NEWSLETTER OCT 2011

I was a bit slow with the last newsletter and missed the editors deadline so sorry for the break in transmission. Progress on the redevelopment of the new hardstand and offices is the most talked about subject so I will start there.

TRAVELIFT “When will the travelift be ready?” is the most asked question at the moment. To be honest perhaps your guess could be as good as ours (more about that later). We had hoped that we would have it operational by now. The dredged material where the new hardstand area is to be built has taken much longer to dry out than we had hoped and is still very soft underneath making it difficult to compact it enough to be able to take heavy traffic. We have now been able to prepare the first section of hardstand using layers of geofabric and rock to create a solid surface to work on. So we can now proceed.
The launching piers have been designed by engineer Dean “Cowboy” Cowling whose other job is as race engineer on one of Garry’s race cars. (Car 34 for those into car racing. Good luck at Bathurst for both the GRM cars.) They will be very similar to the piers pictured here which we saw at the Abel point marina at Airlie beach. Once construction of the piers is complete we will be able to try out the travelift. We have enough hardstand area levelled to store about 10 boats which is the same as we have on the existing slipway. We can then start to fill the old slipway area which has to be filled to the same height as the existing main car park. We will use the excess fill from the reclamation and at the same time will continue to expand the new hardstand area. So as you can see the completion of the whole hardstand area is still someway off in the distance but the travelift should be operational within 2 to 6 months.

I mentioned earlier that when it comes to the date the travelift can lift a boat, your guess could be as good as ours, so have a guess what date the ramps will be in and able to be used and the closest guess to that date will win a free haulout with the travelift. (no you don’t have to be first) So register your guess by calling or emailing Anne in the office before the end of October to be in it. (Marina berth holders and existing slipway customers only)

Just to be clear you are guessing the date the ramps are built and a boat is able to be lifted out, not when the whole hardstand area is finished. We are not planning to concrete the area for a while, to make sure there are no more soft spots, so will be operating on the gravel surface. There are a number of variables such as barge availability, supply of materials and weather, so no point trying to get the inside info from any of the crew, We honestly don’t know. Good luck.
NEW OFFICE & CHANDLERY

We have a design finalised for our new buildings as shown here. Architect Denis Edwards was asked to design buildings that will look good, and will not cost the earth to build, and we are very happy with the result. We are waiting on a draughtsman to finish the construction drawings and we will then get these underway as well. We have a large colour copy of these plans on the wall in the Marina office if you wish to have a look.

THE ATTENUATOR

We have been working away steadily on the changes to the attenuator to help settle the wave action coming underneath into the marina. We are attaching a steel waler down each side of the pontoons and then attaching timber panels to these which help to stiffen the whole structure and to baffle the waves as they come underneath. We have had one section done for some time and are happy with the result. We have to get a diver in the water to help with the attachment of the panels and John kindly “volunteered”. But did we really have to do it in August!!
WHERE’S TOM?

My right hand man since work began on the marina redevelopment about three and a half years ago, has moved on. Tom was here from the beginning of the dredging, right through the piling and assembly of the marina and more recently was knocking the new hardstand into shape.

Thomas has been a huge part of the marina redevelopment and his expertise on whatever machine he was on at the time has left a bit of a gap for us, but the lure of more money, a warmer climate and a complete change of scenery was difficult to resist.

He is now based in Toowoomba working for a company which lines dams and ponds for mining companies and farmers throughout Qld and Northern NSW.

All the best and thanks Tom.

THE BEANIE THERMOMETER

If you turn up at the slipway ready for a day working on your boat and you’re not sure whether to put on your coat, then do as we do and check out the beanie thermometer. Spot Gerry and then have a look at how high the beanie is riding. It is a good indicator.

If it is pulled down hard, no ears showing and the smoke is gripped in clenched teeth, think about going home.

If it is as shown in picture, half an ear showing and a more relaxed grip on the cig, then put on a coat and it will be ok.

If the beanie is riding high above ears, just perched on the top of his head really and the smoke hanging languidly from the lips, you won’t need a coat and you will probably get the jumper off later.

If no beanie at all and no ciggie, you are in for a nice day, T shirt and you will probably feel like a cold beer later in the day.
THE FLYING CLOUD

Remember the Flying Cloud? The photo of her here at Kettering was taken following the finish of the channel challenge when she was well looked after. The photo below is of the FC when we came across her recently in a yard at the now largely derelict Laguna Quays in the Whitsundays. She was sold some years ago to go up to that area to do some charter work but I guess that never happened and she is now looking very sad in the corner of the yard. Anyone looking for a project?

DINGHY RACKS

Could those who have a dinghy in a rack please identify their space with their Boat Name (preferred) or leave a chain locked across the front when they go sailing. Anne is happy to laminate a sign for you. We have tried to keep records of who is in which one but it is very difficult. So when someone asks for a rack we have to tell them to look for one which appears to be abandoned, no name or chain. This sometimes causes problems when an owner returns to find his space filled with another dinghy. So please identify your space in some way and if you no longer need the rack could you please let us know. Thankyou
PROPOSED LAYOUT FOR THE NEW HARDSTAND AND OFFICE AREA
New Riviera 3600 Sport Yacht, Twin Volvo 300hp IPS diesels, Twin double cabins, open saloon and cockpit, Available in November, Priced from $498,500 For more information on this vessel and the entire 19 boat range from 36 to 75 feet, please call Steve or Derek.

Adams 42 Pilothouse, Dual helm pilothouse steel yacht professionally built in WA. Quality timber fitout with 2 double berth sleeping cabins. Perkins 90hp 4 cylinder, Spacious and very well equipped. Here in a berth at Oyster Cove Marina $175,000
Welcome to the new season!

Let’s hope we get a good one so we can all use our boats as much as possible.

Before you set out, you are probably going to need to do a little maintenance to get your vessel ready. Whether it is just a tidy up or a slipping, we can help you with all your requirements.

If you are already an existing customer, it’s more than likely I will have on record the items like antifouling, paints, anodes, impellars, filters etc., that you used previously. Just give me a call, or drop me an email and let me know what you require and I’ll make sure to have it ready for you by the time you need it.

If you mention this article I will give you 10% off your slipping materials cost. If you use Wattyl products, you may get a gift from them.

I deal with many different suppliers, so if you don’t see what you are looking for in the shop just ask and I will more than likely be able to get it for you ...... at very competitive prices too!

Don’t forget we have fuel (diesel and Premium unleaded), Gas and Ice (crushed and block) available as well.

I have been in the trade for nearly 40 years so there is not much that I can't help you with.

Our opening hours are:

Monday - Friday          8.30 – 5.00
Saturday                  9.00 – 1.00
Sunday & Public Hols      10.00 – 1.00

except for Christmas, Boxing Day and New Year’s Day - CLOSED

Wishing you fair breeze and sunny days ahead.

Ian McConaghy

Also

Neil Hopgood

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When you are at the checkout enter **OysterCoveMarina** as the discount code to receive a 10% discount on your order.