

# **Tingira Boat Club Inc. Annual Report**

(As reported at the AGM August 25, 2018)

When I sat down to write this report I pondered over how I should proceed.

I could report on all that has happened over the last 12 months, but that has been adequately covered in Management and Quarterly General Meeting Reports.

I then thought, what has changed in the Club, and then I realised that one of the most significant change is the increase in membership, which means that many members do not realise how the Club has evolved to accommodate the many changes that are occurring.

Commodores come and commodores go, and they all leave their mark on the Club.

So in my report, I would like to share with you the developments that have occurred in my time as Commodore.

Five years ago I became the Commodore of the Tingira Boat Club. Although the start was a bit rocky, things quickly calmed down and I began to put in place my plan to take this wonderful club up to the next level.

## **Rosters**

First of all, I was concerned that too few members were doing all the work, so we created more rosters to encourage more volunteers to share the load. These days members complain if they are not on a roster.

## **Newsletter**

A weekly newsletter was introduced to allow all members to know what was happening, rather than just those who were present on Friday night. These were first started by Peter Fox, then Joan Wheeler, Elan Jones and now back to Peter as Secretary. Recently it has been separated from the Secretary's duties and Geoff Hiley has taken on the job.

## **Sunday on the Deck**

Sunday on the Deck was created to feed the boaties on Sundays. It quickly became available to everyone and is now on every Sunday.

This was started by Elan Jones who did an excellent job before passing it onto Margaret Jones who does it today.

Sunday on the Deck is our greatest fund raiser and most new members sign up on Sundays.

## **New Shed**

Thanks to Robert Smith, we received a grant to build a new shed. Max Keily coordinated this project with Jim Thenberg who was our registered builder.

## **OBEs**

It became apparent that many of our members were reaching the ripe old age of 80, so to reward them for this achievement they were awarded the OBE. (Over Bloody Eighty)

## **Boating**

Boating has increased dramatically and is occurring right throughout the year. When the weather and tides are right it is possible to see the six Vagabonds out on the water accompanied by members boats for Sunday sailing. Dragon Boats and Outriggers will be gliding backwards and forward while our canoes can be seen darting in between.

## **Calvert Memorial Event**

For many years an annual Big Boat event has been held by the Tingira Boat Club. After the passing of Past Commodore Brian Calvert the event was named in his honour. About three years ago his wife Margie also passed away, so to honour them both the event was changed from the Brian Calvert Memorial Event to the Calvert Memorial Event.

This year we are running a series of four Big Boat Events which will conclude in October with the Calvert Memorial Event and dinner where the trophies will be awarded.

## **Safety Boats**

With the increased activity on the water it was decided that a second safety boat be purchased to replace the one swamped out on the water and deemed unsuitable for that purpose.

A second RIB was purchased out of Club's funds and was duly named Sandpiper after the beach from which it operates. Peter Lawson has recently taken on the job of looking after the Safety Boat crews.

Peter Lawson was the first Sailing Master five years ago and since then Peter Fox and then Moss Lane who is vacating that position today.

## **Dragon Boats**

One of the more recent acquisitions to our club is Dragon Boating. After a visit from Loretta Lewis who wanted to start a Dragon Boat Club on the Island, we suggested that rather than start a new club they could join ours. In May 2015 a proposal was put to the Management Committee which was accepted. Although it has only been three years, they have become an important part of the club and not too great a drain on our resources. Dragon Boats need 20 paddlers to operate, so more recently Outriggers were considered that only need 6 paddlers. After a trial, they put in a request to apply for a grant to purchase two outriggers from another club. This was successful and shortly they will arrive increasing our fleet to three. Who knows where we are going to store them? The outrigger crews are quite keen and often go for a paddle during the week. Lyn Turner has taken over the organisation of the Dragon Boat and Outrigger with the assistance of Peter Hayward.

## **Wooden Boat Association**

The Tingira Boat Club has, over a period of time, built up quite a good relationship with the Wooden Boat Association and many of our members make the trip to Southbank on the second Tuesday evening of each month to attend their meetings. There has now been two Messabouts held with our club as base. The most recent was on July 14, 2018, when 11 of their members joined us at our Commodore's Ball, then after camping that night, joined our fleet of about 25 vessels to sail, paddle, row or be towed across to the Flinders' Day on Coochiemudlo Island.

## **Kitchen**

Over the five years I have had three Providores, Carol Lynch, Jocelyn Shinnie and Kay Chapman. Increased membership means more meals to be cooked. So to feed the hungry hordes, pressure has been placed on the committee by the kitchen for improvements.

Items purchased include:

1 Gas/electric stove

1 Electric deep fryer

1 Gas deep fryer

4 safety mats

1 Portable cutlery set of drawers

2 Rice cookers (already gone to god)

1 Six door refrigerator

And another

1 Gas/electric stove

## **Running Wild**

Over the five years we have been involved in the Running Wild's Youth Holiday Program offering canoeing, dragon boating, cooking etc. as well as offering our Club Rooms for a fund raising evening. Last year they went into business, training youth under a government scheme. Their project was to develop the Council's land next door into a Coastal Park. As a community service we rented then our deck as their training area.

While resident at our Club they carried out a number of projects for us. This included our barbeque pergola, concrete path and the rope fence along our southern border. Recently they received the Queensland Training Award for the South East Region. They celebrated by inviting their sponsors and supporters to join them here at our Club Rooms for lunch last Sunday.

## **Functions**

Functions have basically stayed the same with very little change.

An **Australia Day Function** has been added to kick start our year after the Christmas Break.

**Oysters and Jazz** took on a new concept this year with four separate bands entertaining us throughout the afternoon, rather than just one. We took a risk but it paid off and we will do it again next year.

**The Christmas Play** which was directed for many years by Joan Wheeler has now passed into the hands of John Milne. Rehearsals have already started and I dread the remarks that will be directed at the poor old Commodore.

### **Macleay Island Classic**

The Macleay Island Classic has now completed its tenth year and still going strong thanks to our wonderful sponsors, supporters, volunteers and competitors. It is now a two day event and next year will be held on April 6 and 7, 2019.

### **Volunteers**

None of these activities would be possible if it wasn't for our army of volunteers. Without volunteers we would need to employ staff which would mean our fees would go sky high or we would need to find other ways to raise revenue and we are not having Gaming Machines.

Our volunteer force is strong with willing workers and I am sure that many would be insulted if they were told they didn't have to work. I would say that at least 60% of our members volunteer. At the Canoe Race I printed more than 70 Certificates of Appreciation,

All volunteers are appreciated regardless of how much or little they may do.

However there is a few who do just a little bit more;

Geoff Hiley not only has taken on the task of editing the newsletter, but has for several years kept the Bar stocked and organised the Bar roster.

Margaret Jones is the current officer in charge of Sunday on the Deck.

Lyn Turner and Peter Hayward are in charge of the Dragon Boats and Outriggers.

Peter Fox has coordinated the sailing events.

John Milne is responsible for the Christmas Play.

Moya Fox has organised the kitchen rosters along with the Providore.

Norm Black who puts out the rubbish bins each week.

Heather and Stewart Sorby who look after our gardens and lawn.

Ron and Val Notley who decorate the Club for functions

All of these members give up time willingly and without complaint.

Well most of the time. They should be congratulated.

But the people that give up more of their time are the Management Committee members. They work tirelessly on behalf of our members though for some of you that is still not enough.

Let me introduce them:

### **Staying on the Committee**

Peter Fox our Secretary. Last year he was Vice Commodore and while I was overseas, Peter was Acting Commodore and was faced with a situation when our Secretary became ill. Peter sorted it all out with the club running as if nothing had happened with him as Acting Commodore and Secretary.

Bob Stampton our Treasurer. Has held that position for four years and our Bank Balance keeps rising.

Rob Thompson our Facility Coordinator. This man can fix anything. From a leaky pipe to removing rodents without bloodshed.

### **Leaving the Committee**

Vice Commodore Ron Boulton although only lasting one term was able to bring us valuable information straight from the members.

Moss Lane our Sailing Master who helped to increase our boating activities on a Sunday. Moss is also a wiz at fixing mechanical things and has kept our boats on the water. He also made the magnificent trailer for the Dragon Boats.

Kay Chapman our Providore. Has revamped the kitchen completely with brand new everything. Not sure how she got around the Commodore to do that. I am told she will be leaving the new Providore one of the best commercial kitchens on the island. She even got married to Lee during her term as Providore to bring extra skills to the kitchen.

To conclude this report, I believe that our Club is in a very healthy state. We are very happy club with members enjoying their club's activities and making friends as they meet more members. We have found a good mix between social and boating and with the Dragon Boaters coming aboard we now have younger people becoming members.

When you compare us with us with other organisations on the islands including other yacht clubs we are not just doing well but we are actually gaining strength.

It is an honour and a privilege for me to be your Commodore.

Thank you!

Neville Prosser

Commodore

Tingira Boat Club Inc.