

## Looking Back...with Molly

With another successful Regatta in the Trees recently enjoyed it is interesting to look back to where it all began.

A tourist holidaying at Rest Point in 1956 probably had no idea that he would be indirectly responsible for the formation of the Walpole Yacht Club. The idea had been tossed around for a time – why not, considering the beautiful waterways available.

But Terry Swarbrick purchased a yacht – a VJ 12 ft. 2 crew – from the tourist in 1956 and sailed tantalisingly close to Claude Cooper and son Frank in their flattie one day in Swan Bay. The knowledge that there was a yacht in the town soon spread and it wasn't long before a day was organised for interested people to meet and take part in a sail on the VJ. It proved to be a rather a frightening and hair raising experience for all at the time as there was a strong easterly blowing!

Interest quickly spread as more VJ's appeared in the district and old lifejackets were obtained. One enterprising sailor even made a spinnaker out of an old parachute. For a time sailing was confined to Swan Bay until they felt confident to conquer the waters of the Nornalup Inlet! Various district people were enticed on to the boats as crew and the story is that for some time, sailors and crew spent more time upside down in the water than actually sailing!

A clubhouse was built of timber from the old Kent River Mill and Swarbrick's original mill at Rest Point, to house the boats and the club was formed around 1957/58 with Terry Swarbrick as Commodore, Claude Cooper as Vice Commodore, Harley Swarbrick as Rear Commodore and Don Hadfield as Secretary/Treasurer.

The first small Regatta was staged in Swan Bay in 1958 and this was the forerunner of many successful competitions.

The Southern Zone Moths Championships became part of the annual regattas in 1963 and by 1970 club members concentrated on sailing Moths and competed in regattas in Albany and Busselton.

Membership fluctuated and in 1981 a change was made to Windrush yachts to suit family sailing. However by 1998 membership had dropped so much that no annual regatta was held. The club went through the doldrums for a short while but is now flourishing and is an integral part of the sporting life in Walpole.

*(Article compiled from "My version of the history of the Walpole Yacht Club" by Frank Cooper)*



What's on...

**Friday, 13th March, 2020**

Happy Hour 5pm - 7pm

Bar Snacks at 5:30pm

Chase the Ace \$1400

Drawn at 7:30pm

**Punters Club**

Last week—DisMal \$0.00

This week - Gavin

**Footy Tipping 2020 Now available \$50**

1st prize \$2000

**Bottle Shop Specials**

Carlton Draught Stubbies Carton \$51.99

Carlton Dry 30 can Bock \$55.99

Little Creatures Stubbies Carton \$61.99

Millers Stubbies Carton \$44.99

Gage Road Stubbies Carton \$56.99

Coopers Original Ale Stubbies Carton \$51.99

Iron Jack Stubbies Carton \$43.99

**Restaurant Open 7 days -**

Lunch 12pm - 2pm

Dinner 6pm - 8pm

**Phone: 08 9840 1023**

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SHIRE OF  
**MANJIMUP**

Manjimup • Northcliffe • Pemberton • Walpole

**Public Notice**

**Prohibited Burning Extended**

**Zone 6 (Northcliffe & Walpole)**  
**Zone 8 (Manjimup, Pemberton, Quinninup)**

The Shire of Manjimup notifies all land owners and residents that the Prohibited Burning Period for **Zone 6 (Northcliffe and Walpole)** and **Zone 8 (Manjimup, Pemberton and Quinninup)** has been extended to 29 March 2020.

Please contact the Shire of Manjimup on 9771 7777 or your Local Fire Control Officer.

Andrew Campbell, Chief Executive Officer