



# House boat

Dec 2024, Issue 108



## Footy is over, time for boating!

AFL Grand Final fizzed but we didn't! Our day in the shed in pics...pages 14-15



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**Volunteers required!**

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### Vice Chairman

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### Secretary (Board Appointed)

Megan Taylor (Y Knot) 0421 512 800  
secretary@darlingford.com.au

### Treasurer

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### Site Director

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### General Member Directors

Nick Bodi (Diesel) 0417 519 236  
Brod Helmers (Binalong) 0418 537 808  
Brett Lewis (Kokomo) 0419 103 394  
Nicole Powne (Kindred Spirit) 0425 799 083

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Darlingford Waters Boat Club



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*Cover photo: the kids from Devils Playground at the Grand Final in the shed.*

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## CONTENTS

Page 4	Chairman's Report
Page 5	Site Director's Update
Page 7	Secretary's Report
Page 8	From the Editor's Desk
Page 9	A Final Word from Ric & Steph
Page 11	A New Treasurer & Assistant Secretary
	Defibrillators
Page 12	Farewell Ric & Steph
Page 13	New Facility Manager - Jimmy Birch
Page 14-15	AFL Grand Final Day Photos
Page 16-17	Sail Past Salutes
Page 18	Midsummer Festival Flyer
Page 19	Eildon Community Golf Day
Page 20-21	Darlingford Briefs
Page 23&28	Hoping to Exist - Donald Malcombe Atkinson
Page 24	Travel: Vegas & New York / Oh No!
Page 25	Once a Sailor - Sailing the Whitsundays
Page 26	Malta - the Jewel of the Mediterranean
Pages 27&29	Lithium Batteries Explained
Page 30	Strategic Plan
Page 31	Honour Board



*Farewell Ric & Steph Pg 12*



*Grand Final Day Photos Pg 14-15*



*Sail Past Salutes Pg 16-17*



*A bit of a bio on Donny Pg 23&28*

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - Dec 2024

Hello Members,

As I reflect on my 1st year as Chairman, and the Board positions that have come and gone, I think Christmas is a good opportunity to break and gauge our position.

The DWBC jet ski rally (in Feb) was well attended and seems destined to be an annual fixture. The Alex Races (in March) again a feature event well attended. ANZAC Day was very emotional for me personally, and I hope an event we can build on?

And then....

February bought an end to the Activities Committee, tired and stretched to entice membership to events, this was a frustrating time for a new forming Board to lose that support group.

Over the ensuing months Brad Rogers, Lisa Glassborow and Simon Gischus all stepped away from the Board and I found myself calling for volunteers from the membership. The call was answered, and we set about stabilising the ship and stamping our own identity on a new Board.

May bought us Tony Rodis and Nick Bodi, two members who have had immediate impact, insight and perspective to what we do. Nicole Powne who has stepped up to assist Megan with the mammoth task of Secretary, and Melanie Farley who has taken the position of Treasurer, rounded out the mid-year and gave us a full complement of executive positions to move forward with – all very welcome additions.

Late in the year Simon Cox also stepped away – so now we seek to fulfil the Vice Chairman role, but this time I am confident our membership is stepping up and this position will be filled soon.

So a shaky start, some turn over in Board members, pray some calm waters..... And then fate struck with Ric's health again turning poor.

The second half of 2024 has been as hectic as the first. Some weather storms, Stuart Steer learning the modern art of bureaucracy in applying for building permits for the forthcoming maintenance shed which has been a pleasure and a pain to watch, and the flourishing career of one, Jimmy Birch, as he stepped up time and again to support Ric and our club. We saw some members go, as is the way, and new faces join our club – a sign that DWBC remains a destination club.

As the Calendar year draws to a close, and summer beckons I look forward to bettering my leadership as Chairman. I hope to close out the maintenance shed project that has lingered for too long and to navigate our insurance coverage to an equitable outcome with fabulous support from Tony Rodis. I hope to see the crane barge overhauled successfully with Matt Taylor, who is really finding his feet in his role as Site Director and support my fellow Board Members to deliver DWBC into 2025 and beyond financially secure. With Melanie Farley taking the helm of finance, I am sure we can continue Brad's legacy of asset/financial richness and a place of safety so our membership can sail in confidence and enjoy Lake Eildon with your family and friends.

To close off I have 4 sincere messages:

- **Simon Cox.** A legacy club member, whose parents laid foundation stones. Simon not only has been a welcome addition to our Board, with insight and support, but on a personal level – literally saved Serena Z from fire, something truly appreciated to the depths of my heart.
- **Ric and Steph** have been a mainstay for our club, whilst Boards change and members come and go, we have enjoyed the best part of 7 years of stability under their engagement. It is not without support that they managed our club so well, but when all is said

and done, they lived it – through summer, winter, a full club and at times a very isolated one. I personally am grateful for their loyalty and their friendship and wish them every happiness as they move on in their lives.

- **Jimmy** has completed a 4 year “apprenticeship” under Ric which has set him up to continue the work and stability we have seen over the last 7 years – the transition could not be better. Jimmy, I know you've got this, but good luck anyway mate.
- **Finally, to Don Atkinson.** I have known you and sat on the board with you for all of my 7 years to date, and I have always found you to be courteous, a mind-trap for our rules and constitution, a collector of innate things that seemingly have value, and a volunteer across your professional and private life – your work with the disabled Tenpin Bowling of particular significance. When looking to watch my Tigers play on my first weekend at Darlingford (I did not have TV or satellite) you invited me onto PAD to watch the Richmond game. You didn't know me, but you bought me in, handed me a green can and placed a doily on the arm of the sofa as a drink coaster. I thank you Donny for your support, and I commend you on your loyalty and service to our club. Happy voyages my friend.

May you all have the wind at your back and the sun on your face.

Safe boating friends.



**Luke Brinksma**  
Chairman/Commodore

## SITE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE - Dec 2024

Hello everybody,

As the weather starts to warm up, I hope everybody is looking forward to spending summer on the lake.

There are a few things that have happened around the club since the last newsletter, so here is a quick overview.

Goulburn Murray Water have been letting water out, at time of writing the lake levels are sitting around mid-80%. I haven't been on the lake for many years, but I am reliably informed that when the lake starts to get to this level, we start to get much better banks to tie up to and enjoy the beauty that the lake provides. So, I am getting excited.

But this does mean that it has been a busy time for Ric, Jimmy, Joey and any number of members that have helped to jump our marinas.

Over the last few months, we have experienced a number of "big blows" that have bent, buckled, twisted and loosened our marinas. Again, I would like to thank Ric and Jimmy in particular, for the work that they have put in to right the marinas and keep our boats safe.

I would also like to acknowledge all the members that responded to the call for assistance after the September winds. It made me very proud to see the strong willing response from our members when it was needed most.



*September's rescue party*

And Joey Nagy and Gary Crump for wading through waste deep water at 3am one Sunday morning as D Marina buckled and a defib sunk into the water.

Thank you one and all.

### A New Site Facilities Manager

#### **CONGRATULATIONS JIMMY!!!**

I take great pleasure in congratulating Jimmy on his appointment as DWBC Site Manager. Jimmy is a wonderful asset to our boat club and an already much-loved member of our DWBC community. Jimmy has now transitioned into the role and can be found in the house on the hill.

I am sure that everybody will welcome and support Jimmy while he puts his own stamp on the role.

### Maintenance Shed

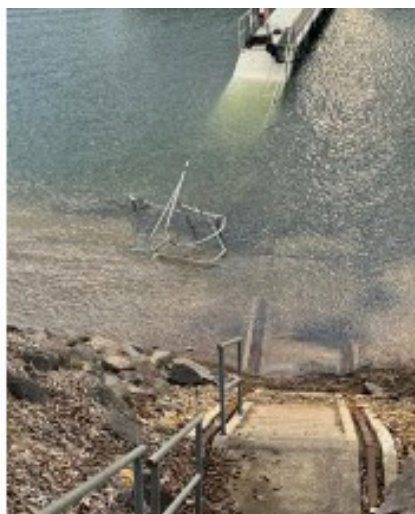
All approvals have finally been received allowing work on the shed to get underway. This has been a massive effort from everybody involved but particularly Stuart Steer and Luke Brinksma.

At the time of writing, excavation works have begun, it is exciting to see progress after so long.

*Continued on page 8*



*B & C Marinas after the September storm*



*D Marina after a bit of wind on 17<sup>th</sup> Nov.*



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## SECRETARY'S REPORT - Dec 2024

*"It does not matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop." - Confucius*

While I may have started this journey feeling uncertain, I've come to realize that every challenge is an opportunity for growth. The knowledge and experience I've gained over the past six months have equipped me to face the future with confidence and optimism.

The last 6 months as Secretary for the Board has been eventful and full of learning, and I know there is plenty more learning to come as we embark on achieving some exciting new developments within the club, some which have been many years in the works. An almost entirely new board of Directors with the exception of Luke and Brett, I am excited to see where this new Board will take the club and the projects we will see completed in the coming year.

Thank you to Donnie for an incredible 17 years dedicated to the board and the club, although we will still see Don around the club, I am sad that I won't see him each month in our board meetings and have him to hold my hand and guide me in the governance of the club and the Board, but 17 years is an extraordinary effort, and we are so lucky to have you Donnie, thank you.

The future of the club continues to look exciting, in the past 6 + months we have welcomed some amazing new members to the club. Thank you to Brod for the great events organised and held for our members and of course Margie who continues to offer her time. It would be great to see more members engaged in events and we hope more members will want to get involved to create a few more fun events for 2025.

It has now been a year in the Secretary role, and I am very grateful to Nicole Powne (Kindred Spirit) for putting her hand up and helping out in the Assistant Secretary role. Thank you Nicole, your involvement and assistance is appreciated more than you know.

We also welcomed Melanie Farley as our new Treasurer, a role that has been vacant since Brad Rogers retired from the board and we are so pleased to have you on the team. With Simon Cox finishing up on the board at the end of his term, we have one vacant general member position on the Board. If you care about the club and want to be part of the decisions that affect its success, we would love to hear from you. Ideally, we would love more member representation from A marina, so if you're interested – we'd love to hear from you.

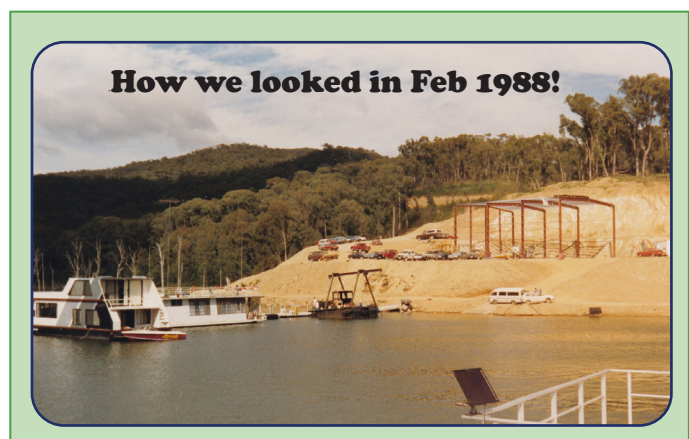
I would also like to sincerely thank Margie Elliott again for the continued support and contribution she gives to the club, although we no longer have an Activities Committee, Margie continues to contribute with managing our Facebook events posts, the magazine and assisting Brod with the few activities we do do and assisting myself and other directors with our Member Communications. An ongoing incredible contribution to DWBC, I don't know if we thank you enough Margie, but we are grateful for you and your love of the club always.

I also want to thank and acknowledge Ric & Steph for their 6 years in the club, I know Matt and Luke will say more, but I wanted to also express my gratitude for your help over the years, supporting Matt in his new role in Site Director and personally in your ongoing advice to help us get our trailer down the ramp, one day, we will manage it on the first go! When we do, we will give you a call to celebrate our success as proper Boaties who actually back a boat down a ramp!

So with the opening quote as inspiration, I continue to learn in this role and I am sure the year ahead will include many more lessons, but as I look back on the last year as I felt overwhelmed and under qualified for the role, I can see how much I have learned along the way. Thank you very much to Luke for your continued support and handholding and thank you to the Board for your support and assurance.



**Megan Taylor**  
Secretary



## SITE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE *continued*

### The Road

Tony Rodis had a meeting with the Forestry Department, GMW in late November with the hope to reenergise the project and look to progress our first goal of getting the first corner fixed. While the meeting was positive and was well represented by all parties, the quest for action continues to be drawn out. Everybody remains committed, but budgets and funding continue to be a sticking point.

### Member Barges

The Board is currently working through some changes with the insurance and liability on all the club barges. At the General Meeting held in November, and in order to be able to allow members to continue to use the members' barges, a motion was tabled and past. The motion *"members driving the barges being responsible for damage caused to any property while driving the barges"*. The motion was passed unanimously by all members in attendance. The exact wording of the motion can be found in the minutes from the General Meeting should anybody be interested.

As a postscript to information provided at the general meeting and as a result of continued discussions, the Board have unanimously voted that while discussions

around insurance and liability remain ongoing, members' barges *should not be used for recreational purposes* (booze cruises, site outside the immediate area of the club, etc.). A communication will be sent to members confirming this.

### Defibs and Fire boxes

Brod Helmers has recently refitted fire boxes to each marina and defibs on the top of the boxes at the start of each marina. Unfortunately, during the most recent windstorm, as mentioned above we lost the Defib from D Marina. We will replace it but will need to look for a more suitable place to put it.

We are hoping to have a demonstration of how to operate the defibs at Darlingford Day. In the meantime, a video link was sent to all members that demonstrates how to use them should you need to.

I look forward to seeing everybody on the water.



**Matt Taylor**  
Site Director

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Summertime. Oh, I love summertime!

The year has certainly ended with many changes for our club – several changes on the Board (Luke's Report will tell you all about that), Ric & Steph deciding to take life easier, especially for Ric, embarking on a sea change, (see pages 9 & 12), and we welcome Jimmy as our new Facility Manager (you can read a bit about Jimmy on page 13).

We have two new advertisers for this issue. *"Kiwifit Blinds & Awnings"* and *"Marlin Signs"* – thanks for your support, Peter and Lance. Check them out if you need new blinds/awnings or signage – they come highly recommended!

Brod Helmers is trying very hard to keep the 'activities' alive but he needs help. Please! *The Jet Ski/Boat ride to Bonnie Doon* is on

18<sup>th</sup> January and has been a fantastic day out for the past 2 years so make sure it is on your summer calendar. There are plans for a *Viking themed Darlingford Day* on 15<sup>th</sup> Feb (see page 18 for preliminary information). However, that will only happen with support from the wider membership and people stepping up to help Brod. The day out at *"Alexandra Cup"* on 15<sup>th</sup> March is also planned again. That is always a fun day as well. So, thank you Brod!

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this issue, it is very much appreciated. Particularly, David Cox (Shilo) who has written an article on Lithium Batteries (pages 27&29) which should be of interest to anyone thinking about upgrading old lead, AGM or Calcium batteries.

Finally, thank you Ric & Steph for always being supportive and generous, not only with your contributions to the magazine (a final word from them is on page 9) but your time, commitment to our club and more importantly, friendship. You will both be missed very much. Enjoy that salt air!

I wish everyone a merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year on the water.



**Margie Elliott**  
Editor

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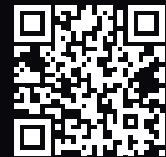
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## A FINAL WORD FROM RIC AND STEPH

Hello everyone,

Well, who would have thought it's been just over six years since we started at Darlingford. We settled in very quickly although it did take us a while to work out how this place ticked! I had members telling me how things should be done while others told me to 'do things your way' - and I soon learnt to 'do it my way' which turned out to be a good thing, and I was able to teach a younger Jimmy the right way to go about it along the way. I can remember when we started here not knowing anyone at all but now, it's with tears in our eyes that we leave, as we have so many friends we are saying goodbye to.

So, this is our last Darlingford magazine. We can honestly say it's been a fantastic

experience living and working up here in this beautiful part of the world. The members have been a pleasure to get to know and so very supportive of us over the past 6 years, especially as we have been faced with health challenges.



*Thank you Ric & Steph.*

There are too many people to thank but you know who you are, and we thank you all sincerely. However, we must say a very special thank you to Luke Brinksma, Site Director and now Chairman during our 6 years, for all your support and having our backs when needed. You have been awesome. A big thank you to Jimmy, we wish you well and are sure you will do a great job as the new FM.

We move on to our next life challenges but are looking forward to new life experiences as we embrace our sea change.

Thankyou, Darlingford Waters Boat Club, for the good fun, great memories, and making this an amazing experience.

***Cheers, Ric and Steph***



# KIWIFIT BLINDS & AWNINGS



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## OUR NEW TREASURER - MELANIE FARLEY



As your new Treasurer, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Melanie Farley and myself, husband Peter, and 3 children have been members of Darlingford since the early 2000s. The club has been an important part of our children's summers and now plays a similar

role for our 5 grandchildren. We are located on Marina D, on *Destiny*.

When the Board put out an urgent call for a Treasurer, I decided that it was important to support the club by offering to take on this role. Brad and the Board have been very supportive of me whilst I find my feet. I am currently employed as a Business Manager at a primary school and feel that I will be able to contribute to the financial running of the club, once I get my head around all that is required.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the club and on the lake.

## OUR NEW ASSISTANT SECRETARY - NICOLE POWNE



My husband Steve, kids Darcy (24) and Jess (22) and I joined DWBC late in 2018.

I am a relative newcomer to houseboating, however, Steve's family joined the Eildon Boat Club in the early 70's on Chinook, the houseboat built by his dad Roger.

While Chinook is no longer in the family, we've heard fantastic stories of the good times they enjoyed and was

not surprised when Steve eventually wanted our family to buy a houseboat.

*This'l Do* was our first houseboat on Marina B and in 2023 we sold and purchased *Kindred Spirit*. We are all enjoying the experience, whether it be as a weekend escape from the city or sharing it with family and friends. We are certainly grateful to be in the club and I look forward to being more involved as Assistant Secretary.



## DEFIBRILLATORS INSTALLED

New Fireboxes, complete with Defibrillators, have been installed at the start of each marina.

The DEFIB is quite simple to use;

1. pull the door and an alarm will sound
2. unpack the Defib from its casing
3. turn the unit on and follow the visual and verbal instructions given by the machine.

For more information go to:

<https://www.victorchang.edu.au/aed>

## FAREWELL RIC AND STEPH

In order to welcome Jimmy as our new Site Facilities Manager, we have to farewell our existing Site Facilities Manager Ric.

In farewelling Ric, we also say farewell to Steph.

Over the last 7 years, Ric and Steph have formed a formidable duo. Building strong positive relationships with everybody they have met both within the club and within the local community.

The Darlingford Waters Boat Club has run like clockwork with them at the helm. Through rising and falling water levels, ever changing weather, in the height of summer and the depth of winter and through uncertain Covid times. The one thing that all members have been able to rely on and trust is that Ric and Steph have had our best interests at heart.

Personally, Ric is the only Site Manager I've known. Over that time, I have learned a lot, received some tough love, shared quite a few laughs and even given him a cheeky cuddle. I value everything that Ric has given and done for me personally and feel that my experience would be reflective of what Ric has given to everybody in the club.

They say that behind every good man is a strong woman. You can probably see where this is going. Steph has been better than strong and has always been a calm considered influence on everything that happens around our club and in the local community. I think it is a credit to Steph that when I think of the Site Manager role I think of Ric and Steph, not just Ric. Steph has brought attributes that have perfectly complimented everything that Ric has done. And I don't think

that the gardens around DWBC would be anywhere near as attractive without Steph's oversight and influence, which I think we are all going to miss.

For a good portion of his time as part of our community, Ric has been battling health issues. It is the right time to step away from this sometimes physically demanding role and focus on regaining health and of course FISHING!

So, I think that it is safe to say that we are really going to miss having Ric and Steph around the club, but I would like to wish them well. The front gate will always be open and welcome them both back to their DWBC community, anytime they want to visit.

Thank you, good luck and we will miss you.

**Matt Taylor**



*We bid you fond farewell, Ric & Steph.*



*Last drinks at '501!...for now!*



*Cheerios from the Walter family.*

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

- 9/12/24 - 89.95%
- 9/12/23 - 98.45%
- 9/12/14 - 79.67%
- 9/12/04 - 43.60%

**Have you joined our  
private Facebook group?**

**"DWBC Members" for  
members & family only.**

**Join to keep informed.**

**Hey dog owners, PLEASE  
pick up your dog poop.**

**Heaps seen around the  
marina entrances.**

**NOT COOL!**

## A LITTLE BIT ABOUT OUR NEW FACILITY MANAGER JAMES "JIMMY" BIRCH

Hello members, you all know me from my trips up and down the marinas and supporting Ric for the last 5½ years.

I was born in Melbourne where I schooled until Year 10 when we moved to Flowerdale and then to Molesworth. I left school at 16 and started working in the Vineyards at Molesworth. Following this I started working in Yark with fruit (peaches, cherries etc) when I was about 18.

In my 20's I had multiple jobs; at Taggerty Clearscreen Olives including in a Café (The old Woolshed Café) as the facilities and maintenance person whilst maintaining 30 thousand Olive trees; at Dinkum Sheds as an installer; and had my own business in property maintenance. My late 30's and early 40's saw me working at Alex Hospital as the general maintenance and grounds maintenance man. Next,

I hooked up with Paul Webb and got my first introduction to houseboats



Welcome Jimmy

helping with all manner of houseboat maintenance. In 2018 I started at DWBC helping Ric with the day to day running and maintenance of our club.

I am a North Melbourne supporter, I enjoy fishing, speed boating, car restoration, music and trying to relax. I have an aging Mum and Dad locally, am single and I love my work.

I'd like to travel around Australia, perhaps venture down to Tassie at some point. And if anyone wants to tow me, I like to kneeboard....

I'm very much looking forward to starting my new role, making a new home and seeing you all around the Club.

Cheers!

Jimmy

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# AFL Grand Final Day



Ben checking out the lolly station



The crew from Devils Playground



Summer C, Summer W, River C, River W, Reed C from Devils Playground



Stuie & Steph



Denise & Julie



Joe & Donny



Michelle & Madison



Warm welcome from Luke

# Better than the Footy!



**Margie & Joey**



**Julie, Neil, Alison & Kirsty**



**Great work Marcia & Brod!**



**Shelle & Joe celebrated their 33rd wedding anniversary too. Cheers!**



**Peter & Brod**



**Budge & Calvin**



**Di, Kirsty & Mary**



**Jamie & Andrea and friends**



**Brod & Thomas**



**Alison Brinksma**



**Double trouble for sure**

## SAIL PAST SALUTES

"WELCOME TO SAIL PAST. MAY YOU HAVE THE WIND AT YOUR BACK, THE SUN ON YOUR FACE, AND YOU AND YOUR FAMILY HAVE A SAFE SUMMER OF BOATING. ARRR AARRGH!"

This was the greeting extended by the Commodore as he cloned Captain Sparrow for his debut Sail Past Salute.

This year it was a scaled back event focusing solely on the tradition of "sailing past the Commodore".

Our Commodore, Chairman Luke Brinksma, who is a champion of tradition, was found floating (in his houseboat) at the 5-knot zone in Jerusalem Creek between 9-10am. This was the perfect opportunity for his 'subjects' to sail past (in houseboat, ski boat, jet ski, pontoon boat & dingy) giving Luke their finest salutes!

Captains of vessels were invited to dress as their best captain (of whatever) and compete for the glory of being the best.

Captain Jack decided that Captain Brown deserved that accolade.



*Captain Sparrow saluting his "hearties" as they salute him!*



*Captain David & first mate Karen*



*Captain Commodore ready & waiting...*



*Mark Ford saluting the Commodore*





*The roll call on "D Marina" as they ready to set sail*



*Arrrgh me hearties!*



*David & Mark*



*YKnot salute*



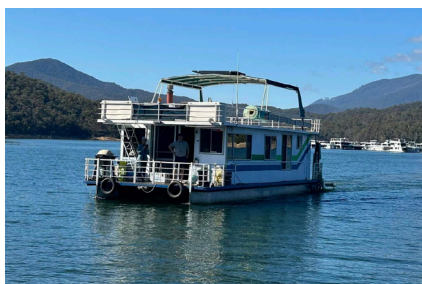
*A salute from a Rubber Duckie*



*Joey claiming to be Captain Noosa*



*Commodore & crew pirating the high seas!*



*Taurus II salute*



*Wizard Salute*



*Captain Gav*



*Captain Hula salutes on Eveningskye*



*Captainless Noosa boat salute*

DWBC Social presents Darlingford Day 2025

# Midsummer Festival

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 2025**

- **Thor Safety (in the morning)**
- **Longboat Races**
- **Loki's Raid (colour run)**
- **Freya's Shield Painting**
- **Odin's Feast in Valhalla Hall** (*dinner in the big shed*)
- **Best dressed Viking (adult and youth)**
- **Best Shield Maiden (adult and youth)**

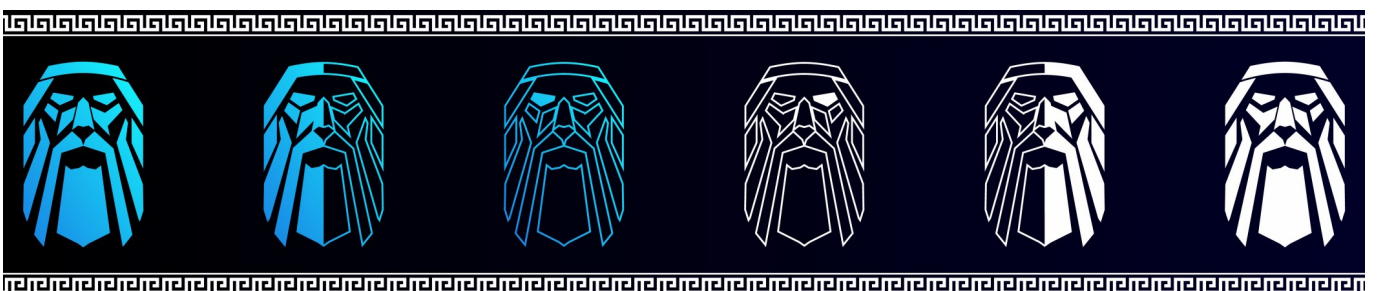
*To make this event work we need your support: in attendance; assistance in setting up, dressing up, pulling down; and running the day's activities.*

*Please direct all enquiries to **Brod Helmers (Binalong) 0418537808**. He is a one-man band at the moment and needs your help!*

*Please note that there will be a cost to members for the Odin's Feast (yet to be determined).*

*Further details will be shared closer to the date.*

[social@darlingford.com.au](mailto:social@darlingford.com.au)



## EILDON COMMUNITY CHARITY GOLF DAY 2024

This annual event was held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November and this year we had 15 attendees. Our golf day started well with breakfast at the golf club and a lot of banter before the start.

Greg, Gary, Ben and Andrew played in a group, and they put big money on themselves. Gary & Andrew won easily over Greg & Ben!

It was a hot day, but we survived with plenty of refreshments around the course plus lunch and dinner were provided. A few balls were lost on

course and in the dams – must have been the heat. I got the straightest drive, it was a fluke, but we missed out on the major prizes and didn't do too good in the raffles this year.

Overall, it was a great day, and the golf club really appreciated our support.

**Stuart Steer**

*(Stu, I really appreciate that you remembered the group photo this year. Thanks mate! Ed.)*



DWBC was well represented at the golf day once again.



The awesome foursome, Andrew, Ben, Gary & Greg - well two of them were!



Who did it better?



**It's on again – the Jet Ski / Boat Ride to Bonnie Doon.**

**Saturday 18th January 2025**

*More info to follow on socials but refer to Brod Helmers (Binalong, B Marina) if you have any questions.*

[social@darlingford.com.au](mailto:social@darlingford.com.au)

# DARLINGFORD BRIEFS



Bruce Wilson, *Mentto Play*, celebrated his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday in November, with family and friends. Pictured with Bruce are his grandchildren Logan, Mackenzie, Maia and Lana.

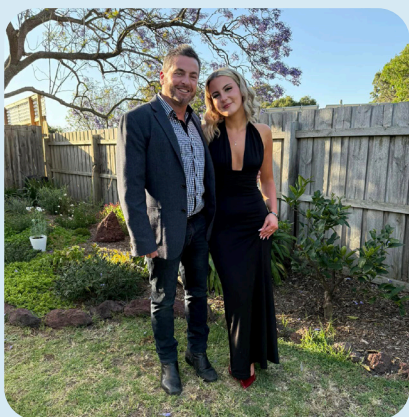


*The tow party in action*

On grand final weekend *Devils Playground* were heading to Kelly Bay when the houseboat steering snapped! Brooke recounts: “*The kids were a little scared to start but we used the jet ski and the speedboat to tow the houseboat to shore. We managed to tie to the shore and kids thought it was hilarious and exciting! We still joined everyone in the shed for the grand final party where the kids had a great time. We ended up getting a push back into the marina by Jimmy (he was great!). The boat has now been fixed and is all ready for Christmas!*”



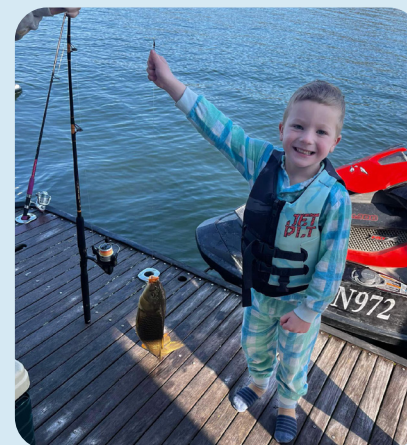
Introducing Ivy Louise Wells born 9/8/2024 to Mikaela & Jack. Another precious grandchild for Anita & Greg Rennie, *Wye Wurrie*. Congratulations to you all!



Year 12 is done and dusted for the class of 2024. One of those is Gabbi McArthur from *Cool Change*. This is Gabbi with her very proud dad, Gavin.



Brad Evans, *Joyrider*, turned 21 on 30<sup>th</sup> October. He celebrated with a party at home on the 26<sup>th</sup> Oct where his mum made a great speech and presented him with his treasured childhood possession, Oggy....well several of them! (That’s a very soft plush toy that Brad just loved way too much to have only one!)



This is Reed from Devils Playground and he’s very happy because he just caught his first fish. Well done, Reed!



Ollie Steer, *Wizard*, played in an Under 16 Boys Div 3 Grand Final on 8<sup>th</sup> September. His team had an unbeaten season and WON the premiership. Dad & mum proudly think they are a bunch of champions, and rightly so! Congratulations Ollie!



She's on the road! Congratulations to Oliva Hill, *Kapalua*, who gained her licence back in June. Safe driving Liv!

# DARLINGFORD BRIEFS



### One monster catch!

Another monster Murray Cod caught off the back of **Working Class**. This time by Jarrod who snared this 90cm beauty on Melbourne Cup weekend, so much better than a carp! (Bit bigger than yours Martin!)



One Ab Matt and his brothers, Greg & Lance - any excuse to play in the rain!

And the signs have gone up. Yes, **Eveningskye** and **Metis** are finally adorned with their names. Only been a wait of two years apparently. Guess that's what happens when the signwriter is in your family!



Water babes, the beautiful Eve & Skye from **Eveningskye**

### Some milestone birthdays to mention...

Tom Miljkovic from **Martini** turned 18 on 14<sup>th</sup> October; Andrea from **Torque** turned 60 on 30<sup>th</sup> November; Mac Saunders, **Working Class**, will be 5 on the 30<sup>th</sup> Dec and he starts school in February.

It's going to be a BIG NEW YEAR'S EVE on **Joyrider** – Sean will be 60! Make some noise!

Happy birthday to you all and everyone else who has a birthday about now.



### An even better monster catch!

This one beats yours Jarrod. Caught off the back of **One More** on D Marina early Dec. 1100mm long! Big effort that. Caught and released.

The Goughs Bay Boat Club has undergone a huge redevelopment and is now operational for summer. They had an unofficial opening in October that saw a large contingent of DWBC members head down to check it out and have a nice coldie on a very warm day. Watch out for the official opening due to be held sometime in January.



Members taking in the view at GBBC



Denise, Di & Judy enjoy a cool drink.



The new look Goughs Bay Boat Club



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## HOPING TO EXIST - DONALD MALCOMBE ATKINSON

*Following Don's retirement from the Board, Luke Brinksma sat down with him for a little chat and he provides the following bio.*

Born on 13/10/1941 to an infantry soldier Archibald, originally from Glasgow who immigrated to Australia in 1912 aged 3, and Olive born 1914 in Maryborough Victoria, "Donny" was the 2<sup>nd</sup> eldest of 4 boys, Phillip (1940 dec.), Donny, Robert (1944), Geoffrey (1949 dec.). From 1947 the family lived in barracks at Seymour in married quarters. The hospital wing (60'x20') they were placed in "required Dad to build the internal walls to form a living home space". Archibald served in the transport division teaching and testing soldiers to drive all motor vehicles, motorbikes, trucks, tanks etc.



*Donny 2nd from right and his brothers*

Olive was a dressmaker, but became a stay-at-home mother once the kids came along as was the thing back then. Donny junior schooled at Seymour State School #547 and High schooled at Seymour High School, matriculating 6th form in 1956 as a prefect. "I was not interested in sport; however I did help with the running races as a marshal and learnt to score for cricket and goal umpire for Footy. I never learned to swim – still can't! We used to have swimming lessons in the Goulbourn River, but I found a shallow section I could walk across and sit on the island in the middle whilst the rest of the class completed their swims - Atkinson being at the start of the alphabet I was always early in the water and the teacher distracted with the rest of the class".

After High School Donny got his first job with Commercial Banking Company Sydney (CBC) in Seymour where he spent about 12 months as a clerk.

1957 brought the family to Preston, where Donny remains to this day in the family home. Around this time Don started work at Sands & McDougall Printers and Stationers (famous for making Invicta exercise books) as a clerk where he remained until 1965.



*Donny's landside home*

1962 bought Tenpin Bowling to Australia, and as an avid reader and interested party to this new sport, Donny purchased shares in Bowling Centres Holdings, whom built the first Bowling Centre in Hawthorn – 20 lanes, which would play 5 per lane – 100 bowlers at a time – Donny paid his 5/- (5 shillings) waited 8hrs for his first bowl and was hooked. This became a regular Sunday event. When the inaugural meeting came up, Donny was invited to join the committee of Coburg Bowl & the National Bowling federation, which formed as the A.T.B.C (Australian Tenpin Bowling Congress). In 1964 Preston Bowl opened and Donny promptly joined the more local club. In 1965 through his membership in A.T.B.C. Donny was invited to join Golden Bowl Camberwell as Assistant Manager and subsequently ran Melbourne Championship bowling events to great success.

Donny's Dad Archibald, passed from a heart attack at home in 1973.

Time passed and in 1980 Donny took a position with National Sporting Body as the National Coaching Director and training lane Inspectors. Bowling lanes

had to comply to 1/40,000" tolerance to be match compliant. Through this role Donny was invited to travel Asia, Europe and America. "On one trip with the National Executive Director, we were to fly to Asia and America. The ED asked me – it's a long flight – if you are happy to pay the difference, we can fly 1st class? "Of course", was my reply and off we went in the lap of luxury". Why recall this story – well, "the leg from London to New York was on Concorde!"

In the late 80's Donny was asked to serve on the board for Disabled Tenpin National Championships as Tournament Director. A role he held for the next 27 years. During this same period The Golden Bowl was decommissioned, and with it the Golden Bowl Sportsmen's Club that Donny had been President of for 50 years was to be wound up. The accrued funds from 20 years of running Bingo was to be distributed to the remaining members, so Donny organised a 28 day around Australia cruise for them, all fares and food covered. In 2011 Donny was recognised by the NSO for participating in 50 consecutive National Tenpin Bowling Championships.



*Tenpin Bowling was a passion*

1999 saw Donny join the ATO call centre as Australia introduced ABN and GST, eventually moving into the superannuation division. Retirement finally found Donny in 2011 at 70

*continued on page 28*

## VEGAS & NEW YORK

In November, Sean, Megan & Breeana Evans from *Joyrider* headed to the USA where Breeana competed in Las Vegas at the Golden Nugget in the Pro Bikini division for the PNBA (Professional Natural Bodybuilding Association) where she came 7th. Great effort Bree!



Breeana in competition mode

After the competition they all headed to New York, where they apparently hunted down all the bakeries to compare the very tempting tasty croissants, doughnuts and other yummy treats and couldn't go past a small icecream cone from Cold Stone!

They did also manage to do and see some of the 'must do New York things' – a Broadway show, 'The Lion King', "which was amazing", the Top of the Rock at the Rockefeller Center, walked over the Brooklyn Bridge, the Statue of Liberty, Roosevelt Island via the cable car which "was like being in a can of Sardines, very squishy", and the 9/11 Memorial, "wow I had shivers just standing near it was so sad". They even rode around Central Park, Megan & Sean opting for an e-bike while Bree used a normal bike. Then they ice skated at Wollman Rink in Central Park. Yes, Megan did eventually get off the edge of the rink while Sean and Bree had no problems skating!



Sean, Megan & Breeana on the ice!



Riding bikes to Central Park

After New York they headed to Canada to see Niagara Falls, which was "wow just wow amazing!" They stayed in a hotel opposite the falls where the view was breathtaking. "I thought New York was cold, but Canada was bloody freezing" says Megan.



At Niagara Falls...wet & cold!

Two days at Niagara Falls was enough, they then headed back to Las Vegas to spend the last 4 nights on 'the strip' and were lucky enough to see the practice for the Formula Ones, see 'Michael Jackson ONE by Cirque Du Soleil' at Mandalay Bay in which "the acrobatics were awesome" and of course, there was more yummy ice cream to finish of their trip!



Just a small icecream!

## Oh No!



Graham & Pat in Mykonos

Well planned travel doesn't always go smoothly. Graham & Pat Arnol from *Kingfisher*, embarked on an exciting winter escape but what happened was definitely not in their plan. Graham shares their experience.

*"Pat and I booked ourselves a month in the Mediterranean with time in Venice and 18 days of cruising the Greek islands amongst other stops. This was our present to ourselves for our 50th wedding anniversary.*

*Three days in Venice then on to the ship. Had a lovely tour of Montenegro then on to Mykonos where we spent a few hours traveling around. Back on board for a late lunch then heading to the coffee shop for just that. Entering the lift foyer Pat tripped over a raised steel door frame and broke her arm in two places. Confined to the cabin for the rest of that cruise and had to cancel the second part of 11 days.*

*Travel insurance flew us home on arrival back in Venice. This was our winter escape! Pat is coming good slowly."*



## ONCE A SAILOR...

A few years back Gary & Neisha (**Out of Reach**) and Kirsty & Brad (**Chit Chat**) planted the seed of a sailing trip in the Whitsundays. Many conversations later and over, let's just say, *a few drinks*, we convinced Greg, Gina, Eve & Skye (**Eveningskye**) and Hilly & Louise from (**Kapalua**) to join us. Our crew set, we prepared to set sail for an adventure of a lifetime. The countdown to 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024 was on.

Now, 8 adults and 2 (of the coolest) kids, confined on a 44-foot catamaran for 7 days, was surely going to test the friendship but, wow what a crew. It was simply the best. Everyone pitched in and the atmosphere was awesome - a week full of laughter, banter (of course), relaxation, exploring, swimming and a drink or two!

Our Catamaran had 4 cabins and 4 bathrooms, allowing each couple to have their own space, the beds were comfy - well for some, just ask Greg! The trampoline net at the front was the place to be, especially as we motored and sailed throughout the islands.

Arriving at Proserpine the weather had a Melbourne feel, RAINING, but by the afternoon the sun was shining, and we then had the best weather for the week, maybe not ideal sailing conditions though, especially after the 4-hour briefing on how to put the sail up and down, but hey, we didn't complain as we were finally sailing a catamaran in the Whitsundays!



*The sailing crew!*

We enjoyed exploring all that the Whitsundays have to offer and found anchorage each night in sheltered coves. So much to see and do that the 7 days just wasn't enough - even with 4 captains and on the move every day. Whitehaven Beach was a highlight. The walk up to the lookout was a great way to stretch out our sea legs and for the girls to burn some energy. Crystal clear waters welcomed us to cool off and enjoy the scenery, but the true highlight was the next morning before all the tourist boats and people arrived, we got the chance to walk around and enjoy the serenity. We literally had it to ourselves.



*On board the Madeline*

### *Our Top 10 talking points:*

1. Being on board the catamaran with the best crew, enjoying all the food and beverages.
2. Marine Life, dolphins, turtles and fish.
3. Navigating the ocean and swell, we all kept our sea legs, but we certainly had to hold on.
4. Exploring the beaches, collecting shells and seeing some very interesting rock artwork, for more info talk to Gina, haha.
5. Restocking at Hamilton Island, the highlight was watching the mayhem entering and exiting the harbor and then being told by the Harbor Master to get out of the Jetstar flight zone - onya Gaz!
6. Hilly's music playlist with Greg and Brad in charge!! Four hours of The Gambler, we ALL used to LOVE that song now let's just say it's not part of the top 10 hits!
7. Drinking Games are S#\*T, Hilly and Lousie you can stick your Hooligans game you know where LOL - to clarify Kirsty AKA Dory just couldn't quite remember that number, poor Brad taking more than a few shots for the team.
8. Hilly and his so-called man beer, which may have contributed to one job that may have been overlooked on occasions "Hilly did you TURN THE ANCHOR LIGHT ON!"

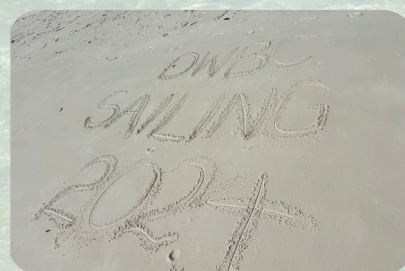
9. BIG FISHING PLANS, so we thought, stocked the "best bait and tackle", the competition on to see who would at least catch something that was edible. Thankfully the ladies prepared for plan B! Not even the local restaurant on the first night could fulfill Hilly's fish requests, that's what happens when you let Greg jump the queue.... Ask Gary how he enjoyed the rear cabin, close enough to the boy's nighttime fishing antics! Oh, and heads up, we learnt you never fish on a FULL MOON guess that explained a lot.

10. SUN SUN SUN, we all know who LOVED that the most - Neisha was in her element.

We all agree it certainly was a week we will never forget, beautiful memories made, lots of laughter and our friendship grew stronger. Will we do it again ABSOLUTELY!

Cumberlin Cumberlin this is Madeline Madeline signing out!

### **The crew!**



## MALTA - THE JEWEL OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

Joe & Mary Falzon, *Weir Wolf*, have recently returned from a wonderful 4-week holiday in beautiful Malta, their homeland, which was a 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary gift to themselves. They were married on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 1974 at St Leo's Church, North Altona. So, congratulations to you both! Here's some happy snaps and info from Joe!

Joe says "Malta is known as the Jewel of the Mediterranean with history that goes back thousands of years, well before the pyramids. People go to Malta from all over the world just to experience its ancient beauty."



Mary standing in front of Birgu Candles in the heart of Malta. It is owned by an English couple who came here for a holiday loved it and stayed. There is a yearly Birgu By Candlelight, which is a festival of light that illuminates the winding medieval streets with the gentle glow of thousands of candles. It's beautiful.



Welcome back, just arrived at Malta airport - 50 years wed! ♥



The largest prop I have ever seen! Imagine having one like this on the houseboat, Ronnie! 😊



Cannons facing the Grand Harbour, or Port of Marsa, which are fired every day at noon.

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## LITHIUM BATTERIES EXPLAINED

*(Submitted by David Cox, houseboat Shilo, A Marina )*

Are you considering upgrading your old lead acid, AGM or Calcium batteries to Lithium Iron Phosphate (LiFePo4)? If so, there is important information that you need to know.

Let's start with what LiFePo4 means, it's the chemistry name of the minerals that the cells are made from. Li: Lithium, Fe: Iron, Po4: Phosphate

Not all Lithium batteries are the same, there's A or B grade, 2000, 4000, 6000 cycle and then there are pouch, cylindrical and prismatic cells, passive and active balancers, series/parallel, Bluetooth, Inverter and PC connectivity.

The question is, what do you really need?



12V, 300Ah Lithium battery in a plastic case.

Pouch cells are compact and are great at fitting in confined spaces, but fragile when not in their casing and they also have a shorter cycle life, mostly between 500 and 1000 cycles. They are mainly used in mobile phones, tablets and EV's, etc. However,



12V, 300Ah Lithium battery in a metal case. This is the same performance as in the plastic case, it's just a little more robust.



An AGM battery melt down. I am unaware of the cause but it's likely a charging issue. This just highlights that all batteries can fail when not adequately protected. A quality Lithium battery's BMS helps to protect itself from failure.

some companies use them in their storage batteries as they are cheaper to manufacture.

Prismatic and cylindrical cells are more robust, have better thermal qualities and have a longer cycle life. B grade cells may be second hand or just not perform as they should and can be around 2,000 – 3,000 cycles. A grade cells have been manufactured to a higher specification and can be in excess of 8,000 cycles. Prismatic cells are more common, they can be cylindrical but are usually rectangular shaped and are more easily packaged into a battery case.

Now let's explain cycle life. A full cycle is from fully charged to a fully discharged state and in reality, this doesn't occur very often. So, for example;

If you have a 100Ah LiFePo4 battery that was only discharged by 20Ah and then recharged to its full state again, then you could do this 5 times before one full cycle has occurred. Therefore, cycle life is conditional to the individual application and how deeply the battery is discharged. There is a real chance that a quality LiFePo4 battery may last longer than we will.

Let's get technical. Most LiFePo4 batteries are made up of individual cells, for example in a 12V battery there are 4 and they have a nominal voltage of 3.2V each. A 24V battery

has 8 cells and so on.... And it is critical that these cells are all charged correctly. Their voltage needs to be the same to get optimal performance from the battery, this is called balancing and is controlled down to just a few millivolts.

Every LiFePo4 battery needs to be controlled by an electronic device called a Battery Management System, or BMS as it is commonly referred to and this not only balances the cells, but also monitors charge and discharge voltages and currents. It is what protects the cells from extreme temperature, overcharge and discharge, etc.

There are mainly two types of BMS and these are either passive or active balancing. Balancing occurs as the battery nears its full state of charge and is controlled down to about 10mv, most passive balancers will struggle to achieve this low tolerance and some may not even achieve a balance at all. This will affect battery performance and its life.

LiFePo4 battery performance is controlled by its lowest voltage cell. So, a poorly performing cell will affect the whole batteries performance.



BMS monitor to view battery status. This is an option on some Lithium Batteries

To series, or not to series - this is a good question.

With lead acid and AGM batteries you would always series smaller voltage high-capacity cells to achieve your desired voltage and parallel was problematic and shouldn't be done.

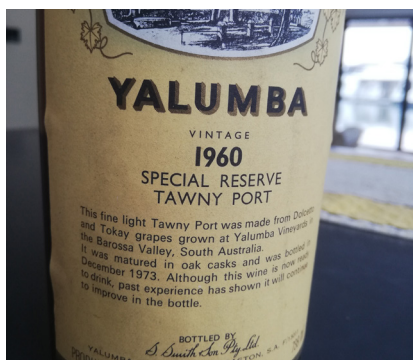
continued on page 29

## HOPING TO EXIST - DONALD MALCOMBE ATKINSON cont'd

Continued from page 23

years of age. He bought a 27' 5th wheeler and travelled to Darwin for 3 months of the Melbourne winter for the next 10 years

1964 was the Japan summer Olympics, and 3 of Donny's friends learned to water ski whilst holidaying. On their return they convinced Donny to join them in buying a run-a-bout, and on Pikes Reservoir Victoria they learned to ski followed by a BBQ at the Plough Inn, Melton on the way home. Soon finding better locations like Metcalf Pool on the Bendigo Road, and eventually Lake Eildon. "2 Long necks per mate" looked after the thirst in those days. "During Easter we would hire an 8-berth houseboat and skiing and drinking was our lot." As they improved their skiing so did their thirst, and it was decided a more permanent arrangement was required to accommodate the drinking (so's not to drive drunk) so Donny and 3 of his mates purchased a caravan and had it placed at Eildon Caravan Park. 1976 saw Donny and another friend purchase an unnamed houseboat, subsequently named PAD (Pissed and Drunk), but very soon after, the friend found love and Don bought out his mate's share and was the proud owner of PAD (#1) a 47'x16' boat located at Jews. Donny entered the newly formed Lake Eildon Recreational Club (along with DWBC Life member Stuart Steer) and found mooring on a swing moor where the current poo barge is located. When DWBC formed



A life of collecting gems

the water level was such the marinas needed to push out and Don was in the way – he was therefore invited to take a marina and soon after (2000) purchased his marina pen for \$17000, \$500 joining fee and a \$160 sub fee?? The lease was \$2400 p/a. In 2009 Maurie Callinan invited Donny to join the board, and in his 1st year he was elevated to Vice Chairman holding that position for 7 years. In 2018 Donny took on the portfolio of Insurance and in 2010 also found a new role as Iceman.

Donny has achieved 2 x W.O.M.A.N (walking of marina at night) awards, the first whilst mopping his back deck and becoming tangled in the mop. The 2nd he does not recall.....



A W.O.M.A.N. award in 2008

He was also the recipient of our Delia Award in 2016.



2016 Delia Award

Donny dated a few times in his early life, but never found "the one" and many night shifts limited his social availability.



The mythical silver bullion – sold to buy the electric car

2009 Olive (Mum) passed away in a Nursing home at the ripe old age of 95

When asked what his greatest joy has been, Donny answered "Meeting so many lovely people from so many varied backgrounds. Peter and Mark are my life best friends, both of whom I met at the Golden Bowl"

When asked what's next, I nearly wet myself (and found the title to this bio) when Donny very matter of factly stated "I simply wish to continue to exist".

"I don't drink at home as there is no one to limit the intake. My Knees are failing me, but otherwise I am in good health."

When I asked Don what advice he would give anyone he replied: "Enjoy your friendships, I have a certificate from the Baxter and Steer families that says they adopted me. Friendship is everything."

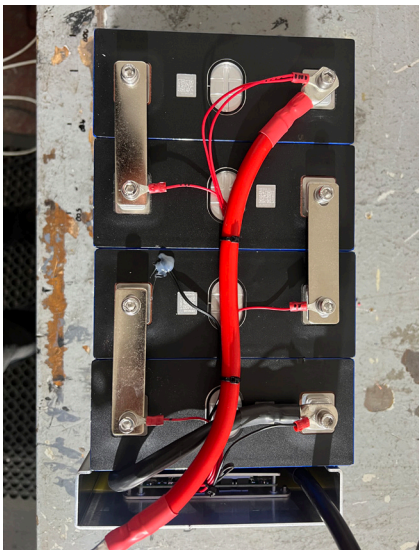


2017 Shed dance B&W theme

## LITHIUM BATTERIES EXPLAINED con'td

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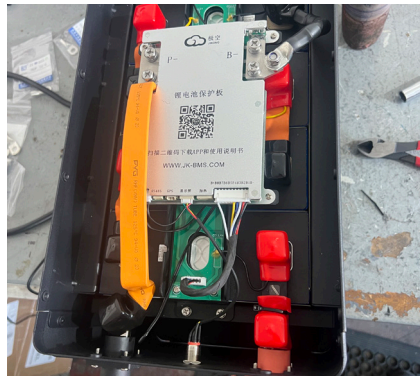
One poor performing battery will affect them all. But with LiFePo4 it's the opposite and batteries can be paralleled, this is due to the electronic BMS that is integral to all LiFePo4 batteries.



Lithium cells connected in series to make 12V, an active BMS is on the end.

So, you can parallel them to increase your amp hour capacity and some batteries will link together with a data cable as well as to your inverter for even more accurate discharging, charging and monitoring of the batteries.

Communication, do we need it? It's great to see the state of your batteries and knowing whether you need to 'actively' do something about their



BMS mounted on top of the cells in a metal case

state of charge. Most BMS's will tell you accurately how many amp hours have been used and how many are left, along with cycle life and some other useful information.

Most Inverters these days will link electronically with a quality BMS and this helps to maintain and charge the battery as efficiently as possible. Bluetooth monitoring can be a convenient way to view the battery status, but only while you are in range.

So how safe are LiFePo4 batteries? By now everyone has heard that Lithium batteries can catch fire. This is true, but it is most likely a Lithium-Ion battery that has done this, these can be found in toys like hoverboards, scooters, ebikes, vapes and some EV cars, etc.

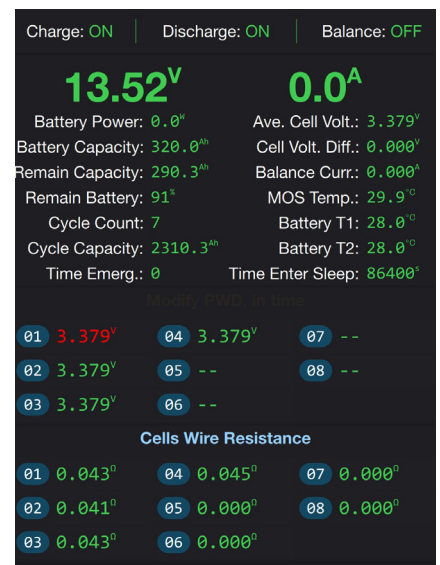
Most importantly it is a fact that all batteries can be dangerous, they have enormous amounts of stored energy and in fact I have experienced a lead acid battery that exploded in front of

me. This was quite scary and covered me in sulfuric acid.

Lithium Ion is not LiFePo4 and LiFePo4 is more stable and deemed to be much safer than Lithium Ion. A LiFePo4 batteries BMS has safety features like temperature sensing, maximum charge and discharge current as well as voltage protection. This not only helps protect the battery from damage, it helps to make it safer.

I hope this helps you make an informed decision before considering upgrading to a LiFePo4 battery

**For more information, please call Dave on 0408 337 195**



A screen shot of a Blue Tooth connection to a BMS of a Lithium Battery. Not all batteries will have this feature.



You have probably all seen the newly upgraded **EILD Fuel Barge** on the socials recently, but if not - here it is!

It's fully automated - just swipe your card and grab your fuel. As they say - Easy. Convenient.

Open to the public for on water fuelling from **6am-8:30pm every day of the year.**

# DWBC STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE (Dec 2024)

As we welcome new Directors and farewell those who have served us well, we also enter our final 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.”

- Continuing to work with GMW to confirm an ETA to complete concrete of the first bend on the Jerusalem Creek Road, we have been advised that funds have been set aside to complete this, now it's just waiting for it to be done – watch this space!
- Completed with a few modifications a new wash barge, with many thanks to the members who have supported us on this project, it's been great to see it get plenty of use in the last few months.
- 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, excavation to commence very soon, great to see this first step underway. Thank you to Stuart Steer for his assistance and tireless efforts to see this project through to fruition.
- 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
- Defibrillators on all 4 Marinas atop improved fire boxes

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

- The new website launched in May 2024, great to see our beautiful club so well represented and a great tool for our members to use to download forms etc.
- Purchased snake bite kits for every houseboat – please ensure you have yours
- Regular communication to members including welcoming new members
- Sail Past - welcoming a new boating season and saluting our new Chairman, Luke Brinksma
- Member representation on the GWS working parties, thanks to Tony Rodis for his efforts
- Club Sponsorship to several community groups including Alexandra Country Races, Eildon CFA, Eildon Primary School and Eildon Golf club.

## 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

OUR  
VALUES



**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**

- Inboard, Outboard, Sterndrive servicing & repairs
- Sales of New and Used:
  - Engines
  - Generators
  - Boats
  - Trailers
- Water Sports accessories & PFD's
- Safety Gear
- Large range of Marine and Deep Cycle Batteries
- Fibre glassing parts and accessories
- Pontoon and Deck Paint range
- Storage Sheds
- All your boat needs in one showroom

### PLEASURE CRAFT INSURANCE AGENTS



**CLUB**  
**MARINE**  
INSURANCE



**MERCURY**  
*Finance & Insurance*

**SUMMER OPENING HOURS**  
**MON-FRI: 8am – 5pm**  
**SAT: 9am – 1pm**  
**SUN: CLOSED**  
**PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 9am – 1pm**  
**CLOSED: XMAS, BOXING & NY DAYS**

### SERVICE AGENTS

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

### SALES AGENTS

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



**MERCURY**