



Welcome to the February Edition of Ratlines!

First up - Club News:

Regular clubhouse sessions: ...are still every Tuesday and Saturday from around 7:30/8:00 AM. We usually finish around midday, but that's flexible. Use of the clubhouse and facilities out of these times is also available to members by contacting the committee.

- **Charity Status:** The registration process has proven quite difficult, and requires much more time, effort and documentation (10 years of records!) in addition to that already invested. It was discussed at some length during the February committee meeting and unanimously agreed to go no further. At this time the Treasurer gave a large sigh of relief, and was rewarded with a biscuit for his efforts to date.
- **Mail:** Our mailing address is now 68 Tingira Street, Portsmith. QLD 4870.
- **Ports North Master Plan:** No changes at this time.
- **Insurance:** Up to date.
- **Incorporation:** The Annual Return was submitted in December 2020 post AGM. We are awaiting return acceptance notification from the Dept of Fair Trading.

Clubhouse:

- Remember, we have all sorts of boat stainless steel fittings, bits & pieces, etc, so check us first.
- The sorting of our library collection is complete. The Library Program will be populated shortly after the individual magazine stowages have been completed. A replacement solar exhaust fan has been fitted, and next issue we'll have photos of how it now looks. (You'll be amazed at the difference).
- All three of our containers have been completed, and all now have internal lighting (two are solar).
- No. 1 houses the library and many shelves of ships chandlery/relics/fastenings.
- No. 2 houses our tool store & machinery. And
- No. 3 Houses our ply storage, ladders, work platforms and some machinery.

Boatbuilding Projects:

Roger's 15' strip planked canoe is 98.15% complete (* estimated. He's very secretive about progress). We await the launch date for her maiden voyage.

Tom's Pathfinder:

Is close to build completion. Her hull is about to receive the last coating of white paint; the skeg keel has now been fitted permanently, with the protective stainless D-section about to be fastened into position; transom is complete; and will soon be lowered onto her trailer for completion.



Brendon's Hartley:

Stripping off of gunwale & chine trims is complete, and sections of the starboard deck have been removed to facilitate internal repairs. For a 50 year old boat she's in pretty good condition.



The Bitaki Taari.

Has now taken up residence at the compound. She awaits her turn in the second work bay, but redesign work will progress in the meantime.

The 68 Tingira St compound update.

The compound subdivision is working out quite well, and the Dragon Boat club has now refrained from parking across the driveway. The same is true in general for the boaties using the boatramp, although their 'ingenuity' in parking their cars & trailers can be quite amusing at times.

A 'mower shed' is being constructed on the end of container 3 by our members using as much recycled steel and timber as we could scrounge together. The shed will house the mower, whipper snipper, fuel

products, paint cans, and other garden implements. It should be complete inside a week, as long as the rain allows.



Other activities:

Various members still regularly head on up to Tinaroo for the chance to simply mess around in boats. And the secret squirrel developments in preparation for the 2021 Tinaroo Raid continue unabated. More in future editions, but while we're talking about it.....

Lake Tinaroo Raid, 2021.

The Raid is confirmed for the Cairns Show weekend in July (15th, 16th, 17th), as in previous years. Also, as in previous years, we will have several races, hopefully a few displays, and possibly a boat tour around the lake. Details are currently being devised, more soon.

The rules for the Seagull Race, the Peculiar Propulsion Race, and the Paddle & Row Race are being revised in readiness for the raid, and will be promulgated when ready & approved.

There is a possibility of a pleasure cruise around the lake during the raid, dependent upon water levels and attendee numbers, but details are still in the early stages. More when known.

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Ladies and Gentlemen, this concludes Ratlines for February 2021, and the next issue will be in March. 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
President

Clubhouse: 68 Tingira Street, Portsmith, (Cairns) Qld 4870

Committee is: President- Chris O'Keefe; Vice President- Marc Richards; Secretary- Roger Fryer; Treasurer- Brendon O'Rourke; Committeemen- Tom Sparks, John Knight and Dermot Smyth.

Build days: Every Tuesday and Saturday mornings. Other days available on request.

Website: <https://www.woodenboatscairns.com.au>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Wooden-Boat-Association-of-Cairns-118900728480121/>

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