

Myall Lakes Aquatic Club

COMMODORE

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Last Club Outing @ Violet Hill 12 -13 November

The crowd began gathering on Thursday with drinks, nibbles and then first use of the new BBQ for the evening meal. A very enjoyable evening!

By the time Santa arrived we had nine boats, three caravans, a fifth-wheeler, a ute, a car and over thirty people.



Santa, Elf and the kids – Photo Ian Sherwood

Santa, resplendent in very bright red, arrived by boat and was enthusiastically greeted and then escorted to the tree by the excited young people. The Elf followed in close attendance.

After Santa and the Elf departed presents were examined and played with. An informal gathering then took place with many stories and much catching up with those we hadn't seen for some time.. After a while some of the ladies went off to put finishing touches to the Christmas Dinner. Everyone was well behaved, so much so that we don't have any mishaps to report. We must congratulate Anne B who walked the plank with not a splash. We were

hoping for a little entertainment Anne!

Christmas dinner was then served and what a magnificent spread it was.



Informal get together – Photo Ian Sherwood

Needless to say that as usual it was a great meal thanks to Christine and the Girls. (Also Joe, Ian and other boys). The party continued into the night until we got the Time Please signal from Joe's generator. No one fell off the back of their boat when returning home! We must be learning to balance better.



Christmas Dinner – Photo Ian Sherwood

Sick List

To all our members not feeling up to scratch, a big get well soon. We do know that the following people are having health problems

Peter De'Lore, John Rodgers & Kevin Williams

Next Club Outing February 4-5 BYO & Games at Johnsons Beach

This is a fun time at a great location. BYO but Christine will be bringing fruit salad and cream for the Saturday evening meal. The games to be played may include these games that are played to Myall Lakes Rules:-

American Horseshoes
Golf longest drive/most accurate
Bocce or Boules
Egg and spoon over short hazard course.
Gumboot tossing

but nothing too strenuous. If you have a suggestion for any fun games we should play please contact Chris Julian on 0428 400 061

Maritime Gets Tougher

Extracted from Maritime article in powerboatworld.com

A man from Queensland was this week given a suspended six month imprisonment sentence after operating a personal watercraft (PWC) while being both unlicensed and unqualified. The forty year old man was sentenced in the Sutherland Local Court.

The Court heard a NSW Maritime Boating Safety Officer had detected the man operating on the Georges River on 12 December 2010. The man had a history of committing six previous offences of driving a PWC while

unlicensed or disqualified. Due to the multiple previous offences, Maritime brought the matter before the court.

The Court sentenced the man to a custodial sentence with a period of imprisonment of six months. He was also ordered to pay \$1800 in costs. His prison sentence was suspended on condition of good behaviour. A/General Manager Maritime Operations Trevor Williams said the case highlighted the importance of holding a proper licence and being authorised to drive a vessel, in particular, a personal watercraft.

'Courts view serial offenders very seriously, and will have little hesitation in handing down severe penalties for repeat offenders,' Mr. Williams said.

Licensing is an essential requirement in the interests of public safety. Licensing assures the public that the person operating the craft has the required training and understanding of the rules and safety requirements associated with operating a high powered craft such as a PWC.'

For more information on boating safety go to www.maritime.nsw.gov.au.

Legges Camp/Myall Shores Ferry Operations

One of our members came into close contact with the cable of this ferry on Friday 11th. The yellow flashing light was off and the ferry stopped and loading on the Ocean Side. The member followed another members shallow draft vessel through the channel

A ferry operator confirmed that there is a problem with the ferry cables but was unable to confirm that there was any action being taken to remedy this. The proposed solution of NPWS is to have the ferry continuously operate its warning light through a full cycle (ie from Bulahdelah side to the Ocean side unload, pickup and return). The members said that this was unsatisfactory, particularly as the Christmas rush from other areas was due. Members

suggested that the cable should be set up properly with minimum 3 metres clearance in the centre. Further, it was noted that the current procedure would mean massive problems and delays should weather or breakdown keep the ferry on the Ocean side. (Just imagine strong winds, 3 cruisers and a houseboat milling around in that tight area until they worked out what was going on)

It was noted that the required cable depth (10 feet minimum) was very regularly monitored and enforced by the Maritime authorities at the time when the ferry was privately operated.

Scheduled Outings

1. February 4 - 5 BYO and Games @ Johnsons Beach
2. March 10 - 11 Spit Roast Chicken @ Shelley Beach BYO Chicken to cook
3. EASTER April 6 – 9 Fish & Chips Johnsons Beach
4. May 5 – 6 Curry Night Engels Wharf
5. July 14 – 15 Xmas in July @ the Pub and the Public Wharf, Tea Gardens
6. September 8 – 9 BYO & Share It @ Blossom
7. September 29 – October 1 Long weekend @ Korsmans Wharf BYO & Share It
8. October 27 – 28 AGM @ Nerong Hall a catered for event.
9. November 24 – 25 Christmas Party @ Violet Hill

Reminder

For those that have forgotten, our Club Fees were due in June. If you wish to remain a member we would ask you to please give this oversight your attention.

Thought for the day

Don't look now, but the man in the moon is laughing at you.

Happy Boating



Last Bulletin for 2011

As this is the last Bulletin until February 2012 may I wish you and yours

Merry Christmas and a Safe
Prosperous and Happy New Year

Alan