



# Volunteer Marine Rescue

Southport-Surfers Paradise Association Inc.

ABN: 28 929 833 597

PO Box 866 Southport Qld 4215

t 07 5591 1300 f 07 5532 0331 e southport@vmraq.org.au

## MINUTES

### Forum Meeting

**Date:** 04 October 2016

**Time:** 1903

**Venue:** VMR400 Training Room

#### Attendance – As per signed register

Minute Taker	Glenn Norris
New Members	Nil
Apologies from the floor	Annie Erichsen, Rob Sinclair

#### PRESENTATIONS

Chris from Channel 7 gave a presentation to the meeting on the use of the 4 x Go-Pro cameras donated to VMR by CH7. These cameras are to catch footage of any good jobs that VMR may attend that may be newsworthy. Martin Walsh will be in charge of these and he has been instructed on how to upload any footage and how to keep these cameras fully charged. These cameras are quite expensive and need TLC. The cameras are waterproof and will float if dropped into the water. The cameras are provided with a chest harness for wearing on the body, or else they can be mounted in a prominent position on the vessel. Greg turner suggested that he would like a training video on VMR operations produced with these cameras. Members presented several questions to Chris, all which received the required answers. These cameras will be added to the VMR Base checklists.

#### Service Badges – Presented by the President

Mark Raff	5 years
Jacob Rudge	5 years
Jules Smibert	5 years
Bruce Watson	5 years
Adam Watson	5 years
Rob Fisher	10 years
John Moore	10 years
Terry Hunt	20 years

#### PREVIOUS MINUTES

**MOVED THAT** the minutes of the Forum meeting of 6 September 2016 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

**PROPOSED** Martin Walsh **SECONDED** Scott Gregory **MOTION CARRIED**

#### CREW REPORTS

Green – Bruce Andersen	1 crew this month 23/09/16 Great weather but very quiet Just 1 job towing a jetski from the Southport Pool to the Grand Did a medical exercise at the Hole in the Wall in the afternoon. Good training for the crew Good crew despite the lack of jobs.
White – Dave McDonald	2 crews this month. 1 <sup>st</sup> crew 24/09/16 Big job in the evening towing a 50 Benetau Sailing Yacht from Currigee to Runaway Bay. Very good job by Matt Fitzpatrick at the helm in Marine Rescue 1. The vessel was perfectly docked and then the owner decided he wanted the vessel reversed into the pen, so that had to be done. Again, well done by Matt QFES turned up in the morning wanting to some training with the Crew which was very beneficial. 4 other jobs from all parts of the Broadwater. A good crew. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Crew 2/10/16 – Queens Birthday Public holiday. A rainy day with most people heading home early from the long weekend. Only 2 jobs but both very long jobs – Couran to Gold Coast City Marina and Tiplers to Hope Harbour. Good training for the crews. Despite the weather was a good crew.
Red – Alan Curtis	Only 1 crew this month 16/09/16 – Quite a busy day for a Red Crew.



# Volunteer Marine Rescue

Southport-Surfers Paradise Association Inc.

ABN: 28 929 833 597

PO Box 866 Southport Qld 4215

t 07 5591 1300 f 07 5532 0331 e southport@vmraq.org.au

## CREW REPORTS

	<p>4 jobs</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> job was a 48ft ex Trawler that had to be taken from Sovereign Island to the Boatworks. The vessel was in very poor condition with weeds growing from the wood rot in the hull. Very difficult job and extremely glad to make the destination in one piece.</p> <p>Received a very good donation for this job.</p> <p>Had a vessel broken down 10nm East of the Seaway. Good towing practice for the crew.</p> <p>2 other small tows. Very happy with the crews efforts.</p>
<b>Yellow – Merv Handley</b>	<p>Just one crew for the month. Relatively quiet, however had a job on the Sunday afternoon with a houseboat in very poor condition that had to be towed from Hope Island Marina to the Boatworks. On hooking up the cleat snapped out of the side. <b>Urged extra caution when towing these types of vessels.</b> Crew did well on the job.</p> <p>On return from the houseboat job received a call of a couple of young boys in trouble with their tinny in the vicinity of Hope Island. Call came from parent of boys who really didn't know where they were. After searching up and down the Coomera River they found the boys at Gold Coast City Marina. They boys were only aged about 10yo. Very frustrating job.</p> <p>Lots of training otherwise.</p>
<b>Black – Glenn Norris</b>	<p>2 crews this month – 1<sup>st</sup> 09/09/16. Annie Erichsen filled in again</p> <p>This was the day of the AGM. Small job in the morning of a tow for Marine Rescue 3. In the afternoon the MRQ State President was being taken for a PR ride In Marine Rescue 4 when we were flagged down by a couple of guys who had capsized their Hobie Cat on the south side of Wavebreak Island. MR4 tried to right the vessel, however the sail couldn't be lowered and the mast ended up snapping. The vessel was towed to shore where the owner advised VMR he had lent the vessel to his mates and they had broken it on him.</p> <p>Very windy / overcast day</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Crew – 30/09/16 – Very busy crew. Ken Gibbs and Guy Coubrough were both away, so Terry Hunt and Matt Fitzpatrick filled in. Annie did as well.</p> <p>On the Friday evening had a 40ft yacht collide with the dredge in the Seaway. MR2 and the Water Police were on scene and had to skull drag the yacht free to separate it from the dredge. They yacht was Ferro cement and weighed 24 tonnes. The owner and crew were Russian and very hard to communicate with. Eventually the yacht was towed back to SNOO. Black crew had several more callouts to assist this vessel during the day when it started to take water, ran aground and got lost. The Skipper had no idea.</p> <p>Several small tows during the day – swamped jetski in the afternoon.</p> <p>Were called to pump out a yacht on a swing mooring near the Sundale bridge. The vessel was very low in the water on arrival, but successfully pumped out only to be told by the owner he had no money and to contact him in 1 month to see if he had any money then.</p> <p>Strange day with strange customers and strange jobs.</p>
<b>Blue – Jacob Rudge</b>	<p>2 crews this month</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> crew 10/09/16 – Large job in the evening when a 62ft Cruiser enroute from Townsville to the Gold Coast lost power at the Seaway entrance and was drifting towards the rocks. The weather was atrocious with driving rain and wind. MR2 managed to get a rope on the vessel and tow it to safety and then down to the Southport Yacht Club. Very good job by the VMR crew given the conditions. Lots and lots of training done on this crew during the day.</p> <p>Several other assists, just tows of small vessels which had broken down. A very good crew.</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> crew 1/10/16 – A massively busy crew. Scott Gregory was away so Greg Turner and Dave McDonald filled in. Mark raff also joined the crew</p> <p>A total of 23 activations for the day, of which 19 were jobs. At one stage 3 VMR vessels had vessels in tow under the Sundale Bridge.</p> <p>MR3 spent most of the day acting as a safety boat for a dragon boat carnival near the Broadwater Parklands.</p> <p>In the afternoon, received a call from the SWT regarding a vessel on fire in the Coomera River. 2 VMR vessels attended with the QFES, however, the vessel was unable to be saved. Job highlighted some communication issues with QFES that need to be worked on.</p> <p>A massive day and the crew worked very well throughout..</p>
<b>Callouts – Merv Handley</b>	<p>Starting to get a little busier with Callout jobs</p> <p>15 callouts for the month for 18 jobs. All standard breakdown type jobs.</p> <p>Still looking for Skippers to fill a night roster for urgent jobs. Becoming very difficult to get Callout crews. We need to improve on this before the Christmas rush hits.</p> <p>Spoke regarding the issue of Fire fighting from VMR vessels.</p> <p>Damage was caused to MR4 on the weekend from this. Skippers need to be a little more aware of</p>



# Volunteer Marine Rescue

Southport-Surfers Paradise Association Inc.

ABN: 28 929 833 597

PO Box 866 Southport Qld 4215

t 07 5591 1300 f 07 5532 0331 e southport@vmraq.org.au

## CREW REPORTS

what the Fire-fighters are doing and where their pumps are placed.  
Ultimately the VMR Skipper of the vessel has control of the situation and should be talking to the Fire-fighter in charge at all times to ensure the safety of the vessel and crew.

Greg Turner raised the point of how little chance there is of saving a small vessel from a fire and given the cost of the vessel, is the fire worth fighting if it has taken hold.  
Rescuing the people from the water is of the highest priority for VMR Crews.

## Management Reports

Brief Discussion	Action/Outcome	Officer
<b>TREASURER</b>	Report given by Diana Gibson Travelling well financially at the moment. Membership income is very good at more than \$40000 since July Receiving regular rent payments from Optus for their telecommunications equipment at VMR Non member donations for assists have been very good in past couple of months Fuel still the biggest expense to the Organisation..	<b>John Kaus</b>
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Nothing to report	<b>Diana Gibson</b>
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	Spoke more on the Go-Pro cameras. Wants to organise a Training night where 1 person from each crew is shown how to operate these. That person would then be in control of these for that particular crew. Advised of the changes to the Membership page on the VMR website. The form can be directly emailed to VMR now. Should a person call stating a problem with the site refer them to this. It is totally secure.	<b>Martin Walsh</b>
<b>SEARCH &amp; RESCUE COORDINATOR</b>	Gave a rundown on an incident where a Radio Operator handed over a phone call to a new Radio Operator midway through taking emergency job details. This happened as a result of a shift changeover. This is not to happen under any circumstance. If you take any sort of phone call follow it through to the end.	<b>Merv Handley</b>
<b>COMMUNICATIONS CONTROLLER</b>	Not present	<b>John MacDonald</b>
<b>RADIO OPERATORS CONTROLLER</b>	Not present	<b>Bev Weldon</b>
<b>OPERATIONS CONTROLLER</b>	BOATS : MR1 - Running well. Still floating. Seems problem has been rectified MR2 - Running well - Have received a Grant to replace engines. Will happen next month. Trim switches on throttles are not working. Will be looked at on Thursday. Has a cavitation problem under load only. New propellers should fix problem, however, none available with Mercury. All good at normal operation. MR3 - Problem with engine running rough on weekend. Mechanic looked at and diagnosed a kinked fuel line. Will be back to fix Thursday MR4 - Running well. Just waiting to hear if Grant for the engines was successful. Will be replaced in November regardless Received burn damage to rope box on a job on Sunday. Will look at getting fixed ASAP Finally sold MR3 Evinrude motor. Going to the Pilbara in W.A  MF / HF radio should be operational again tomorrow.	<b>Glenn Norris</b>



# Volunteer Marine Rescue

Southport-Surfers Paradise Association Inc.

ABN: 28 929 833 597

PO Box 866 Southport Qld 4215

t 07 5591 1300 f 07 5532 0331 e southport@vmraq.org.au

## Management Reports

Brief Discussion	Action/Outcome	Officer
	<p>New uniform shirts - Management has approved blue / gold shirt. Still looking at particular shirts.</p> <p>Meeting suggested pocket be removed from sample shown and VMR400 logo be screen printed on breast and SOUTHPORT be printed on back. To be followed up.</p> <p>SMS Documents for boats now updated. Have a read and let me know any further mistakes. One copy in Radio Room. One copy in Office.</p> <p>SOP's being collated and updated at present. Will be in folders shortly.</p> <p>Final approval has been given by the VMR Insurers to use the Jetski Recovery Jacket designed by Rex Scott and Bob Jordan. Rex has been going to each crew individually instructing on how to use. An SOP exists and is in the folder. It should be read prior to using.</p>	
COMMITTEE MEMBER 1	Not present	Helen Stanfield
COMMITTEE MEMBER 2	Not Present	Alan Coy
PRESIDENT	- Nothing to report	Dave Macdonald

## GENERAL BUSINESS

Guy Coubrough – Advised that next Shipboard Safety Course is due to start next Tuesday night 11/9/16. Skippers please make sure those on your crew who need to attend do so.

Merv Handley – VMR Christmas party will be held on Saturday 26 November – Black Crew are organising – Invitations will be distributed in the coming month.

Merv is looking for suggestions for more Social Evenings – eg. Golf nights, barefoot bowls etc. See Merv

Chris Hargreaves – Requested that on the new activation sheets that a column be added to indicate which Rescue vessel is used. Glenn to follow up.

00

**Lucky Door Prize – Stephen Hipkiss**

**Meeting Closed** 2025 hours **Next Meeting** 1900 hrs on 08/11/16

**Minutes Signed**

**Next Forum Minutes Keeper is – Glenn Norris**

**Next Forum BBQ – YELLOW CREW**