



THE GREAT TINAROO RAID EDITION!

Club News:

The Ports North Master Plan:

No further developments received.

Insurance & Incorporation:

Current.

Boatbuilding Projects:

Brendon's Hartley:

Brendon's installed the starboard seat base, and repaired the upper windscreen frame. The cabin timberwork has had its final prep sanding completed, and has had its first coat of clear epoxy sealer. The teak components look just great. Stainless steel tubes have been installed to line the old window drains to eliminate rot and make the outlets look very smart.

The hull has had its last undercoat and sand, and the first coat of white polyurethane has been applied. Two more to go.

Roger's Kiribati Tri:

Work has restarted, with timber for the last chine replacements machined. The new frames are also being prepped and installation commenced.

The 16'Skiff:

The committee has agreed to start development of a plan to convert her to an electric powered boat. Stability, fitout, type of propulsion, power, solar, battery are all being considered.

Refurbishment of Pier Precinct Artworks: - They're finished!!

They have now been removed and installed back onto their original positions near the Salhouse restaurant.

While it was certainly a hard slog that at times seemed never-ending, and the rain really didn't help – but it is Cairns after all – we all managed to have a great time taking the rinse out of each other.

...and of course the coffee breaks helped! Here's a few photos repeated, just to show the last stages of a big job:



Finally, installed on the green adjacent to the Salthouse restaurant.



The amount of man & Sheila hours poured into this project will undoubtedly give us pause in taking other like projects on, but as has been previously said it has been a rewarding, exhausting, and learning experience for us all on many levels.

And also a well-recognised source of great pride to our commitment and workmanship, as can be seen when you view the next two photos that show the original condition of the artworks.



Ongoing Maintenance and Improvements:

The works to enclose/weatherproof Workbays 1 & 2 - are almost totally finished.

Workbay 2 is now complete. The framework & clear poly sheeting is finished, and now that the professionally-made shadecloth curtain has been installed it sits at 100% done.

Workbay 1 is at 95% complete with the shadecloth curtain installed, and just a small amount of clear poly sheeting & framework to be installed.

As usual, Marc has taken the bit in his teeth and assisted by our team of volunteers has provided another great upgrade to our facilities.

Another site cleanup has been completed with a dump run removing quite a bit of 'stuff', and a further reorganisation of container 3 for better access.

The WBAC 6m X 3m Marquee framework was significantly damaged during recent stormy weather, and the repair bill was expected to hit close to \$900. We then applied our many abilities into devising ways of repairing it all ourselves, but Life Member Gill stepped up with the offer of a recently-salvaged marquee frame that looks as though it will solve the problem. The lesson here is that *The Network Still Works!* Thanks Gill!

We're now looking at building a permanent roof over the area where the PN Artworks job was done. Attached to the side of container 3, it will be an ideal undercover storage area for Om Toch... and other projects as they eventuate.

The 2022 WBAC Great Tinaroo Raid

The early arrivals invaded the Tinaroo Sailing Club grounds on Thursday morning and rapidly set up vans, tents, shelters, campers and other domiciles, which was just as well because the TSC members had very similar ideas. By Friday afternoon the grounds were very close to capacity, allowing just enough space for Marc & Marcia to establish their usual outdoor camp. (A decision regretted during the wee hours when the rain arrived...).

Numerous contraptions were cobbled together from bits & bobs, Seagulls started, restarted and started again. Boats prepared and snugged into the shore due to the strong wind gusts, then unleashed during the lulls to commence water trials, restart Seagulls, paddle to shore because of unco-operative Seagulls, and.... well, you get the picture.

Then, the various ‘peculiar’ inventions were finally laid bare for all to view:

Roger’s Canadian Canoe with the bicycle-wheel-powered-pool-pump-waterjet was quite ingenious, but viewed by most as THE most likely to induce a heart attack.

..and Peter’s dual-hand-pump design seemed quite simple in design, but when the boat itself was viewed it was seen that it had several personalities – it was built in three pieces and was eventually used in all three races on the day! One heck of an achievement not likely to be eclipsed any time soon!



Dermot’s dinghy ‘Migaloo’ was back again with another iteration of (bear with me here...) a quasi-natural lever-action propulsion mechanism based on an adaptation of a mutated dual-tailed side-swimming whale with horizontally-opposed vertical fins. I’m sure there’s a scientific term that can be applied to his invention, but it escapes me at this time....



Chris arrived with the third annual modified version of Gnu the Canoe – renamed ‘Tom’s Tribute’. Five metres of timber and fibreglass powered by a pair of pedal-driven paddle wheels in a traction-propulsion format with traditional lever-action steering. Fitted with a pair of spray guards that were truly terrifying in their demeanour and colouring, ‘TT’ struck fear into all competitors and the local wallaby population, but she contained a fatal flaw..... the mounting for the pedal drive had sheared it’s fastenings and they broke loose at a critical moment. So, TT had to withdraw again.



Dermot deservedly won the race by a country mile (or is that a cable's length?), and Roger eventually crossed the line later that morning.

Then came the Paddling & Rowing Race!

Spectators call it Marine Mayhem, competitors describe it as paddling in a meat grinder when skirting the buoys, but we all know it's just part of the fun of simply messing about in boats!



Marc in a canvas & framed kayak, Peter in his split-personality flattie, Dermot & David in Migaloo with dual-opposed rowing, Guy in his Cornish Crabber, and a local attendee in a skin on frame kayak negotiate the second buoy.

Guy arrived first at the line, with Marc second and Dermot third, all were wet from wind, spray and the choppy conditions, but grinning all the same.

Then, at last, it was time for the Great Tinaroo Seagull Race!!!

It was total confusion before the start, mainly because all the seagulls kept running. Then, at the 2-minute mark the brand new air horn decided to develop laryngitis and stopped honking.

That of course led to a shore-borne dilemma for the starter who had to resort to waving frantically to all five contestants! (yes I know, 5 seagulls running all at the one time! It sounded a bunch of ducks being simultaneously garrotted..)

The five brave contestants were:

Roger in Silver Gull 1 – the extra-long cross between a coffin and something indescribable.

Sheila driving Tippy the Tri. – a very glossy, previous winner of the event.

Peter in White Boat - the final guise of his split 3-personality boat.

Dermot in Migaloo – her third appearance of the day but without oars and flappers.

John in Silver Gull 2 – an attempt to match hydrofoiling to a seagull. Unsuccessfully.

...and back to the starting shenanigans:

When the time came to blow the starting horn, the horn was silent (and landed about 30 feet away), so a whole bunch of leaping up and down by the starter waving the chequered flag got four of the fleet going the right way. Roger, who was heading 180 degrees to the field, suddenly realised he was quite alone and managed to turn the contraption around and opened the throttle up to a blistering 5.5 knots, rapidly overhauling the gaggle in front of him.

Sheila managed to miss the first bouy and rounded the second, which cruelly scuppered her chances of victory. (It is thought next year we'll use Hindenberg-sized buoys to assist her navigational problems).

Peter found the going a little tough, discovering that manouvering a 6-metre upholstered fence paling requires a wide turning circle, something that Roger was already doing,

And Dermot, in the only boat in the field that actually looked like a boat was doing quite well, sitting comfortably in the middle of the field.

...And then came John, in the strange invention attached to a strange English motor named after a strange seabird..... Last....

After the second buoy it was all academic as Silver Gull streaked ahead...again...and won.

Peter hauled White Boat (magnificently, inventively named) into second place, and

Dermot zoomed into third place, wrapping up two podium finishes in the one day.

Of course, Sheila couldn't place so was awarded a DNF.

And John B (no, not the sloop), for persevering with Silver Gullible 2 received a huge round of applause when he crossed the finish line!

Great fun was had by all, which could not be dampened by the attending winds and rain showers later that evening. It should be noted that all crews on the Seagull boats got very wet rounding the outer marker.

Roger & Silver Gull



Sheila sets out on Tippy



Roger crosses the Line in Migaloo



..and there goes John B.

And Peter in White Boat.



Also seen at GTR '22:

This lovely lady is *MATERIAL GIRL*

A 1948 twin cockpit ChrisCraft that is still equipped with her original 6-cylinder straight-six flathead ChrisCraft engine, that I believe is around 330 Cubic Inches. Such a beautiful boat reminding us all of the great age of wooden boats post WW2. Owned by member Phill, he and his family were very generous in providing joyrides for everyone over a 3 day period. Phill intends to take her to the Hobart Wooden Boat Festival next year, via a road & Bass Strait ferry trip! What a trip that would be!



Finally, the Tablelands express was present to record the event for prosperity (or infamy, depending on how you view life), and the following two articles duly appeared.

The accuracy of the articles was a little different to what the rest of us remembered, but the Express is always willing to promote local activities, so all's well.



Ladies and Gents, this concludes Ratlines for July, 2022.

And, as always, if there's more you want to see or know about please let us know by return email – WBACairns@gmail.com

Chris O'Keefe
Resident unsuccessful inventor.

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Vice President- Marc Richards;
Secretary- Dermot Smyth (and Librarian);
Treasurer- Brendon O'Rourke;
Committee- Tom Sparks, Sheila Sparks (website supervisor), and Keven Muller.

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WBAC's Cash For Containers number is: C10026463