

# WHIT-BITS

April 2025

## Committee news:

It was hoped that this edition of Whit-Bits would be full of all the exciting times had by all at the Sanctuary Cove National Rally! The planning committee (Tim & I, Kelvin & Vicki, Kim & Tony, Darryl, Jon, Mark & Lindsay, Vanessa) were all very keen to have this rally and see the fruits of our planning over the last 18 months. Our spare rooms are full of prizes and merchandise. It was all systems go until TC Alfred's untimely arrival forced us to reconsider holding the event given that we expected our waterways to be full of debris and an unsightly chocolate colour. So instead of highlighting all of the fun you have missed out on if you were not coming to the rally, you now have an opportunity to register for our new date this year- **September 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**, still at Sanctuary Cove, some come and join us for "National Whittley Rally take 2". Look out for an email arriving to you shortly with a new registration form for those not already registered.



## Trip reports

January

Aus Day

### Peel Island/Dunwich

Trip leaders: Michael & Vanessa

11 boats made it out to Peel Island for Australia Day celebrations. The weather was not perfect, but being flexible Whittlians we were able to find anchorages out of the wind and shelter from the storms.

Friday night Participants enjoyed a spectacular sunset, and the calm before the storm! One boat unfortunately lost their hatch during the night...



On Saturday we moved across to Little Ships Club, went ashore for lunch and decided to stay put as it was more

protected than Horseshoe Bay. Happy hour was on the beach at Dunwich. We were kept amused by Vanessa's attempt to paddle ashore and Michael's attempt to return to his boat with paddle board in tender!



On Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Vanessa and Michael prepared a delicious Australia Day bbq dinner for us all back at Peel Island and again we up anchored after an early dinner and repositioned back near LSC to escape the wind.



Photo courtesy of Darryl who scaled the hill for this shot!



Jan 2025:  
Whittley crew on RCI  
cruise to nowhere!



One afternoon while sitting around a campfire on a Whittley weekend someone came up with the idea of a 'Whittley cruise'. We all love boating and thought a cruise would be fun! Vanessa (aka travel agent) made it happen...finding us a weekend cruise from Brisbane. A FB event was created and all Whittley members were invited.



A change from boating attire...think we scrubbed up ok!



Feb 2025:  
Kooríngal

Trip leaders: Jason & Deon

Finally, the weather and tides were favourable for Kooríngal, an all-time favourite spot for a boating weekend! Things didn't look that promising when the first glitch was encountered by our trip leaders at the Lota boat ramp. We were all launched and ready to head out when Jason could not get his boat started...Jumper leads provided by Kelvin and Ameena's batteries to the rescue, with us all breathing a sigh of relief when the engine started. On Saturday we had 13 boats anchored at Kooríngal. Most went ashore to enjoy lunch at the Gutter Bar. A lucky few stayed onboard to enjoy their freshly caught fish cook up.



Jacqui & Arthur showing off their catch

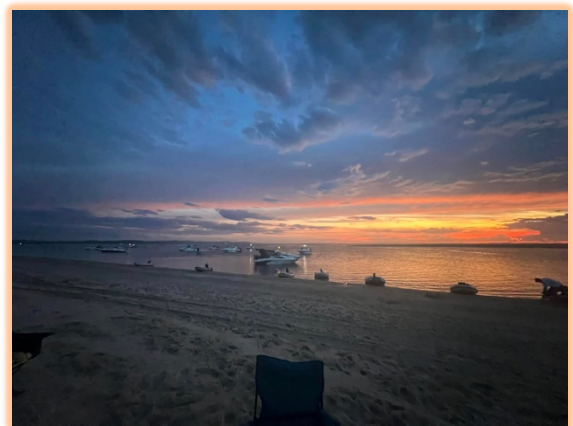
*...and enjoying eating their catch!*



*Jason and Deon, assisted by Whittley crew helpers cooked up a yummy BBQ on the beach.*



*The scenery at Koorringal never disappoints...*





March 2025...

Not the rally...

'post rally trip'

Not wanting to waste their prebooked holiday time intended for rally attendance Jon and Darryl organised a few days at Tangalooma and Bribie. Jon almost didn't make it, being passed on the highway by not one but two wheels...go figure as there were still three wheels on the trailer! He had to wait several hours for a tow truck big enough to tow his boat and trailer. Annette and Phil had some hairy misadventures involving a tangled rope around prop, wild waves and a flipped tender. Fortunately, they are highly skilled and managed to avoid a disaster.

The sun was shining, the wind did not ruin adventures (for most) and the water was better than expected one week after TC Alfred.

All in all everyone, including a couple from NSW who were rally bound, joined in the fun. Vanessa and Michael made the most of their time off and headed to the Noosa River following Tangalooma.



## Save the date


- New date for the rally:  
**September 8-12th  
2025!**

**A few spots are now available so  
get in quick!**

- **April 25-27<sup>th</sup>: Tweed  
River**
- **May 17-18th: Tipplers**
- **June 14-15<sup>th</sup>: Brisbane  
River**

## Handy hints and tips

You may need to zoom in to read the below...supplied courtesy of Whittley Club NSW!



### IMPORTANT TIPS

**DO'S!**

- . Keep safe at all times.
- . Enjoy your boating at all times.
- . Be considerate of others and their level of expertise.
- . If you find yourself on the water and have forgotten that most important item IE: luo-paper, sugar or even a partner just ask around as someone is sure to have sufficient to help you out.

It's a sad fact that "your pride and joy" will receive scratches with use. To minimise DAMAGE, perform every manoeuvre at idle, as its better to kiss an object than to SLAM/CRASH into it.

Before launching, rafting or entering a marina/pontoon/wharf –

1. before launching, set your fenders, also front and rear ropes onto both sides.  
NB: before rafting or entering a wharf etc; be sure your fenders and front and rear ropes are set onto both sides.
2. stop near your location and take note of the wind/current direction as they can be of great assistance OR your greatest enemy.
3. plan your approach well before you start to move.
4. forget using the throttle do everything at idle speed, there are no medals for high-speed approach or manoeuvres (only embarrassment when you come unstuck – and you will!).
5. when coming into a location choose one competent member to listen to and ignore all others as everyone will have different instructions and will confuse you.
6. all our boats steer from the back and also have drive from the back SO in wind/current conditions it is easier and safer to reverse. If driving like a car the front of the boat will swing away out of control if there's a side or head wind.
7. if you see a Whittley or several Whittley stationary or slowly manoeuvring around in a bunch, the chances are someone is in trouble. You should reduce speed to an idle and progress toward the others as you might be the member who has a spare part or knowledge to help.
8. always use cleats for ropes NOT FOR TYING FENDERS!
9. if you feel a bit threatened, study your "how to's...." they may help with that little extra confidence.

PRACTISE MAKES FOR PERFECT as with most things in life (most certainly boating) without regular practise this learned art will most always result in failure, so PRACTISE!

Courtesy of boat "ATHENA" 4/2022

## The importance of boat insurance...

Recently a few of our members have used their boat insurance for:

- water damage due to forgetting to place bung!

- A damaged prop identified during a regular service, explanation being that they may have unknowingly hit a submerged object. This resulted in very expensive repairs under insurance.

- Towing expenses to have boat and trailer moved off highway.

## Reminder...

[Home](#) > [Maritime Safety Queensland](#) > [News and stories](#) > New Lifejacket Regulations in Queensland

### New Lifejacket Regulations in Queensland: Ensuring Safety on the Water

[Print this page](#)

Starting December 1, 2024, new lifejacket regulations will take effect to increase maritime safety. You must understand and abide by these changes to stay safe and compliant on the water.

We will be focusing on education, with **enforcement delayed until 1 July 2025**, to ensure all boaties are aware of the change. Further communication and on-water education will be provided to support the roll out.

#### Mandatory Wearing of Lifejackets

#### What's Changing?

To increase water safety, new regulations will make wearing a lifejacket mandatory when:

- boating alone or only with children under 12 years on an open boat less than 4.8m in length whilst underway
- crossing designated coastal bars on an open ship and on an open area of a boat of any length and on certain craft
- children one year or more and under 12 years are on an open boat or an open area of a boat of any length whilst underway
- night time boating, between sunset and sunrise on an open boat less than 4.8m in length whilst underway

These rules apply to a wide range of boats and crafts, including small sailboats, pedal boats, rafts (including inflatables), rowboats (except Club Surfboats by Surf Life Saving Australia), and sea/surf kayaks.

**Note:** crafts like body boards and stand-up paddle boards do not count as 'craft' under these regulations.



Just for Laughs...



As always if you have content to add please send me an email at:  
[secretary@clubwhittleyqld.org.au](mailto:secretary@clubwhittleyqld.org.au)

Cheers...Julie