

# VMRWA UPDATES

## FROM AROUND THE TRAPS



### WOULD YOU BELIEVE IT?

#### SOME GROUP SOMEWHERE WILL MEET THESE PEOPLE – GOOD LUCK

On Jeff and Dan’s recent trip into the Pilbara, they encountered the above outfit on the road. While they were not sure about any vehicle load/compliance issues, they guessed there probably were a few. However, if you search long enough, somewhere amongst that bloody stack, odds on that there’s a kitchen sink! 😊

### IN MEMORIUM

In Onslow, there is a memorial to two fishing vessels that sank in 1995 during cyclone Bobby - the *Lady Pamela* & the *Harmony*, together with the seven souls that were lost.

A poignant reminder of what can happen.

Take care when on the water, as coming home is a priority.



### PILBARA TRIP

In Mid-January, Dan and Jeff made a trip to the Nor-west to catch up with members from Onslow, Dampier & Port Walcott on the way to Port Hedland, with Exmouth and Kalbarri visited on the way home.

While a lot was packed into the week it was, they believe, beneficial for all.



Tim, some of the Onslow crew with Dan at their building.

It was great catching up as sometimes they get “missed” being at the end of a longish cul-de-sac.



Onslow’s shared facility with the Fries. Well done guys and girls we like your work here — well done.



Jeff & Dan were accompanied some of the way, by DFES’s Mark Eatts, Graham Swift and Bec Benson.



## MARINE RESCUE DAMPIER



### DAMPIER'S NEW RV COMPLETED

The word on the street is that the sea trials in Geraldton were successful.

The VMRWA Transport Division (Jeff & Dan) picked her up from Dongara Marine in Geraldton and delivered her safely to her new home port.

Yet another fine vessel out of Rohan's new Dongara Marine, Geraldton "shed".



## MARINE RESCUE PORT WALCOTT



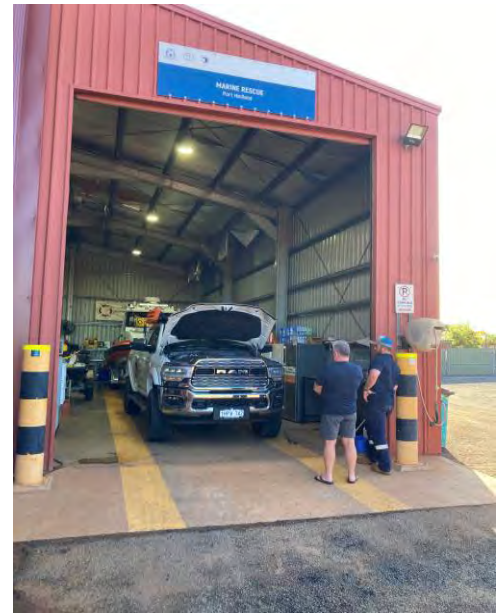
During their recent VMRWA / DFES combined visit with Port Walcott, Jeff and Dan were able to catch up with Paul and one of the many Allan Brown's, seen here seated alongside Dan.

Paul was kind enough to conduct a tour of their Rescue Vessel.

Mark Eatts and Graham Swift spoke about where we would all like to be, not just now but into the future.



## MARINE RESCUE PORT HEDLAND



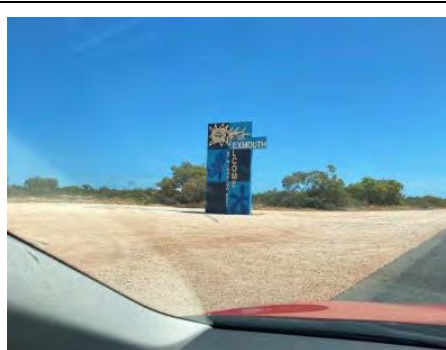
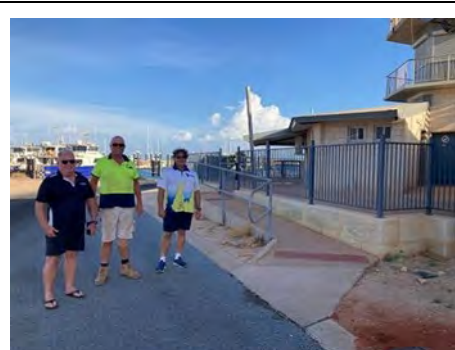
There was an opportunity to meet with the Port Hedland MR Group to discuss the issues with their current building, no not the shed, that's all good, just the "meeting and operations" part of the business accommodation.

The meeting was attended by VMRWA's Dan Goodlad, Jeff Howe together with DFES Marine Services team of Graham Swift, Mark Eatts and Bec Benson.

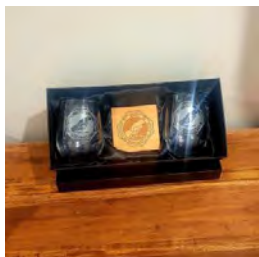
This repurposed old schoolhouse has seen its best day's truly gone and what with the creatures that have munched their way through just about everything edible and have left it in a somewhat perilous state. A good or even a mediocre cyclone might make for an interesting outcome. But you're not alone as buildings are a major unfunded capital investment. Working on it.

## MARINE RESCUE EXMOUTH

As always, flying visits are just that, but we were able to assist the Group with a couple of things that had been somewhat problematic and chatted about some changes that are in the wind. Beneficial to all, particularly when you can get the story directly from the "Rusty" source 😊



Check out our VMRWA Merch at the Website Shop (<https://www.vmrwa.org.au/shop>)



Stemless Wineglasses.



Hoodies



Travel Mugs



Muscle Shirts



Soft Toys and more



**DON'T LET A WEE BIT OF WIND HOLD YOU BACK, MARINE RESCUE KALBARRI HASN'T ...**



Meeting with Kalbarri's very happy Commander Barry Kennewell and being shown around the rebuilt operation centre after Cyclone Seroja. While Seroja may have destroyed the building and all within, it failed to destroy MR Kalbarri and it has been a huge effort to get back to where they are now and while there is still more to go like bringing in furniture, white goods etc they are back and operating from their building.

Well done to all of Kalbarri's members, DFES MS and the local builder who unlike "all the king's horses and all the king's men" **was** able to restore this Kalbarri version of Humpty Dumpty back to its original glory.

**Happy Days for Marine Rescue Kalbarri.**

SATURDAY 25 MARCH saw the official reopening of the operations building at Kalbarri after just 17 days less than two years after major damage caused by cyclone Seroja some 719 days previously.

More than 70 people attended the event, with the Honourable Peter Foster MLC, presiding. DFES Assistant Commissioner Graham Swift and Marine Services Manager Mark Eatts also attending — VMRWA was represented by Jeff Howe and Ian Beard.

Well done everyone!





A further trip in February saw Jeff head south to visit Groups at Denmark and Albany.



Denmark's radio room



...and their new shed.

VMRWA's loan vessel "Sardam" was at Naturaliste covering the area while their vessel was undergoing a refit at Westerberg Marine in Albany and was part of a monumental rescue resulting in 4 persons going home that night. Well done to the crew and glad old Sardas was up to the task.



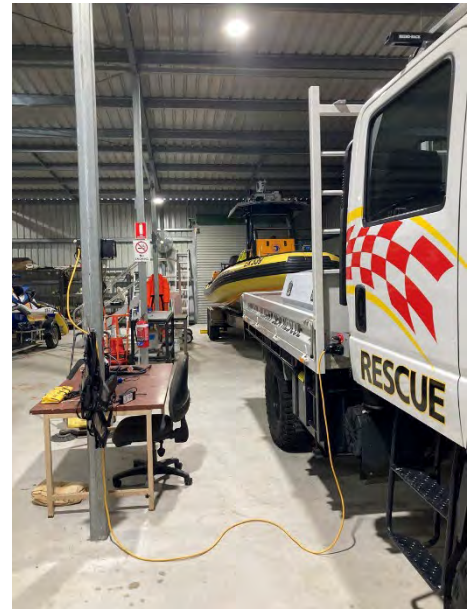
The old girl (Sards) gets about and is plainly enjoyed being down south, having completed her time at Naturaliste, she is currently in Busselton standing in while their vessel is refitted at Kirby Marine.



Naturaliste's "Valerie June" at Westerberg Marine in Albany during her refit



Denmark's new shed, now able to store everything out of the weather



Albany's spacious storage facility and workshop





## Marine Rescue Naturaliste

A surprise event to celebrate their Commander Geoff Brierly ESM's unbelievable time in the top job, some 30+ years of quality leadership was held at their Operations Centre.

Geoff was presented with mementos from VMRWA, DFES Marine Services and WA Police, in recognition of his contribution to Marine Rescue and the local community.

Well done, Geoff, and while he will be stepping down at the next AGM, we are sure he will still be about the place ...



Geoff received a commemorative plaque in recognition of his tireless service.



WA Police presented Geoff with a Certificate of appreciation for his service to the community.



The Group gave Geoff a memento to hang on the wall of his Man Cave.



Marine Rescue Naturaliste and their freshly refitted Rescue Vessel





**Marine Rescue Two Rocks' new vessel "Neptune" is completed and has undergone sea trials.**



In the deep south, WINDY HARBOUR hosted a Tractor Parade and social barbecue in January while the VMRWA Transport Crew was out and about doing their "stuff". And everyone loves a tractor or at least they should do. Windy Harbour's Commander Fabio obviously does and with our full support 😊



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