a lot of what we see and appreciate today. His work to appoint and establish Ric in the role as Site Manager has been fundamental to the wonderful way that site facilities maintenance programs ensure that the boat club is a safe and enjoyable place for us all to “get away” to and enjoy.

In Luke’s own words he and Ric “grew into” the role together and there are now a number of member approved projects that have recently been completed or continue to progress as a direct result of Luke’s commitment to making the club better.

Having only recently joined the board in December 2023, I know that as the new Site Director I have big shoes to fill. I am comforted to know that joining a board of strong, aligned Directors, with a mix of knowledge, experience, fresh enthusiasm, and led by Luke as our new chairman, I will be very well supported while I learn the ropes.

Enough about the past, let me talk about the present and the future.

Since taking over the role, I have been on a steep learning curve about everything boat, water and club related. I continue to stick my head into parts of the Club grounds that I didn’t know existed and learn about how the facilities work. I am not and never will be somebody who claims to know about things that I don’t, and I am not afraid to ask for help or seek advice where I don’t know something.

My working skills, although in the Facilities Management field, are primarily establishing and nurturing relationships with people and businesses that have the technical expertise to deliver and maintain first class facilities around the country. I definitely do not have the technical skills needed to do this.

Ric, in particular, has been very patient in explaining many many things to me and continues to invite me to be involved in and experience as many parts of boat club facility management as possible. I am particularly looking forward to some heavy lifting items, like moving blocks and marinas as the need arises.

Ric is and continues to be a wonderful asset to the club, his knowledge of its workings and the constant attention to the maintenance and improvement of its facilities are not to be underestimated. I have really enjoyed my first few months of working directly with Ric and look forward to continuing to strengthen our relationship.

But you know what they say, and “They” aren’t often wrong. Behind every good man there is an even better woman.

Steph’s work around the club cannot be understated. Steph was recently presented with the Chairman’s award recognizing her tireless support to DWBC. Steph contributes to DWBC in a way that adds so much value. She undertakes the work that she does quietly and without fuss or fanfare. She is always looking for ways to help members and is always there in

*Continued on page 15*

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Winter is almost here (I say that with a groan) and it seems that summer just flew by with lots of wet and windy days including a drenching Christmas Day! But Autumn has been pretty special particularly March during which we were blessed with sensational weather. Easter was perfect on the lake, no wind and plenty of sunshine (once the smoke haze cleared).

Despite a less than perfect summer the boating season appears to have been good fun for all. Thanks to everyone who sent photos in, hope you find your face here! Just a reminder – photos should be of a high resolution for the best result when printed. Don’t resize to a smaller file when sending to me.

There’s certainly lots been happening in and around the club and behind the scenes so make sure you read all the reports to stay up to date with the goings on.

I hope you enjoy the read and remind you that I need your contributions to keep this magazine going. So if you have news, an interesting story, photos or just little ‘bits’ then please send them to me anytime.

As I prepare to hibernate for winter & head north as often as I can, I wish you all the best and to those travelling north, east, west (surely not south) or overseas, then safe travels to you.



**Margie Elliott**  
Editor

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# YOUR DREAM. OUR PASSION.

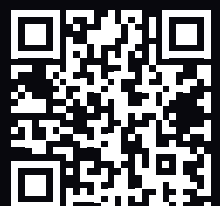
Eildon's most trusted and experienced house boat sales agent is back to bring new levels of service and amazing results for buying & selling your houseboat.

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*Ray & Heath*

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## SECRETARY'S REPORT - April 2024

*"You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step" – Martin Luther King*

As my first report as the new secretary, I must admit, it is nerve-racking. This is a new water world for me and really, I still consider myself as a relatively new member having only joined this magnificent club in 2021. I decided to be a part of the club initially due to the friendly people I always encountered, the helpful hands guiding Matt and I in well.....everything, and the jovial digs of the reminder that Boat actually stands for "Bring Out Another Thousand"! Boat life is a new life for Matt, Lucy and I, but we absolutely LOVE IT!

A little about me, I started my journey in boat life quite young as my family had a boat in Eildon Boat Club, we finished our boat life on Kapalua when I was about 5 years of age. Then luckily in 2020 we found ourselves on my sister's boat one Boxing Day where we instantly fell in love with the sounds and serenity of Lake Eildon and decided this was the life for us.

The future of the club is very exciting, we welcome some amazing new members to the club, drawn to us due to relationships already within our club, our friendly nature, our spacious marinas and our safe and clean facilities! We are so grateful for the contribution of the activities committee to the club, and now there is an exciting opportunity for a re-boot of the activities committee and see what the future of DWBC activities looks like, is it a similar set up to what we have had before with a group of fun, caring individuals committed to creating a calendar year of fun for the whole family, is it a list of people happy to volunteer when they can,

is it various groups committed to different styles of activities, so many options and opportunities.

Since stepping up into the role of Secretary in November, and into the big shoes that Lisa previously filled, it has been a learning curve, so I appreciate all those members who have reached out and given me the space and time to learn the role, this will be ongoing, and I am grateful for the opportunity the board has afforded me.

We are very pleased to confirm that in the last few weeks we have received 2 new appointments to the board with Nick Bodi from C marina and Tony Rodis from B marina. We do unfortunately say goodbye to 2 current board members in Brad Rogers, the friendly face and welcoming nature that Brad and Kirsty exude at every opportunity was a big reason for me to join the board and be a part of its future, so thank you Brad for setting an amazing example to follow in. We also say goodbye on the board to Simon Gishus, we are very grateful for your contribution and passion for the future of the club, we wish you all the very best.

Our general meeting dates for 2024 have been circulated and we have facebook event dates for the General and Annual General Meetings. If you can't make a meeting but would like to know more about anything club related, please reach out to one of the Directors who will be more than happy to chat with you.

I would also like to sincerely thank Margie Elliott for the countless hours she spends managing our email system and contact database as well as for putting together this wonderful magazine. An ongoing incredible contribution to DWBC that we

### General Meeting Dates

- **General Meeting: will be held via Zoom on Tues 18<sup>th</sup> June at 7:45 pm.**
- **Annual General Meeting (AGM): will be held onsite at DWBC on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov.**

continue to value today and thanks to the previous magazine editions, we can look back through our growth as a club! Thank you, Margie, we are so very grateful to you.

Thank you to Lisa for your continued support and hand holding, I appreciate it more than you know.

And to our new Chairman Luke and our wonderful Board, you are all amazing humans, it is a pleasure to work with you all in supporting this club and being a part of its success.

Here ends my first report as Secretary, and I, like my daughter, have my L Plates on, but I love this club, I love our people and I am grateful to the members for their help and this is how I can give back to you all. Please don't be shy, say hello if we see each other around the club and I would love to hear how we can make this club be successful for all.



**Megan Taylor**  
Secretary

## FACILITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Hi everyone!

Well, summer has gone and the frosts are starting to appear and as we head into winter there are a few important things to remind you about:

- If you are thinking of doing some painting or fibreglass repairs, be aware that you'll need warmer days, preferably 21/22 degrees. With temperatures lower than that paint and fibreglass will have problems drying.
- Please check all your ropes are tied correctly for the winter layup. If ropes have been lying in the water for a long time maybe you should consider replacing them. The ropes are

your insurance, so if you are not sure about them speak to Jimmy or me.

- If you are leaving your ski boats or runabouts tied behind your boats for the winter you should have operating automatic bilge pumps in your craft to avoid any sinking disasters. This does happen!
- Our projects over the next few months include:
- Finishing off the wash barge and fitting a power box and pressure washer for member use.
  - Starting the build of a new main work shed up in the top trailer carpark which will be fantastic when finished. This will make room in the big shed with all

the tools and equipment to be relocated to the new shed.

It's a busy time for houseboat maintenance now with the work barge and wash bay in big demand. A lot of boats are also being slipped for routine pontoon inspections/maintenance, and renovations. If you are planning to slip your boat best you book early to avoid delays.

That's it from me, stay safe and warm over winter and enjoy those sunny winter days when they appear.



**Ric Perna**  
Facility Manager

## Ask the Experts - LITHIUM-ION BATTERY SAFETY

As many members now have lithium batteries on board houseboats, there is an article from Nautilus Marine about the safe operation of lithium batteries, that may be of interest.

Extracted from Nautilus Marine article...

"A series of fires on recreational vessels, located both domestically and around the world, have been linked to lithium-ion battery powered devices, tools, and toys stored on board. Lithium-ion battery management is therefore a matter for all boat owners and marina managers to be aware of. We asked lithium-ion battery experts to share some important advice around lithium-ion battery safe practices."

**Access the full Nautilus Marine article on Lithium-ion Battery Safety via this address: [Lithium-ion-battery-safety.pdf \(nautilusinsurance.com.au\)](https://nautilusinsurance.com.au/lithium-ion-battery-safety.pdf).**



## WELCOME ROS & GARTH



A warm welcome is extended to Ros Scott and Garth Hammerstein who are the proud new owners of Rollerskate purchasing the boat just before Christmas. It is their first houseboat however they have been coming to Eildon on and off for 30 plus years. Ros says they are very happy to be a part of DWBC and have found everyone so

far to be very friendly. They look forward to meeting more of the members in the coming years. Look out for them on the end of "B" marina and say g'day!



## GENERAL MEETING

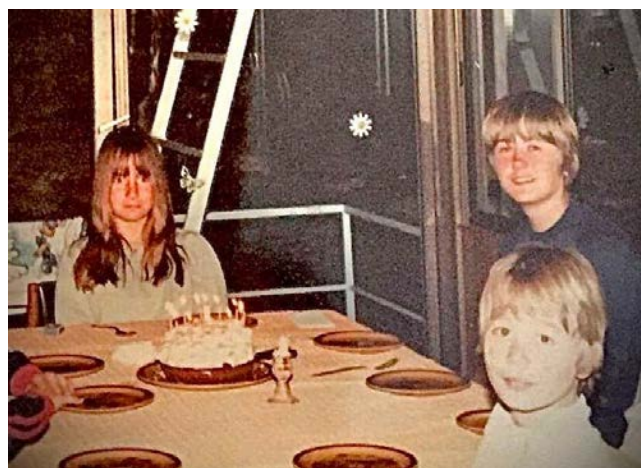
Our General Meeting was held via Zoom on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April. It was the largest attendance in several years with at least 40 people tuning in.

Great to see members showing interest in what's happening in our club. There was some healthy, respectful, robust conversations, which hopefully opened eyes and minds to the various options and possibilities.

***The Board are here to serve the members.***



*A welcoming sight in April sunshine*



### ***From the Archives***

***Jacqui Oakes (Rippatoo), David Cox (Shilo) and Simon Cox (Dragon Lady II).***

***Jan 1982 celebrating Jacqui's 12<sup>th</sup> birthday on board 'Stargazer' which was Jacqui's family houseboat at the time.***



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## THANK YOU

We again, take this opportunity to personally thank everyone that has shown their support to the Activities Committee over the past 8 years. We've held many events creating treasured memories that now form a great part of our club's history. Our events brought much laughter and definitely lots of fun, to everyone who supported them. During this time the club has continued to evolve with the changing membership but still remains a wonderful family friendly club today.

We have loved every minute (*well almost*) creating and organising these social events, but it is now time for us to stand aside and allow the next passionate group of members to bring new and exciting ideas to the Activities Committee.

As communicated to the membership by email we ended our term after the Alex Race Day which

was our last planned event for 2024 and indeed a very successful day.

We thank you for your general feedback towards all of our events over the past 8 years, be that constructive criticism or positive vibes, and we particularly thank all those who helped us physically especially with transforming the big shed into a fun filled space for all to enjoy on so many occasions.

Anita, Gary, Margie, Neisha and I stand aside with pride knowing we have given it our all to create the many social events that have touched you all in some kind of way. We thank you sincerely for all the lovely messages of support recently received. Your kind words have meant a lot to us.

*Thank you and kindest regards  
Kirsty Rogers*



## **Happy 80<sup>th</sup> birthday Judy Gill!**

*On the Saturday of Australia Day weekend a group of rowdy members descended on SHIRAZ for an afternoon of delight celebrating our Ms Jude's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. Loud music, more than ample food, tall stories and just a few popping corks made for a wonderful afternoon.*

*Hard to believe you are 80 Jude!*

## NEW YEAR'S EVE 'B' MARINA STYLE



*Yes, 'that group' on B marina sure know how to throw a colourful party. Definitely the winners of something - if only there was a competition! Well done all.*



## ALEXANDRA CUP RACE DAY - SATURDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> MARCH



On a beautiful warm sunny day in March a full bus load of happy punters (and non-punters) headed to the Alexandra Cup adorned in glorious shades of pink. Our punters club tried very hard to win big but despite urging the horses home hard, had to make do with mostly minor placings. However, there were a few 'first past the post' selections which kept us all amused and enthused. One non-punter had a big win but nearly missed out by throwing his ticket away clearly not understanding that you should really check results first!

DWBC sponsored the third race, the 'Darlingford Waters Boat Club Maiden Plate' over 1300m which was won by Number 4, Pindari Point, trained by Paul Worthington and ridden by Jack Virgona. The pink cheer squad was at the finish line and was greeted by the winning horse, trainer and jockey after the race with Pindari Point taking a real shine to Neisha!

The bus trip home was entertaining as was the sunset cruise around our beautiful spot in the creek, a perfect end to a very successful day out. Thanks everyone for your support. Let's go again next year!



*The Winner Pindari Point*



*The Syndicate from ARGO*



*Pretty pink ladies!*



*Jenny, Paula and friend*





*Andrew, Joey, Stuart & Brad*



*Don't you just love boys in pink! Goody, Joey & Peter*



*Skye, Kirsty & Eve - fun on the bus home*



*Neisha's new friend*



*The ARGO syndicate Ladies Chapter*



*Brod, Luke & Ky*



*Brooke, Thomas & Ben*



*Neisha, Margie & Kirsty*



*Kevin & Suzanne*



*Greg, Skye & Eve*



*Brad & Kirsty*



*Neisha & Gary*



*Di & friend*





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## SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT *continued*

support of Ric on site. For me, Steph has always displayed both warmth and strength to the entire DWBC community.

Jimmy, too, always has time to stop, explain why something is being done. By chance I was recently on site at the very moment the Victorian police brought the work barge back to the club. While it may seem a very small thing, I have never fully appreciated that the work barge could be detached and attached as simply as it was. It was a good experience to watch and to a much lesser extent help Jimmy to ensure that it was secured back in place. Ric, Steph and Jimmy are always there on site, when we are not, making the boat club a seamless place for us all to “get away”.

I am also enjoying talking to and listening to some of our most experienced club members and learning as much about club history and why certain things have been done as they have. I would particularly like to thank Ronnie (Mulholland) and Stuie (Steer), for taking the time and effort to discuss with me many things about the site facilities. As recently as ANZAC Day, I spent time with Stuie on the crane barge, measuring and discussing the upcoming required urgent maintenance that is required, to keep it on the water.

This is one of a few projects that are underway around the club at the moment, that will improve our facilities and enable our club to continue to grow and thrive, including:

- Construction of a maintenance shed.
- Completion of the wash barge and
- Continued negotiation with DEECA, Goulburn Murray Water and the

Murrundindi Council to get the road to DWBC sealed.

In closing my first report, I would like to make two last points:

- I would like to thank and acknowledge the former Chairman, Brad Rogers, for all his work to lead and represent DWBC over many years in many different roles. From the day we stepped into the club and attended our first “Nibbles on the Hill” Brad (and Kirsty) went out of their way to make us feel included. Brad has done a lot in his time to make the club a better place for us all, now and into the future. Thank you, Brad, for ALL that you did in your time on the Board.

- As I mentioned earlier, I am a relationships person, I like to interact with members, to listen to their points of view, to learn from their knowledge and experience, to discuss things around the site that members might want to discuss. So please feel free to get in contact with me or stop me for a chat if you see me around the Club. There are still many members that I would like to meet and talk to.

DWBC is and always will be a family friendly club and I look forward to playing a small part in ensuring that all members are safe, welcome, valued and appreciated during my tenure as Site Director.



**Matt Taylor**  
Site Director

### Lake Level Comparisons (G-MW Data)

30/04/2024 - 91.05%  
01/05/2023 - 93.17%  
30/04/2014 - 68.49%  
30/04/2004 - 18.86%

Have you joined our  
private Facebook group?

"DWBC Members" for  
members & family only.

Join to keep informed.

## DADDY-O

‘Daddy-O’ has been off the water for quite some months undergoing a bit of a rebuild and will return with a new name, ‘Sovereign’. She’s had new electrics, new bathrooms, new carpet, rear deck extension, new master bedroom with ensuite, large rear lounge and second level extension. So basically, it’s been stripped down to a shell and rebuilt! You won’t recognise her at all!



*Daddy O*



*Neisha supervising her Poppy's work!*



*The new look SOVEREIGN*

## A FEW WORDS FROM STEPH

Hello to all our lovely members, I hope you've enjoyed your Christmas/Easter holidays over Summer/Autumn this year. The holidays have gone so fast, I can't believe we are nearing winter.

We've had some garden beds put in at the back of the house in which I have been growing tomatoes, squash and now some pumpkin. I am able to also start working in the other garden beds now that the threat of snakes is relatively small. If there is anyone who is interested in getting involved with the garden or have some fresh ideas please contact Ric.

As to Ric's health, he is feeling well but will be undergoing more treatment to maintain his health.

Ric and I are planning to have a couple of Friday night meet and greets in front of the big shed with a fire over the next few months weather permitting. An email will be sent out a couple of weeks prior to us having them. We hope you will be able to join us if you are not away somewhere warmer.

That's all from me for now, stay safe and warm over winter and we'll look forward to seeing you soon.

**Steph**



## WE RODE TO BONNIE DOON - AGAIN!

Saturday 17th February would normally have been our 'Darlingford Day' event however this year, due to several factors, we held our 'Ride to Bonnie Doon' instead.

Like last year, we set off in near perfect weather - blue sky and warm sunshine albeit a little windy and therefore choppy at times. The ride proved extremely popular once again as there were at least 78 participants of all ages which was a great response. It was quite a sight to see the flotilla of jet skis, ski boats and pontoon boats depart from our marina. We were led out of the 5 knot zone by Simon Cox then it was throttle down and go. How exhilarating!



While the jet skis were off and out of sight rather quickly the pontoon boats lived up to their name of party boats with the oldies rocking to the oldies! We eventually all



descended on the Bonnie Doon pub and scrambled for parking space along the crowded bank. Lunch time was certainly a rowdy affair and so much fun. Heard there was some very suspect dancing taking place in the Chairman's boat on the ride home! Thanks all for coming. Let's hope this happens again next summer as it's a perfect water activity for everyone.

Great drone footage was uploaded to our private Facebook group (thanks to Braydon Ford) so check it out if you haven't already.



*Taking over the courtyard at the Bonnie Doon Hotel!*



## AUSTRALIA DAY



We love **Australia Day**, celebrating our wonderful country and making sure it's a long weekend even when it isn't! And celebrate we do well. Here's Gina toasting the good life in OZ while showing her patriotism to the USA in her American bathers; Jude and friends posing with the flag on Shiraz; and Joey – what can I say!

## HOUSEBOATING CAN BE DANGEROUS!



So in January, after a wonderful week on the boat, I had a friend visit. We had enjoyed a rather nice rosé and I was chatting with the neighbours (Jacqui and Andrew Oakes) and wasn't paying attention to how close I was to the edge of our rear deck. I basically put my whole weight down on my right foot, only to discover I was only partially on board. So I fell off the edge and my right arm smashed down on the edge of the deck, breaking my wrist.

I lolled around like a beached whale on a floating deck we had out, telling everyone to be calm and not touch me, but I had definitely broken my arm. Jacqui called an ambulance, but they called back an hour or two later saying they wouldn't get there, so my husband drove me to Alexandra (by 11pm at this point). They gave me some meds and sent me to MaroonDAH and by 9 am the next morning, after a rather traumatic night waiting in emergency, they finally reset the arm - a whole other trauma in itself.

So, after nearly 50 years on the boat, I finally had a significant accident - houseboats are dangerous!

It's mostly mended now, just some physio required to get the tendons moving again.

*Caroline Schmidt (Courage, B marina)*



# Summertime



*Charlee Rose and Grandma*



*Fishing lessons for Calvin & Lewis!*



*Cheers at Jamieson pub*



*Mandy, Sean & Megan booze cruisin*



*Summer Cutriss & Summer Winter Wilson*



*The Bodi family hiking around the lake*



*Alison's wet weather style!*



*Goody, Joey & Peter*



*Looking tall there Hilly!*



# Fun Times



*Hilly and his girl crew*



*Forsyth's & friends at El Lago*



*A late pic from Sail Past but it's a good one!*



*B Marina girls at their best!*



*Mary Poppins jetted in!*



*Jas & Eve on New Years Eve*



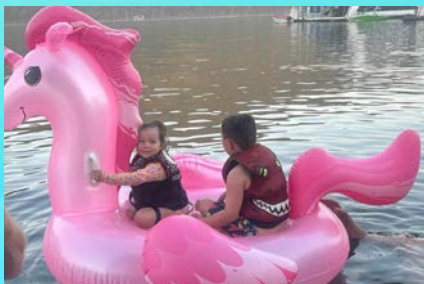
***Come to Lake Eildon for Christmas mum and dad – it will be lovely!***  
*Those who spent Christmas Day at the lake will well remember the rain, rain and more rain. Well, this is Kirsty and Brad picking up Kirsty's parents for their Christmas lunch at Allan Bay. They got a tad wet!*



*The Farley crew enjoy a lazy ice cream at 501, on a hot summers day.*



*Dianne, Jude & Denise - 80 cheers*



*Willow & Cooper off D marina*



*Joey & Shelle*



# Summertime



*River, Reed, River, Summer & Summer from Devils Playground*



*Greg's girls Eve & Skye*



*Dobbo greets the day sans clothing!*



*Who's teaching who Karen?*



*New Years Eve cocktails on Argo*

## WHERE EAGLES DARE!



### **Eagle 1 v Drone 0**

*Allan Trathan (Binda) was flying his drone when this eagle soared out of the trees and grabbed it, tackling it to the ground and breaking it with its beak & claws. Allan had to walk a kilometer in thick scrub to retrieve the drone! His best advice to any drone users - don't keep flying still for too long!*



*Miss Charlee driving Poppy*



# Fun Times



*Ella & Jake*



*Jas in the rain at Allen Bay Xmas Eve*



*Riley Winter, Summer Winter Wilson*



*Willow & her Poppa*



*River Wilson & River Cuttriss*



*Tom & Khloe (Working Class)*



*Ben Helmers*



*Laekyn & Nanny G*



*Mac on Working Class*



## 'PROBLEM CHILD'

Scott Faggoter (Solaris) is a member of the Victorian Drag Boat Club and has bought a new drag boat from America. It won't be in the country until October 2024 and not race until January 2025 but...for the rev heads:

"Problem Child" is a top fuel hydro which has a 500 ci billet engine and supercharger producing 10,000 HP. It covers the 1/4 mile course in 3.6 seconds and at 265mph. "Problem Child" has several world titles and has broken more records than any other drag boat. Obviously not for our 5 knot zone!

*You can check it out on YouTube "problem child top fuel hydro"*

Scotty is full of anticipation for what lies ahead... he might be able to bring it to the club for a static Show-n-Tell for any rev heads next year some time.



*Scott and his new toy "Problem Child"*

## HAPPY EASTER



*Our secretary, Megan, and daughter Lucy, handing out easter eggs in Wilson inlet.*



*Megan Evans (Joyrider) won 2<sup>nd</sup> prize in the raffle at the Eildon Easter twilight market. This is her daughter Breeanna collecting the prize.*



*The Nagy family all together on Progress Hall at Easter*

## RIVER CARTEL

We have another family of ski racing enthusiasts on C marina – the Edwards brothers with their race boat River Cartel. Jarrod is the driver, Luke is observer and Ryan is a skier along with their cousin Abbey. The entire Working Class gang (and there's lots) is the cheer squad!

River Cartel participated in the Annual Mildura 100 Ski Race at Easter in the 60mph Social Class. The boys achieved a finish on both days - Saturday finishing 6<sup>th</sup> out of 11 boats over 30kms and Sunday, the main race

was 100kms where they finished 7<sup>th</sup>. The boys were very happy and relieved to have a good safe run down the river and finish the race.

And already they are grooming the next generation of ski racers with both Jarrod's young boys, Ryder and Taylen, experiencing their first river race when participating in the Junior display at Mildura. They both skied in the family fun run from Gol Gol to Mildura Ski Club which is about 2kms. Great effort boys. Superstar ski racers in the making!



This is Hilly's attempt at paddle boarding (with a few beers under the belt maybe...). If you don't know Hilly that's **Andrew Hill** from "Kapaula" on "C" marina!



3 generations: Craig, Ryder & Jarrod.



Taylen



Spotted out & about just doing their thing!



River Cartel in action on the river.



Ryder



## Catch of the Day



Great excitement on the March long weekend when a fish was caught off the back of Working Class.  
A Murray Cod...NOT a carp!  
Well done Martin...kissed and released!



So, Ric goes to NZ for a spot of fishing, gets really sick and spends most of his time in bed. Once back home and recovered he goes for a flick at the pondage and look what happens – a great catch of a 'good trout.' No need to go to NZ at all!

# Lake Eildon

SLIPPING SERVICES



Call us today for all your houseboat transport needs.

- Transport of Houseboats
- Inspection slips
- Hardstand storage

PHONE: 0428373342

[admin@lakeeildonss.com.au](mailto:admin@lakeeildonss.com.au)

## 50 YEARS OF HOUSEBOATING ON WIZARD

*Stuart and Denise Steer have been houseboating for 50 years and still going! Imagine the changes they have experienced with ski boats, houseboats, life on the lake and within our club. While they could fill a book, they were happy to share just a few memories as they reminisced on this 'golden anniversary'.*

As a young family we used to camp at Fraser National Park. Each day the food van would come to the camp but always ran out of stock before it got around the whole camp. We thought it might be good to have a floating shop, so we applied to the State Rivers & Water Supply Commission and received a permit.

When we finished building the "shop" we decided to use it as a boat and enjoy it as a family instead. Our first boat was launched in March 1974 but six months later we decided to sell up and build a bigger boat. Our second boat was launched in July 1975 and moored at Jerusalem Creek. The fees back then were \$250 a year for the marina and about \$100 payable to SRWSC. You could also purchase a swing mooring, located between Jerusalem Creek and DWBC.

After a few years at Jerusalem Creek we joined with other members and formed the Jerusalem Creek Boat

Club and decided to establish a new marina to keep the fees down. We were offered numerous sites before settling on where DWBC now sits. Initially, sixty boats moved from Jerusalem Creek to the new marina in 1987. Our third boat was completed in time to move to the new complex.

We sold our third boat at Easter 1998 to Peter and Judy Hughes; we didn't want to have to worry about that whilst building a new one. The new improved Wizard was launched in December 2000. The old third edition became 'Miss B'haven' and remained in the club until 2022.

We have built all our boats, with the first two being built from the pontoons up. When we decided to go to a full hull style we had the hull built then did the rest from there. I (Stu) said I was going to learn to weld as I was sick of getting all the shit jobs! Everything that needed painting had to have four coats with sanding in between.

We have seen lots of changes over the years, but still really enjoy the camaraderie and it's a great life for sharing with the family.

*Stuart and Denise Steer.*



Stuart C1977



1997 Shed Dance



2023 Sail Past



## WE WELCOME TWO NEW DIRECTORS IN 2024 - NICK BODI & TONY RODIS



**Nick Bodi (Diesel)**

Nick is married to Kath (24 years) and they have two kids Beth (20) and Ned (18). His interests are hiking/traveling and spending time with family especially on the lake.

Nick spent his young years holidaying in Bonnie Doon followed by many years camping along the Murray River (Corowa/Mildura/Strathmerton). When the kids were young, they found traveling to the Murray too far away. A regular truck driver at work told Nick about his caravan at Jews Creek and, being

familiar with the area from trail bike riding in the past, the family stayed one very cold May weekend in 2007. Despite that, they decided this would be the perfect holiday spot so purchased an onsite van the following month. They had many great years at Jews with other family friends also buying vans or staying with them.

In 2020 during covid they purchased Diesel with good friends, the Hewlett's. Apparently Darlingford was Nick's only condition with the houseboat purchase. The Bodi's and Hewlett's have now enjoyed 4 great years in the club, on C marina.

*Nick celebrated his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 29<sup>th</sup> April, so happy birthday Nick!*

Tony and his wife, Jenny, joined DWBC approx. 3 years ago and were members for quite some time before finally finding the right houseboat, relocating it to Darlingford on B Marina. They have since spruced it up and given it a new name, Argo. Even though Tony and Jenny are reasonably new to DWBC, they have enjoyed houseboating on Lake Eildon for the past 20 odd years.

Tony is now retired after spending over 40 years in the IT&T industry.

They have two adult sons, Matthew and Sean, who also enjoy the family time on Argo, and what the lake offers.

Other interests are Out Back Motorcycling, which has taken Tony to some of the remotest locations in this great country we call home.

Tony says he is looking forward to being more involved in the running of the club and assisting the Board with club matters.



**Tony Rodis (ARGO)**

## ANZAC DAY

At the first rays of dawn we gathered for the first DWBC Dawn Service. A gentle chill hung in the air, replaced by a warm glow from the fire crackling beneath our proudly displayed Australian Flag.

The ceremony began with Matt Taylor, our Site Director, reading a moving story dedicated to a fallen hero, Flight Lieutenant David Paul. We learned about his bravery and sacrifice, a poignant reminder of the reason for our gathering. Stuart Steer, one of our founding members, then delivered a heartfelt reading of the ANZAC Ode. As the final lines faded, a deep silence descended, broken only by the mournful notes of the Last Post, played by our Chairman, Luke Brinksma. The subsequent minute of silence felt heavy with respect and remembrance. ANZAC Day isn't just about remembering those who fell overseas, it's also about honouring those who served here at

home too. We have several members within the DWBC community who have bravely volunteered their service, and this Dawn Service was a way to acknowledge their courage and sacrifice.

The sombre mood gradually lifted after the service as we tucked into a hearty Gunfire breakfast of bacon and egg rolls. It was fantastic to see a good turnout from the club, and the atmosphere buzzed with friendly conversation and a renewed sense of camaraderie.

Later in the day, the competitive spirit returned with a fun game of Two-Up. Debates swirled about the best way to play and the optimal betting strategies, but in true DWBC fashion, we opted for the KISS method – keeping it simple and light-hearted. After all, the real aim was to have a good time and raise some money for a worthy cause: all proceeds from the game were proudly donated to the RSL. David, Neisha and Stuie took turns spinning the coins. Each toss brought cheers and groans

in equal measure, the friendly banter adding to the lively atmosphere.

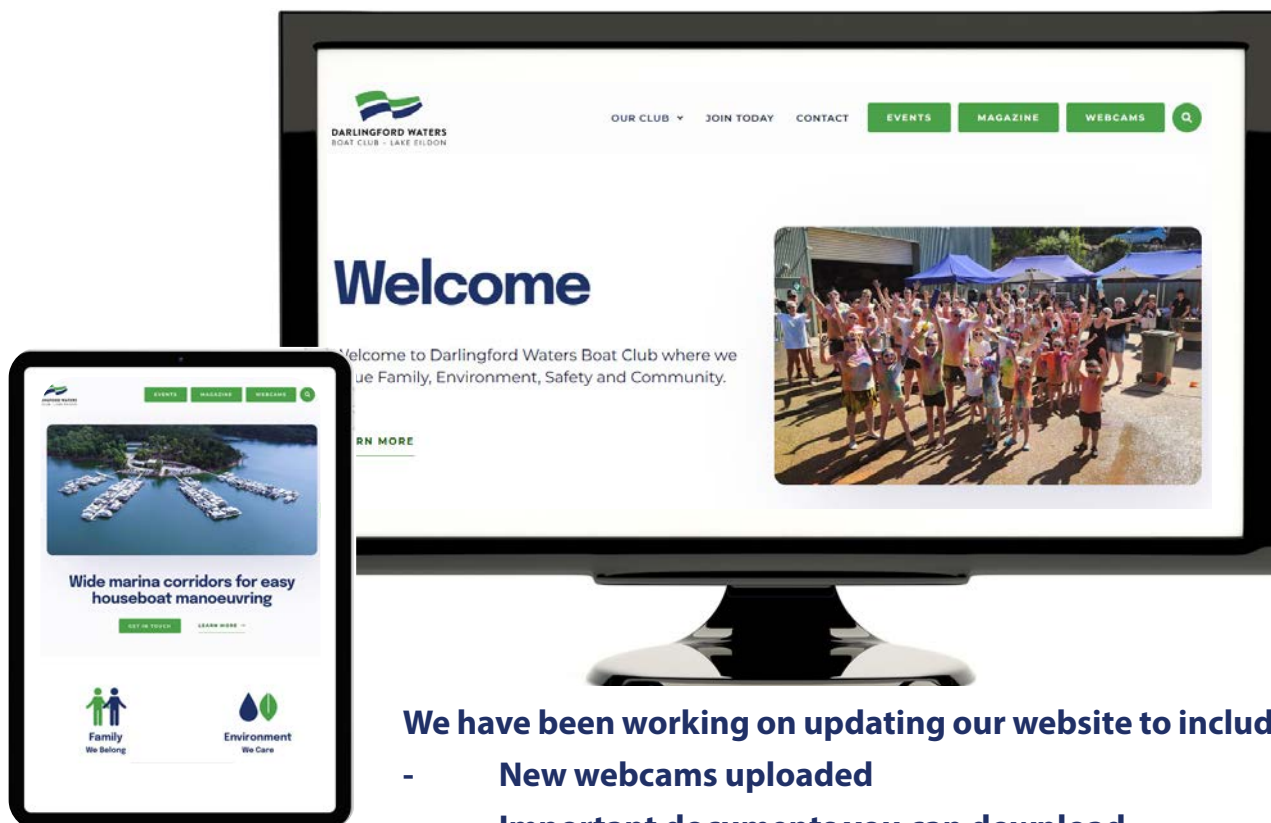
Some members remained to watch the ANZAC Day AFL clash between Collingwood and Essendon. The game itself was a nail-biter, ending in a surprising draw – a fitting end to a day filled with both reflection and friendly competition.

Thank you Luke, Ric and Steph for setting up this wonderful day. We also extend our gratitude to all members who took the time to join in, whether by helping with setup, cleaning up, or simply being part of the experience.

Our inaugural Dawn Service was a resounding success, and we look forward to making it an annual tradition. If you'd like to get more involved next year, consider volunteering to read a story, help with preparations, or bring a dish to share. Let's work together to ensure this special day continues to grow and honour the ANZAC spirit for years to come.

**Megan Taylor**

## NEW WEBSITE COMING SOON!



We have been working on updating our website to include:

- New webcams uploaded
- Important documents you can download
- Great visuals to showcase our club
- Library of newsletters
- Upcoming event details

Stay tuned for our 'go live' announcement!



## ANZAC DAWN SERVICE



# DARLINGFORD BRIEFS



Sometime's you just can't hide!



Here's our barge at work with VicPol Search and Rescue in February doing 30m dive training opposite the wall.



The've turned 16 and were excited to finally be able to undertake their first official solo jet ski ride as legal riders together on 28<sup>th</sup> March!!! Lucy Taylor, Jas Rogers & Ollie Steer.



Ba and Nanny making the most of their snuggle with granddaughter Emilia Nagy who turned 1 on 11<sup>th</sup> April. Joey & Shelle have just ventured off on their long planned road trip across the Nullabor.



They grow so fast. It's first year at school for **Cooper Penjin** (Wye Wurri) at Birmingham Primary.



Paddy & Lisa have sold their boat and will be missed by their cohorts on "B" marina but, apparently, they are very glad that Paddy won't be parking near them anymore – especially after this attempt!



Two of the Farley grandchildren, **Ethan and Lucas**, went indoor skydiving, beats the hell out of jumping out of a plane says Grandpa!



## A 21<sup>st</sup> & two 50<sup>th</sup> Birthdays!

The Ford family from "Taurus II" has had a busy couple of months. Congratulations to **Zoe** who celebrated her 21<sup>st</sup> birthday with family and friends on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March. Then there was a double celebration for **Leanne** and **Mark's** 50<sup>th</sup> birthdays in April. Leanne on the 6<sup>th</sup> and Mark the 20<sup>th</sup>. Their party was followed by a big birthday trip - 3 weeks touring Vietnam and Bali.





# DARLINGFORD BRIEFS



**Maddyn Farley** (Destiny) decided to shed her front teeth just in time for official school photos and her grandpa thought it would be good to share!



The Working Class family continues to expand, no wonder Goody needs a bigger houseboat! Congratulations to **Tahnee & Jarrod Edwards** on the safe arrival of a precious girl, **Haisley Jade**, born on 5<sup>th</sup> March. Haisley has two excited big brothers Ryder and Taylen.



This is what happens when the Bombers beat the Saints by 4 points...Gavin is obviously happy while Matt really not so!

**Recent birthdays celebrated in the Walter/McRoberts family (METIS)**



Matt turned 50 on the 24<sup>th</sup> Nov so it's a belated HB2Y!



The 7<sup>th</sup> April was a happy 16<sup>th</sup> birthday for **Mitchell McArthur** (Cool Change).



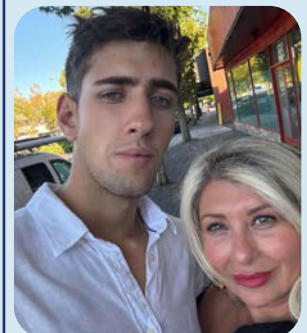
The girls from Serena Z



Winners pose! 3 year old **Jameson Farley** (Destiny) was really happy to beat his Grandpa at Uno!



Luke turned 19 on 18<sup>th</sup> Feb



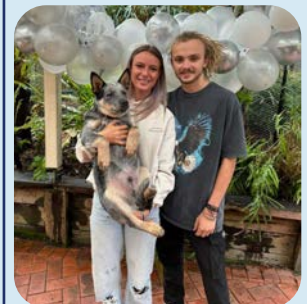
Dillon was 21 on 11<sup>th</sup> March



On the 28<sup>th</sup> March **Jas Rogers** turned 16 and among her presents was a jerry can of fuel for that jet ski she can now ride with an unrestricted licence. Go Jas!



This sure made me smile... a magpie s\*itting on Ric's flag. hahaha



Jake was 21 on 23<sup>rd</sup> March



# DWBC STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

As we welcome new Directors and farewell those who have served us well, we also enter our 4<sup>th</sup> year of our 5-year Strategic Plan.

As your elected Board we are working through the major projects that you identified as priorities, with some key highlights below:

## **Our Place – “Our facilities, infrastructure and spaces support great experiences for members.”**

- Secured a commitment from GMW to secure funding to concrete the first bend on the Jerusalem Creek Road – an exciting piece of progress!
- Upgrade to the wash barge, with many thanks to the members who have supported us on this project
- Continue to determine the best way forward for a club room option and additional sheds for member boat storage
- Marina upgrade project underway, including building a new maintenance shed to support this long-term project
- Continue to engage with GMW, Murindindi Shire Council, DWELP, LEHIA and local MP’s to discuss road sealing and phone access
- Facilities maintained to high standard

## **Our Community – “Our culture supports us to enjoy a sense of connection, belonging and care.”**

- New website ready to be launched in May 2024
- Purchased snake bite kits for every houseboat – please ensure you have yours
- Regular communication to members including welcoming new members
- ANZAC Day bbq and tribute
- Board representation on LEHIA
- Member representation on the GWS working parties
- Club Sponsorship to several community groups including Alexandra Country Races, Eildon CFA, Eildon Primary School

## **Our Base – “Our investments are valued and our club is well run.”**

- Board meetings and activities led by Strategic Plan
- Regular communication to members
- Member biennial survey due this year



**Family;**  
we belong



**Environment;**  
we care



**Safety;**  
we act



**Community;**  
we connect

# DARLINGFORD HONOUR BOARD

## Delia Ward Memorial Shield Recipients

1983	Stuart Steer
1984	Tony Cox
1985	Ross Burton
1986	Colin Blunt
1987	Ian Donaldson
1988	Wes Ford
1989	Lee Vickery
1990	Ethel Ford
1991	Russell Mee
1992	Barry Gurreri
1993	Olwen & Bill Ferris
1994	Peter Merigan
1995	Jos de Klijn
1996	Corrie De Klijn
1997	Peter Smith
1998	Jeff Holloway
1999	Bob Fisher
2000	Doug La Fontaine
2001	Hugh Harvison
2002	Lyndell Parker
2003	Ethel Ford
2004	Peter Raaymakers
2005	Peter Smith
2006	Gavin Wigginton
2007	Julie Harvison
2008	Ian Hudson
2009	Margie Elliott
2010	Maurie Callinan
2011	Anita Rennie
2012	Brett Lewis
2013	Terry 'Macca' McMillan
2014	Mark Ford
2015	Richard Ivey (posthumously)
2016	Don Atkinson
2017	Gary Crump
2018	Brad Rogers
2019	Kirsty Rogers
2020	Not awarded due to Covid-19 lockdowns
2021/22	Luke Brinksma (awarded for the 2 year period)
2024	Lisa Glassborow

## Commodores

1977	LERC	Owen Day
1978	JCBC	Danny Traum
1979	JCBC	Ken Oakes
1980	JCBC	David Pearson
1981	JCBC	Wayne Hawke
1982-84	JCBC	Ross Burton
1985	JCBC	Dennis Walker
1986-88	JCBC	Keith Davis
1989-91	DWBC	Jos de Klijn
1992-93	DWBC	Lee Watkins
1994-95	DWBC	Bob Fisher
1996-97	DWBC	Corrie de Klijn
1998-99	DWBC	Russell Thompson
2000-01	DWBC	Hilda van den Dungen
2002-04	DWBC	Hugh Harvison
2005-06	DWBC	Karen Brown
2007-09	DWBC	Stuart Steer
2010-12	DWBC	Phil Bourke
2013-14	DWBC	David Brown

### Rear Commodore

2015-16	DWBC	Robert Storey
2017	DWBC	A.Oakes/J.Gardner

### Activities Committee Leader

2018-19	DWBC	Gary Crump
2020-24	DWBC	Kirsty Rogers

## Magazine Editors

1984-87	Dean Reynolds
1988-89	Fran Mandergeddes
1990-94	Russell Mee
1995-97	Jeff Holloway
1998-2001	Russell Mee
2001-02	Linda Reiss
2002-03	Russell Mee
2004-07	Julie Harvison
2008-14	Margie Elliott
2015-16	Hiatus
2017-	Margie Elliott

## Life Members

1980s	Owen Day
1992	Len Villiers
17/11/2009	Russell Mee (posthumously)
16/11/2010	Jos De Klijn
14/02/2015	Stuart Steer
24/07/2021	Maurie Callinan
20/11/2021	Ron Mulholland
18/02/2023	Margie Elliott

## Chairmen

### DW Co-Op

1984	Ross Burton
1985-86	Dennis Walker
1987	Keith Davis
1988	John Hardiman
1989	Keith Davis

### DWM P/L

1990-2001	Jos de Klijn
2002	Bob Fisher
2003-07	Greg Boland
2008-09	Darryl Floyd
2010-13	Terry McMillan
2014-20	Brett Lewis
2021-23	Brad Rogers
2024-	Luke Brinksma

## Ice Man

Our ice machine was installed in November 2010 and since that time **Don Atkinson** has been the regular 'ice man' making sure the ice is continually bagged and the freezers are full.





20 SUGARLOAF RD  
EILDON, VIC, 3713

**03 5774 2132**

[eildonoutboard@virtual.net.au](mailto:eildonoutboard@virtual.net.au)

Tony Keddell  
40+ Years  
Experience

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- Seadoo servicing & repairs
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  - Generators
  - Boats
  - Trailers
- Water Sports accessories & PFD's
- Safety Gear
- Large range of Marine and Deep Cycle Batteries
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- Pontoon and Deck Paint range
- Storage Sheds
- All your boat needs in one showroom

- MERCURY
- MERCUISER
- MALIBU
- SEADOO
- HONDA
- YANMAR
- MASE
- ONAN
- WESTERBEKE
- PLUS MANY MORE

## PLEASURE CRAFT INSURANCE AGENTS



**CLUB  
MARINE  
INSURANCE**



**MERCURY**  
*Finance & Insurance*

## SALES AGENTS

- MERCURY
- MERCUISER
- MASE
- YANMAR
- ONAN
- WESTERBEKE
- LOWRANCE
- RAY MARINE
- RUNAWAY BAY  
PONTOON BOATS

### 2023 OFF SEASON OPENING HOURS

**MON-FRI: 8am – 4:15pm**

**SAT: 9am – 1pm**

**SUN: CLOSED**



**MERCURY**