



BILGEWATER

SPRING/SUMMER 2012

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SURREY PARK MODEL BOAT CLUB

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The Commodore's Comments

Ahoy there! It saddens me to report that no-one has agreed to take up the position of Bilgewater editor. There must be someone amongst our one hundred and thirty members who has the time and skills to put together a basic newsletter. This edition has been written anonymously but the author commented that 'all up it took 200 minutes to create from scratch'. Still the fact remains that at our recent meeting the majority of you said you wanted a Newsletter so the ball is in your court.

I was pleased to see the results of our efforts to clear the scrub off the island. The lake looks much bigger and 'prettier' now. Hopefully and before too long the Council will have completed the construction work around the back of the lake and we will be able to use some of the model boat launching ramps shown on the plans. We will also be able to 'go round the island' again. Recently some people have been seen trying to go round the island 'blind'. That's OK if you like rowing!

I notice that the reeds are beginning to regrow off the end of the wooden jetty and are poking through the surface of the water. It hasn't taken long for this to happen and they need to be 'nipped in the bud' before they get established again.'

Christmas will soon be on us and our annual Christmas Luncheon will be held at the Manhattan, Ringwood on 9 December. As this coincides with our December meeting date it has been decided to cancel the December meeting. Traditionally we don't have a January meeting so I won't be able to look down on your smiling faces again until the February meeting.

Early Season's Greetings and good luck to you all.

The Commodore



Up Coming Events - you can't afford to miss

Sunday 18 November 10.00 am Schooner, Ketch and Coutu-boat parade – There should be lots of boats on the water and at this time of the year the weather should make for a sparkling morning.

Sunday 9 December 12.00 noon 'Annual Christmas Luncheon' at the Manhattan Hotel, (intersection of Canterbury and Heatherdale Roads) Ringwood, 3134. The secretary has confirmed the booking for 50 people and asked for the seating to be at long tables rather than round tables. Please put your names onto the list on the Club notice board ASAP.

Saturday 26 January 2013 Australia Day Celebrations in Marysville. Following the success of the Club's involvement with the Marysville Wirreanda Children's festival in March this year we have been invited to participate in the Marysville Australia Day Celebrations. This is going to be an extra big deal as it coincides with the 150th year of Marysville's founding. Marysville has a nice lake with easy parking and the people were interested in what we were doing with our boats. Please put your name on the list on the notice board if you intend to go.

Who is this man standing on my boat?





Useful information

- Club Web Address - spmbc.org.au
- The Commodore has kindly allowed us to publish his mobile number so that contact may be made with the Club for matters of the most dire emergency on

Wednesday and Sunday mornings. Woe betide anyone who flippantly uses this number unless they are actually unconscious or the bleeding is uncontrollable.

The number is 0408139441 . You have been warned. (NB he usually leaves the phone off anyway!)

- Members are requested to familiarise themselves with the ambulance calling procedures that are posted on the Club noticeboard. Surrey Park is a large place and it is important to use the address listed as it has been lodged with the ambulance service.
- Pies and sausages are \$2, cans of drink are \$1. We are not a benevolent society.
- Club Membership is only open to 'a natural person who is nominated and approved for membership' (Green rule Book 3.1) - sorry Marcus.

Club Safety Officers

At our November meeting it was agreed by all present that the safe operation of boats on the Lake was everybody's responsibility. A number of ideas were put forward as to how people could be encouraged to take on the role of Safety Officer. One idea that seems to have merit is that Safety Officers are appointed for the day or part day. The appointee will don a coloured vest and while operating their own boat will also keep an eye out for the safe operation of the other boats on the lake. If they feel something is wrong but are not sure or need some reassurance they can speak to the other safety officers or members with greater experience in the area that concerns them. That way many people will share the experience of being safety officer, they will grow in confidence and the lake will maintain its already high level of safety.

The Committee would appreciate your thoughts on this idea.



Where are we?

The Club meets at our Clubrooms by the Lake in Surrey Park on Wednesday and Sunday mornings from about 9.00 am onwards. The lake is close to the Whitehorse Aquatic Centre near the corner of Canterbury and Elgar Roads, Boxhill.

(Melway 47, B11)

More information may be obtained from our website at smbc.org.au

Our mail address is: SPMBC, PO Box 2, Ascot Vale, Victoria, 3032

Club Officers

Commodore	Bob Owens
Acting Vice Commodore	Alan Grey
Treasurer	Martin Lui
Secretary	Tony Goldsworthy
1 st Ordinary Member	Gavan Salter
2 nd Ordinary Member	Nick white

Club Subscriptions – 2012/13	Annual	1 Oct - 31 De	1 Jan – 31 Mar	1 Apr – 30 Jun
Adult (18 years)	\$60.00	\$45.00	\$30.00	\$15.00
Concession (Pensioner or 55+ years)	\$50.00	\$37.50	\$25.00	\$12.50
Family Membership (at same address)	\$65.00	\$48.00	\$33.00	\$16.00
Junior (Under 18 years)	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$5.00
An entry fee of \$10 applies to the above fees				
A \$20 discount on the subscription fee is applied to members who live more than 60km from SPMBC				
Annual membership renewals are due 1st July each year and must be paid before 1st Sept to maintain Club rights				

'There is nothing – absolutely nothing – half as much as worth doing as simply messing about in boats.' 'Wind in the willows', Kenneth Grahame 1859 - 1932