

# Whittley Club Qld.

## Clarence River 30<sup>th</sup> Sep – 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct 2023

### Overview

You are invited to join us for the Whittley Club's awesome river trip at the end of September on the long weekend to explore the iconic Clarence River and some of the small towns along the way. The trip will finish up at Iluka for the Club's annual bowling challenge, this year it will be Bare foot bowls (last trip was 10 pin bowling)!!

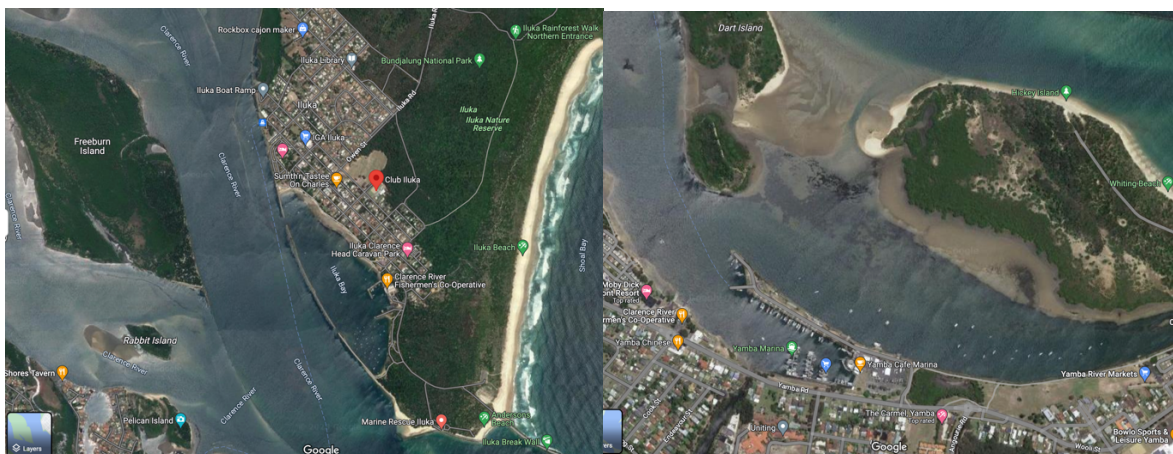
### Getting there and Launching

It is approximately 3-4 hour drive from Brisbane so Gypsea will be heading down there on the Friday and of course you are welcome to tag along. If you can't leave till the Saturday morning, no worries, that is still ok as we will depart late Saturday morning for the venture up river.

There are two boat ramps you can use, one at Iluka, and the other is at the marina at Yamba, (Yamba is only 6km further by car than Iluka). The details are:

**Iluka**—there is a pubic boat ramp in the town to use, parking is available there at the ramp.

**Yamba**--- I have contacted the Marina and we can use their boat ramp and they have secure lock up for our cars and trailers at \$15 per day. Water is available as well. This is the one I will be using. 😊



**Iluka and boat ramp at top**

**Yamba and Marina**

### Friday

We will be travelling down to launch at Yamba, then heading over to Iluka Bay for the night. Iluka bay is a protected bay from most winds. Watch out for the stone walls, especially if you are arriving after dark!! Dinner that night will be on board, or there is a local fish and chip co-op with great food.

### Saturday

Once everyone has arrived and launched and gathered in Iluka Bay we will start our adventure upstream on the Clarence River Between 10 and 11am. Our first stop will be at the township of Maclean where we some boats can dock at the pontoon. Others will have to

tender in. We will stretch our legs there and have a walk through the town and end up at the famous Maclean coffee shop where they actually grind and prepare their own coffees. ☺

Leaving there after our coffee hit we'll head up river to Bushgrove, about a 25 minute run, and our destination for the night. Here boats without tenders can tie up to the pontoon while others can anchor nearby, The photo attached is one I took on one of my first trips with the club back in 2017. ☺

Time for a rest on our boats then a wonder over the bridge to explore the township. Dinner will be on board or over in the Brushgrove pub ("Brushey" as it is known by the locals).

### **Sunday**

Departing Brushgrove approx 10.30 this morning we will head downstream navigating the South arm of the river back to Maclean using the incoming tide rising up to a high tide by the time we get to Maclean. Then we link back onto the Clarence River and continue down to Iluka Bay to drop anchor for the afternoon.

In the past the 10 pin bowling challenge was held at Yamba. This trip we will try a different challenge:

#### **"Bare foot bowls."**

The Iluka Bowles club have a curtesy bus and will pick us up at the end of the jetty, just after lunch, and take us to their club. I will sort you out into teams for the barefoot bowling challenge! The cost pp for this event is \$6 each.



After this we can stay at the club and debate the bowling, identify the winners, challenge issues, and spotlight any cheating. For those that wish to linger, the club has a Chinese Restaurant for Dinner, alternatively dinner is on board. We had dinner there a while ago and the meals were great. As time gets closer I will need to have numbers on who is playing bowls and also for the restaurant as it is a long weekend down there also so I will need to book these two events. Once done the bus will take us back to the jetty to our boats for the night.

## Monday

Today is all yours. There is a nice bush walk through Iluka to the beach, souvenir shops and also a quiet beach near the river entrance accessible by boat. And/or a bit a fishing along the walls nearby is always a catch. (NSW fishing licence required unless you are a pensioner). Then head back to your boat ramp for the drive home.

## Few points to remember

**Fuel** We will be doing approximately 65 Nautical miles so make sure your have sufficient fuel + 30%. There are service stations in both Iluka and Yamba.

**Radio:** VHF channel 72  
Iluka rescue is channel 16

**Mobile:** Darryl 0413-837-823

Trip Coordinator.  
Darryl Ayson

See you on the River, YAY!!



## Bushgrove Pontoon - 2017

