



**AUSTRALIA DAY WEEKEND**  
**24, 25 AND 26 JANUARY 2015**



**JESSICA WATSON OAM**  
**INVERLOCH CLASSIC WOODEN**  
**DINGHY REGATTA AMBASSADOR**



**TOM KING OAM**  
**INVERLOCH CLASSIC WOODEN**  
**DINGHY REGATTA PATRON**

## SOUTH GIPPSLAND YACHT CLUB COMMODORE'S INVITATION

I am really excited to be able to invite and extend a very warm welcome to all sailors and visitors to join us at South Gippsland Yacht Club over the Australia Day Weekend in January 2015 to celebrate Inverloch's sailing and seaside heritage.

On 2 January 1893, when Inverloch was a small and isolated seaside community, an Inverloch Yacht Club conducted a race. Not long afterwards Regatta Days became regular celebrations. Activities included sailing, sculling, swimming, diving and sliding a barrel out over the water along a greasy pole.

By the 1920s this vital little town was attracting increasing numbers of holiday makers. Amongst them was Len Morris, who in 1928 launched his 11 foot sailing dinghy '*Olive*', the basis of a class that became the Moth and later the International Moth Class.



Inverloch Jetty Regatta Day 1926 - Sliding the barrel out along the greasy pole. Source Inverloch Historical Society

This coming Regatta we are very fortunate to be celebrating with two well known sailors- Jessica Watson OAM, '2011 Young Australian of the Year' and Tom King OAM, Mirror World Champion and a 470 Olympic Gold Medallist. On Saturday evening Jessica, introduced by Tom, will give an inspirational presentation on her sailing adventures.



A boating holiday in Inverloch in the 1950s. Source Inverloch Historical Society

South Gippsland Yacht Club is a small regional club with a big heart so we would welcome you to spirit your impressive classic timber dinghy out of the garage or shed and head for Inverloch in South Gippsland for the Australia Day weekend in 2015.

I also welcome you and your family to join in the social program over the weekend.

It is a privilege to be able to work with yacht club members, our community partners the Lions and Rotary Clubs, Historical Society and sponsors who have committed support for the continuing success of the Regatta.



Don't leave your wooden boat sitting on the trailer too long. Morgan SA



*Allan Driver*

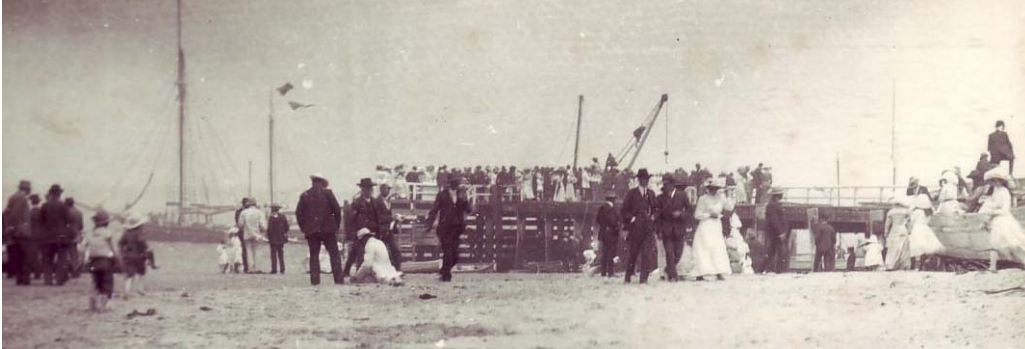
COMMODORE  
SOUTH GIPPSLAND YACHT CLUB



## INVERLOCH'S FIRST YACHT CLUB

by Bob Parry

So far the earliest known record of an Inverloch yacht club and yacht racing at Anderson Inlet was found in the Argus newspaper dated the 4th of January 1893. In this article, reprinted below, three boats were mentioned *'Annie'* (a Melbourne yacht) owned by Mr. Ross Macartney and sailed by Mr. Robert Whaley, the *'Breeze'* owned and sailed by Mr. S Laycock and the third yacht was the *'Tarwin Lass'* she was sailed by Mr. Chamberlain and a local crew. Mr. J.N. Thompson was judge and timekeeper, Mr. George Beuly starter, and Mr. J. O' Shannasy handicapper.



An early Regatta Day circa 1900. Source Inverloch Historical Society

Police Constable O' Shannasy was the earliest recorded policeman we have for Inverloch in the 1890s it is possible that he was the handicapper.

In 1892 Robert Whaley was the Secretary of the Inverloch mechanics' institute and in 1893 was granted a wine license. In March 1882 Ross Macartney entered his yacht *'Lily'* in a race with the South Melbourne yacht club. He also raced at Albert Park Yacht Club. I have just found that my Great Grandfather John Parry J.P. and Ross Kenneth Macartney were both called as witnesses in the Royal Commission into railways and the Korumburra coalfields. Macartney said his occupation was speculator and he invested a lot of money in the coalfields. It would be surprising if Macartney did not buy a lot of land in Inverloch on speculation as Inverloch was to be the Newcastle of Victoria, the centre of the coalfields where coal could be shipped from a safe Harbour.

### 'The Argus'

Wednesday 4 January 1893

#### "YACHTING AT INVERLOCH"

A large gathering witnessed the regatta of the Inverloch Yacht Club on January 2, and interest was given to the proceedings by the presence of the Melbourne yacht *'Annie'*, now owned by Mr. Ross Macartney. She won the principal race by 6 min. 15 sec. She was remarkably well managed by Mr. Robert Whaley. The *'Tarwin Lass'* received 18 min from the *'Annie'*, and came second, beaten by the time stated above. She was sailed by Mr. Chamberlain and a local crew, consequently was the favourite. She did remarkably well to come near to such a boat as the *'Annie'*. The *'Breeze'*, owned and sailed by Mr. S. Laycock, unfortunately got fast on one of the many sand banks, which at low tide spoils this otherwise magnificent watering place. The course was from Inverloch pier round the west beacons, down to Mahrs landing and back, distance 10 miles. A good start took place at 10.53. The *'Annie'* arrived at 12 hour. 33 min. 32sec., the *'Tarwin Lass'* at 12h. 56 min. 17 sec. and the *'Breeze'* about one hour later. She was captained by the oldest resident in the inlet, Mr. Laycock, who is reported to know every bank above the size of an egg within miles of the entrance. The day was grand. Perhaps the wind was a little too easterly to please the sailors. Everything passed off remarkably well, bar the little hitch to the *'Breeze'*. It is intended to offer a few good prizes next year, and it is hoped that some of our well known will favour tills pleasant watering resort. Mr. J. N. Thompson was judge and timekeeper, Mr. George Beuly starter, and Mr. J. O'Shannasy handicapper."

The Australasian newspaper 23rd February 1895 had an article from a Gippsland farmer re his holiday trip. He travelled from Korumburra down to Inverloch, around south Gippsland and returned home to Korumburra.

"Captan Laycock provided a glorious camping ground but only two out of the party of 10 members decided to sleep in tents. The other eight of the party stayed the night at Messrs Dixon's (granted a wine license in 1893) and O'Brien's both good and reasonable hosts. The camping place is close by the seashore being an old garden girt about with pine and cypress of 25 years' growth and almost impervious to the wind. Captan Laycock is the local postmaster and general boss of the whole place though by no means a bossy person. He takes us out in his yacht, the *'Breeze'*, across to the fishing ground in the shelter of the sandspit beyond; and here our youngsters, much to their delight, haul up so many small flatheads from below. Captan Laycock descants on the evil done to the place by the netting which has ruined the fishing."

## RACV REGATTA POSTER LAUNCH

On 22 November more than 70 people attended the Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Poster Launch at RACV Inverloch Resort. The Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta Committee learnt a lot from the last Regatta and has spent 12 months planning and organising what we believe will be a super event.



Boat and bathing costume displays and poster launch at RACV Resort Inverloch. In front of the posters are Wayne Smith Regatta Coordinator, Allan Driver Commodore, Cr Jordan Crugnale Deputy Major and Marion Chapman Artist.

The dinghies on display at RACV were Heron, VJ, Moth and McGregor sailing Canoe. Also displayed was Louise Moran's collection of 1950s women's bathing costumes, still with labels, found some years ago in the ceiling of one of Inverloch's early shops. The initial four posters produced last year for the Regattas were displayed as well as the two unveiled new posters. Enlarged photos of Regatta Ambassador Jessica Watson OAM and Regatta Patron Tom King OAM were displayed at the entrance to the function room.



Near the front of the Existing Yacht Club Circa 1906  
Source Inverloch Historical Society

Commodore Allan Driver spoke of the Regatta Days of the past and outlined the aims and purpose of the SGYC highlighting the family friendly nature of the club and its focus on introducing young people to sailing and helping them to develop their skills whether it be just for fun or for competition. He also went through the number of club people who had excelled in sailing competition. Allan Thanked the RACV Inverloch Resort for its continued support. Wayne Smith, spokesperson for the committee, ran through the work of the committee and Lions Club's Neil Everitt and Rotary Club's Pat Barry talked of their clubs involvement in putting the event together. Eulalie Brewster from the Inverloch Historical Society gave a thoroughly entertaining talk on holidaying at the seaside in Inverloch. Cr Jordan Crugnale Bass Shire Councillor and Deputy Major congratulated the committee for bringing together so many people from the wider community. Cr Crugnale and young sailors then unveiled Marion Chapman's posters for the Regatta.

Dom Brusamarello representing the Inverloch Tourism Group commended the Committee on the work they had done to plan and organise this Regatta. Dom also mentioned the growing interest in creating an Inverloch Museum-something the Historical Society is very aware of and its need has become increasing apparent to the Regatta Committee.



## OUTLINE OF THE AUSTRALIA DAY WEEKEND



2014 Regatta Race Photo Grace Biram

### Saturday 24

#### Registration

The **Notice of Regatta**, **Registration Form** and **Sailing Instructions** are on the South Gippsland Yacht Club website. <http://www.sgycinverloch.com.au/>

Participants who have not already registered their boats can do so at the yacht club from 10.00 am onward.

Regatta entry fee: Adults \$45.00. Free hat and tee shirt per entry and additional for crew at \$25.00 or \$15.00 for juniors  
Juniors \$25.00. Free hat and tee shirt per entry and additional for junior crew at \$15.00.

Payment of the entry fee, accompanied by the completed form, to be made as follows:

Cheques payable to:	SGYC	Direct Transfer:	Bendigo Bank
	Yacht Club		A/C Name
	P. O. Box 2		BSB
	Inverloch 3996		A/C
			South Gippsland Yacht Club
			633-000
			105612162

If electronic funds are transferred, scan and email the entry form to: [andrewandmarion@bigpond.com](mailto:andrewandmarion@bigpond.com)

**Lunch will be available at the Yacht Club.**

The Regatta Invitation Race will be run in conjunction with Youth Series Race 2 which commences at 3.00 pm.  
Briefing will be at 2.00 pm.

### Saturday 24 - Evening – Jessica Watson’s Australia Day Presentation at The Hub

**Tom King OAM**, World Mirror Champion and Olympic 470 Gold Medallist will introduce **Jessica Watson OAM**. Jessica is the youngest person to sail around the World solo and unassisted, ‘Young Australian of the Year’ in 2011 and skipper of the youngest Sydney Hobart Yacht Race team.

Jessica’s current boat, which she loves, is a wooden H28. She’ll be taking about all the preparations it took to set off around the world, adventures on the voyage itself and a few things learnt since that time. *“I hope that my adventures inspire other people to follow their dreams, whatever they might be. I’m told the audience will be a mix of locals, sailors and hopefully lots of kids. I particularly love sharing my experiences with kids! I’m also looking forward to chatting to some of the boat owners around our shared appreciation of wooden boats.”*

Entry fee: **Adults \$20.00 School age Youth \$10.00 and Family of four \$50.00**

### Sunday 25



Sunday has been set aside for the display of wooden dinghies on the beach from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm at which time a panel of Judges will inspect the boats. They will also assess the boats during racing.

It is helpful if you provide a description of your boat on an A4 size laminated sheet attached to the boat.

**For boats to be eligible for awards they must sail in the Regatta race.**

Sailing in 1895 on Lake Lefroy WA. Source Coolgardie Museum

**Lunch will be available at the Yacht Club.**

The Regatta race start is at 2.00 pm to make the most of the tide and sandbar conditions. Briefing will be at 1.00 pm.

## Sunday 25 – Evening – Regatta Dinner

The Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta dinner at the Bowling Club, next to the Yacht Club, will commence with nibbles and drink at 6.00 pm at the Yacht Club. Cost of the dinner is \$42.00 per head and drinks can be purchased from the bar. As there is limited capacity early booking is recommended.

### AWARDS – TO BE ANNOUNCED AT THE DINNER

- **Best Sailing Dinghy in Original Condition** – (may be a dinghy of historic significance either first of type, race history or sailor)
- **Best Presented Sailing Dinghy** – (best in show)
- **Best Presented Sailing Boat** – (best in show but not of a dinghy class but of traditional building techniques. This is for original or new built boats like clinkers )
- **Best Moth in Original or Restored Condition** – (may also be a new build using traditional materials and replicating design and construction methods previously used)

## Monday 26

### ***‘CONCOURS DE ELEGANCE’ - FOR CLASSIC WOODEN DINGHIES.***



Display of boats in ‘The Glade’, the park just behind the yacht club, from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm.

Gold, Silver and Bronze ribbons will be sold to the public at \$5.00/set. Each ribbon tied to the side stay of a boat will recognise the beauty or historic value of the boat. The judges will be guided by this recognition when they select from the previous category award winners and award the Lions Club Len Morris Perpetual Trophy.

The town bathing enclosure 1906 Source Inverloch Historical Society

### OVERALL AWARDS

- **Best Overall Boat** – by judges with consideration of public selection  
The judges will decide and announce the award at 1.00 pm.
- **Wooden Dinghy Youth Trophy** – (best young classic wooden dinghy sailor over the Summer period)  
The Commodore will announce the award shortly after the 1.00 pm.

Lunch will be available at the Yacht Club

### FURTHEST TRAVELLED CLUB MARINE VOUCHERS

Club Marine Insurance vouchers to the value of \$250 were awarded to the classic wooden boat participants who travelled the furthest to get to the Regatta. Winners were: Andrew Kean - Bendigo, Frank Raisin - Olinda, Stephen Bound - Williamstown and Neil Kafer – Belmont, Lake Macquarie.

### WOODEN DINGHIES OF INTEREST

Moth, Vee Jay, Cherub, Heron, Mirror, Javelin, Sabot, 125, Canoe, Skate, Minnow, Flying Ant, Light Weight Sharpie, 12 Sq Metre, Fireball, FJ, Flying Dutchman, Lazy E, Finn, O.K., 12 foot Cadet, Fairy Penguin, GP 14, Gwen 12, Minnow, Many Junior, Miracle, NS14, Rainbow, Sabre, Sailfish, Solo, Elwood Seahorse, Port Phillip 12, Sailfish, Yvonne, Kitty Kat, the range of Skiffs and others that contributed to the evolution of sailing. Also wooden boats of historical interest.

*“I love wooden boats and it’s fantastic to see that they’re still being sailed.”* Jessica Watson.

## VICTORIA'S FIRST OFF-THE-BEACH DINGHY?

by Tony Siddons – owner of *'Lil Bill II'*, a classic wooden 16 foot Skiff.

Many years ago, as a child sailing an assortment of dinghies during the 1970s, I became intrigued by the older dinghy classes I watched from beach to beach and wondered about their origins: and what did the original Australian sailing dinghies look like? And did any of these racing dinghies still exist?

In an effort to find answers to these questions I set out on a quest of exploration over many year where I met many people from the four corners of Australia involved in dinghy sailing as former sailors, boat builders or yacht designers.

Over time having met so many delightful people and shared many stories I began to realise that Australian sailing dinghies were more often than not born as a result of the environment and the emerging Australia seaside lifestyle. In many ways these early colonial and early 20<sup>th</sup> century dinghies are icons of the period and of the lifestyles that shaped this country.

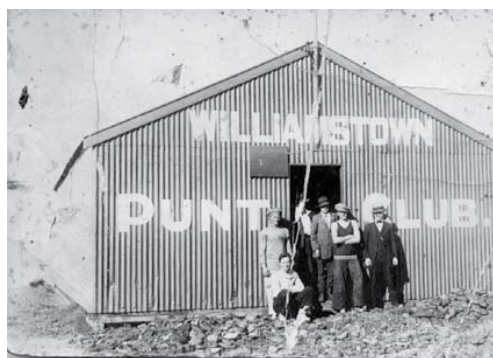
One particular class of note is the largely forgotten Williamstown Punt. Whilst the class was an early 20<sup>th</sup> century invention, its origins can be traced back to the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century where it was said that punts were used as a means to cross the swamp lands of Hobson's Bay for hunting wild duck. At some point, the game hunters, tired of polling their way across the marshes, decided a far easier, albeit less secure means of propulsion would be sail. This is but one of many stories where the sailing dingy can rightfully be seen as an icon, or an artefact, that tells us much about what we did and how we settled by the seaside as modern Australians.

Williamstown Maritime Association Inc. February 2012 Newsletter

### "A Splash from the past" The Williamstown Punt Club

The Punt Club was purely a Williamstown development which commenced in 1913 when two boys named Charles Bush and George Walker constructed a flat bottomed poling punt, in which to fish for eels along the strand. Later this punt was covered in with knocked down kerosene case slats and fitted with a calico sail.

The Punt Club was formed the next year with 6 punts, and its meetings were conducted at Parson's Boat



Paddles were used on the punts as rudders until August, 1914, when the practice was discontinued.



The sail area was set at 70 square feet, all punts being double ended and no bowsprits or jib booms were rigged.

The club moved to the Marine Underwriters shed, now (the Scout Boatshed) in 1918, two years later their new club house began construction, with twenty punts being on the register.

This building was officially opened by Baron Foster, the Governor General of Australia, on November 5th, 1921. This small club went on to become the Williamstown Sailing Club.

The punt club held many fine regattas off Williamstown and pictured opposite is *'Thetis'* owned by Mr. B. Gibson, the father of Cliff Gibson, the photo was taken in 1914.

The Seaworks museum are currently investigating the possibility of making a replica punt or having a model done to showcase these unique vessels that played such an important part in Williamstown's rich maritime history.





Regatta Day circa 1910. Source Inverloch Historical Society

Sailing and rowing boats around the Inverloch Jetty.



These picture show some of the boats motored, rowed or sailed on Regatta Day. The picture on the left shows in the foreground a sailing dinghy with a fine entry bow. The appearance of the hull is not unlike the early skiffs.

Regatta Day 1936. Source Inverloch Historical Society

## SEASIDE ACTIVITIES



'The Duke'  
December this year brings the 100 Anniversary of Duke Kahanamoku surfing in Australia.

The Duke took to the surf at Freshwater Beach on a carved solid piece of Sugar Pine in front of a large audience.

While he was not the first person to ride a Hawaiian surfboard in Australia his very public appearance was widely publicised and help launch surfing as a seaside activity in Australia. The rest, as they say, is history.



1960s local surfer Peter Kavanagh checking out his new Okanuis.



## REGATTA AND HERITAGE POSTERS

### NEW POSTERS



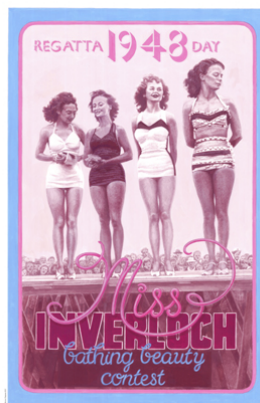
Photo Neil Everitt

The Pine Lodge poster reflects on the significant role Cal Wyeth and Pine Lodge played in the town over a long period of time.

The Regatta poster depicts some of the participating dinghies in the last Australia Day Weekend Regatta.

Two new posters were unveiled and these along with the previous ones will be sold from the Yacht Club and local shops. Money raised from sales will help fund the Regatta.

### OTHER POSTERS



All posters are available at \$30.00 each or \$25.00 each if more than one is purchased.

### CLASSIC WOODEN DINGHY SUBCOMMITTEE

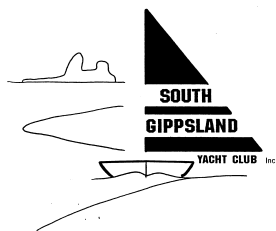
The Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta Committee is a subcommittee of the SGYC made up of representatives of the SGYC, Inverloch and District Lions Club, Inverloch Rotary Club and Inverloch Historical Society.

Committee Members include:

Allan Driver  
Ian Jones  
Wayne Smith  
Rob McNair  
Dianne Grimmond  
Andrew Chapman  
Marion Chapman  
Dennis Ginn  
Neil Everitt  
Vince Baskerville  
Leo Lubransky/Eulalie Brewster

SGYC Commodore  
SGYC Immediate Past Commodore  
SGYC Committee member  
SGYC Committee member  
SGYC Committee member  
SGYC member  
SGYC member  
Sponsor Coordinator  
Inverloch and District Lions Club  
Inverloch Rotary Club  
Inverloch Historical Society

The Committee is greatly assisted by the work of Mark Rimington and John Fairfax.



Inverloch Historical Society Inc

**COORDINATORS:**

Wayne Smith 0418 538 407  
[wayne.jayblair@dcsi.net.au](mailto:wayne.jayblair@dcsi.net.au)

Andrew Chapman 03 5674 1266  
[andrewandmarion@bigpond.com](mailto:andrewandmarion@bigpond.com)

## INVERLOCH CLASSIC WOODEN DINGHY BUSINESS PARTNERS

### SPONSORS



### SUPPORTERS

#### GOLD SUPPORTERS

Allan Driver  
Mike Gibbins  
Beach Box  
LJ Hooker  
Alex Scott & Staff  
Big 4 Caravan Park  
South Coast First National

#### SILVER SUPPORTERS

Foodworks  
Lewis Stone Real Estate  
Slice of Paradise Bakery  
Inverloch Pharmacy  
Stockdale & Leggo Wonthaggi  
Inverloch Central Motel  
Earth Art Studio  
Hotondo  
Serious Surf Stuff

#### BRONZE SUPPORTERS

Isabella McLean  
Inverloch Fish and Chips  
Jeff Cole  
Vaughan's Café Deli  
Motel on A'Beckett Street  
Rod Bending World of Fishing  
Vella 9 Café Restaurant  
Inverloch Motel





Inverloch Camping Ground 1941. Source Inverloch Historical Society

Make sure you book early because accommodation is in high demand over the Australia Day Weekend.

There is a VLine bus service from Melbourne to Inverloch for those that don't have a car.



1935 Bus service. Source Inverloch Historical Society

*"I think I love sailing even more than I did when I sailed around the world, it's lovely to sail just for the fun of it."* Jessica Watson