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Wednesday 25th March - Tuesday 14th April 2026

Speedy.

Last edition we thought we had seen the return of *Shadow*, our favourite stingray. It was not to be. He arrived on Wednesday the 18th in all his huge glory, long tail intact. Nice to have him back.

With the equinox, and the real start of autumn, we get those large slowed-up high pressure systems, crisp mornings, with zero wind, and millpond seas.

Standing on Lagoon Pier at 8:15 on Monday it looked like someone was drawing straight lines on the underside of the water's surface at really high speed. Faster than any seal, shark, fish or —dare I say it — show-off Cormorant bird. Zooming.

A little penguin. New name: *Speedy*.

Rather than stick around with a school of bait fish, it grabs one to eat, zooms away, comes back in a few minutes and has another. Zooms off.

It must have to catch three times the needed protein just to cover all the zooming. The idea of just having a feed and sitting around doesn't seem attractive. That's probably what little penguin-predators do.

It was back again the following day. A lady walking on the pier was grateful of the tip and stopped to watch. Her border collie was unimpressed.

In this issue.

Next month has five Wednesdays, so the next edition won't be until the 15th of April. Which is why this one has so much information.

We'll learn about Fly-Fishing at Wednesday's General Meeting. Come along and check out what Chris is doing for supper.

You can donate to our *Royal Children's Hospital* appeal ... and smugly tell all those tin-rattlers, "Yeah Nah, thanks, I gave at the Club!"



Guess the number of Easter Eggs, and maybe win the whole Big Jar ... I have all the Airbus model numbers covered, so you have to choose your own.

Since we can't afford petrol anymore, stay in town this Easter and come to the Club. We're open just for you —right thru!

And a week later, when the Easter eggs are on special, we'll do it all again with Greek Easter! There are women (and a few blokes) hoping that **Tony Panayotou** puts on his dancing shoes again; just in time for **Alex Spyrou** to do his annual hammy and slink off the dance floor.

On Saturday 18th it's *Yacht Rock*, or, as I like to call it: '*Young peoples' discovery of OUR MUSIC!*'

- *What a fool believes (Doobie Brothers)*,

- *Sailing (Christopher Cross)*,

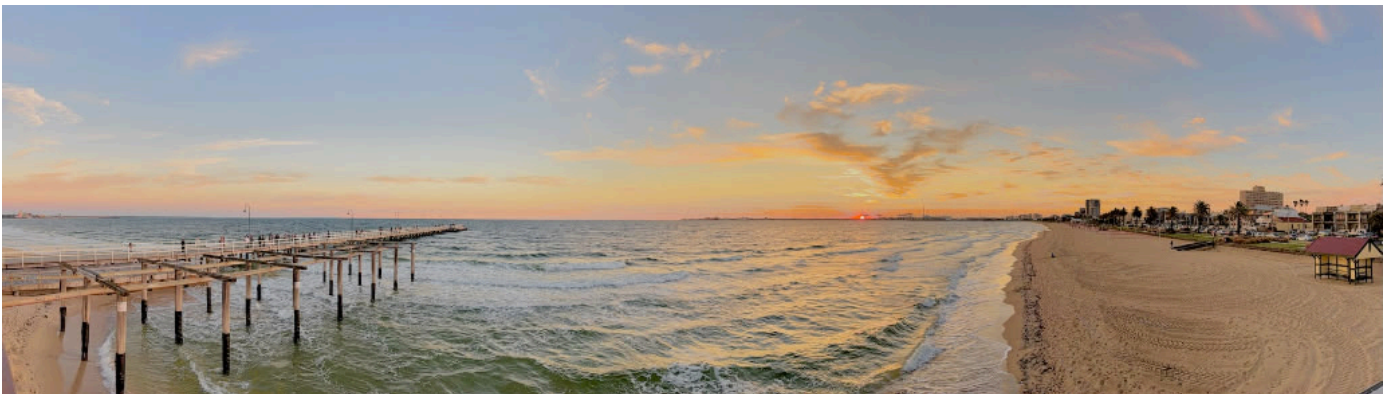
- *Africa (Toto) ...*

It's magical. And every drummer, and every bass player, has a human name.

Plus: Olga's got another fishing charter, Sunday Breakfast is finishing, the volunteers are doing wondrous things in the Boathouse, and we have an update on Kayaker's Reef. Oh, and we stop saving the daylight on the 5th of April.

This is edition 119, of Tight Lines.

James Nixon.

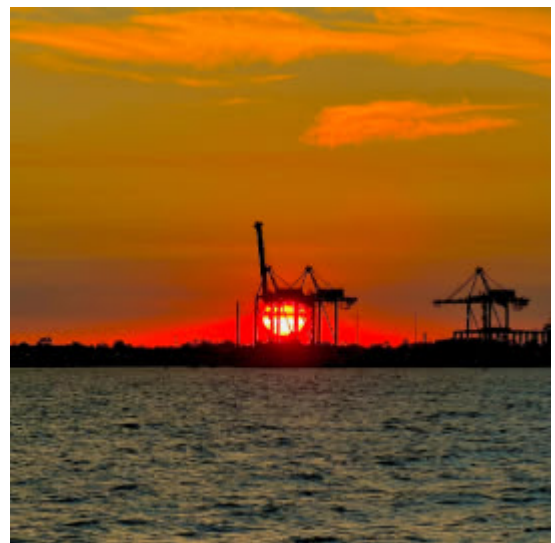


True West.

The sun sets at exactly True West (270 degrees) only twice a year, during the Autumn and Spring Equinoxes. On this day, 21st March, if you pointed your boat's magnetic compass at the setting Sun it'd have read 258 degrees -- the magnetic variation of Melbourne is currently close enough to 12 degrees East, and you SUBTRACT east variations. (Conversely, you'd ADD western variations. The pneumonic used by navigators: *East is Least, West is Best.*)

Fact or fiction?

Melbourne's Hoddle grid of the CBD (1837) was set to TRUE NORTH, while latter parts of the city were set to MAGNETIC NORTH —at that time about eight degrees east. The grid is not, as some say, parallel to the Yarra River.



What about Wednesdays?

4 - 8 p.m. Wednesdays

We are running a special Wednesday business trial. Would you like us to be open? What about it?

Vote with your feet.

4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Happy Hours, selected Wines & Beers at \$4 a glass!

The full dinner menu will be available, but without the Specials.

Wednesday Parma Night.

Chef Chris has kindly agreed to run four Parma options, each served with chips and salad, all for just \$24.

With every Parma sold, we're also offering:

- A pot of lager or draught includes great northern for just \$2.50, or
- A glass of Hill Chardonnay or Shiraz at the same price.

General Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month

The next one is on the 1st April.

4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Happy Hours, selected Wines & Beers at \$4 a glass!

Starters and light meals until 6:30 p.m. - No Parmas that Wednesday night.

The meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

Partake in the Club-sponsored supper after the meeting, before the speaker.

All welcome!

Happy hour Thursdays.

4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Selected Wines & Beers at \$4 a glass!

7 p.m. \$1,000 Member's Draw! It only spins once on Thursdays. To win, you must be present, and financial. When your name comes up, you must claim the prize within one minute.

Friday night at the Club.

The Member's Draw prize pool rolls at 7.30 p.m. sharp, and is \$1,300 for Friday the 27th. To win, the member must be present, and financial. When their name comes up, they must claim the prize within one minute. If not claimed, the jackpot increases by \$100 each week until won. Last Friday night *Steve Walker*, *Kathryn Tucker*, and *John Aravantis* missed out on \$1,200.

Weekly Raffle

Tickets are sold in the hour prior to the Member's Draw and the raffle is drawn soon after.

Four Prizes up for grabs:

- The Meats Tray, from *Kirkpatrick's Meats*.
- Mumm Champagne.
- A \$70 bar voucher.
- A substantial 'secret' prize; check it out on the prize table.

Tickets: one for \$5, or six for \$20 (EFT only).

Be nice to our Volunteers on the door and selling raffle tickets.

If you wish to stay for a meal, please make sure you book a table by **clicking the link here**.

Reminder: When making a reservation for dining it is expected you order within 30 mins of your booking time and all meals must be ordered before 8:30 p.m. Thank you.

Saturday night dining every week.*



On normal Saturdays:

5:30 - 6:30 p.m. HAPPY HOUR**

Selected Wines & Beers at \$4 a glass!

Full Dinner menu available.

Book your table **by clicking here.**

Please note you will be directed to the website, and need to log into your portal, or use the App.

If there are no bookings or demand, the venue may close early.

* Unless a function is being held.

** Happy Hour 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. EVERY Saturday (except when closed early for functions)

(Image: *The Regular Boys* will return soon.)

April General Meeting.

Next Wednesday 1st April

7 p.m.

4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Happy Hours, selected Wines & Beers at \$4 a glass!

Starters and light meals until 6:30 p.m.

7 p.m. General Meeting

- Minutes of previous General Meeting.

- Updates and reports: President, Treasurer, Membership, Boathouse, & Sub-Committees.

- Members Q&A to the Club Committee.

7:45 p.m. Club-sponsored supper.

8:15 p.m. Special Guest: **Mark** from *Hurley's Fly Fishing* who will talk about fly fishing.

Their website is www.hurleysflyfishing.com.au

All Club members welcome!



Good Friday Appeal.

The Club, through **Roland Nicholls**, has a tradition of collecting money for the *Royal Children's Hospital*. With his passing, we are keeping the spirit alive.

Last year we raised \$6,676. This year ... well, it's up to you.

Please click on the [link here](#), and donate as much as you can.

Easter Trading.

For the first time we will be trading through Easter after requests from members. Please support the Club by making an effort to make it work.

Thursday April 2nd - Normal trading

Good Friday April 3rd - Open from 12 noon

12 noon - Lunch

5.30 p.m. - Dinner

Easter Saturday April 4th - Open from 12 noon

12 noon - Lunch

5.30 p.m. - Dinner

Easter Sunday April 5th - 12 noon until 5 p.m.

No breakfast

12 p.m. - Lunch



Easter Egg Guessing Game!

On Easter Saturday, we will draw the winner of the *Easter Egg Guessing Game!* Go to the bar. Check out the HUGE jar full of Easter Eggs. Pay \$2.50 per guess and add your guess to the list. If someone has already chosen your number, choose another. Only ONE person per number. The person with the actual number, or closest to it, wins the jar!

Greek Easter Luncheon.

Sunday, 12th April

From 12 noon

Celebrate with a delicious three course Greek Easter feast!
Traditional Greek performers, dancing, and a lucky door prize.
Opa!

Adults \$65

Kids \$30

Grab your tickets now by clicking here now.



Yacht Rock Show.

The Johnny Fab Lighting &

Sound Experience

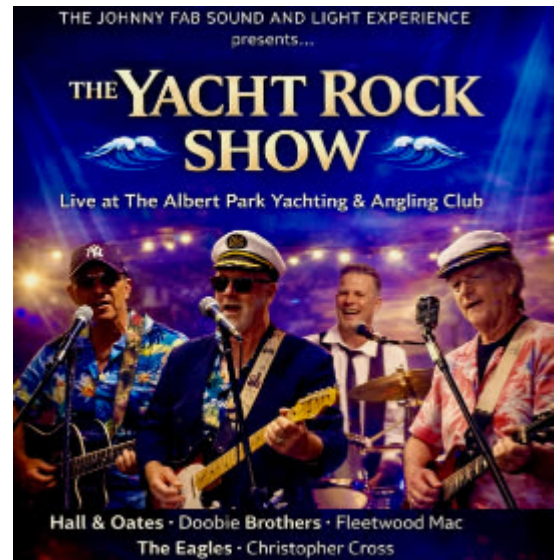
Saturday, 18th April

7.30 - 9.30 p.m.

Hall & Oats, Doobie Brothers, Fleetwood Mac, The Eagles and more of your soft rock favourites!

Smooth Sounds. Sunset Grooves. 70's & 80's Gold.

Free entry for Members and their guests.



Snapper Competition Fishing Charter

Saturday 18th April.

5:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Cost: \$75

It's half price as an APYAC subsidised event for Members. In return, you are required to volunteer for raffle / or door duty on a Friday night. The volunteers calendar will be available on the day.

Members only, no guests, or waitlist members.

Move fast, this is expected to be sold out! Not often do we do a Saturday charter.

Grab your spot by [clicking here now!](#)

- Boat leaves St Kilda Marina at 5:30 a.m. sharp.
- Wait at the wooden benches midway next to the Marina for roll call --15 mins early-- we board together.
- Only 12 spots.
- 15 years and over.
- Breakfast BBQ - (Dietary requirements cannot be catered for).

- BYO drinks including alcohol - no eskies.
- Two staff (they will assist anyone who has not fished before with bait etc.)
- Bait and rods supplied.
- Toilet on board.
- Check the weather and dress appropriately incl. headwear.
- Prizes will be awarded on the day. Brag mats on board.

NOTE WELL: Check SMS updates before you leave home in case of late cancellation.

Victorian Fishing Licenses are required, 18 - 70 years of age. Buy your licence [by clicking here](#). Remember, Seniors Card holders are exempt.

Queries? **Olga Harradine** 0419 000 246 (Don't call the Club)

Grab your ticket on the charter [by clicking here now!](#)

Angler's Kitchen Specials

Kilpatrick Oysters —*Freshly shucked oysters with smoked bacon, Worcestershire, chives \$5.50 each*

Baked Meredith Goats Cheese —*Wood-baked Meredith chèvre, roasted garlic, thyme, honey, grilled sourdough \$16*

Pulled Beef Taco —*Slow braised beef, Oaxaca cheese, salsa Verde, mango salsa \$11ea*

Prawn Ravioli —*House made ravioli, sea bream, braised silver beet, saffron cream \$38*

Braised Beef Rib —*Slow cooked beef ribs, waffle chips, kimchi slaw \$42*

Baileys Crème Brûlée —*Classic vanilla brûlée, oat crumble and Baileys diplomat cream \$15*

Check out the **new main and Sunday breakfast menus** [HERE](#).

BOOKINGS: 9690 5530 or [Click HERE](#) to make a booking.

Although Tight Lines is circulated to all, please understand that if you are still on the waitlist you are not officially a member, thus cannot book for Club functions or Anglers Restaurant Bookings until your membership is approved. Thanks for your understanding.

Last Sunday Breakfast.

The last Sunday Breakfast (9 a.m. till 11 a.m.) for this season, is on **THIS Sunday, 29th March**.

Check out the menu [by clicking here](#).

Always a good idea to book a table, [just click here](#) and choose the date.

The image shows a menu for Anglers Kitchen, a Lunch & Dinner Bistro. The menu is organized into several sections: Light bites, Salads, Sides, Kids eats, Classic, Signature, and Sweets. A 'SALAD EXTRAS' box highlights options like King prawns, Crisped chicken, Oyster cornmeal, and Crisped fish. The menu also includes a 'Classic' section with items like Double Cheeseburger and Chicken Skewers, and a 'Signature' section with Potato Skewers. The 'Sweets' section features Assorted Caramel and Black Forest Gâteau.

anglers kitchen LUNCH & DINNER BISTRO MENU		
Light bites	Salads	Sides
Oysters (V, VL, GL, GF) 8 Marinated shucked oysters	Classic Caesar 21 Dress on lettuce, garlic croutons, house, boiled egg, parmesan, white anchovies, caesar dressing	Crispy Chips (V, VL, GL, GF) 14 Tortilla sauce
Baked Oysters (GF, GF) 8 Individual half dozen full dozen	Roasted Kale Beet (V, VL, GL, GF) 23 White rice, charred onion, greens, avocado, edamame, pickled vegetables & lemon tahini	Garlic Bread (V, VL, GL, GF) 8 Tortilla, cheddar, onion, carrot, house dressing
Vegetarian Spring Rolls (V, VL, GF) 12 DIP & Rice dipping sauce	Roasted Pumpkin (V) 26 Garlic roasted yam, tomat, green salad, parmesan sauce, Truvia butter & balsamic	Coleslaw (V, GF) 10 Cabbage, creamy apple dressing
Panipuri & Masoori Aloo (V) 18 Aloo, chutney, extra salad	Chilly Calamari (GF) 27 Rooster, pickled onion, balsamic, extra mayo, Ninja sauce	Char-Grilled Zucchini (V, GF) 14 Zucchini, house butter & toasted breadcrumb
Tortilla Bruschetta (V) 20 Dress tomato or bread with whipped stracciatella cheese, sea salt and basil oil	SALAD EXTRAS King prawn \$4ea Crisped chicken \$5 Oyster cornmeal \$10 Crisped fish \$10	Kids eats
Pork & Chive Dumplings 23 Lift & eat like and ginger sauce served with seasoned salad		Langona Noodle (V) 10 Parmesan cheese Garden fine pasta extra \$2
Diced Kingfish Ceviche (GF, GF) 20 Cucumber, chili, dill, red onion, lime		Chicken Tenders (GF) 10 Chips and salad
Classic		Fish & Chips (GF) 10 Bread & butter
Double Cheeseburger 28 Nizza beef, cheese, pickles, onion, ketchup, mayo, chips	Signature	Kids Meal Cheeseburger 10 Chips & tomato sauce
Chicken Skewers 20 Chicken, grilled lemon, rice, onion, garlic, extra salsa	Potato Skewers (V) 20 Soft, hand rolled potato, parmesan, topped with char-grilled zucchini, onions, lemon, extra virgin olive oil and ground black pepper	Sweets
		Assorted Caramel (V) 12 Crisp macarons filled caramel with pistachio and chocolate, chocolate milk & honey sugar
		Black Forest Gâteau (V) 13 Cherry compote and dark chocolate shavings



March WINE OF THE MONTH

PORT PHILLIP ESTATE Chardonnay Red Hill

Now this one is special!
Vibrant citrus aromas of lemon and lime are complemented by hints of grapefruit blossom, white peach, grilled nuts, and subtle flint. Nuances of oak spice and gentle toast sit quietly in the background, adding depth.

The palate reveals flavours of charred citrus and white stone fruit, supported by a creamy mid-palate. A fine thread of phenolics brings texture and complexity, while a delicately woven acid line lifts the fruit, delivering brightness and a long, elegant finish. Ideal for those who appreciate the purity and elegance of Chardonnay.

\$55 per bottle

10% Sunday / 15% Public Holiday Savings Applies

March Wine of the Month.

Port Phillip Estate Chardonnay

Red Hill

Now this one is special!

Vibrant citrus aromas of lemon and lime are complemented by hints of grapefruit blossom, white peach, grilled nuts, and subtle flint. Nuances of oak spice and gentle toast sit quietly in the background, adding depth.

The palate reveals flavours of charred citrus and white stone fruit, supported by a creamy mid-palate. A fine thread of phenolics brings texture and complexity, while a delicately woven acid line lifts the fruit, delivering brightness and a long, elegant finish.

Ideal for those who appreciate the purity and elegance of Chardonnay.

\$55 per bottle.

President's Report.

BANG! What a Fortnight at APYAC!

Where do I even begin ... what an incredible couple of weeks it's been for our club!

A huge thank you to **John Spragg**, with the support of **Ray Goddard**, for organising what can only be described as an unforgettable trout fishing adventure to Noojee. A keen group of us packed up and headed off for a day that perfectly captured what APYAC is all about - camaraderie, learning, laughter and a shared love of fishing.

We kicked things off with a stop at the iconic *Noojee Hotel*, famous not only for its hospitality but also for the legendary *Noojee Dinosaur!* Over a bite to eat, we enjoyed a great information session that set us up for the day ahead. From there, it was on to casting practice with **Hurley's Fly Fishing** - and let me



tell you, for a group of self-confessed 'Noojee newbies' (yes ... I'm sticking with that pun), we needed all the help we could get. Thankfully, the team at Hurley's were outstanding —patient, knowledgeable and incredibly encouraging.



Armed with a few newly-acquired skills, we made our way to Alpine Trout Farm where the magic really happened. Fish were caught, cheers were loud, and the joy on everyone's faces said it all. One of the most beautiful aspects of fly fishing is its strong catch-and-release ethos —allowing us to enjoy the thrill while respecting the sustainability of the fishery.

But as we all know... things never slow down at APYAC!

Last weekend saw the latest fishing competition on the Angling calendar, our *March Snapper Challenge*, and wow - what a performance! **Olga Harradine** absolutely dominated the field, not only taking out the biggest snapper of the weekend, but securing the top three fish overall. Olga didn't just win ... she stamped her heels all over the competition. An incredible effort!

And then... we turned up the heat (and the spice) for our ***Mexican La Fiesta Night!***

Once again, our brilliant Manager **Annabelle** and our incredible staff transformed the Club into a vibrant Mexican wonderland. The decorations were spectacular, the atmosphere electric, and *Ascot Catering* delivered a feast that had everyone going back for more.

The entertainment was next level —live music, sensational body painting, and yes ... we were even graced by the one and only *Nacho Libre!* Thankfully he was there too, because I may have gotten slightly over-enthusiastic (and highly competitive) during the piñata smashing ... blindfolded no less!

If you missed it - don't make the same mistake twice.

Make sure you lock in our next blockbuster event:

GREESTAR – Greek Easter Celebration

Sunday 12th April

This is a club favourite and one of the biggest days on our calendar - food, fun, family and that unmistakable APYAC atmosphere. Trust me... you won't want to miss it.

What a club. What a community.

Tight lines, and see you all soon,

Lee

Lee Spyrou,
President.





Angry piñata fights back!

Volunteers needed.

Friday Night Helpers Needed!

We are still seeking friendly and enthusiastic volunteers to assist on Friday nights.

We need help with:

- **Raffle Ticket Selling:** 6 - 7:30 p.m.
- **Door Wardens** 5:30 - 7:45 p.m.

This is a fantastic opportunity to meet and connect with fellow members, contribute to the club's vibrant Friday night atmosphere, and enjoy being part of our welcoming community.

Gain a deeper sense of belonging and support the club you love!

No experience is necessary --just bring your smile and willingness to help.

The **Friday Night Raffle & Door Volunteer Roster** has been updated and is ready for vacant positions to be filled.

Add your name to the Volunteer Roster by **Clicking this link**.

If you're interested or have any questions, please reach out by email to [apyac.volunteers @ gmail.com](mailto:apyac.volunteers@gmail.com) with your preferred task, or drop into the office at the Club. Your support makes all the difference.

Barry Hayes,
Vice President.

APYAC Podcasts.

The latest addition to the podcast library is a speech given by the Secretary to a business lunch about APYAC and our *Shellfish Reef Restoration Project*. Check it out **by clicking here**.

Other podcasts interview guests:

Remy Van De Wiel, 'Plastics in the bays.'

Travis Dowling CEO of the Victorian Fishing Authority (VFA).

Brian Wright speaking about his friend, Warren Davey.

Bob Pearce, speaking about his life and times.

Mick Sass, speaking about his life and times.

Chris Lockhart, introducing our new Caterer.

Phil Langdon, speaking about his life and times.

New Committee members, **Stuart Cousins**, **Barry Hayes** and **Chris Herbert**.

Plus

Bev Pinder & Lee Spyrou (88.3 FM).

Gavin McGrath & Lee Spyrou (ABC Radio).

Check out APYAC's [podcast page by clicking here](#).



Email spam.

To reduce the amount of spam emails information technology experts recommend that we don't put linked email addresses in Tight Lines, so we write the email address, but leave gaps between the words.

It is up to you to put them together. For example: **members @ apyac.org.au**

Boat Hire Coordination

The Club has three boats and three kayaks for hire. See the website **by clicking here** for hire details.

For an Induction course, please reach out to **Chantal Jacq**, our Boathouse Captain, email: **captain @ apyac.org.au**.

Admin has now taken on the task of coordinating boat hires. Please check our website for full instructions (Angling / Boat & Kayak Hire) or **by clicking here**.

To hire a boat, you must:

- Complete a boathouse, boat, or kayak induction.
- Hold a marine licence (for boat hire).
- Register as a hirer, and complete a risk waiver.
- Be 18 years or older.

Payments for boat hire can be made:

- At the bar during Club hours.
- Online with a credit card through our payment gateway.
- Using fob credit (ensure you have sufficient funds loaded).

For further information, please reach out to **Chantal Jacq**, our Boathouse Captain, at **captain @ apyac.org.au**. Admin is assisting with the booking process only.

[Image: Scoreboard Part A.]

	OPEN	IN-HOUSE	TOTAL
SEPTEMBER	6	1	7
OCTOBER	6	12	18
NOVEMBER	26	12	38
DECEMBER	22	1	23
JANUARY	N/A	N/A	N/A
FEBRUARY	3	0	3
TOTAL			89

The Roland Nicholls Scoreboard

OPEN	FISH	POINTS	IN-HOUSE	FISH	POINTS
MICK SASS	19	126.9	ROB RAFFA	5	24.9
MARK MERCEICA	12	79.4	EDDIE BERNOBICH	2	13.0
RICHARD MUSCAT	8	51.4			
OLGA HARRADINE	5	34.3			
ALEX SPYROU	4	23.8			
ANTHONY HANSON	3	20.2			
DANIEL KARIS	2	12.9			
LEE SPYROU	2	9.0			
ANDY MCSHANAG	1	6.4			
LACHLAN MCGREGOR	1	6.4			
BARRY HAYES	1	6.1			
JOE CARBONE	1	5.6			
JOHN SPRAGG	1	4.9			
JUNIORS					
ANDRE CARTEL	6	19.8	DANNY VITKIN	3	11.3
ORLANDO LUMICISI	3	12.6	WILL OSBORNE	3	10.7
			HENRY RUDD	1	3.1
	69			14	

Angling.

General

Last weekend's Snapper Competition was very testing for most anglers with a number of donuts (0) recorded. However **Olga Harradine** creamed the field with three lovely snapper 74, 76 and 77cm. Congratulations Olga! Most of the fish caught by other anglers were just above 45 cm.

Rob Raffa won the In House with a nice fish 48cm, congratulations Rob.

The previous Sunday nine Club members made their way out east, had lunch at the famous Noojee Pub then, thanks to *Hurleys Fly Fishing* crew and **Ray Goddard**, were taught the very basics of fly casting. Most members got the basics right after about two hours then headed to a stocked lake.

Several of our anglers caught one trout each and a couple caught two fish. All trout were returned to the lake. Everyone enjoyed the day and some were looking to learn more about catching fish with flies. Hurleys are based at 489 South Road Bentleigh if anyone needs any fly fishing gear.

For boaters and anglers the autumn weather has been good so far, lighter winds, chilly starts with glorious afternoon temperatures more often than not. Keep an eye of forecasts, it's better to err on safety than practising your swimming style. The Bay water temperatures are only just dropping slightly, 20.3C top end of the Bay, 20.4C Mid Bay, and 18.8 C in the Ocean).

LONGEST FISH			LENGTH
SNAPPER	IN	R. RAFFA / R. POPE	77
	OPEN	M. SASS / P.HUTCHINSON	84
FLATHEAD	IN	R. RAFFA	46
	OPEN	A. CARTEL	48
SHARK	IN	S. COUSINS	88
	OPEN	J. MERCEICA	120
1ST SNAPPER	IN	ROB RAFFA	43
	OPEN	MICK SASS	64
LAST SNAPPER	IN		
	OPEN		
WHITING	IN	ROBERT RAFFA	38
	OPEN	SHANE BARWOOD	43
WHITING BAG	IN		
	OPEN	R. MUSCAT / S.BARWOOD	9.69
PIKE	IN	DAVE VITKIN	75
	OPEN	CHRIS DERRICK	55
KINGFISH	IN		
	OPEN		
SALMON	IN	ROB RAFFA	55
	OPEN	MARK MERCEICA	50
PIKE	JUNIOR	WILL OSBORNE	46

Really nothing has changed much since last report, snapper off the bite, whiting and flathead biting, predominant wind direction has changed and water clearing so squid on the chew. Sharks are around and Kingfish at the heads. Schools of Salmon all over.

When you get bait from the Club can you please stop writing in hieroglyphics as my ancient Egyptian is not good when reconciling docket; and be sure you have enough credit on your fob when taking bait or you will get a call from the office. The bait freezer will be re-stocked this week.

Snapper

Snapper have gone extremely quiet; it has been a hit and miss season so far. Some days bag outs, next day not a bait taken. Evening fishing seems to be most productive. Some Pinkies to 40 cm are being caught in the Williamstown / Altona area. Actually pinkies are in large numbers on most reef areas. Remember to fish outside shipping channel exclusion zones or it becomes very expensive fishing.

Best baits everywhere are silver whiting, pilchards, squid, garfish, Australian salmon fillets and couta. When you catch fish please think about returning the ones you and your family do not need for food. Catch, take a pic, and then return them a.s.a.p. in good condition.

Flatties

The record is not stuck, this is a very useful study and worth the effort even if you have to read this every Tight Lines issue.

We are still proceeding with helping Latrobe University with their Flathead study. Grab your kits in the Langdon Room, and downstairs near the sign-out book. Swabs are to be returned to the Esky in the boat house near the sign-out desk. Again: swab as many flathead as you can, size not important, make sure you return all undersize fish to the Bay.

It is Flathead time, (although they bite all year) next couple of months are exceptional. Try for them on 2-8 metres of water. We believe a paternoster rig, sinker at the end of your line with one or two droppers above the sinker, is best. Start with a 4/0 or 5/0 hooks. Cut pilchards, squid or fillets of any fish are great bait, they will also take soft plastic lures. Drift over sandy areas from Black Rock to Port Melbourne. Once you catch a few go back over the area as Flathead do tend to school-up in waves on the bottom. Out the back of the club, 100 metres out further from the pier end can be productive.



Gummies and other Sharks

There are still large numbers of sharks in the Bay school sharks, Bronze Whalers, 7 Gill Sharks and the odd Mako but they are more prevalent outside the heads. There are good size Gummy Sharks at many of the deep (12-20 metres) channels near the heads, and deeper areas up our end, try P2. You may even hook a shark in the shallows. Best baits seem to be Silver Whiting, Australian Salmon Fillets, Pilchards, Garfish and Squid.

Whiting

Whiting fishing has hit prime time, the Club marks are delivering fish. For some reason the water has not been clear in areas where whiting normally hang out. There are good reports from the very

Southern end of the Bay, Kirks Point and St Leonards areas are producing some nice whiting. Fish grassy areas 2-5 metres deep, and keep moving if you are not catching them. Best baits, Pipis, mussels and squid strips.

Squid

Whiting areas are also squid areas, and they are generally plentiful, so if chasing Whiting keep a few squid jigs ready—it may be well worth trying for them. Try Werribee, Point Cook and Campbell's Cove, Point Lonsdale, Sorrento and Blairgowrie. Look for clear water. Southern end of the Bay most productive.

Australian Salmon

Salmon are back in large numbers. Keep an eye out for birds working as there are schools of Australian Salmon up the Club end of the bay. Many good salmon caught around the red stick near Altona, schools have been reported out from Williamstown footy ground, and near Kerferd Road Pier. If you catch a salmon on a bait it is worth trying a lure for a dozen or so casts or a quick troll as they are a school fish.

Any smallish slivery or pilchard-looking lure dragged-through, or cast into, the area the birds are diving-in should produce fish. Salmon make great bait for snapper. There also have been schools of Taylor up our end of the Bay caught by the same method as Australian Salmon.

Kingfish

Kingfish have gone quiet around the heads. It really is Kingfish time now due to water temperatures. Best baits are whole squid, live yakkas or slimy mackerel.

Garfish

Garfish are plentiful in the Bay so if you see them, a light rod with a quill, or similar float, and a small hook with Silverfish (very small almost clear fish about 1-2 cm long), Prawn slivers, even bread dough works! They are being caught off most piers as well.

Even though we are past the Equinox you still need sun protection between 11 and 4 p.m. (that's between 10 - 3 p.m. after daylight saving ends on Sunday week - 5th April).

Check weather forecasts, keep an eye on the actual weather, do not take risks, give it a go, and take care!

Next official competition is the Flathead Frenzy starting 12.01 a.m. Saturday 11th of April and finishing at 2.00 p.m. 12th of April.

The best kind of fish in the world is the one on the end of your line ... *Penn Pro Staffer*

John Spragg

[Image: 3.5 lb Rainbow caught near Ballarat]



Boathouse

Our volunteers continue to do a wonderful job restoring and caring for our fleet, with standout progress on **Phil Langdon's** clinker — a true labour of love that's bringing new life to a beautiful boat.

Their dedication also extends to the ongoing maintenance of our clubhouse, ensuring it remains a welcoming home for all members.

We're incredibly grateful for the time, skill, and passion our volunteers bring to the club.

Please be sure to log up your trips on your boats downstairs; 5-trips annually required to keep your boathouse membership subs low.

Chantal Jacq
Boathouse Captain



APYAC Calendar 2026.

Saturday 28th March – **Boat House & Hire Boat Inductions.**

Tuesday 31st March – **Volunteer Appreciation Night.**

Wednesday 1st April – **General Meeting.**

Good Friday 3rd April – **Easter Trading.**

Easter Saturday 4th April – **Easter Trading.**

Easter Sunday 5th April – **Easter Trading.**

Sunday 12th – **Greek Easter Luncheon.**

Saturday 18th April – **Mixed Fishing Charter with Olga.**

Saturday 18th April – **Band: Johnny Fab Trio.**

Sunday 10th May – **Mother's Day Luncheon.**

Saturday 30th May – **Band: Regular Boys.**

More events coming soon!

Note: Saturday Bands usually play from 7-9 p.m. Check the detailed listing as the event draws near.

All events and bookings will be advertised in Tight Lines as they become available.

We are always seeking great people to help with these Volunteer run events, email Lee Spyrou, President. **president @ apyac.org.au** or **apyacvolunteers @ gmail.com**

[Image: When the tide goes out ... it goes out!]



Fishing & Boating Season Calendar 2026

MARCH

Saturday 28th March – **Boat House & Hire Boat Inductions.**

Tuesday 31st March – **Volunteer Appreciation Night.**

APRIL

Wednesday 1st April – **General Meeting 7 p.m.**

12.01 a.m. Sat 11th – 2 p.m. Sun 12th April - **Flathead Frenzy Weekend.**

12.01 a.m. Sat 18th April – 2 p.m. Sun 19th April - **Snapper Weekend Competition.**

Saturday 18th April – **Mixed Fishing Charter with Olga.**

MAY

12.01 a.m. Sat 2nd May – 2 p.m. Sun 3rd May - **Snapper Weekend Competition.**

Wednesday 6th May – **General Meeting 7 p.m.**

JUNE

Wednesday 3rd June – **General Meeting 7 p.m.**

Saturday 20th June – **Presentation night.**

Note: Beaconsfield / Beach Road Closures may impact some events.

[Image: When the sand goes, she goes.]



Boathouse Volunteers.

It was nice to celebrate a milestone three score and ten birthday with **Phil Thompson.**

The Pompei boat PA005 photos above show how the boat was before it was fully-restored (blue boat) and how it now looks now. This boat had the final electricals completed for the engine, instruments and navigation lights, and is nearly ready for sea trials.

Water and fuel systems have been completed on PA25, *the Langdon boat*. Final engine wiring is to be completed and then it will be just days away from a sea trial. The picture shows some of the volunteers responsible for the complete restoration of the boat.

The donated *George Watkins boat*, EA385, has had the hull sanded, and fully-sealed, under the professional eye of **Robert Lenne**. The photo shows the beginning of the application of the undercoats prior to the topcoats being applied. This boat will then be turned back over and the new Nanni engine installed.

The Tuesday and Wednesday volunteers were pleasantly surprised at the cleanliness of the kitchen, refrigerator and general work area thanks to **Sarah Pope** who popped-down to the Club with her father to help out. The challenge will be to keep it that way.

The east aisle crane project is still being delayed due to the steel work being held up due to a delay at a galvanising plant. When the support structure works are approved by the crane contractor, work will begin with the installation of the new





design crane.

Owners of boats and kayaks in the East aisle are reminded that to launch from the East aisle approval from any contractors on site must be obtained to ensure no safety issues are contravened.

The 'Sydney Harbour Bridge' work on painting our external steel mesh ramp fencing has begun with **Mike Kotsanis** already having to Zinc Gal the worst of the ramp sections to keep ahead of the corrosion.

During the cooler months we will purchase items that can be heated in our pie warmer — a donation from the late Life Member **Roland Nicholls**. He would get a lot of satisfaction out of knowing it was going to be used for volunteers as he was a one of the very first volunteers that contributed so much to the Club.

[And he'd complain that we weren't worthy! - Ed]

Our volunteers contribute in many ways, from being hire boat instructors, authorised Terex operators, contractor service coordinators, Seahawk skippers, Angling Committee members, bait stockists, Boat House Committee members and members that own businesses that fabricate aluminium and stainless steel parts for us. The Club is very fortunate to have them all.

Rations.

As a result of the *Great Cake Debate*, the Club Committee has generously agreed to finance the purchase of a cake or treats for the Tuesdays and Wednesdays smoko. Thank you to Amy for your involvement.

Last week I listed 50 Boat House volunteers and was severely berated for missing **Mrs Cakes**, who has been baking cakes for the Wednesday smoko for just over three years. I should be discharged from the hospital soon. The list now includes 51 Volunteers.

UPCOMING COMMITMENTS / EVENTS:

Saturday 28th March 8.30 a.m.

Boat House and Hire Boat Inductions

Tuesday 31st March 7.00 - 9.00 p.m.

Volunteer Appreciation Night at APYAC

Ian Sekac

Fill the barrel.

Fish-shaped soy sauce bottles.

The fish-shaped soy containers handed-out with takeaway food have been around since 1954 (when they were developed in Japan). They cause all sorts of dramas for fish.

They find their way into our streets' gutters, down stormwater drains into the sea where they are attractive to fish, who eat them.

This results in the fish sensing a full tummy and not foraging for food resulting, eventually, in starvation.

For most bony fish it also affects their swim bladders as the air inside the containers prevents them from swimming deep.

Not to mention the dramas with micro plastics as the little plastic containers decay.

Successful challenge.

We challenged members to pick up any little plastic fish they found, to prevent them entering our waterways, then bring them to the Club, and stuff them into our bucket. It seems to be working! One of our members, **Campbell Sinclair**, has become a soy sauce bottle-finding monster! Thank you on behalf of the fish. In future, when it's near full we'll have a guessing competition. Meanwhile, in a world first, the South Australian Government has banned them, with NSW promising to do it in half a decade. Who knows? Maybe Victoria could be convinced to join the party. Our local State Government Member, **Nina Taylor MP**, is enthusiastic about our Club and receives Tight Lines. We'll let you know if we hear anything.



Footy Tipping

Well what a week of football!

Tip-stars of the week

Five tip-stars tipped fabulously well to correctly pick six for Round 2. Great tipping with only the West Coast upset over North stopping these tip-stars from getting a bonus point for tipping all matches correctly in the round. **Alex/Andre Cartel**, Yellow (not Gold) and Black (**Michael Kotsanis**), **Dan Karis**, **Vincent Chan** and Duffster (**Chris Duffy**) were the fab five.

Two Jokers were played this round with ESPNFAN...863 (**Chris Lockart**) and George Kass (**George Kassiotis**) both scoring eight for their efforts.

At the top of the Leaderboard after Round 2, JBDemon (**John Bradley**) improved his lead over **James Nixon** with **George Kassiotis** moving into third spot at the expense of Robbie (**Robyn Martin**) who drops to fourth.

Memorable Moments

West Coast upset North Melbourne to win their first match in 308 days with second gamer Milan Murdock kicking the sealer. In a great story, he was an electrician and played for East Fremantle until being signed by the Eagles 3 weeks ago and in Round 1, he kicked a goal with his first kick in AFL.

Ben King kicked seven goals against the Tigers to bring his tally for the season to 16 ... from 18 kicks!

The Hawks beat the Swans in a great match on Thursday night, with the Swans missing two of their best players in Heeney and Gulden. Good kicking kept the Swans competitive all match with 13 goals from 17 scoring shots.

The Bulldogs continue to look awesome, winning away in Adelaide. Last year, Adelaide only lost one home and away match in Adelaide, although they went on to lose both finals at home.

Trivia Answers (as at end Round 1)

If Ross Lyon does not win the premiership in his next match this weekend (he won't...), which coach will he pass for the most number of matches coached without winning a premiership? (a) Rodney Eade (b) John Northey (c) Ken Hinkley (d)

Bob Rose **ANSWER: (a) Rodney Eade**

How many second halves has Carlton won since the start of last year's season (25 matches) (a) 4 (b) 5 (c) 6 (d) 7 **ANSWER: (d) seven**

Last week Tom Lynch managed to kick 2 goals and 7 behinds against Carlton. In the last 25 years, Justin Longmuir matched that with 0.7 in 2003. But one player has kicked more behinds in a match since 2000. How many behinds did they kick? (a) 11 (b) 10 (c) 9 (d) 8 **ANSWER: (a) Buddy Franklin kicked 2.11 in a match in 2007 against the Bulldogs**

Whilst Scott Pendlebury has not been suspended in his career, how many times has he been fined by the AFL Tribunal between 2022 and 2025 for rough conduct, striking or tripping? (a) one (b) two (c) three (d) four **ANSWER: (c) three**

Very few players have ever kicked 3 or more goals in a match in each of their first 4 matches. One player did so last week. What is the player's name and team? **ANSWER: (a) Cooper Trembath for North Melb.**

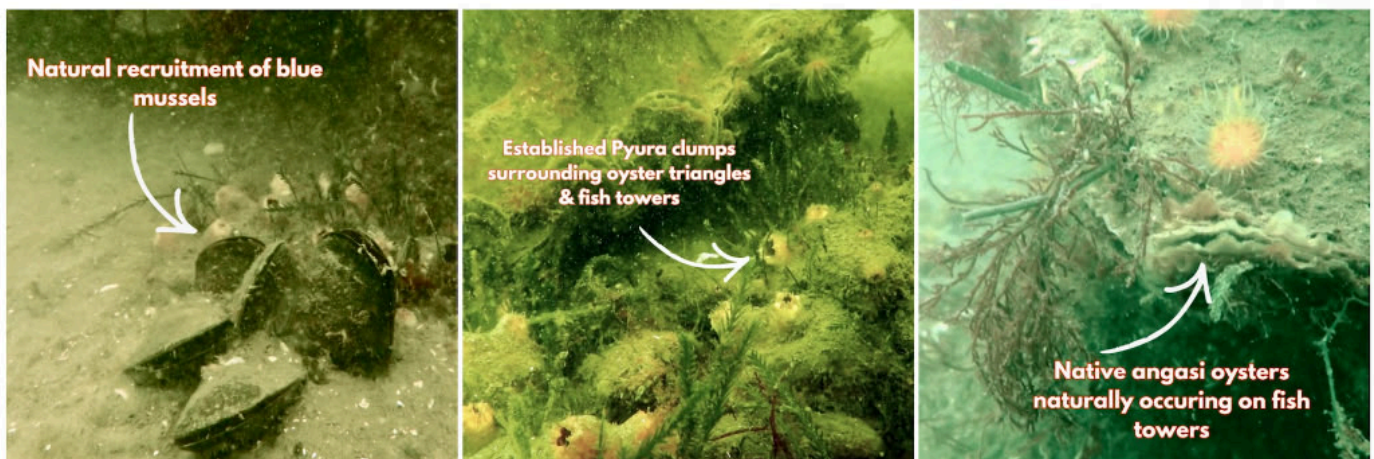
Smokie tipping performance.

Smokie's tip picking St Kilda to beat GWS was spot on. We are 1 from 2. Some may be amused, some may turn a blind eye and some will argue, but ignore the smokie tips at your peril.

Good Tipping!

Mike

Yellow (not Gold) and Black



Shellfish Reef Restoration

Our shellfish reef projects keep achieving some amazing outcomes. The area selected to develop a new reef was pretty well devoid of life prior to commencing our project, but is now a thriving marine ecosystem. We call it *Kayakers' Reef*.

Spring / Summer Monitoring.

Since the previous update recent monitoring and site surveys were undertaken in December, with some fantastic observations in relation to the survival and growth of oysters and biodiversity at the site.

It has been incredibly exciting to see Cunjevoi (Pyura) and large Blue Mussels establishing around the bases of the structure, along with a mix of red, green and brown seaweeds, tube worms, and the natural recruitment of oysters to the structures continuing to thrive.

Kayakers Reef Deployment.

The final 45 Fish Tower units of the project were installed on Thursday, 5th March. This brings the total number of Fish Tower units at the site to more than 133 units. The installation of the third 'Eastern Group' was an incredibly smooth operation thanks to **Peter Bold** and the MACs team.

It was great to have **Alex** from Reef Design Lab, **Andrew** (VFA), and **Lee** (APYAC) along to see the work in action. With the water temperature still quite high, I'm hoping we may catch the tail end of the larval period for wild recruitment.

Further Works.

Final works will include some volunteer recycled shell deployment to the site, and both volunteer BRUV monitoring, and a final underwater survey.

A final report on the progress of the reef will be provided to the group mid-year. We hope to continue to build on the success of the project and continue to source funding for further works at the site.

Bob Pearce & Ben Cleveland



History.

If you have any old club pictures or documents we'd love to get a copy of them. Contact: [apyac.volunteers @ gmail.com](mailto:apyac.volunteers@gmail.com)

Bill Ryan.

Image: Thanks to the *State Library of Victoria*



Fish Hatchery Open day.

Sunday 3rd May.

The Snobs Creek Fish Hatchery near Eildon will be open to fish fanatics of all ages from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at its annual open day on Sunday the 3rd of May.



Victorian Fisheries Authority CEO **Travis Dowling** said the annual free event will have an added attraction this year following the opening of the new *Macquarie Perch Recovery Centre* which will provide a significant boost to the iconic 'Maccas' and trout cod.

"The open day is packed with free family activities including self-guided tours and the chance to ask questions of expert hatchery staff about how fish are bred in captivity and Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) nation leading fish stocking program."

Snobs Creek opened in 1948 and now produces everything from the iconic Murray cod to threatened trout cod and Macquarie perch, as well as brown and rainbow trout and Chinook salmon.

Work by the *Snobs Creek Conservation Hatchery* to help recover at least ten threatened species is another highlight of the open day.

VFA staff and the team from the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Arthur Rylah Institute will be on hand to explain the work carried out at this state-of-the-art facility.

Robbie Alexander will be there sharing fishing tips and stories, inspiring the next generation to go fishing more often and scientist **Dr Corey Green** will be dissecting trout and discussing their fascinating anatomy.

VRFish will be running a fun lure painting activity while sharing advocacy updates in the recreational fishing space.

The Fisheries Education team will keep the kids entertained with a range of activities. There will also be a stocking truck display, casting clinics, aquaculture hub, live music, coffee van and sausage sizzle.

The Snob's Creek Fish Hatchery is at [455 Goulburn Valley Highway, Eildon](#).

For more information on what the Snobs Creek Open day has in store, just click this link.

If you have questions feel free to contact **Nick Talbot**, Senior Communications Advisor; Victorian Fisheries Authority & Better Boating Victoria.

[VFA press release]

Tight Lines - Why so often?

The larger edition of Tight Lines appears at the end of the month to advise you of the next Club Meeting, and always on a Wednesday so you can plan your weekend.

The smaller edition, (which we call *Slack Lines* behind the scenes), usually appears in the second week of the month to advise changes, events, band Sundays, and the latest Menu Specials. The clue is in the dateline at the top and bottom. During months with five Wednesdays we get a week off.

We have removed all email addresses, not because we don't want to hear from you, but it stops the bots that roam the internet from finding them to send spam email. Just click the contact links instead or go to the website: apyac.org.au

Merchandise.

Get yours now. Use your house levy:

Jackets \$85

Vests \$75

Hoodies \$65

Golf Umbrella \$50.

Fishing Tops \$50

Polo Shirts \$50

Scarf \$20

Wine Glasses (pair) \$20

Neck warmer \$15

Cap \$30

Hats \$25

Pom Pom Beanie \$25

Postcards \$10 Eight cards and one stamp! (Send one to your Grandma!)

Stubby Holder \$10.



Club Opening Hours.

TUE - FRI (OFFICE): 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday Trial.

Open 4 p.m.

Happy Hours 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Dinner 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Normal menu, specials: Parma Night!

Book tables to help prove demand.

General Meeting Wednesdays are different.

Thursdays, Fridays.

Lunch 12 noon - 2:30 p.m.

Bar Snacks 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Thursday Happy Hours 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Dinner 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Bar Snacks 8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Saturdays

Lunch 12 noon - 3:30 p.m.

Bar snacks to 4:30 p.m.

Saturday Happy Hour 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. (except when closed early for functions).

Dinner 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

If there are no bookings or demand, the venue will close at 7 p.m.

NOTE: If there is a function, we close at 3:30 p.m. sharp.

Sundays

Breakfast 9 - 11 a.m. - finishes this weekend until next season.

Lunch 12 noon - 3:30 p.m.

Bar Snacks 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

We remain open later on Band Sundays, details during booking.

Wednesday 25th March - Tuesday 14th April 2026

CONTACT US



Albert Park Yachting & Angling Club
129B Beaconsfield Parade Albert Park
P.O.Box 11, Albert Park Victoria 3206 AUSTRALIA
T: +61 3 9690 5530 E: admin @ apyac.org.au