



Happy and safe boating

MLAC Bulletin

MARCH 2016

NEXT OUTING

Easter outing:
25-28 March

Progressive on
the Lake

Catered dinner
at Shelley's on
Saturday

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2016

- 21-22 May, Port Stephens
- 11-12 June, Nelson Bay
- 16-17 July, Legges - Bombah Pt
- 24-25 September, AGM at Nerong
- 29-30 October, Sail Past Tea Gardens
- 26-27 November, Christmas Party at Korsmans

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KORSMANS

27-28 February 2016

Friday afternoon at Korsmans was hot, humid and cloudy. With a hint of rain in the air and a willing crew off the early boat arrivals, the decision was made to erect the marquee ahead of schedule in case the weather set in overnight.

This, of course, was thirsty work and we all settled in for a few refreshments afterwards before returning to our boats for dinner.



There was a flurry of hatch closing and window latching in the early hours of Saturday morning as the rains did come, but they were only passing showers.

The showers did not delay the departure of our tender expedition at 10 am. A fleet of tinnies and rubber duckies departed Korsmans and a speedy catch-up by Don and Wendy brought the fleet count up to eight.

Boolambayte Creek was a good run north and all vessels entered the creek safely with excellent guidance from Commodore Rod.

It was like entering another world! The banks of the creek were lined with colourful waterlilies and the still waters reflected the encompassing bush growth. There were some among us who were swept away with nostalgic memories of childhood adventures and mock weddings in this creek, and for others it was their first experience.



As a group, we ventured quite a way up the creek, passing an historic homestead with wonderful fruit trees and gardens.



We thought perhaps next time we may need to give the residents some warning of our arrival, as it appeared to be a wonderful setting for an interlude of some tea and scones.



Ever wonder where the word "shit" comes from.

Well here it is:

Certain types of manure used to be transported (as everything was back then) by ship. In dry form it weighs a lot less, but once water (at sea) hit it. It not only became heavier, but the process of fermentation began again, of which a by-product is methane gas.

As the stuff was stored below decks in bundles you can see what could (and did) happen; methane began to build up below decks and the first time someone came below at night with a lantern. BOOOOM!!!

Several ships were destroyed in this manner before it was discovered what was happening.

After that, the bundles of manure were always stamped with the term "S.H.I.T" on them which meant to the sailors to "Ship High In Transit." In other words, high enough off the lower decks so that any water that came into the hold would not touch this volatile cargo and start the production of methane.

Our scheduled 1.30 pm activity proved to be a good time for setting up the spit and dinner food preparation, so the activity was postponed.

An informative group huddle took place at 4.00 pm with Commodore Rod updating those members present on the latest activities of the club.



Group huddle

Congratulations to Chris, cooks, carvers and all her helpers on the day for a truly delightful dinner.

A local Lakes knowledge quiz was conducted by Paul with visitor and local historian, Anne-Maree, achieving the highest score. Raffle prizes were won by Melissa and Linda.

Early Sunday morning proved perfect conditions for the group kayaking excursion. With glassy waters and bleary early morning eyes, 4 kayaks and 2 SUPs ambled their way across the lake and south around the buoys at Nosworthy's.



Perfect conditions for an early morning paddle



On Sunday, with the high tide urging for a midday departure, the marquee and sundries were cleaned and once again packed away in the Prawn ready for the next Myall Lakes Aquatic Club adventure ☺



Wendy Legge doing her version of Titanic's

"I'm King of the World"

We had a final numbers count of 36 people for a delicious spit roast dinner of pork, beef and vegetables. The pork crackle plate was passed around, closely monitored by catering co-ordinator, Chris.

Members and their guest continued to roll in throughout the afternoon as drinks, nibbles and conversation were enjoyed.



Mr Cool

Behind the scenes it appears the boat gremlins were hard at work.

There was a high level of problems among the boats moored in Professor's including a tender springing a leak, a tender outboard ceasing, a generator giving up the ghost, battery and refrigeration problems, and bent props . . . to name a few. I am pleased to say that the gremlins did not prevail over the high spirits held throughout the weekend.

