

Power Boat Section

Hi everyone,

By the time you all read this newsletter Christmas & New Year will have been and gone and I hope they were a very happy and cheerful time for you and your families.

November and December were busy months for the section.



On 26th November we had planned to do a river run down the Swan, from Matilda Bay to the Eat Greek restaurant, near the Swan Yacht Club. Then back to Claisebrook for a couple of night caps and, for some of us, to spend the night on our boats.

Unfortunately due to high winds, we had to cancel the boating part. However this little setback wasn't going to deter us from having a night out, and fourteen of us headed on down in our cars, to enjoy a wonderful buffet that just never seemed to end. Thank you Terry for suggesting we go to this restaurant, I would highly recommend it. After stuffing ourselves silly, while watching the sunset over the Swan, and dolphins swim past, it was time to head off, with several of us going back to the club for a

few drinks.

From the 2-4 December was our annual trip to Mandurah, to view the Xmas lights around the canals, staying at the Quest Motel. Last year's trip was such a success that this time around we had almost all of the section coming down, with or without boats. Friday saw some of us having all, or part, of the day off work, to beat the traffic down and get our boats launched while waiting for others to arrive. It was a wonderful turnout with around thirty-eight people and ten boats participating. After a bite to eat around the BBQ, it was time to gather everyone to the boats, for a night run around the canals.



Steve O & Rachael lead the way out from our hotel while the rest of us followed closely. Even though it was still a little early in the month, there were plenty of houses displaying a wonderful array of decorations as we weaved our way through the canals.

After we had safely made our way back to the Quest and moored up, we gathered outside Steve & Rachael's room for a drink or two, or twelve in some cases, (sorry ladies), much to the annoyance of other guests at the hotel, but there were no complaints that I heard of.

On Saturday we headed across the estuary, and up the Murray River, for lunch at the Ravenswood Hotel. Sam and Ian's boat decided that it didn't want to run over 8 knots and kept stalling, but they managed to keep it going, and it seemed to clear once they could open it up out on the estuary. Once we had entered the Murray, Les and Joan's boat started to overheat, from a blocked water intake, and Dionne and I hung back with them while they tried to clear the problem. The others continued on their way to Ravenswood. We all made it safely in the end and settled down inside the pub for lunch. Ron had met us there, after spending the night in his car down at Augusta, checking on his house down where the bush fires threatened. All turned out well in the end.

That night we had pre-planned to have a little secret Santa Christmas party with Ron playing a very jovial Santa (maybe something to do with a few drinks already consumed). The rest of the night was spent trying to lessen the amount of alcohol we had to take back home the next day.

On rising Sunday, there were a few sore heads around, and some decided to head home around 10am, while five boats with around fourteen of us, cruised back out on the estuary and down to a café in Port Bouvard, for a round of coffee and a bite to eat, before heading back to Mandurah and back home.

The trip was such a success, that I see this weekend becoming an annual tradition; that will stay with the section for a long time.

Finally, on Sunday 11th December, as part of the Club Kids Christmas party, the power boat section put on a BBQ, to raise money for Boating4Kids. The BBQ and subsequent raffle was well supported from all patrons of the club, and I would like to thank the club for allowing us to do this again this year. More thanks go to Peter R, Peter A, Ron and Dora, Terry and Linda, and Dionne, for managing the BBQ. But most of all, very special thanks go to RC Rachel Oliver, (with Steve's help), for organizing the day to precision so that everyone could have a wonderful time.

Upcoming events –

13th – 14th January - Over nighter in Rotto

Steve Carrier, RC – Power Boat Section

