



GIFAA Newsletter February 2026 - 1

An update from your committee

Hello GIFAA Members

Vale Don Byfield and Ken Beurteaux

It is with great sadness that I must advise you of the passing of two of our long-term members, Ken Beurteaux and Life Member Don Byfield.

Ken Beurteaux passed away Sunday evening February 8th. He was 94. Ken's links to Garden Island stretch way back to his early childhood when he spent weekends and holidays with his parents in the shack they built at the northern end of Pig Trough Bay. Ken first started mooring or more accurately, anchored, in Herring Bay on his first launch "Turanna" in the early 60's.



Don Byfield passed away Monday 23rd February. Don had served on the committee as committee member, Mooring Manager and President. Don had a deep love for Garden Island and was very passionate about our association. Don and his wife Marian were regular visitors to the bay on their beloved "Mardon" and many of us remember him fondly cruising around in the tender "Miss Isle".



Both Ken and Don will be sadly missed. Gentlemen, may you forever have clear skies and a fair following breeze.

GIFAA DAY

Unfortunately, the weather gods are not in our favour and with the high winds and big swell forecast for Sunday, the committee has made the very difficult decision to change this weekends plans. There will still be a bbq in the picnic area at Herring Bay, from 12pm on Sunday for those of us brave enough to test the forecast. The planned kids' activities, auctions and raffles will not proceed. With Easter only 5 weekends away, we are hoping that the weather gods will provide a more favourable outlook for that long weekend, and if that is the case, we will reschedule our planned events to this date. Either way we will keep you all posted.

Take care and be diver aware.

Pete Fry

Secretary