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WHIT-BITS

Issue No. 40 August 2004



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Greetings! And to all new members, welcome!

Well, three out of three can't be wrong! Enjoy a Clayton's long weekend with Club Whittley! "A Clayton's long weekend?" you may well ask. Yes, it's the long weekend you have, when not having a long weekend. "How is this wonderful, fantastic, magical feat conjured?" you may now ask. Simple, say I! After work / school / assorted forms of slavery on Friday, buzz off a.s.a.p. to Horizon Shores, register at the office before going through the boom gate, making sure you say you're from Club Whittley, get a key for an overnight berth, launch the toy, tie up at a friendly berth, as directed, and spend the night, at Horizon Shores. It's important to mention right now two, no – three points:

1. The food at the restaurant / shop is good, reasonably priced and takeaway, if you wish.
2. A number of fellow members will, in all probability, be there to turn a simple evening meal into a very pleasant experience.
3. The calamari is the best I've ever had.

In the morning, use the key to get into the shower / toilet block to "ablute" (as in to do one's ablutions). Stroll over to the shop for the Saturday paper, have a cup of coffee / breakfast there, chat a bit and then take off to wherever! It's a good start to the weekend, hassle-free and, somehow, makes the weekend seem longer. The comment that it makes the weekend feel like a long weekend, and in those very words, has now been made by two members and I heartily concur. It has now become our preferred plan for going fishing. Just remember that the office closes at 5 pm so that everything has to be ready before Friday morning, instead of Saturday morning. Way to go!

So, that's how our last Club Whittley weekend started! I must add that Her Majesty didn't even have to adjust her Friday afternoon ritual ie. Come home fairly promptly, make a cup of coffee and sit down to junky T.V. – "The Bold and the Beautiful". She usually makes complaining comments like – "How ridiculous" and "What an odd and dubious view of morality!" but she still watches it! That Friday was no exception. I didn't think that she could set up the T.V. in the boat all by herself! Wonders will never cease! As it turned out, there were other members who watch this ...program and had to be kept up to date.

Madam's story-telling is unsurpassed. How a half-hour show which is reduced to about ten minutes, thanks to ads, can be so expanded defies me. There was, at least one plus – while watching "The bold and the just plain Naughty", Herself discovered that the tap in the boat wasn't working. So, I was able to fix it because the mechanic at Horizon Shores had not yet left. He had been working on "Serenity" and I was able to catch him just in time. At dinner that night, we welcomed new members, Janette and Stephen Hunt from Caloundra. A happy little band of Birchalls, Brecknells Tutons, Hunts and Szczepanskis relaxed, chatted and dined together.

On the Saturday, it was off to Dux's after, in our case, a spot of fishing. Then at Dux's, we enjoyed our usual barbeque. By now, our numbers had increased to eleven boats, including more new members. It was a really good evening – not too cold and no bites. The firebugs in the club had had a field day that afternoon gathering wood for the bonfire, a must-have for some, particularly those armed with marshmallows. The night buzzed along in its usual Club Whittley way and for some, there was even a new experience, discovering Mozart's Balls liqueur, a new alcoholic beverage - great for dunking strawberries, but, as a drink, it has quite a kick. You have never heard of Mozart's Balls? Originally, it was a special chocolate made in Salzburg, the home of Mozart but now it also comes as a rich chocolate liqueur. As Manuel from "Fawlty Towers" would say "Always I (we) learn."

On Sunday, most had breakfast cooked on the barbeques at Dux's and then it was off to fish or simply relax on the briny blue. Thus ended our Whittley Clayton's long weekend!

Until next time,

Regards

George Szczepanski,

Commodore Club Whittley Queensland Inc.

NEXT OUTING

RQYS at Canaipa Point. Jenny & I and the committee invite you to join us at this great winter venue. Suggest launching at Horizon Shores. I should be there on Friday evening. Watch out for our "Alveno" with the big Aussie flag, or Commadore George. See you there.

Ian



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Member Contribution

One of the early bugs we found with our **WHITTLEY Voyager** was the difficulty in getting the batteries out for servicing. The battery-holding/spill trays are screwed to the floor, front and rear, and to get the rear screws out you need the agility level of a 15 year old and the arm thickness of a weight-watching scarecrow.

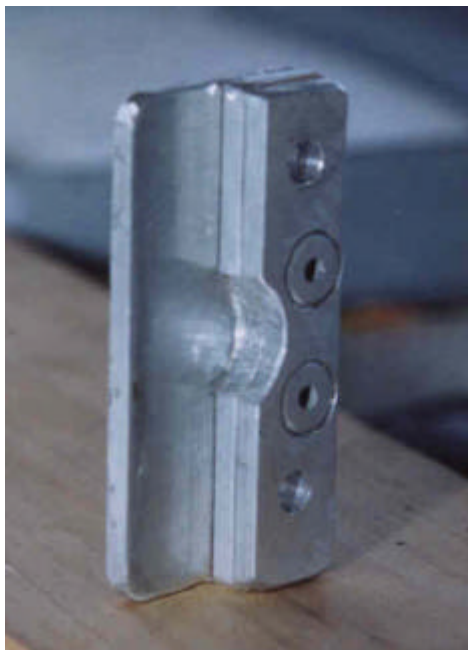
The solution to the problem is to have fixed holders for the rear lugs of the trays and to screw down the front. The holders were made up from pieces of 1/8" (3mm) aluminium, 2-12mm pieces on the bottom and a 25mm piece for the holding plate at the top. These were fastened together by 3mm pop rivets, slightly countersunk and filed off for a flush fitting. Screw holes to accommodate 8g screws were countersunk but are not necessary. The pictures are self-explanatory.

The idea may be of use to others that have their battery trays in tight spots

Cheers

Barry Riordan

(Ed. Thanks Barry for your interesting article. I am sure it will help other Voyager owners.)



CALENDAR

August	21 st Sat 22 nd Sun 28 th Sat	RQYS – Canaipa Point Suncorp Riverfire
September	18 th Sat 19 th Sun 1 st Wed to 6 th Mon	Marine Stadium Brisbane Boat Show
October	2 nd Sat 3 rd Sun	Club Whittley AGM Couran Cove Resort
November	13 th Sat 14 th Sun	Peel Island – Horseshoe Bay
December	11 th Sat 12 th Sun	Club Whittley Xmas Party – Couran Cove Island Resort

Riverfire on the Brisbane River is an annual spectacular not to be missed. Join the committee and I in a fun night, staying over for an early (or not so early) breakfast on the river. This is NOT an official Club outing.

To even get on the river, you **must** have a pass only available in person (with your boat rego) at Suncorp Piazza South Bank on Monday 16th. + \$25 at 9am. (be extra early)



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Club Whittley outings

In an effort to keep members interested and coming to our outings, the committee is seeking input to the decision process of where we go. Please phone George or contact me with any ideas.

To help you with that decision, here are a few of the considerations in location acceptance:

- Must be a good ramp.
- Preferably reasonably secure parking.
- Must have a location for at least one dinner together. BBQ, hotel, clean beach, grassy area.
- Must have a waterway with protected overnight anchorage and possibly a plan B for weather change.
- Ideally have you or a member able to give a lead on the area and places to go.
- Things like water, power, bins and fuel would help.

Southern Moreton Bay is an ideal location, but there are many other exciting areas. The last outing to the Tweed is an example. Locations like the Richmond River in NSW and the Sandy Straits spring to mind.

Special outings

If anyone is planning a trip away to new and exciting places, and you would welcome some tag-along boats, just drop me a note and I will publish your trip in this newsletter with contacts. Places like the Hawksbury, Keppels or Whitsundays. The NSW Whittley Club take outings at distance also. Will keep you posted. Just let me know.

TIP OF THE DAY

Ever been annoyed at that tea bag flying away in the wind? Try scrunching up the outer bag, thus reducing the sail effect and preventing it "taking off".

BRISBANE BOAT SHOW 2004

From Wed 1st. Sept. – A great place to see a Whittley.

RUGBY

With no apologies to Ian Rennie:

Sign at the N.Z. rugby recently

AUSTRALIA SUX

Underneath was

NZ NIL

WEB SITE

Check out our web site for great info and more pics.



A BIT OF FUN

- If winning the race doesn't matter, why do we keep score?
- A polar bear's skin is black. It's fur is not white but actually clear.
- More people die annually by donkeys than by air crashes.
- You burn more calories sleeping than watching television.
- 35% of people who use personal ads for dating are already married.
- Lemons contain more sugar than strawberries.
- You share your birthday with at least 9 million other people in the world.
- The average human body contains enough fat to make seven bars of soap.
- The strongest muscle in the body is the tongue.

DUX PICS



NEXT ISSUE

Technical notes in **battery use and power** consumption. Hope to get some good **Riverfire** pics as well as **RQYS** weekend.

I welcome reader contributions.

Happy boating.
Jenny & Ian Bennett