



Happy and safe boating

MLAC Bulletin

"Respect the Past - Create the Future"

SEPTEMBER 2020

Engels Wharf Rebuild

STAY WELL . . . STAY SAFE

Yes friends, it has finally happened . . . Engels wharf now has a new and safe decking, thanks to those members of Myall Lakes Aquatic Club who volunteered their labour, and to National Parks & Wildlife Service, who supplied all building materials for the job.

Our Commodore, Rod, who has worked closely with Paul in planning this project, was disappointed he was not able to be there due to ill health.



Engel's Wharf Rebuild



Apologies are extended to other members who had volunteered their assistance with this rebuild, but due to logistical and site problems, we were limited to the number of people we could accommodate on the worksite.

Paul Bendy, planner and site foreman, along with Malcolm and Rebecca Muddle, set up camp and commenced deconstruction of the wharf on Friday afternoon, 18 September.

Saturday morning, and a flotilla of craft were plying their path up the Myall River. Leading the way was the Lyall clan of Bruce, Donna, John and Robbie onboard Karma, thrashing the water white, working and bellowing hard, towing two very heavily laden punts all the way from "Lyall town" at Carrington. Adding to the flotilla were Dylan and Allan Tennyson in their runabout, and Mac in his tinny. Ben and Linda Mac joined the crew from the other direction after completing their Lake run on Independence.

When the old wooden deck was removed, it became apparent that white ants and moisture had launched a damaging attack on the supporting bearers. The plan had to be changed.

Timber that had been assigned to the shore walkway was re-allocated to the main deck structure. The walkway was made safe and useable, but with the intention of returning to rebuild this section as well. Reconstruction will include a means of preventing the white ants' access to a new food source.





Rain was a hindrance but couldn't stop the momentum once started. We woke to rain again on the Sunday morning, but work progressed all the same.

By Sunday afternoon, the serious work and the difficult decision making had been finalised and crews started leaving to attend to their other obligations.



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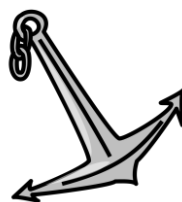
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Thanks goes to a most competent, tight and fun team.

MLAC can be justifiably proud that we still have Engels Wharf in the Myall Lakes National Park for all boaties to use and be safe, well into the uncertain future.



Appreciation and thanks for this Bulletin go to
Mac for the wonderful narrative
and
Rebecca for the action-packed photography