

## BWMYC 2011 SOCIAL CALENDAR

### January – June 2011

- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2011 Picnic in the Park – Berowra Waters Marina Picnic Area  
*An informal picnic commencing at 6.30 pm – BYO everything. This is our chance to have a post Christmas fun night at zero cost. We have the BBQs available to us and there will be plenty of table space.*
- Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2011 Australia Day Boat Parade and Raft-Up  
*Our traditional Australia Day Boat Parade departs from the Woolwash at 10 am. After the parade we will then raft up under the directions of our Master for the day and then the fun begins – games, swimming races and lots of laughter, plus the usual eating and drinking. Show your Aussie spirit and dress your boat with flags, kangaroos or just wear your “Speedos and thongs”.*
- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2011 2FM DINNER – Waterview Restaurant  
*A wonderful Hot and Cold Seafood Buffet, sumptuous salads and non-fattening desserts is on offer for the special BWMYC price of \$38 per person which includes wine and soft drinks.*
- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2011 2FM DINNER – Waterview Restaurant  
*A wonderful Hot and Cold Seafood Buffet, sumptuous salads and non-fattening desserts is on offer for the special BWMYC price of \$38 per person. This includes wine and soft drinks.*
- Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2011 Dinghy Trip to Crosslands and Moonlight Cruise Back  
*An informal long picnic lunch departing from the Woolwash at 9.30 am – BYO everything. Some members may wish to join together in their dinghies and benefit from just being able to take in the wonderful scenery along the way – the Australian landscape at its best!  
The weather will have cooled and we can all make the trip in our dinghies Without being “cooked” when we arrive. Now for the finale – the trip back By “moonlight” all together in convoy guided by the full moon.*
- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2011 2FM DINNER – Waterview Restaurant  
*A wonderful Hot and Cold Seafood Buffet, sumptuous salads and non-fattening desserts is on offer for the special BWMYC price of \$38 per person. This includes wine and soft drinks.*
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April-Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2011, Easter Trip to the Colo and Raft-up  
*This is a truly memorable trip and needs plenty of time to take in the sights along the way. We can also arrange accommodation at the Souths Juniors Resort facility close by at great rates for those who wish to drive*
- Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2011 Gala Dinner Dance at the Waterview Restaurant  
*Just what the ladies have been waiting for – the chance to “glam it up and sparkle”. Members are encouraged to bring along their non-member friends and make up tables. There will be a superb sit-down meal and dancing. This is to be our major fund raiser for the year.*
- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2011 **NOTE- NO 2FM DINNER TONIGHT**
- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2011 2FM DINNER – Waterview Restaurant  
*Hot and Cold Seafood Buffet, sumptuous salads and non-fattening desserts is on offer for the special BWMYC price of \$38 per person. This includes wine and soft drinks.*
- Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June–Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2011 Long Weekend Trip to Akuna Bay  
*This is truly a magical part of the world, upstream from the Akuna Bay marina. It is extremely quiet with no through traffic, hence no wash. For those who wish to have a night out at a restaurant, the Cielo at Akuna Bay is open for lunch and dinner on Saturday and lunch on Sunday and is only a short dinghy trip away. For those who wish to just have a quiet time on their boats then this is the spot.*



# B.W.M.Y.C. NEWSLETTER

PO Box 1058 Berowra Heights LPO NSW 2082

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 1 MARCH 2011 (CIRCULATION 60)

**COMMITTEE: Commodore - Brian Killin 9482 8298 Vice Commodore - George Herczeg 0425 253 748**  
**Secretary - Richard Bell 0418 250 748 Treasurer - Geoff Brooke 0414 469 670**  
**SOCIAL COMMITTEE: Loretta Thomas 0408 214 179 Jo Calleja 0409 886 059 Glenn Rapson 0414 359 081**  
[www.berowrawatersmotoryachtclub.org](http://www.berowrawatersmotoryachtclub.org)

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BACKGROUND PHOTO..... WASHTUB GULLY 20/03/11 (NEAR ROSIE)





• **NEW MEMBERS**



**Norm O'Neill**, Bayliner 34' flybridge "Still Crazy"



**Chris & Jaime King**, 28' Mustang, "Jagara"



**Kyle & Amber Loveday** "Elsie May"



**Darren & Kim Stein**, Mustang 48' "Sweet Nic"



**Graham Collins & Juan Parker** Wellcraft 26' Slow-As"

**Tony & Gwen Sinclair**  
Glastron 26' "Wine Knott"

**Bernard & Kate Kassar**  
Huon Pine Timber cruiser  
"Lady Daly"  
built 1869

Welcome aboard, see you at the next 2FM Dinner (2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month at the Waterview Restaurant) and on the water.

• **SICK BAY**

**Richard Tooker**, has very recently retired and purchased a new boat (sorry Richard) a "ship" was taken ill and had a procedure in hospital and is currently having follow up treatment. Richard, get well soon, and bring your new cruiser down from Brisbane so we can welcome her to the club.

**Robyn Mackie**, has recently had a heart attack, she was in hospital for a short stay and had a small procedure and is doing well. Get well soon Robyn and we hope to see you on Sovereign very soon.

**Louise Herczeg**, was rushed to hospital with a suspected gall stone attack (worse than giving birth I heard her say) several tests and nothing has shown up, but Louise discharged herself from hospital and is now feeling 100%.

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• **COMMODORE'S REPORT**

We have enjoyed a really encouraging start to the year with lots of new members, the establishment of a formal link with the Berowra Waters Progress Association and some great events. Our Picnic in the Park was a great success in lieu of the January 2FM. After days of rain we were blessed with a truly glorious summer's evening. Given that a lot of members were still on holidays we had a really wonderful turnout and had to enlist extra tables including the fixed picnic tables. Some of the members certainly brought a "simple" picnic including the Baileys and put the rest of us to shame. Geoff Bollins and Alec Robinson were presented with their engraved trophy for their great win in the 2010 boat rally. Needless to say there was much frivolity and laughter with the last members departing close to midnight. For our Australia Day parade once again the weather could not have been better – a typical Australian summer's day and just right for boating and swimming. Given the mid-week day, the parade was very well attended and received the cheers and well wishes from the residents along the shoreline. It was really great to have all the new members' participating in this. The ladies' "wow" boat of the day went to Kyle and Amber Loveday's Elsie May – what a gorgeous lady she is. New members, Ken and Annette Davison, had dressed their dinghy with Ozzie at the helm atop the VB cartons. To top this off, Ken and Annette also came armed with an inflatable swimming pool so that we could swim jelly blubber free at Joe Craft Bay – congratulations Ken and Annette on a wonderful contribution to the success of the day. Our luck with the weather ran out for our planned trip to Crosslands. The wettest March weekend for 25 years meant that plan B was required and the participants assembled in the Picnic sheds at Berowra Waters, ignored the rain and everyone had a wonderful day of friendship. Thanks to new Members Norm O'Neill (President) and Amber Loveday (Secretary) we were invited to join the Berowra Waters Progress Association. Graham and I attended their AGM and we were delighted with the work that they are doing which will be to the benefit of both residents and our club members. Of particular interest is a visionary plan that they are developing for the Eastern shore. I would like to thank those of our members who participated with the BWPA in the Clean Up Australia Day activities. It was greatly appreciated by the BWPA. We are looking forward to our planned Easter voyage to the Colo and to the Gala dinner in May. It's time for the glad rags!

Brian Killin  
Commodore



• **VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT**

**CLUB SPONSORS 2011**

Thank you to all of our sponsors who have renewed their sponsorship for 2011, your support is greatly appreciated. Club members, if you need any services that can be provided by our club sponsors, please support them. Their sponsorship fees help us to bring you the your Newsletter.

**NEWSLETTER**

Thank you to all the contributors to your newsletter. To Marianne Tooker for the amazing story of their Christmas cruise with Murray and Wendy Forman. To Dick and Annie Mars for keeping a log of the News Years Eve cruise to Sydney Harbour, and to Jo Calleja for the photos and putting it altogether. Please keep the articles & photos coming, they are very welcome, and help make your newsletter interesting.

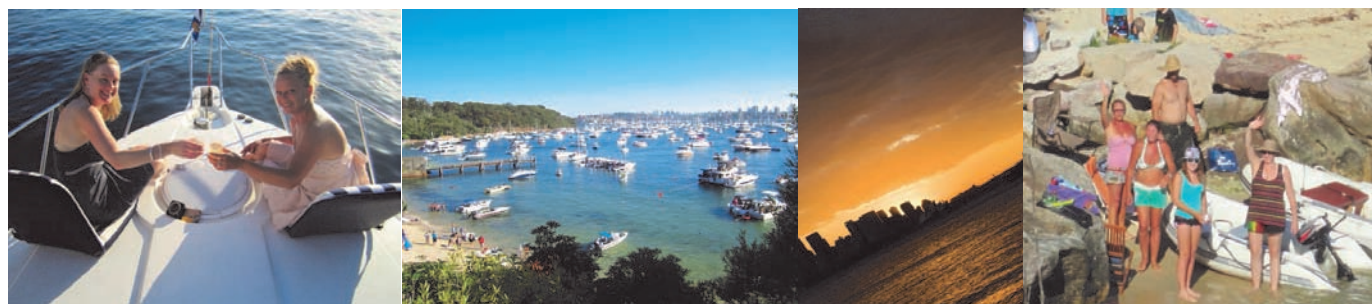
George Herczeg

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We awoke to a windy morning and we decided to join 'Maski' and 'Florence' on the journey home, it was a safer option, as later we would discover that the following day was a strong 3 metre swell with 30-40 knot winds. Off we set taking no chances; Annie handed out the travel calm like they were lollies. It was an uneventful trip, even before we reached the heads only Emma was awake, although struggling to stay awake. 'Florence' was right behind me, 'Maski' dropped off to catch some fish, but only managed to catch their own line. 'Florence' and 'Maski' peeled off bound for Berowra and we made our way to Pittwater for an overnight stay at the Royal Motor Yacht Club. A relaxing afternoon at the pool, followed by dinner at the bistro, a game of Uno and a bottle of red wine. We slept in and didn't wake up till 11am. "Oh well", not to rush Jac and Annie went and got some bacon and egg rolls for brekkie while Emma, Mason and I prepared for departure. After taking on some fuel, we left around 12:30am for our marina. In all it was a great trip, one we will all remember for many years to come.

Dick, Annie, Mason, Jac & Mia Mars,  
'Sweetas', & on behalf of Team 'Maski' & 'Florence', 2011



### STINGRAY AND KULEENA CRUISE

The idea began to take shape. Hopefully we would be retired by the end of the year and it was time to play! Murray Forman suggested it. A trip over Christmas & New Year up to Port Stephens and the Myall Lakes. We took all of 10 seconds to agree !! The sale of our business finally went through, retirement now a reality, and the Formans and the Tookers were ready to "set sail" or rather, turn the key ! Murray & Wendy Forman in Sting Ray, with Murray's magnificent 94 year old mother, Jean (who can still touch her toes!!), and ourselves, Richard and Marianne Tooker, in Kuleena.

But first, we had to get there! The first attempt at motoring out through Broken Bay and up the coast to Port Stephens met with failure as the seas turned out to be too rough and the wind unforgiving. After a couple of hours, it was decided to turn back as fifty-three year old Kuleena was taking a pounding. Arriving back in The Basin, Richard found to his horror that there was water up to the floor in the front cabin. Further investigation found a rove missing and water was pouring in. Not good ! There was nothing for it but to get on bended knees and beg Fenwicks to take us, forcing Greg Wetherby in Escape, calmly waiting for his scheduled lift, to take second place. Many thanks Greg ! While there, we took the opportunity and had her antifouled as well as fixing the miscreant hole!

Murray & Wendy in Sting Ray also took a breather at Brooklyn awaiting Kuleena's fix but then had to return home and their "Corvette" commitments. By 1st December, Kuleena was ready and we took her to The Basin to await better conditions for a solo trip up to Port Stephens. Very early on the morning of 3<sup>rd</sup> December, we decided to go and were soon about five nautical miles off shore travelling at around 6.5 knots. A swell of about 1.5 to 2 metres and a stiff 15 knot breeze accompanied us for about three hours, as did several dolphins. The tankers anchored off shore looked massive and unforgiving. Awaiting permission to enter Newcastle Harbour, the first tanker we encountered was as far south as Gosford.

Then it happened; the sound, or lack of it, was ominous. No starboard engine. Nothing, dead as a door knob. Again, not good ! With fingers tightly crossed, we decided to keep going, Lake Macquarie being approximately three hours ahead, the same distance from Broken Bay. But, of course, with only one motor, our speed had considerably reduced and the three hours became more like six hours. As we turned to cross the Swansea Bar leading into Lake Macquarie, the wind had turned stronger and blowing due east, the sea much rougher, the captain and crew were tired and anxious, the Bar was yet to be crossed, it was low tide and only one engine! The "leads" which guide boats over the Bar were very difficult to see at that time of day, but Marine Rescue at Swansea were a godsend, talking us through the last twenty minutes for a safe passage over the Bar.

Lake Macquarie is really quite vast and it took almost another two hours for Kuleena to limp into the RMYC Lake Macquarie at Toronto. Of course, the wind now gusting to 25-30 knots made a calm berthing at RMYC nigh on impossible, but after a couple of knocks and bumps (not to mention a few four letter words!), we tied up and immediately adjourned to the bar where the first drink didn't hit the sides!

Over the next two days, an investigation revealed that the water traps on the fuel tanks were completely clogged – probably rubbish in the fuel tank having been stirred up during the two trips to sea. Essential maintenance was carried out and the starboard engine roared into life – music to our ears! So, the following day, we departed very early, crossed the Swansea Bar again and headed back out to sea. On this leg, we had a 15 knot NE wind, a swell of about 1.5m and yes, more dolphins!

However, although keeping a constant lookout, we did manage to motor right through a series of fish trap bouys about three miles offshore!

Kuleena and her crew then spent a few days at Nelson Bay, D'Albora Marina, awaiting the arrival of Sting Ray. Once we had arrived safely, 94 year old Jean was driven up by car and left with us while Murray and Wendy could begin their own adventure! Enjoying a higher cruising speed, Sting Ray was making good headway up the coast until the last few nautical miles when the wind increased along with the swell and, for some reason, the temperature dropped significantly which left both Murray and Wendy rugged up the nines. But again, using the "leading light", they kept Sting Ray on a safe passage between the heads at the entry to Port Stephens.

Having enjoyed the restaurants of Nelson Bay to the max (including one infamous night when it was decided that it was too far for Jean to walk back to the marina berth from the restaurant, resourceful Murray put a chair into a "borrowed" marina wheelbarrow into which Jean was "plonked" and, much to her embarrassment, wheeled home!), it was now time to begin the next part of the journey up into the Myall Lakes. The Lakes had been a favourite haunt for both the Formans and Tookers who both, quite independently, camped there for many years in a former life (ie: "former life" means BB or "before boats"!!)

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To access the Myall Lakes is a slow trip up the Myall River from Tea Gardens at high tide, a distance of some 22kms. Maximum speed is 4 knots and the depth very shallow, although a sandy bottom and in some parts, very narrow. Sting Ray led with her draft of approx. 1m. Kuleena followed with her draft of approx. 1.5m and she touched bottom a couple of times. We found you really couldn't afford not to concentrate! The Myall River trip took just under three hours but we had a swimming goanna, several eagles, and a host of black swans for company, even a couple of dolphins!

The last part of the river journey from Brasswater to Tamboy is almost "Deliverance" country, with pretty rough looking fisherman's river shacks dotting the shore line. If they are in residence, you get a rather steely acknowledgement from them!!

The four lakes are Bombah Broadwater, Two Mile Lake, Boolambayte Lake and Myall Lake itself. For our first night we took moorings in Long Point Bay, Myall Lake and within half an hour, Wendy and Marianne were on the front deck of "Sting Ray" photographing one of the many beautiful sunsets for which the Lakes are famous.

Over the next ten days, we motored around the Lakes but found our decision about where to anchor/moor was totally governed by two things, the water depth and most of all, the winds. The best moorings are at Kataway Bay, Long Point Bay, Violet Hill and Legges Camp (Myall Shores). A particularly lovely area was Neranie Sands on the north east shore of Myall Lake, not far from Bungwahl, but it was totally exposed to S and SW winds and no moorings.

The water depth throughout the Lakes averages only 3-4metres and is frequently a lot less, as we found out.

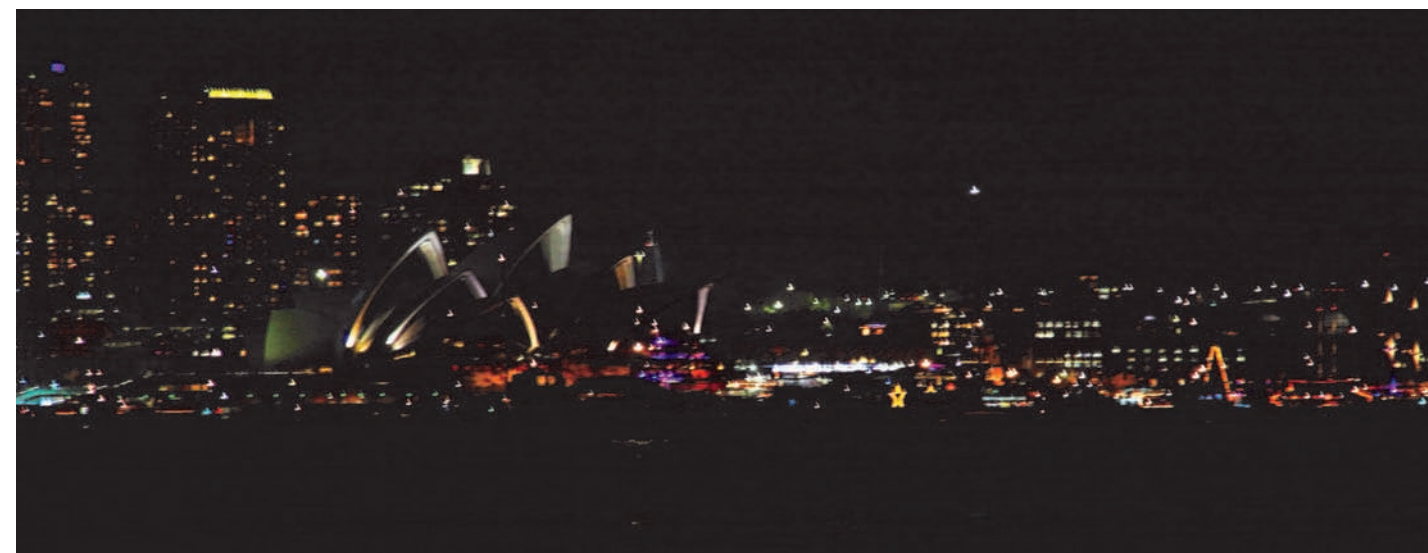
One particularly challenging thing about the moorings in Myall Lakes, courtesy of Myall Lakes National Park, is a very thick blue plastic tube on the rope between the mooring buoy and the loop. The rope is only about .5m longer than the tube and the weight of the plastic tube forces the rope to hang down in the water with the loop completely out of reach. Even though it's possible to hook the rope at the point nearest the buoy, the unforgiving tube prevents lifting the rest of the rope to the boat. The solution for Kuleena was to pick up the mooring from the stern or to have Murray in his rubber duck at the buoy, handing the rope and tube up to Marianne on the deck. And hopefully, we didn't run over Murray in the process!

Obviously the plastic tube is designed to stop boats chewing up the mooring rope (which probably happens a lot with the number of hire boats on The Lakes). This is a fact we can vouch for because at Violet Hill we picked up one such mooring but with the keel sitting on top of the soft sand, Richard decided to try another mooring and slightly deeper water. As he tried to manoeuvre Kuleena, he managed to reverse right over another mooring and the rope knitted itself tightly over the shaft and prop! Murray was first into the water and managed to release the rope from the shaft but the buoy was stuck hard. Coming up occasionally for air, Murray struggled to release the buoy which suddenly let go like a "bat out of hell", hit him on the leg and nearly knocked him out! And you should have seen the state of the plastic tube!!!

When not motoring around the Lakes, our days were spent pottering with general maintenance and fine tuning our knowledge of chart plotters, or "plart chotters" as Murray inadvertently called them! (Get those dentures seen to, Murray!!) And, of course, as all boat owners know, there is always something to fix on a boat, including Murray's deck wash. "It worked fine yesterday" he said, "but today not a drop!" After pulling it apart, there was nothing for it but for Murray to get in the water and check the intake. And there it was, a baby flathead's adventure had come to a swift end up the pointy end of the pipe! Wendy was very disappointed with the fishing in The Lakes overall, catching only a couple of eels for her trouble. The water is beautifully clear and on one afternoon we snorkelled along the shore line with Murray hell bent on finding a gold ring or a watch but instead found an old pint milk bottle. It cleaned up well and the cry was heard "put it on Ebay!!" Richard was luckier, finding a cigarette lighter, a full bottle of shampoo and a fully functioning fishing rod nestled in the sea grass. And talking of sea grass, during one episode of attempting to anchor the two boats, the entire contents of anchor chain lockers were dispensed but we were neither holding position. After many adjustments and cries of "We know boats", we finally got the two boats into anchored positions in which we had confidence, but the next morning when pulling up the anchor, literally pounds of sea grass and soft mud had attached itself to the anchor and chain and had to be manually prised off - and boy does sea grass stink! Apparently we have been told since that the secret is to let out all anchor chain and let the anchor slip down through the sea grass to the lake floor. That's all very well, but we were usually trying to anchor with an unfriendly wind in our face and the niceties of "anchoring" went out the window! Murray tried an alternative which was to "stand" in the water over the anchor, lift it, relocate it and then jump up and down in the water on top of the anchor until he was happy while at the same time avoid drowning! I've seen some "boaties" do some funny things, but this had to be seen to be believed!

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Morning came all too quickly and I was awakened by Mick yelling out to Jac who was looking down on us from the zoo cliffs. Man, she was early and eager, I don't think she had even gone to bed. She came directly from work via bus/train and ferry! It was great that she joined us and as the day evolved we avoided the hangovers by having another day, with swimming and of course more drinks. The day was reasonably quiet except for a certain yacht which seemed close to the rocks and appeared beached on the sand. Glen came over in the tender and said the only way to get her clear was to get as many people as possible on the side of her. She was stuck, there was no way we were going to free her. People came from all other boats 20-30 people must have been on her starboard rail, but no way we couldn't get her off the sand. There was a speed boat trying to pull her out but that was powerless and as each wave hit, the small yacht edged closer to the rocks. A Riv came by, threw out a rope and with one pull she was free. "High fives" all round. After a rest in the arvo, we all dressed up and set 'Sweetas' free. With all on board we cruised up to Abbotsford for dinner at the Sydney Rowers Club. We cruised back, it was a beautiful night and enjoyed by all.







### New Years Eve

Well the day started off quite well. We all woke rather late and I started cooking the bacon and eggs “extravaganza” on my BBQ in the sky. After breakfast it was bathers, then a short swim to the beach to claim a piece of real estate, because it was starting to get very busy. The rest of the crew began to join us, but Glen looked slightly uncomfortable, he couldn’t seem to raise his arms for some reason. Maybe it had something to do with mistaking his deodorant with Vicki’s hair-spray?? Everyone soon made their way to the beach; we picked out a nice little spot at one end of the beach between two massive rocks. It was almost private, just the odd child exploring the rock pools on the ferry side. By early afternoon Jo, Mick, Andrea, Mark, Ra, Quentin and Estelle had joined us, Glen, Vicki and Jarrod on the beach. Annie and Emma had opened the day with some lovely Bollinger Champagne. Newly introduced there were sparks between Quentin and Estelle and to this date they are now a hot item. The boys and I stuck with the beer so as to ensure that we wouldn’t miss anything that the evening would bring. We left the beach around mid afternoon to go back to the boats to share some platters. We were sitting on the bow of ‘Sweetas’ when a water taxi stopped alongside. It turns out it was Nine News crew, they had a camera man and wanted to ask a few questions. “Instant celebrities” we thought, we were on air for about ten seconds, at least we got our moment. Everyone got dressed up for the evening, all the ladies looked great and the fella’s scrubbed up alright too! Plenty of drinks, and after dinner things went up a notch and the party started. Annie rang Jac to see how she was and suggested she join us for the rest of the weekend. Before when knew it, it was 9pm and the family fireworks began. It was a taste of things to come. ‘Florence’ was in full flight with her colourful lanterns and rear fairy lights; we’re pretty sure the ‘boat people’ were not used to these colours and crammed the bow to sit under them. We’ve never seen so many people on the bow of ‘Florence’ but they were all enjoying themselves! 10,9,8,7...1 “HAPPY NEW YEAR” the fireworks started with a huge explosion of colour from the Sydney Harbor Bridge. Our position allowed us to see it in full view, as well as Fort Denison and the barge towards Port Jackson. I heard the words “OMG” so many times it was so spectacular and we were right in the middle of it, “WOW” after a few phone calls home and good wishes we kicked on for the night.

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During one windy night, the lid from our second garbage bin was obviously blown overboard. Not to worry! Boys Own Brigade members, Murray and Richard, decided to take on the challenge and search for the missing lid. They were quite a sight with Murray at the helm of Kuleena’s tender boat and Richard half standing at the front, as they motored around the shoreline, hoping the lid had floated to shore. But if you saw the size of Myall Lake, you’d realise it was a pretty hopeless cause!

But the best thing about Myall Lakes would have to be “MV Independence”. This wonderful craft motors around the Lakes and with a suction pump that you wouldn’t want to be on the wrong end of, she will efficiently empty your sullage tank of all that unmentionable stuff on board and, you can even place an order, which will be filled a couple of days later when next in your vicinity, of a couple of dozen best Wallis Lake oysters. Yummy!

It was then decided to retrace our path, stopping overnight at Violet Hill and then Myall Shores. At the latter, there is a small shop and restaurant but we were so well provisioned, we decided to enjoy the Lakes’ hospitality for the last night on board. The following morning, crossing Bombah Broadwater to arrive at Tambo about an hour before a 1.9m high tide, we returned to Tea Gardens and then Port Stephens itself. Possibly due to the tide height, there were a few sharp and narrow bends on the river where the water was rushing through and it required some seriously fine control on the steering wheel to navigate around.

It was now about two days before Christmas, so Wendy and Marianne did the inevitable “shop” to restock the galley before we found a beautiful mooring, courtesy of the Port Stephens Motor Yacht Club, of which Murray and Wendy are members, at Corlette. For Christmas Day, we enjoyed one of our best days so far. The sun was bright, a pleasant breeze, the turkey, pork and pudding mouth watering and the day ended with the essential afternoon nap and a quiet walk on the beach at Corlette, before a beautiful sunset.

Late in the evening, Richard felt inspired to give the fishing line a run and was rewarded with a “gummy” shark for his trouble. A second “gummy” threw itself onto the line the following morning, but nothing else more attractive. Also the water was literally swarming with jelly fish about the size of a milk bottle top and completely transparent. The crab pot also failed to produce anything so far, although there obviously are crabs to be had judging by the number of buoys floating on the surface.

A southerly change came through over the next couple of days which saw the temperatures drop and the water most uninviting. We were obviously on the end of the same weather front affecting the Sydney to Hobart yachts. So it was plan B and a good book!

As the warmer weather and sunshine returned, we explored Port Stephens with moorings at Corlette, Soldiers Point, North Arm Cove and Fame Cove, the latter proving the most favoured. Sightings of dolphins were almost a daily occurrence, but again we failed as fishermen or crab pot operators. In Fame Cove, we could hear the dolphins right up close to the boats, expressing water as they surfaced and one night, Murray and Wendy reported the dolphins clearly chattering to each other around their boat. We were also lent an electronic shark repellent as we were told (several days after we had been happily swimming around the bay) that sharks were a definite possibility!

And then it was New Year’s Eve and we celebrated with a magnificent view of a Nelson Bay fireworks show from the balcony of Peter and Narelle’s house, Murray’s business partner. We must be getting old though, because instead of “partying” to the wee small hours, we were counting the minutes down to midnight and the fireworks so that we could get to bed!

The first two weeks of 2011 were spent enjoying the delights of Port Stephens, but again where to anchor/moor was governed by the prevailing winds. We chose to refuel at Soldier’s Point Marina, Australia’s first “eco” marina, 100% carbon neutral, all dressed in matching Hawaiian shirts! We gave them a definite “thumbs up” for service. We noticed however, diesel that was 158.9c per litre prior to Christmas at all the Port Stephens’ marinas, was now 178.9c per litre over the holiday period and then strangely came back down again. Sound familiar!!

At Salamander Bay and Corlette over the holiday period, of course getting out on the water was very attractive to many holiday makers. Unfortunately, we saw many instances of boat drivers with scant regard for fellow boaties. And clearly the rules of boating meant very little to them, even if they knew them in the first place! It got too much for us one afternoon and after being hounded by ski boats and jet skis only meters away, we both rang the authorities and, lo and behold, within about ten minutes a Waterways boat rounded the corner and was in hot pursuit of the offenders. What was even more scary than ignorant adult drivers was children on jet skis, towing other children!

In Fame Cove we saw interesting anchoring practices where a Grand Banks had two ropes from the winch either side of the anchor chain. These ropes were attached to the chain about five feet under the water, which stretched to take up some of the slack and pressure off the winch and prevent the chain from making a noise. And on a sailing catamaran, a bridle takes a line from each hull to the anchor chain and helps keep the boat straight. It didn’t work on Murray and Wendy’s cat, however, as the buoy just wanted to float under the boat between the two hulls! Swimming was limited because the water was often too rough and the current too strong. But Richard was determined to get some exercise so took up rowing instead and was often seen along the shore, stroking away. I felt so inspired to give it a go as well, but couldn’t work out why all my efforts saw me hardly move an inch. I had managed to pick up a buoy on one of the wheels of our wheely tender boat. I obviously didn’t see it as I rowed and it proved my point “who on earth thought it was a good idea to have your back to the direction you’re rowing?!!



Kuleena's Red Ensign which was kept flying all the time was showing signs of wear and tear. At Lake Macquarie with our forced sojourn to fix the starboard motor, I made the first repair, shortening the flag significantly in the process. After Christmas, a second repair was required as the material was wearing very thin. That only lasted a couple of days and a drastic chop to one corner saw the Red Ensign assume a very strange shape! So after three repairs, it was decided we had to put the flag out of its misery. A quick call to John Vaughan of Australiana Flags saw a brand new Red Ensign sent up by Express Post, care of a contact who lives at PS, and it now flies proudly from the stern. Murray and Wendy also wanted to fly a Red Ensign and with a combination of a small wooden flag pole attached to his old stainless steel mooring post inside one of his fishing rod holders, Stingray now looks the part too! Our fishing exploits were pretty much a failure, but there were plenty of oysters on the shore line and more than once, we had a wonderful feed – Natural, Mornay, Kilpatrick and yes, even deep fried!

In planning our trip up the coast we of course consulted online weather forecasts, and the best of these, by far, is willyweather.com.au. You simply type in the location you're interested in and with simple graphics, you get accurate readings for wind speed and direction and what the seas are going to be doing during the days ahead. So, once more we checked out "willyweather" and decided on a return trip starting on Sunday 16 January with a first leg of Port Stephens to Lake Macquarie. We needed to be crossing the Swansea Bar at or around high tide. So even though the alarm didn't go off as planned, we were all awake, boats trimmed for the trip and on our way at 3.45 am.

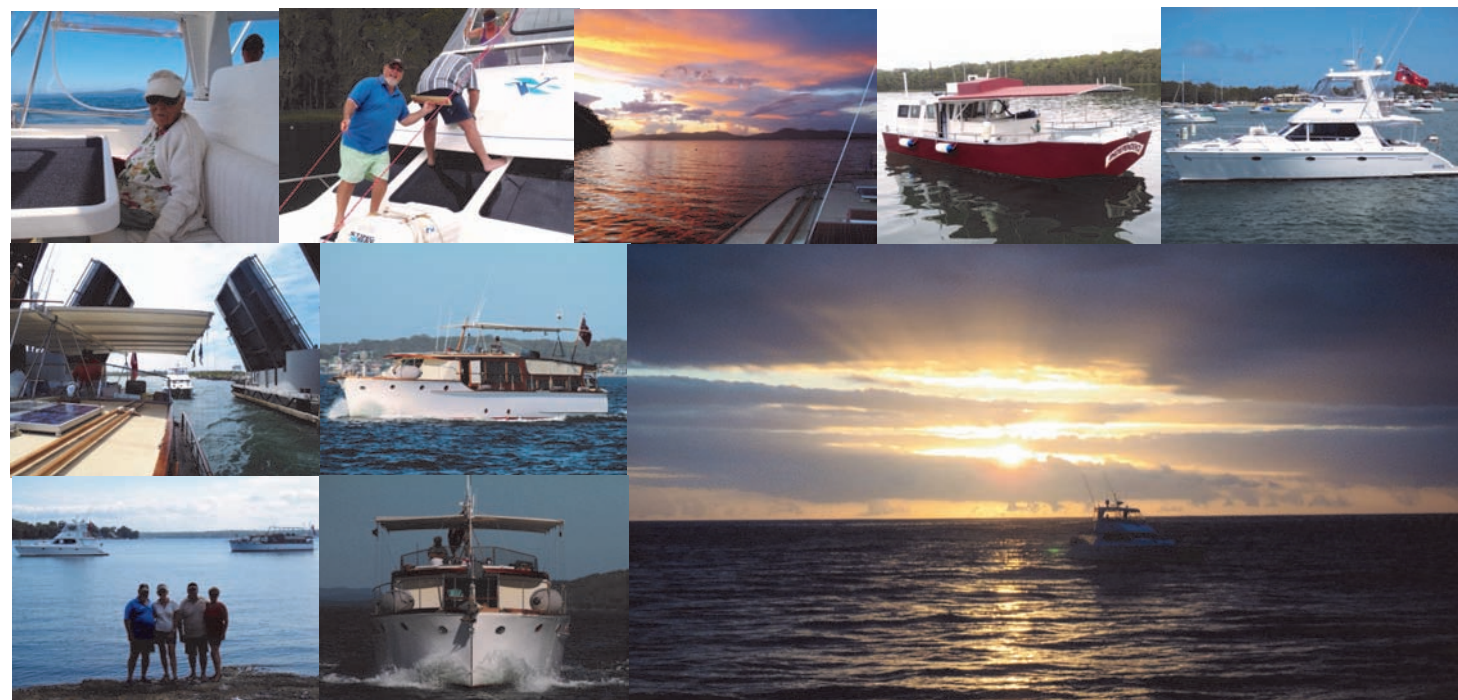
We were blessed with a 6-8 knot wind, a gentle sea and a 2m swell. We enjoyed a stunning sunrise and this time, the dolphins could be seen from Sting Ray in a feeding frenzy. It was actually a bit like Piccadilly Circus on the sea what with the many tankers at anchor and lots of high speed Riviervas heading south, not to mention the fishermen out for a Sunday catch! "This time, Murray found himself in the middle of about forty odd fish traps. That took some steering around! And on Kuleena, we could hear and feel a knocking sound. Richard investigated and found a bolt had rattled loose on the hydraulic steering bracket. "Just going down to do some running repairs", he said! With the emphasis on "running", he made a temporary repair until we docked at Lake Macquarie.

The next day we set off to explore Lake Macquarie but didn't get very far before Murray and Wendy were hailed by a skipper of a sail boat that had broken down with oil all over the engine bay. They requested a tow to Marmong Point. Why they didn't sail back to the jetty is a question we are still asking ourselves! But the bonus for this detour was a race with some dolphins which clearly loved the speed of our boats and they clearly wanted to make "contact" as they turned on their sides and looked up at us! Absolutely incredible. Later that day, we moored at Point Morisset and had a beautiful swim which cooled us down. We had to run for a more sheltered mooring after dinner as a swift southerly change dropped the temperature quite dramatically and the water became most unfriendly. We saw a couple of sharks and that was the end of swimming in Lake Macquarie!!

Once again we checked "willyweather" and decided the predicted conditions were good for the final leg back to Broken Bay on Wednesday 19 January. Having both crossed the Swansea Bar safely, we soon found ourselves in fairly rough conditions. A 2m SE swell was hitting us on the port quarter which made for a "rock n' roll" trip. We had planned to travel at around 6 knots taking around five and a half hours, head to head, but we made better than hoped for progress at 7+ knots taking four and a quarter hours instead. It was with great relief that we saw Lion Island appear round the corner.

Sting Ray and Kuleena finally parted company as Murray & Wendy returned to Berowra Waters and we went to Pittwater to get our generator serviced. It felt strange to be without our constant companions on the water, Murray and Wendy, but we have the very best of memories and hope to join with them again and explore more of the NSW coastline soon.

**Richard and Marianne Tooker and Murray and Wendy Forman.**



'Maski', 'Florence' & 'Sweetas' were soon re-moored over by the Taronga Park Zoo Ferry Terminal, by the beach. Mick was all geared up in his yellow plastic bib & brace overalls, goggles, snorkel and small fry pan; we proceeded to place a stern anchor beneath the low water mark. All 10 people and 3 vessels were now suitably located with a solid view to the Harbour Bridge and the Opera House.

A swim on the beach in the late afternoon followed by a freshly cooked BBQ of Annie and Emma's special butcher sausages together with a lovely Hayshed Hill Cab Sav to complete the meal. When the night fell and the city line took light, it was truly a beautiful and wonderful position to be in.

Now we are out of ice and Glen out of beer. So off the boys went across to Rush-cutters Marina for supplies. The longest, wettest trip of my life! Annie was deeply worried whilst waiting on the beach. We left around 10am, it took an hour to cross, the ice was \$5 for 3kg bag and beer was \$85 per case. (message to self better to over stock) We went to the Vibe Hotel for a counter beer before carrying 2 cases back across 'Queens Park'. We spotted 'Sovereign' on our journey and dropped off some ice for them also. We made it back at around 2.30pm and poor Annie was elated that I made it back in one piece.

Glen and I opened our account around 3pm and sat on the beach to relax. The night came and that beautiful city sky line all lit up, and greeted us once again. After dinner Annie, Emma, Mason, Mia and I sat on the bow and gazed on..... Later in the night {around 2am} we had a visit from the lovely water police, they mentioned that we were the only ones awake in our little bay. They chattered for a while, then Glen asked if they could investigate his missing trophy and take finger prints! {We later found out it had made its way over to Florence}. Soon after the police left in total laughter. Jarrod after a few of his father's wines fell over-board. He grazed his back on the ropes and was in a lot of pain. Glen convinced Jarrod to go to bed. We all thought it was a good idea and followed his lead; we all retired for the night hoping Jarrod would feel better tomorrow. He never really quite recovered during the trip.



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# Our Harbour Adventure

29th Dec-3rd Jan

'Maski, Sweetas & Florence'

Emma arrived at 7.30am on a Virgin flight from Melbourne! She took the train to Windsor and Dickie collected her as Annie had to pick Mia up from Louise and George's house, as she had stayed there over xmas while we went to WA. We made our way to the Marina after some alcoholic supplies and food was gathered for the trip to Sydney Harbour! We boarded 'Sweetas' around 2pm and after taking on 230lt of fuel we set off for Brooklyn. Jo and Mick had already left, their fridge was fully stocked and Mick was in hot pursuit of a cold beer after xmas with the "in-laws" or at least that was my personal view! We sailed past Glen, Vicki and Jarrod; Glen had spent a long time getting prepared and a stop off at the ablutions block before departure.

'Florence', 'Maski' and 'Sweetas', arrived at Brooklyn around 5.30, after securing a few moorings in front of 'El Nick'. Mick and Jo were well in swing, we all jumped on Maski's tender for a short run to the fish and chip window at Brooklyn. Mick received free calamari, so Glen asked for more which was not well received by the chip chef, whom seemed to take his job very seriously! A good feed, a few quiet ones before an early night for the trip to the harbour the next day. Morning came and after a quick breakfast and a few 'travel calms' later, we were out of the Hawkesbury and headed towards Lion Island. The swell was calm but Glen, Jarrod, Mick and Mason had all rigged up for a trawl whilst on route! Mick did well after some concerning discussions the night before. It was our Annie that faired not so well, feeding the fish burley almost all the way from Barenjoey Head to Sydney Harbour! At the sight of this, Mason stopped trawling and did not want to look back, 'quite literally. 'Maski' took the scenic route, and headed directly for the shelf, while 'Florence' and 'Sweetas' took the more direct approach. We past North Head and the entrance to beautiful Sydney Harbour, and made our way to Athol Bay arriving around 11.30am. 'Maski' sighted a public mooring directly in front of the floating 'jute box'! In the early afternoon the "Jute Box" cranked up and Sydney's model A-List {not an ugly duckling among them } well let's just say the party had just begun. Needless to say, the mooring didn't last long.



B W M Y C Gala Dinner Dance  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2011 6.30 pm to 11.30 pm



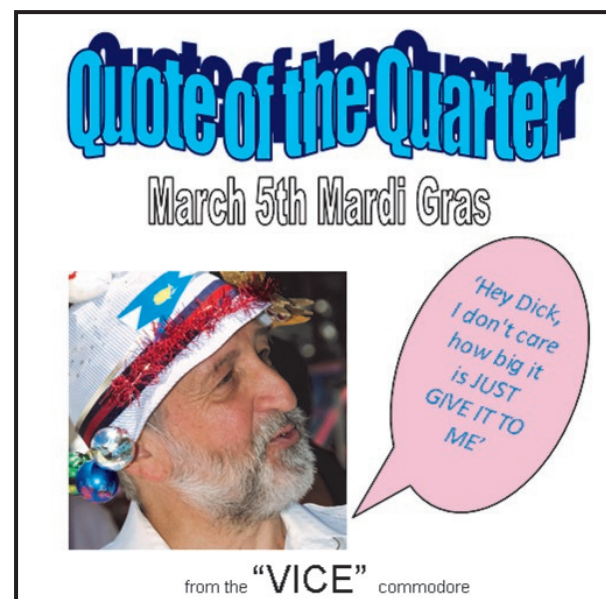
Live Band – Stone Cold Sober

- Venue** Waterview Restaurant Berowra Waters
- Tables** Sizes can be customized to suit your needs, between 6 and 11 people. Bring your friends and make up a table
- Menu** Three course meal including beer, wine, bubbly and soft drinks – all night With nothing more to pay!!!!
- Music** 60s to now
- Price** \$74 per head all inclusive
- Dress** Ladies – Glamour, Sparkle and Dancing Shoes  
Men – To suit the ladies
- RSVP** [briankillin@optusnet.com.au](mailto:briankillin@optusnet.com.au) Ph 9482 8298 by Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2011  
Payment must be received by Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2011  
(Note – The restaurant is not able to accept payment on the night or last minute inclusions.)

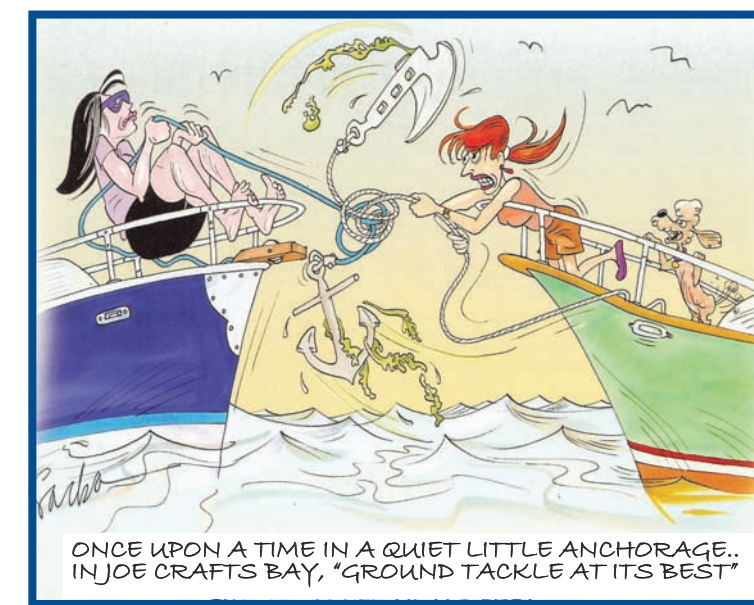
**PAYMENT TO BWMYC Account ANZ Bank BSB 012-321 Account No.4948 40578 or mailed to BWMYC Treasurer PO Box 76, Round Corner NSW 2158**



• QUOTE OF THE QUARTER



*"Nautical Trivia and Humour"*





# CLUB NOTICES

## CLUB GEAR AND ACCESSORIES

For all club merchandise see Bruce O'Connor. Bruce can be contacted on 0414 828 938 or [bruceatg@bigpond.com](mailto:bruceatg@bigpond.com), the complete merchandise catalogue can be viewed on our website. Be proud of our club, wear club clothing.

## CLUB WEBSITE

Have you had a look at our recently updated club website. Trip reports from our adventurous duo, Warwick and Karen are now uploaded. Have a read and you will look forward to the next installment. New members for 2010 are also uploaded as well as the usual items and forms are there along with members boats, club sponsor page, club forum etc and we are adding to it all the time. If you would like to add a photo of your boat, send it via email to one of the committee members. Have a look and give us some feedback. [www.berowrawatersmotoryachtclub.org](http://www.berowrawatersmotoryachtclub.org)

## FOR SALE

- 3.7m Quintrex aluminium runabout with 15HP Mariner engine on registered trailer. Great fully equipped tender boat no longer required. \$2,500 ~~ono~~ **SOLD** call Melissa on 0437 760 360 (B/H) or 9653 2951 (A/H).
- Roden, Manor marine LPG gas stove with 4 burners, griller and oven, excellent condition, \$200 ono, call Jan Fowler on 4572 3109.
- 3.4m Achilles, Hyperlon rubber duck, centre console with targa arch, Tohatsu 30HP engine, key start, battery, bilge pump, spot lights etc, \$5000 ono, call Jan Fowler on 4572 3109.

If you have anything to sell, send me the details and I'll include them in the next newsletter. If you have sold any of these items above, please let me know so I can delete them.

## 2FM DINNER ATTENDANCE AND RAFFLE WINNERS

**JANUARY 14th 2FM.** BBQ in the park, no raffle this month. There were 41 members and guests in attendance.

**FEBRUARY 11th 2FM.** Winner of the raffle prize was Vicki Tentomas Congratulations to Vicki. There were 32 members & guests in attendance.

**MARCH 11th 2FM.** Winner of the raffle prize was Chris Smith Congratulations to Chris. There were 34 members and guest in attendance.

## CLUB SPONSORS

 <p><b>JOHN SMALE'S</b> <b>RANGER TUGS</b> AUSTRALIA &amp; NEW ZEALAND</p> <p>John F Smale T/as Ranger Tugs Australia &amp; New Zealand Phone + 61 2 9872 4031 Fax + 61 2 9872 4031 Email: <a href="mailto:tugboats@tpg.com.au">tugboats@tpg.com.au</a> <a href="http://www.rangertugs.com">www.rangertugs.com</a></p>		<p><b>52 nd Anniversary</b> Now delivering <b>2011 Models</b> There are also <b>three larger models available</b></p>
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## SOCIAL ACTIVITY REPORTS



A great day was had by all, many thanks to Annie & Ken for bringing their swimming pool and saving us from swimming with those huge jelly blubbers. Got quite cosy in there at times as you can see.  
Ps does anyone recognise the weirdo wearing the floaty ????



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