

INVERLOCH *Classic* **WOODEN DINGHY REGATTA**



THE INVERLOCH CLASSIC WOODEN DINGHY REGATTA

The Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta is about displaying classic wooden sailing dinghies both on and off the water, many of which were once common but are now becoming rare. By focusing on the beauty of the wood crafting, rigging and history of these boats it is hoped people will appreciate them more fully and participate in their restoration and conservation. Over the Australia Day Weekend the Regatta also highlights aspects of Inverloch's unique seaside history.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE INVERLOCH CLASSIC WOODEN DINGHY REGATTA

26, 27 AND 28 JANUARY 2017

MARCH 2017 NEWSLETTER



SOUTH GIPPSLAND YACHT CLUB COMMODORE

What a fantastic weekend! Of course we were blessed with perfect weather conditions for a sailing event but to my mind it was the participants that made the regatta such a success. We had the most entrants of any year so far with forty seven boats lined up along the beach and looking out over Anderson Inlet at the start of the race on Friday, it was truly a spectacular sight.



Many of the boats on view were here for the first time, among them the fleet of Sailfish whose owners proved to be a competitive bunch who really contributed to the atmosphere. It was an added bonus to have co-designer Jack Carroll in attendance and freely giving his time to anyone who wanted to talk about boats.

With so many beautiful boats on display, the judging panel had some difficult decisions to make. It was a fitting reward and popular choice when Andrew Chapman was presented with the Best Boat award for his restoration of the Gwen 12 "Flyaway II".



We are always looking for new ways to expand the regatta and involve other members of the community. This year we had vintage planes flying over the inlet and a display of Indian motorcycles, model boats and planes as well as historical photos of the area beautifully presented at the civic centre. These extra dimensions dovetailed perfectly with the classic dinghies and historical aspects of the event and received great acclaim from members of the public.

Thanks to all of the presenters in the civic centre: Peter McDonald and the Inverloch RC Flyers, Russell Suckling, Allan Odgers and the other boat builders, Indian Motorcycle owners Brendan Benetti, Noel Thornby and Eric Dole as well as Terry Hall and the Inverloch Historical Society for the display of photos. A special thankyou to Ralph Ballard and members of the Lions club for their efforts in setting up and supervising the display over the three days.

Also Michael Malone is to be thanked for his tremendous efforts in arranging to have the planes flying from his new airstrip outside of Inverloch. Seeing the planes flying above the dinghies on the inlet really added to the spectacle.

An event like this cannot take place without the ongoing help from our sponsors and supporters nor the tremendous efforts of the regatta committee and South Gippsland Yacht Club members and volunteers.

The 2017 regatta has only just finished but we are already starting to think about next year's program. The emphasis in 2018 will be on the 90th anniversary of the Moth. I am looking forward to seeing large numbers of all the variants within this class which has such a historical connection to Inverloch.



Rob McNair Commodore

SOUTH GIPPSLAND YACHT CLUB



AUSTRALIA DAY - CLASSIC WOODEN DINGHY SOCIAL SAIL

On Thursday afternoon sailors launched their dinghies at the yacht club and sailed with family and friends up Anderson Inlet to view the scenery landing on Point Smyth to have a snack and drink. The social sail draw also took place.



Sailors with classic wooden dinghies signing on for the Social Sail went into a draw for prizes.

SOCIAL SAIL PRIZE DRAW

- Willow cooler** – Graeme Cox - Aquanaut
- Dimension Polyant pack** – shirt, sock and belt set – Maribel Cousins - 125
- Ronstan sailing watch** – Jonathan Parise - Moth
- Peter Green Sails Voucher** – Graham Sibson – Auk
- Doyles Sail kit bag** – Campbell McNolty – Mirror



And young sailors hunted for treasure, which they were happy to share.



CLASSIC WOODEN DINGHIES ON DISPLAY

ON THE BEACH



THE REGATTA RACE



The race briefing included auctioning a wooden sailfish mast donated by Ralph Ballard. Proceeds go to the 2018 Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta and the encouragement of wooden boat restorations.

The Regatta Race day was opened with a flyover of classic aircraft including a Tiger Moth, Auster, Pietenpol, Cessna 182, Piper Cherokee and six Mountain Ducks.









CLASSIC AIRCRAFT

Michael Malone has added a new component to the Australia Day Regatta Weekend. Michael has constructed a new airfield near Inverloch and this year trialed bringing in classic and historic aircraft to fly over Anderson Inlet as part of our celebration of Inverloch's unique history.



THE REGATTA DINNER



OPENING ADDRESS



Cr Pamela Rothfield
Mayor of Bass Coast Shire Council

Keith – Chairman Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta Committee and Rob McNair – Commodore South Gippsland Yacht Club.

Thanks to both Keith and Rob for inviting me here tonight.

I'd like to congratulate the South Gippsland Yacht Club and the Regatta Committee for all the work they have put in to make this event, the success that it certainly is. We all know these events do not happen without a great deal of organisation, dedication (and I would suggest - an element of frustration). Well done to you all.

Events such as these, lay the groundwork for strong, resilient communities – which Inverloch surely is. No place is a community unless it has an awareness of its history – and Inverloch surely has. Our connections and commitment to one another are strengthened when we share stories and experiences - which Inverloch surely does. Celebrating our rich maritime heritage and the craftsmanship of wooden boat building, is a perfect platform for this unique corner of Bass Coast to bring together its community and showcase its offerings.

The Bass Coast Shire Council is delighted to support the Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta, as we recognise that events like this really make Bass Coast the special place that it is.

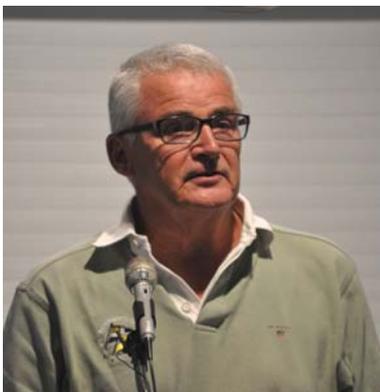
Thanks to you all

GUEST SPEAKERS



NEIL EVERITT

Neil spoke about the stories contained in his book *“They Fished in Wooden Boats – A History of Port Franklin District and the Fishing Families”*. Of particular interest to the audience was *‘Non Pareil’*, the double ender clinker that Neil worked on as a deck hand when he was young. The boat, now restored, is a stunning sailing boat with fine lines that is looking for a new home. Neil is not just an author, his enthusiasm for wooden boats contributed to the creation of the Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta.



RUSSELL KENERY

Russell spoke about the early life of Matthew Flinders and his remarkable voyages in open wooden boats. The stories are contained in his book *“Matthew Flinders Open Boat Voyages”*. It is difficult today to get a handle on three people sailing out of Port Jackson and down the coast to Botany Bay in a nine foot boat with provisions, survey gear and no buoyancy tanks. Flinders' later voyages were no less remarkable as he proceeded to chart the Australian coast. Particularly pertinent is that Flinders placed on his map of this continent the name Australia which was the first time the name of our country appeared.

Russell is not just a person who talks about wooden boats and their history but embraces it with a passion. His restored historic life boat *‘Trim’* was sailed at the Regatta with considerable skill and added a touch of glamour.





SEAT PRIZE

Inverloch Pharmacy Pack

RACE AWARDS AND PRIZES

Sponsored by Ronstan and Doyles Sailmakers

CLASSIC WOODEN DINGHY RACE RESULTS

Awards and prizes presented by Toby Leppin.

1st David French – *'Maggie'* - Moth 4244



2nd Pete Kiely - Impulse 135/155



3rd John Honeybone – *'Shearwater'* - Sabre 1644



SAILFISH RACE RESULTS

1st Steven Floyd - *'Gargle Blaster'* – Sailfish 3400



2nd Chris Cleary – *'Janus'* - Sailfish 1918



3rd Brian Carroll – *'Supertoy Fish'* Sailfish 3342



THE INVERLOCH CLASSIC WOODEN DINGHY AWARDS

JUDGING PANEL REPORT

The group of people making up this year's judging panel had a great range of skills and knowledge that complemented each other in the task of assessing the variety of boats entered in the regatta. The members of this year's judging panel were:-

- Leigh McNolty - Panel Chair (Treasurer – Wooden Boat Association)
- Mark Rimington (Sailmaker)
- Lyn Leppin (SGYC race official)
- Ian Jones (Past Commodore SGYC)
- Reuben Kent (Professional Shipwright/boat builder)

In addition to the four regular **Inverloch Rotary Club category awards**, two new awards were presented this year. They were the **Gwen 12 Challenge** and the **Sailfish award**.

The panel met on Friday morning to begin the judging process. With clipboards in hand we walked from boat to boat looking at the construction details, sails, fittings and paint finish of each entrant. An important part of our assessment is also the history of the boat and how it is used today, so talking to the owner of the boat about its story is an informative and enjoyable part of our role.

The larger number of entrants this year, particularly from the Sailfish class, kept us busy for nearly three hours making notes on the boats and listening to the tales of a boat's rescue from ruin in some cases or long term family ownership and care in others.

The purpose of these awards is to encourage and reward the efforts of boat owners in restoring and preparing their boats and participating in the sailing activities. The awards are not a "concours de elegance" type of competition. The history of the boat, the significance of the design and the actions of the owner in finding the boat and gear to get it sailing are all part of the assessment for the awards. Also, a boat must at least start the regatta race to be considered for the awards.

The panel wanted to give recognition to the owners of boats who have participated regularly in the regatta and have not previously won awards. We also wish to bring new participants into the fold with the aim of continuing their involvement and spreading the word about the regatta to their clubs and class associations.

INVERLOCH ROTARY CLUB AWARDS

In the category of **Best Australian Design Sailing Dinghy in original condition** the panel looked for boats that show the Australian sailing dinghy ethos of speed and power. In that respect we were impressed by Simon Wilson's Gwen 12 '*Chaos*' and Andrew Chapman's Gwen 12 '*Flyaway II*'. Ian Mosley's VJ '*Trend*', a previous winner of this award, also attracted our interest.

This year's winner is from a class of boat that represents a distinctly Australian style of sailing dinghy with a major role in the history of the sport. This boat has sailed at every regatta, it has undergone a restoration but retains its originality and it has given a large number of participants an opportunity to crew in the regatta events by seeming to have a different crew every time it heads out. **The boat is Frank Raisin's 16 foot skiff class '*Crusader*'** and this award also recognises the work of John Fairfax in conducting the restoration of the boat a couple of years ago after almost sinking in the regatta race. The towering presence of that rig will no doubt continue to enhance the spectacle of the regatta in years to come.

In the category award for **Best Presented Sailing Dinghy** (not of Australian design) the panel were pleased to see some of the designs that have a special place in the sport of sailing. Darren Lydiard brought his International Sailing Canoe '*Teabag*' all the way from Bega NSW to participate. The varnished hull showed off the cold moulded construction beautifully on a boat that requires great skill to sail.

Steven Fankhauser's 12 square metre Sharpie '*Cheyenne*' looks as stunning as ever because of the exceptional restoration work and careful maintenance the boat has received. The Sharpie's history as an Olympic class in Melbourne in 1956 gives it an important place in our sailing history.

This year's winner is Ralph Brown's Heron '*Sarie*'. The boat is entirely clear finished and in excellent condition. It is raced every week during the season and Ralph has sailed '*Sarie*' in nearly every Heron National championship for the past few years. Ralph has built six Herons as part of a program to help disadvantaged youth and he is active in promoting the class through the Heron Association. This is the first year '*Sarie*' has been to the regatta and a larger Heron representation is a distinct possibility next year.

The category award for **Best Sailing Boat - not of a racing design** is an award that allows us to show appreciation for the boats that add variety to the collection of boats on the water with their sweeping sheers, tan sails or clinker construction. They show the wide range of dinghy hull shapes and rigs that have been developed over our history.

The panel were impressed by the Arch Logan designed Silver fern class dinghy '*Gussie*' belonging to our panel member Reuben Kent. The newly built Ian Oughtred designed Fulmar '*Mooltan*' stood out with tan sails and a crew of five in the regatta race.

The winner was the 1913 clinker built double-ended lifeboat '*Trim*' owned by **Russell Kenery**. Our professional boat builder on the panel pointed out the authenticity of the restoration work that had been done on this boat. Bronze fittings and traditional laid rope sheets and halliards completed the impression of a boat straight out of the pre WWI era.



The **Best Moth Class Dinghy (pre 1980) award** was contested by a typically strong fleet of 6 boats. Phil Johnson's *'Frolic'*, last year's winner, looked fantastic with a new sail. Shaun Freeman's Moth looked in good condition with varnished decks and original rig. Jonathon Parise's boat looked in good condition and sailed well in the race.

The winner was **Graham and Harry Cox's 'Amber'**. Graeme bought the boat as a near wreck in need of major restoration with the specific aim of sailing in the regatta. He worked to a tight timeline to have it ready for Australia day and achieved an attractive finish on the re-varnished decks. After this event "Amber" will join the growing fleet of vintage Moths at APYC.

ADDITIONAL AWARDS

The **"Gwen 12 Challenge" award** was announced last year at the regatta dinner by Mark Rimington. The challenge was to have a number of Gwen 12s sailing at the regatta and a cup was offered by Gwen 12 champion Peter Jackson as a trophy for the winner. Mark brought the cup to the regatta this year. The Gwen 12 Association of Victoria Presidents Perpetual Trophy was presented to Gwen 12 champions from 1959 to 1982.

There were only two Gwen 12s sailing in the regatta race, but two more were on display in the Hub, both of which could be sailing next year. It is another class, like the Sailfish, on the verge of a resurgence in numbers.

The panel gave an honourable mention to Simon Wilson. His Gwen 12 *'Chaos Resurrected'*, was restored during the year and sailed in the regatta race. **The winner was Andrew Chapman's boat 'Flyaway II'**, a boat he has been working on all year and which now looks great and is ready for racing. Andrew sailed in the regatta race with his granddaughter Bonnie as crew.

The boat was rescued from the Brighton Sea scouts over 30 years ago by Paul Wallace who then placed it in storage hoping to find the time to restore it but decided to hand it to Andrew to restore. An amazing discovery was made after the award had been decided. A look at the Trophy revealed **"1977 P. Jackson and B. Early Flyaway II"**. Peter Jackson is the person who gifted the Trophy and sailed this very same boat. This was the first Gwen built by Bruce Kier and intended to be a promotion of his skills at building a Gwen.

The Best Sailfish award was created this year as a response to the large number of entries arising from the recent resurgence of the class. John Fairfax's "Victorian Classic Dinghy Network" website and Facebook contacts have enabled Sailfish owners to coordinate themselves into an enthusiastic band of sailors who are not afraid of getting very wet. The presence at the regatta of Sailfish designer Jack Carrol at the age of 93. SGYC club member Geoff Cole who has sailed his Sailfish *'Off'* at every regatta since its inception, made the trophy from an old cedar sailfish rudder blade. With 11 entries the panel had a hard task, but the simplicity and authenticity **Greg Barwick's 'Bruce'** 2028 with its cane battens and matt finish varnish decided us on this boat for the award. The boat's name refers to the co-designer of the Sailfish, Bruce Scott.

INVERLOCH ROTARY CLUB CATEGORY AWARDS WINNERS

Sponsored by Dimension Polyant and Ronstan

Best Sailing Dinghy in original condition

- Frank Raisin's 16 ft Skiff *'Crusader'*



Best Presented Sailing dinghy

- Ralph Brown's Heron 5723 *'Sarie'*



Best Presented Sailing Boat

- not of a racing design

- Russell Kenery's *'Trim'*



Best Moth in Original or Restored Condition

– Harry Cox’s Moth KA 8685 ‘Amber’



ADDITIONAL AWARDS WINNERS

WMC Jackson Sewing Machines Gwen 12 Challenge

Presented by Mark Rimington

– Andrew Chapman’s Gwen 2555 ‘Flyaway II’



Sailfish Award

Presented by Jack Carroll

– Greg Barwick’s Sailfish 2028 ‘Bruce’



WMC JACKSON SEWING MACHINES THE GWEN 12 CHALLENGE

For all you Gwen enthusiasts, here it is just waiting for you in 2018.

In 2018 the Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta will again feature historic and classic wooden dinghies. As it will be 90 years since Len Morris launched his Inverloch 11 footer, which eventually the International Moth class, we are looking forward to a big turnout of Moths for this celebration.



2017 INVERLOCH CLASSIC WOODEN DINGHY REGATTA ONLINE VIDEO

The video of the 2017 Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta is now online and you can watch it free of charge at: <https://vimeo.com/channels/sgyc/206353861>

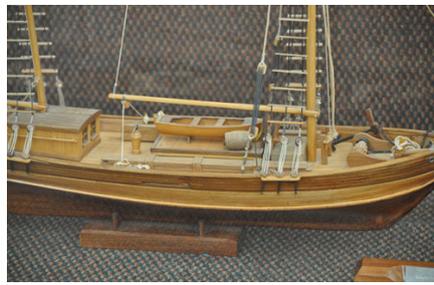
Connect your computer to the TV and sit back with the family and watch a great event.



HERITAGE DISPLAY IN THE STADIUM AT 'THE HUB'

CLASSIC DINGHIES, MODEL BOATS, CLASSIC INDIANS, MODEL PLANES AND HISTORIC PHOTOS







Boat Books "Lighthouses of Australia" exhibitors raffle winner - Terry Hall

THE GLADE





CLASSIC WOODEN DINGHY AWARDS

RACV INVERLOCH RESORT – EARLY BIRD DRAW

Registrations received before 6 January 2017 went into a draw. The prize was an RACV Resort accommodation voucher valued at \$1,200 which can be redeemed at any RACV resort.



The winner of the \$1,200 RACV Resort accommodation voucher was Ralph Ballard registering *'Old Timer'* Gwen 1905.



RACV INVERLOCH RESORT - FURTHEST TRAVELLED

Regatta participants registering boats and bringing them from their home address were eligible for furthest travelled prizes. The prizes are based on the distance travelled to Inverloch.

RACV Inverloch Resort Manager Carey Norton gave the prizes to the lucky winners.

1st Prize – Accommodation to the value of \$1,800 in any RACV Resort.

Peter Chapman from Elanora Heights NSW – *'Gooney Bird'* 2188



2nd Prize – Accommodation to the value of \$1,200 in any RACV Resort.

Ian Milton from Collaroy Plateau NSW – *'APSU'*



3rd Prize – Accommodation to the value of \$800 in any RACV Resort.

Chris Cleary from Mt Riverview NSW – *'Janus'* 1918



INVERLOCH & DISTRICT COMMUNITY BANK BRANCH BENDIGO YOUTH AWARDS

Junior entrants sailing in the regatta received a Bendigo Bank account. Community Bank Chairman Alan Gostelow presented the encouragement awards to the growing number of youngsters sailing in the regatta..



Maribel Cousins
Felix Cousins
Polly Parise
Bonnie Parise
Oscar Llewelyn
Oscar Beachley

Alana Lopez-Freeman
Aaron Lopez-Freeman
Angus Fairlie
Will Fairlie
Rowan Fairlie
Abby Smith

INVERLOCH ROTARY CLUB PERPETUAL TROPHY FOR BEST JUNIOR SAILOR

Ronstan and Dimesion Polyant also provide prizes.

South Gippsland Yacht Club Commodore Rob McNair and Inverloch Rotary Club President Rosa Turner presenting Aaron and Alana Lopez-Freeman with the perpetual trophy. They sailed *'Majik'* Mirror 18279 during the Regatta.



PEOPLES CHOICE AWARD - PUBLIC VOTE WITH RIBBONS

Willow coolers, Peter Green Sails and Marine Timbers provide Boat Cote packs.

1st Auk – ‘*Alice*’
Owner: Graham Sibson



2nd Fulman Dinghy – ‘*Mooltan*’
Owner: George Sutherland



3rd The historic Regatta start boat – ‘*Lurrawarra*’
Owner: Stuart Longley

INVERLOCH AND DISTRICT LIONS CLUB PERPETUAL TROPHY FOR BEST BOAT OVERALL

Prizes also provided by Peter Green Sails, Willow Coolers and Marine Timbers with Boat Cote pack.

The **Overall Best Boat of the Regatta** was **Andrew Chapman’s Gwen 12 ‘Flyaway II’** for the exemplary way in which it represents the aims of the regatta. The Gwen 12 is an iconic Australian class, this boat has a significant history in the class and the boat has been rescued from possible oblivion to be restored to a high standard.



Linda Aly Inverloch and District Lions Club President presenting the perpetual trophy to Andrew Chapman.



In conclusion, it is encouraging for the future of the regatta to see boats entered for the first time. The Sailfish entrants certainly added a new dimension to the regatta in this respect. There were also some unique traditionally built boats participating for the first time, notably Reuben Kent’s ‘*Gussie*’, Russell Kenery’s ‘*Trim*’, Wayne Parr’s ‘*Minnie*’ and Richard Tilson’s ‘*Billy Bud*’. The Gwen 12’s have two newly restored boats sailing, with Toby Leppin’s boat on display in the stadium its restoration to be finished for next year’s regatta. We have good reason to expect all our entrants to be back next year. The larger number and variety of boats makes the judge’s task both more challenging and more interesting. The panel members thank the committee and all the participants for making the regatta such a success.

Leigh McNolty



Some of the many hard working volunteers that make the Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta happen.



CLASSIC WOODEN DINGHY COMMITTEE

The Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta is planned and run by the Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta Subcommittee of the South Gippsland Yacht Club.

Committee Members:

Keith Cousens	Committee Chairman
Rob McNair	Committee Secretary – SGYC Commodore Ph 03 5674 1210 rlmcnair@hotmail.com
Allan Driver	SGYC Immediate Past Commodore
Ian Jones	SGYC Past Commodore
Andrew Chapman	Regatta coordinator

Antony Perri
John Honeybone
Leigh McNolty
Marion Chapman
Matt Kiely
Simon Wilson
Toby Leppin
Wayne Smith

Assisting the Committee:

Dennis Ginn
Terry Hall
Ian Turnbull
Leo Lubransky/Eulalie Brewster
John Fairfax
Mark Rimington
Leigh McNolty

Business Advisor
Inverloch and District Lions Club
Inverloch Rotary Club
Inverloch Historical Society
Sailing Dinghy historian
Sailing Dinghy Historian
Wooden Boat Association

SOUTH GIPPSLAND YACHT CLUB'S COMMUNITY PARTNERS



P.O. Box 5237 South Melbourne Victoria 3205
www.woodenboat.asn.au



Inverloch and District Lions Club



Inverloch Rotary Club



Inverloch Historical Society

INVERLOCH CLASSIC WOODEN DINGHY REGATTA PARTNERS

BUSINESS PARTNERS



SPONSORS



Eugenies Luxury Accommodation



2017 REGATTA BUSINESS AND INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS



**Terry Hall
Inverloch and District Lions Club
L.J. Hooker
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Big 4 Caravan Park
Foodworks**



**Serious Surf Stuff
Inverloch Quality Meats
Inverloch Pharmacy
Hotondo
Lewis Stone Real Estate**



**Inverloch Central Motor Inn
Motel on A'Beckett
Rod Bending
Earth Art Studios
Inverloch Fish and Chips
Slice of Paradise**

