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Wednesday 28th October - Tuesday 10th November 2026



Off the leash.

Living in Saigon, Vietnam, after six months of terror, I gained a perverse pleasure in plodding across major roads, watching taxis and fluid corpuscles of motorcycles flowing past in both directions, always managing to miss me in my invisible force field.

I like to cross Beaconsfield Parade just east of Vic Avenue without using the pedestrian crossing. Using my Saigon-honed laser stare skills, I continue to eyeball the driver who could kill me, right up until the time I no longer need my piece of the road: *'It's all yours now.'*

Stepping onto the gutter before the bike path, STOP! and look around carefully for the three kids on the whizzing electric scooter, with one (unworn) helmet between them. Unlike cars and bikes, they never give way, and the potential to be eviscerated or emasculated is always there, depending on the height of the handlebars.

A week after the Melbourne Marathon, while crossing the grass median strip, I spotted eight discarded protein gel packets, then hundreds. After carrying the little pack for half the marathon, then sucking the goodness from outside your tummy to within, what made the packet so heavy it had to be thrown away, instead of put back in your pocket?

Thousands of colourful plastic wrappers have now washed down the stormwater drains into the Bay, attracting sea and bird life, providing zero nutritional value, despite what the writing says. Anyway, fish and birds can't read.

Neither can long-haired daxies, like this one I saw bolting along the sand last Friday. There's nothing more pleasing than a dachshund in full flight, thinking it's a greyhound, an ear-flapping escapee unable to hide its grin. If he'd read the sign, he'd know he's not allowed on this beach until April.



We have a bumper issue today and a busy week ahead. If you have a ticket to Cup Day, and you want to partake in the Cup Sweep, you have to bring cash, $10 a ticket —only one go per person. Volunteers **Olga** and **Denis** will have six sweeps running, which should cover everyone. Grab your ticket as soon as you arrive, so they can also enjoy the day.

Annabelle will be checking the weather, and if she can open the outside table for people whose names are on the waiting list, she will.

A different type of waitlist is the one for membership. **Mackenzie** and **Barry Hayes** have been reminding people to pay their subs and culling the list of old members who have decided to move on. They will have offers for new members soon.

Ben Cleveland will be speaking at the Club Meeting next Wednesday night, telling us what he told the *International Conference on Shellfish Restoration* in Seattle a couple of weeks ago. Don't miss it.

Drop in the following day and see how, overnight, Annabelle and the team convert the place into Oaks Day! I have no idea how they do it.

This is edition **133** of Tight Lines.

James Nixon,

Editor.



Last Friday night, we watched the southerly change racing towards us, dropping the temperature from 30 to 21 in seconds.

Parma Wednesdays.

4 - 8 p.m. Wednesdays

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 runs 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.

Club Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month.

The next **General Meeting** is on Wednesday 4th November; see below.
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 7:30 p.m.
Enjoy the Club-sponsored supper after the meeting.
All welcome!



Image: Spirit V leaves to begin its life on the Bass Strait run, passing the Port Arlington Ferry and the ship it replaces, Spirit 2.

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.
You have to be there to win!

Friday night at the Club.



The Members' Draw prize pool rolls at 7.30 p.m. sharp and is $700 for Friday, the 30th October. To win, the member must be present and financial. When their name comes up, they must claim the prize within one minute. If unclaimed, the jackpot increases by $100 each week until won. Last Friday night: *Simon Blair, Saulius Balnionis* and *George Kaparos* missed out on $600.

Weekly Raffle

Tickets are sold in the hour before 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 at the door and selling raffle tickets.
If you wish to stay for a meal, please book a table by **clicking the link here.**

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

Image: She missed the boat.

Saturday night dining.*

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 that you will be directed to the website and will need to log in to 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)

Melbourne Cup Day.



Tuesday 3rd November.

$75 per person

From 12 noon (first course served at 12.30 pm).

Melbourne Cup Sweep

To make it easy for our volunteers, **Olga** & **Denis**, the following applies:
- Buy as soon as you enter.
- ONE sweep ticket per person, drawn randomly.
- $10 each.
- Cash only.
- Available until SIX (6) sweeps are full.

NOTE: We are currently fully booked!

However, if the weather forecast blesses us with a prediction of sunshine, we will open up the bookings again for the outside undercover area and the southern deck.
Feel free to put yourself on the Waitlist; first come, first served.
Celebrate the race that stops the nation with us at Albert Park Yachting & Angling Club.
Enjoy a relaxed, fine-dining 3-course luncheon while taking in the stunning bayside views. *Vegetarian option available.
Seating will be inside, with outdoor seating available, weather permitting.
In the notes section, please specify if you would like a vegetarian option or if you are sitting with a particular group.

- *Hosted by James Nixon*
- *Complimentary glass of Mumm*
- *All Races Live on Screen*
- *Race Sweepstakes*
- *Prizes*
- *Fashion Catwalk*

Grab your tickets by **clicking this link.**

November General Meeting



Wednesday 4th November

7 p.m.

4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Happy Hour, 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. Guest Speaker: **Ben Cleveland**, Cardium Marine
'From Albert Park to the world stage, Kayakers Reef making waves!'
Read more about him below.
Lock it in - Wednesday, 4th November.
All Club members are welcome.

Oaks Day.



5th November.

$65 per person

NOTE: Only a few seats left.

From 12 noon (first course served at 12.30 pm).

Celebrate the race that stops the nation with us at Albert Park Yachting & Angling Club.

Enjoy a relaxed, fine-dining 3-course luncheon while taking in the stunning bayside views. *Vegetarian option available.

Seating will be inside, with outdoor seating available, weather permitting.

In the notes section, please specify if you would like a vegetarian option, or if you are sitting with a particular group.

- *Hosted by James Nixon*
- *Complimentary glass of Mumm*
- *All Races Live on Screen*
- *Prizes*
- *Fashion Catwalk*

Grab your tickets by **clicking this link.**

Regular Boys are back!



Saturday 14th November

7.30 p.m.

Live on Stage at APYAC

FREE ENTRY

BOOK YOUR TABLE NOW BEFORE THEY ALL FILL UP!

Normal Saturday night dining.

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 that you will be directed to the website and will need to log in to your portal or use the App.

Children's Christmas Party

Saturday,12th December.

9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Captain Santa and his Elf are making a special visit to our Club!

Our Favorite clown, **Andy** from *Andy's Antics*, is back with fun and laughter for the kids!

Details:

• Price: $25 per child (under 12s)

• Includes: Entertainment and lunch. Fish & chips, icy pole, and soft drinks.

• Book your tickets by **clicking this link.**



Special Gift Reminder:
Parents, please bring a wrapped, labelled gift (valued at $10-20) for each child. Captain Santa will personally hand out the gifts!
Lunch Option.
If you'd like to stay and enjoy lunch after the party, remember to book a table in advance!

Peter Cupples



Sunday 20th December.

4 - 6 p.m.

The last day before we close for Christmas!
Join us this Sunday as the incredible **Peter Cupples** takes the stage for a special performance that you won't want to miss!
Kitchen open with FULL MENU until 6 p.m.
Bar open until 6:30 p.m.
Venue closes at 7 p.m.
Tickets: $15!
Gather your friends and enjoy a spectacular afternoon filled with great music, good vibes, and delightful refreshments.
Grab your spot **by clicking this link.**

Angler's Kitchen Specials.


anglers kitchen
LUNCH & DINNER BISTRO MENU
GRAZE
NATURAL OYSTERS
CHARRED CORN RIBS
VEGETARIAN SPRING ROLLS
PORK DUMPLINGS
FRIED BARRAMUNDI WINGS
GRAZING BOARD
SALADS
CAESAR
ROASTED PUMPKIN
SUPERFOOD SALAD
CRISPY CALAMARI
ADD ONS
King prawn (ea)
Grilled chicken
Crispy calamari

Pretzels *—served with butter. $11*

Pork knuckle *—bread dumpling, Dunkelbier jus, sauerkraut, apple sauce. $54*

Veal Schnitzel *—chips, apple slaw, lemon. $35*

Bratwurst *—mash, pickled cabbage, mustard, gherkins. $30*

Apple Strudel *—ice cream. $12*

Check out the **new main menu** **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 and thus cannot book for Club functions or Anglers Restaurant Bookings until your membership is approved. Thanks for understanding.



Wine of the Month.

HEROES Dry Riesling 2025

GRAPE: Riesling
LOCATION: Otway Hinterland, Australia
EYE: Bright green gold
NOSE: Lemon, lime, honeysuckle, jasmine
TASTE: Lemon, lime, minerality
MATURING: Wild fermentation in stainless steel
"Made from an unirrigated vineyard planted in the Otway Hinterland in 1999. A light, very bright green gold. A fragrant and delicate bouquet of Meyer lemon, jasmine, orange blossom and lime zest. Textural and beautifully balanced on the palate, with a fine thread of acidity in harmony with the fruit. Should age gracefully over the next decade."
– Philip Rich, Halliday Wine Companion 02 December 2025

$55 per bottle

President's message.

One fish, nine babies and a remarkable story of hope.



During my recent trip to Seattle, where I was privileged to represent APYAC at the *International Conference on Shellfish Restoration*, I visited the magnificent Seattle Aquarium. I expected to discover some fascinating marine life, but I certainly didn't expect to be so moved by the story of a fish I'd never even heard of!

Let me introduce you to the Bowmouth Guitarfish!

With a name like that, you'd be forgiven for thinking it belongs in a rock band! This extraordinary creature looks like something from prehistoric times --part shark, part ray and perhaps a little dinosaur thrown in for good measure.

Sadly, the Bowmouth Guitarfish is critically endangered, but the story of one remarkable mother and her nine babies is a wonderful reminder that there is still hope.

Off the coast of Taiwan, a female bowmouth guitarfish was accidentally caught in a commercial fishing net. While being held at a fishing centre, she gave birth to nine live babies!

For many marine creatures, that might have been where the story ended. But fortunately, conservationist **Fred Fan** recognised the significance of these precious little lives and stepped in to help.



Through an extraordinary international collaboration, all nine babies were transported to the Seattle Aquarium's care facility. One little female remained in Seattle, while her eight siblings found homes in other accredited aquariums, where they could be cared for and contribute to vital conservation efforts.

Nine little lives, given a fighting chance because someone cared enough to act.

Standing there in Seattle, thousands of kilometres from home, I couldn't help but reflect on the wonderful conservation work we're undertaking at APYAC.

Our Kayakers Reef project may be a world away from rescuing endangered guitarfish, but the message is exactly the same.

Through the dedication of **Bob Pearce**, Cardium Marine's **Ben Cleveland**, volunteers and partner organisations, we're helping restore marine habitats that disappeared from Port Phillip Bay generations ago.

Every oyster that establishes itself, every fish that finds shelter and every young person who learns the importance of protecting our oceans is another small step towards a healthier marine environment.



What inspired me most about the guitarfish story was the power of collaboration. People from different countries and organisations came together with one common purpose —to give a species a fighting chance.

And isn't that exactly what conservation is all about?

I returned from Seattle feeling inspired, but also incredibly proud of what our Club is achieving. We're more than a fishing and boating club. We're a community that cares about the waters we enjoy and the legacy we leave behind.

I encourage everyone, especially our junior members, to watch the wonderful video accompanying this article. It's a beautiful reminder that even the smallest acts of compassion can make an extraordinary difference.

Because sometimes, the smallest stories leave the biggest impressions.

See the video **by clicking this link**.

See you at the Club,

Lee.

Lee Spyrou
President

Ben Cleveland



From Albert Park to the world stage, Kayakers Reef is making waves!

Special Guest Speaker – Ben Cleveland, Cardium Marine

Our little patch of Port Phillip Bay is making some pretty big waves in the world of marine conservation!

Join us at our General Meeting next week as we welcome Ben Cleveland from Cardium Marine, one of the driving forces behind our incredible Kayakers Reef project.

Ben will share the fascinating story of how our artificial shellfish reef is helping bring marine life back to our waters, creating new habitat for snapper, whiting, calamari and countless other species.

Following our recent involvement in the *International Conference on Shellfish Restoration* in Washington, USA, Ben will also share insights into our collaboration and how the work happening right here at APYAC is contributing to a much bigger conservation story.

With additional reef modules deployed and strong partnerships continuing to grow, Kayakers Reef is a wonderful example of what recreational fishers can achieve when we work together.

Come along, hear how far we've come, what's next for the reef, and why there's every reason to be proud of what APYAC is helping achieve.

We're not just fishing for the future – we're helping rebuild it!

Lee Spyrou

Angling.



Spring weather has arrived: some calm days, but it is also a time of strong winds and mixed weather, even hot at times. Keep an eye on forecasts; it's better to err on the side of safety than to practise your swimming style. The good news for Port Phillip Bay anglers is the bay water temperatures are quickly on the rise and much warmer than outside the heads: 18.0 °C at the top end of the Bay, Mid-Bay 17.9 °C. In the ocean, only 15.9 degrees.

It is official: the run of new snapper breeding in the Bay has started; the Bay water temperature is above 17C; there has been a good flush of fresh water, plenty of pinkies around; whiting, squid and flathead biting. Wind predominantly still from the north to north-west with strong west to south-westerlies and the odd strong easterly thrown in.

When you get bait from the Club, can you please stop writing in hieroglyphics? My ancient Egyptian is not good when reconciling dockets; and be sure you have enough credit on your fob when taking bait, or you will get a call from the office. Members are also taking bait and not circling how they pay for it. If you pay cash and put it in the box on the wall, circle cash; likewise, if you pay on your fob, circle fob. If no circle, it will be booked to your fob. Our crystal ball is murky.

It is starting to happen on the water; since last edition, there are fish out there if you try.

Snapper.

The new run of large Snapper is slowly happening, with large schools showing up on sounders. Early morning and sundown fishing seem to be most productive, although the fish do not always follow rules. When the new run of snapper arrives, they generally head to shallower water. Reports of fish taken from St. Kilda to Black Rock. Good fish caught straight out from Hampton. Black Rock to Rickets Point on 5-8 mts line producing fish. Williamstown out from the footy ground has yielded fish. Anglers have been doing very well down at Portarlington, although it's quieter this week. Fish have also been caught on Altona Reef and even around P2.

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.

It is Flathead time (although they bite all year); the next couple of months are exceptional. Try for them in 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 hook. 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 good-sized 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. There have been reports of very many 7-gill sharks in the bay up to 3 metres. Use very large chunks of bait, 10-12 size hooks and wire trace to stop them biting you off. The best baits seem to be silver whiting, Australian salmon fillets, pilchards, garfish and squid.

Whiting.

While many anglers only have snapper on their mind, whiting fishing should be good, the water clear, but the Club marks are not delivering. There are good reports from the very Southern end of the bay, where the water has been mostly clear. Kirks Point, Wedge Spit, Portarlington, Mornington to Portsea 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 lately plentiful and very large, so if chasing whiting, keep a few squid jigs ready —it may be well worth trying for them. Now is the time large squid enter the bay to breed and are hungry. Try Werribee, Point Cook, Campbell's Cove, Point Lonsdale, Sorrento and Blairgowrie. The red stick sticks directly out from Altona Yacht Club, and the boat ramp has had anglers bagging out on squid. Look for clear water and grassy patches. Try 3.5 size jigs; if no luck, try 2.5 jigs. Large squid are being caught; a favourite spot of mine is Blairgowrie Marina Pier on an incoming tide. The water will need to clear after the wind and rain we have had. Phillip Island has also been fishing well for large Squid.

Australian Salmon.

Salmon are in huge numbers but have been hit and miss the last few weeks. Keep an eye out for birds working, as there are schools of Australian Salmon up the Club end of the bay. Many good salmon have been caught around the red stick

near Altona; schools have been reported out from Williamstown footy ground, and near Kerferd Road Pier and near the Williamstown Cardinal Marker to near the Clocktower in water as shallow as one metre. Directly out from St Kilda Marina has seen Salmon in almost plague proportions. Salmon up to 65cm are being caught. If you catch a salmon on bait, it is worth trying a lure for a dozen or so casts or a quick troll, as they are a schooling fish.

There have been big schools near the club and in close, so ideal for kayak anglers.

Point Londsdale Pier has been productive for land-based anglers willing to travel.

Any smallish silvery or pilchard-looking lure trolled or cast into the area the birds are diving in should produce fish. Take your boat around the schools, not through them; try to work out which way the schools headed and circle around them, either casting into the school or trolling. Salmon make great bait for snapper, and if bled, cleaned immediately and cooked that day, provide reasonable eating.

Garfish.

Garfish are still very 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, or even bread dough works! They are being caught off most piers right around the Bay by land-based anglers. An area a few hundred metres from the main beach at Williamstown opposite the rotunda, for boaters, has been productive.

Mulloway.

It is a prime time to fish for Mulloway; the best times are as evening approaches, till well into the night. Live bait yakkas or mullet is best; large strips of fresh squid also work. They are being caught from the warmies right up the river to Burnley.

Check weather forecasts, keep an eye on the actual weather, do not take risks, give it a go, take care, and make sure you Sip, Slop Slap and take plenty of drinking water as it can get hot this time of year.

You do not cease to fish because you get old; you get old because you cease to fish. - Annon.

John Spragg

*Images: **Chantal Jacq** & **'Shane Junior'** ... his neck is fully recovered after three months with an embedded hook. A most successful fisherman.*

OPEN	FISH	POINTS	IN-HOUSE	FISH	POINTS
MICK SASS	10	53.0	ROB RAFFA	1	6.8
MARK MERCIECA	3	16.2			
MARY-JANE MERCIECA	3	16.1			
RICHARD MUSCAT	1	6.8			
JOHN SPRAGG	1	4.7			
	18			**1**	

Max Coningsby Competition.

Get ready for four days of non-stop action in the ***Max Coningsby Fishing Competition***, kicking off this Friday at midnight (starting Saturday at 12:01 a.m.) and running through to 4 p.m. on Tuesday!

All four days are eligible for competition, but you must enter your fish on the same day you catch them.

Entries are capped at a maximum of three Snapper per day over 43cm, with an overall competition limit of six fish per angler.

To claim your prize, you must be present at our November General Meeting on Wednesday evening, where the winners will be presented with their awards.

Good luck and tight lines to everyone taking part!

Chantal Jacq,
Boathouse Captain.

LONGEST FISH			LENGTH
SNAPPER	IN	ROB RAFFA	68
	OPEN	MARK MERCIECA	75
FLATHEAD	IN	RICHARD CAIN	47
	OPEN	ALEX SPYROU	50
SHARK	IN		
	OPEN		
1ST SNAPPER	IN	ROB RAFFA	**68**
	OPEN	**JOHN SPRAGG**	**47**
LAST SNAPPER	IN		
	OPEN		
WHITING	IN		
	OPEN		
WHITING BAG	IN		
	OPEN		
PIKE	IN	DAVID VITKIN	65
	OPEN	MICK SASS	77
	IN		
	OPEN		
SALMON	IN		
	OPEN	JACK MERCIECA	54
CALAMARI	IN		
	OPEN	RICHARD MUSCAT	26
PIKE	IN		
	OPEN		
BREAM	IN	ROB RAFFA	38
	OPEN		
FLATHEAD	JUNIOR - IN	MATTHEW GOWANS	44



Boathouse Volunteers

Volunteers continue to be the lifeblood of the boathouse. Last week we had a great turnout of 13 on Tuesday and 15 on Wednesday, enabling us to complete many tasks. Thank you to all, and especially those who stayed to attend the Boathouse Sub-Committee meeting on Wednesday.

We welcome your ideas for making the boathouse a safer, more efficient, and enjoyable environment. Don't wait for a meeting if you have something to say; contact **Chantal**, our Boathouse Captain, or me, and we can discuss your concerns or ideas.

Worksafe.

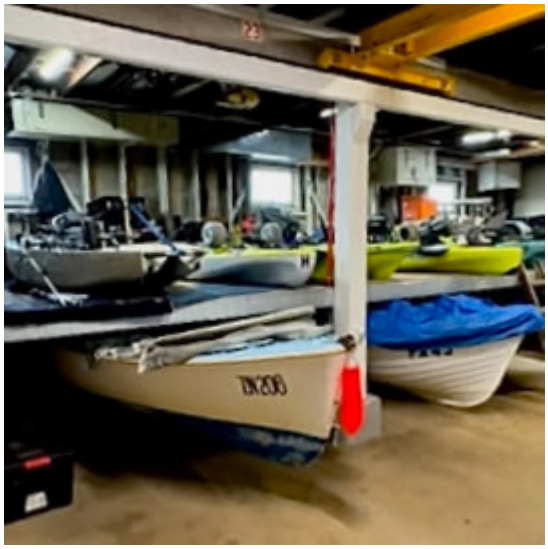
Under the Victorian Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Act 2004 and the OHS Regulations 2017, a boathouse containing active workshop machinery and an overhead monorail crane system is legally classified as a **workplace.**

We have many responsibilities as a Club, as an organisation. I won't outline all of them, save to say that we are aware of our need to protect children and minors coming into the boathouse. They need to be supervised for the whole time they are in the boathouse, are not permitted to enter the workshop, and must never be near operating cranes and hoists.

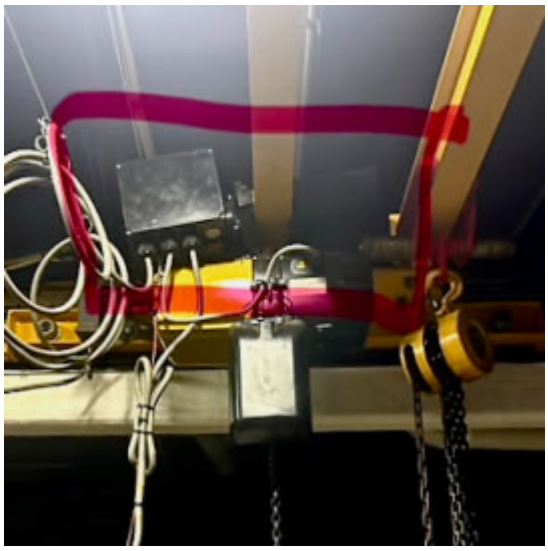
Enclosed footwear is mandatory for any visitor entering the main floor of the boathouse. Thongs, sandals, or bare feet are strictly prohibited.

We have just placed, at the entrance, a Visitors Sign-in Book. All non-Members and contractors are required to sign the book upon entering the boathouse. Members need to observe and ensure compliance with this protocol.

Hire Kayaks.



We have been informed that some safety gear in one kayak has gone missing and, as we approach the busy season, we need to recognise our responsibility as the hiring organisation. Our kayaks and hire boats must be in a fit and compliant state for hire.



Safety gear in the three kayaks will be upgraded. Each new sealed bailing bucket will contain a 50-foot throw rope with an orange float; a torch, whistle, signal mirror, and compass; as well as a daylight orange flare.

The kayaks come with depth sounders, so maintaining the batteries will become a routine maintenance task.

All kayaks are housed in the upper berths in the east aisle. Please note that the electric chain hoist used to remove the kayaks from their berth only has motorised east-west travel. North and south travel is only facilitated by physically pulling the chain block hoist hook to move the crane in the aisle.

We recently had an issue where the electric chain hoist pendant cable was pulled, causing the pendant control box to lose contact with the rail, which required the contractor to rectify the problem.

PA35. The restoration work has been completed, and the boat was handed back to the owner, Nick Dimtrokallis, who was very appreciative of the work done by the volunteers.



PA18. Restoration of this boat started in earnest when the boat was turned over and placed on the work dollies to begin the work on repairing the hull. **See the photo above.**

Rations.

Stu provided a gourmet spread of chicken sandwiches one week, and smoked salmon sandwiches the next. The volunteers enjoyed a baked cake from **Nick** last week, and a baked chocolate cake from **Mrs Cakes** today, as well as party pies from Coles. We are continually spoilt by the generosity of our Club members.

Ian Sekac.

APYAC Calendar 2026.

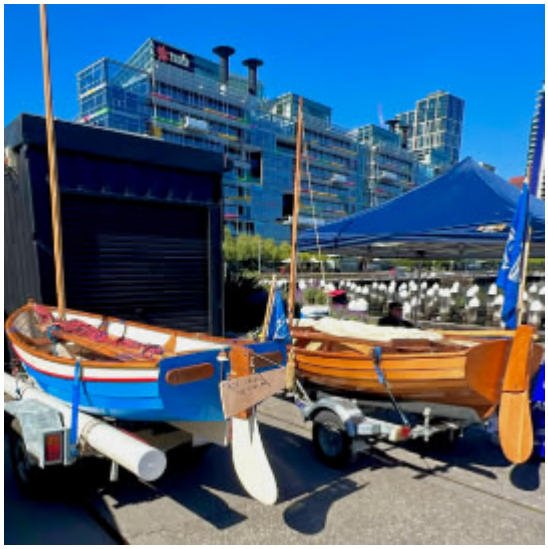


NOVEMBER
Tuesday 3rd November – **Melbourne Cup Luncheon.**
Wednesday 4th November – **General Meeting** (*regular dining closed*) 7 p.m.
Thursday 5th November – **Oaks Day Luncheon.**
Saturday 14th November – **Regular Boys** 8 p.m.– Free Entry.
Saturday 21st November – **Closed from 4 p.m.** (Private Function).

DECEMBER
Wednesday 2nd December - **General Meeting** (*regular dining closed*) 7 p.m.
Saturday 12th December – **Kids Christmas Party** – *booking link coming soon.*
Sunday 20th December – **Peter Cupples** – *booking link coming here.*
Thursday 31st December – **APYAC New Year's Eve Event** – *booking link coming soon.*

More events coming soon!
Note: Saturday Bands usually play from 7-9 p.m. or later during summertime.
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 **apyac.volunteers @ gmail.com**

Fishing & Boating Season Calendar 2026-7.



OCTOBER / NOVEMBER
Max Coningsby Long Weekend Competition - 12.01 a.m. Saturday 31st October – 4.00 p.m. Tuesday 3rd November (prizes awarded at monthly meeting).
Sunday Sausage Sizzle - 2.00 pm Sunday 22nd November.

DECEMBER
Pot Of Gold Competition - 4.00 p.m. Friday 4th December – 2.00 p.m. Sunday 6th December.
Sunday Sausage Sizzle - 2.00 pm Sunday 6th December.
(11th–13th December / Backup POG Weekend dates)

JANUARY – NO COMPETITIONS
Clinker Boat Races - Australia Day, Tuesday 26th January.

FEBRUARY
Tiger Lyons Whiting Competition. - 4.00 p.m. Friday 5th February – 2.00 p.m. Sunday 7th February.
Sunday Sausage Sizzle - 2.00 p.m. Sunday 7th February.

MARCH
Purrumbete Long Weekend - Friday 5th March – Monday 8th March.
Sunday Sausage Sizzle - 2.00 p.m. Sunday 14th March.
Herring Island BBQ - Sunday 28th March, time TBC.*

APRIL
Flathead Frenzy Weekend - 4.00 p.m. Friday 2nd April – 2.00 p.m. Sunday 4th April.
Sunday Sausage Sizzle - 2.00 p.m. Sunday 4th April.

MAY
End of Season – Sunday Sausage Sizzle - 2.00 p.m. Sunday 30th May.

JUNE
Presentation Night - Saturday 19th June.

Note: Beaconsfield / Beach Road Closures may impact some events.
** Actual start time to be confirmed.*

Image: Clinker boats for sale at the recent boat show.



Middle Park Beach renourishment.

Middle Park Beach is preparing for a major facelift, with 30,000 cubic metres of sand to be dredged from about 750 metres offshore and pumped onto the beach. The aim is to widen the beach and strengthen its protection against coastal erosion.

Like many beaches along the *City of Port Phillip* coastline, Middle Park is artificially created and needs regular sand replenishment. Previous campaigns took place in 2008, 2016 and 2020.

Importantly, Council is aware of the location of our **Kayakers Reef** and has guaranteed that the dredging works will not affect it.

Works are expected to be completed by December 2026, weather permitting. The contractor will operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, with sections of the beach closed in stages to minimise disruption. To reduce noise for nearby residents, effective noise barriers will be installed, and while sand pumping can continue overnight, mechanical spreading will be restricted to daytime hours.

The new sand may initially appear darker and have a natural organic smell, but sunlight, waves and tides should gradually lighten it to match the existing beach.

Further details can be found **by clicking this link.**

- ChatGPT treatment of Council web page.



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** with your preferred task, or drop into the office at the Club. Your support makes all the difference.

Barry Hayes,
Vice President.

Tarago Reservoir

Tarago Reservoir will soon be opened to recreational fishing and boating for the first time in many decades, providing recreational fishing access to a high-quality water storage facility close to Melbourne.

In recent years, electro-fishing surveys by the *Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA)* and the *Arthur Rylah Institute* showed that the reservoir currently holds a self-sustaining population of large brown trout.

VRFish and many of our supporter organisations believe that the opening of Tarago Reservoir provides a unique opportunity to create a special fishery.

As the peak body for Victoria's recreational fishing, we want to hear from recreational fishers about how Tarago Reservoir should be managed once open to the public.

We also acknowledge that most trout fishers practice ‘catch and release’ when fishing.

The outcomes of the survey will be shared by VRFish and provided to the Victorian Fisheries Authority for consideration.

The survey will only take a few minutes to complete and will close at 11:59 pm on Sunday 1 November.

Complete the survey **by clicking here.**



Australian Fishing & Outdoor Expo 2026.

7th & 8th November 2026
Regional Events Complex
Bendigo Showgrounds.
42 Holmes Road, North Bendigo, Victoria.

Discover some of Australia’s best fishing and outdoor products, with more than 20 exhibitors and something for everyone. From fishing lures and fishing adventures to off-road vehicles and boats, there’s plenty to explore.

Meet the special guest speakers and enjoy plenty of activities for the kids.

Fishing Boat Show ’n’ Shine.

Showcasing everyday anglers’ pride and joy — their recreational fishing boats. Admire a range of privately owned boats and check out some of the latest models on the market.

Special Guest Speakers.

April Vokey is an internationally recognised fly-fishing writer, fly-tyer and speaker. After a decade guiding in British Columbia, she now divides her time between northern BC and Australia. She is an FFF-certified casting instructor, forager and bowhunter.

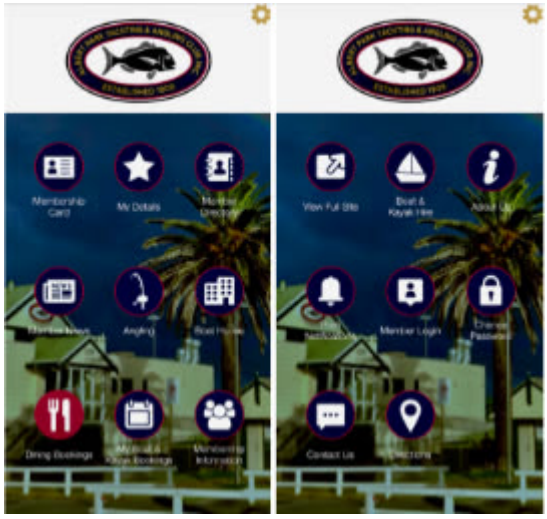
Merv Hughes is a former Australian fast bowler, popular cricket personality and host of *The Merv Hughes Fishing Show*. A passionate angler, he published *Caught in the Deep* in 2006, sharing fishing adventures, humour and the message that you don’t have to be an expert to enjoy fishing.

Dr Taylor Hunt is a Fisheries Manager with the *Victorian Fisheries Authority*, supporting the sustainable management of Victoria’s fisheries and the improvement of recreational fishing. He holds a PhD in fisheries management and science, specialising in the evaluation and improvement of fish stocking.

Rod Mackenzie (Codmac) is regarded as one of Australia’s leading authorities on catching giant Murray cod. A member of the Penn Pro Fishing Team, he has appeared on popular fishing programs, tests products for lure companies and delivers catch-and-release presentations at tackle stores and the Yamaha Cod Classic.

Check out further details **by clicking here.**

The App's back!



I'm pleased to report that the APYAC App has been restored.

Two pages of your Club info in the palm of your hand.

- Read TIGHT LINES in Member News,
- Book a table in a flash in Dining Bookings,
- Hire a boat or kayak, and much more.

Check out the APYAC APP on both app stores, here are the links:
For iPhones -- **Apple App Store:**
https://tinyurl.com/APYAC-app-Apple
For Android phones --**Google Play Store:**
https://tinyurl.com/APYAC-App-GooglePlay

Chantal Jacq
APYAC Boathouse Captain & Social Media Manager

History.



If you have any old club pictures or documents, we'd love to get copies. Contact: **apyac.volunteers @ gmail.com**

Bill Ryan.

[Image: Thanks to the State Library of Victoria]

Boat Hire Coordination.



The Club has three boats and three kayaks for hire. See the website **by clicking here** for hiring 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 only with the booking process.

Image: The faster you help fill the bucket, the faster we can have a competition!

Merchandise.



Get yours now. Use your house levy:

Jackets $85
Vests $75
Hoodies $65
Golf Umbrella $60. *(You really need one.)*
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! *(Scare the grandchildren with LIVE snail mail!)*
Stubby Holder $10.

APYAC Podcasts.



The latest addition to the podcast library is a speech given by the Secretary at 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 the I.T. 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**

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 at 10:30 a.m. so you can plan your weekend during your lunch break.

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 most email addresses, not because we don't want to hear from you, but because 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**

Any ideas? **Just click this link here** and put TIGHT LINES IDEAS in the subject line.

The Tight Lines Editor is **James Nixon**.

Club Opening Hours.

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

Wednesday.

Open at 4 p.m.
Happy Hour 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Dinner 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Normal menu, specials: Parma Night!
Book tables to help prove demand.
Club 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 Hour 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 until 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

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 28th October - Tuesday 10th November 2026

CONTACT US

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