



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Another month has flown on by and so much is happening in the lands of SICYC International.

The organising of this year's Rendezvous is well underway with the program set and confirmed. I would love to invite you along with registration now open on the SICYC [website](#) for members and their guests. Grey Nomads are also welcome to attend with van sites available for a small fee. Our organising committee, headed up by Vice President, Paul Dwyer says, "this year will be better than ever". Profits raised through this event support [The Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia](#), the clubs charity of preference. We would also like to express our gratitude to our Sponsors who have continued to donate towards making this event for members and volunteers, a continued, low cost event. Check out the website for more details and registration.

We put out the call for volunteers last month and we have had several members put their hands up to help out as Regional Coordinators, but we need more, especially from all states outside of Queensland. It is part of the International Committees goals to reignite our Sundowner Clubs and to have our members across Australia and the International countries, together socialising. If you are keen to start a Shaggers Sundowner Club or reignite one that has fallen away, get in touch with Juliana Harvison - her details are email: admin@sicyc.com.au OR via our website contacts page. If you have experience in the other fields such as finding sponsors in each state, creating or updating websites and social media pages, keeping the members database up to date or just helping out with some administrative work, please get in touch with us at admin@sicyc.com.au. Many hands make light work.

Two new Sundowner Clubs have been reignited in Queensland and their first meetings were held on the last Friday of March. Congratulations to Manly and Hervey Bay, with both clubs well attended and lots of drinks and fun was had by all who attended. There is more on this in this edition of the newsletter.

We are endeavouring to get our membership database updated and need your help. If you could spare 10 minutes of your time to log into the website using your user name (nautical name or email address) and password. We are needing to ensure that your details such as phone number, address, email (some are no longer working), region (select one from the drop down box) and nautical name are correct. While you are in the site, check out the "SHOP" to see if there is anything you might like to purchase or need replaced such as Burgee's, hats or even a new members shirt. If you have lost your membership card, you can reorder a card through the shop. If you have forgotten your login details, email communications@sicyc.com.au. We can reset your details via email OR you can change passwords on the websites "Member" page.

SICYC turns 17 years old on May 9 and we have organised a members birthday party at Dublin Docks Tavern on the Gold Coast to celebrate. This will be a blue shirt event featuring fun, friendship, raffles along with partaking a meal, drinks and birthday cake. Cost is just \$30pp and booking are essential. More details in this newsletter.

We are always keen to hear from our members and the best way to do this is via email. If you have something to share for the newsletter, provide some feedback on what we do or just to say hello, please email the Committee at communications@sicyc.com.au.

Until next month.

regards

Danny Davidson

VC Nobby Beach Qld / Chairperson - SICYC International

E. communications@sicyc.com.au

Gold Coast's Leading Marina & Shipyard

South East Queensland's most awarded undercover dry storage facility for boats up to 36-feet

GCCM
GOLD COAST CITY MARINA & SHIPYARD

Nautical Schoolies

SICYC Rendezvous 2026



Are You Ready For Another 4 Day Rendezvous?

August 27-30th 2026

Cape Gloucester Resort, Airlie Beach Qld

Book your wrist bands \$35pp- per 4-day event

Get out the fancy dress gear, school uniforms, robes, boating gear, ropes, headwear, masks, costumes, pirate gear, telescopes.

Fabulous entertainment, live music, games, competitions, island party BBQ's book swap, yoga, beach parties, loads of fun to be had. Haircuts by Tiana Beach Barber, Best dressed Nauti-Cal Schoolies, Masquerade, Pirates, Pirate queen, caravans and boats. Auctions raffles and SICYC merchandise

Book Now.

PCFA buffet breakfast \$30 per person

<https://events.humanitix.com/sicyc-rendezvous-2026>

Proudly Supporting the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia

Let's Get Friday Night Started – Rendezvous 2026

Under the enchanting tropical night sky, the Shag Islet Cruising Yacht Club (SICYC) is poised to host its inaugural Masquerade Party at Gloucester Resort, Cape Gloucester, marking the last weekend of August 2026 with flair and elegance. Members and friends will don exquisite masks and stylish beach-appropriate attire, infusing the evening with an air of mystery, color, and excitement. The venue, bathed in soft lighting with music wafting through the coastal breeze, promises a vibrant and anticipatory atmosphere.

The masquerade theme invites creativity, with masks ranging from traditional Venetian styles to bold, imaginative designs. The playful challenge of identifying masked attendees will animate the night, fostering laughter and camaraderie. Beyond the glamour, the event holds a significant purpose: raising funds and awareness for Prostate Cancer, a cause impacting many in the community.

This gathering strengthens the community spirit of SICYC, bringing together members, partners, and friends to socialize and share experiences in a lively setting. Set against the picturesque backdrop of Gloucester Resort, it's an ideal occasion to relax, connect, and celebrate.

A highlight of the evening will be the Best Mask and Costume competition, where creativity shines and standout designs earn admiration. As the night unfolds, SICYC's first Masquerade Party promises to become a glamorous evening of fun, friendship and community support – and perhaps the beginning of a wonderful new club tradition.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS: www.sicyc.com.au



Rendezvous Tips

Dress Up Themes –

Let Your Imagination Run Wild

- School uniforms, mismatched socks, crooked ties
- sailors' hats, captains' stripes, rope belts suspenders
- Boating gear, life rings, buoys, mini anchors
- Ropes & headwear, skirts and shorts hitched with rope
- Masks & costumes, Pirate outfits, telescopes & more

Whether you go full Nauti-Cal Schoolies, mysterious masquerade or bold pirate queen, there's a theme for everyone.

Entertainment & Activities

- Live music & fabulous entertainment
- Games & competitions
- Island party BBQs
- Book swap
- Yoga sessions
- Beach parties, Walk the Plank for Prostate
- Auctions, raffles & SICYC merchandise
- Haircuts by Tiana (Beach Barber)

Expect 4 days packed with energy, colour and community spirit.



Proudly Supporting the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia



Man from Snowy River ride urges Aussie men to get tested for prostate cancer

Made famous by bush poet Banjo Paterson and immortalised on screen, *The Man from Snowy River* has long symbolised Australian resilience and courage.

Inspired by that same spirit, prostate cancer advocate Steve Keil, 65, is taking to the saddle with his daughter, one of Australia's standout country music singers, Courtney Keil, for a five-day High Country ride, turning an iconic Australian journey into a powerful call for Australian men to get tested for prostate cancer, the nation's most diagnosed cancer.

The ride was originally planned for March 2025, but had to be postponed after Steve, then 63, was diagnosed with prostate cancer.

"Everything was booked and paid for. You have to book months out because it's very popular. We had to delay it because I had to go in for a procedure following my prostate cancer diagnosis," Steve said.

Steve, of Terrigal in New South Wales, feels extremely fortunate that his partial prostatectomy via laser enucleation and TURP went well, and he had no complications from the surgery.

"It was instant relief. It was fantastic. I had a bit of a relapse in October. It wasn't directly related to the prostate cancer, but I had other pain issues. I had a procedure a couple of weeks ago that relieved all that. I'm now fighting fit and ready to go," Steve added.

Steve's love of horses started at a young age, with frequent time spent in country Australia.

"It's something I've always loved, and it's something our family has always loved. Even my grandparents kept horses. It's a real passion for both of us.

"Courtney has also had a deep connection to horse riding for most of her life, and the Snowy River Ride has always been something Dad and I have wanted to do together. "We both love the movie. It's one of those iconic Australian childhood films. It felt like a special activity to do together".

Courtney Keil, a country-pop artist who has multiple chart-topping singles and more than half a million streams, continues to cement her place as one of Australia's rising country music talents. She wants to use the ride and the stage to help spread awareness of the disease that kills 3,975 men each year.

"My grandfather, Dad's dad, lived with the disease for over 15 years before passing away in 2020. "It's something that's been in our family for a while," Courtney said. "Dad's diagnosis brought it very close to home again. It affects so many families across Australia."

The pair will spend four to six hours in the saddle each day, covering historic High Country terrain, made popular by the 1982 movie *The Man from Snowy River*, over five days. The ride is operated by a multi-generational local family, 'Watson's Mountain Country Trail Rides', with deep ties to the region.

While the ride fulfils a lifelong dream for both Steve and Courtney, it also carries a clear lifesaving message.

"Prostate cancer is such a simple thing to test for," Steve said. "Blokes just need to get out there and get tested."

Courtney recently co-wrote a song with her father honouring her grandfather's life and legacy, reflecting the strong family bonds that underpin the ride.

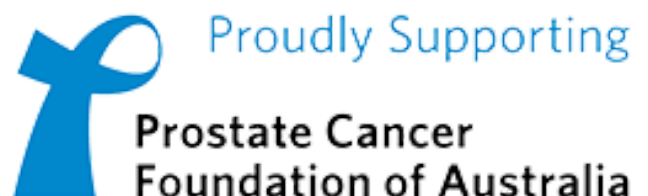
Just Like Flying, inspired by her grandfather's life, reflects the resilience, humility and strength he passed down to others, "As women, we're often more comfortable talking about health," she said. "We can help encourage the men in our lives to have those conversations and book the test. If it's not you, it's someone you know."

Steve and Courtney will share updates from the ride and are encouraging the community to support their fundraising efforts. Anne Savage, CEO of Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia, said the ride captures the enduring spirit celebrated in Banjo Paterson's writing.

"The Man from Snowy River has long symbolised courage, determination and backing yourself when the odds are steep. "To take a quote from the movie, many men like Steve are hard, tough and wiry. Just the sort that won't say die. "When it comes to prostate cancer, that same courage is needed, not in the mountains, but in taking that simple step to book a PSA test."

To donate to the Man from Snowy River Horseback Experience, please visit:

<https://fundraise.pcfca.org.au/fundraisers/stephenkeil>



Member's Lapping Up Another Successful Sundowners

Members of SICYC Townsville Sundowners Club hosted another big get together at their venue, Townsville Yacht Club. The theme for March was "Fishing" and organisers, Owen and Jill Scown put on a big afternoon of fun, catchups and a little bit of sozzle along the way.

Thanks to their new sponsor BCF Deeragun, members were able to "dive into" the fun with a variety of exciting activities including lucky door prizes, raffles and a chance to win a sumptuous meat tray supplied by another of their supporters, Townsville Yacht Club.

Members enjoyed the delightful finger food on offer and were seen donning the special "fish hats (see below photo)".

Townsville Sundowner events are on at Townsville Yacht Club on the last Friday of each month from 3pm to 6pm. Contact VC [Owen or Jill](#) for more details.

If you would like your Sundowners Club story featured here, send us your story and original photos by 10th of each month for inclusion.



Clarence River "Unofficial" Cruise – A Heartfelt Success Thanks to Our Stalwarts

When rising fuel costs and personal circumstances forced eight boats to withdraw, a handful of determined shaggers kept the Clarence spirit alive. Their commitment turned what could have been a cancellation into a wonderfully warm and memorable "unofficial" cruise.

Across the journey, six boats joined in at various stages, with 18 enthusiastic participants gathering at different venues along the river. What unfolded was a relaxed, good-humoured adventure filled with friendship, local flavour, and plenty of laughs. The cruise kicked off with visits to Sanctus Brewery and the lively Maclean Highland Games, where participants soaked up the Scottish festivities and community atmosphere.

Good Friday brought a special celebration – a pontoon birthday party for new member Linda, complete with two cakes lovingly supplied by Glad and Kim. A perfect shagger-style welcome.

At Lawrence, the group enjoyed a scrumptious lunch with live music, while others hopped aboard the courtesy bus (with Rick at the wheel) to explore the local Museum.

Easter Monday was hosted at the Smiths' home, where a relaxed BBQ, fun, and games kept the camaraderie flowing. Ulmarra – Rest & Riverside Dining

The following day offered a chance to unwind in Ulmarra, with seven shaggers later gathering for a hearty meal at the Ulmarra Pub.

The final stop in Yamba featured a lovely "Thank You" dinner for Rick and Glad, complete with a quiz and plenty of laughter. The sentiment was unanimous:

"We'll be back again to have fun on the Clarence in the future."

Contact: Glad Smith Phone: (+61) 0415 350 974, Email: gladoz100@gmail.com





Sundowners CLUB NEWS



HERVEY BAY SUNDOWNERS MONTHLY GET TOGETHER

The Hervey Bay Boat Club • 3 Buccaneer Drive, Urangan 4655

Last Friday of every month @ 6pm

Join us for a fun, relaxed evening with fellow SICYC members.
Great company, friendly atmosphere, and plenty of laughs.



Wear your blue polo shirt if possible.

PROUDLY SPONSORING The Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia



MANLY QLD SUNDOWNERS MONTHLY GET TOGETHER

Last Friday of Every Month • 5.30 pm till late

The Manly Hotel, 54 Cambridge Parade, Manly

Join us for a fun, relaxed evening with fellow SICYC members.
Great company, friendly atmosphere, and plenty of laughs.



Wear your blue polo shirt if possible.

PROUDLY SPONSORING The Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia

SICYC CLEVELAND SUNDOWNERS MEET EVERY WEDNESDAY



at **Hogs Breath
Cleveland –
5.30pm till late**

*(Wear your blue
shirt if possible)*



SICYC TOWNSVILLE SUNDOWNERS MEET LAST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH



at **Townsville Yacht Club,
1 Plume St South Townsville
3pm - 6pm**

(Wear your blue shirt if possible)

Use your SICYC Members
Card & receive
discounts at TYC.



TOWNSVILLE Yacht Club
1 Plume St South Townsville



Order Your Name Tags Now

To order, click on the link or copy the address into your browser,
fill out the form with the details and we will send the badge to you
in the post OR you can collect it from Rendezvous to save on
postage costs.

Orders close: July 22, 2026

For more information contact Lyn on 0422 868 024 or email
lynnettesnow@yahoo.com.au

<https://events.humanitix.com/name-tags-sicyc-rendezvous-2026>



GOLD COAST SUNDOWNERS MONTHLY GET TOGETHER

First Friday of Every Month • 5:00 PM

Dublin Docks, Harbour Town

Join us for a fun, relaxed evening with fellow SICYC members.
Great company, friendly atmosphere, and plenty of laughs



PROUDLY SPONSORING The Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia

Supporters of SICYC



A Warm Howdy from Kentucky!

All the way from Kentucky and New Orleans, our wonderful VC Bourbon Trail, Heather Auman, sends a big hello and warm welcome to all our Down Under Shaggers from the iconic Ol' Paddle Wheeler.

Heather shares that if any Shaggers find themselves travelling through Kentucky, she would be absolutely delighted to host you and show you true Southern hospitality.

BELOW: Heather Auman, VC Bourbon Trail, Kentucky, USA



Shaggers Forever – Honouring Chris & Margaret Hayes

Shaggers forever – and few embody that spirit more wholeheartedly than Chris and Margaret Hayes.

Proud members since the very early days of SICYC back in 2009, Chris and Margaret have been part of the heartbeat of our community. They've shown up, pitched in, laughed loudly, and supported the cause with a generosity and enthusiasm that has lifted countless Rendezvous events over the years.

For more than a decade, their annual migration north began aboard their beloved sailing catamaran Twisted, departing from the Iluka/Yamba region and making the pilgrimage to Gloucester Passage with their SICYC burgee flying high and proud. They weren't just attendees – they were part of the fabric of the event, always ready to lend a hand whether its volunteering or sharing a yarn and welcoming new Shaggers into the fold.

At last year's Rendezvous, they once again stepped forward, taking on the much-loved Book Swap, turning it into a lively hub of connection, laughter, and shared stories – the perfect reflection of who they are.

And now? Their burgee may be flying from a caravan instead of a mast, but nothing has changed. They're still out there, still travelling, still smiling, still supporting SICYC in every way they can. Their loyalty, warmth, and unwavering commitment remind us what makes this community so special.

To Chris and Margaret – thank you for your years of dedication, your spirit, and your endless support. The Shaggers family is stronger because of you. Shaggers forever.



Celebrate With Us

The Dublin Docks Tavern, Biggera Waters on the Gold Coast is ready to come alive on Saturday, May 9, 2026 at 5:30 pm as everyone gathers in blue shirts to celebrate the club's 17th birthday. This national event is proudly hosted by the Gold Coast Sundowners, bringing members together from across the country.

Guests enjoy a hearty dinner of roast beef and turkey with all the trimmings, followed by birthday cake, raffles, and auction items. The evening is not just about celebration, it also supports an important cause, with proceeds going to the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia.

A special guest speaker shares insights on prostate cancer, adding meaning to the night while bringing the community together.

Tickets are \$30 per person and can be purchased on the Humanitix link below, making it a great chance to enjoy good food, good company, and support a worthy cause.

<https://events.humanitix.com/sicyc-17th-birthday-bash>



Venue: Dublin Docks Tavern, 147-189 Brisbane Rd Biggera Waters Gold Coast Qld Aust
Contact: Jannette Irons 0421 272 504 OR Juliana Harvison 0408 821 713

Manly Members Reignite Shaggers Sundowner Spirit...

Manly's social scene received a welcome spark as local members gathered for the return of the much-loved Shaggers Sundowners. The recent event marked the first get-together in some time, drawing a strong turnout and plenty of enthusiasm from attendees.

The evening provided a relaxed setting for members to reconnect, share a meal and drinks, swap stories, and enjoy a few laughs. Long-time participants and newer faces alike embraced the chance to strengthen community ties in a friendly, informal atmosphere.

Organisers say the success of the evening has set the tone for future events, with Sundowners scheduled to take place on the last Friday of every month. New members are warmly welcomed and encouraged to join in, with attendees asked to wear their blue shirts as part of the group's tradition.

The next gathering will be held on Friday, April 24, 2026, with a 5:30pm start at The Manly Hotel, 54 Cambridge Parade, Manly.

For more information or to get involved, contact

Milly Johanssen via email at MillyJohanssenmanlyshaggers@hotmail.com or phone 0424 534 793, OR
Angela Williams at AngelaWilliamsmanlyshaggers@hotmail.com or 0420 592 325.



Hervey Bay Shaggers Sundowner Return

The return of Sundowners in Hervey Bay feels like the tide rolling back in after a long pause—familiar, welcome, and full of life. Members of the Hervey Bay Shaggers gathered with smiles and enthusiasm, clearly pleased to see the tradition revived.

It was a strong turnout, with everyone enjoying the evening. Conversations flowed, friendships were renewed, and the atmosphere was relaxed and upbeat.

The group meets on the last Friday of each month, giving members something to look forward to. Members are encouraged to wear their blue shirts, adding a sense of unity to the gathering.

The next catch-up is set for Friday, April 24 at The Hervey Bay Boat Club, 3 Buccaneer Drive, Urangan. Everyone is looking forward to another great evening.

For more information, contact Regional Coordinator Jan Gillman on 0419 704 344 or email jangillman23@gmail.com.



Sponsor Appreciation Evening at Anchor Bar

SICYC enjoyed a wonderful night of connection and gratitude at the recent Sponsor Support “Thank You!!” evening, hosted at the Anchor Bar in Airlie Beach. It was a relaxed and enjoyable opportunity for sponsors, supporters, and club leaders to come together and celebrate the spirit that is SICYC and especially, Rendezvous.

Founder & Past Chairman Ken Thackeray and Vice Chairman Paul Dwyer extended a warm welcome to all in attendance. Their hospitality set the tone for a memorable evening. Ken, Paul, Owen and other SICYC members were delighted to catch up with familiar faces, meet new friends, and share in the camaraderie that makes SICYC so special.

A highlight of the night was the presentation of “Thank You” certificates to sponsors – a gesture of appreciation that was warmly received by all.

Our friends at Le Kiosk have generously extended a special offer to SICYC members: **10% off** for all members, as their way of giving back to the community that supports them.

Events like this remind us of how strong and vibrant the SICYC family truly is. We look forward to many more shared moments ahead which keeps our community thriving.



Group photo of sponsors



Tiana receives her certificate from Paul Dwyer, Vice Chair (left) and past Chairman Ken Thackeray right.



SICYC Our Sponsors

The Power of Our Sponsorships

Our amazing sponsors play a crucial role in supporting our mission. They provide generous discounts and exclusive deals that are rarely found in other yacht clubs. These valuable partnerships are designed to meet the unique needs and lifestyles of our members—active and passionate cruisers who love life on the water. Through our extensive network, we also offer our sponsors exceptional visibility within the vibrant nautical community. It's a win-win for everyone involved! Whether you're a seasoned cruiser or an occasional sailor, SICYC is more than just a yacht club—it's a welcoming home for those who cherish exploring, sharing experiences, and embracing life on the open seas. Come join us as we grow this dynamic, global community and celebrate the spirit of adventure together! **Please support OUR SPONSORS as they support us!**



Explore the Range of New Exciting Merchandise in our Online Shop
Check out our new "Salty SICYC 5L Dry Bag"

500D PVC coated tarpaulin, 5 Litre capacity. Water resistant dry bags keep your items safe and dry.

Each bag features roll-down closure which creates a watertight seal. Great for outdoor activities, like camping and wet-weather trips. Size (mm): 340 mm H x 440 mm W x 320 mm D. Colours: Available: Blue or White

Keep your drinks icy cold with the all new Salty SICYC Stubbie Cooler

Stubbie Cooler \$10 each

Wetly Blended Cotton, with hook and loop closure.
SICYC Embroidered Cap - Green Area