

150th Birthday Celebrations

No not the 150th Ball (more on that next edition) but this was our actual Birthday! – Monday the 8th June 2009. This marked 150 years to the day when the Club was formed in the Victoria Hotel and the First Commodore Capt. D. J McPherson was elected. We thought it fitting to not let this day pass without at least a few celebratory toasts. So from 3:00pm – 5:00pm on Monday the 8th members were invited to come along to the Club where we had a three piece jazz band, finger food, a 150th Birthday Cake and, at last, a significant bell ringing by our Commodore.

We were also able to have some very special historic items and documents on display for the occasion.



Past Commodore Peter Jackson



Commodore Graeme Ritchie



Jane Carlton, John and Deidre Backwell with Peter Jackson



Past Commodores gather to blow out the candles



Time for celebrating



Norina Mamone (left) and Carlyn Sexton (right) and friend



Club Historian Ruth Plummer



Participants enjoyed catching up with past and present members



Hon. Life Member Ruth Plummer, oldest living member Past Commodore Bob Lucas and Des Allen, our longest serving member

Royal Geelong Yacht Club takes on Optimists

Due to the growing numbers of Juniors and the successful Tackers program, Royal Geelong Yacht Club has decided to take on the Optimist Class to add to its already successful International Cadet fleet.

A Saturday morning racing program is being set up to commence in the 09/10 season and six new boats have already been purchased by members who also want to join in on the Optimist championships programs. RGYC's own

plastic Opti's will also be available for this program in a 'B' division.

RGYC instructor Sue Case said, 'The response has been fantastic with two parents from the current group of Tackers program purchasing boats. This is a natural progression for our club to retain not only children who complete our course but also families. Because of our growth in numbers, finding positions on Cadets was becoming difficult and we certainly didn't want to lose anyone so this is a great decision.'

Corio Bay would seem to be the perfect venue for Opti's with flatter water, good breezes and fantastic facilities for the class. There is also a coaching

program during Winter with some boats preparing for the Pacific Optimist Championships at Lake Macquarie in October followed by the National Championships in Adelaide in January.

By Brian Case

