RESCUE NEWS

SURFACE MAIL

Postage Paid
Gladstone
Queensland
4680

Volunteer Marine Rescue Gladstone Inc.

P.O. Box 797, Gladstone. Qld. 4680
Phone: 4972 3333 Fax: 4972 3396
www.vmrgladstone.org.au
email: gladstone@vmraq.org.au
ABN 47 236 033 890

P.P. 407222/00002

DECEMBER 2011

NEWSLETTER

Tower Sponsor
WALZ GROUP

Joint Sponsor
PB Sea-Tow

Our Major Sponsor
Central State Fuels

Joint Sponsor
ORICA

Joint Sponsor
Curtis Coast MARINE

President's Report.

As we approach the end of another year we look back on another successful one. The year has seen some dramatic changes in the Harbour and despite some early concerns, our members and the recreational boating community have coped with these changes very well. We have not seen any increase in the number of incidents associated with the Harbour activity. I guess the only incident that has directly affected us was the tragic loss of Dudley Jacobs in a tug accident earlier in the year.

Internally, we have seen our Associate membership continue to increase and unfortunately our Active membership decrease. I continue to flog the message **we need you.** Thanks to our very dedicated Committee members we have seen major steps forward in many areas including training, boat maintenance and administration. We also have a number of very dedicated project teams who are working to successfully complete a number of ongoing projects.

The year has seen greater interaction between our Squadron, industry and organisations such as MSQ and the Ports Corporation. The LNG companies, particularly QGC have been extremely generous in their support of our organisation, through a number of ongoing initiatives. The Ports Corporation have provided us with a new boat shed and are about to commence construction on our new Squadron HQ. Other organisations such as Bechtel, Orica, PBSea Tow, On Time Signs and our regular sponsor Central State Fuels have all been more than generous in their support of our Squadron through various donations of cash and other support. I would also like to acknowledge a myriad of individuals who have made personal donations throughout the year. Without all this support and generosity we would find it difficult to operate.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all our Active members who are the back bone and the life blood of our Squadron. Whatever you do, however large or small your contribution you are vital part of our organisation and your efforts are greatly appreciated. THANK YOU. Finally I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone the very best for the Festive Season. Drive and Boat carefully and responsibly, we want you all back next year.

STAY SAFE

Jeff

Jeff Kidner

PRESIDENT VMRG

Incident Report.

02.09.11 4.6m vessel with 2 POB broken down near the mouth of the Calliope R. Anabranch and requiring a tow. 'Mobil II' skipper Paul Thompson and crew John Johansen responded. Controller was Jim Purcell and the total man hours was 6.

03.09.11 Training run in the Harbour for 'Gladstone 1' skipper Frank Daly and crew John Johansen, Frank D'Arro, Paul Murfett & Adam Sexton. Controller was Paul Thompson and the total an hours was 12.5.

04.09.11 An activation by the Police for an upturned boat with 4 people. 'Mobil II' skipper Frank Daly and crew John Johansen attended. Controller was Paul Thompson and the total man hours was 5.5.

10.09.11 Training run for Skipper Trevor Davies and crew Jeff Caldwell, Kim Lynch, Andrew Johnson, Terry Werder & John Johansen.

11.09.11 Training run for 'Gladstone 1' skipper Jim Purcell and crew Kim Lynch, Jeff Caldwell & Andrew Johnson. Jeff Kidner was Controller and total man hours was 14.4.

12.09.11 6.1m vessel with 2 POB broken down at Yellowpatch and required a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Hamish McLeod and crew Jeff Caldwell & Tony DiRosa responded. Total man hours was 13.5.

12.09.11 Vessel aground on Seal Rocks. Skipper Brad Busteed advised how to put out an anchor and guided to a safe anchorage. Total man hours was 3.2.

17.09.11 6m vessel with 2 POB broken down and required a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Russ Charles and crew Greg Schneider, Ian Macintosh, David Kopelke & Matt Boyd attended. Controller was Hamish McLeod and total man hours was 51.1.

17.09.11 A vessel with 2 POB – non member and no radio, put out a general call for any vessels in the area to respond to a vessel displaying a 'V' sheet. Controller was Hamish McLeod.

18.09.11 9m vessel with 2 POB had broken down approx. near Connor Bluff and required a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Russ Charles and crew Matt Boyd & Greg Schneider responded. Hamish McLeod was Controller and total man hours was 17.5.

18.09.11 Vessel was broken down and radioed for help but Member 1667 towed this vessel into Auckland Creek and was reimbursed by VMRG. Controller was Hamish McLeod and total man hours was 1.5.

20.09.11 5.5m vessel with 1 POB had engine failure and required a tow. It was towed in by Member 1188, who was reimbursed for expenses. Controller was Hamish McLeod and total man hours was 3.7.

21.09.11 5.5m vessel broken down at Yellowpatch and required a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Russ Charles and crew David Kopelke & Jeff Caldwell responded. Controller was Chris Peck and the total man hours was 30.9.

24.09.11 Training run for 'Gladstone 1' in the local Harbour. Skipper was Mal Clarke and crew was Kim Lynch, Terry Werder, Jeff Caldwell & Adam Sexton. Controller was Chris Peck and the total man hours was 31.8.

25.09.11 5.8m vessel with 3 POB was broken down and required a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Joe Mobbs and crew Kim Lynch, Terry Werder & Jeff Caldwell attended. Controller was Chris Peck. The total man hours was 37.1.

25.09.11 6.12m vessel radioed from N W Island with insufficient fuel. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Joe Mobbs and crew Kim Lynch, Terry Werder & Jeff Caldwell delivered fuel. Chris Peck was Controller. Total man hours was 37.1.

25.09.11 15ft vessel broken down in the North Entrance and required a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Joe Mobbs and crew Jeff Caldwell, Kim Lynch & Terry Werder responded. Controller was Chris Peck. Total man hours 5.

25.09.11 Water Police contacted by Mobile. Phone Calls Only. All OK.

27.09.11 Digital Cell Alert on 82 & 16. Lots of Radio and Phone Calls. Lots of Vessel helped including a tug in the Harbour. Controller was Jim Purcell. Total man hours was 2.4.

27.09.11 6.8m vessel with 6 POB called for a tow as he had insufficient fuel. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Joe Mobbs and crew Kim Lynch, Ray English & Tracey Galland. Controller was Jim Purcell. Total man hours = 22.

01.10.11 5.8m vessel broken down off QAL wharf with engine failure and requiring a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper John Ibell and crew Greg Sharp, John Johansen, Jeff Caldwell, Terry Werder and Mal Clarke responded. Controller was Hamish McLeod and total man hours was 2.9.

01.10.11 Training run for 'Gladstone 1' skipper John Ibell and crew Greg Sharp, John Johansen, Terry Werder, Jeff Caldwell and Mal Clarke along with trainees Adam Sexton and Paul Murfett. Controller was Hamish McLeod and the total man hours was 7.

06.10.11 14m vessel with 3 POB broken down with engine failure off the Marina and requiring a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper John Ibell and crew Dirk Mouton and John Johansen attended. Hamish McLeod was the Controller and the total man hours was 40.7.

08.10.11 5m vessel with 3 POB required a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Hamish McLeod and crew Terry Werder, Greg Sharp, Ian Macintosh, Edwina Harding and Jeff Caldwell attended while combining tow with a training run to Yellowpatch. Total man hours was 39.

15.10.11 Training run for 'Gladstone 1' skipper Jeff Caldwell and crew Terry Werder, John Johansen, Andrew Johnson and Trevor Davies attended along with trainees J. Karmer, L. Gentle, A. Sexton, M. Boyd and P. Murfett. Controller was Paul Thompson and total man hours was 44.5.

21.10.11 to 22.10.11 Medivac call from Heron Island. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Hamish McLeod and crew Graham Lehmann, Ian Macintosh, Russ Charles and Jeff Caldwell responded. Controller was Jim Purcell and total man hours was 119.

27.10.11 5.2m vessel with 1 POB, broken down with engine failure at Cape Capricorn and required a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Russ Charles and crew Edwina Harding, Dave Kopelke and Matt Boyd responded. Controller was Jeff Kidner and the total man hours was 27.3.

28.10.11 9m vessel broken down 9nm west of N.W. Island and required a tow. As this vessel was from Yeppoon the call was passed on to Yeppoon Coast Guard. Controller was Hamish McLeod and total man hours was 10.5.

29.10.11 Training run for 'Gladstone 1' skipper Joe Mobbs and crew Dale Donnelly, Terry Werder, Michael Spalek, John Johansen and trainees M. Lincoln & R. Short. Hamish McLeod was Controller and total man hours was 9.5.

29.10.11 Training run for 'Mobil II' skipper Trevor Davies with trainees John Karner and Shane Hogan as crew. Hamish McLeod was Controller and total man hours was 4.

30.10.11 Medivac call from Turtle Street. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Mal Clarke and crew Jeff Caldwell, Kim Lynch and John Johansen responded. Controller was Hamish McLeod and total man hours was 9.7.

Report from the Unit Training Co-Ordinator

TRAINING — Elements of shipboard safety consist of three units — Fire, Survival and Safe Working Procedures. These are required to be completed within six months of becoming Active Crew. Eight new crew have completed these Units in November ready for Practical Assessment as soon as can be arranged with Phil Norton or Rob Brock.
Early next year, these units will be repeated for those who have not yet completed them.
Some people have difficulty attending training on Saturdays, so special Sunday training will be happening for these crew members. Just let me know if Sunday suits you better and Units will be scheduled for times to suit.

Trevor Davies
UNIT TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR
V.M.R.GLADSTONE

REMINDER – AS WILDLIFE MOVE IN, CAMPERS KEEP CLEAR.

This report was received just as the October Newsletter was being printed, so it missed out – but we are including it now as it is still very much in force — from 15 October 2011 for 6 months (app. April 2012).

Sea turtles and seabirds can nest in peace as the annual SIX MONTH CLOSURE of MAST HEAD, TRYON AND ERSKINE ISLANDS off Gladstone begins on 15 OCTOBER 2011.

During the closure, these islands are OUT-OF-BOUNDS TO CAMPERS AND DAY-TRIPPERS, with Lady Musgrave and North West Islands remaining open until late January.

The closure reduces disturbance and minimises our impacts to this important breeding ground for endangered marine turtles and thousands of nesting seabirds, such as wedge-tailed shearwaters, black noddies and bridled terns.

The closure is also a timely reminder to boaties to keep a good look out and slow down for turtles. Marine turtles, especially green turtles, are known to bask at the water's surface, and are sometimes slow to react to approaching vessels.

SIGHTINGS OF SICK, INJURED OR DEAD MARINE TURTLES CAN BE REPORTED BY PHONING **1300 264 625.**

THERESA CHARD
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION OFFICER
QUEENSLAND PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

CHRISTMAS BARBECUE

A Christmas Barbecue has been organised for Sunday 18th December 2011 at the new Boat Shed in Alf O'Rourke Drive at 1600 hours for all ACTIVE and LIFE MEMBERS (including Partners and Children).
Contact John Johansen on 4979 3838 or 0417 190 895 or email to tjfencingqld@bigpond.com to submit your name and number attending by ***10TH DECEMBER 2011***.