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WHIT-BITS
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Greetings! And to all new members, welcome!

Heat, heat and more heat! Our last Whittley weekend was almost completely dry and HOT but, in keeping with the Whittley weekends of yore – at least the first few years of the club's infancy, we did have some rain – at 12.45 a.m., Sunday morning. We jumped up, took leaps and bounds as the boat was entirely open to the elements – thanks to ...? You got it! The heat! I struggled and strained to reposition the windscreen which was rolled up somewhere It was hiding in a corner. Now, back to the struggling and strainingI was getting just a tad stressed, when Herself calmly (please note CALMLY) said, "Why are you trying to do this in the dark?" Mutter....mutter ... mutter..... snarl sweetly. Moments like these can be such a pain! All was made secure except the hatch There was no way that hatch was going to be closed in such heat! So, we feel asleep to wake up at a saner time of day. Apparently, later it really poured down. – Didn't hear a thing! Both of us always sleep the sleep of the unconscious on our boat.

Okay, so where were we? On Saturday night – Marine stadium. About twenty boats turned up on this hot weekend but one has to keep in mind that, if it's hot on the water, it would be far worse at home. You can't have the air conditioning running all weekend. The munchkins had a whole heap of fun playing in the water, obviously not bothered by the heat. Some even had a special treat – a jetski ride thanks to the Cumners. A big plus for some, was the appearance of the icecream man – a smart enterprise when you think of it – buzzing about in a boat selling icecreams and cold drinks to boaties and yachties on the water. Sun, sand and clean, cool water have to be pure bliss for kids. So, after the usual quality Whittley barbeque (or combination of cold cut, salads and bread rolls due to a lack of desire for hot food), on the sandy shore of Marine Stadium, Surfers' Paradise (what a venue!) we retired to our boats. About twenty boats turned up with a few more on Sunday. As we always say, "Come when you can." Herself even managed to see her favourite T.V. programme – the boat scarcely moved, so that the reception was just fine.

Friday night anchorages were evidence of the wide variety of good overnight venues on our southern waterways. Some stayed at Horizon Shores, Dux's and Marine Stadium while for others, the night was spent at the Southport Yacht Club. The concept of the Clayton's long weekend is really catching on. For new members, I'll explain. – Leave home / work on the Friday and head straight for the water to start the Whittley weekend by spending Friday evening on your boat. Of course, it means that serious packing must happen a day earlier but the weekend seems so much longer by starting on the Friday.

Over Easter, some members are planning to go to Hervey Bay. In fact, that is our next official venue. For some, it may be the first time to enjoy the shores of Fraser Island in a boat. Being with fellow Club Whittley members who have previously experienced such delights will be a decided advantage, providing the best possible experience for the novice. For some years, my in-laws lived at Hervey Bay and naturally, our Monterey always accompanied us during visits but, Hervey Bay knowledge varies markedly, depending on the interests of your sources – fishing from the Urangan jetty, fishing along the Hervey Bay coast (as opposed to the Fraser coast), simply enjoying the coast in a boat Although my family includes those dedicated to fishing, my knowledge of the Fraser coast and good spots to anchor came from Club Whittley Members.

For those who would like to be on our local waters over Easter, the rendezvous point will be Karragarra. A phone call to Ian Rennie will provide the current location of the Whittley fleet. Ian Rennie's phone number is 0412 013 063.

Until next time, have a safe and wonderful Easter.

Until then,
Regards
George Szczepanski
Commodore, Club Whittley Queensland Inc.





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EASTER RALLY

For new members or those that have not followed the Easter Rally, there is great fun to be had.

The water will be warm, nights cool and days full of fun and exploring new horizons. Plenty of local knowledge exists in the club and promises to be the outing of the year.

For more info, read "Rally News" attached to this newsletter, check past mailings, look up our website or phone me for more detail.

<http://www.geocities.com/clubwq/>

Check under news & events AND members forum.

Password is "membercw"

There is still room for more on board for Easter.

Prawns for the prawn night will be local prawns cooked fresh for us and packed on ice. I will weigh them on Thursday and have them ready when you arrive. Price is around \$10/Kg. Additions to orders welcome.

We have over 20 boats coming at last count.

I want every member attending to feel very comfortable about the road trip and the on-water time. Talk to me if concerned.

See you there. My boat will be at the marina from Thursday.

Ian Bennett



A BIT OF FUN

A minister was visiting an old woman in a retirement village. He spotted a full bowl of peanuts on the table and before he knew it he had eaten nearly the whole contents. Slightly embarrassed, he told the woman he would buy her a new packet. "Don't worry," she replied. "I only like to suck the chocolate off them anyway."

WHY IS A SHIP CALLED "SHE"?

A ship is called "she" because there is always a great deal of bustle around her; there is usually a gang of men about; has a waist and stays; it takes a lot of paint to keep her looking good; it is not the initial expense that breaks you, it's the upkeep; she can be decked out; it takes an experienced man to handle her correctly, and without a man at the helm, she is absolutely uncontrollable; she shows her topsides, hides her bottom, and when coming into port, always heads for the buoys.

e-news

Again I encourage you to provide an e-mail address for your method of club communication. It is quick and easy and very cost efficient. Saves me a lot of stamp licking too.

Our website has had a great overhaul by Ian Ashley and provides members with information and a photo gallery of events and outings.

Speaking of websites, the Seamedia website is now working and worth a look. It is a compilation of all articles from past F&B Magazines. Try www.seamedia.com.au

FUNNY BUMPER STICKERS #2

- He who laughs last, thinks slowest.
- Where there's a will, I want to be in it.
- A diplomat thinks twice before saying nothing.
- I tried to think but nothing happened.
- A pessimist is never disappointed.
- All work and no play will make you manager.

EVENTS CALENDAR 2005

March	Easter 25 th Fri. – 28 th Mon.	Sandy Straits Easter Rally (Karragarra alternate – see page 1)
April	23 rd Sat. – 25 th Mon.	Tangalooma (Backup Blakesleys Anchorage).
May	21 st Sat. – 22 nd Sun.	Dux Anchorage North Stradbroke Island.
June	11 th Sat. – 13 th Mon.	Tweed River.
July	9 th Sat. – 10 th Sun.	RQYS Canaipa Point.
August	6 th Sat. – 7 th Sun. Late August	Karragarra Island. Riverfire (non club event)
September	3 rd Sat. – 4 th Sun.	Noosa River.



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CLUB WHITTLEY

Just a few photos, especially for those not there, to show what a great time we all had.

MARINE STADIUM – GOLD COAST

