

Power Boat Section Report

You may remember that last month I mentioned the weather keeps punishing us... well this month was looking like it was going to be kind, the forecast wasn't too great, but in the hours running up to our scheduled evening clubcrawl, the wind seemed very placid and the weather very pleasant.... read on!

The clubcrawl was intended to be a short trip launching / visiting Perth Flying Squadron Yacht club (PFSYC) with a visit to Swan Yacht club (SYC). We scheduled it to start in the afternoon so that there was a chance some of the club members would be around and so that we could take in the fantastic lighting of the river as darkness starts to set in!

We met up opposite PFSYC waiting for all 6 boats and passengers to turn up. Terry and Ron had arrived earlier than ourselves and had spoken to the very helpful bosun, David. David gave us instructions of how he wanted us to manoeuvre the trailers and boats and helped us to get into the water. This is the 'read on' part..

Within what seemed like seconds of our boat touching the water the wind picked up and was blowing quite hard, added to that was the wakes from what seemed like cruise liners washing toward the ramps. It made walking down the jetty interesting and made us all look drunk!

The 6 boats were in the water pretty quickly and with the boats and the jetty bouncing all over the place we were keen to start the short trip to SYC.

Once out of PFSYC and around the point that they are based on, the wind died off, the water became calm and the sun shone... it was quite warm and pleasant. The only issues we had was trying to stay out of the time trial boats path as they were not going to stop for anyone! The cruise was a steady one with us going the long way around freshwater bay (again trying to avoid the many time trial boats) and eventually to SYC, where rather fortunately the Power boat captain Gavin had just arrived back from time trialling and organised where we could moor up. 6 Boats was a squeeze but we managed without completely blocking the club ramp!

All 23 of us made ourselves comfortable near the bar while the SYC guys arrived back. Once they were back we



joined them briefly for a drink, listened to their time trial presentation and had a chat. It was the first time that we had been there for a while so it was good to meet them. Gavin introduced me to Joe the fishing captain and we were presented with a pennant from both SYC and from Garden Island Fishing and Aquatic Association, who until very recently I had never heard of! Hopefully these will be added to the collection on display in the club soon.

As the sun had set and we were due back at PFSYC we had to say goodbyes and head back out on a slightly less leisurely, but equally enjoyable, run back. Lights on and throttles open we made our way back, the dim daylight making a great background for the city lights. We are extremely lucky to be living in such a beautiful city!

Once back at the ramps David appeared from nowhere (as bosuns seem to have the ability to do) and helped us onto the jetty (some were a little slower getting back) and out of the water. We were out of the water with no issues and Peter & Ros were out amazingly quickly considering Peter's winch cable had snapped just as the boat was nearly home on the trailer! Next up to haul their boat out was Terry & Linda. Unfortunately for Terry and Linda the winch had different ideas and decided to seize solid after the first foot of boat was on the trailer! Nothing we did could move it, so off the bosun ran to fetch the tractor so we could float the boat on. I won't describe the whole process, suffice to say over 30 minutes with Terry and myself in the water, 10+ people on the marlin board of the boat (sorry no pictures!) to lift the nose and one very patient bosun, the boat was on the trailer ready to be taken out of the water and be reconnected to the car! Not something Terry will be forgiving the winch for in a hurry! I don't think anyone else had any issue...

We all headed up to the bar, once we were out of the water, and grabbed a well deserved drink and bowl of hot chips, thanks to the staff feeling sorry for us!! We were also very grateful to the bar staff, for keeping the bar open for us.

We headed off around 7:30 having had a very enjoyable trip and one that we will likely do again, but maybe spend a little longer at each club in future.

Upcoming events

26/06/11 **Shelly Beach or Mandurah**, day/overnight. Weather dependant
16/07/11 **Two Rocks**

For any further information regarding the Power Boat section or upcoming events or to be added to our mailing list, please contact Steve Oliver – RC Power Boat section at rachandsteve@googlemail.com or 0415569272

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