

Keeping in Touch with VMR Bribie

24th May (Edition4)

Commodore Update

Hallo All,

I hope you are all bearing up well during this frustrating time, it is already over 2 months of lock down and isolation but we are now seeing a bit of relaxation which the Committee are keeping an eagle eye on and applying as much as is possible and practical to our Squadron.

Our last Committee Meeting was on the 20th May and the relaxation was debated and the following results agreed on as below:

Class Training for Crew MAR modules:-

These will be held again from 1st June for less than 10 people in the training room and applying distancing rules.

Practical Training for Crew MAR and Holistics:-

These will start as of June 1st with emphasis on least number of persons on board to achieve a satisfactory result – limited to 3 persons per vessel maximum.

First Aid Training:-

Still on hold due to historically large classes, to be reviewed in June. AMSA has issued a relevant exemption.

Crew Days Back to Normal:-

As of 1st June crew size limited to 7 maximum and there will only be 7 chairs in the crew room distributed between the two tables for social distancing which still needs to be adhered to whether indoors or outdoors. Practical activities also to address social distancing and if any crew feel under the weather please self-isolate from the squadron.

Radio Room:-

To continue as is now

Administration:-

More than one allowed and practice social distancing

Cleaners:-

As is current, due to small traffic through building and lock down, cleaning twice weekly as all under control.

Maintenance Monday:-

As is, crew called in on an as needed basis by Maintenance Manager.

The Base is still in lock down until further notice ie

The front door is locked at all times and the public have no access but can communicate by the intercom.

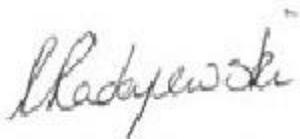
AND REMEMBER DO NOT GET SLACK WITH THE HAND WASHING. THIS BUG WILL STILL BE AROUND FOR SOME TIME.

We had planned for the next General Meeting to be held in June but the virus has put that over to further down the calendar, we will advise a new date as soon as practical.

Karen Darlington has been appointed Member Liaison Officer, so any issues that need sorting out please contact her.

The Call Outs have settled down and we are again seeing the “normal” spread of calls for assistance.

Thanks again to all that are adhering to Covid-19 rules, keep safe whether out on the water or on land.



Liz Radajewski

Commodore

VMR Bribie Island

Mb 0403 162 332

Fundraising during Covid-19

Well as we know Covid-19 has affected almost every part of our lives recently. The fundraising for VMR has also taken a hit. A lot of the activities that contributed to our funds have been on hold for some time now. I know some of you don't miss the raffles but everyone misses the comradery and just getting together with people.

So the things that are curtailed and hopefully returning in the near future are: Sunset drinks, Happy Hour, Sandstone Point Sunday Raffles and car parking, RSL fortnightly raffles, Bellara hotel raffles, Ramp days, Membership drives, Anaconda and BCF nights and more. As a committee we are monitoring the relaxation measures and also member sentiment so we can get back to some of these things soon. Obviously we will need to very quickly redo fundraising rosters when they do start again so please bear with us when that happens.

We haven't been sitting on our hands though. We have been busy with Grants applications etc. Just to recap we have received a Qld gambling fund grant to contribute to a new radio system (\$35000), we have also received grant funding from the Federal Stronger Community Grants for resurfacing etc. of the driveways for \$11,500. Planning work has commenced on both of these but implementation is delayed due to COVID-19 issues. We have also recently received a grant from the Moreton Bay Regional Council (\$7526) towards upgrading/refurbishment of the radio mast which has started in May. Just this week we received \$2000 from Volunteer Grants through Terry Young MP. This funding is allocated to go towards some new wet/severe weather gear to keep our crews safe and well.

You will notice we have also changed the website slightly to include a donation link on the front page and we are looking to do the same through our Facebook presence. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible so we hope this message gets out to the wider community so we can increase our donations with the end of the financial year approaching.

Cheers

Ces Luscombe

Vice Commodore

VMR Bribie Island

Mb 0422 798 302

Radio Statistics 11th May to 24th May

Number of calls 325

Number of vessels logged on 79

Number of Assists 6

Contacts with VMR Rescue Vessels

Bribie 1	10
Bribie 2	27
Jonkers Bribie 3	26

May 11th

Location – Banksia Beach / Cruiser aground and taking on water/ Police Activation / tow and pump out

Skipper Liz Radajewski/Ian Grimes/Allan Tranter Radio Operator John Bodycombe

There were several calls to this vessel it was hard aground and a second crew had to come back later to assist

May 11th

Location – 4 Beacons / Person on Barge requiring medical assistance / Police Activation /Later cancelled

Skipper Ian Grimes Radio Operator Bob Brandis

May 20th

Location – Half way to Caloundra and Bribie Passage / Out of Fuel / Spinnaker Boat Ramp /5.00 Steel

Skipper Allan Tranter Radio Operator Murray Dennis

May 23rd

Location – Southern end of Bribie /Flat Battery / Spinnaker Boat Ramp /5.00 Orange and White

Skipper Liz Radajewski Radio Operator Stewart Bell

May 24th

Location – Between Bridge and Spinnaker Cove / Motor will not Start / Spinnaker Boat Ramp /8.00 Cruiser

Skipper Allan Tranter Radio Operator Stuart Dodds

Message from the Radio Officer

Work continues on the Radio Tower upgrade and we hope to have it finished at the end of June.

Additional aerials have had to be installed in preparation for the new Radio System due later in the year and the Radio Tower support cables and turnbuckles have been checked and replaced where needed.



Safety and Maintenance

The VMR Bribie Monday Maintenance crew used our new tractor-trailer combo to haul out Bribie Two so that they could clean the hull. This was the first time it has been used after obtaining the necessary permit and registration. After a few minor adjustments ensuring that B2 was securely attached to the trailer, B2 was taken to the VMR compound for the hull to be cleaned.



Gary Bunker was the tractor driver. The tractor had its flashing lights on and our maintenance team members acted as traffic marshals to ensure that there was no traffic issues. All the maintenance team were issued with two way radios for safety.

Training at Home

[Here is another crossword to check your nautical general knowledge - Click on the link below](#)

<https://crosswordlabs.com/view/nautical-general-knowledge-no-2>

Humour

Keeping a Sense of Humour in these challenging times is so important.

Send us your us your best joke or funny video link that we can share with all your Colleagues.

Here is a couple to help put a smile on your dial.

How some of our pets are coping with their human's home all day long.



Nautical Joke of the Week

DO YOU KNOW THIS FEELING?



Here are some Funny Boat Names!

And to add onto the nautical theme, I know of loads of people who own boats that seem to like naming their boats with some silly boat names which are a play on words in regards to their floating vessels.

Would you call your boat any of these?

- | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. She Got The House | 2. Feeling Nauti | 3. Unsinkable II | 4. Aboat Time |
| 5. Usain Boat | 6. To Sea or Knot To Sea | 7. Nautiboy | 8. Costaplenty |
| 9. Beeracuda | 10. Passing Wind | 11. She'll Get Over It | 12. Moor Often Than Knot |
| 13. FarFromPuken | 14. The Codfather | 15. Pier Pressure | 16. Cirrhosis of the River |
| 17. Hydro Therapy | 18. Marlin Monroe | 19. Aquaholic | 20. DijaBringAlongaBeer |

Post COVID-19 Travel ideas

Stanage Bay Queensland



Stanage is a small township located approximately 75 kilometres north east of Rockhampton. However to travel by motor vehicle head north from Rockhampton along the Bruce highway approximately 75kls (150 meters past unused old servo) then turn right onto Stanage Bay road. This road is now 100 kilometres to the Stanage Township. (Approximately 80

Kilometers of dirt)

The Stanage road is an adventure in itself; keep an eye out for the magnificent abundance of bird life and animals that can be viewed at times.

From the odd turtle trying to cross the road to Emus, Pigs, Echidnas and snakes the typical country road. Whilst all the time be aware that it is an unfenced gravel road and care should be taken to drive to the conditions with cattle and kangaroos a constant reminder that you are driving into the carefree lifestyle of Stanage Bay which some refer to it as “THE LAST FRONTIER”



Once crossing the last grid and hitting bitumen again you will find that Stanage is broken up into three villages Alligator Point (Beverly Hills Turn right into Landsberg road approximately 100 meters past grid. This area boasts the highest lookout with easy access to some of the prettiest and rarely used beaches you will see. Whether fishing or lazing, alligator bay and spider bay are a must to explore and spend some time on. 4 Smith street is where you will find the “CRABBIN CABIN” and the OFISHAL UNIT” where you can enjoy the magnificent scenery and get the true readings of our sea breezes. Boat Hire and puncture repairs are also available through the owners of Barra Lodge.



Continuing along the Stanage / Banksia Road approximately 700 m is Happy Valley Turn right into Barramundi street; this is another parkland and entrance to the centre of alligator bay.

Continuing along the Stanage / Banksia road takes you into the shopping mall of Stanage. This is the Plumtree area. Here you will find the PLUMTREE STORE supplying basic groceries, diesel and unleaded fuels, Gas and the ever popular licensed CRAB POT BAR for those with a thirst. Just up the road from this you will find STANAGE BAY MARINE , with VON at the helm this is another well-known entity of Stanage.

Here you can purchase all your reasonably priced bait and tackle requirements for the local area as well as gift and camping necessities or just go to the store and browse, there will be something in there for everyone. Stanage Bay Marine also has a boat storage yard where you can leave your boat for a nominal cost to save you hauling the boat up and down the highway as we locals at Stanage are sure you will want to return.

Endeavour Park is along the foreshore opposite the “MALL” This is also the landing area for the careflight helicopter and where we remember and pay tribute to our fallen servicemen.

Further along is the two lane boat ramp and trailer parking facilities. The coast guard shed with their fleet of boats ready for distressed boaties emergencies. This is a great volunteer organisation and donations are always gratefully received or enquire with them and find out how to be an associate member.

The boat ramp leads to either “THIRSTY SOUND” which captain cook named due to not finding fresh water. Great for catching the renowned STANAGE large mud crabs and estuary fishing or head outside and chase many species of reef fish and pelagic including Spanish mackerel.

The two lane concrete boat ramp is tidal and most of the estuary is not surveyed so please speak to a local or at least view the waterways at low tide from the boat ramp to give you some idea of the tide height difference and calculate when you will be able to launch and retrieve your boat.



Coast Guard Thirsty Sound channel 81 gives local weather forecasts at 6.33am and this is a totally volunteer manned operation with their crew working tirelessly to keep an eye on us boaties. Please do not “chatter” on channel 81 and certainly not after 8pm or before 6.45am as these volunteers listen on a constant watch.

For those without boats or just wishing to, try fishing porters creek or meander along one of the many close pristine beaches keeping watch for shells and other treasures that may

be found.

Upon departure please leave only your footprints on the Beaches.

SEND US YOUR POST COV-19 HOLIDAYS IDEAS AND PHOTOS TO

mcnamarap@vmrbribie.com

Emergency Services Expo Update

The Emergency Services Expo for 2020 might have been cancelled for 2020 due to COV-19 but Graham Gibb VMR Bribie’s Emergency Services Liaison Officer was making sure that last year’s participations events were not forgotten when he made a visit to Brisbane Water Police Base after the travel restrictions were eased and presented Thank You Certificates for being there last year.

All agreed that they will be back next year bigger and better.

Left to Right (With their certificates)

Acting Senior Sgt Jay Bairston
Officer in Charge Senior Sgt Cary Worrell
Phil Brock, Acting Inspector Gordon Thiry
Police Diver James Hall
Graham Gibb VMR Bribie, Police Diver Kieren Spark

Social distancing was maintained for the Photograph. Thank You certificates were also presented to Thomas Grice VMR Brisbane and Ron Grundy from Coast Guard Redcliffe.





The new LNP candidate Fiona Gaske for the seat of Pumicestone dropped by the VMR Base to say hello to some of the VMR team. Fiona was met by Commodore Liz Radajewski, Vice Commodore Ces Luscombe and VMR Emergency Service officer Graham Gibb. Social distancing was kept in place for the photograph. General discussions were held on VMR operations.

VMR Bribie welcomes any candidate to come along and find out more about how we operate and our fantastic volunteers.

Getting to Know You

Name

Simon Joseph Middap

What is your role within VMR?

Red Saturday Skipper, Operations Manager (which is a fancy title for organising shit), Active Boat Crew Recruitment Officer, Trainer for SSSS, Environment and SAR

How long have you been VMR?

Not Sure, had a fling at Sandgate with VMR Brisbane before joining VMR Bribie – initially under Steve Keily and Maurie Beila (what a HOOT)

Why did you join VMR?

Love the water, Love boats, love assisting/educating people, I get a rush when dealing with a challenge

What do you enjoy most about your role?

As above, I do love dealing with and meeting new people – not just VMR folk but folk at the raffles, on the water, at the ramps.....



What is your most memorable moment so far?

Being called out in the dark of night by a member of the public who heard female cries for help, on investigation it was a naked woman who had been serving!!! Some drunks on a bucks night on a vessel in the passage and they threw her over----NAKED

Another story was the THAI fishermen that needed urgent assistance in the shipping channel who were “supposedly” fishing – we could see NO bait and when we got to them and asked them could they pay for their tow, one of them lifted the floorboards of the vessel and produced the biggest role of \$100 bills I have ever seen – needless to say we reported it to the water police and I subsequently got interviewed by Border Force

Another story was a Water Police callout for a toilet seen floating in deception bay, on investigation it was a houseboat that had been levelled in a bad storm and the only remaining was the pedestal on the deck, when we found it , maurie went aboard to make fast and the photo shows us towing the platform with only the dunny on the deck with skipper maurie sitting on the bloody thing pretending to steer

Tell us something an interesting fact that we may not know about you?

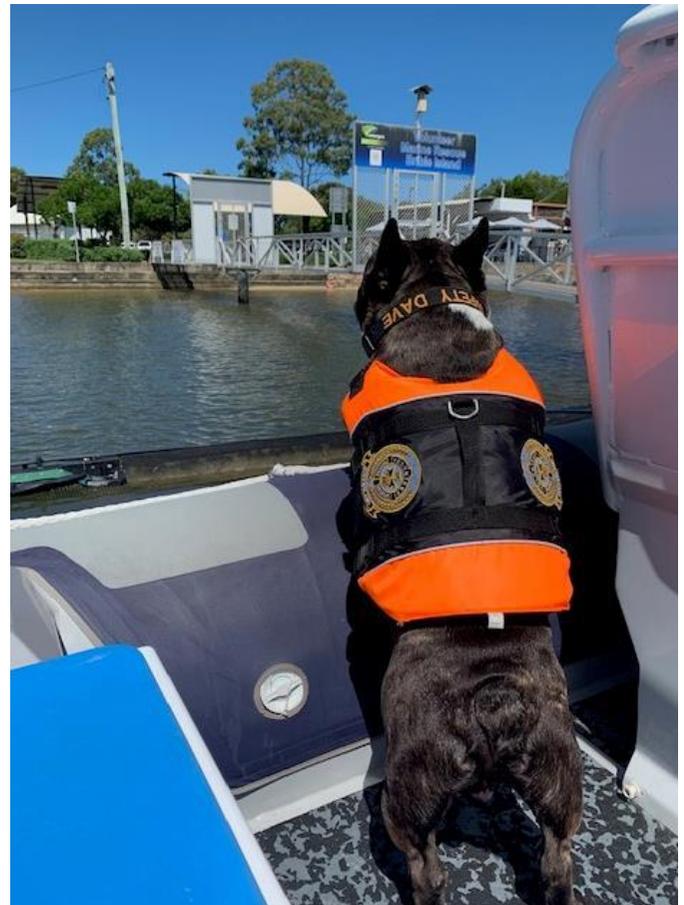
Learnt to board surf in Tassie, represented Australia in sport, played a few league curtain raisers at State of Origin and Test matches at Lang Park and Sydney Cricket ground.

SAFETY DAVE'S MESSAGE

Safety Dave - waiting patiently for life to get back to normal to see the crews and eat biscuits in the crew room!

Safety Dave The Frenchie wants to remind you all that even though many restrictions have been lifted and we have more freedom to do the things we love everyone here at VMR Bribie Island still needs to keep up with washing their hands using hand sanitiser that is dotted around the base, keeping the 1.5m distance wherever possible at the base and on vessels, stay home if you are not feeling well, cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or bent elbow when coughing or sneezing and no shaking hands or hugging.

Let's beat this is together everyone 🐾



Birthday Wishes

We would like to wish all who are having a Birthday in the next few weeks a big HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!!!!

Dot Oldmeadow
Tony Jamieson
Robyn Young

Trevor Botham
Bob Osborne
Brenda Allardyce

Dennis Pfunder
Ray Gibbs
Graham Gibb

Helping the Environment while at home

Some Helpful Tips

To help spread the word about what you definitely should NOT be putting in your recycling bin, here's a list of five items to keep out:

- Batteries - these can create sparks that could start a fire in the truck or at the recycling materials facility. Batteries are also contained in other items that do not belong in the kerbside recycling bin such as e-waste like phones and toys. In this period of particularly hot and dry weather, the threat of a fire starting is greatly increased. [Find a safe recycling drop off location for batteries near you.](#)
- Butane aerosols - these are the kind you might take camping to cook with. Once again if there is any flammable liquid left in these canisters they pose a significant fire risk. These should never be put in the recycling bin, instead, dispose of them safely through your local household [chemical collection service](#).
- Clothing - this is problematic as clothing and other textiles get tangled up in the processing machinery. This can cause the whole process has to be halted to sort out the issue. [Find reuse or recycling option for clothing near you.](#)
- Decorations - unfortunately, most Christmas decorations aren't recyclable because they are made up of several different material types including glue, glitter, paint etc, and come in various sizes and shapes which makes them impossible to process. Old decorations can be donated to charities or reuse centres or swapped with family and friends. If they are broken then they need to go in your waste bin.
- Pillows - we were interested to learn that many people buy new pillows in January and put their old ones in the recycling bin! Unfortunately this is 'wishcycling' as pillows cannot be recycled. Most animal shelters do not accept pillows and doonas for health and safety reasons.

Once again if you can't find a reuse option then they need to go in your waste bin or collected by your council clean up service.

Simon Middap
Skipper
Red Saturday

STAY SAFE, STAY HEALTHY AND IF YOU NEED HELP GIVE US A CALL

“We are all in this together”