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*Volunteer Marine Rescue
Gladstone Inc.*

P.P. 407222/00002

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NEWSLETTER



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President's Report.

We are moving forward slowly. We have taken occupancy of our new boatshed at the Marina. As with all new buildings there are a few things to do before we can use it. The security is a concern, however Maurie and his team are working on those issues. Despite its size I don't think we will have any problems filling it. The construction of our new boat, "QGC Rescue III" is progressing well. Planned delivery date is about mid-November. Unfortunately progress on a new headquarters is painfully slow.

On a bright note we now have five new MSQ qualified Coxswains. Thanks to some very hard work by the individuals themselves and the Training Officer, Trevor Davies. The new coxswains are Kim Lynch, Edwina Harding, Tony Di Rosa, Greg Sharp and Ian Macintosh. Congratulations to all concerned and a vote of thanks to the Hervey Bay Squadron and VMRAQ for sponsoring the course and looking after our people. With the changes to the legislation, the need for training has become a big issue and again, thanks to Trevor we seem to be wading through things and achieving results and qualifications. There is now a clear pathway and some sort of control over what people have to do to move through the organisation in whatever capacity they chose.

From my last report there are still two big outstanding issues we are addressing. The first is the issue of our dwindling active volunteers. My call for help in July yielded some results, but we need more. The commitment can be as great or as small as your lifestyle and work will allow. You meet great people, get excellent training and you are doing something for the community. PLEASE think about it. WE NEED YOU.

The other issue is the changing face of the Harbour. There has been a huge increase in the volume of traffic both day and night. The new vessels in many cases are large and some are unwieldy. Many areas have become restricted to recreational craft, others are subject to temporary closures. There are many new navigation beacons and warning buoys and you cannot assume that they are all lit at night. The message is **PLEASE TAKE CARE** when moving around the harbour. Don't assume things, if in doubt check with us, MSQ, Harbour Control or the Ports Corporation. QGC in partnership with MSQ, the Port, and us recently conducted a Maritime Safety forum. This is the first of several planned for the coming months. If you have queries about what is happening in the harbour they are worth attending. We will advise our members when the next one has been finalised.

Finally a word about your boating safety and pleasure. Plan your activities and make sure your boat is in good condition. As a boat skipper you have more to think about than simply what bait to take and how much ice you will need.

Safe Boating



Jeff Kidner

[PRESIDENT VMRG](#)

Incident Report.

- 02.06.11 6.55m vessel with 3 POB broken down off Turkey Beach. "Gladstone 1" skipper Trevor Davies and crew Tony DiRosa and Andrew Johnson responded and towed back to Turkey Beach. Jeff Kidner was the Controller.
- 03.06.11 8 m vessel with 2 POB broken down east of Facing Island and required a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Russ Charles and crew Jeff Caldwell, Andrew Louttit, Ian Macintosh & Edwina Harding were despatched. Controller was Hamish McLeod and the total man hours was 107.5.
- 05.06.11 6.1m vessel with 4 POB broken down at 23.40.976S and 151.37.802E near Heron Island and required a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Russ Charles and crew Ian Macintosh, Edwina Harding and Greg Schneider attended. Controller was Hamish McLeod and the total man hours was 50.4.
- 06.06.11 6.2m vessel with 2 POB ran out of fuel in The Narrows and required delivery of more fuel. 'Mobil II' with Skipper Russ Charles and crew Edwina Harding responded in delivering 40 litres of fuel. Controller was Hamish McLeod.
- 06.06.11 5.2m vessel broken down at 23.21.985S x 151.26.471E with a fuel problem. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Russ Charles and crew Jeff Caldwell & Greg Schneider responded. Controller was Jim Purcell. Total man hours was 25.
- 08.06.11 Vessel broken down at Rundle Island. VMR member 678 towed broken down vessel to Auckland Creek. Radio Assist only from Controller Hamish McLeod. Total man hours 4.1.
- 08.06.11 6.8m vessel at North Entrance phoned that he'd run out of fuel. Another boat towed him into Auckland Creek. Controller Hamish McLeod stood by on radio. Total man hours 2.

- 08.06.11 8.5m vessel requested VMR to organise entry to Heron Is. basin for overnight repairs to their fuel system. Stay organised and Controller Hamish McLeod on radio standby. Total man hours 1.5.
- 08.06.11 6.3m vessel aground on windward side of Masthead Island and disoriented. Hamish McLeod was Controller and provided radio assistance with course and distances to gain deep water. Organised for 'Micat' to intercept. Total man hours 2.4.
- 10.06.11 11m vessel with 2 POB required Medivac at Pacific Creek. Response requested by Police. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Dave Kopelke and crew Michael Spalek and Edwina Harding responded. Controller was Jeff Kidner and total man hours was 6.
- 10.06.11 4.7m vessel with 2A+3C on board, broken down in Calliope River and requested a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Dave Kopelke and crew Michael Spalek, Edwina Harding, John Johansen and Joe Mobbs did the job. Controller was Jeff Kidner and total man hours was 5.8.
- 11.06.11 Police request for assistance to capsized tug 'Adonis' sinking near Mud Island. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Doug Savage and crew Dale Donnelly, Kim Lynch, Joe Mobbs & John Johansen attended. Controller was Jeff Kidner and total man hours for 1st day was 38.5. Concluded next day (12th) also Controller Hamish McLeod.
- 12.06.11 42ft vessel with 3 POB. broken down in North Entrance and requested a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Doug Savage and crew John Johansen & Kim Lynch responded. Hamish McLeod was the Controller and the total man hours was 11.1.
- 18.06.11 Training run in the Harbour for 'Gladstone 1' skipper John Ibell and crew Dirk Mouton, Bruce Janson, John Johansen, Greg Sharp & Andrew Johnson. Jim Purcell was Controller.
- 18.06.11 Vessel called in from near Roma Rock but was then towed in by another vessel. Controller was Jim Purcell and total man hours was .7.
- 25.06.11 Training run in the Harbour for 'Gladstone 1' skipper Frank Daly and crew Hamish McLeod and John Johansen. Jeff Kidner was the Controller and total man hours was 8.
- 30.06.11 Search and Rescue for a vessel by 'Gladstone 1' and skipper Hamish McLeod and crew Terry Werder and Andrew Johnson. Controller was Jeff Kidner and total man hours was 16.
- 02.07.11 Training run for 'Gladstone 1' skipper Malcolm Clarke and crew Kim Lynch, J. Wilson and Graham Lehmann. Controller was Chris Peck. Total man hours was 15.
- 03.07.11 Search & Rescue for vessel with 2 POB near Leewellan Reef. EPIRB activated. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Trevor Davies and crew Malcolm Clarke, Brad Busted, Kim Lynch, Terry Werder and Graham Lehmann. Crew stood down after 1 hour. Controller was Chris Peck and total man hours was 7.
- 03.07.11 Training run in the Harbour for 'Gladstone 1' skipper Trevor Davies and crew Mal Clarke, Kim Lynch and Terry Werder. Controller was Chris Peck.
- 05.07.11 5.2m vessel with 3 POB broken down 3 miles off North Entrance and requesting a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Frank Daly and crew Hamish McLeod and Chris Peck did the job. Total man hours was 13.9.
- 09.07.11 Training run in the Marina for 'Gladstone 1' skipper Russ Charles and crew Ian Macintosh, Edwina Harding, Dave Kopelke, Gary Rampton and Kim Lynch. Controller was Hamish McLeod and total man hours was 13.4.
- 11.07.11 13m vessel with 2 POB broken down in outer Gladstone Harbour. Crew of Russ Charles, Mal Clarke and Edwina Harding were on standby. Controller was Hamish McLeod. Radio assistance only. Total man hours was 33.8.
- 15.07.11 2 Jet Skis with 2 POB broken down near Black Swan Red Beacon and requesting a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Russ Charles and crew Ian Macintosh and Edwina Harding attended. Controller was Hamish McLeod and total man hours was 17.5.
- 16.07.11 Training run for 'Gladstone 1' in Gladstone. Skippers were Doug Savage / Mal Clarke and crew Kim Lynch, John Johansen, Greg Sharp, Matt Boyd, Edwina Harding and Luke Donnelly. Also on board were Phil Norton and Robert Brock – Assessors. Controller was Jim Purcell and total man hours was 19.3.
- 17.07.11 Activation called off after 1 hour. Controller was Jim Purcell and Skipper was Doug Savage and crew was Ricky Melksham, James Melksham, Luke Donnelly & Kim Lynch. Total man hours was 4.
- 20.07.11 Training run for 'Gladstone 1' skipper Trevor Davies and crew Tony DiRosa, Greg Sharp, Kim Lynch, Ian Macintosh & Edwina Harding. Jim Purcell was Controller and total man hours was 24.5.
- 30.07.11 Training run in Gladstone Harbour for 'Gladstone 1' skipper Hamish McLeod and crew Terry Werder & Frank D'arro. Jeff Kidner was the Controller and total man hours was 9.
- 30.07.11 5m vessel with 2 POB broken down and requesting a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Hamish McLeod and crew Terry Werder & John Johansen attended. Controller was Jeff Kidner and total man hours was 8.3.
- 31.07.11 14ft vessel with 3 POB broken down 4.5Nm off Black Head and requesting a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Frank Daly and crew Terry Werder & Frank D'Arro attended. Controller was Jeff Kidner and total man hours - 14.3.
- 06.08.11 5.65m vessel, 2 POB, with fuel problem near North West Is. Made their way back to Gladstone but 'Gladstone 1' and crew were on standby for 3 hours. Controller was Hamish McLeod and total man hours was 5.1.
- 07/08/11 5.5m vessel broken down in the vicinity of N6 – North Entrance and requesting a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Brad Busted and crew Joe Mullins & Graham Lehmann responded. Controller was Hamish McLeod and total man hours was 8.7.
- 09.08.11 This incident was Radio Assist only. The Controller was Hamish McLeod and the total man hours was 21.
- 10.08.11 5.3m vessel called for help then got started, so crew was stood down. Controller was Jim Purcell. Total man hours 8.5.

- 10.08.11 Vessel with 2 POB broken down in the Gut with engine failure. He got going so Phone Assist only. Controller was Jim Purcell and total man hours was 3.
- 10.08.11 Commercial vessel China Bay – Radio Assist only. Controller was Jim Purcell.
- 13.08.11 Training run in the Harbour for 'Gladstone 1' and skipper Russ Charles and crew Ian Macintosh, John Johansen, Matt Boyd and Andrew Johnson. Controller was Chris Peck.
- 13.08.11 Vessel at Quoin Is. with 3 POB, that had insufficient fuel. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Russ Charles and crew Ian Macintosh, John Johansen, Matt Boyd & Andrew Johnson responded. Controller was Chris Peck and total man hours was 5.6.
- 16.08.11 Vessel broken down at S16 in the South Channel requesting a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Russ Charles and crew Ian Macintosh & Greg Schneider responded. Controller was Chris Peck. Total man hours was 14.7.
- 19.08.11 5.9m vessel with 1 POB broken down near the Fairway Buoy requesting a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Hamish McLeod and crew Edwina Harding and Ian Macintosh did the job. Controller was Chris Peck and total man hours was 17.7.
- 20.08.11 Training run in the Harbour for 'Gladstone 1' skipper Mal Clarke and crew John Johansen, Kim Lynch, Paul Moffatt & Dale Donnelly. Controller was Hamish McLeod and total man hours was 18.3.
- 20.08.11 5.25m vessel with 2 POB ran out of fuel in the Harbour and requested a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Mal Clarke and crew John Johansen, Kim Lynch, Paul Moffatt and Luke Donnelly. Controller was Hamish McLeod. Total man hrs – 12.8.
- 27.08.11 'Gladstone 1' did a training run taking VMRG members on a trip to Rodds Bay, Colosseum and Pancake Creek. Skipper was Hamish McLeod and crew Ian Macintosh, Greg Sharp, Ian Schultz, Edwina Harding & Kim Lynch. Also in this group was Chris Peck & Jeff Caldwell. Controller was Jim Purcell, and total man hours 70.
- 28.08.11 6.25m vessel broken down 6km NE of North Entrance and requesting a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Paul Thompson and crew Greg Sharp, Dirk Mouton and John Johansen. Controller was Jim Purcell. Total man hours was 15.
- 30.08.11 50ft vessel with 2 POB, out of fuel near the Fairway Buoy. 'Gladstone 1' skipper John Ibell and crew Andrew Johnson, Bruce Janson, Dirk Mouton & Greg Sharp. Controller was Jim Purcell and the total man hours was 42.

Report from the Unit Training Co-Ordinator

As many members will be aware, five of our boat crew have passed from Competent Crew to MSQ Coxswains. They are **Greg Sharp, Edwina Harding, Ian Macintosh, Tony Di Rosa and Kim Lynch**. Congratulations to all. A presentation ceremony was held at the Base on the 15th August, where their new shoulder tabs were issued by President Jeff Kidner.

The effort needed to be successful cannot be understated and full credit is due to the five who made the time and put in the study to pass the exams. These five are now considered Skippers-in-training, and require time at the helm under supervision to gain experience.

It should be that we have our **FIRST FEMALE SKIPPERS** in the near future.

In addition, **Terry Werder and John Johansen** have met the requirements for Certificate 1 Competent Crew and have also been issued with Certificates.

Jeff Caldwell has completed all Units to Certificate II, VMR Coxswain.

Further training is new underway, with an ultimate aim of more MSQ coxswains training in Gladstone in March next year. To be eligible for this training, you must have completed Certificate II – Competent Crew, but as there is time to get there before then, if you are interested, let me know.

Trevor Davies

UNIT TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR

V.M.R.GLADSTONE