



Whitbits

April 2026

Welcome to the latest edition of Whitbits! The weather has been a bit ordinary of late but we have still had some great trips, with plenty more in the calendar to look forward to. One thing that stands out on any Whittley Club trip is that any mishaps are accepted as a group challenge, and there are always many hands ready to help. One of things we love about this Club!

Commodore's Corner

In my Corner there has been a lot happening out on the water and behind the scenes since the last edition!

Committee update

Since the last edition of Whitbits there has been some changes to the make-up of the committee; With Kelvin Deasy stepping down from Commodore, this position has been taken up by the former Vice Commodore (myself, Michael Magrath). Darryl Ayson (a former Commodore) has stepped back onto the committee taking up the Vice Commodore position. With a number of things in the planning, we are keeping busy to bring together some great and exciting happenings for later in the year.

Trip highlights

Even if you were unable to make the last few trips, we've had the pleasure to read the post trip reports from:

Kooringal- Led by Jason and Deon Johnstone

Bribie to Golden Beach- Led by Jon & Kim Heales

Tin Can Bay – Led by Phil and Annette Sullivan

If you haven't read these yet, make sure you do have a look over them as they give unique glimpse into the heart and soul of our Club and its members. Lots of fun, camaraderie and memories made during each of those adventures. I would like to offer a special thanks to our trip leaders for doing such a wonderful job!

Looking Forward

We have great news, and are very proud to announce, that Whittley Club Queensland is going to be celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, and a massive party will be held at the Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron Manly on 1st August! Now this is going to be a blast from the past celebrating the people and happenings that have brought us to where we are today. If you have any old memorabilia or photos please contact our club

RECAP:

7 Feb 26 Kooringal Trip

6 Mar 26 Bribie Is to Golden Beach

18 Mar 26 Crown Princess Cruise

3 Apr 26 Tin Can Bay Trip

UPCOMING:

6 Jun 26 Tweed River Trip

18 Jul 26 Coochiemudlo Trip

1 Aug 26 AGM & 30th PARTY



Whitbits Submissions – if ever you have a funny story or meme, photos or interesting boating info you think could be used in Whitbits, please email Vanessa Magrath - secretary@clubwhittleyqld.org.au

secretary Vanessa at secretary@clubwhittleyqld.org.au and she will help put this together to make for a wonderful evening. Also please get in touch with Vanessa if you would like to help with preparations/ planning/ decorating/ reaching out to past members, for this event.

We will be kicking the day (1st Aug) off with the Clubs' Annual General Meeting at 4pm -current financial members only. After a short break, this will follow onto our 30th Anniversary dinner celebrations. The club has been able to secure spots on the pontoons in front of the venue at RQYS for those that would like to bring their boats and moor up there over the weekend. Further information to follow.

Due to having such a big event so close to the preceding July event, the Christmas in July at Coochiemudlo Island will be scaled down to focus on boating and exploring the island. The Coochiemudlo trip event will still go ahead, and with the re-enactment of the Matthew Flinders landing scheduled to take place on the beach on Saturday, it will make for a wonderful weekend, just minus the Christmas in July dinner.

Next club trip to look forward to is the NSW river trip, this will be led by Darryl Ayson and Linda Parker exploring the wonders of the Tweed River.

Trip Reports

Koorinal & Moreton Island in February

Trip Leaders – Jason & Deon Johnstone

Near perfect weather saw 13 Whittley boats and crew hanging out at Days Gutter with plenty of shenanigans and beachfront dining involved! The trip leaders reported that once again the trip was easy to coordinate as being part of this group everyone is always happy to help out whether it's grabbing a table at the Gutter bar, or setting up some gazebo's & chipping with nibblies for sundowners & enjoying each other's company.



Blue Pearl at Days Gutter



Gutter Bar

Bribie Island to Golden Beach Caloundra

Trip Leaders – Jon and Kim Heales

On Friday, 6th March the weather was not looking great, but the intrepid boaters decided to go ahead with the trip, starting with the barbecue at Jon and Kim's on Friday evening.

At 10.00am the next morning six boats gathered at the entrance to Pacific Harbour for the trip up to Mission point (SeaDuced, Olivier, Lady in Red, Endeavour, Nauti Supa, and Da Caravan). It was overcast, and there were some light showers, visibility was reduced, and the Glasshouse Mountains, barely discernible in the haze. The group was not to be deterred and made it through to Roy's in an hour and a half. Only one boat briefly ran aground at the very end, however it was easily towed into deeper water.

Pelican Waters Marina provided a welcome anchorage and access to a couple of good restaurants.

An enjoyable weekend of boating and camaraderie was had by all!



Pelican Waters Marina



Glass House Mountains

Tin Can Bay at Easter

Trip Leaders – Phil and Annette Sullivan

Seven boats made the trek up to Tin Can Bay. Good Friday greeted us with southerly gusts of 15 to 20 knots, and with everything shut at Tin Can Bay we headed to Carlos Point for Sundowners' and BBQ dinner and overnight anchorage. Saturday morning we noted that water levels near the boat ramp change rapidly; shallow sandbanks make low tide navigation difficult, with the best water available 1-2 hours on either side of high tide.

Most participants attended the Coast Guard (CG) classroom training. Three boats participated in the Wide Bay Bar (WBB) and headed to one of the CG reference points and returned under guidance of the CG. Alan had a CG member on board which facilitated an on-water, boat to boat member transfer. Importantly to note: WBB Paper charts including Beacon to Beacon for the WBB should not be used, as depths are out of date. It's prudent to contact Tin Can Bay Coast Guard to request the latest Bar conditions. All navigation points should be plotted before attempting to cross. Life jackets are mandatory for the WBB crossing.

Afterwards we met at Pelican Bay for swim and lunch. The southerly winds were picking up, gusting up to 29 knots from Saturday Afternoon and Sunday. We all decided to book the Marina, enjoying the Yacht Club dinner on Saturday Night and a Sunday afternoon session at the Yacht Club.





Fun for the whole family



Yacht Club vibes

New Members

We have had a steady stream of people enquiring about Club membership over the last few months and our newly appointed Membership Liaison Officer, Tony Pullen, has been doing a brilliant job connecting with these people. A big welcome to the following new members since January.

Richard & Kerry Bacon CR2380

Darren Sheil & Rebecca Jankins 'Mr Bean' 660 Cruiser OB

Chris Hedley and Margaret Humphreys 'Sooty' CM 700

Kay & Christopher Lennon 'Granny Cay' CR2590

We look forward to seeing you out on the water, or at one of our land-based events later this year!



Merchandise

We have a good range of merchandise available on our website.

Complete the order form, pay your money, and collect your order at the next event, simples!

<https://whittleyclubqld.godaddysites.com/merchandise>

Safety First

After receiving your feedback regarding the types of training you would like, we have been offered a training session that will cover some of the more popular subjects. The committee is liaising with the provider to fit this into our calendar and will let you know as soon as we have confirmed date, time and place.

Insurance

During the committee's discussions earlier this year with Nate Wolland from Benjamin & Benjamin Insurance Group (the broker that all Whittley Clubs use for their insurance), he mentioned that he also does insurance for individual boat owners and house and contents. Please feel free to contact him if you're looking to reinsure.

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