

RESCUE

NEWS

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Gladstone
Queensland
4680

*Volunteer Marine Rescue
Gladstone Inc.*

P.P. 407222/00002

MARCH 2011



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NEWSLETTER



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President's Report.

Hello to all Members,

The December Newsletter was cancelled due to the illness of our Editor, but now thankfully she is back on deck and compiling this Newsletter. This Newsletter is being sent to you as we need to send out the nomination forms for our A.G.M. to be held on the third Monday in May (16th). Please consider whether you have the time to apply for a position. It is not necessary to be an Executive or Committee member to be valued in VMRG as we need volunteers in all positions. Remember, current and archive Newsletters in colour can be found on our web site.

Our Vice President attended a State wide VMR President's Conference in Brisbane in February and the underlying message from the Government is that we will not be getting any more money from them. We have been receiving in dollar terms, the same amount for the last 12 years, and you know how much a dollar buys now compared to 12 years ago. It was also obvious that VMR Squadrons in the S.E. corner of the State have a waiting list of volunteers — a far cry from our situation.

You should be receiving the book sponsored wholly by the QCG Group. This book contains information, we think, would be of value to our members who use the Gladstone area waterways.

Our boat shed should be underway soon, as the contractors have been delayed by rain and are now in the process of installing the services. We hope we may see a start on the new building in 2012. This can't come too soon, as our current building needs refurbishing and is too small for our needs.

As you would be aware, we had abnormal weather in December and January, and we were engaged in a Search & Rescue operation for a missing fisherman at the mouth of the Boyne River. Sadly, this ended in the person being found deceased. We were luckier than some other VMR's, as they received adverse publicity from not being in a position to save unmanned vessels due to litigation against VMRAQ for an incident that happened in S.E. Qld/ This is still to be heard in Court.

On an equally sad note, I had to attend the Funeral of one of our experienced boat crew, Gary Matthews, who was taken from us at a young age. These incidents bring home to us how life can be so short.

Thank you for your attention,

BRIAN HAYDON
PRESIDENT V.M.R.G.



Incident Report.

- 01.01.11 Training run in the Harbour for 'Gladstone 1' skipper Russ Charles and crew Dave Nolan, Terry Werder & Hamish McLeod. Controller was Paul Thompson and total man hours was 10.
- 01.01.11 Search & Rescue in the Boyne River for a missing person activated by the Police. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Russ Charles & crew Dave Warne, John Johansen, Terry Werder & Hamish McLeod attended. Controller was Paul Thompson and the total man hours was 18.
- 01.01.11 Search & Rescue in the Boyne River for a missing person activated by the Police. 'Mobil II' skipper Joe Mobbs & crew Dave Nolan & Frank D'arro attended. Controller was Paul Thompson and the total man hours was 12.
- 02.01.11 Search & Rescue in the Boyne River for a missing person activated by the Police. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Russ Charles & crew Hamish McLeod, Terry Werder, Michael Spalek, Dave Warne, John Johansen & B. Jansen attended. Controller was Paul Thompson and total man hours was 98.
- 02.01.11 Search & Rescue in the Boyne River for a missing person activated by the Police. 'Mobil II' skipper Joe Mobbs & crew Dave Nolan & Garth Breayley attended. Controller was Paul Thompson and total man hours was 56
- 03.01.11 Search & Rescue in the Boyne River for a missing person activated by the Police. 'Mobil II' skipper Joe Mobbs & crew Dave Nolan & Dale Donnelly. Missing person found by QPS. Controller was Paul Thompson and total man hrs was 16.
- 03.01.11 Search & Rescue in the Boyne River for a missing person activated by the Police. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Russ Charles & crew Hamish McLeod, Michael Spalek, Bruce Janson, John Johansen & Greg Sharp. Missing person found by QPS. Controller was Paul Thompson and total man hours was 28.
- 05.01.11 11.6m vessel broken down near Garden Island and required a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Russ Charles & crew Hamish McLeod, Tony DiRosa attended. Controller was Jim Purcell & total man hours 16.
- 05.01.11 4.1m vessel in the Boyne River with engine failure. Was towed in by another member. Controller was Jim Purcell and total man hours was .3. Towed in by another vessel.
- 05.01.11 5.2m vessel with a battery problem, broken down 2 nm from North Entrance. 'Gladstone 1' attended with skipper Paul Thompson & crew Gary Rampton & Michael Spalek. Controller was Jim Purcell and total man hours was 12.3.
- 05.01.11 6.15m vessel broken down with battery problems at Farmers Point and requiring a tow. Skipper Paul Thompson & crew Gary Rampton & Michael Spalek attended. Controller was Jim Purcell and total man hours was 8.7.
- 08.01.11 4.1m vessel broken down with engine failure in the Boyne River and requiring a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Trevor Davies & crew Mark Burgess, Gary Rampton, Terry Werder, John Johansen & Andrew Johnson attended. Controller was Brian Haydon and total man hours was 42.
- 11.01.11 4.3m vessel broken down and sinking in the Calliope River and requiring a tow. 'Mobil II' skipper Trevor Davies & crew Mark Burgess and Dirk Mouton attended. Vessel caught fire and QPS attended. Controller was Brian Haydon and total man hours was 9.4.
- 15.01.11 Training run in the Harbour for 'Gladstone 1' skipper Russ Charles & crew Edwina Harding, Ian Macintosh, Will Gould & Jeff Caldwell. Controller was Hamish McLeod and total man hours was 15.
- 29.01.11 Training run for 'Gladstone 1' skipper Paul Thompson & crew Greg Sharp, Bruce Janson, Andrew Johnson, Dirk Mouton

- & John Johansen. Controller was Jim Purcell and total man hours was 24.5.
- 05.02.11 Training run in the Harbour for 'Gladstone 1' skipper Frank Daly & crew Dave Nolan, Terry Werder, John Johansen & Garth Breayley. Controller was Brian Haydon and total man hours was 7.5.
 - 12.02.11 Training run at Gatcombe for 'Gladstone 1' skipper Brad Busteed & crew Trevor Davies, Tony DiRosa, Terry Werder, John Johansen & Joe Mullins. Controller was Hamish McLeod and the total man hours was 9.9.
 - 19.02.11 Training run in the Harbour with 'Gladstone 1' skipper Russ Charles & crew Ian Macintosh, Dave Kopelke, Will Gould, Gary Rampton & Edwina Harding. Controller was Jim Purcell and total man hours was 21.
 - 20.02.11 Phone call from Awoonga Dam assisted by Controller Jeff Kidner. Resolved by GAWB. Total man hours was 1.
 - 21.02.11 Vessel broken down near North Entrance and requiring a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Peter Miles & crew Edwina Harding, Gary Rampton & Ian Macintosh. Controller was Jeff Kidner and the total man hours was 30.
 - 26.02.11 Training run in the Harbour for 'Gladstone 1' skipper Doug Savage & crew Michael Spalek, Dale Donnelly & Kim Lynch for 'Towing & rafting training'. Controller was Jim Purcell and the total man hours was 16.3.
 - 28.02.11 Vessel broken down at the mouth of Auckland Creek and required a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Doug Savage & crew Michael Spalek, Dale Donnelly & Kim Lynch did this call out whilst on the previous training run. Controller was Jim Purcell and the total man hours was 1.7.
 - 01.03.11 9.7m vessel broken down at North West Island and required a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Hamish McLeod & crew Ricky Melksham, Dale Donnelly & James Melksham (trainee) attended. Controller was Jim Purcell and total man hours was 95.
 - 03.03.11 15ft vessel broken down at Rock Cod Shoals and required a tow. 'Gladstone 1' skipper Paul Thompson & crew Dale Donnelly, Ricky Melksham & James Melksham (trainee) attended. Controller was Hamish McLeod and the total man hours was 21.3.
 - 05.03.11 Training run in the Gladstone Harbour for 'Gladstone 1' skipper John Ibell & crew Bruce Jansen, John Johansen, Kim Lynch & Greg Sharp. Controller was Jim Purcell and the total man hours was 18.

Boat & Crew Manager's Report.

Hi All,

Over the last six months, we have carried out some upgrading and maintenance of our primary rescue vessel 'Gladstone 1'. As most of you have boats, you will appreciate the cost involved. In addition, we have to meet survey standards, so some of these changes are quite costly.

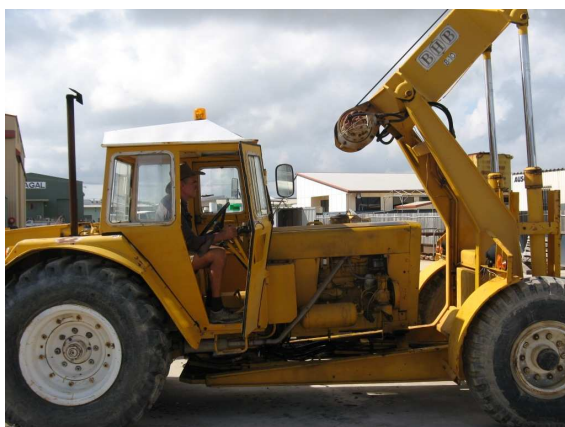
We have replaced the complete toilet system to achieve a functioning flushing toilet to meet the environmental conditions. A new more user friendly dash was installed, which enabled an improved instrument layout as well as the replacement of the old analogue engine gauges with single digital instruments, one for each engine. These new instruments give more accurate indication of fuel used and fuel economy as well as information such as engine data direct from engine sensors and speed, distance travelled & heading from the external GPS receivers. These are only the "big ticket" items and there has been much more work done that adds to the cost of maintaining a functional seaworthy rescue boat.

We have also replaced the engines as we were given a good changeover price by Curtis Coast Marine. This should continue to maintain our high reliability. Around the same time, a new control binnacle, new control cables, new engine harness and new hydraulic steering rams on the engines were fitted.

We have also fitted an AIS Class B Transponder to 'Gladstone 1'. Our old unit was just a receiver, so now we will be visible to all commercial shipping in the Gladstone Harbour, which is expected to increase considerably. We are now also visible to Harbour Control in Gladstone within our operation range.

Thank You and Safe Boating

Jeff Caldwell
BOAT & CREW MANAGER – VMRG



NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE VOLUNTEER MARINE RESCUE

SQUADRON –GLADSTONE



TO BE HELD AT THE BASE STATION ON
MONDAY 16TH MAY 2011 AT 1930HRS.



NOMINATION FORMS TO BE LODGED AT THE BASE OR POSTED TO P.O. BOX 797, GLADSTONE TO
REACH US BY MONDAY 2ND MAY 2011.

AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting by President – Brian Haydon.
2. Apologies.
3. Minutes of the 2010 Annual General Meeting.
4. Business arising from those minutes.
5. Treasurer’s Report and financial statement.
6. Receipt of Auditor’s Report.
7. President’s Report.
8. Election of Officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chief Controller, Deputy Chief Controller, Boat & Crew Manager, Chief Maintenance Officer, Unit Training Co-Ordinator and Committee Members).
9. Appointment of Auditor.
10. General Business —
11. Closing remarks by President.
12. Close
13. A General Meeting will follow the Annual General Meeting.
14. Light Refreshments.

*******SPARE NOMINATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE BASE STATION*******



NOMINATION FORM — 2011 A.G.M (16th May 2011)

PLEASE PRINT -



We nominate.....for the position of.....

Nominated by.....No.(.....) Signed.....

Seconded by.....No.(.....) Signed.....

Nominee's Signature.....No.(.....)

NOTE: All nominees and nominators are to be financial members of the Squadron.
Nominations to be Lodged at the Base by Monday 2nd May 2011.