



# WHITTLEY CLUB NSW

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## **NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2013**

### **WHITTLEY CLUB NSW GEORGES RIVER WEEKEND (6-8 DECEMBER)**

Thanks to Narelle Baglin for the report

## News Flash!

**The 2800's are taking over.....**

It was a lazy start for '*The Palace*' on the Saturday morning of the Georges River weekend. (A work Xmas party had led to a very late night on the Friday).

Finally, we launched at about 11.00am on Saturday morning from the St George Motor Boat Club at Sans Souci.

We soon found the Whittley group cruising around the canals of Sylvania Waters. As we have come to expect, Roger was providing excellent local knowledge to the group, some of whom were on the Georges River for the first time.

Then, to our surprise we saw that there were 3 x 2800's in the group! Now that is a first!! How wonderful to see '*Time Bandit*' on the water. What a great looking boat being ably handled by Rob. Along with the 2800's were 2 x 700's and off course the Monterey "book end" made up the rest of the number.

The group then proceeded to La Perouse where fish and chips were on the lunch menu. Thanks Roger for ferrying us to the beach as we did not have our dinghy. Unfortunately, it was a little lumpy so we were unable to raft up and catch up with everyone at this stage. The decision was made to head back up the river to prepare for our evening BBQ on the beach.

'*The Palace*' took the opportunity to have a cruise around the Port Botany area and have a look. The photo below has been included as it is the previous workplace of one of our members. I wanted to remind him of the days when he was 'adding value' to the country; unlike now when in retirement!



Just a short cruise up the river and under the 2 bridges, we found ourselves at an aptly named area called Cosy Corner. Now, a lovely man lives here and he has a very accessible waterfront property. He is a neighbour of Roger and Athena's and he kindly allowed us to have a BBQ on his lawn.



We formed the raft up and it was only a short row (again in Roger's dinghy) to the shore). This was a very relaxing evening with lots of good food and a few Christmas drinks.



Not only did Waghi allow us to use his lawn, he provided us with the most sensational traditional Egyptian dips and bread. What a lovely man and we all thank him for the use of his property for this evening.

“The quick brown fox jumped over the lazy sleeping dog” or so the saying goes, however in our case the fox wandered along the beach – gave us a cursory glance and then proceeded on its way looking for a feed. Who would have thought we were in the middle of suburbia and a fox would walk past..... sorry I did not get a photo of that event.



Commodore Tony working hard



A relaxing evening

Sunday morning found us all a bit lazy and as is the case, at this time of year there are a lot of other commitments. Some of the group headed off to catch the high tide at the ramp and Tony headed off for a swim.

The remainder of the group found a calm spot to spend a little more time enjoying the lovely weather before we too had to head off home.

Many thanks go to Roger and Athena for organising this weekend.

This was the final event on the calendar for 2013.

Merry Christmas to all our fellow Club members. Have a safe and prosperous 2014 from 'The Palace'.

# GENERAL BUSINESS AND CURRENT AFFAIRS

## 1. COMMITTEE MEETING

Following the AGM, your 2014 Committee met to discuss issues arising from the AGM. Ray and Maxine generously offered their home and hospitality and we were all made most welcome.

We established a **“2014 Calendar of Events”** which you should have received by this time. A copy is attached. Thanks for those who have volunteered to organise events (in particular those who may still be unaware that they are organising events). If anyone wishes to add their assistance to any of these events, your help would be most appreciated.

A review and draft refinements to the format of the NSW Whittley Club Constitution has begun and will be reported to all once complete.

Information is being sought from the Club’s insurer to confirm our position.

Minutes of the AGM were confirmed and recorded.

## 2. AROUND THE BOATS

- Ray Mantle *‘To The Max’* celebrated his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday recently with a number of Club Members in attendance to join in the festivities. As usual a great night was had by all with Ray strangely short for words on the evening ?
- Send your thoughts on this month’s caption photo (below) to [phil@pronetwork.com.au](mailto:phil@pronetwork.com.au)



- Whittley Club megastar, Rod Brown '*Chattaway II*', has vacated his humble "Loft" lodgings and moved into his new residence by the Harbour. Rod hopes all Whittleys on that waterway will call past and give him a wave. He is easy to spot as the gent with a huge smile and bourbon in his hand as he surveys his new beautiful domain. Rod is currently busying himself making new acquaintances around the complex.
- Bob and Lea '*Knot So L'il*' are both recuperating from non-critical surgeries which sadly, will see their beautiful craft out of action for a couple of months. It interesting to note that we have the quirky situation where one has no arms and the other no legs? Takeaways are the order of the day for a while!
- Congratulations to Sue Denton who was the winner of last month's Caption Contest. I guess there is nothing like knowing your spouse to be able to predict what is likely to come out of their mouth. We hope the prized Whittley cap in some way eases the pain of dropping her favourite Prada sunglasses in the drink at the AGM.

### 3. VALE GRAEME BARBER

It is with most heavy hearts that we reflect on the sad passing of a wonderful friend to all in our Club. Leanne Williamson '*Imagine*' has written a piece following.

## *A fitting farewell to a True Blue Aussie Bloke!*

*The world lost a good man recently, Graeme Barber passed from this world into another on Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2013.*

Graeme was a good mate to us all and always one of the first to lend a hand if needed! I know he saved Craig and I a lot of stress in April, 2013 on Lake Macquarie when our water pump died and he handed over his spare without hesitation and helped Craig replace it there and then!

Graeme's funeral service was a true testament to how well he was liked and respected! With the chapel filled to almost overflowing! 35 Whittleby members travelled from far and wide to pay their last respects to a shipmate! And even amongst these normally jovial partygoers, there was not a dry eye to be found! Afterwards at the Beresfield Bowling Club we all reminisced about the fun we had with this wonderful man and silently drank a toast to him!

Rest In Peace! Graeme! For you truly deserve to! Watch over Joyce and the kids, and send us a little reminder that you are with your clubmates when we are out on the water and we will raise a toast to you everytime! See ya later mate!

#### **4. XMAS WISHES**

All on the Committee would like to wish our fellow Whittley Club NSW Members a healthy and happy Christmas, and a wonderful New Year. We look forward to seeing you all on the water very soon.

Jenny Sparks and Leanne Williamson