

MCYS Power Committee Report

For the AGM,
Friday 19th July 2024

Following the AGM last year a number of experienced power boat owners volunteered to be advisors to the new Power Committee. Their contribution and support has been most helpful and very much appreciated.

The committee initially focused on “relaunching power” to encourage owners and users of power boats in Hidden harbour and Martha Cove moorings, and the Martha Cove Dry Stacker to become members of Martha Cove Yacht Squadron.

Slight modifications to the MCYS logo and website were approved by the General Committee to subtly balance the presence of power and sail. Further work remains to be completed.

Matters of the heart interrupted in September resulting in surgery to repair my mitral valve in December and successful cardiac reversion in May. I am indebted to Bill Wilson, Clare Murphy and Des Carroll for their help by stepping up during that time, and encouragement from committee members and advisors.

The practice of meeting in person rather than virtually, as had been norm during “lockdowns,” saw us return to monthly meetings in that very well equipped OC1 meeting Room at 140 Pickings Road, Safety Beach – until we get a clubhouse.

This allowed Bill Wilson to use the large screen display to explain to Power Committee members the finer details of what was being proposed.

Our regular usage of this meeting room has increased our exposure to the staff of Cambridge Management which administers Owners Corporation No 1 which in turn controls much of Hidden Harbour and Marthas Cove Marina moorings and water infrastructure, and should assist with developing closer ties between MCYS and Martha Cove residents.

In spite of our best efforts, plans to conduct *on water destination activities* such as picnics to Blairgowrie or Mornington or rafting up were frequently impacted by “non fair” weather, much to the dismay of Gerry Vaughan and Russel Warmington who were eager to lead activities. These activities will continue to have a strong focus in the coming year.

The difficulties of providing reasonable notice for on water events for smaller power boats with their need for “fair weather”, unlike keel boats, highlighted the need for simple and quick means of communication with MCYS members who might be available “next Thursday afternoon” to join Gerry or Clare or Bill for a run down to Sorrento “because the weather forecast that day looks good”.

Improvements were made to improve the members directory and improve accuracy but there is still work to be done to the website to make it easier for members to communicate directly with each other via agreed media.

Recuperating provided time for reviewing web sites of several yachting and boating clubs on Port Phillip Bay to see what activities they provided for their power boat members. References to Nav Ralling kept popping up. Bill Wilson reminded me that previous RC Sail (John Hall) had arranged a Nav Rally to Blairgowrie in 2021 which a number of MCYS members had participated in.

Our research included clubs in WA where Nav Rallies and Time Trials are popular with their power boat members.

Bill Wilson has done a power of work in recent months, and is well advanced with updating the rules and procedures for the enjoyment of MCYS members.

The committee has conducted a number of informal trials using three members power boats and testing various boat speeds and navigation software. Such trials have demonstrated that we still have some way to go but are confident we will be able to introduce regular Nav Rallying next season.

Training sessions and workshops will assist all club members to improve their navigation and boat handling skills, and how to implement effective communications techniques which should enable more events to occur on our Bay with more participation by members living in the Martha Cove Strata Community.

Having enjoyed the camaraderie at the club dinners over the past year we look forward to increasing and strengthening the activities and relationships across the full spectrum of power boat shapes and sizes

Kind regards,

Geoff Steele
RC Power - MCYS
6th July 2024

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Cc: Clare Murphy, Bill Wilson, Ian Stewart, Roy Aldrich, and
Advisors: Rex Over, Russell Warmington, and Gerry Vaughan