



RATLINES – JUNE, 2020

*The official newsletter of the
Wooden Boat Association of Cairns, Inc.*

ABN 56 194 994 249

Hello to all our members and friends, and welcome to the June Issue of Ratlines.

Club News:

Regular clubhouse sessions: Are now back in full operation! Every Tuesday and Saturday you'll see us beetling away at all sorts of things, and always willing to welcome members and visitors. And of course there's always the 'Solve the world's problems sessions' – with coffee. Just bring a sense of humour....

Charity Status: Brendon is currently well into the process of registering WBAC as a charitable association. This costs us nothing, may assist us in gaining future funding, and will also allow us to avoid fees at the garbage dump. Cairns City Council has advised us that we cannot get a garbage pickup from Tingira Street, and our old trick of getting the garbo that services the boat ramp to pick up an extra bin or two is no longer possible – it's all computer & GPS monitored these days, so we have to dump our own.

Mail: An application has been made to Australia Post for mail to be delivered to our site at 68 Tingira Street, Portsmith. This will remove our need to have a post office box and therefore save us the associated future cost. We now have a mailbox near the front gate, the number 68 is mounted above it, and hopefully this function will soon be operational. We'll keep you informed.

Ports North Master Plan: Progress on the Master Plan has been understandably delayed. PN are committed to the development of the plan - having contracted a consultancy group to do so - but common sense dictates that due to the economy downturn little may happen for some time. All we can do is wait and see whilst we remain in our current spot.

Insurance: Our insurance is now up to date with the new policy, and PN have been supplied the Certificate of Currency. We are extremely happy with the savings made.

Clubhouse:

What a busy time the past month/s have been!

Re-arranging the contents of the storage containers is now 95% complete, with a little more sorting of nuts, bolts and some unidentifiable & weird things to go. [\(a standard question during the sorting has been: "What the xxxxxxxx hell is THIS thing?"\)](#). As a result of all the sorting, we find we have a substantial collection of yacht, boat, and sailing fittings. So, if you're in the market for some we have the range and the best negotiable prices.

Some 7 ute loads of 'stuff' have gone to the dump and we're now on first name basis with the staff there. Probably another couple to go.

New shelves have been installed in the containers and filled; two new timber woodwork benches totaling 5.4 metres are being built as we speak and will be mounted on the side of the orange container adjacent to the Pathfinder build.

Marc had made 4 new foldable wooden sawhorses more suitable to our group (they're much higher than normal), and our backs are eternally grateful!

Ports North have supplied us with quite a few cubic metres of roadbase to use as fill for the low, muddy spots around the compound. And they even spread most of it out! As a result, the swamp outside the front gate is gone, and a fair amount of the old Floria site has been filled in as well. Things are looking decidedly different in Tingira Street these days.



John & Roger on the chain gang....



Cairns Motor Boat Club Update:

Lots of updating of Seagulls is going on at this point in time, what with so many of us getting ready for next month.

Ever seen a fully-polished British Seagull Outboard? And why, you ask? Just because of course.

A full roundup will be given in the next newsletter.

Boatbuilding Projects:

Roger's 15' strip planked canoe continues at home. He's been heavily involved in steaming, laminating and glueing seat supports, fitting gunwales, and working out how to fit woven cane inserts into the seat bases.



Tom's Pathfinder: Rudder and centerboard are now complete, and the cockpit seating is being installed. A late decision on accessibility has resulted in the decision to complete the build without a cabin.



- Have you ever noticed that working on boats means you're either bent over double, working upside down, or twisted into the most uncomfortable position that you could possibly get into?

Brendon's Hartley:

Many welding repairs have taken place on the trailer in preparation for the Flareline to move into the first workbay.



New Sawhorses:

Now that Marc has returned from exile in Tasmania, he was champing at the bit to get back into the swing of things, so he volunteered to build four new folding sawhorses – from timber of course! And a thing of beauty they are:





....and woe betide the first person to put an errant sawcut into these beauties....!

Events Calendar:

***** The 2020 Great Tinaroo Raid *****

The notification of the Raid's confirmed dates (17th, 18th & 19th July), costs & covid restrictions at the TSC site, and the program of events has now been sent out to all members. This year's scope is much reduced, as indeed most events are in the current Covid situation, but we still intend to have lots of fun just mucking about in boats.

Committee Meetings

Have recommenced as of Saturday 12th June. A copy of the latest minutes is attached for members.

Gambling Fund Grant.

The complete package of tools and equipment has been delivered. We're a very happy lot at the moment with plenty of toys to play with.

A Bloke and his boat – our regular feature about one of our members..

Our apologies, but this feature isn't able to be brought to fruition for this month. We'll try to make up for it in July with a roundup of the Tinaroo Raid.

CHEERS !!!

This concludes Ratlines for June, if there's more you want to see or know about please let us know by return email – WBACairns@gmail.com

Cheers everyone, and stay safe.

Chris O'Keefe
President

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| <u>Clubhouse:</u> | 68 Tingira Street, Portsmith, (Cairns) Qld 4870 |
| <u>Committee is:</u> | President- Chris O'Keefe; Vice President- Marc Richards; Secretary- Roger Fryer; Treasurer- Brendon O'Rourke; Committeemen- Glen Chisholm, Phill Smith and Tom Sparks. |
| <u>Build days:</u> | Every Tuesday and Saturday mornings. Other days available on request. |
| <u>Website:</u> | Currently being revised. |
| <u>Facebook:</u> | https://www.facebook.com/Wooden-Boat-Association-of-Cairns-118900728480121/ |
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