

abel point newsletter



Welcome from the General Manager

Looking back on 2009...

New Years Eve 2009 celebrated the end of a challenging but successful year at Meridien Marinas Abel Point. As we welcome in 2010 we all look forward to what the year will bring. With vessel registration statistics still on an incremental rise the industry is looking up and will no doubt provide an interesting anecdote for Abel Point in 2010.

Race Week...

The 20th annual Airlie Beach Race Week held in August 2009 saw over 100 boating enthusiasts take part in Australia's third largest regatta. With over a thousand spectators and a week of revelry, it's easy to see why the 2009 event was such a great success.

If you feel you have what it takes to master the sail around the breathtaking Whitsundays, feel free to register your interest at www.airliebeachraceweek.com.au

Cruise Whitsundays extending fleet...

I would also like to mention that Cruise Whitsundays will be increasing island transfers this year with an extra boat being added to their fleet. With exclusive ferry transfers to Daydream Island Resort & Spa as at 1st February 2010 this year should be an eventful one for the regions premier tour and transport operator. Visit www.cruisewhitsundays.com for up-to-date offers.

Welcoming new tenants...

The Abel Point marina team would like to welcome onboard 3 new tenants - Curious Media Development, Massage Whitsunday and Mr-Travel.com. It's great to add to an already diversified marina tenant list and we look forward to forging a successful relationship in 2010. We have also had a change of ownership of an existing tenancy Quadrant

Marine and would like to take this opportunity to welcome them all to the marina and wish them every success in their new ventures. There is more information on our new tenants inside so read further.

Recycling available...

With the support of the waste management services now available to the region, we have been able to implement a more comprehensive recycling program extending to cardboard, glass and plastic bottles as well as the existing aluminium cans. This has been long awaited for by the Whitsunday Bareboat Industry and Charter Boat Industry and greatly received by all. I would like to thank both associations for their support and close work with management, allowing us to develop and implement this program and for the ongoing support in insuring the continued success of the program.

Farewell and welcome...

As we farewell Mike Trickey and thank him for his valuable contribution, I would like to introduce Rod Williams and welcome him to our team as he assumes the role of our new Operations Manager. The year that has been was a year full of exciting prospects and colourful people. The Oceanic Whitsunday Boat Show was another great success and to see a few of our local hero's tackle the Sydney to Hobart recently is a great accolade to our marina and our sailing community.



Best regards,

Richard

Richard Barrett
Marina Manager

New Services & Facilities...

Direct Debit payment is now available

In response to numerous requests, Direct Debit payment services are now available at all Meridien Marina locations for your convenience. Please enquire at the marina office for a form and for assistance in setting up this efficient worry free service.



New Cash Card Machine

The new ATM is located in the northern marina at the front of the Marina Administration building on the road side adjacent to the roundabout.



New Public Phones

The new public phones are each located at the northern marina beside the ATM machine and at the southern marina on the road side entrance to the cruise Whitsundays check in office.

Public Bus Service now includes Abel Point Marina



Whitsunday Transit will commence regular services to the Abel Point Ferry Terminal early in 2010. The first step towards the introduction has already brought public holiday services online, with Whitsunday Transit buses scheduled to visit the marina on public holiday's (time tables are now available with details). It is hoped that the public holiday services will help to gauge the levels of service required. Whitsunday Transit look forward to providing improved accessibility for everyone enjoying leisure pursuits from Meridien Marinas Abel Point.



Beau Milne & Pete Cawley



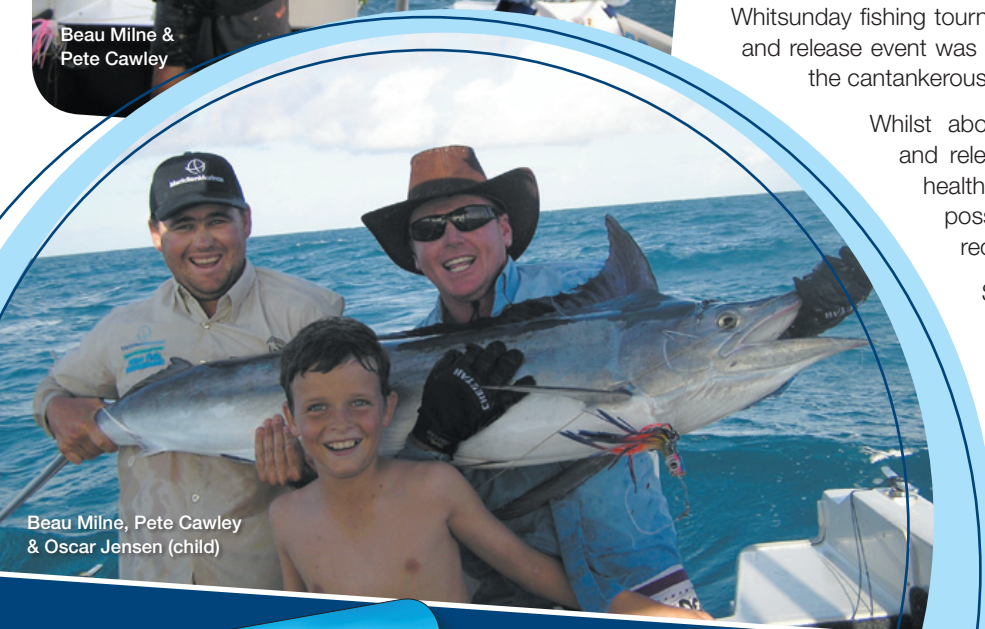
Whitsunday Fishing Tournament

At the end of last year Abel Point Marina hosted the 8kg light tackle Whitsunday fishing tournament. Attracting 26 boats and 98 anglers, the tag and release event was a great success with all boats and revellers braving the cantankerous weather conditions.

Whilst aboard "Marvin", junior angler Daniel Mann tagged and released his first ever sailfish. The team released the healthy sailfish, which judging from the pictures could possibly have been a new Australian and Queensland record for a junior on 8kg.

Small fry angler Oscar Jensen hooked his first ever Marlin aboard "Battle Axe" and after a torrid fight, they took the first day lead.

Congratulations to Brett Stewart from "Renegade" who won first place with some impressive fishing. "Battle Axe" took second place while "Sea Fever" came in third. The weekend saw some great fishing from all involved and we look forward to hosting a few more fishing tournaments as the year progresses.



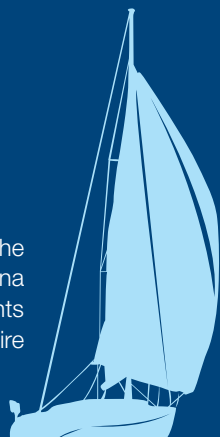
Beau Milne, Pete Cawley & Oscar Jensen (child)



Coming soon...

Berthing Discounts ⚓ Fuel Discount
Shipyard Discounts ⚓ Concierge Services

In the coming months we are proud to launch a Meridien Marinas Club. The exclusive club will include the opening of a club lounge in some Meridien Marina locations and reciprocal berthing rights for all members. Special offers from tenants and the marina will be available online at www.meridienmarinas.com.au. To enquire about joining, visit the marina office today; and stay tuned for further updates...



Welcome onboard...

Curious Media Development - *Proud to be a new addition to the Meridien Marina family!*

Curious Media Development has been operating in the Whitsunday region for 10 years. Formerly known as Curious Concepts, the Curious team has recently undergone some major changes to its business model by stream lining its operation to pursue its core business competencies in online marketing solutions, web design & development, brand development and print media.

They are located just upstairs, next door to Cruise Whitsundays at the south end of Abel Point Marina. For an extra special personalised service to everyone in the Meridien family, give Bayley a call on +61 7 4948 1788 or drop in for a visit!



Mr-Travel.com

Mr-Travel.com specialises in Australia wide adventure travel with a particular focus on sailing, diving and fishing adventures. They even operate their own classic sailing and diving vessel, 'Whitsunday Drifter'. Managing Director Craig Flint said, "We have chosen Abel Point Marina as our new home because of the proximity to the beautiful Whitsundays. No one is closer to the action than Mr-Travel. With a plethora of tourist services at our disposal if anyone can find you an adventure holiday, we can." Please contact Craig on +61 7 4948 0933.



Massage Whitsunday

We are glad to also have another new recruit to the Abel Point team with Massage Whitsunday opening their doors recently. Offering remedial massage therapy, deep tissue massage, relaxation/Swedish massage and back and neck pain solutions. To arrange an appointment please call Maree on 0408 250 265.

Massage Whitsunday INTRODUCTORY OFFER

For the month of February 2010,
book a 1 hr massage and **RECEIVE
20% OFF your next massage***

*Next massage must be used by 30 March 2010.



Rod Williams

New Staff

We would like to welcome onboard our new Operations Manager Rod Williams. Rod has a lengthy history in the marina industry dating back to 1983 at the age of 18. Other than a few years where he undertook a number of roles outside the industry in the late 80's, Rod has studied and continued to further his career in Marina Management.

Rod commenced as the Dockmaster at the Middle Harbour Yacht Club in 2006, where he quickly progressed to Marina Manager in 2007. In addition to handling day-to-day operations of the yacht club, he oversaw a major refurbishment of the marina. So, if you see Rod floating around the marina which I'm sure you will don't hesitate to say hello.

Cyclone Season

Storm season is here, and it is time to remind all boat owners of the importance of ensuring their prized vessels are prepared in case of an extreme weather event.

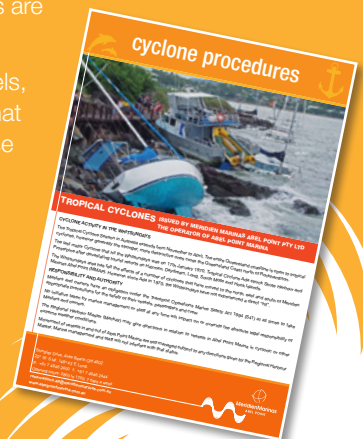
Boat owners are requested to ensure that all loose items are stowed correctly and securely onboard their vessels, that all mooring lines are inspected to ensure that they are in suitable condition and secured correctly for that unexpected blow. If uncertain about the correct method of securing your vessel for extreme weather, please contact the marina office for assistance or advice.

In the event of an extreme weather occurrence, vessel owners are reminded of the need to reduce windage on their vessels. This may include the removal of all bimini's, boat covers, clears and sails where possible, or ensure that they are securely tied to prevent them coming loose and causing unnecessary damage to your boat or other boats. Also, do not secure your vessel to the marina using anchor chains.

Copies of the Meridien Marinas Abel Point cyclone procedures are available from the marina office's or at www.abelpointmarina.com.au.

It is also most important that all vessel owners supply the marina office with an emergency contact (preferably local) in the case of an extreme weather event.

The marina office will endeavour to issue an extreme weather alert via SMS as soon as we are notified by the Mackay Harbour Master.





Confidence on the rise...



2010 looks very promising with enquiries on the rise. This is a sure indication that investor confidence is certainly back when it comes to alternate investments.

Marina berth investments are certainly a worthwhile attribute to any portfolio with low acquisition costs, great tax advantages being 100% tax deductible over ten years, capital growth and a relative stress free investment opportunity.

For our owner occupier and cruising boat market, we have seen an increasing number of local and national buyers from New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria looking to relocate to the warmer climates and lifestyle of North Queensland's boating mecca. There has been a tightening of marina berth supply in recent times and with the current EPA embargo on any new marina developments throughout many areas on the Queensland coastline, it's easy to see why buyers are snapping up what will prove to be a scarce commodity. These two factors alone will ensure great occupancy levels with high returns.

To enquire about marina berths for sale please contact Nicole Graham on +61 7 4948 2669.

berths now selling from \$110,000

**LIMITED OFFER - 7.68% NET rental
return guarantee for 3 years.**

**Act now to take advantage of this superb
investment opportunity!**

Contact Nicole Graham on 1800 086 019 or +61 7 4948 2669

Coming Events

Dent to Dunk Race and Rally - 22 and 29 May
contact apyc@hotmail.com or visit www.apyc.yachting.org.au

Meridien Marinas Airlie Beach Race Week - August 2010
For more information email info@airliebeachraceweek.com.au or
phone Regatta Director Denis Thompson on 0417 686 640 or
Whitsunday Sailing Club Commodore Mick Phillips on 0412 153 007

Whitsunday Multihull Rendezvous - 29 August - 4 September
contact apyc@hotmail.com



special offer

Flee from the heat this summer by flying in air conditioned luxury with Air Whitsunday seaplanes. Their pilots can whisk you away to a multitude of tropical destinations which lie in your very own backyard. Take a day trip to Hayman Island Resort and drink chilled cocktails by the pool after partaking in a few complimentary activities including, picnicking on Whitehaven Beach, reclining in the crystal clear waters with turtles and rays, snorkelling in a coral suspended lagoon on the Great Barrier Reef, or rejuvenating in refreshing waters as you swim amongst ancient coral gardens teeming with marine life. With Air Whitsunday not only will you experience this amazing region from below sea level, you will be amazed at its magnitude from their vantage point of above sea level!

For the remainder of January and also the month of February all Meridien Club Members and tenants are entitled to **15% OFF ALL TOURS** when booked direct with Air Whitsundays reservation team on (07) 4946 9111.

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South Office Mon-Sun 8am-5pm North Office Mon-Fri 8am-5pm, Sat-Sun 9am-5pm
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