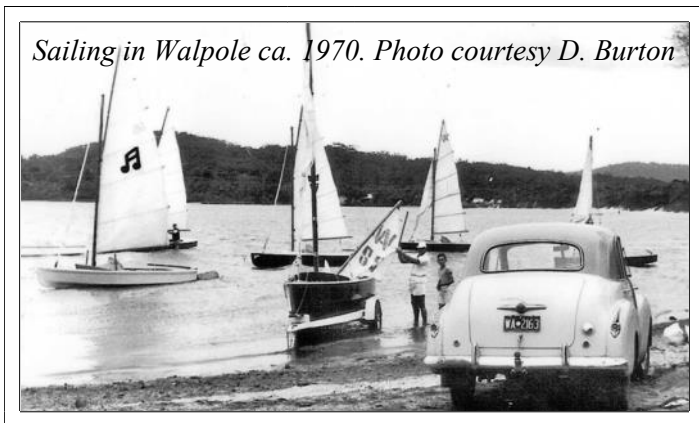


Looking back with Molly...

By Molly Smith



Sailing in Walpole ca. 1970. Photo courtesy D. Burton

The long weekend in March heralds the Walpole Yacht Club Regatta – now known as *Walpole in the Trees Regatta*. For some weeks now members have been preparing for this year's event. It is interesting to look back at Regattas over the years since the inaugural one was held in 1958.

However, before such competitions could be seriously thought about, there was a need for a clubhouse. The first site suggested was in Swan Bay, just west of the Swarbrick Jetty.

This brought a storm of protest from residents who were concerned that the proposed two-storey building would block their view. The current position was selected before there was a caravan park. A twenty-one year lease was obtained plus a permit to build and in the early 1960s a fairly simple boatshed was built as a start and officially opened.

It was around this time that the jetty was constructed. Local regattas followed and it wasn't long before competitors from other areas were also eager to take part in an event on such an ideal stretch of water.

In the height of competition the coloured spinnakers of the competing yachts provided a spectacular sight as sailors battled it out in what could often be varied and sometimes difficult conditions on each day of the weekend. In 1980 for example, there were 103 boats competing. Moths, Windrush and Pelican championships have also been a feature over the years. Walpole Yacht Club sailors can look back on diverse types of yachts featured over the years - Gwen 12, Sharpies, Moths, Pelicans, and Windrush to name a few.

There was a period in recent years when membership numbers dwindled, but interest revived and now the Regatta is a prominent date on the yachting calendar.

Mention should be made of the late Bob Byleveld who was a patron of the Walpole Yacht Club. For many years Bob was responsible for handling the nominations at each Regatta and carried out this important task from a rather small building aptly named "Bob's Box"!

The Sacred Tree

21 Strickland Street Denmark
New Larger Location
Large range of clothing in all sizes.
Incense, Oils, Candles, Crystals, Self
Help Books & C.D.'s, Windchimes,
Wall Hangings, Native American
Design Blankets and heaps more
Come & Soak up the Atmosphere....
Weekly Meditation Wednesday 10am
Clairvoyant Readings, Reiki, Aura and
Chakra Photography, House & personal
clearings. Skype and Phone Readings
Ph: 9848 3360 or 9848 1487
www.thesacredtree.com.au
julie@thesacredtree.com.au



The Walpole CRC is seeking a person to provide Tax Help in 2016.

Tax Help is a network of ATO-trained and accredited community volunteers who provide a free and confidential service to help people complete their tax returns online using myTax.

This free service is offered by appointment only and training is provided by the Australian Taxation Office.

Tax Help is available in all capital cities and many regional areas across Australia.

Tax Help is available from July to October.

If you are able to assist please contact Dallas Parkes on **9840 1395**.



Australian Government
Australian Taxation Office