



www.clubwhittleyqld.org.au/



Committee:

Commodore
Vice Commodore
Treasurer
Secretary
Editor

Wayne Jennings
George Szczepanski
Richard Lane
John Hill
Les Tuton
E-mail

Phone
3289 9037
3202 6888
3300 6018
3300 4671
5444 3552
editor@clubwhittleyqld.org.au

Mobile
0419 674 980
0418 880 109
0408 702 110
0407 124 842
0429 990 392

Committee

Susan Lane
Margaret Dwyer
Owen Oxley

Brian Warren
Chris Dwyer
Ian Bennett

BOAT DOCTOR –Anchoring In & Around Coral

In a previous article, I talked about “Anchoring for fishing”. This is a follow up article specifically aimed at anchoring where there is coral, rock or snags and there is a possibility of getting snagged. With the planned outing to the Keppel Islands in September, this may help those not familiar with coral.

Coral, rock and timber snags can cause a situation of a snagged anchor. Without preventative measures, you may well lose and anchor, chain, rope and possibly your boat.

A plow anchor normally an efficient anchor in sand and mud, can be irretrievable if well snagged. A sand anchor is just as bad. We often carry a sand anchor as an auxiliary for back anchoring at a beach and as a spare. If we now specify coral as the snag, coral has ledges, valleys, crevasses and many ways of snagging an anchor. While brittle, coral can hold an anchor very securely and difficult to release.

The answer is to have a secondary reef anchor. This could be the usual four wire reef anchor or any other anchor that can “easily” be released when needed.

This anchor should be attached to a length of chain and then rope. The reason for rope is to allow you to cut the rope free if not able to release the anchor. The chain is to protect the rope against coral and to act as a springer holding the anchor closer to the bottom.

Securing your anchor chain to the boat

If you have an anchor-chain-rope system now, this is fine. Just always have a sharp knife handy in case. If you have a full chain system, use a rope alternate system as described above, as well as the handy knife.

I give you two scenarios.

1. You are anchored and snagged and are NOT able to get free. The tide is rising and the weather turns bad. With a rope you could cut the rope to get free.
2. With a full chain system, would you be able to get free in the above scenario? What would be your chance of rescue?

With a full chain system, you should have your chain able to be released. Attach the chain in the chain locker to a secure fastening (the “U” bolt for winch attachment on the inside) then just below the winch, cut the chain and re-fasten it with a shackle. Secure the shackle with a light galvanised tie wire. Keep a shifting spanner in the anchor locker to easily release the shackle to discard the chain in emergency.

In any case, you should carry a float and rope extra to attach to your discarded anchor for later rescue. The rope should be long enough to reach the bottom or the chain may pull the float under.

Know the tides, their height change that can be large on the reef and watch for direction of water flow.

To anchor for fishing on reef, come upstream to the reef edge, drop the anchor shallow and lie back with the current. Know and watch for when the flow will change. To anchor for over night, make sure there will be sufficient water at all times, that you will not float over a reef with tide or wind change, that you have a sand bottom to securely hold the anchor and that you have sufficient rode (length). In strong tide or wind, this should be up to five times the depth of water.

Finally, note that the water will normally be very clear and depth is deceptive. You may think you are in half a metre of water but be actually in three metres. Coral is very damaging so take extra care not to run aground.

Don't be afraid of the environment. It is beautiful, so take mask, snorkel and fins.



WHIT-BITS

Issue No. 64 July 2008

Page 2.

Car & Trailer parking for the Great Sandy Straits in the area of Urangan/River Heads

Prior to the Queen's Birthday Weekend trip to Hervey Bay/Urangan I know Ian Bennett had quite some difficulty tracking down any form of reasonably secure car parking.

It seems that as the years go by the places we've traditionally used are no longer available. For instance the Fisherman's Wharf Marina which had been used previously had only a few spare spots this year. That's why the Great Sandy Straits Marina carpark at the Great Sandy Straits Resort was also suggested. I know I'd tried booking into the Hervey Bay Boat Club secure storage where I'd stayed before and they reckoned they were booked a year ahead and their storage area looked like that.

Well "Monty" & "Ande" were actually committed to stay at Urangan after the Club's visit up there and we still made the trip on the Monday of the long weekend. The boat only went in the water on the following Wednesday when the wind dropped and the rain cleared but we spent some time looking at other short/long term car & trailer parks in our spare time. So for possible future tripping to that area members might like to note the following contacts although time will go on changing and it's always necessary to check availability and cost before heading out from home.

Urangan

Harbour View Caravan Park, Jetty Rd Hervey Bay, right opposite the Hervey Bay Boat Club and next to the public boat ramp. Ph/Fax 07 4128 9374.

The deal would be that cars and trailers would be stored in the area of unpowered caravan sites. However, even here there are constraints. For instance, they don't contemplate car & trailer storage during whale watching season August to October, incl nor over the May Day weekend when there is a major trailer -sailor event based in the Harbour.

River Heads (Approx 17km south of Urangan)

River Heads Property Sales

River Heads Shopping Village, 3/54 Ariadne St River Heads

Ph 07 4125 7777

Email riverhds@bigpond.com

Contact: Shane Logan

Shane is the son of the Principal of the real estate office and lives approximately 4km from the boat ramps at River Heads. He has shed storage for a limited number of vehicles (10) which would include motorhomes etc but has significant yard storage for numerous cars & trailers etc. They provide transport to/from the boat ramp after leaving your vehicle with them.

For those unfamiliar with the area, there is a reasonably sheltered anchorage adjacent to River Heads in the Susan River. From there access to the Great Sandy Straits is not that much different to Urangan, just further to the south.

Future On-Water Outings in 2008

Date	Event/ Location	Coordinator
12 – 13 July	Fishing Competition (Karragarra)	George Szczepanski
16 – 17 August	AGM, Southport Yacht Club	Wayne & Committee
20 – 21 September (plus school holiday)	Roslyn Bay - Keppel Is (Off Rockhampton)	Ian Bennett
11 – 12 October	Noosa River	(TBA)
15 – 16 November	Treasure Hunt (Southern Moreton Bay)	Wayne & Rhonda Jennings
6 – 7 December	Christmas Breakup, Calypso Bay Marina, Jacobs Well	Wayne & Rhonda Jennings & Committee

Don't forget about **the fishing competition** on the weekend of **12/13 July**. The competition rules are pretty flexible so don't be put off by regulations, look up the details on the Club website. One of the most important aspects is to remember the weigh-in is at the north western end of Karragarra Is. You probably won't see me fishing but I'll probably still be there to see the fun. So come along as well.

Details of **the AGM** will be forwarded to all members prior to the meeting which is at Southport Yacht Club on **16/17 August**.

Regarding the proposed visit to **Keppel Is over the September school holidays**, in the last Newsletter we mentioned that 27/28 September would be the focus of the outing in that area. However we now suggest that the first weekend **20/21 September will be the focus** for those who aren't able to be there for an extended period. It's also pleasing to report that we also had feedback from two of our central Qld members who've shown interest in participating in that event. Obviously the trip will be subject to weather conditions at the time but if you're remotely interested in participating in the trip to Roslyn Bay and Keppel Is, have a look at the preliminary info on the Club website and from those details **please contact Ian Bennett ian@plazahealth.com.au**, as soon as possible, **so that we can determine the interest (or not) in that trip.**

/Cont



WHIT-BITS
Issue No. 64 July 2008
Page 3.

Future meetings this year, continued

On the weekend of **11/12 October** the outing is planned for the **Noosa River**. Details will be on the website, in the near future. 5 boats enjoyed this location instead of Hervey Bay on the Queen's Birthday Weekend.

Another future outing, which will be a bit different, will be the **Treasure Hunt in southern Moreton Bay over 15/16 November**. Wayne & Rhonda Jennings put in quite some time planning this future outing during the June long weekend when the trip to Hervey Bay was cancelled. More details will be available in the next Newsletter after the AGM.

The **Christmas break-up on 6/7 December** is planned for the **Calypso Bay marina near Jacobs Well**. Further details will be available in due course.

Items Arising from the June Committee Meeting

In addition to the members of the committee Greg & Tricia Nickerson (Northside Marine) were invited attendees at the meeting. The significant items discussed at the June meeting covered the following issues:

a) Membership

Membership renewals will continue to fall due on the date on joining rather than at end of financial year.

Payment not available by any EFT method.

Members are asked to ensure contact details are updated when renewing membership.

Original Life Members Denise & Norm Thorley have made recent contact with the Club and are welcomed back.

b) General Business

Future meetings for the remainder of 2008 where confirmed, (as per details above),

Discussion of weather forecast for Queen's Birthday weekend and cancellation of Hervey Bay trip, including notification of all members who'd indicated attending.

Discussion of timing and organisation for Keppel Is outing. Members were requested to contact Ian Bennett to identify if they are interested in attending.

AGM preparations including workshops, on the Saturday Greg offered to arrange a display of Whittle products and hold boat related workshops on the pontoons at SYC before the formal meeting. It was also proposed that talks will be arranged covering GPS/Echo sounders as well as EPIRBs and safety flares in the meeting room before the AGM, if appropriate, when more details are known. Greg was also requested to sponsor some of the cost of the AGM along with other sponsors. It was agreed that the Club should write to Whittle Marine to follow up discussions referred to at the Sanctuary Cove Boat Show regarding some sponsorship for the AGM.

Preliminary discussion took place of likely input for 2010 Whittle National Rally Easter to be held in Brisbane.

FROM THE EDITOR

G'day folk,

Well since the last Newsletter we had an e-NEWS email in early June followed quickly by that email announcing the proposed trip to Hervey Bay needed to be cancelled due to bad weather.

Still our thanks go to Ian and Jenny Bennett who put in quite an effort to organise that outing. It even involved a realistic reconnaissance that also involved a pretty rough on water trip up there, as I understand it.

Even though the Hervey Bay trip was called off 5 intrepid members who originally intended going still traveled to Noosa River while another still enjoyed fishing out of Tin Can Bay and as noted elsewhere Wayne and Rhonda went boating in the Southern part of the Bay. Others simply stayed out of the wet. Details of the alternative trip to Noosa are in the Events Report section of the Club's website.

As editor of the Newsletter I get to receive emails from a quite a few members. I must say it's good to realize that there are many members out there who are obviously interested in the Club's news but for various reasons, including lack of time or location they're not able to attend the various outings. If you're in that group and haven't made contact so far, if you have a story of general interest about your individual boating exploits please send it along (at the address below) and we'll make reference to it in future publications or on the website.

However, it's been a surprise that we've had less than 15 responses to the Members Questionnaire. Without individuals comments the committee can't plan future events that specifically reflect the interest of the members. On the other hand the assumption has to be that what's happening now should simply continue. Therefore, after the AGM when the committee looks at the future direction of the Club more of the same seems to be the go. If you have any other suggestions your time for comment is running out. The questionnaire is still on the website, at present.

Also, your comments and accompanying photos from any outings will be welcome by me at the email address below or Steve Hunt by email to web@clubwhittleqld.org.au.

Finally, the roll of Newsletter editor will be vacant next year as I won't be available. So if you have any skills in communicating this way please think about nominating for this position.

Good boating,

Les Tuton
Editor, Club Whittle Qld Inc
Email: editor@clubwhittleqld.org.au

PHOTO GALLERY

A few photos, especially for those not there, to show what a great time was had by all.

Having cancelled Hervey Bay, 5 Boats took to the Noosa River



A foggy morning on the Noosa River, (John's Landing)



Cruising the 6 knot zone upstream



Planing on the river



Sunset on the Noosa River



Afternoon rest and relaxation aboard at Woods bay



Afternoon rest and relaxation aboard at Woods bay



The Woods Bay anchorage is sheltered and close to shore



Woods Bay - Hastings St is just on the other side of the trees