

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMODORE

The new pontoons, ramps and service wharf were officially opened on 22nd October by Vice Commodore, Bunny Preston. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the ceremony, but from all accounts the launching was performed with all the style befitting such an occasion. The new pool lighting added to the spectacle by showing off the new facilities to advantage.

Our Opening Day on 6th November dawned with a prediction of a very hot day, but a light breeze during the morning provided ideal conditions for the afternoon's Sail Past, and the evening's entertainment. We were privileged to have his Excellency, Sir Donald Dunstan and Lady Dunstan, both attending their first yacht club opening. They were very impressed with the Sail Past, and enjoyed the afternoon. I am sure that we may look forward to their company next year. Without exception, all visitors and guests of the Squadron commented very favourably on the spectacular sight of the yachts, with their colourful bunting, lined up along the new pontoons. I thank all members for their co-operation in making our Opening Day so successful.

An "All S A Yacht Clubs" Dinner for Flag Officers, Presidents, Committeemen and Past Commodores was held at the club on Friday, 3rd December. When first introduced, this dinner was to be annual event, but it lapsed for a few years. This function has now been re-introduced, as it is an excellent opportunity for officials from all clubs to get together to discuss mutual interests. A different club will host the dinner each year.

Several yachts will compete in interstate events again this holiday season. ADRIA and MARY MUFFIN (Dr I Ross) are entered in the Sydney to Hobart, and TEKIN II and BORN FREE will contest the Melbourne to Hobart Westcoaster. Our best wishes and good luck to all skippers and crews. My previous yacht NIMROD II, now with the Royal Yacht Club of Victoria

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is also an entrant in the Melbourne to Hobart. We are therefore assured of some keen interstate club rivalry.

From the 5th to 11th January '83, the Squadron will conduct the J O G National Championships. We look forward to a successful series, with Squadron members who are assisting with Official Boats and spectator vessels making a valuable contribution.

On behalf of the Flag Officers, I extend to all members and their families the Season's Greetings and Best Wishes for 1983.

JIM HOWELL

OUTER HARBOR COMMITTEE NOTES

As foreshadowed in the last newsletter, the roadway to the new wharf, and the sealing of the S E corner of the yard have both been completed and the new fence surrounding the lawn on that side of the pool, should be appreciated by barbecuers.

The Department of Marine and Harbors has, at last, given us the lease of the land between our southern fence and the railway. A final decision has yet to be made as to how it will be enclosed, but it will certainly ease the pressure on parking as on almost any Saturday during the summer, the eastern bank car park is filled.

Another successful Working Bee (3rd October) can be reported, attended by the usual stalwarts. Several members apologized for their absence due to sickness or other commitments, but it was disappointing to see some vessels putting to sea when their owners must have been aware of the event which was well advertised. However, with the continued good work of the Manager and staff, the Club House and grounds