

bringing you the latest in marine and boating news





## **WISHING YOU ALL A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS**



*The Team at Boating Western Australia wishes you a very Merry Christmas and New Year*

**Best wishes for the season and safe boating!**

### **FROM THE PRESIDENT**

#### **THE ABSOLUTE NECESSITY FOR ALL “WATER PEOPLE” TO REMAIN INFORMED AND UNITED!**

**Boating Western Australia (BWA) meets regularly with Govt Departments, Authorities and Island Management to ensure safe access, good facilities and opportunity to have a say in the direction of our Marine and Tourism Environment.**

BoatingWA are the ONLY Boating Group/Assoc that regularly and actively looks after the Boater – YOU!!!

ARE YOU A MEMBER – IS YOUR OPINION BEING REPRESENTED – JOIN THE BWA TEAM!

State and Federal Projects currently underway absolutely have potential to override or impede the ability of West Australians to partake of the greatest enjoyment and leisure asset Western Australia possesses! Our Rivers and beaches - and all the pastimes, and endeavours that they support.

#### **RIVER**

The Swan River supports, Yachting, Power Boating, Swimming, Fishing, Jet Skis , Tourism, Boat Moorings/ Pens, Yacht Clubs . All of these pastimes could be dangerous to each other – were it not for “Shared Water Usage Reviews”, regularly undertaken by DTMI (Dept of Transport) to ensure that we use our designated areas and we do that at specific times. All sharing, and NO clashes. That becomes more difficult with the increasing population and new sports – all demanding time and space. The term ‘Finite resources’ springs to mind!

Now if you throw on top of that – An Electric High Speed Ferry – travelling through the existing areas and activities -SILENTLY AND AT HIGH SPEED – then you can easily visualise the potential for chaos! Boaters in these areas are constantly on the watch for kids in optimas (tiny yachts) intent on “Racing” – and oblivious to other boats and often their own safety.

Space to be occupied on some of the prime riverside (for Terminals) and the routes travelled by these ferries will absolutely have an impact on how and when we can use these areas of the river.

#### **HARBOUR**

Fremantle Harbour – Still has plans in place to relocate to Cockburn Sound – and then what becomes of the “Old Harbour”.

Plans were put forward for a “Super Yacht” Harbour – and it may attract more tourism – it may also negate land based fishing and walks along the waterside.

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*Front cover photo courtesy of Paul Nicholls*

## **ISLANDS**

Rottnest Island – seems to many visitors that it approaches its “Saturation Point: . How many boats and how many tourists can it abide before its “Eco-health” is impacted. Astute Management on the Island is ensuring that all modifications and repairs take the facilities another step forward. (Everything keeps getting better!) That brings more Tourists and more vessels. This is our “Jewel on the Coast” and we certainly cannot afford to overwork/overload it. Moorings numbers are well managed – but they also have a limit and no more are envisaged.

## **COCKBURN SOUND**

### Overview of Cockburn Sound

Cockburn Sound. Boaters and Fishers have for many years (8 to 10) been denied the enjoyment of catching a few crabs (nothing better with Kids!) . It is only in the last 12 months that this has quietly and tentatively re-opened. Sea Grass/Posidonia depletion was identified as a major factor in the closure. Dredges and Barges operate 24 hours per day to remove sand/lime from the bottom of the Sound for the production of cement. Huge efforts have been made to “regenerate the grasses” – only this year have we seen a re-opening of Crabbing in the sound and on a considerably lesser quota/catch limit.

Bigger/Deeper channels will need to be dredged, along with moorings areas for large vessels, and there seems little doubt the seagrasses will suffer considerably. More rules will need to be in place to ensure there is little/no interaction between large vessels and locals in boats. Amongst all of that will be Nuclear Subs coming down the Sound, and a wide security berth will be essential for them.

On the mainland will be a docking area for the servicing/repairs and this will have a security ring around it. The Stirling Navy base on Garden Island has also begun its necessary work, with lengthening the protective harbour groynes and will no doubt seek some deeper water.

Dredging will impact on the seagrass, inherent crustacea (prawns, crabs) will deplete if their grass is removed – and the Snapper stocks will be less inclined to come to the Sound if their prime food source is depleted. RecFishWest is working on exactly that question and how it might be overcome. Thank you RecFishWest Team!

## **FISHING**

Demersal Fishing has now been banned from Kalbarri to Augusta – and will remain so for 18 months.

That is a shattering outcome for local Boaters and Fishers! We were of the belief that the current limits, encouragement of Fishers to “put it back”, and the high quality of catches out wide – that things were safe and well. Apparently.

The “Saving Grace” in this latest legislature is that when things return to normal – the West Coast Fishery (ie close to Perth on the coast) will be entirely for Recreational Fishers. That will be a great boon to Boating and is something to look forward to.

## **REPRESENTATION**

What we have along the WA Coast is being challenged for a “RAFT” of reasons – some good – and some not so good.

We need to closely monitor what is being put forward as every project undertaken will either inhibit what we have, or limit what can be done in the future.

Not everything that is proposed “will be good for us!” and BoatingWA works with Government, and Authorities to keep your Boating life as varied, enjoyable and safe as we can possibly make it. Some projects do need to happen and we are obliged to accept those. Some DO NOT! – and we will oppose those or strongly seek modification of the project to ensure that Boaters have full consideration.

We remain a strong voice to Government, and are involved in some of the “decision making” processes.

You can strengthen that voice through being a member of BoatingWA .

If you are not a BWA Boater – JOIN NOW !!

Fill in the Membership form and you will find a few lucrative discounts and rebates that make being a BWA Member Truly worthwhile.

Welcome to being part of the BoatingWA VOICE!

Making Boating Safer – Making Boating Better!!



Colin Lockley

PRESIDENT

Boating Western Australia Inc.



**BECOME A BOATINGWA MEMBER** →

## ***SAILING ON***



It has been approximately 1 year since BoatingWA was introduced to “Sailing On” through Mr Guy Mewburn (Co-Ordinatdor for WA) ) and a lot has happened in that period. To bring everyone up to date: Sailing On – A New Program for Returned Service Men and Women.

Built on belonging, teamwork, and the power of the sea to strengthen and test those men and women.

For many returned men and women, the transition back into civilian life can be one of the most difficult journeys they will ever face . The structure, camaraderie and purpose that once shaped their daily lives can suddenly feel far away. Sailing On’ was created to help bridge that gap – offering a space where former service personnel can rediscover teamwork, rebuild confidence, and reconnect with themselves and others. What make Sailing On stand out is its core belief that the ocean heals and sailing builds people up!

At its heart, sailing demands cooperation, trust, and clear communication – the same qualities that define effective military teams. On a yacht, everyone has a role. Every role matters. The success of the vessel relies on individuals working as a team.

To facilitate this :

Many Boaters who had a vessel no longer being used donated those vessels to Sailing On, some small and recently, some quite large.

The Team Members on Sailing On then set about the restoration, maintenance of these vessels to return them to racing/cruising condition.

Many then began competing and enjoying time on the Swan River, honing the skills of the Team Members, and the other benefit of this process is that it involves the Members with Club Members of Sailing Clubs. The vessels have generally belonged to these Members, and to see them out there competing once more is exciting and heartening. Their gift is once more on the water and delivering excitement and training for Ex Military Personnel .



With the donation of a larger vessel came the opportunity to compete on the Ocean. Bigger water, bigger races and bigger challengers.

“Avenue” was donated to the Sailing On Team and the restoration produced a competitive yacht that could be ocean raced.

Boating Western Australia worked with several of the Coastal club, and also had discussion with the City of Cockburn find a berth from which Avenue could operate.

Fremantle Sailing club, through Commodore Kyle Timms, found a spot for a few months, whilst the Fremantle yachts were competing in the Bali Race and would be absent from the Club.

Commodore Timms and the Fremantle Sailing Club enabled the Sailing On Team to take their biggest step – Ocean Racing.

I am told that they managed to get out on water 4 or 5 times in that period, but there were other major gains, such as achieving the Safety Certificate for the vessel and total fit out for all the safety equipment – enormous jobs in themselves.

BoatingWA arranged the meetings and contacts that made this process happen, and we cannot thank enough Fremantle Sailing Club and Commodore Kyle Timms for their kind reception to Sailing On and its Members. The Sailing on Members were also able to spend time socialising with the Fremantle Sailing club Members and some camaraderie has grown between the two teams.

At this point, Sailing On and “Avenue” have gone back up river – but they have now experienced the thrill of the Ocean and there is little doubt that they will return to challenge and be challenge very soon. BoatingWA will keep working for opportunities for the Sailing On Team to house their Offshore Boat somewhere near the ocean, and seek interaction with Fremantle and other Clubs.

Which leads us to the next “Milestone” for the Sailing On Team. They have plans afoot to compete in the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race and Sailing On Squads are undertaking similar plans and preparations in other states.

So – you can look forward to a Team of Returned Service People competing in the Sydney to Hobart Race - and rest assured that they will be competitive!

If you have any equipment that might assist in their efforts to restore and kit out these yachts – you can contact Stephen Knights (Board Member Boating Western Australia) and now patron of Sailing On.

**Interesting also – Sailing On has “Not for Profit Status” and operates as a charity organisation. So, if you had a pen or mooring space around 10 to 12 metres that you wished to allow Sailing On to use – YOU WOULD BE ENTITLED TO A FULL TAXATION REBATE ON THAT RENTAL AMOUNT. Win/Win!**

Stephens Number is 0411 603 444

A great effort Stephen – made all that much more enjoyable when you are doing this for good people.

Boating Western Australia – Looking after our Returned Services – for they looked after us!!

Colin Lockley

PRESIDENT

Boating Western Australia Inc.





## MARINE & BOATING EXPERTS

Wilson Marine offers a huge range of boating and marine products along with reliable, friendly advice on all your boating requirements.

We are located in Fremantle Sailing Clubs Grounds or access from Capo D'Orlando Drive in South Fremantle.

\*Please note that some items are excluded due to low margins, ask our staff for more information.

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**WILSON MARINE**  
7 DAY WATERFRONT CHANDLERY

## FROM THE LOG

- **Port Coogee Marina has been a landmark destination for Cockburn's coastal community, evolving significantly over the past 20 years.**



Today, the marina is a much-loved community landmark, providing 231 pens, visitor and service jetties, boardwalks, and a Marina Services Building.

The business plan includes:

- Analysis of pen supply and demand to maintain high occupancy
- A proposal for a new public jetty to encourage visitors to the area
- Optimised jetty and pen layouts to maximise available space
- Financial analysis covering cost estimates, revenue forecasts, and payback periods
- An implementation plan with a detailed timeline, resourcing, and risk management measures.

**Have Your Say** (Closes 4pm December 19-2025)

<https://comment.cockburn.wa.gov.au/MarinaExpansion>

Brian Clapp  
Life Member

- **Boost for regional boating facilities**

12 Dec 2025

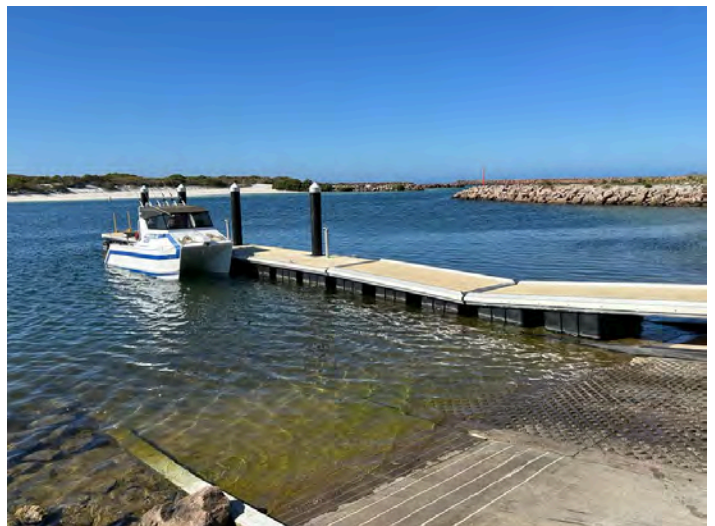
Grants totalling more than \$2.4 million have been announced in round 30 of the Recreational Boating Facilities Scheme (RBFS).

In a win for regional boating every grant allocated in the latest round will go to projects in the regions, stretching from Wickham in the Pilbara to Peaceful Bay near Denmark.

The majority of the funding will be spent on major boat ramp and jetty upgrades at Wickham, Monkey Mia and South Yunderup while smaller projects to enhance facilities for users will be undertaken at Exmouth Boat Harbour and Peaceful Bay.

Funds were also allocated for planning of upgrades at Leeman boat ramp and at the Bundegi boat ramp.

[READMORE](#)





- **Check 'Weather or not' you should be on the water**



Use our Waves Seas and Swell guide to see how wave height affects different vessel sizes. It's a simple warning system to help you assess safety based on your boat and the swell forecast.

[Find out more →](#)

- **Fremantle Traffic Bridge to close on 1 February 2026**

The State Government has confirmed the Fremantle Traffic Bridge will close on 1 February 2026, to enable completion of a new and iconic bridge for the port city.

- Fremantle Traffic Bridge to close on 1 February 2026 for up to 12 months
- Range of measures to support bridge closure in place from start of 2026 school year
- Community information sessions underway and resources available to help people plan their journeys
- Live Traffic WA app launched to provide real-time travel updates during the closure
- New traffic bridge part of Cook Government's commitment to delivering quality infrastructure for Western Australians and improving Fremantle's road network

The State Government has confirmed the Fremantle Traffic Bridge will close on 1 February 2026, to enable completion of a new and iconic bridge for the port city.

The bridge will be closed for up to 12 months, with the construction schedule to be reviewed on an ongoing basis and the program expedited where possible.

[READMORE](#) or [FREMANTLE TRAFFIC BRIDGE WEBPAGE](#)

- **Perth ferry expansion powers ahead as terminals approved**

A landmark expansion of Perth's ferry network has been given the green light with development approval secured for two new ferry terminals at Matilda Bay and Applecross, paving the way for improved connectivity across the Swan River.

- Two new ferry terminals approved to be constructed at Matilda Bay and Applecross
- Matilda Bay location determined to deliver best outcomes for the community following a multi-criteria site analysis and consultation with user groups
- Approval marks a major step forward in the largest ever expansion of Perth's ferry network, set to provide unprecedented access to the Swan River
- Formal tender for the design and construction of the two terminals to be released in early 2026
- METRONET on Swan part of the Cook Government's commitment to delivering a world-class public transport system for Western Australians

A landmark expansion of Perth's ferry network has been given the green light with development approval secured for two new ferry terminals at Matilda Bay and Applecross, paving the way for improved connectivity across the Swan River.

[READMORE](#)



- **New beach enclosure going in the water at Bathers Beach**

Work on the new beach enclosure at Bathers Beach will begin next week providing a protected swimming area along the Fremantle coastline for Western Australian families to enjoy this summer.

- New beach enclosure going in the water at Bathers Beach in time for summer
- Cook Government committed up to \$500,000 to the City of Fremantle for the installation of the enclosure
- Download the SharkSmart WA app to stay informed

Cook Government committed to building safer communities

Work on the new beach enclosure at Bathers Beach will begin next week providing a protected swimming area along the Fremantle coastline for Western Australian families to enjoy this summer.

[READMORE](#)

- **Recreational fishing boost as FADs start going in the water**

Fish aggregating devices (FADs) have been deployed along the WA coastline to provide more recreational fishing opportunities as the weather warms up.

- Cook Government investing \$459,000 to support the fish aggregating devices program
- Devices deployed along WA coastline
- New webpage launched for information

Fish aggregating devices (FADs) have been deployed along the WA coastline to provide more recreational fishing opportunities as the weather warms up.

A total of 36 southern FADs will be deployed by mid-December between Steep Point near Shark Bay and Albany.

The Cook Government has invested \$459,000 through the Recreational Fishing Initiative Fund (RFIF) to continue the FADs program, which encourages fishers to switch their fish and target large pelagic species like tuna, wahoo, mahi mahi, and marlin.

FADs have been installed off the Mid West, with more devices set to go into metropolitan waters by the end of November and then along the south-west coast in early December.

A new interactive FADs webpage has also been launched, providing information on the FAD locations, the closest boat ramp and the location of artificial reefs to help fishers plan their day out on the water.

The current network of FADs also includes eight new generation reinforced FADs which are permanently deployed off Broome and Dampier.

For the latest FADs information visit the new DPIRD website at [www.dpiird.wa.gov.au/individuals/recreational-fishing/recreational-fishing-initiatives/fish-aggregating-devices/](http://www.dpiird.wa.gov.au/individuals/recreational-fishing/recreational-fishing-initiatives/fish-aggregating-devices/) or Recfishwest at <https://recfishwest.org.au/fads/fad-locations>.



- **State-wide reforms to protect fish for future generations**

The Western Australian Government has announced important reforms across WA's coastline to protect demersal fish like pink snapper, red emperor and dhufish from extinction and to help stocks recover for future generations.

- Important State-wide reforms will be introduced to protect severely depleted fish stocks from extinction
- West Coast Region to become an exclusive recreational fishing zone for snapper and dhufish following a 21-month recovery closure for boat-based recreational fishing
- West Coast region to be closed permanently to commercial fishing for demersal fish from 1 January 2026, with a compulsory buyback of commercial fishing licences
- Recreational and commercial fishing will remain open in all other regions under new management plans
- Cook Government investing \$29.2 million to support recovery efforts, including \$3.3 million for tackle shop rebates to encourage fishing for species not under threat

The Western Australian Government has announced important reforms across WA's coastline to protect demersal fish like pink snapper, red emperor and dhufish from extinction and to help stocks recover for future generations.

The latest scientific stock assessments for WA's prized demersal fish have shown several species including dhufish, which are only found in WA, are under severe threat.

After reviewing the science and undertaking extensive stakeholder consultation, including holding a Fishing Future Forum last month, the State Government today announced new targeted actions to be implemented along the WA coast.

Under the reforms, the West Coast fishing region from Kalbarri to Augusta will not reopen on 16 December 2025 and will become an exclusive recreational fishing zone, following a 21-month recovery closure for boat-based demersal recreational fishing.

During this recovery closure, a policy on spatial and further temporary closures to protect spawning fish will be finalised, before the fishery reopens in September 2027 for spring season. A species-level management approach that recognises the differing rates of recovery between demersals will also be considered during this time.

The West Coast Zone will be permanently closed to commercial fishing for demersals from 1 January 2026, with a compulsory buyback of commercial fishing licences.

Recreational fishing for demersals will remain open in all other regions with additional State-wide management measures introduced.

These include real-time reporting of demersal catches and revised catch and bag limits starting in later in 2026, allowing everyone to play their part in the recovery of these highly valued species.

Charter fishing in the Perth metropolitan area will be closed from 16 December 2025, however, charter fishing for demersals under the tag system will continue in the remainder of the West Coast Zone under a reduced annual catch limit of 25 tonnes.

To support the reforms, the State Government will invest \$29.2 million to help stocks recover to sustainable levels so there are fish for the future.

The Fisheries Support Package will support commercial and recreational fishers adapt to the incoming State-wide reforms needed to help rebuild severely depleted demersal fish stocks.

[READMORE](#)

For more details on the reforms search fishing futures WA or go to [www.dpir.wa.gov.au/demersal](http://www.dpir.wa.gov.au/demersal).

- **Yacht Grot adds a new level of service for BoatingWA Members!**

Roger and his Team at Yacht Grot have been serving BoatingWA Members (individually) for around 30 years – with every conceivable boating part and accessory.

To formalise our partnership, Roger is offering an individual discount to BoatingWA members on the production of their membership card.

It will not take the form of a set discount, as every item in stock has a different margin on it. It will be up to you to ask Roger and the Yacht Grot team – What is my BoatingWA price?

Discounts will vary on the item – but discounts are discounts, and the store that as given our members the best service and prices for this long – it will certainly be worth producing your BoatingWA Membership card.

Introduce yourself to Roger and the Yacht Grot team - and enjoy the expertise and old world values that Yacht Grot has to offer.

Roger even has an extensive amount of used antique equipment. Might not be useful on your boat, but it sure will look great in your bar!



### Yacht Grot

57 Queen Victoria Street, Fremantle, WA 6160

T: +61 8 9430 6766

E: [info@yachtgrot.com.au](mailto:info@yachtgrot.com.au)

<https://yachtgrot.com.au/>







### **Warning: Replacement and Maintenance works on navigation aids – Princess Royal Harbor - Albany**

Mariners are advised that replacement and maintenance works on navigational aids within Ataturk Channel and Princess Royal Harbour.

Divers will be working in and around the work area, all dive vessels and divers in the water will be appropriately marked with the international code flag "A" in accordance with regulations.

All vessels taking part in these works will display lights and shapes in accordance with the Prevention of Collisions in State Waters Regulations 1983 at all times.

Below are the coordinates of affected Navigational Aids

1. Beacon no. 4:	Lat: 35'2.155 S	Long: 117'55.821 E
2. Beacon no. 16:	Lat : 35'2.204 S	Long: 117'53.365 E
3. Rushy Point Lead:	Lat: 35'3.048 S	Long: 117'52.300 E
4. Quarakup Front Lead	Lat: 35'2.665 S	Long: 117'54.453 E
5. Quarakup Rear Lead:	Lat: 35'2.757 S	Long: 117'54.642 E
6. Beacon no. 12 (Jacks):	Lat: 35'2.775 S	Long: 117'54.270 E
7. Beacon no. 12A:	Lat: 35'2.775 S	Long: 117'53.782 E

Replacement navigational aid buoys will be installed in place of Beacon no. 4 and 16 to maintain safe navigation through the shipping channel.

Temporary yellow flashing buoys will be placed around work areas at Beacons 12A, 12(Jacks), Rushy Point Front Lead, Quarakup Front and Rear Leads as a warning to recreational and commercial vessels.

Operators will monitor Marine VHF Channel 12 through the duration of the works.

Mariners are advised to maintain a proper lookout at all times, keep a safe distance and reduce speed and wake around the works, follow all temporary markers and signage, and comply with directions from site personnel as required.

Chart reference: WA1083 - Albany

Location: -35: 2.5768'S 115: 54.1915'E

Start date: 1/12/2025

End date: 23/1/2026

Issued: 27/11/2025

### **Advice: 4 x Research Buoys - Garden Island**

Mariners are advised that there are 4 x Research buoys to be placed off the back of Garden Island on the 28th of November 2025, where they will be in place until the 25th of March 2026.

Mariners are advised to keep a lookout and navigate with caution while in the area.

Chart reference: WA001 - Ocean Reef to Cape Peron

Location: -32: 12.1903'S 115: 38.7918'E

Start date: 28/11/2025

End date: 25/3/2026

Issued: 20/11/2025

## **Event: Closure of waters to all vessels - NYE Pyrotechnics display - Val Street Jetty, Rockingham**

I Christopher R Mather delegate of the Chief Executive Officer, acting pursuant to section 66 of the Western Australian Marine Act 1982 hereby close the following area of water to all vessels from 7:00pm on 31 December 2025 to 12:30am on 01 January 2026.

Area of Closure: All the waters within a 75-metre radius of the firing point located at approximately 32° 16.5000'S, 115° 43.5640'E on the Val Street Jetty, Rockingham.

Conditions of Closure:

No vessel shall transit through, anchor or moor within the closed waters area.

Bonafide vessels associated with the fireworks display are exempt from the closure.

Swimming is prohibited in the above area of closure.

This area is set aside for safety measures during the set up and display of pyrotechnics.

Chart reference: WA913 - Cape Peron to Dawesville

Location: 31: 16.5000'S 115: 43.5640'E

Start date: 31/12/2025

End date: 31/12/2025

Issued: 11/12/2025

## **Swan and Canning Rivers**

### **Warning: Preston Point Lower Reaches Starboard Beacon 3103 Unlit**

Mariners are Advised to use Caution as Starboard beacon 3103 is currently unlit.

Chart reference: WA898 - Swan and Canning Rivers

Location: -32:1.7182'S 115:45.6088'E

Start date: 15/12/2025

Issued: 15/12/2025

## **NEWS FROM THE CLUBS**



FREMANTLE SAILING CLUB

### **Reminder: Club Policy on Dogs**

At the March 2025 General Meeting, members voted not to allow dogs on site, and this remains the current policy.

Your responsibility as members:

Dogs are not permitted on Club grounds, except when moving directly from your vehicle to your boat and back, on a leash at all times.

No stopping for drinks, picking up orders, or social visits along the way.

Please remember, it's not just staff who enforce these rules, we all share responsibility. If you see someone breaking the policy, kindly remind them of the rules or speak to a staff member. This helps keep our Club safe and enjoyable for everyone.



## “Rotto Anything Goes” - And that’s a wrap!



Rotto really turned it on for our annual Rotto Day, giving us the most perfect weather you could ask for — blue skies, warm sunshine, and just the right breeze to remind us why we love getting out on the water.

From the moment everyone arrived, you could feel the good vibes in the air. The beach was buzzing with laughter, sunscreen, and a few competitive spirits as the games kicked off. From thong toss and ball bouncing to a bit of good old-fashioned beach cricket, everyone got involved — kids, parents, and a few who claimed they were “just watching” but somehow ended up batting or fielding anyway!

The Power Section Committee really put on a great day, keeping things relaxed but full of fun. The kids had a ball on the lily pad — literally hours of jumping, splashing, and laughing — and the extra games thrown in by the committee made sure there was never a dull moment. It was a fantastic mix of activity, mingling, and enjoying time with our fellow boat mates, old and new.

As the afternoon rolled on, everyone settled into that perfect Rotto rhythm — a drink in hand, a few tunes playing, and plenty of good conversations floating around. Then came one of the day’s highlights — the sunset BBQ. As the sun started to dip behind the horizon, the smell of sizzling food and the sound of corks popping filled the air.

Of course, no event would be complete without a bit of friendly chaos — and this time it came in the form of a gas bottle that refused to cooperate! Turns out it takes quite a few blokes (and a lot of opinions) to get it sorted... but we got there in the end! Once that was fixed, everyone enjoyed some delicious prawns and spicy sausage entrée, paired perfectly with a few glasses of wine kindly put on by the Power Section.

Soon after, the BBQs were firing, the boys were cooking up a storm, and the laughter rolled on into the evening. The quokkas, never ones to miss a party, made a few sneaky appearances — helping themselves to a bit of bread (and nearly some of the meat!) before being shooed away.

To top it all off, we ended the night with a mouth-watering spread of desserts, cakes, and chocolates, plus a few more drinks, stories, and plenty of laughs before everyone made their way back to the boats under the stars.

It truly was one of those days that remind us why we love this community — great people, great food, plenty of fun, and that unbeatable Rottnest magic.

A huge thank you to everyone who came along, joined in, and especially to our incredible committee who always go above and beyond to make sure every event runs smoothly and everyone has a relaxed, memorable time.





# HELPING MEMBERS LOVE LIFE ON THE RIVER

## Christmas Opening Hours

	Bar	Restaurant	Office
22.12	Closed	Closed	8:30 - 17:00
23.12	11:00 - 20:30	Closed	8:30 - 17:00
24.12	11:00 - Late	11:00 - 20:30	8:30 - 12:00
25.12	Xmas Lunch Bookings only	Xmas Lunch Bookings only	Closed
26.12	Closed	Closed	Closed
27.12 / 28.12	11:00 - Late	11:00 - 20:30	Closed
29.12	Closed	Closed	8:30 - 17:00
30.12	11:00 - 18:00	Closed	8:30 - 17:00
31.12	11:00 - 20:30 (Upstairs bar remains open for NYE event - tickets required)	11:00 - 15:00 (A La Carte) 17:00 - Close (Buffet)	8:30 - 17:00
01.01	Closed	Closed	Closed
02.01	11:00 - Late	11:00 - 20:30	Closed





**CHRISTMAS LUNCH**  
THURS 25<sup>TH</sup> DEC 12PM-3PM

ADULTS \$150PP | 6-11YRS \$75PP | UNDER 5 FREE

Celebrate with our indulgent Christmas buffet – fresh Exmouth prawns, traditional roasts, festive sides, and decadent desserts.

*drinks available from the bar*

**(08) 9339 3520**  
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL | PAYMENT REQUIRED UPON BOOKING



**WEDS 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER**  
**NEW YEARS EVE CONCERT**  
DOORS OPEN 7PM – BAND ON FROM 8PM

Members-\$35  
Guests-\$40  
Kids under 12yrs-\$15

**BUFFET DINNER**  
Members-\$45  
Guests-\$50  
Kids under 12yrs-\$20  
*available from 5pm downstairs*

**HI-NRG PERFORMANCE!**  
*Dance into 2026 with WA's ultimate party band.*



**NEW DUFOUR 41 AVAILABLE NOW**

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Andrew Partington: +61 428 422 759

info@yachtsalesco.com  
**YACHTSALESCO.COM**





## COCKBURN POWER BOATS CLUB

### VALE ERNIE BELL

It is with great sadness that we advise Members that Life Member Ernie Bell, aged 103 years, passed away on Friday 14 November 2025.

Early records show Ernie joined the Club in 1957 when it was originally known as Cockburn Sound Small Boat Owners Association. He was nominated by Jack Baker (Club founding member) and enjoyed many years of boating, crabbing and fishing in local waters as well as having great success over many years fishing out of Kalbarri.

Recognition of Ernie's involvement with the Club in the early years was acknowledged in 2005 when he was nominated for and, granted Life Membership.

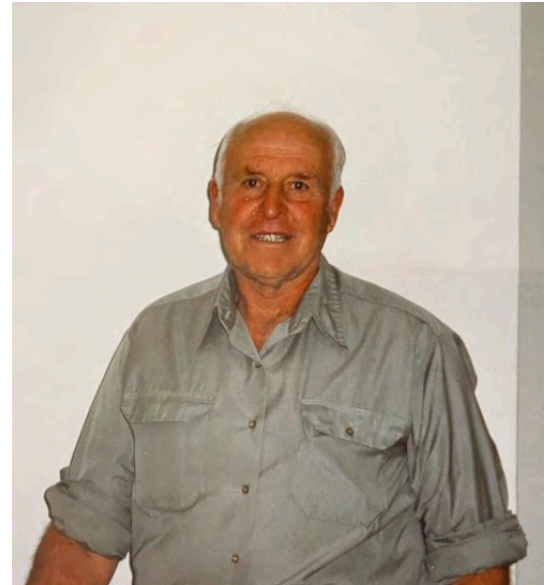


As a long-term volunteer at the Club, Ernie regularly attended the monthly Busy Bee and would always put his hand up for cleaning the undercroft BBQ area and overhead filters.

Ernie shared many stories of his life experiences over a cuppa and cake after the Busy Bee chores had been completed.







In October 2022, Ernie celebrated his 100th birthday in the upstairs function area of the Club, surrounded by family and friends. Ernie basked in the attention, and everyone enjoyed the special occasion.

A friendly and respected Member of our Club who will be fondly remembered.

ROY RICHARDSON

LIFE MEMBER AND FORMER COMMODORE



## Bunbury Yacht Club

Find us on 

EMAIL: [byc\\_365@outlook.com](mailto:byc_365@outlook.com)

MAIL: Post Office Box 1351 Bunbury 6231



### Who We Are

We are one of the oldest Yacht Clubs in Australia formed in 1882.

## Rottnest & Garden Island News

### Rottnest Island



#### • ROTTNEST MATTERS

The annual holiday season is almost upon us and with it brings a mass arrival of boats at Rottnest bays. Newer, bigger, faster boats will be arriving there with the resultant increase in mooring use, craypot setting, partying and unfortunately some inconsiderate activity. Please respect each other's space and be mindful of noise levels.

For all Rottnest boaters, the Rottnest Island Authority (RIA) have an excellent website which you can readily access whilst de-rigging your Jewie lines.

Please look at: "[ria.wa.gov.au/boating-safety---emergencies](https://ria.wa.gov.au/boating-safety---emergencies)" for current alerts and updates, weather, Rangers, rules etc.

Also "[ria.wa.gov.au/boating/plan-your-boat-trip](https://ria.wa.gov.au/boating/plan-your-boat-trip)" for excellent marine maps, alerts, guidelines, FAQ, onshore facilities etc. Great for new Rottnest boaties.

With the extra free time you now have (instead of chasing demersal fish) please also consider the excellent tours and information that the Rottnest Volunteer Guides (RVGA) provide around the Island-much of it is free with many fine brochures available too.

Those boaties with school age children can partake in RVGA holiday activities beginning in early January 2026. The famous quiz night, star gazing, Pirate Pete, sand castle competition and more will all be happening. Details will soon be updated on the RVGA website.

The history of the settlement area is amazing and not well known amongst even regular Rottnest visitors. It is well worth seeking out the yellow shirted Guides at the published tour times leaving from near the old Salt Store and information booth.

With the continued advertising of Rottnest attractions comes an increase in ferry and tourist activity and the resulting pressure on the environment, bakery, coffee outlets, bike hire, and bus tours. The ferry "channel" will be really busy so a reminder please to take care when crossing that area as there are several times during the day where ferries move in and out of the jetty /channel at the same time.

Ray Watson

Vice President

Boating Western Australia Inc.



The warm summer days are here and there's no better time to start ticking off your island bucket list. With long, sun-drenched days and extra daylight, Wadjemup / Rottnest Island is yours to explore.

Plus, this season, let those golden afternoons roll into unforgettable evenings with the 9 pm return ferry, giving you more time for a sunset dinner or twilight activity before heading home.

**Get Inspired**

## • Motoryachts Unlimited – Buying | Selling | Tuition | Tailored Fees

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Repeat business is everything to Motoryachts Unlimited and we want our customers to remain our best ambassadors.

For more info, visit <https://www.motoryachtsunlimited.com.au/our-point-of-difference/>



## BOATINGWA Member benefits

Did you know that as a BoatingWA membership you can purchase the latest Crewfit self-inflating, slim fitting style lifejacket at a discounted price of \$75\*+ delivery if required while stocks last

Interested? Contact us at [secretary@boatingwa.com.au](mailto:secretary@boatingwa.com.au)



### CREWFIT 165<sup>SPORT</sup>

The Crewfit 165N Sport uses the latest 3D technology, ensuring maximum comfort levels. Entry level to the 3D range the Crewfit 165N Sport has the essential features to ensure the recreational user remains safe when out on the water.

**Key Features:**

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- ✓ Centre buckle adjuster
- ✓ Crotch strap (optional)
- ✓ Soft loop D-ring for attaching harness (Harness version)







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## GARDEN ISLAND

Garden Island Fishing and Aquatic Association (Inc)

GIFAA Newsletter December 2025

Merry Christmas from your committee



Hello GIFAA Members,

The committee would like to take this opportunity to wish all members a Safe and Merry Christmas and an enjoyable New Year. Our membership base has been growing substantially, and we are at around 500 members. It's fantastic to see so much support for our association and we are truly thankful.

Stay safe on the water.

With the hot weather here, we expect to see more users at the island, particularly in Herring Bay. As such, we need to always maintain a safe environment for all users. Skippers of vessels are reminded to be always on the lookout for swimmers and paddle craft operators. People in the water are also reminded that large boats can often be harder to control at slow speeds and very susceptible to wind and tide influences. All members please be aware of other users, exercise patience and caution when using the bay and above all, stay safe!

Just a reminder that we are all operating in controlled naval waters and this comes with certain rules and regulations. The following are prohibited from naval waters (minimum 500 metres from the island):

- Dogs and pets are not permitted on the island or within in Naval waters. Penalties Apply.
- Spear fishing gear, nets and sandboards on shore or within Naval waters. Penalties Apply.
- Charter boats within Naval Waters.
- Drones are not permitted on the island or within naval waters.

Additional rules that apply:

- Access onto the island is between sunrise and sunset only
- There is a 5-knot speed limit in Herring and Pig Trough Bays
- Anchoring is not permitted within 50 m of any mooring or entrance channel
- Rafting of boats is not permitted
- Beach BBQ'S or open fires are not permitted on the Island
- Vessels greater than 13m are not permitted in Herring Bay

It is the responsibility of all members to follow the guidelines set out by the navy and to also ensure that other visitors to the island are made aware of the rules. If you witness any visitors not adhering, please say something to them in a polite manner. We have a very good relationship with the navy, and we should all work equally as hard to ensure that we are seen as contributing to governance of the island in a positive manner.

For any incidents on land, you also have the support of the Ranger, Linda Hocke who can be contacted during normal business hours on 0455 604 646. Outside of these hours you may also contact the Garden Island Security office on 9553 2273. For Emergencies, the contact number of HMAS Stirling is 9553 2222 and note that the Beach Emergency numbers (BEN) are BEN130 for Herring Bay and BEN132 for Pig Trough Bay

### Calendar of Events

Australia Day

- Our next event is planned for Sunday 25th January. It will be a free BBQ for all members in the picnic area at Herring Bay from 12pm to 4 pm. Please BYO drinks and enjoy an afternoon get together with your committee and fellow members.

## And finally

A gingerbread man went to the doctor's complaining of a sore knee. "A sore knee?" the doctor said. "Have you tried icing it?"

What do you get if you eat Christmas decorations? - Tinsilitis.

The Christmas jumper my kids gave me last year kept picking up static electricity. I took it back and exchanged it for another one, free of charge.

How did Mary and Joseph know that Jesus was 8lb 2oz when he was born? - They had a weigh in a manger.

I bought my son a fridge for Christmas. I can't wait to see his face light up when he opens it.

What did the third wise salesman say after his friends had already presented gold and frankincense? - But wait, there's myrrh!

Why did Mrs. Claus insist Santa take an umbrella? - "Because of the rain, dear."

Looking forward to seeing you all at the island soon for some Christmas Cheer.

Peter Fry

Secretary

Garden Island Fishing and Aquatic Association (Inc)



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## News from the Northwest

A 30-year-old Wickham man has been fined \$1994 in Karratha Court this week after being caught spearfishing in a sanctuary area and exceeding the bag limit for Barcheek Coral Trout.

Fisheries officers with the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development had observed the man with a speargun in the waters of the Southern Montebellos Sanctuary Area in July.

Officers inspected his boat, carrying four licenced fishers, and located five Barcheek Coral Trout, exceeding the combined bag limit of four. The limit is one coral trout for each licenced fisher.

It is also an offence to be in possession of fishing gear in the Sanctuary Area – where all fishing is prohibited.

The offender had previously been issued with an infringement 12 months earlier for fishing in the same location.

Also in Karratha Court, a 51-year-old Canning Vale man was ordered to pay \$994 for obstructing Fisheries officers.

The man attempted to thwart a compliance inspection by the officers in July earlier this year, ignoring instructions and emptying his bucket of fish at Cleaverville Creek mouth, east of Karratha.

Fishers are required to comply with Fisheries officers directions, and it is an offence to obstruct an officer when performing a duty under the Fish Resources Management Act 1994.

At South Hedland Magistrates Court this week, a 50-year-old Queensland man was found guilty of using illegal fish traps at Finucane Island in June, taking a green mud crab and a western yellowfin bream.

Fisheries officers intercepted the man while retrieving his boat at the Finucane Island Boat Ramp. He did not hold a current recreational boat fishing licence.

Fish traps are prohibited across the State, because of their impacts on aquatic life indiscriminately catching crabs, fish, protected marine and freshwater species.

He was penalised more than \$1780 in total including \$450 for not having a fishing licence.

In a separate matter at the South Hedland Court last month, an 85-year-old man and 80-year-old woman from Ravenswood were ordered to pay almost \$7000 for exceeding the possession limit of finfish fillets.

An inspection by Fisheries officers in May at the Eighty Mile Beach Caravan Park, east of Port Hedland, found the offenders with a combined 38.66 kilograms of skinned fillets, exceeding the Statewide possession limit by 18.66 kilograms.

The possession limit for fillets is 10 kilograms of fillets from any species (no skin required once landed), plus 10 kilograms of fillets of large pelagic finfish, which must have skin attached for identification purposes.

DPIRD Regional Compliance North Director Stuart McDowall said with the holiday season approaching, anyone travelling to the region needed to be aware of the rules for each location and species before going fishing.

“Fishers must ensure they don’t fish beyond the bag and possession limits and fish with legal gear, which is vital to the sustainability of our recreational fisheries,” he said.

“The rules for recreational fishing are available in the Recreational fishing guide 2025 and information can also be found online by searching the rules by species and location.”

Anyone who suspects illegal fishing activity should call FishWatch on 1800 815 507 or report the matter via the online form on Crimestoppers.





# New Shoprite Member Benefits App

[shoprite.com.au](http://shoprite.com.au)

Our friends at ShopRite have developed a new member benefits mobile app to make it easier for members to access their benefits, save not only money but also time.

**The app will be replacing the cards currently sent out to members.**

You will need to create a ShopRite digital account, using your BWA member number. If you don't know your number, please contact our secretary at [secretary@boatingwa.com.au](mailto:secretary@boatingwa.com.au)

How do I create a ShopRite digital account? Its simple!

1. If you do not have an account, go to "Sign In or Register", found at the top of the page, and enter the required information.
2. Click the "Register" button at the bottom of the form to complete your registration.



## Dear BoatingWA Members ... Explore your endless discounts and benefits!

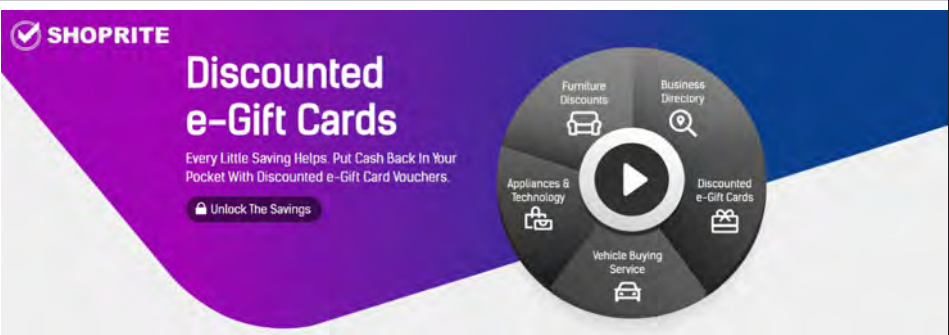


Are you aware that your BoatingWA membership gets you other great benefits outside of representing your interests and the interests of your fellow recreational boaters?

As a member of BoatingWA, you qualify to use Shoprite exclusive Benefits Service. All deals are negotiated on your behalf!

The ShopRite team have been working hard and negotiating to secure more benefits and special deals for members. Our most recent additional benefit is Discounted eGift Cards.

Here are some of the brands below:



- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Woolworths</li><li>• Coles</li><li>• JB HiFi</li><li>• Retravision</li><li>• Harvey Norman</li><li>• Good Guys</li><li>• Ticketmaster</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Barbecues Galore</li><li>• BCF</li><li>• David Jones</li><li>• Ray's Outdoors</li><li>• Red Balloon</li><li>• Priceline</li><li>• Myer</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Kathmandu</li><li>• Flight Centre</li><li>• EB Games</li><li>• Endota Spa</li><li>• BWS</li><li>• Dan Murphys</li><li>• BigW and <b>many more.</b></li></ul> |
|---|--|--|

The Shoprite team are currently in talks with many new businesses who are most eager to join their network and offer preferential discounts to members. Watch this space!

[www.shoprite.com.au](http://www.shoprite.com.au)



## News from the South West

- **Completed Aquatic Use Reviews (AUR)**

### Bunbury Aquatic Use Review



*Aerial photo of the Bunbury Casuarina Harbour*

The Department of Transport (DoT) has completed a review of aquatic use of the waters of Bunbury and the Casuarina Boat Harbour ensuing the ongoing safety, equitable use, and sustainability of this important waterway. The DoT would like to thank everyone for their interest and participation.

The review looked at current management arrangements in place and proposed improvements, including the future use of Koombana Bay for water-skiing, swimmer safety, speed limits and restricted access for vessels.

Changes are to take effect as of Friday 21 February 2025 including a reduction in the area for water-skiing at Koombana Bay, to accommodate the Casuarina Boat Harbour expansion, revised speed restricted areas and increased motorised vessel prohibited areas at Koombana Beach and the Casuarina Boat Harbour. Improved Navigational Aid infrastructure will also be implemented to provided for the safe access of all vessels utilising the Casuarina Boat Harbour redevelopment.

The changes follow extensive consultation with state and local government authorities and the general public through online surveys. These changes have been adopted in full after careful consideration of the feedback received, providing a majority of support for the proposals.

To download the Bunbury Busselton Boating guide visit our [Boating guides page](#).

[Download Bunbury Aquatic Use Review 2025 \[PDF\]](#)



### USEFUL LINKS

- Major Projects Rottnest Island

Click: <https://ria.wa.gov.au/major-projects>

- Boating on Rottnest Island

Click: <http://www.rottnestisland.com/boating>

- Rottnest – Temporary Notice to Mariners

<http://www.rottnestisland.com/boating/boating-information/temporary-notice-to-mariners>

- Rottnest Marine News

<https://mailchi.mp/rottnestisland/latest-rottnest-island-authority-marine-news?e=0a6b7000a1>

- Garden Island Fishing and Aquatic Association GIFAA

Click: <http://www.gifaa.com.au/>

- **TEMPORARY NOTICES TO MARINERS LINK**

[Click Here](#)

- **TIDE PREDICTIONS LINKS**

For general tidal predictions around WA: [Click Here](#)

Tide Tables for Western Australia: [Click Here](#)

For 2021 Fremantle tidal predictions: [Click Here to Download](#)

- **FSC DIVERS GROUP**

This is a page to showcase the comings, goings and doings of the Dive Section at Fremantle Sailing Club.  
More info: [Click Here](#)

- **BOATING COMMUNITIES NEWSLETTER**

Stay up to date with the latest news relating to recreational boating in Western Australia through the Department of Transport's Boating Communities Newsletter. [CLICK HERE](#)

### Other useful links

ShopRite – <http://www.shoprite.com.au/>

River Guardians – <http://www.riverguardians.com/>

Fremantle Sailing Club News – <http://www.fsc.com.au/home/latest-news-information/>

Swan Yacht Club News – <http://www.swanyachtclub.com.au/news/>

Bunbury Yacht Club: <https://www.facebook.com/p/Bunbury-Yacht-Club-100067325569262/>

Perth Game Fishing Club News – <http://www.pgfc.com.au/news>



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