



HIGHLIGHTS OF 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

February 2015
 ICWDR Newsletter



SOUTH GIPPSLAND YACHT CLUB COMMODORE

The South Gippsland Yacht Club, with the assistance of the Inverloch & District Lions Club, Inverloch Rotary Club and Inverloch Historical Society conducted its second Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta over the 2015 Australia Day Weekend. Of course an event of this nature and scale could not happen without the support of the sponsors. Bass Coast Council, RACV Resort Inverloch and Alex Scott & Staff quickly grasped the idea and their enthusiasm generated support from many other businesses in both Inverloch and Melbourne.

The Regatta Committee continued the momentum following the success of the 2014 Regatta. In addition to planning the Regatta, the Committee, through its newsletter, relayed to SGYC members and the wider community information about Inverloch's seaside and sailing history, which commenced over 120 years ago. With increasing youth membership the Committee thought it appropriate to focus on what might be of interest to them. Consequently, Jessica Watson OAM 'Young Australian of the Year in 2011' and the youngest person to sail solo and unassisted around the world, now aged 21, was invited to attend the Regatta and give a talk to the public.

Jessica was very generous with her time over the Australia Day Weekend and her appreciation of the superb woodwork of the dinghies and her general presence around Inverloch and the Yacht Club lifted the spirits of anyone who met her, particularly the younger kids whether they were sailors or not. Her presentation covering her sailing adventures had the audience of 320 riveted and she emphasised the importance of following your dreams whatever they might be.

The other special guest invited to the regatta was Tom King OAM. He grew up in the Inverloch area and learnt to sail on the dam on his parent's property, on Anderson Inlet and then on Albert Park Lake. In 1991, he became World Champion in the Mirror Dinghy Class and went on to win an Olympic Gold Medal in the 470 Class at the 2000 Sydney Olympics. He spoke at the Sunday night Regatta Dinner held at the Inverloch Bowling Club of his experiences stressing that the encouragement from members of the South Gippsland Yacht Club pushed him towards becoming better and a world class sailor. Tom was awarded Honorary membership of the South Gippsland Yacht Club.

One of the features this year was that so many more supporters, sponsors and partners contributed toward the Regatta. Inverloch and Melbourne businesses were able to demonstrate their support and the Yacht Club made known their contribution and support. In addition to the Yacht Club posting Regatta information on its Website and Facebook page, it was again great to receive encouragement and promotion from the many sailing organisations not directly involved with it. The interest is such that Regatta newsletters are being sent by other yacht clubs to their members and there are queries about the Regatta from sailors in other states and other countries.

The Regatta was always going to be at the mercy of tides, currents, expanse of sandy beach and weather but when the weekend finally arrived we were blessed with ideal conditions on Saturday. However, as all sailors know, the weather can be fickle and with the winds too strong on Sunday, the Regatta race was postponed until Monday when it was once again perfect. With twenty of the 30 registered classic wooden dinghies sailing in the Regatta Race, and sailors enjoying the conditions, the Inverloch Regatta transformed from a vision into reality over the 2015 Australia Day Weekend which was a wonderful sight.

Yacht Club members helped get Inverloch ready and make the yacht club compound suitable for overnight storage of visiting boats, arranging the handling of boats, assisting visiting sailors and spectators, taking registrations, selling shirts and hats, tickets to Jessica's talk and the dinner, catering and arranging the dinner which topped off a fantastic social atmosphere. It is impossible in this limited space to list all the people and the work they did but we thank them all most sincerely. This year we sought Gold, Silver and Bronze supporters from the business community and this proved very successful in both raising funds and engaging with the business community. Our sponsors and supporters not only contributed funds but many assisted with the overall promotion of the Regatta.

The array of wooden dinghies that turned up was again amazing and it was a chance to view museum standard historic sailing boats on the beach and on the water. There were so many sailors and members of the public, who came from around Inverloch, Melbourne and further a field to enjoy every moment and we are still receiving thanks and congratulatory notes about the Regatta.

All members of the Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta Committee and the South Gippsland Yacht Club should be very proud of their achievements for the 2015 Australia Day Weekend. Work has commenced on developing the 2016 Regatta events and to maintain the challenges of working with the wider community.



Allan Driver Commodore

SOUTH GIPPSLAND YACHT CLUB

OUTLINE OF THE INVERLOCH CLASSIC WOODEN DINGHY REGATTA



The Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta is about displaying classic 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 restoration and conservation.

THE REGATTA OPENING IN 'THE GLADE'



The Regatta opening was greatly enhanced by the Wonthaggi Citizens Band whose members got together for the event at relatively short notice.



'THE HUB' - JESSICA WATSON OAM 'YOUNG AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR 2011'

A feature of the 2015 Inverloch Classic Wooden Dingy Regatta was the captivating talk by Jessica, also a wooden boat enthusiast, about her sailing adventures. Following her talk she answered a range of questions from the audience who wanted to know about the food she took, what she did when bored and how she navigated.



The Inverloch and District Lions Club arranged the seating in the Hall and put on tea, coffee and biscuits afterwards which gave people a chance to talk and meet Jessica.

CLASSIC WOODEN DINGHIES ON DISPLAY

ON THE BEACH





It was great to see the see the 12 sq metre, on the lower right, from the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron.

AND IN 'THE GLADE'



The Rotary Club set up their catering marquee in 'The Glade' and provided lunch for hungry sailors and visitors whilst face painting was popular with kids.





SOME OF THE PEOPLE



Over the Regatta weekend South Gippsland Yacht Club members pitched in and put up decorations, welcomed visitors and helped them with their boats, provided lunches, sold tickets to Jessica's talk and the dinner, ran the Regatta races, arranged catering for the dinner with young sailors doing the waiting, set up the club marquee and display in The Glade, sold ribbons and did face painting and were there to help when needed. There are a number of others, not members of the Yacht Club, who also pitched in to help.







SAILING

CLASSIC WOODEN DINGHIES ON THE WATER





CLASSIC WOODEN DINGHY RACE RESULTS

FIRST John Honeybone – *'Shearwater'* Sabre 1644



SECOND Andy and Angus McIntyre – *'Ghillie Callum'*
Iain Oughtred shearwater design

THIRD Mark Rimington – *'Maggie'* Moth 4244



CLASSIC WOODEN DINGHY AWARD WINNERS

JUDGING PANEL ASSESSING BOATS

The panel to inspect and assess the classic wooden dinghies displayed and sailed at the Regatta were: Leigh Mc Nolty Chair of Judging Panel, Jessica Watson, Tom King, Trilby Parise, Shaun Freeman and Mathew Kiely



REPORT OF THE JUDGING PANEL

The story of wooden racing dinghies in Australia is a story of innovation, craftsmanship and a spirit of adventure in pushing the boundaries of speed and thrills. The long leaning planks on a skate, the aircraft-like construction of Jollyboats and Lightweight Sharpies or the enormous sail area on a 16ft skiff are examples of Australian plywood dinghy technology of the '50s, '60s and '70s driven by a fairly fierce level of competition. Underpinning this activity at the leading edge of sailing technology was the boom in the number of new entrants to the sport through the promotion of home built training dinghies such as the Heron and Mirror. Young sailors moved from these trainers into the high performance classes that made Australian dinghy sailing of the '60s and '70s so distinctive.

Today, there are many interesting and historic wooden racing dinghies of that era hidden away in sheds and garages that, with a little glue, paint and varnish could be on the water giving pleasure to their owners and attracting the appreciation of many onlookers.

The desire to bring these boats back into service and to get them together for a weekend of racing was the motivation behind the efforts of the Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy regatta Committee. The regatta, to be held each year on the Australia day weekend, will grow and become a vital part of the revival of the racing dinghies of the '50s, '60s and '70s. As well as the racing event trophies, the sponsors provided awards for the best presented or most interesting boats in four categories.

As a member of the judging panel, choosing winners for these four awards was no easy task. It was not so much comparing apples with oranges, as comparing a Heron with a Shearwater, or comparing a Skate with a Sailfish.

The judging panel met on Saturday morning to assess the 30 entries displayed around the club and on the beach. Panel members brought together a wide range of sailing experience. Jessica Watson OAM had addressed a crowd of over 300 people in the Inverloch Hall the night before, on her single handed non-stop voyage around the world. Tom King OAM, Olympic gold medal winner in the 470's in Sydney, also won the World Mirror championship in 1991 and has a keen interest in wooden boats. The four other judges are members of SGYC, Trilby Parise, Matt Kiely, Shaun Freeman and myself.

Matt and Shaun sailed in the morning race in fairly testing conditions. The afternoon race was cancelled due to strong winds so many of the boats were not rigged or sailed for the judges to assess them. However this gave the judges the opportunity to talk to owners of the boats and hear their stories about the construction, history and current use of the boats. Some boats had been restored from near ruin, some had been in the same family since the '60s, and some had been kept in use year after year with proper maintenance.

The four award categories, the winners of these awards and some of the comments of the judges about the boats are shown below.



Best Sailing Dinghy in original condition

Heron 5028 Chapman family's boat *'The Heron'* sailed by Trilby Parise and family

The Heron was a popular class for training and racing in the 1960's. Many were home built and are still sailing after fifty years. Trilby's boat is used regularly for family sailing and teaching the children about the traditions of sailing and maintaining wooden boats. This boat is well maintained with varnished decks and the original cockpit layout with varnished seats and floorboards.

Best presented Sailing Dinghy

12 Square metre Sharpie *'Cheyenne'* John Fankhauser

The 12 Square metre sharpies have a part in Australian sailing history as the class in which Rolly Tasker won Australia's first yachting medal at the Melbourne Olympics in 1956. This boat was purchased as a wreck for the price of the trailer. It has undergone a total restoration with excellent attention to detail. The full length varnished topside planks with copper fastenings and a spline to seal the join showed real craftsmanship and made a great impression on the judges.

Best presented sailing boat

Iain Oughtred Shearwater design *'Ghillie Callum'* Andrew McIntyre

Andrew contacted the designer Iain Oughtred (an expat Aussie) about making a documentary on his life and career as a driving force in the "wooden boat revival". Iain said he would help with the documentary if Andrew built one of his boats as part of the project. The boat that resulted, *'Ghillie Callum'*, is a tribute to Andrew's craftsmanship and the beauty of a well designed, built and sailed wooden boat.

Best Moth

Moth 4244 *'Maggie'* Mark Rimington/Ray Eades

Ray Eades built this boat for Mark Rimington to the *'Imperium'* design which was sailed to victory in the Moth World Championship at Black Rock in 1976 by Shorty McKay. The building of a new boat to a 1970s design is evidence of the renewed interest in boats of this era. The boat was built in two weeks and was finished only 4 months ago. It has only been in the water five times. The curvaceous lines and quality of the woodwork make this boat stand out.

On the Monday of the long weekend many of the boats entered in the regatta were displayed in the park known as 'The Glade' near the SGYC clubhouse. The display attracted passers-by to view the boats and fall into conversation with owners. Some of these visitors had stories of boats they had owned and for a few it sparked interest in bringing the relic from the shed at home back into use. The people's choice award was won by *'Ghillie Callum'*.

The regatta weekend brought together more than 100 people with an interest in classic wooden dinghies. It is an event with a unique focus and with great potential for growth. The word will spread about the hospitality of the town and the club, the regatta dinner where the food is superb and the opportunity to socialise with other participants is enjoyed by all, and about the suitability of Anderson's inlet for showing the boats in action.

Leigh McNalty Chair of Judging Panel



The Chapman Family's *'The Heron'* Heron 5028. Rotary Club Plaque and AUS Sails kit bag for Best Dinghy in Original Condition



Stephen Fankhauser's *'Cheyenne'* a restored 12 Sq Metre. Rotary Club Plaque and AUS Sails kit bag for Best Presented Dinghy





Andy McIntyre's '*Ghillie Callum*' an Iain Oughtred designed Shearwater. **Rotary Club** Plaque and AUS Sails kit bag for **Best Presented Sailing Boat**



Mark Rimington's Moth '*Maggie*' 4244, a new build by Ray Eades to the 1976 Imperium design. **Rotary Club** Plaque and bottle of Red Wine for **Best Moth in Original or Restored Condition** For coming second in the peoples choice Mark was awarded a Marine Timbers Bote Cote Epoxy Repair Kit.



Rotary Club of Inverloch
Classic Wooden Dinghy Youth Trophy
 Awarded to **Aaron Lopez-Freeman** for sailing a Minnow over the Summer Season and confidently sailing his Dad's winged scow Moth.



Inverloch and District Lions Club Best Overall Wooden Boat Perpetual Trophy

Ken Aly President of Inverloch and District Lions Club presenting the Trophy to Andy McIntyre for '*Ghillie Callum*'-Best Overall Boat for 2015. Andy's boat is a home built Iain Oughtred Shearwater design and the build is very much a family project.

Ralph Ballard was awarded a Marine Timbers Bote Cote Epoxy Repair kit for bringing his beautifully restored and maintained '*Old Timer*,' a Gwen 12 sail number 1905, all the way from Cairn Curran Sailing Club to display in 'The Glade'.





From left to right Angus, Andy, Piper and Nicole McIntyre

Any McIntyre decided to make a documentary about Iain Oughtred and Iain's condition of being in the film was that Andy build a boat as part of it. The build took a year longer than expected and the documentary, an epic task, is now nearing completion.

This is the build of 'Ghillie Callum': <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vs2MTrLOFvE>

We look forward to seeing Andy's documentary.

POSTERS



Regatta and Heritage Posters are available at \$30.00 each from the South Gippsland Yacht Club, Southern Bazaar and Serious Surf Stuff. Posters sold from these outlets help fund the Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta, graphics and artwork to promote the Regatta. The Information Centre in the Inverloch Community Hub also sells the Regatta and Heritage Posters and sales also help fund Regatta and also the Inverloch Historical Society.

SAILING APPAREL

There are a small number of 2014 Regatta short sleeve polo top remaining. Price \$45.00

We still have some 2015 Regatta long sleeve polo tops. Price \$65.00

Burke wide brim sailing hats are available at \$25.00

Income from sales funds the Regatta.

REGATTA DVD

The link to the DVD Purchase information - http://driftmedia.com.au/2015/01/15/sgyc_icwdr_2015_dvd/



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:

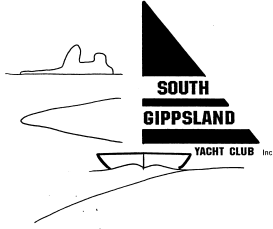
Allan Driver
 Ian Jones
 Wayne Smith
 Rob McNair
 Dianne Grimmond
 Andrew Chapman

SGYC Commodore
 SGYC Immediate Past Commodore
 SGYC Committee member
 SGYC Committee member
 SGYC Committee member
 SGYC member

Marion Chapman
 Dennis Ginn
 Neil Everitt
 Vince Baskerville
 Leo Lubransky/Eulalie Brewster

SGYC member
 Sponsor Coordinator
 Inverloch and District Lions Club
 Inverloch Rotary Club
 Inverloch Historical Society

The extended Committee Mark Rimington and John Fairfax.



Inverloch Historical Society Inc

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INVERLOCH CLASSIC WOODEN DINGHY BUSINESS PARTNERS

SPONSORS



Andrew Chapman
 Consulting Engineer



SUPPORTERS

GOLD SUPPORTERS

Allan Driver
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Beach Box
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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

"Again, sincere thanks for your hospitality this past weekend. We were delighted to participate. In particular, we appreciated the efforts of the club in making sure the regatta race happened despite Sunday's inclement weather. Nicole and the kids had a ball in Inverloch too...with all the activities taking place over the weekend alongside the boats.

With best regards,

*AndyMcIntyre
Blairgowrie Yacht Club"*

"A quick note to congratulate the South Gippsland Yacht Club and organising committee for a great weekend. Your special guest Jessica Watson was a perfect choice, what an inspirational and humble young lady. I particularly liked the idea of the ribbons for people's choice, it certainly got the community involved. To be presented with a hat and polo shirt was an unexpected surprise but gave an indication of the effort put in to organise sponsors. Well done, I look forward to next year.

*Graham Sibson
Latrobe Valley Yacht Club"*

The 2015 Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta was a great success with an increase in the number of boats registering and a lot of activities fitted into the three day weekend. The Committee has learnt a lot about planning and conducting this particular type of regatta and each year the knowledge and experience gained is applied during planning to ensure the Regatta improves from year to year.

In 2016, Australia Day falls on a Tuesday which is an opportunity to run the Regatta over four days to increase sailing opportunities for visiting boats and reduce the risk of disruption as a result of unsuitable weather. Planning and implementing the 2016 Regatta will have new and different challenges but with the growth in support for Inverloch's Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta from within the sailing community, service clubs, heritage groups, sponsors and supporters there is every possibility that it will be another great Regatta.

Thank you to all the Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Committee members who attend meetings and work throughout the year to bring the Regatta to fruition.

Regatta Coordinators

Andrew Chapman & Wayne Smith

