



Happy and safe boating

MLAC Bulletin

"Respect the Past - Create the Future"

FEBRUARY 2019

NEXT OUTING

**23/24
March
at
Shelley's**

**More details
to come**

Upcoming Events

19-22 Apr: Easter progression

11 May: Karuah

1-2 Jun: Tamboi

3 Aug: Sydney Boat Show

7-8 Sep: Tea Gardens boat safety

19-20 Oct: Korsman's spit roast

16-17 Nov: AGM and Christmas party

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Raft Up at Blossom

23 February 2019

MLAC members honed their rafting up skills at Blossom Point Bay at the first outing for 2019. We had 9 boats in all, making for a very pleasant and social event.

Boats in attendance were:

Independence, Lazy Days, Men from Mars, Polimer, Rakaia, River Gypsy, Santosha, Toy Ship and Tri Relaxin'.

Saturday morning started with morning tea onboard *Santosha* followed by some rather intense knot training (for the participants) from Paul.



The knot of the day was the "bowline" - the king of the knots. It is (reportedly) easy to tie and easy to untie, even after being subjected to significant load.

There was much fun and laughter as this so-called "easy knot" was struggled with by some. Keep practicing everyone! There may be a test. 😊

After some free time for swimming, kayaking and lunch we all reconvened on *Santosha* for trivia and afternoon tea. We had 3 teams enter the trivia competition - Ripper, Shoysters and the Springboks. After 3 rounds of some challenging questions Ripper stole the prize by just 2 points. Many thanks to all who participated and also contributed to the morning and afternoon teas with slices, pikelets and scones.



Caption Competition

The photos below seemed like the perfect opportunity to run a funny caption competition.

Please send your suggested caption entries to me at –

wendy.hammond@bigpond.com

Winners will be announced at the next outing at Shelley's.



What is Col Bell saying, doing or implying?

And this one . . .



What is going through Robbie's mind?

Time moved on rapidly and before we knew it, 4 pm had arrived. We were all still chatting following the trivia and afternoon tea, so we decided to stay put and conduct the huddle insitu.

Being the first huddle for the year, there was quite a lot to cover.

With Commodore Rod chairing the meeting, he welcomed our visitors - Clare and Len, Lindsay and Maree. He also thanked Paul and Wendy for organizing the schedule and activities, plus providing *Santosha* as the club house (in the absence of the club marquee, as it was a rafting-up event).

During the huddle, discussions included the aim of an organisation calling themselves *Marine Parks Association*, who are focused on listing the catchment areas of Port Stephens and Myall Lakes as marine world heritage areas. The impact of this could be huge to boaters. We need to stay aware of the progress of this Association and attend all possible meetings. We need to handle this issue carefully - to listen carefully, be controlled and well-behaved at meetings so that we can plan and respond at future meetings in an intelligent, sensible manner.

Other issues discussed were: the rock bar at Korsman's boat ramp which needs to be dismantled and removed - it is a danger to boats; Engel's wharf repairs; two boats unmoved for the past 2 months from Violet Hill moorings, and discourteous behaviour on the lakes over the Christmas break. The presence of some high ranking RMS officials in the Lakes and Tea Gardens area was also noted.

Peter Coppock suggested that the Association produce a Code of Ethics for Myall Lakes. Once a draft is completed, we would present it to National Parks and RMS with the hope that they would support the project by providing printing of the Code for distribution to all boats visiting the area. The Code would give guidelines to visiting boaters to educate them on acceptable and courteous behavior, suggested mooring areas, skiing and wake boarding areas etc.

If you have any suggestions for inclusion in this document, please email Peter at petergcoppock@hotmail.com.



Games, winners and gridders (Mac is already into the awards chocolates) and relaxing at the end of a busy day in a perfect location.

To combat the effects of a busy Saturday (and a busy life) the inaugural session of Myall Lakes yoga was conducted onboard *Santosha* on Sunday morning. We think we may make this a regular event.



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER TO ORGANISE THE ACTIVITIES FOR ANY FUTURE EVENTS, PLEASE CONTACT ME.

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