

WHIT-BITS

April 2024!

Committee news:

Since our last newsletter, committee members have been busy with personal travel and planning our Whittley Club boating weekends on the water! We have welcomed several new members and hope to meet everyone in person at some stage on the water! Our 2025 Rally sub committee has been busy with rally planning to ensure we deliver a fantastic experience for all in March 2025! Membership renewals will be sent out shortly, as renewal is due in June!



Trip reports

Jan: Australia Day long weekend

Trip Coordinators: Tim & Julie

Weather was suboptimal for our planned Koorinal trip unfortunately, but we still had a fantastic weekend with 'plan B' Peel Island with 10 boats attending. Some of us launched from Manly after berthing at either the MBTBC or RQYS marina the night before to avoid Australia day boat ramp traffic. MBTBC proved better for berthing, as it is closer to the shops and was not hot! Belinda and Ian in 'Elna RAE' had their first successful sleep over on their boat! We enjoyed a sausage sizzle on the beach, played some trivia and relaxed for the weekend.



Feb: Bribie to Caloundra

Trip Coordinators: Jon & Kim



Commencing the weekend on the Friday at Jon and Kim's pontoon

I'm sure the Whitley Club become a local spectacle in February each year as we attempt to secure all of our boats on Jon and Kim's pontoon with remarkable success! After a refreshing swim, we indulged in happy hour, joined by Kim and Tony (minus boat). Kim & Jon provided us with a BBQ dinner. On Saturday morning Jon led 8 boats up the Bribie passage to Caloundra. Scenery enroute is spectacular!



Once reaching Caloundra, we anchored for a swim then made our way to the new Caloundra Marina for the night. Peter serenaded us with his guitar and a sing a long under shelter near the marina office where we gathered to avoid the rain. Kelvin had a lucky streak winning a seafood raffle at lunch, but happily shared with us all at happy hour!



*March: Marine Stadium-
Macintosh Island-Sanctuary Cove-
Tipplers*

Trip Coordinators: Darryl & Linda

Weather leading up to this trip was marginal and it happened to coincide with Easter so 9 boats participating was a good turn out! The weekend was a little different to our usual outings as we were scouting for good places for our upcoming 2025 rally. We welcomed new member, Michael and his son Frazer and soon to be members, Jason and Dion. Darryl led us to a new anchorage for our club, Macintosh Island, where we glided under some low bridges and narrow passages to arrive at a beautiful park with a beach. It was a very peaceful anchorage, yet a stones throw from Main Beach, where Brian took an early morning dip. Next day, we made our way to Sanctuary Cove, berthing for lunch, then anchoring for the night at Tipplers. Some departed for home on the Sunday, and some stayed longer to enjoy Canipa passage.



Canipa passage



Macintosh Island!



We made it under!



Sanctuary Cove

Thanks to Brian for his brilliant photography!!

Upcoming trips...

Mark your diary!!

April 25th-29th:

Lake Macquarie

May 18th-19th:

Coochimudlo Island

June 22nd-23rd:

Place TBA

Just for laughs...



Sorry (not sorry) for the lame jokes!!

As always, if you would like to add content, please email me at:

secretary@clubwhittleyqld.org.au

Weather Report

Report by Robert Wood

Hello Boaties, for these articles are to hopefully add a little something My name is Robert Wood, and I am was a Committee Member with the Whittley Boat Club. I work for the Defence Services Branch of Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) at Amberley Airbase & have been a meteorologist for 30 years. This article is to improve everyone's weather knowledge, with the ultimate goal of keeping everyone safe. Always make sure to check the latest marine weather forecasts/warnings from BoM before setting off. <http://www.bom.gov.au/marine/index.shtml>



This edition of the weather corner will be to talk about what I & many of us do to choose which weekends we go boating. The problem with boating weather is, in general it doesn't always line up with our weekends or normal days off. Weather forecasting has become more reliable and for planning purposes very good as far out as 3 weeks. But once it's within 10 days, the accuracy increases to greater than 70% and within a week as much as 90%. One of the jokes of meteorologists is that our forecasts are never really wrong it was just that the timing was off a bit!

The below charts are an indication of the overall forecast from Seabreeze, normally the first look for many of us. Seabreeze uses 1 of 3 global weather models & in this example is using the GFS model. See fig 2 for a rough estimated area for seabreezes forecast areas (approx. 50km squared). The winds indicated on fig 1 shows a high average of the entire area. See fig 4 for the actual forecasted winds at 7am on Saturday morning 19th for the Brisbane area. By looking at fig 4 there is almost always somewhere that is protected, especially in the bay, which is generally a safer area.

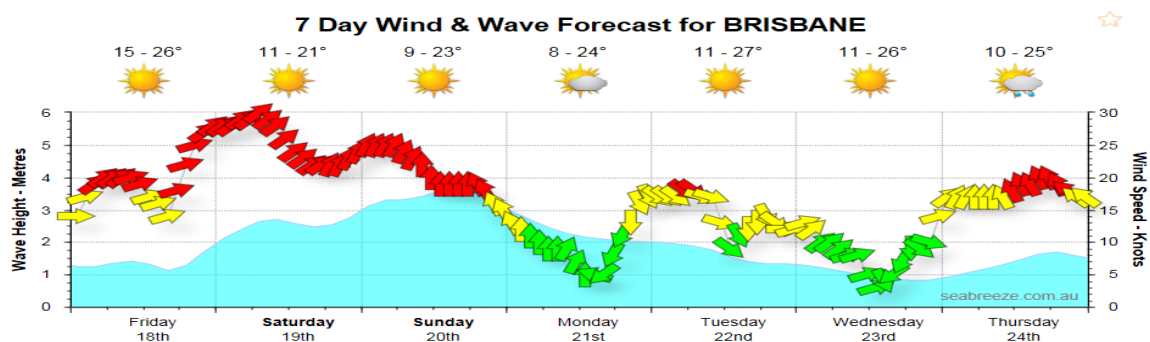


Figure 1.



Figure 2

Fig 4 shows a comparison to the averaged wind speeds above in the seabreeze depiction at 7am on Saturday 19th. Wind speeds along the coast are much lower & can sometimes confuse those looking at seabreeze. If Seabreeze is all green it's a go! If its yellow take caution & red investigate more or go shopping instead of boating! So a little further investigation shows why there can be large differences in wind speeds.



Figure 3.

Figure 4 is from a great free source site, Brisbane Storm Chasers or BSCH at <http://stormcast.com.au/stormcast.html>. This site was featured in a previous newsletter but in brief

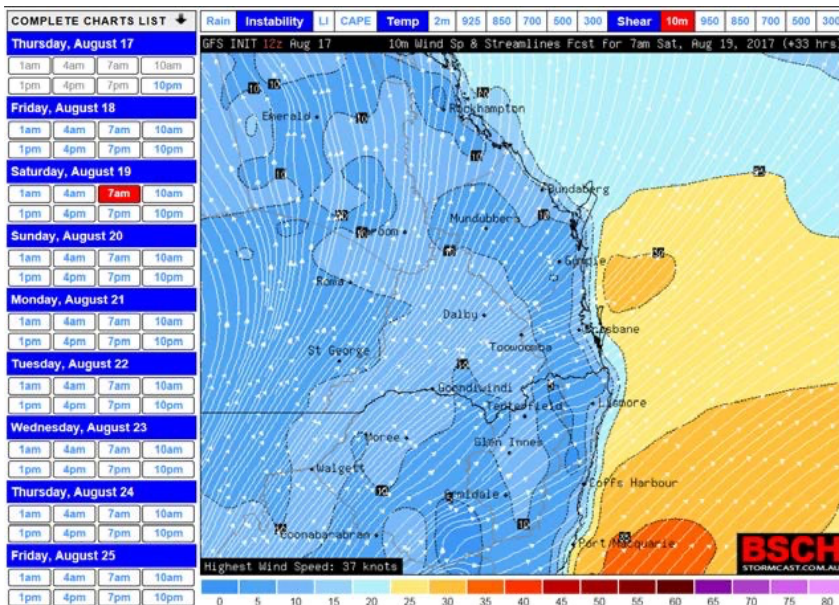


Figure 4.

this site is great to investigate what the winds will really/may be doing. By going to the link in step 1 click capitals then Brisbane. Then step 2 make sure that you are using the latest model run (refresh website and click down on latest on next visit). Step 3 and 4 are three hourly rainfall accumulation and 10m wind speeds respectively. Finally step 5 is choosing the time frame you are interested in.

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As always please keep up to date with the latest forecasts and warnings from the BoM. I will continue to discuss other types of weather data and some useful sites most used in future newsletters.

Safe Boating to all!

Robert