

SOUTH GIPPSLAND YACHT CLUB

INVERLOCH

Classic

**WOODEN
DINGHY**

REGATTA



Australia Day Weekend

25, 26 and 27 January 2014

South Gippsland Yacht Club Commodore

Nearly 12 months ago Wayne, Andrew and Marion put forward the concept of a regatta that would couple together dinghies and Inverloch's maritime and sailing history. Well I have to admit at that time I didn't think it would fly. As time went by and more and more organisations, like the Lions and Rotary Clubs and Historic Society and individuals from Inverloch and Melbourne got involved and their enthusiasm became contagious. Businesses like RACV Resort Inverloch and Alex Scott & Staff grasped the idea and shared the enthusiasm and like many others I started to see and understand more about Inverloch's seaside and sailing history.

It was great to receive encouragement for the Regatta from the many sailing organisations that were not directly involved and the description of the Regatta and newsletter were posted on websites around the world.

An enormous amount of work went into preparing for the Regatta but it was always going to be at the mercy of tides, currents, expanse of sandy beach and weather. When the weekend finally arrived we were blessed with ideal conditions and it was a wonderful sight to see the Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta transfer from a vision into reality over the Australia Day Weekend.

Highlights for me were club members working cooperatively to get the place arranged for the handling of boats, assisting the visiting sailors and spectators and putting together the social atmosphere. It is difficult to list all of the people and the work they did to make the Regatta the success that it was but I can't fail to mention the considerable non stop effort that Di Grimmond put into catering over the three days. This was recognised by all the visitors who made special mention when they had a chance.

The array of wooden dinghies that turned up was amazing and it was a chance for club members to view museum standard historic sailing boats on the beach and on the water. I don't recall seeing so many sailors enjoying every moment of the Regatta and we are still receiving thanks and congratulatory notes about the Regatta.

South Gippsland Yacht Club members have got good reason to be proud of what was achieved. We need to work toward the next Regatta and step up to the challenges of working within the wider community.

I've set myself an additional task of finding a wooden dinghy in need of restoration.

Congratulations to everyone who made it happen.



Ian Jones Commodore

South Gippsland Yacht Club

Outline of the Australia Day Weekend

The Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta was about displaying wooden sailing dinghies, many of which were once common but are now becoming rare. It is hoped that by focusing on the beauty of the wood crafting and rigging of these boats people will appreciate them more fully and participate in their conservation and restoration.

The Regatta for classic dinghies was held in Inverloch and sailing took place on Anderson Inlet. On Sunday boats were displayed on the beach before the classic dinghy race and on Monday in 'The Glade', a park adjoining the yacht club compound.

We thank Cr Jordan Crugnale for her support, the Bass Coast Shire Council and Council staff who grasped the concept enthusiastically. They provided funds, made display space available in 'The Hub', made flag poles available, did promotion work, cleared the access track to the boat ramp, gave us approval to control the public carpark adjoining the yacht club and made 'The Glade' available for the display of boats.

We look forward to working with them on the Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta to be held over the Australia Day Weekend 2015 for which planning has already commenced.

The Setting



The Boats





The link to the DVD Purchase information - <http://driftmedia.com.au/2014/02/03/inverloch-classic-wooden-dinghy-regatta/>

The Historic Classics The 16 Footers



'Coer d' Feu' Circa 1960



'Little Bill 2' circa 1938

For more about the history of 16 footers go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xr8kd76lO3g> . I think this lady skipper would be happy to get a Marine Timbers epoxy wood repair kit as a dinner seat prize.

Major Restorations

Jolly Boat



12 Sq Metre – Heavy Weight Sharpie



The Display in 'The Glade'



Some of the People





Alex Scott & Staff

Alex Scott and Staff wholeheartedly support this regatta and have given a major sponsorship commitment to the South Gippsland Yacht Club for Inverloch to be the place for the display and sailing of authentic classic wooden dinghies.

Classic Wooden Dinghy Race Results

- First** Tony Rogers skipper, Bernard Eade and Hugh Turner sailing Zigzag - Jolly Boat 106
- Second** Gordon Syme skipper, Tadhg Syme sailing Annie – Rainbow 75
- Third** Stephen Fankhauser skipper, Steve Edwards and Tony Quirke sailing Cheyenne – 12 Sq M



Alex Scott and Staff, BJS Insurance Brokers and Yachtmaster Sailing School supplied the regatta tee shirts which were a hit with all the Regatta entrants-most wearing their tees all weekend. They are a nice collector's item from the inaugural regatta and there are still a few available for sale from the club.

Caps provided by Alex Scott and Staff were also worn over the weekend.

Classic Wooden Dinghy Award Winners



Tony Siddon's 1934 16 ft skiff 'Little Bill 2'.
Rotary Club Plaque and UK Halsey kit bag for
Best Dinghy in Original Condition



Stephen Fankhauser's restored 12 Sq Metre 'Cheyenne'
Rotary Club Plaque and UK Halsey kit bag for
Best Presented Dinghy



John Clayton & John Spangaro's restored Jolly Boat 'Catherine Lucy'
Rotary Club Plaque and UK Halsey kit bag for
Best Presented Sailing Boat



Andrew Chapman's circa 1960 restored Moth 'Blondie'
Rotary Club Plaque and UK Halsey kit bag for **Best Moth in Original or Restored Condition**



Antony Perri's home built Whitehall design clinker sailing boat 'Jezebel'.
Lions Club of Inverloch and District Perpetual Trophy for **Best Overall Wooden Boat**



Rotary Club of Inverloch
Classic Wooden Dinghy Youth Trophy
Awarded to Abbey Argus-Smith for sailing a VJ over the Summer Season



Port Melbourne Yacht Club says Thanks for the Hospitality on behalf of visitors



Lions Club Best Overall Wooden Boat Perpetual Trophy
After **Ken Aly** President of Inverloch and District Lions Club handed the crafted trophy commissioned by them to **Commodore Ian Jones**. Ian Jones, following the advice of the **judging panel** led by **Toby Leppin** awarded Antony Perri's boat 'Jezebel' to be the **Best Overall Boat for 2014**.

The Classic Wooden Dinghy Photo



The Classic photo of the Classic Regatta - 12 Sq Metre and Fireball
Photographer Grace Biram



RACV Inverloch Resort played a major role by providing a function room and catering for the 'Poster Launch'. In addition to displaying the posters for the first time it was an opportunity for the Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Committee, Sub Committee of the South Gippsland Yacht Club, to meet with the Inverloch business community and discuss the vision of a regatta that combined genuinely historic dinghies with Inverloch's seaside history.



Inverloch Community Branch Bank, Bendigo Bank recognised that the Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta was an event that was joined into the Inverloch business and wider community and so supported the event by funding the regatta flags that were displayed up to and throughout the event. This alerted the community to the event and was a welcoming sign for the visiting sailors.



Marion Chapman's poster set transferred the vision of a sailing regatta coupled with Inverloch's seaside history into a visual reality. When people saw the posters they started to reminisce about their town's history and their part in it. New comers to the town were not aware of the uniqueness of this little seaside town- and now they are. Businesses saw the posters and responded without hesitation. Posters are retailed through the yacht club, Inverloch Newsagency, Serious Surf Stuff and Southern Bazaar and the yacht club receives a portion of the sales.

What People Thought



Lions Club of Inverloch & District Inc.

Wow ! what a great event the Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta was for both the community of Inverloch and the organisers, the South Gippsland Yacht Club. The Lions Club of Inverloch & District was a proud partner of the inaugural event and as such provided the perpetual trophy for the best presented wooden boat. Our club also had a representative member on the committee leading up to the event and will endeavour to do so for future years.

The event itself did Inverloch proud and will gain momentum as the years progress to attract more participants and their magnificent wooden boats. It is a unique event for this area that showcases part of the history of sailing on Anderson's Inlet.

Our club is proud to be associated with the South Gippsland Yacht Club and congratulate them for providing an event that will continue to capture the nostalgia for many years. We are sure it will be the springboard to coax "yachties" to dust off their wooden boats hidden away in sheds and bring them to Inverloch each year.

Well done South Gippsland Yacht Club.

**Ken Aly,
President
Lions Club of Inverloch & District Inc.**

Rotary Club of Inverloch

Inverloch Rotary was truly excited to hear about the South Gippsland Yacht Club's decision to celebrate the beautiful and historic wooden dinghies at an Annual Regatta. When the SGYC asked whether we would participate in the weekend, our Club's agreement to get involved was unanimous and immediate. The Club saw the Yacht Club as an important community organisation, in that it promoted a family and friendly environment.

As a town located near the water, we also saw the Regatta as a wonderful opportunity to celebrate and remember Inverloch & South Gippsland's history. We were delighted to assist with trophies and other assistance.

Inverloch Rotary congratulates the Yacht Club on the great success of the weekend and wishes the South Gippsland Yacht Club well for its activities and future events, particularly the Annual Regatta.

**Terry Grace
Rotary Club of Inverloch**



Just a brief note on behalf the sponsorship partners in particular:

BJS Insurance Brokers, Yachtmaster Sailing School and Alex Scott & Staff;

As well as: UK Halsey Sails, Marine Timbers, Club Marine, Bendigo Bank, RACV Inverloch, Marion Chapman, Ian Symonds & Associates and Bass Coast Shire Council.

We take this opportunity to congratulate you and your committee on the planning, promotion and execution of this highly successful regatta in Inverloch over the recent Australia Day Weekend. In particular Marion's poster set will become a sought after collectors item.

The ambience of the colour spectacle on display was a sight to behold, generating many favorable comments and much goodwill amongst all those who entered boats, club members and the general public.

Unlike many regatta courses, Anderson Inlet provides a real close up view which brings into play, participation by spectators on the beach front. The start of the Sunday race in particular will live in the memory of many spectators in attendance, as you literally felt that you could reach out and touch the yachts participating.

The regatta event dinner and lunch catering was excellent, creating a truly enjoyable atmosphere. The display in The Glade on the Monday morning generated many positive and encouraging comments, which all goes well for the future promotion of the event.

We understand that the South Gippsland Yacht Club is committed to this unique event subject to review. With the continued support of the Lions and Rotary Clubs of Inverloch with their perpetual trophies, the very solid foundation on which the regatta has been developed will continue into the future.

The video recording of the lead up and the actual event, along with the trophy presentations will provide great promotional vehicle for not only future regattas, but also the township and the community at large.

On behalf of BJS Insurance Brokers, Yachtmaster and the Alex Scott & Staff Inverloch office in particular, we wish to confirm our advice to both of you, of our interest in future participation of this truly spectacular and unique event.

Yours sincerely
Alex Scott & Staff Inverloch
Dennis Ginn
Director

"We had a brilliant weekend. Thanks for all your effort and enthusiasm."

Thanks and well done.

Leigh McNolty
Secretary - Wooden Boat Association

Sadly I could not attend the inaugural wooden dingy regatta as I was in Melbourne working. I have heard so much positive feedback from your event that I want to congratulate everyone involved for a very successful weekend. One of the highlights relayed back to me was the watching of the wooden dinghy's on the water.

Well done and I look forward to attending next year.

Jordan Crugnale
Bass Coast Shire Councillor

Thank you for fantastic classic yacht Australia Day Regatta. much enjoyed. My sons and Mark Rimington sailed my 1938 cedar planked 16 Foot Skiff as part of the Regatta. Is there a video available? And are the stills of the regatta and do you plan on uploading them to your site? Also it would be good to send out correspondence to the participants and develop an ongoing interest in order to increase classic yacht participation and numbers. I'm not sure if there is an association that is going this already? Once again, thanks and a special thanks to the many volunteers who helped us enjoy this weekend.

Cheers Tony Siddons

Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta DVD

Drift media filmed the Regatta from planning through the art for the posters and crafting of trophies. The DVD contains footage of personalities and boats and is a comprehensive record of the Regatta. The video will be available through the South Gippsland Yacht Club at \$30.00 per copy or by direct purchase from Drift Media at \$30.00 per copy plus postage or by downloading using this link at \$20.00 per copy.

Heres the web link to the DVD information-
<http://driftmedia.com.au/2014/02/03/inverloch-classic-wooden-dinghy-regatta/>

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Partners

The following are partners in the Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta.

The Inverloch & District Lions Club, Rotary Club of Inverloch, Rotary Club of Wonthaggi, Inverloch Historic Society, Alex Scott & Staff, Marion Chapman-Artist, RACV Resort Inverloch, Inverloch Community Branch Bank-Bendigo Bank, Bass Coast Shire Council, BJS Insurance Brokers, Yachtmaster Sailing School, UK Halsey, Drift Media, Club Marine, Marine Timbers, Ian Simmonds Solicitor, AFI Branding, Guilio Marcolongo-Wood Carver, Southern Bazaar, PurpleX, Burke Marine, Inverloch Newsagency, Serious Surf Stuff, Inverloch Recreation Reserve Committee, Inverloch Kongwak Football & Netball Club.

Classic Wooden Dinghy Subcommittee

Members include:

Ian Jones	Commodore
Allan Driver	Vice Commodore
Wayne Smith	Committee member
Tim Wilson	Committee member
Dianne Grimmond	Committee member
Andrew Chapman	member
Marion Chapman	member
Dennis Ginn	Alex Scott & Staff
Neil Everitt	Inverloch and District Lions Club
Terry Grace	Inverloch and District Rotary Club
Leo Lubranski	



Thanks to Di Grimond and all the volunteers working behind the scenes to make the regatta so successful.

Photographs throughout are selection from Grace Biram, Allan Driver, John Fairfax and Marion Chapman.

Thank you to the partner/sponsors, the members of SGYC that worked on the event and participated and those that travelled to Inverloch with their boats to attend the Regatta.

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