



# Myall Lakes New Years Eve- 2021

# VIKINGS

*A theme was all we needed to get started, but what would be fitting for capping off 2020?  
**VIKINGS!***

*We figured that we have been good all year. We worked hard, isolated, complied and masked up to keep us all safe. So, it was time to cut loose and get a little bit crazy at Shelly beach.*

*With Longboats in traditional formation, stern ashore on the northern end of the beach, NHTYA members relaxed on the last afternoon of 2020 in the usual ways. Digesting lunch, checking solar output, scratching heads over depth sounders, sailing remote controlled yachts and sharpening axes.*

*At 4:30 the call went out from the Duck, "Vikings gear up and assemble on the beach!". Within minutes they heeded the call. The array of Viking apparel was a testament to the creativity of the party goers.*

*Kevin won the prize for the most outrageous beard although he just looked like he normally does at Shelly beach except with horns. There were so many horns we could have been called a herd. I doubt Shelly beach has ever seen such a rabble of sociable raiders. This is probably a good time to check out a few of the crazy costumes.*





### *Myall Lakes Viking raiding party*

Link to photos here: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/3EwESXhVEPHu2HZ36>

*A finely crafted longboat table was set up ready for the quaffing of ale and to feast on the spoils.*

*We were all set to test out the Viking skills when a late entrant came sailing into Shelly Beach with a skeleton and a beautifully ragged square sail hanging from the mast. We had been expecting Ken and Tania, however their arrival was one of shock and awe. Their first voyage to Shelly Beach is quite a story if you can manage to have a chat with them.*

*Vikings lined the beach to watch their beautifully decorated Sonata glide into the beach as the Flight of the Valkyries boomed out of their speakers. Decorated with a fierce looking figurehead, colourful shields and protruding oars the Hill's arrival was so mesmerising that only Phil had the presence of mind to strip off and give them the traditional NHTYA welcome. He waded out and brought the Sonata stern in as we took photos and video of Ken and Tania's memorable arrival.*

*The Hill's first visit to Shelly Beach had a big impact on the mood of the Vikings. The Viking trials commenced with enthusiasm.*

*To qualify for a raiding party the candidates needed to pass 3 tests. Archery, Axe throwing and communicating in a foreign language. We chose to hold the archery and axe throwing rounds early before any drinking started for obvious reasons. Now while this did have an impact on the communication game, we were grateful there were no injuries. Although I did notice that the safest place to be was next to the watermelon or the beautifully drawn Viking targets. There was a brief moment of anxiety when Charmain thought she was in a hammer throwing contest and everyone did a Mexican duck and screamed as she twirled.*



*After feasting and calming down by the fire the candidates were challenged to the communication game of Cock On. With only 4 ways of communicating this large rabble made it very clear the raiding party would have difficulty communicating with people of foreign countries.*

*We sat around a Viking size fire and had enjoyable discussions led by Kevin and Phil. The night went on with very fine motor skill games and Graeme wowed us with his impromptu chair acrobatics.*

*Midnight approached and the countdown echoed around the bay. The new year was heartily greeted and 20 minutes later nearly 70% of the Vikings were heading for bed. Whilst this doesn't bode well for future raiding plans it is good to know these Vikings know their limits. Perhaps they are sailors if not they could be rowers. Whatever they are I found that the world is fun and safe with Vikings like these.*

*GC  
Coconut Duck*